


Journal of the

# National Finch & Softbill Society

Vol. 28, No. 3

May / Jun 2011





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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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NFSS is proud to affiliate with:

*The American Federation of Aviculture* • [www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org)  
*The Avicultural Society of America* • [www.asabirds.org](http://www.asabirds.org)  
*The National Animal Interest Alliance* • [www.naiaonline.org](http://www.naiaonline.org)

# President's Message



## Elections are Coming!

Please take a few minutes to review the Election announcement in this issue and consider if your interest in the NFSS includes serving on the board. We're interested in your contributions. Contact the Election Committee for more information. We've had some changes in the Liaison/Awards Director position. Alfredo Bruguera has resigned for health reasons and Jody Lewis has agreed to complete the open term and run in the upcoming election. Bob Peers has agreed to help smooth the transition. Please make sure your club is affiliated and that contact and show information is up-to-date on the website.

Have you ever had a personal bird story you just really wanted to tell?

I have a five year old hen pheasant, a cross between an Amherst cock and Golden hen. She was raised here, incubated and brooded by her mother in an outside flight, and is the sole survivor of three hybrids from the clutch. She's penned in a flight with no other pheasants. Three weeks ago in the late afternoon with very good filtered light, I stood in the cage and enticed her to come close to my feet with mealworms. She was well into a clutch and, for a bird wearing a suit of feathers almost a year old, in stunningly beautiful condition. Nothing defines my choices of avian subjects more than bright colors, yet this hen whose plumage is entirely browns and blacks was easily as beautifully colored as any Gould, Diamond Sparrow or Scarlet Chested Parakeet that shared the cage. It was a reminder of how easily we overlook stunning beauty when distracted by brilliant colors a reminder of the subtly beautiful species, Parsans, Masked Grass Finch, Owls and Chestnut Breasted and others that are often poorly represented or entirely absent at bird shows and fairs. It was a reminder of how a healthy bird almost glows.

Two days later I was reminded that great vigor is no assurance of continuing health when I saw the hen standing on one leg and hopping while holding an injured leg clear of the ground but not fully up. She had movement of the foot, and the alignment of the leg was normal, but she could neither lift the leg or bear weight on it. It also meant that she couldn't reach the feed or water, which are on a shelf about 4 1/2 feet above the floor. Pheasants cannot achieve take off or at least vertical flight without a jump start which wasn't possible on one leg. Any attempt to inspect the injury carried significant risks as she would need to be netted and would certainly

struggle almost insuring that any broken bones would be further damaged. I moved food and water to the floor and watched her closely. The first week I debated which was worse – to put her down or watch her in pain. The second and third week, I wondered how long before the healthy leg would fail under the strain. Yesterday she walked, with a limp but she walked!

Thank You for listening.

*Respectfully,*

John Wilson  
**President**



## **The Foreign Bird League**

### **The Premier Foreign Bird Keeping Society In The UK** **Founded 1932**

Overseas membership 2010

£18.00 (to be paid in sterling)

Please visit our website to download a membership form and check on the latest membership fees.

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- ✓ Coughing
- ✓ Nasal Discharge
- ✓ Tail-bobbing
- ✓ Excessive Beak Wiping



## Air-sac Mite infestation?

Air sac mite is an internal parasite that lives in the airways, lungs and air sacs of our birds. Infestation causes local irritation and secondary respiratory infections. Heavy infestations can cause death in fledglings and adult birds.

S76, the Original Air sac mite treatment in water! If you have lots of birds making it almost impossible to catch for treatment, then S76 is for you!

S76 treatment is so safe it can be administered to breeding parents feeding their babies! S76 will not cause harm to the health and fertility of mature birds, fledglings or eggs.

Call or email us with your bird health question.

**949-419-6230** [support@ladygouldianfinch.com](mailto:support@ladygouldianfinch.com)

## Don't let the mites bite

Improve your birds' health, rid them of freeloading parasites.

Dr Rob Marshall's S76 is the first choice for

### Air sac mite treatment

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Mention NFSS when you place your order and receive a

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# NFSS Board Of Directors Meeting

## 1st QUARTER 2011

### TREASURY

- 2010 Total Income: \$31,936
- 2010 Total Expenses: \$30,869.94
- December 31, 2010 Bank Balance: \$28,631.06

### BANDS

- Some of the plastic band colors & sizes will be eliminated, please check website for specifics

### MEMBERSHIP

- As of 12/31/10: 466 Members, 44 Affiliated Clubs

### CENSUS/FSS

- Hard copy of Census in Jan/Feb Journal; On line Census opened January 1, 2011
- FSS launched for those in species groups

### AFFILIATIONS/AWARDS:

- Bob Peers assuming temporary responsibility for this Dept.

### AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

- Committee continues work on review of Affiliation benefits

### REGION REALIGNMENT:

- Work complete, please refer to NFSS website for new region assignments, especially as it applies to completion of the ballot for the General Election

### RED SISKIN PROJECT

- Letter sent to AFA, Red Siskin group identified within FSS, requesting volunteers with willingness to work with this species group to establish credibility of the program

### GENERAL ELECTION

- Rebecca Mikel will chair, ballot being developed, persons interested in serving on the BOD are asked to contact Rebecca/any other BOD member

# 2011 NFSS GENERAL ELECTION

## For Officers Serving 2012 & 2013

The NFSS By-laws require that the Society have an election of Officers every two years. A ballot which includes all positions open for election and the names of candidates running for each position in the 2011 General Election will be published in the **July/August** NFSS Journal.

All votes must be returned to the designated address for collecting and counting the ballots with a postmark of **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1st, 2011**. Specific instructions will be included in the ballot.

The announcement of the winners in the election will be made at the 2011 National Cage Bird Show.

Please remember these deadlines as it pertains to renewal of your membership – don't allow an interruption in your active membership to occur – especially if your renewal date is near any of these deadlines. You must allow the Membership Director adequate time to process renewals and prepare mailing lists. New members and existing members who renew their membership **BEFORE OCTOBER 15th, 2011**, will be provided with a ballot, but it will be their personal responsibility to make sure it is returned and postmarked **BY NOVEMBER 1, 2011** in order to be eligible.

Dual members will each have one (1) vote each and will be allowed to copy the ballot.

