

The National Finch Society

1986

MARCH

APRIL



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President	William G. Parlee
1st Vice President	Dr. A. E. Decoteau
2nd Vice President	Nancy A. Reed
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Corres. Secretary	Roger O'Connell
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Band Secretary	Russell Armitage Jr.
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Region Three (Mid-Central)	Jon Hoffman
Region Four (Mid-West)	Paul Williams
Region Five (Western)	Martha Wigmore

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is important for all of us to be aware of the types of legislation that may be introduced prohibiting or limiting the sale of finches in our states.

A new bill has been introduced in Massachusetts that would allow sale or trade in Zebra Finches, Society Finches and Lady Gouldians. THAT'S IT! Sale or trade of any other type of Finch in Massachusetts would be deemed illegal. The new proposed law would even prohibit the sale of Bird Magazines, as they contain ads for the sale of prohibited birds.

Sound crazy? It may, but that's the law being introduced in Mass. Can you imagine a law like this one in your state? Now is the time to check up on your legislators. If you need help in educating your legislators, write to NFS or AFA. Remember, be aware and keep abreast of potentially harmful legislation that may be upcoming in your state.



The National Finch Society



1986 BANDS
FOR SHIPMENT ON
DEC. 26, 1985

1986 CLOSED ALUMINUM LEG BANDS

THE STANDARD NFS LEG BANDS FOR MEMBERS ONLY
Bands are available in standard NFS color of the year only

Size	for	Cost
A	saalier Nuthills, and Owl Finches	MAY BE ORDERED IN LOTS OF 10 BANDS AT \$1.25 PER LOT
P	Cordon Bleu, Firefinch, and Lavender Finch	
C	Zebra Finch, Gouldians, Stars, Heck's Grass Finch, Cutthroats, Parrot Finches, etc.	
D	Chestnut Breasted, Yellow Rumped, Pectoralis	
E	Society Finches, Nuns, Firetails, Diamonds	
G	Larger Nuthills and Canaries	
J	Yorkshires, Norwich, Pekin Robins, etc.	
K	Java Rice Birds, Indian Shama, etc.	
L	Quail, Doves, and other softbills	

NFS bands may be ordered in lots of 10 bands, consecutively numbered at 1.25 per each lot. \$1.00 shipping and handling should be included with each order, whether 10 or 100 bands are being ordered. Bands will be shipped within 30 days of receipt of your order, although most orders will be shipped the same week as received. There is no color choice. The standard NFS color of the year will be used. Each band will have stamped: "NFS", the band size code, year and number. All numbers will be recorded by the NFS band secretary for permanent record.

TO: NFS BAND SECRETARY, C/O Russ Areitage, 345 Boston Road, Middletown, CT. 06457. Payable to NFS. Please send me the following bands. (Use multiples of 10 only.)

A B C D E G J K L

Total number of 10 units () x 1.25 per unit + 1.00 shipping = ()

ORDER YOUR 1986 NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY BANDS TODAY ! ! !



The National Finch Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Individual \$15 / / Dual \$20 / / Junior 7.50 / /

Dual Membership is two individuals residing at the same address (one bulletin). Juniors are under 16.

Club affiliations _____

How long have you been involved in finches _____.

How many species have you bred? _____.

Briefly describe your interest in joining the National Finch Society and what you hope to get out of your membership.

Send your app and fee to Russell Armitage Jr. Treas.
345 Boston Road
Middletown, CT 06457

529 Burnside Avenue, East Hartford, Ct 06108

NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY AFFILIATION AGREEMENT 1986

THANK YOU FOR SHOWING AN INTEREST IN AFFILIATING WITH THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY. WE ARE SURE THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS WE MAKE WILL BE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT TO BOTH OF OUR ORGANIZATIONS.

THE ONLY REQUIREMENTS THAT YOUR CLUB WILL HAVE TO MEET, ARE TO PAY THE APPROPRIATE AFFILIATION FEE AND SELECT A DELEGATE TO REPRESENT YOUR CLUB IN DEALINGS WITH NFS. SUCH DELEGATE MUST BE A MEMBER OF NFS.

LEVEL ONE AFFILIATION

LEVEL ONE AFFILIATION IS DESIGNED FOR CLUBS THAT ARE NOT EXHIBITION ORIENTED. THE FEE FOR THIS AFFILIATION IS \$25. YOUR BENEFITS INCLUDE ALL THE NORMAL EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLICATION MATERIALS OF THE SOCIETY. ALSO YOU WILL RECEIVE DURING THE AUGUST OF YOUR AFFILIATION YEAR A BEAUTIFUL PLAQUE FOR YOUR CLUB. THIS PLAQUE CAN BE A SERVICE OR BREEDER AWARD FOR ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB (THIS PERSON NEED NOT BE A NFS MEMBER). THE PLAQUE ALONE IS WORTH THE AFFILIATION FEE. REQUESTS FOR THE TYPE PLAQUE AND WORDING MUST BE FORWARDED TO NFS NO LATER THAN JUNE 1 OF THE YEAR.

LEVEL TWO AFFILIATION

LEVEL TWO AFFILIATION IS FOR CLUBS WITH EXHIBITIONS. YOUR BENEFITS WILL INCLUDE BEAUTIFUL PLAQUES FOR FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE IN YOUR SHON. THE FEE FOR THIS LEVEL IS \$40, AND IS SIMILAR TO LAST YEAR'S AFFILIATIONS.