Rebecca Mikel  
Election Committee Chair

Lisa Murphy, Bob Peers, Larry Baum  
Election Committee



ANNOUNCING

# NFSS Fund Raiser for the Save the Gouldian Fund!

*Proudly Sponsoring*



**Save the Gouldian Fund**  
[www.savethegouldian.org](http://www.savethegouldian.org)

**MAKE YOUR DONATION OF \$10 OR MORE ONLINE AT [NFSS.ORG](http://NFSS.ORG) AND  
RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL GIFT FROM NFSS!**

Recent estimates suggest that less than 2500 Gouldian finches remain in the wild. The Save The Gouldian Fund was established in 2005 to promote awareness and fund valuable research into the decline of the Gouldian finch, now endangered in the wild.

To assist in this great conservation effort, NFSS will donate \$10 to match your donation of \$10 or more to the Save the Gouldian Fund for the remainder of 2011.\* Your donation will help STGF continue its important conservation efforts.

See the STGF web site at [www.savethegouldian.org](http://www.savethegouldian.org) for details about this remarkable project.

*\*up to a maximum donation of \$1000 in 2011*

**Donate Online Today at [NFSS.ORG](http://NFSS.ORG)!**



# 2011 NFSS General Election Announcement

NFSS Bylaws specify that an election will be held every two years to elect the officers of the Society. All elected and appointed offices are open to current members who are encouraged to seek an office. Serving on the NFSS Board of Directors is an honor, a responsibility, and a commitment of time in addition to the responsibilities of your office. Board meetings are held four times yearly. Three are held online and the 4th quarter Board meeting will be conducted prior to the annual membership meeting held at the NCBS (it may be necessary to conclude the 4th qtr. meeting online). The length of the meetings will depend on the number of items on the agenda and the amount of discussion. Internet accessibility on a daily basis is necessary for each candidate for NFSS office. Board members are strongly encouraged to participate in discussions and respond to questions from other board members in a timely manner. Elected officers should vote during the official meetings. Between meetings, the Officers Forum is also active. Board members present annual budgets for consideration, and are required to submit a detailed account of their expenditures and income to the treasurer on a monthly basis. In addition officers must prepare quarterly reports to the Board of Directors. Knowledge of the most current NFSS Bylaws is essential and a basic understanding of Roberts Rules of Order is extremely helpful. The board member's duty is to lead the organization in its mission and to keep it financially and legally viable. It is extremely important that each

candidate understand fully the responsibilities of the office they intend to fill, the minimum time spent per week in addition to time spent on the Board of Directors. All candidates should contact the current officer (listed within the Journal) and discuss the position with them. Upon election, each new officer will be given a document containing information related to their position to help them assume their responsibilities.

Every person who intends to become a candidate for any office will be required to submit a bio/resume to the chairman of the nominating committee, stating their background and experience.

**Time required:** Four quarterly Board of Director meetings are conducted, each lasting approximately a month and require a minimum of an hour daily to monitor and respond to posts. This is in addition to the time required to perform the duties of your office. Officers are also encouraged to monitor and participate in the NFSS internet forums.

## NFSS Elected Officers

The first paragraph is the Bylaws description of the responsibilities of each office and is followed by the amount of time it requires. The second paragraph is a practical application of these responsibilities.

## President

The President of NFSS shall preside over all Board of Directors meetings, annual membership meetings, and

attend to the day to day operations of the Society. He/she shall abide by the bylaws of the Society, coordinate and delegate the activities of the other officers of NFSS

**Time requirements:** 4 to 12 hours a week.

*Practical application: President*

As leader of NFSS, the president must be cognizant at all times of the issues facing aviculture and relay this information to the NFSS Board of Directors. He/she represents NFSS in the avicultural community and must conduct himself/herself in a proper manner. In addition he/she must be available to members of the Board of Directors and monitor internet NFSS Forums and make statements when necessary. The president must be familiar with the avian community and issues pertaining to it's welfare.

**1st VP (Regional VPs, Education)**

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. 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.

**Time requirements:** 7 hours a week

*Practical application: 1st VP*

As 1st VP, this officer must work closely with the president, submit a budget for and develop an education program for NFSS, supervise the activities of the Regional Vice Presidents and assist them

as they represent the membership in their regions.

**Regional Vice Presidents**

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.

**Time Required:** 4-6 hours per week

*Practical application: Regional VP*

Regional Vice Presidents represent their region on the Board of Directors. They are to be very proactive within their regions by contacting existing bird clubs, discuss with them the advantages of being an affiliated club such as: Journals, judges, award system, bands, and an informative website. Each Regional VP should encourage clubs to establish education programs, hold NFSS affiliated shows, and conduct seminars. Regional VPs should also have available NFSS brochures to distribute while being a visible representative of the NFSS. He/she may be asked to assist the membership director by contacting members that do not renew memberships. They are to encourage members within their regions to submit questions and opinions for discussions on the Board of Directors quarterly meetings. As members of the Education Committee the Regional VPs assist in developing education programs for the society.

**2nd VP (Publications)**

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 also supervises the NFSS website.

*Publishing Committee:* The Publishing Committee, chaired by the Second Vice-President, shall be responsible for all publications of this Society. It shall produce and edit a bi-monthly NFSS JOURNAL and any other publications deemed necessary for the membership of the Society by the Board of Directors.

**Time Required:** 6 hours per week

*Practical application: 2nd VP*

The 2nd VP shall chair the publishing committee, to include the Editor of the Journal to produce the publications of the Society. This committee will be charged with generating content and providing general assistance in the production of the Journal. He/she shall be available to give guidance to the editor of the NFSS Journal in securing articles and the Advertising Manager in securing ads. In addition he/she will supervise the research for competitive printing prices and mailing house to maintain the high quality of the NFSS Journal. The 2nd VP also supervises and is responsible for the NFSS website and domain.

**Third Vice-President** ● **FSS and Census**

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 compiles and assists in publishing the yearly census as well as collecting data, maintaining records and producing the FSS Newsletter for FSS participants.

**Time Required:** 30 minutes per new FSS applicant and 30 minutes per participant in the annual census. More time is spent publishing a newsletter.

*Practical application: 3rd VP*

The FSS Director oversees the day-to-day running of the FSS program which includes working closely with the FSS committee, Group Managers, and Species Captains to develop species profiles on all FSS registered species, obtaining content and producing the FSS newsletter. Other duties include review and acceptance of individual applications to the FSS membership, maintaining species records. Other responsibilities include adhering to a strict policy of preserving privacy and confidentiality of information involving the annual census and the Finch and Softbill Save Program. The 3rd Vice President will be in charge of overseeing and gathering data for the society's annual census and publishing those statistics for publication in the NFSS Journal on a yearly basis.