NEW FOR 1986 - OPTIONAL ROSETTE PACKAGE

CLUBS WISHING TO ENHANCE THEIR FINCH AND SOFTBILL DIVISIONS MAY SELECT TO PURCHASE OUR NEW OPTIONAL PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES 10 LONG STREAMER ROSETTES FOR THE TEN BEST WINNERS IN YOUR SHON. THESE ROSETTES ARE ATTRACTIVE COLORFUL ROSETTES THAT WOULD COST YOUR CLUB MORE THAN THE COST OF THIS PACKAGE IF THE CLUB HAD TO PURCHASE THEM FOR THEMSELVES. EACH ROSETTE WILL GIVE THE SHON NAME, NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY EMBLEM AND PLACE. COST FOR THIS OPTIONAL PACKAGE IS JUST \$25.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS REGARDING AFFILIATION WITH THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY, YOU MAY WRITE THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY AT 529 BURNSIDE AVE., E. HARTFORD, CT 06108. YOU MAY USE THIS FORM TO AFFILIATE.

CLUB NAME _____ CIRCLE ONE: LEVEL 1 2 2 WITH OPT.
DELEGATE _____ NFS MEM. # _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR FEE OF \$25 - \$40 - \$65 TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE .

NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY SHOW REPORTS

GREATER CHICAGO CAGE BIRD SHOW Exhibitors
 Itasca, Illinois Entries --
 Nov. 1,2,3, 1985 Judge: Paul Williams

Award	Name	NFS#	Points	Tot.Pts.
BEST IN SHDN	R. TRAVNICEK	254	10	14
SECOND	J. SANGSTER	264	8	10
THIRD	A. BIANCO			

BEST ZEBRA, L.BENAK [2], BEST JAVA, R.TRAVNICEK [2], BEST NAYBILL,
 J.SANGSTER [2], BEST SDFTBILL, R. TRAVNICEK [2]

GREATER OMAHA CAGE BIRD SHOW Exhibitors 12
 OMAHA, NEBRASKA Entries 79
 Nov. 9, 1985 Judge: Clarence Culwell

Award	Name	NFS#	Points	Tot.Pts.
BEST IN SHDN	L. EARLES			
SECOND	R. TRAVNICEK	254	8	10
THIRD	R. SHIRLEY			

BEST AUSTRALIAN, W.EICHELBERGER [2], BEST ZEBRA, L.EARLES, BEST SMALL
 SEEDEATER, N. EICHELBERGER [2], BEST SOFBILL, R.TRAVNICEK [2]

* THIS CONCLUDES ALL 1985 NFS SHON REPDRTS AND AMENDS OUR 1985 PDINTS
 REPRRT AS FDLLDWS:

1985 CHAMPIDNSHIP EXHBITDRS

BDB TRAVNICEK [33]

BDB AND TINA HEMENWAY [26]

DICK MUENCH [26]

THESE ADDITIDNAL REPDRTS ALSO PUT WAYNE EICHELBERGER AND JEANNE SANGSTER
 DN THE PDINTS ROSTER FOR 1985.

REMEMBER CHAMPIONSHIP EXHIBITDR PLAQUES FOR 1985 WILL BE AWARDED AT THE
 NATIONAL SHON IN ST.LOUIS, IN NOVEMBER DF 1986.

ADVERTISE WITH THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY BULLETIN

DISPLAY RATES:

Full Page 8"x5"	\$ 25
Full Page one full year (6 issues)	\$100
Half Page 4"x5"	\$ 15
Half Page one full year (6 issues)	\$ 60

CLASSIFIED RATES:

Rate is 15¢ per word. Name must appear in ad. Initials and figures count as words. Multiply words times 15¢ =

Mail checks and ads to 529 Burnside, E.Hartford, CT 06108
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY.



The National Finch Society

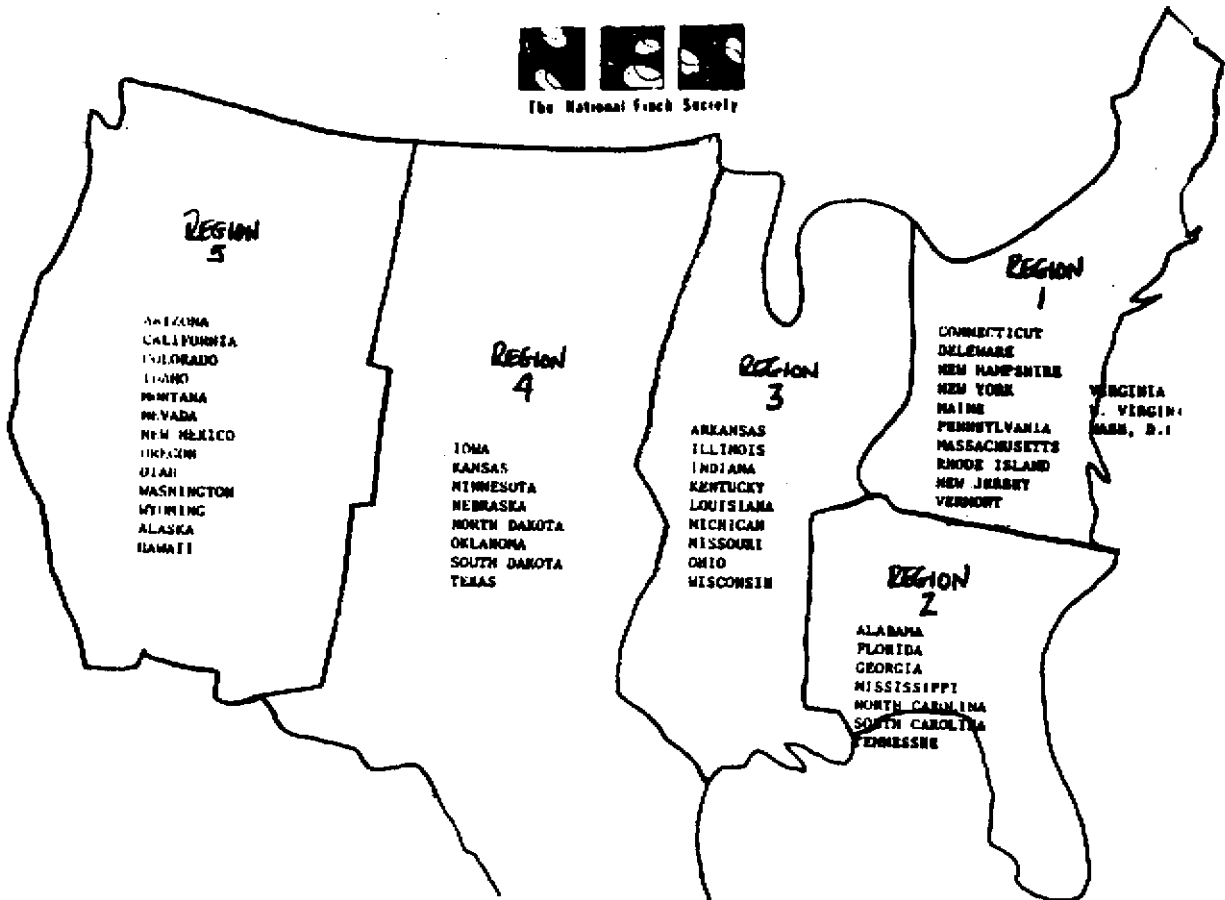
NATIONAL FINCH SHOW

1986

The National Finch Society National Finch Show will be held in conjunction with the National Cage Bird Show on November 13-16, 1986. The Show will be held at the Adams-Mark Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri.



The National Finch Society



NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY
 NEW MEMBERS, WE WELCOME YOU! ! !

301 ERHART, RAINER R.	- KALAMAZOO, MI	49002
302 MURPHEY, JEANNE C.	- ROCHESTER, NY	14609
303 PAGE, O. K.	- HENDERSON, NV	89015
304 HOONETT, DONALD	- ORLANDO, FL	33806
305 HUOA, DEBORAH	- ORLANDO, FL	33806
307 BRONSON, MICHAEL N.	- MINNEAPOLIS, MN	55417
308 CLARK, BOB	- W. SPRINGFIELD, MA	01089
309 BECK, GLENNA B.	- PUEBLO, CO	81001
310 BOSTON COCKATIEL SOC.	- CHESTNUT HILL, MA	02167
311 HALL, DR. JOHN A. V.M.D.	- LANCASTER, PA	17601
312 BIRDS OF A FEATHER AVI SOC.	- E. KINGSTON, NH	03827
313 PELUSO, JOAN	- YORKTOWN HGTS, NY	10598
314 CHARLOTTE METROLINA CBS	- CHARLOTTE, NC	28210
315 BURNETT, DIXIE L.	- RUCKERSVILLE, VA	22968
316 GIANFERRARA, ROSE	- BONITA SPRINGS, FL	33923
317 KIRCHAIN, RANDY	- JACKSONVILLE, FL	32210
318 GIBSON, PATRICIA	- CHARLOTTE, NC	28210
319 WOODFORD, EDITH	- CHAGRIN FALL, OH	44022
320 KOPECKY, NORMAN	- SIOUX FALLS, SD	57105
321 CROSMER, MARILEE	- ORANGE, CA	92667
322 MAHONEY, DONALD F.	- WENTZVILLE, MO	63385
323 BALES, CAROL	- WENTZVILLE, MO	63385
324 OVERLAND, KATHEY E.	- MINNEAPOLIS, MN	55406
326 WALLACE, KATHLEEN	- MELBOURNE, FL	32951
327 NOVICKAS, WILLIAM	- BAKERSFIELD, CA	93308
328 KRADER, JOSEPH	- YORBA LINDA, CA	92686
329 NURMI, CARL	- WAYLAND, MA	01778
330 NURMI, PAULINE	- WAYLAND, MA	01778
331 KOENIK, JOSEPH O.	- TUCSON, AZ	85712
332 HALL, MARK R.	- TUCSON, AZ	85712
333 MC CLELLAND, SHARON	- PITTSFIELD, MA	01201
334 BIRD FANCIERS OF OKLAHOMA	- SEMINOLE, OK	74868
335 BOONE, BOBBY G.	- FORT WORTH, TX	86116
336 FREEMAN, HARVEY	- TRUMBULL, CT	06611
337 BILES, ANNA M.	- MESA, AR	85201
338 LEE, LEONA	- METAIRIE, LA	70006
339 TEAGLE, EDITH	- SEAFORD, VA	23696
340 MINNESOTA CAGE BIRD ASSOC.	- MINNEAPOLIS, MN	55417
341 SHIRLEY, RHODA L.	- DES MOINES, IO	50321
342 VINES, JONI	- HUTCHINSON, KS	67501
343 HURST, ANN	- ORLANDO, FL	32805

MORE NFS NEW MEMBER LISTINGS NEXT MONTH! ! !



Nancy Reed presenting Hal Koontz with the winner's check for first place in the Great National Finch Pursuit Contest.

THE GREAT NATIONAL FINCH PURSUIT CONTEST

Congratulations to THE WINNERS!!

- 1st - Hal M. Koontz, CA.....531 points total
2nd and 3rd in mini-article contest.....\$275

- 2nd - Dan T. Duzts, S.C.....346 points total
1st in mini-article contest.....\$200

- 3rd - Paul Foster
Brian McKinlay, N.H.....181 points total.....\$50

- 4th - Terry Dunham, FL.....50 points total (pursuit poll)
5 lbs. millet spray

While we are disappointed with only four entries in the GNFP Contest, this is not to discredit those who did contribute. There were articles submitted to the bulletin editor within the time frame of the contest, but were not specifically offered as official entries. In all fairness to the rules and entrants, we felt we could not count these towards points or awards.