**4th Vice President, Judges Panel/Standards/Research**

Fourth Vice-President (Judges Panel/Standards/Research) - This officer must be a NFSS Panel Judge or he/she will serve as the Judges Panel Director. He/she shall also chair the Research and Standards Committee and be in charge of Species 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 both the National Cage Bird Show Board and the Great American Cage Bird Show.

**Time required:** 6 – 10 hours per week. More hours during the fall show season.

*Practical application: 4th VP*

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

**Treasurer**

**Treasurer** - The calendar year for the Society shall be from January 1st to December 31st. The Treasurer shall prepare and submit to the Board at the 4th Quarter Board meeting, a budget 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 and filing tax returns. All funds, records, receipts, and expenditures for the previous year or shorter period upon relief of the Treasurer, will be reviewed by two members of the Board of Directors, not to include the current Treasurer, as appointed by the Board of Directors. The results of the review will be included with the annual budget or present to the Board upon relief of the Treasurer.

**Time Required:** 8-10 hours per week.

*Practical application: Treasurer*

Candidates for this position should have business experience in general accounting, establishing and maintaining multiple bank accounts, skills to document and file all associated paperwork, computer skills that would enable he/she to deposit and transfer funds electronically into and from various accounts, and use business software provided by NFSS for maintaining up to date records. The treasurer requests budgets from all departments and prepares the annual budget for the Society, receives, deposits and documents payments weekly to the proper account after all invoices and receipts have been verified, provides the president a weekly report and requests approval for all expenditures prior to payment. He/she also receives monthly reports from each department, verifies them for accuracy and tracks them on a computer and paper ledger. Makes payments for debts incurred by the Society, prepares the yearly tax returns, and provides financial advice to the Society as needed.

**Executive Secretary**

**Executive Secretary** - This officer takes minutes during all board meetings, including those conducted electronically on the internet. The Executive Secretary, or designated representative, will have available at each meeting the most recent issue of Robert's Rules of Order. He/she shall maintain an archive of all minutes and the Society's official documents and assist other board members with correspondence as necessary.

**Time Required:** 25-30 hours minimum per quarterly Board of Directors meeting (four) and 2-4 hours per month to perform administrative support responsibilities for other BOD officers.



*Practical application: Executive Secretary:*

The person in this position should have good verbal and written communication skills, experience in taking minutes, experience with word processing software, and internet capabilities. He/she takes minutes at all BOD meetings, compiles the minutes and submits them for Board approval and eventual publication in the NFSS Journal. The Executive Secretary provides administrative support, as needed, to other Board officers.

**Membership Director**

Membership Director. Shall be responsible for receipt and processing of new and renewal memberships in the Society and for the maintenance of NFSS Membership confidentiality.

**Time Required:** at least 20 minutes for each new member in addition to at least 7-8 hours weekly.

*Practical application: Membership Director*

The Membership Director requires a person dedicated to maintaining current membership rolls which will be made available to the Editor of the Journal, NFSS Forum Moderator, Band Secretary, and the President of NFSS and on a more modified basis the Regional VPs. Weekly, time is dedicated to entering information, documenting checks being sent to the treasurer, sending membership materials to new and renewing members, approving memberships to the NFSS and NFSS P.P forums including contacting non-members who apply and inviting them to join the NFSS, responding to emails and phone calls from members, and preparing membership lists to approved NFSS officers. He/she must be familiar with

computer file formats since membership rolls must be provided to officers in whatever format they request. He/s he must be able to monitor the computer daily for communication from the Forum Moderator and Band Secretary. Labels must also be supplied to the editor of the Journal six times a year.

**Band Secretary**

Band Secretary. Shall be responsible for the ordering and issuance of official numbered closed bonds and plastic bands in accordance with the policy of the Society, and maintaining the NFSS Band Secretary's permanent band records.

**Time Required:** 5 hrs. weekly

*Practical application: Band Secretary*

This office requires computer knowledge- specifically internet expertise, business practice experience which includes excel, converting files to PDF, e mail, internet use, and basic accounting skills. He/she will be negotiating purchases with foreign suppliers of bands, and will be required to convert foreign currency.

The Band Secretary maintains the NFSS yearly permanent records pertaining to band sales. This involves ordering all bands from the supplier, receiving incoming orders, verifying membership status with the Membership Director, processing the orders which includes packaging and shipping through UPS, and conducting and reporting inventory. In addition he/she must submit monthly itemized report mailed and e mailed to the Treasurer. The report consists of monthly itemized expenses and income payments by USPS (mail in orders) This position requires internet mail monitoring for

verification of issued numbered bands and transferred bands.

### Liaison Officer

Liaison/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.

**Time Required:** Oct-April 8 hours per week. May-Sept. 4 hours per week.

#### *Practical Application: Liaison Officer:*

The Liaison Officer is responsible for club affiliations. Re-affiliation packets must be composed, printed, and sent to all current clubs in December of each year. As these are returned, they must be entered in a database and information on them concerning delegate, contact information, and show/ fair information sent to the Awards Manager, NFSS Journal Editor, NFSS Website Manager, and President for the use of the Society. Each check must be entered in a log, marked with the club name, and sent to the NFSS Treasurer monthly. A monthly financial report must be sent to the treasurer. Club affiliation information also needs to be sent to the Membership Director for inclusion in the membership database. It is extremely important that a current list of affiliated clubs, shows, and fairs be maintained at all times .

This officer receives many emails, phone calls, and letters requesting information on the formation of new clubs, re-affiliations, and general information needed by finch hobbyists. It has become the contact position for NFSS so replies must be made in a timely fashion. The Liaison Officer must maintain close communication with the Awards Manager.

### Finchshop Director:

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 webmaster to update the FinchShop Catalog as needed. New products must also be sought and recommended to the Board of Directors for approval.

**Time Required:** 5-8 hours per week

#### *Practical application: FinchShop Director:*

The FinchShop Director oversees the inventory and sales of merchandise offered to the general public. This merchandise excludes leg bands and memberships. The manager works within financial guidelines approved by the Board and seeks Board approval for any expenditures outside the stipulated guidelines. Specific duties: prepares and submits an annual budget; establishes and maintains contacts with vendors; receives and processes customer orders; resolves customer inquiries and complaints; receives and verifies vendor invoices; forwards invoices and customer payments to the Treasurer; works with the webmaster to update the FinchShop portion of the website as needed; works with the Journal Editor to update the FinchShop Catalog, as needed; seeks out and recommends to the Board new products; provides to the Board periodic reports of FinchShop activity; and may, at his/her discretion, represent NFSS at bird marts and bird shows for the purpose of promoting NFSS and selling FinchShop items and NFSS memberships.