Briefly, answers to the GNFP Contest questions;

1. April 1984 was first printing of the NFS Bulletin.
2. Bill Parlee was/is 1st NFS President.
3. Sept. 1984 bulletin first presented NFS

zebra standard. 4. First U.S. zebra finch mutation was the rice.
5. John J. Meyer is NFS member #100. 6. Three mutations of the Society
Finch are recognized by NFS: SELF, PIED, and CRESTED. 7. 156 entries in
1st NFS National Show. 8. The Combassou is also commonly known by the
'Indigo' and 'Steel' Finch names. 9. Combassou is a member of the Mydah
family. 10. Coloration sexing is called "dimorphism". 11. Changes of
coloration are called "nuptial and eclipse" plumage. 12. Juanita McLain
judged Finches at the '84 Gold Coast Show in FL. 13. Dr. Val Clear first
presented NFS to national audience. 14. Withholding water from a bird's
diet will prove fatal most quickly.

Of most interest for an informative/human interest article are the
various responses to our "Pursuit Poll" contest--basically a survey.

1. What is your favorite species? Three out of four entrants said
Gouldian Finches; one, the Java Rice Bird; and one entrant gave additional
notations for the Masked Grassfinch and Owl Finch.

2. The Gouldian also was high on choice of favorite mutation; two
mentioned the White-Breasted Gould; one the Dilute-Bodied Gouldian; one
the Yellow Gouldian; and a second choice notation of the Penguin Zebra.

3. Finches/Softbills are not generally popular birds for pets. Only
one entrant gave an answer for a pet's name: "Red". I don't know what the
bird is!

4. The unanimous topic of most interest for future NFS articles was
unsurprisingly BREEDING!, followed by nutrition and genetics.

5. Entrants covered membership of 8 months to 2 years in NFS.

6. This question invited constructive criticism. Hal in CA. is
obviously interested in establishing local NFS judges in the West for
practicality. (At the March BOO Meeting, it was voted to send Bill Parlee
to CA. to administer official NFS Judges Panel tests to aspiring
applicants in that area.) Paul Foster and Brian McKinlay urged the
inclusion of Doves to classifications. (These birds are being added to the
'86 official NFS suggested classification listings.)

Dan Outz proposed an excellent idea: "Enlist the support of various
consultants for the various varieties. I would like to know to whom I
could write concerning various varieties. Have a consultant for the Owls,
Gouldians, Rice Birds, Cordon Bleus, etc."

If some members would offer personal help on specific species, it would
promote valuable interest and assistance. The purpose of NFS is to share
knowledge--to HELP! Ideally we would like volunteers to author a
question/answer column on various species. At minimum, perhaps a listing
of persons and their preferred species that can be contacted. Meanwhile
note the authors of articles that pertain to your interests.

7. To list all the finches (no softbills) successfully bred by these
entrants would be almost like listing the index of Bates and Busenbark's
Finches and Softbills! Very impressive! All the Australian Finches were
mentioned with the exception of the Fire Tailed Finch; all the
Pectorallis and Parrot Finches along with the Violet Eared Waxbill and
Purple Grenadier, and a host of the more common Waxbills and Nannikins.

Noticeably missing are breeding of the South American Finches--an

area that should be given immediate/special attention by NFS membership!

9. How many finches/softbills do you have at the moment? Wow! Dan Quzts: 50; Paul Foster and Brian McKinley: 110; Terry Dunham: 200; Hal Koontz: 500!

10. Brand name Vitamin? Avitron on two. PYM Yeast Mixture, Vionate, and Nekton.

11. Vegies, greens, and fruits? Grand variety! Apples, oranges, spinach, grated carrots, celery, lettuce, Swiss Chard, weed greens, Johnson grass. Anything goes!

12. Brand names for seed? Kaytee, Kellogg Basic Mixtures, Petamine, and Gardena Seed.

13. Favorite Finch book? Two votes for Australian Finches by Imelaan, and one for Finches and Softbill Birds by Bates and Busenbark.

14. The minimum temperature allowed for birds kept indoors varied, basically depending if auxillary heat is available. For Paul and Brian in New Hampshire - 62 degrees. Dan Quzts in South Carolina keeps only his Owl Finches indoors, in a garage where the temperature never goes below 55-60 degrees. Hal Koontz in CA. provides no heat, but the room connected to the house does not get below 45 degrees. In Terry Dunham's Florida unheated, unair-conditioned building, the lowest temperature got to 30 degrees.

15. A question no one likes to think about: how to "dispose" of a bird? The overwhelming #1 response surprised me. The same answer to the same question was given by the American Cockatiel Society membership. Decapitation -- or more specifically, "pull its head off".

I quote Hal Koontz's response for alternatives: "I can't kill birds. If the bird is deformed, I let the parents refuse to feed it so it dies. If the bird lives anyway and eats on its own, I give it to a couple who has agreed to take in all my misfits. I have given them birds with a peg leg (because the bird broke its leg, it withered and fell off), a young bird that did not feather out properly and could not fly, and a bird with fairly severe spraddle leg. I killed a deformed bird about 5 years ago by putting it in a bag and putting it to a car exhaust pipe. I felt awful and have not killed any since. Basically I just let them die on their own."

16. Questions you would like to hear membership response on.

"What type show cages are used?" (NFS now has three blue-prints for various sized finches and softbills--see ad.) "How to breed Gouldians?"--attention: more articles needed!

Finally, we thank the four respondees for their time, enthusiasm, interest, and experience to share with NFS membership. They all are winners! Congratulations!

Report by Nancy A. Reed

PRESIDENT'S NOTE: WE THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS THANK NANCY REED FOR HER INTEREST IN AND CONTRIBUTION TO OUR SOCIETY. ACTIVE AND SINCERE MEMBERS LIKE NANCY MAKE OUR SOCIETY WHAT IT IS. HER INVENTIVE NATIONAL FINCH PURSUIT CONTEST WAS A WELCOME ADDITION TO OUR BULLETIN AND A CHALLENGE TO THOSE WISHING TO ACCEPT IT. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT MORE OF OUR MEMBERS DID NOT AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE OPPORTUNITY NANCY GAVE US. AGAIN THANKS NANCY, FOR THE IDEA AND GRACIOUS FUNDING OF THIS CONTEST.



BEST

WISHES

Nancy A. Reed

109 STAGECOACH ROAD

WINDSOR, CONN. 06095



NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY EXHIBITION POINTS SCHEDULE

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY POINTS SYSTEM. AS YOU CAN SEE, THE SYSTEM HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM THAT OF PREVIOUS YEARS. THIS SYSTEM HAS ALEVIATED THE PITFALLS OF THE OLD SYSTEM, AND MORE EVENLY DISTRIBUTES POINTS BASED ON THE SIZE OF ENTRIES. DUE TO THIS CHANGE IN POINTAGE, THE TOTALS NEEDED FOR CHAMPIONSHIP EXHIBITOR AND EXHIBITOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS HAVE ALSO CHANGED.

CHAMPIONSHIP EXHIBITOR **EXHIBITOR EXCELLENCE**
40 POINTS IN ONE YEAR **200 ACCUMULATED PTS.**

POINTS SCHEDULE

Number of finches in a show	Place									
	Best	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
20-29	3	2	1	x	x	x	x	x	:	x
30-39	4	3	2	1	x	x	x	x	x	x
40-49	5	4	3	2	1	x	x	x	x	x
50-59	6	5	4	3	2	1	x	x	x	x
60-69	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	x	x	x
70-79	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	x	x
80-89	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	x
90-99	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
100-119	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
120-139	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
140-159	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
Over 160	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5

The number of points to be awarded for a win, 1st through 10th are listed under the place. Follow the entry size line for the number of finches shown at the particular show over to the place which you have won. The points shown under that place are the points you have received for that win.

Remember, regardless of the size of the entry, if the show is not being judged by a NFS Panel Judge, there will be no points awarded. The club involved does not necessarily have to be an affiliate of NFS, but the judge must be a panel judge for points to count. Plaques and Rosettes from the National Finch Society are only awarded at NFS affiliated shows.

BREEDER OF
AUSTRALIAN FINCHES
PARAKEETS
AND
COCKATIELS



Bill
Parlee

PANEL JUDGE



The National Finch Society

EAST HARTFORD, CT. 06108

203-528-1453



**DECOTEAU'S
Oak Leaf Aviaries**

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Members

AFA - ASA - ACS - ALS - NHAS - BSA

Author Of

Handbook of Amazons
Handbook of Cockatoos
Handbook of Macaws
Exhibition of Birds

AL DECOTEAU

FINCHES - SEEDEATERS - SOFBILLS

MEMBER AND PANEL JUDGE OF



The National Finch Society

NFS BOARD MEETING; MARCH 9, 1986.

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by President Parlee. The meeting was held at the home of Second Vice President Nancy Reed. Along with Bill and Nancy, Kelly Dahill, Jerry D'Agata, Pam and Bob Liddy, Russ Araitage Jr., Al Decoteau, Chris Voronovitch, and Tony Patterson were present. NFS member Dr. Bob Travnicek from Nebraska was a guest at this meeting.

The minutes of the December Board meeting and Treasurer's report were accepted as published.

Before committee reports were given, Bill Parlee asked for Dr. Travnicek to address the Board in regard to his letter to the Board, excerpts of which were printed in the Jan/Feb 86 Bulletin of the NFS. Bob suggested to the Board that organization of softbill aviculturists in this country is incomplete. He felt that NFS was the perfect avenue to be used by these enthusiasts and that the NFS should welcome them to our fold. He stressed three major points: 1. Inclusion of softbill breeders in our organization would prevent further fragmentation of our efforts aviculturally. 2. With the increasing availability of live foods and with the inevitable import restraints to come that more bird people are becoming interested in the softbill area of aviculture. 3. By changing our name to The National Finch and Softbill Society, we would let it be known that we are truly interested in the softbilled birds as well as the seedeaters.

Bob also pointed out that the zoological associations make no effort to attract the average aviculturist to softbill keeping. Bob also felt that these organizations did not actively disseminate breeding information or make strong efforts to sell their surplus birds.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Before leaving the discussion, Bill pointed out to the Board that Article 4 of our By-Laws stated that softbills have always been a part of our original purpose of the organization. He also stated that the softbill people must embrace us as well by writing educational articles for the bulletin that would attract more interest in the softbill area. Bill pointed out that since the death of Phil Shaw our Softbill Editor, no one has come forth to fill this position.

The Board thanked Bob for his comments and interest in the future of the Society.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1985 SHOW POINTS REPORT. Show Committee Chairman, Tony Patterson's report report was read by Bill Parlee. The report stated that there were 3 members qualifying for the Championship Exhibitor Award. They are: Robert Travnicek with 33 points, Bob and Tina Hemenway with 26 points, and Dick Muench also with 26 points. It was stated that the awards were being made up and would be presented at the National Cage Bird Show in St. Louis in November.

The final standings for 1985 on the Exhibitors Excellence Award were then presented. Tony pointed out that we have no winners to report (200 points), but that the leaders after the 1985 show season are: Steve Hoppin of Florida with 40 points, Ken Akey of New Hampshire with 38 points and Bob Travnicek of Nebraska with 33 points.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE; No report.

RESEARCH AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Al Decoteau reported that we now have NFS Standards to be voted upon for the Gouldian and Cordon Bleu Finches. Al reported that Val Clear had sent back the Gouldian Standards that he had researched for the NFS. Bill Parlee presented the Cordon bleu Standard for consideration. Al stated that both Val and Bill wished to thank all those who contributed their ideas to the formulation of these Standards. Al further remarked that Bill Parlee who was heading the effort to procure a Standard for the Green Singer, had not as yet completed their work.