## APPOINTED NFSS OFFICERS

The following officers are appointed by the president of NFSS. If you feel you could serve in one of these offices, submit a resume to be given to the new president upon election.

### Awards Manager

Shall be responsible for processing of awards for NFSS sanctioned shows and annual awards for the Society.

**Time Required:** Jan-May 2 hours per week  
June-Dec 8 hours per week

#### *Practical Application: Awards Manager*

The Awards Manager works closely with the Liaison Officer. In Dec. of each year, the Liaison Officer sends re-affiliation packets to all affiliated clubs. Within these packets are catalogs for awards such as NFSS engraved logo plaques and NFSS rosettes which the Awards Manager designs and produces. Affiliated clubs return them to the Liaison Officer who then forwards these to the Awards Manager to order. Once award orders are received, the Awards Manager will contact the vendor concerning the plaques and assemble any ordered rosettes and ribbons from the inventory. Both are then forwarded to the affiliated club. It is the his/her responsibility to order rosettes and ribbons from a vendor and maintain an inventory adequate for a show season.

### NFSS Journal Editor

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 bi-monthly NFSS JOURNAL. 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 printer invoice for each issue. In addition, the supervision of the Advertising and Promotion Manager is the responsibility of the NFSS JOURNAL Editor.

**Time Required:** A minimum of 15 hours per issue for digital construction of the journal. Additional doily work soliciting publication materials, and working with the printer.

#### *Practical application: Editor*

The editor is responsible for all activities related to the production of NFSS Journal. These include creating and editing each Journal, verifying the accuracy of information, occasional development of ad copy, and working with the printer to insure deadlines can be met and quality issues solved, and approve payment of printer invoice for each issue. The NFSS Journal Editor reports to the 2nd VP of publications, and works with and supervises the Advertising and Promotions Manager.

**Skills needed:** Basic grammar and spelling. Computer skills including knowledge of graphic layout, and publishing programs such as Quark, In Design, Photoshop or others are necessary as well as a knowledge of file types and how to utilize or convert them for use in the Journal.

The NFSS Journal Editor reports to the 2nd VP of Publications and works with and supervises the Advertising and Promotions Manager.

**Advertising and Promotion Manager:**  
Advertising and Promotion Manager to

(responsible to the NFSS Journal editor and the Second Vice-President). This officer shall design and arrange for ads to be placed in major show catalogs throughout the year and promote, determine prices, design, format, and arrange for payment for ads placed in the NFSS JOURNAL. In addition, this person cooperates with Regional Vice-Presidents in promoting Regional Shows.

**Time Required:** 10 hours per week

*Practical Application: Advertising and Promotion Manager*

The Manager will solicit Journal Display and Classified Advertising, manage advertising accounts including tracking of runs, and receiving payment which is documented and sent to the treasurer. He/she will coordinate with the editor the placement of ads in the NFSS Journal and with the NFSS Webmaster placement of ads on the website. This officer is responsible for placing ads for NFSS in the NCBS catalog. In addition, he/she will work with other officers in providing promotional material for NFSS. A monthly report shall be made to the NFSS Treasurer and a quarterly report to the NFSS BOD.

*NFSS Website Manager*

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

**Time Required:** 7-10 hours per week

*Moderator of NFSS Finch/Softbill Forum (responsible to the President)*

Acts as moderator of the NFSS Listserv, determines eligibility and approves subscribers in conjunction with the membership director. He/she writes

and distributes list rules, and enforces a civil forum through thoughtful correspondence with subscribers and unsubscriptors of those whose contributions prevent a civil forum.

**Time Required:** 3-10 hours per week

*Legislative Liaison (responsible to the President)*

Shall be responsible for the interrelationships between NFSS and other national and local avicultural organizations, investigate and report to the NFSS Board any current or proposed legislation that would affect bird owners/breeders and notify the membership of any bird related developments within other organizations through the NFSS JOURNAL, NFSS website and electronic media.

*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.





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# Status of Turacos Held in the USA

by Kateri J. Davis, Davis Lund Avianes, Creswell, *et al.*

*This article originally prepared for publication in the International Turaco Society bulletin.*

In the late summer of 2009 through January of 2010, an informal online survey of turaco numbers and husbandry practices was conducted by Kateri Davis of the Davis Lund Avianes in Oregon, USA. The last turaca census that had been done in the USA was coordinated by David Hancock of the Hancock Wildlife Research Center in 1995. Kateri advertised her survey through several internet chat lists, websites, and word of mouth. The survey consisted of 20 questions which covered diet, housing, breeding and banding practices, as well as the location and specific numbers of species. Although the survey was originally intended for USA participants, two Canadian, three English, a Singapore, and a Portuguese aviary were welcomed and completed the survey too. A total of 39 private aviculturists and zoological institutions (32 from the US) volunteered their information, and a rough picture of the current status and commonalities of care of turacos emerged. The result was an interesting snapshot of the turaco family in aviculture and what is changing.



## # USA Participants by States:

AZ - 1, CA - 14, FL - 5, GA - 1, OR - 2, PA - 5, TX - 1, VA - 1, WA - 2

## Turaco Numbers in the USA

Softbill aviculture in the USA has definitely been declining over the past years, not only due to current recession and the costs of softbill care and diet, but also because of the strengthening of the animal rights agenda, which has wormed its way into our government, public education institutions, and the general public's mindset. Many



*Lady Ross Turaco stretching.*

of the larger aviaries have closed or scaled way down. It is a challenge to get young people interested in aviculture to help continue the hobby.

All the survey participants were focused on breeding turacos, not in keeping pets. Almost all the participants that had successfully bred turacos used hand-rearing to get more production out of pairs but let them parent-raise also. Pairs were kept in mixed aviaries and in single flights, and most had access to outside quarters.

Turacos still are one of the most popular softbill birds, especially for zoological displays. Although the Hancock Census was all of North America and did not report numbers broken down by country, rough comparisons between the 1995 Hancock and 2010 Davis Survey data can be made. The Persa, Red Crest, and Lady Ross species actually show a percentage increase in popularity since the 1990's. Currently, the turacos most readily found are Persa, Red Crest, White Cheek, and Violet species.