On the Lady Gouldian Standard, Val suggested that we adopt the Australian and British Society Standards. He asked the Board to consider the following questions:

1. If extra consideration should be given for pairs? The Boards decision was that pairs would be considered as for all other pairs in the Pair Section or Division.
2. Should there be a class for immature plumage? The Board voted that immatures would be entered as for all other finches, in the young classes.
3. Should we stress new mutations? The Board had a lengthy discussion on this matter. The final decision was to include only the mutations given by Val and to add a class for all other mutations. The Board felt that as further mutations were solidly established and described by breeders, that those mutations could be added to the Standard by vote at a later date.
4. Would it be useful to have a model? Yes, and the Board will work on this matter.

5. Should we assign points? If so, recommend a pattern. The Board felt in keeping with all of our other Standards that points should be assigned.

Bill Parlee pointed out to the Board that points assigned for any finch are used by the judge as a guideline only, and that NFS judges judge by the comparison method.

The Board wishes to extend its deepest gratitude to Dr. Clear for his hard work and expeditious handling of the Lady Gouldian Standard.

JUDGE'S PANEL REPORT.

Al Decoteau reported that there are now 17 members involved in the Apprentice Program. At this point in time he does not feel that many of the apprentices will complete the program during the 1986 show season. He also reported that only 5 of our 13 judges had paid the 1986 Judge's fees.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Bill Parlee stated that the NFS membership was up to 336 as of this meeting. He also remarked that we had lost only 17 members by non-renewal since the establishment of NFS.

LEG BAND REPORT:

Russ Armitage, band secretary, reported that 4,900 bands had been ordered. Of this amount 3,720 had already been sold. This is twice the amount for the same time last year. Russ stated that the band program was progressing well and that additional bands will be ordered. Russ also stated that ordered bands would not be mailed to any member who was late on his membership renewal.

ELECTION COMMITTEE; inactive.

BY-LAW COMMITTEE: inactive.

AFA WINTER MEETING:

The AFA winter meeting was held in Pheonix, Arizona on Feb. 14-16, 1986. William Parlee and Nancy Reed represented the NFS at the meeting. The most notable item from the meeting involving finches was the Siskin Grant Program that is being considered by AFA. Tom Marshall, head of the Grants Program asked NFS President Bill Parlee to become involved in the criteria establishment for the Siskin grants. Bill stated that more information will be forthcoming on this matter.

During the meeting, AFA had scheduled tours to local aviaries (Phoenix/Tucson). Nancy and Bill visited several of these aviaries. They saw many finches, however larger parrotlike birds seem predominant in most of the aviaries and zoos visited.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made to re-write the Gouldian Standard so that it would not be copied directly from the British Standard. Included in the motion: adding a point system that would stress the tail condition. Motion carried.

Show cages were discussed by Russ Armitage. We have blue prints for three size boxes. Russ asked for clarification as to how we should label the boxes. He suggested that the present wording seemed confusing. A motion was made to label the cages #1, #2, and #3, and to suggest appropriate sizes for particular birds. It should be pointed out there is no requirement as to which birds have to go in which boxes, as long as it is within reason. For instance, although the #1 box is intended for waxbills it will also house Zebras and Societies; whereas use of this box for a Java Rice bird would be inappropriate, and use of the #2 box for waxbills would be inappropriate as well.

Bob Travnicek asked that we consider a #4 box for Softbills, sighting that the present #3 box was not appropriate for all Softbills. This #4 box would be longer and of less depth than the #3 box. The suggestion was taken under advisement.

Bill and Russ were to complete an instruction sheet for the blueprints. Bill pointed out that the #1 box may have as many as 32 bars on the front and as little as 23. The #2 box may have as many as 26 or as little as 21. The wire fronts may be chrome or black and the outer box should be painted black, gray or white. Insides may be powder blue or white. Any other color scheme is unacceptable and would be considered cage marking. It should be pointed out however, that cages or boxes already in existence may not conform to these requirements, but are still acceptable. We offer the color guidance to save you from repainting at a later date when the requirements go into effect.

THE GREAT AMERICAN CAGE BIRD SHOW.

GABS will be the Mid-West regional show for NFS. The show will be held October 2-4th at the Ramada O'Hare, in Des Plaines, Illinois. The Board nominated three judges to judge this show. They were Conrad Meinert, Al Decoteau, and Clarence Culwell. The Board voted by secret ballot. The selection to judge the show was Al Decoteau.

Bill Parlee read the contract to be signed for GABS. A motion carried to sign the contract as read.

CALIFORNIA:

As discussed at many previous Board Meetings, the subject of affiliations and judges in the California area was again brought up. At the last Board meeting Bill Parlee was given permission to meet with Hal Koontz at the AFA winter meeting to come up with a formula that would bring in affiliations from the California area. One of the California concerns regarding affiliation was procuring judges for their shows, all of whom are located the eastern U.S. with three judges in the Mid-West. The clubs thought that this would be cost prohibitive, and that this situation could not be resolved easily as it would take many years for apprentice judges to complete the program from their California base.

Bill presented his plan to the Board, stating that if we wanted to expand to the west coast that we would have to bend our regulations somewhat. The following is the plan as worked out by Bill and Hal: Bill sighted that we must maintain the integrity of our Judges Panel. Hal offered create a show situation by gathering 100 finches and softbills. The interested California clubs would select the two most outstanding judges in the California area to be tested by a present member of the Panel. Bill suggested that the test should consist of the written test given all apprentices as well as the standard overview of the applicants' actual judging of birds. Bill further stated that for this one time only based on this formula, that NFS would accept a maximum of two judges to the Panel assuming a passing grade on the test and recommendation from the Panel Judge doing the overview was achieved. Lodging and half of the cost of transportation would be born by the California clubs involved. The other half of the air fare would be paid by NFS.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Al Decoteau to accept the plan worked out by Bill and Hal. The motion carried.