#### Comparing the 1995 Hancock Census to the 2010 Davis Survey

<i>USA Birds Reported</i>	<i>N.A. Hancock Survey: 1020</i>	<i>USA Davis Survey: 190</i>
	<i>% of Total Reported</i>	<i>% of Total Reported</i>
All Subspecies ( <i>Tauraco persa</i> )	10	21
Red Crest ( <i>T. erythrolophus</i> )	12	16
White Cheek ( <i>T. leucotis</i> )	10	11
Livingston/e ( <i>T. livingstonii</i> )	7	2
Hartlaub's ( <i>T. hartlaubi</i> )	8	<1
White Crest ( <i>T. leucolophus</i> )	6	8
Fischer's ( <i>T. fischeri</i> )	6	3
Rest of Green Species	4	0
Violet/Violaceous ( <i>Musophaga violacea</i> )	17	17
Lady Ross/Ross's ( <i>M. rossae</i> )	6	13
Purple Crest ( <i>M. porphyrolopha</i> )	2	3
Great Blue ( <i>Corythaëola cristata</i> )	<1	2
All Grey Species	10	5

Few other species can be found. Within fifteen years, Hartlaub and Livingston species went from a more popular status to a few birds from extinction in the USA. Surprisingly, a few Great Blue Turacos have now found their way into private aviculturists' hands.

Sadly, all the turaco species are at risk of avicultural extinction, even the most numerous, because there are actually few diverse bloodlines. Numerous

aviculturists in the survey mentioned that they tried to match up unrelated individuals, but often had no choice and had to inbreed pairs. Several aviculturists hold large numbers of individuals (8+) but from only one or two bloodlines. It is not uncommon for an aviculturist to look for years to find a certain gender of a certain species as there can be periods of more females than males available and vice versa.





*Red-crested Turaco.*

Violet Turacos are in the best shape as far as diverse bloodlines. This is because of the imports within the past two years, which were reasonably priced, as previously this species was extremely hard to find. There are no guarantees that the imports will continue so we need to work on breeding cooperatively now to ensure the numbers and diversity continue.

Several of the grey species have also been recently imported, but this group just cannot seem to find a niche in popular aviculture and seem doomed to disappear. Despite their interesting calls, personalities, and looks, most people are attracted to colorful birds, and so, combined with the fact that the grey species are harder to raise, they become hard to sell.

The majority of participants kept records of individual birds but not all identified their birds in ways that could be traced. Some mentioned problems with injuries due to banding. This lack of banding is a concern because paperwork does not always follow a bird throughout its travels and without a traceable method of tracking individuals, how can you tell what bird you have and its history? When you have two birds together, how can you accurately tell which is which? Sexually monomorphic birds tend to look alike and behavior is changeable. Some aviculturists place a sexed unbanded pair together, but then one dies. Who is left? Several people mentioned getting a sexed turaco only to find it is the opposite gender. This is a common problem with turacos, and is worse when the bird is unbanded.

In conclusion, although the data may look bleak, Americans still have a chance to save at least four species of turacos for aviculture. There is a wealth of information to be shared by turaco keepers. I am very appreciative of all information shared so openly to me by the survey participants. Softbill fanciers are a wonderful bunch of people with which to work!

*(See Survey Results on next page)*

**Survey created, and results compiled, by:**

Kateri Davis of Davis Lund Aviaries,  
Creswell, OR

**DLAviaries@aol.com**

<http://sites.google.com/site/davistundaviaries/>

**References:**

David Hancock. "North American Turaco Census: 1995." Annual Conference Proceedings 1996. American Federation of Aviculture. 1996. Pages 135-139.

**About the Author:**

Kateri Davis has specialized in raising softbill birds since the early 1990's. Her flock includes mousebirds, turacos, hornbills, and many other softbill species. All photos in this article were provided by Kateri.

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**Turaco Survey - 08/09 -01/10****(plus 3 responses logged after & up to 03/11)**

#39 Participants (\*2 USA participants listed no birds), Bird Totals as of 03/11

Total Participants:#Private/#Zoo	Singapore 1:2P/?Z	Portugal 1:1P/0Z	Canada 2:1P/1Z	England 3:2P/1Z	USA 32:30P/2Z
Persa/Green/Guinea (Tauraco persa)	11 plus	6	5	3	39
Red Crest (T. erythrolophus)		5	8	4	30
White Cheek (T. leucotis)		4	14 plus	17 plus	21
Livingston/e (T. livingstonii)	8	4	1	4	3
Hartlaub's (T. hartlaubii)	10	4		5	1
White Crest (T. leucolophus)		4		4	16
Fischer's (T. fischeri)	1	4		6	5
Black Bill (T. schuettii)		2		4	
Schalow's (T. schalowi)		2		8	
Knysna (T. corythaix)					
Bannerman's (T. bannermani)					
Yellow Bill (T. macrorhynchus)					
Ruspoli's (T. ruspolii)					
Other (for instance - subspecies)					
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>30 plus</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>28 plus</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>115</b>
Violet/Violaceous (Musophaga violacea)	8	4	9	3	32
Lady Ross/Ross's (M. rossae)		4	4	3	25 plus
Ruwenzori (M. johnstoni)					
Purple Crest (M. porphyreolopha)		4		1	5
Great Blue (Corythaecola cristata)	6			2	3
Other (for instance - subspecies)					
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>65 plus</b>
Grey Go-Away (Corythaixoides concolor)					3
Bare Face (C. personata)					
White Bellied (C. leucogaster)					3
Western Grey (Crinifer piscator)		4			4
Eastern Grey (Cr. zonurus)					
Other (for instance subspecies)					
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>44 plus</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>41 plus</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>190 plus</b>

Thank you to all who participated!



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# Handraising Turacos On The Run

by Kateri J. Davis

All softbills are uncommon in aviculture and generally unknown to the public outside of zoo settings, but turacos have been raised in captivity by private aviculturists for decades. These medium-sized, fruit eating, natives to Africa can be grouped into the greens, purples, greys, and the Great Blue species. Most zoological institutions have at least one turaco on display, and several breed them. Many of the turaco species have disappeared from USA aviculture, and the remaining ones are losing ground due to difficulties with small numbers of bloodlines, in pairing up birds, getting them to breed,

and finding aviculturists who have the space and time to work with them. Thus every egg laid and every chick hatched is important to the future of turacos.

The turacos are one of my favorite softbill families: large, colorful, active, hardy, and curious birds. I have been raising turacos for almost twenty years and have had many occasions to hatch eggs and handfeed chicks. These birds are much too active to make good house pets so my choice to handfeed is to save chicks, not to ensure tameness, although handfed turacos do make great tame aviary occupants.