The Board then nominated three judges to do the testing. The Board nominated Kelly Dahill, Al Decoteau, and Bill Parlee. A secret ballot was completed with Bill Parlee being selected to work out the final details with Hal Koontz and to do the testing.

Bill felt that this would be a boon to NFS, netting us many new members and affiliated clubs in the far west.

NEW BUSINESS

Al Decoteau reported on the meeting of the National Cage Bird Show. New officers were elected and the Judges for the National Cage Bird Show were selected. Bill Parlee, who had been nominated last year at the National was voted to judge the Finches at this year's National in November.

Of other interest during the NCBS Board meeting were rules to prohibit a Board member from judging the National more than once during his four year term on the Board. A Judge of the National may not enter any birds in the show. All NFS classifications were accepted as presented.

Bill Parlee asked the NFS Board to entertain ideas for our promotions chairman, Kelly Dahill. The Board discussed many ideas, and listened to the progress of the products division of ABS as reported by Bob Travnicek. Of all the ideas discussed, T-shirts seemed to be the most popular. Kelly was asked to look into this so that we can have them available for the 1986 show season. Another popular idea was to commission Eric Peak to paint original paintings of our NFS Standards. The Board asked for additional information on this suggestion sighting great interest.

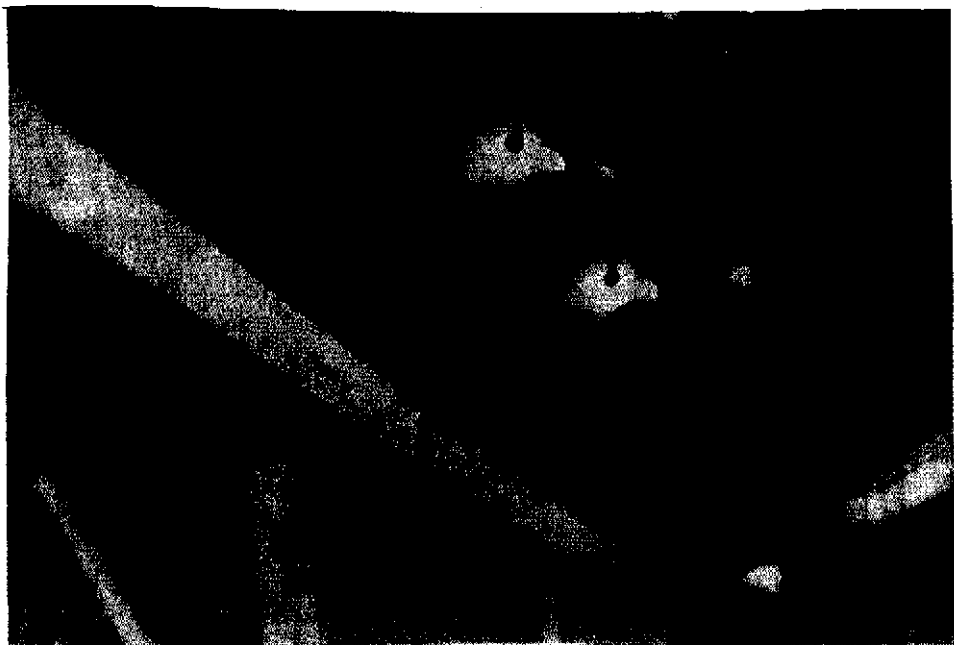
The last matter of business to be brought before the Board was a discussion regarding a name change for NFS to The National Finch and Softbill Society. The discussion presented mixed feelings from members of the Board. Bill Parlee made a motion that we not change our name. He further asked that we include as a part of our official bulletin, stationary, and etc., under NFS, the words: dedicated to Finches and Softbills. Bill also felt we should do everything in our power to encourage the interest of Softbill fanciers in the National Finch Society. The motion carried.

Al Decoteau asked to read a note from Val Clear. The letter suggested that NFS consider placing additional tags on show cages of NFS shows that would list the scientific name and geographical origin of the bird being shown. Since the hour was becoming late and no clear direction on this matter was forthcoming, the matter was tabled for later discussion.

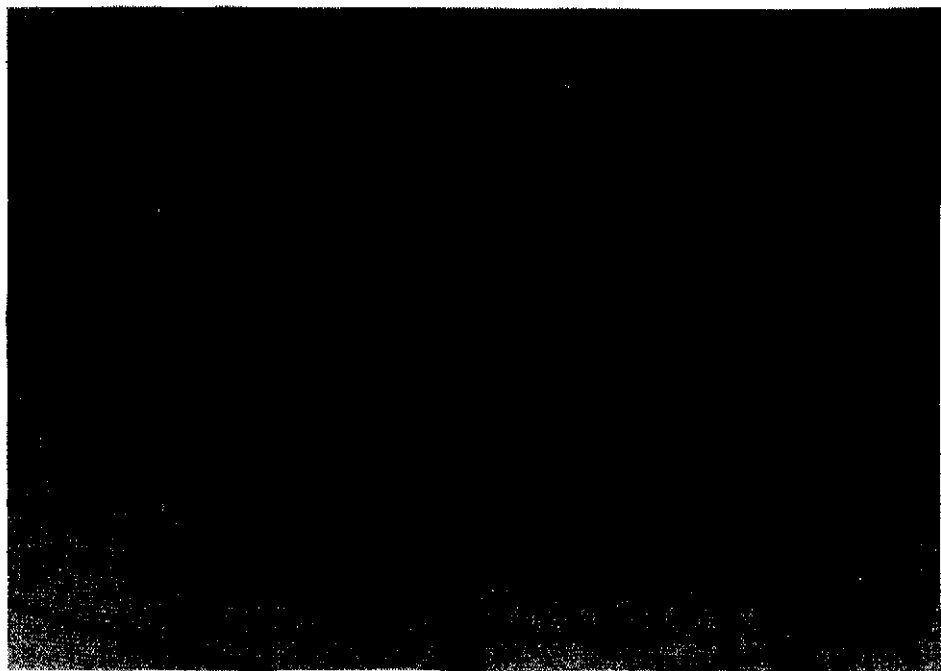
The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m. These minutes are from notes and transcribed from tape recordings.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Voronovitch, Recording Secretary.