*Parent-raised, five-week-old Red-crested Turaco Chicks Recently Fledged (But Not Weaned).*





*Turaco chick being fed! Note straw in bottom of cup to prevent splayed legs.*

My problem though is that handraising while working full time out of the house is a big chore. Being able to be mobile while successfully handfeeding any chick is tricky. For two weeks or so, the handfeeder has to be on the bird's schedule and is usually tied to the house. Luckily, turacos take handfeeding on the run in stride, and having now figured out a successful technique, I have the freedom to leave the house and still raise healthy turacos.

Once a turaco egg hatches, I leave the chick in the incubator for the first 24 hrs, in which he doesn't need to be fed anyway. The next day he is moved to my mobile brooder set up. I have never been able to find a commercial one so I make my own. I use a medium-sized, see-thru, plastic critter-keeper container that has a ventilated top with a handle. A layer of cloth is placed on the bottom and loosely rolled washcloths are arranged around a plastic cup in the center. The rolled cloth holds the heat

in well. Humidity is not a problem but if higher humidity is needed, some of the cloth can be dampened.

The chick is placed in a second cup layered with a paper towel and some alfalfa hay so that it can grip with its feet and not become splay-legged. This second cup fits into the first, and the chick is covered loosely with a small cloth, which simulates being brooded and reduces stress on the chick. I cover the whole container with a handtowel or place it inside a large carry bag. This way I can carry the brooder, and no one can see what I am actually carrying, and the heat is retained while on the move.

To heat the brooder, I place it on a heating pad. I can regulate the heat easily by switching from low to high and by changing the amount of container covered with the cloth. Younger birds

require more heat than older chicks, usually around 95 degrees F. Monitor behavior. If the chick is panting, reduce heat; if the chick is huddled down tightly and not gaping actively, increase heat. Regulating the heat is the trickiest part of mobile handfeeding but gets easier with experience. I do not recommend the chemical handwarmer packets as the heat is not constant and often gets too hot. Hot water bottles are heavy, hard to regulate, and cool off too quickly. Water brooders are not easily carried and have to be treated more carefully so not to spill or break the heater.

At work or wherever I go, I have to plug in my heating pad, but I haven't found that to be too difficult. I get good at looking for power outlets! For the car, I bought a Mobile AC Outlet (DC to AC inverter = 200 watts continuous) that plugs into the lighter socket in the car's

*Two turaco chicks in brooder container.*



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*Newly hatched chick in his cup.*





dash. I plug the heating pad into it. The unit costs about \$35, but it is well worth the price! This powers the pad for hours even when the car is off. This allows me to go on long drives and leave the chick in the car for hours safely. Cold weather is not a problem, but I do need to take the chick with me if the day is too hot as the chick will overheat.

In a small ice chest, I pack extra paper towels, feeding syringe, small cup, and small container of formula. Turaca

formula is 75% Kaytee Exact Hand-feeding formula to 25% fruit Gerber's strained baby food mixed with water to a pancake batter consistency. When it is feeding time, I fill the cup with warm (not hot) water, draw up the formula in the syringe, and place the syringe in the water to heat the formula. If no hot water is available, I heat the syringe full of formula by placing it on the heating pad for a couple of minutes. I always test the temperature of the formula on my wrist before feeding to make sure

*Mobile Set-Up Ready – heating pad, power inverter, brooder, chick's cup, and ice chest.*



it is not too hot. I do not take an exact temperature reading.

Stopping to feed a bird at regular intervals is not always possible when at work, but turaco chicks don't seem to mind. Starting at 6:00 am, I feed well in the morning right up to when I leave for work around 7:00 am, then every chance I get, which is usually between every one to three hours. When mobile handfeeding, especially when the feeding intervals are long, I feed slightly larger portions than I normally would. I still am careful not to overfeed though. Turacos do not have a crop. Instead the food goes into an expandable esophagus, and you can see a food bulge on the right side of the turaco's neck after feeding. Healthy turacos will gape hungrily, even when the food is visible in the throat, and, if overfed, can aspirate easily. Once home at about 7:00 pm, I feed every hour until 11:00 pm. I do not feed through the night.

Day 2 chicks get about 0.3-0.5 cc of formula per feeding, and I gradually increase that daily until day 9 when they get around 3 cc. Check for feces of each feeding. Turacos do not need to be stimulated to defecate and should defecate several times during the day. Keeping the chick clean is important, and I change the bedding when needed. Because of time crunches being at work, I have a second set of cups with the paper towel and hay in place ready to go so that I can quickly move the chick to the clean container and be back at work.

Heat is slowly decreased as the chick grows and feathers. Generally by day 9, the chick is trying to get out of the cup, and I start offering small chunks of fruit and water-soaked pellets with the

formula. Often chicks at this age will be picking up and mouthing the bedding, and eating their feces, so I offer a small cup of fruit and soaked pellet bits. The chicks will wean quickly and can be totally weaned by day 10-24. Once weaned, I move them to a larger setup and leave them at home. By day 24, most chicks are fledged, actively moving about their home, and can be left at room temperature.

In conclusion, turacos can be successfully handraised from day one in mobile set-ups. The chicks easily take to irregular feeding schedules, being shuttled around, and heat changes. I still recommend a regular feeding schedule if at all possible, and am not recommending manhandling them, but you can handraise and still have a "life." Not all birds can take this kind of experience, but turacos are hardy and adaptable. If you have questions or need advice on turaco handraising, feel free to contact me at [DLAviaries@aol.com](mailto:DLAviaries@aol.com).

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### About the Author:

Kateri Davis has specialized in raising softbill birds since the early 1990's. Her flock includes mousebirds, turacos, hornbills, and many other softbill species. All photos in this article were provided by Kateri.

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**Size D (2.73mm):** Blue-faced Parrot Finch, Gouldian Finch Chestnut-breasted & most Manikins, most Parrot Finches, Pintailed Nonpareil, most Twinspots, American Zebra Finch, Peales Parrot Finch.

**Size E (2.89mm):** Black-crested Finch, Diamond Sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspot, Siskins, Spice Finch, European Goldfinch, European Zebra.

**Visit our site for availability of plastic colors and aluminum sizes at [NFSS.org](http://NFSS.org)**

**Size G (3.20mm):** Maggie Mannikins, Siberian Goldfinch, small Tanagers.

**Size J (3.4mm):** Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias, small softbills.

**Size K (3.50mm):** Java Rice Birds, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Shama Thrush.

**Size L (4.30mm):** Diamond Dove, Mousebird, small doves, quail.

**Size M (4.48mm):** Leaf Birds, Pagoda Mynah, Superb Starlings.

**Aluminum bands:** \$5.00 per string – 10 bands. Indicate quantity only below.

A	B	C	D	E	G	J	K	L	M	Subtotal

**\*Handling fee must be included in all orders:**

Under \$40.00 = \$ 3.00      \$ 61.00 – \$100.00 = \$ 8.00  
 \$41.00 – \$60.00 = \$ 5.00      \$101.00 – \$300.00 = \$ 10.00

**\*\*Postal insurance – optional:**

\$ 00.01 – \$50.00 = \$ 1.80      **\$200.01 – 299.00 = \$4.75**  
**\$ 51.00 – \$100.00 = \$ 2.30**      **\$300.00 – \$5,000.00 = \$5.70**  
 \$100.00 – \$200.00 = \$ 2.85      plus .95 for each additional \$100.00

**Subtotals:**

**\*Handling:**

**\*\*Insurance:**

**Final total:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ NFSS membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: NFSS Band Secretary, 2234 Juneau Court South, Salem, OR 97302  
 Phone: 503-581-8208 E-mail: [band.s@nfss.org](mailto:band.s@nfss.org) Check payable to: NFSS



# NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

2011 Affiliates will be printed in the March/April issue of the Journal

Liason Officer - Alhuda Bruguera

174 County Road 2317 1 Minnott, TX 75773

[affiliatedclubs.org](http://affiliatedclubs.org)

## California

**Finch Society of San Diego**, Poway [www.finchsocietyofsandiego.com](http://www.finchsocietyofsandiego.com) Contact: [sdfinchsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sdfinchsociety@gmail.com). Meetings 4th Sunday of the month 2-4 PM, Poway Elks Club, 13219 Poway Road, Poway CA 92064 on 3/27, 4/17, 5/22, 6/19, 7/24, 8/28, 9/25, 10/23, 12/4 (2011)

**Santa Clara Bird Club**, Santa Clara, [www.santaclarabirdclub.org](http://www.santaclarabirdclub.org) Club Meeting: Sundays at noon- 3/13, 4/10, 5/15, 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/6. Event: 50th Annual Cage Bird Show See website for more info. Date: 12/3/11 Location: San Jose, CA. Contact: Cecile Aguilera Email: [showinfo@santaclarabirdclub.org](mailto:showinfo@santaclarabirdclub.org) (2011)

## Florida

**Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club**, Stuart, [www.tcoxoticbirdclub.com](http://www.tcoxoticbirdclub.com). Contact: 772-380-9882 or [tm50et@yahoo.com](mailto:tm50et@yahoo.com). Event: Exotic Bird Expo 2011, March 20, Martin County Fairgrounds.

## Illinois

**Finch & Softbill Breeders & Exhibitors Club**, Chicagoland [www.fsbec.finchfiles.com](http://www.fsbec.finchfiles.com), 847-963-1926 [gailsgouldians@comcast.net](mailto:gailsgouldians@comcast.net). Event: TBA

**Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club**, Lombard, [www.gccbc.org](http://www.gccbc.org). Contact: [secretary@gccbc.org](mailto:secretary@gccbc.org). Event: The Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club Show, Nov 5th, Weiland Agricultural Center, 17840 Laraway Rd., Joliet, IL 60433 Show Contact: Shari Toby, [sharant2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sharant2000@yahoo.com), 847-217-4751

**Heart of Illinois Bird Club**, 755 N. 4th Ave, Canton 61520 Meetings every third Sunday, 2pm (unless holiday). Bird Show & Fair, June 18. Meetings, fairs and show are all held at the Grand Hotel, 4400 N. Brandywine Dr, Peoria 61614. Contact: Jody, 309-645-7773 or [hoibc@yahoo.com](mailto:hoibc@yahoo.com)

**Mid West Bird Breeders & Exhibitors**, Lawrenceville Event: TBA. Contact Lisa Grimes, [lgtiels@yahoo.com](mailto:lgtiels@yahoo.com)

**Mid America Cage Bird Society**, Des Moines, [www.MACBS.org](http://www.MACBS.org). Events: Bird Fairs March 27th, June 5th, August 28, Des Moines Botanical Center. Contact: John Thielking, [Thielking@lowafink.com](mailto:Thielking@lowafink.com)

## Iowa

**Mid America Cage Bird Society**, Des Moines, [www.MACBS.org](http://www.MACBS.org). Events: Bird fairs March 27th, June 5th, August 28 2011, Des Moines Botanical Center. contact: John Thielking: [JThielking@comcast.net](mailto:JThielking@comcast.net)

## Maryland

**Baltimore Bird Fanciers**, Baltimore [www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org](http://www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org). Club meets 3rd Sun of month, 2:00, Towson Library. Contact: [info@baltimorebirdfanciers.org](mailto:info@baltimorebirdfanciers.org). Events: Spring Bird Mart, May 21, Tall Cedars Hall, 250 Putty Hill Ave, Baltimore 21234. Contact George at: [amazon\\_parrat@comcast.net](mailto:amazon_parrat@comcast.net)

## Massachusetts

**Massachusetts Cage Bird Assoc**, Foxboro, 781-335-3927, [www.masscagebird.org](http://www.masscagebird.org). Event: Annual Bird Show, Oct. 15, Lowell Elks Lodge, 40 Old Ferry Rd, Lowell 01854. Contact: Tom Keegan, 781-335-3927, [nfss.pubs@gmail.com](mailto:nfss.pubs@gmail.com).

## Missouri

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society, Grandview, [www.gkcas.org](http://www.gkcas.org). Contact: daylorthebirds@aol.com or GKCAS.org@aol.com, 816-252-1120. Event: BIRD FAIR Aug 5, 6 & 7, Hilton Garden Inn, 19677 E Jackson Dr, Independence 64055. Contact: Maria, maria-michel@live.com

## New Hampshire

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society, Manchester, [www.boaf.com](http://www.boaf.com). Contact: member.support@BOAF.com or 603-362-6106. Events: Spring Mart & Expo April 17 and Fall Show & Mart, Sat., Oct 22 Location: All Dogs Gym and Inn, Manchester. Judge: Al Decoteau. Contact: Ray Schwartz, President@BOAF.com

## New York

Empire Finch & Canary Club, West Hempstead, firmanperez@aol.com Club meets 1st Thursday every month at 8 PM, Averill Blvd Park, Elmont, NY. Contact: John Lund, firmanperez@aol.com. Event: TBA

New York Finch & Type Canary Club, NYC, baistand@verizon.net Meets 2nd Sunday of the month: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, except July & August. Events: Annual Show, September 24, St. Jude Church, 1677 Conansie Rd, Brooklyn NY. Entries: 8-10:00. Judging: 10:40:00 pm. Judge: Laura Tinker.

## Ohio

RAZ: Salem. Contact (Annette Howard): 330-337-7654, howardaj78@yahoo.com. Event: TBA.

## Oregon

Columbia Canary Club, Portland. Contact: jeeperspeepers55@aol.com or 503-266-7606. Meeting location: Milwaukie, Oregon Grange.

## Puerto Rico

Asociacion De Criadores de Fincas Inc. Contact: finchespr@yahoo.com / 787-479-7405. Meetings Every Tuesday @7:00 PM, Las Catalinas Mall Food Court Area. Club Officer & Show Contact: Juan Alicea 787-479-7405 or juanalicea@yahoo.com. Events: Summer Show June 3-5, 2011 Judge: Laura Tinker. Winter Show November 4-6, 2001 Judge: Annette Howard. Both Shows at Centro Comunal, Alturas de Villas del Rey, Caguas PR. Note: Only the following finch species are allowed for the competition: Zebra, Society, Lady Gouldian, Cuthroat, Cordon Bleu, Green Singer, and Brazilian Crested Cardinal.

Puerto Rico Zebra Finch Club, Gurobo. [www.przfc.com](http://www.przfc.com). Contact: przfc@yahoo.com. Events: (1) PRZFC Summer Show, 15-17 July 2011, Judge Bob Peers, Hotel El Guajataca, CARR #2 #6301 KM 103.8 BARRIO TERRANOVA QUEBRADILLAS 00678 (<http://hotelguajataca.com>) Show contact: Jorge Mojica: puchosbirds@yahoo.com, 787-550-3163 Division Zebra Finches. (2) PRZFC Christmas Show, 2-4 Dec. 2011, Judge Alfredo Bruguera, Centro Comunal Santa Juana 2, Caguas. Show Manager: Nydia Rodriguez, 787 746 7141, finch4u@gmail.com. Division: Zebra Finches.

## Tennessee

Heart of Tennessee Aviculture Society, [www.heartofnaviculture.com](http://www.heartofnaviculture.com). Contact: lisa murphy, wlmurphy@usit.net. Event: Fall Show and Fair, 10 September, Middle Tennessee State University, 1720 Greenland Dr. Murfreesboro, TN 37130, Judge: TBA. Show Contact: Wilma Crawford, 615-396-8440 tmna2@comcast.net

## Texas

Fort Worth Bird Club Fort Worth [www.fwbc.org](http://www.fwbc.org). Contact: coculwell@wccs.net or 817-220-5568.

## Virginia

Peninsula Caged Bird Society, Newport News, Contact: Peggy Duval, finchbreeder@earthlink.net or 757-623-4786. Events: Spring & Fall Marts & Shows, Columbian Center. Contact Deb Wilson, dwilson786@aol.com

## Wisconsin

Central Wisconsin Cage & Wild Bird Connection, Monthly meetings usually members homes Annual Bird & Garden Fair held in May in Marshfield, Wisconsin. Contact: Marlene Minot, mminor@ids.net 715-884-2659

## Regional/National

The Avicultural Society of America. [www.asabirds.org/home.html](http://www.asabirds.org/home.html) Steve Duncan PO Box 3161, San Dimas, CA 91773. The oldest aviculture society in the US, founded in 1927

**Northeast Bird Group:** Northeast Regional Club (New England, NY, NJ, PA), [www.northeastbirdgroup.com](http://www.northeastbirdgroup.com). Contact: Tom Keegan at [thomkeegan@gmail.com](mailto:thomkeegan@gmail.com) or Donna Rosciti at [donnarosciti@aol.com](mailto:donnarosciti@aol.com). Club meets quarterly and has several events per year. Events: Summer Bird Fair, June 26, Fall River Elks Club, 4500 N Main St, Fall River, MA. Divisions: SPBE, NCS, NFSS.

**West Coast Zebra & Society Finch Show,** Sacramento (Regional Show) [www.efinch.com/show](http://www.efinch.com/show). Event: 6th Annual West Coast Zebra and Society Finch Show, July 30, La Quinta Inn Downtown Sacramento. Contact: [jamiaridt@comcast.net](mailto:jamiaridt@comcast.net)

## INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATES

### Canada

**Canadian Finch & Softbill Society,** Ontario. Contact: Vince Moose, [vmoose@rogers.com](mailto:vmoose@rogers.com). Event: Show November 12-13, Brampton Fairgrounds, 12942 Heart Lake Rd, Brampton State: Ontario L6T 3S1, Judge: Bob Peets (NFSS). Show Contact: Vince Moose, 905-723-1978 or [vmoose@rogers.com](mailto:vmoose@rogers.com) Other Divisions: Coloured Canary, Hamilton Roller Canary, American Singer Canary, Small Parrot.

**Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society,** Windsor, Ontario, Canada, 519-948-6398, [julianne@mnsi.net](mailto:julianne@mnsi.net), [www.essexkentcbs.com](http://www.essexkentcbs.com). Event: TBA

**Ottawa Bird Fanciers Society,** Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, [www.ottawabirdfanciersociety.org](http://www.ottawabirdfanciersociety.org) Contact: Mario Gauci, [mariogauciobts@gmail.com](mailto:mariogauciobts@gmail.com) or 613-244-1678. Meets 2nd Thurs of month, 7:30 PM, St. Mark's Church, 1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa.



Violet turacos. Photo courtesy of Kateri Davis.



## National Finch and Softbill Society Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFO CLEARLY

Primary Member First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Member's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

(If dual membership)

Dual Member First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dual Member's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Area code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (in case we have questions)

New membership Application date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_

If Junior Membership (for children 6-16 years old) Date of Birth \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

If renewal, and you have it, list your NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_ If dual, 2nd NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

Aviary Name \_\_\_\_\_

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5 - Years	\$140.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$165.00 <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifetime	\$1500.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1740.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please print this application out and mail with check or money order [U.S. Funds]  
Make Check Payable to NFSS and Mail Application to:

**NFSS MEMBERSHIP 918 GEORGIA AVE., ETOWAH, TN 37331**



# NFSS Panel of Judges - 2011

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