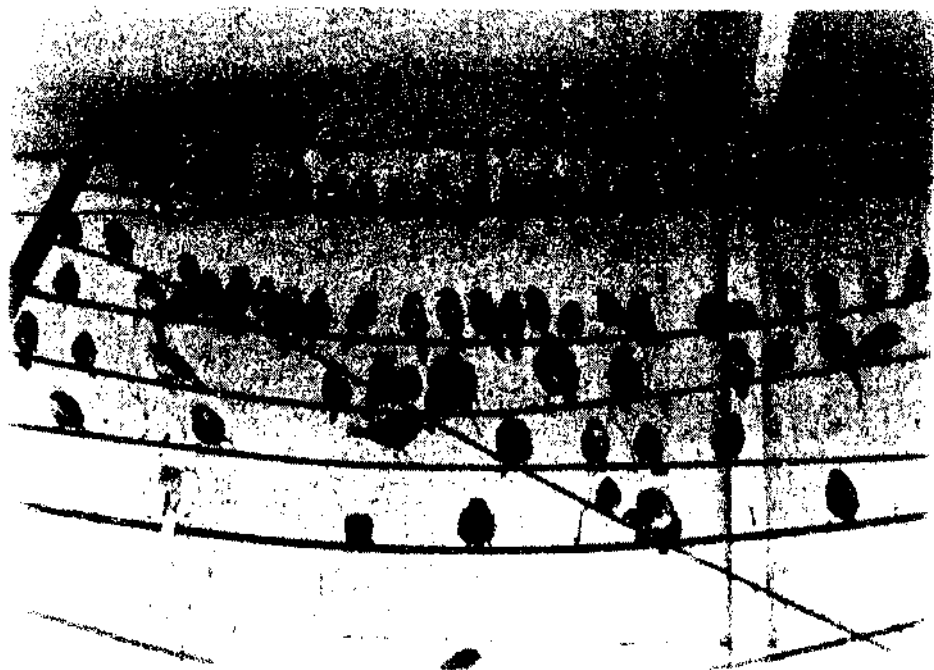
SHOTS FROM THE AFA WINTER MEETING TOURS



A breeding pair of Red Crested Touracos, taken during one of the AFA tours at Reid Park's private aviaries, Tucson, Arizona.



Assorted finches at the aviaries of Bernard Roer's in Pheonix, Ariz.



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NFS EDUCATIONAL PUZZLE FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT AND AMAZEMENT

The Education Committee of NFS, under the control of Nancy A. Reed, Second Vice President, will present an educational puzzle, quiz, or other item of interest in each bulletin. This first offering is coming to us from committee member Jerry D'Agata. Any member with ideas for this column should write to Nancy at 109 Stage Coach Rd., Windsor, CT. 06095.

Directions for this month's puzzle: Find the answers to the questions on the opposite page within this maze. The answers may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, or backwards. Good luck!

G N I W X A W K B W A X B I L L Z H
 V G C A G E R M S X V Q X M W A F P
 W O O D R S O F T B I L L S P B O X
 A W W D I T S T A L A R I O X I F G
 H L P O T A S M R U R S T C T L H O
 W E A V E R T Y I S I D V I O L E T
 I T R E P F I N C H E S I E T O C O
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 G L E T P N M H I C K S E Y P Q N C
 R T L S I C O N C O C K O F I R E A
 A H A T C H U B I T R I S I O F A N
 C R E A E S S I G K S N U N S L R E
 K Z S N G P E R A O E J S C E I E T
 L A M A O E S D I X N P O H P S D T
 E P E G O U L D I A N I M E E D T E
 S O L E E P E O K S E E D S F G F S
 Q T M R A P E L I M G D F L N Q G D

Answers to this month's puzzle can be found opposite the back inside cover. No cheating!!!

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS, ALL THE ANSWERS ARE IN THE MAZE AT THE LEFT.

1. NFS Standard show ____.
2. Some nest boxes are made of this; ____.
3. This bird is native to Europe and North America: Bohemian _____.
4. Of the genus "Molothrus". ___bird.
5. Both the Baya and the Bishop are of this group. _____.
6. Also native to India, Burma, and Ceylon. Nut____.
7. A simple method for treatment of egg binding is to apply warm oil to this area. _____.
8. The brightly colored Crimson Collared _____ is endemic to Mexico.
9. The ____ / ____ or Ruficauda is one of Australia's popular finches.
10. Java Hill or Rothchild's refer to this fruit eating group. _____.
11. Non-aviculturists use this word to encompass all species. _____.
12. _____ Hornbills are of the genus "Penelopides".
13. A fattening grain that should be included in minor amounts in the diet of most birds. _____.
14. A large enclosure used to house many birds or your entire bird collection. _____.
15. The Black Headed _____ is from South America.
16. Kept mainly for the purpose of fostering babies. _____/_____.
17. A Waxbill from South Africa, and is a close rival of the Lady Gould in beauty. Violet _____ Waxbill.
18. This genus includes a large variety of finches, including Bulbuls, Chloropsis, and Waxwings etc. _____.
19. The Damaraland _____ Finch is very rare in American aviculture, but popular in European collections.
20. Bates and Busenbark's famous book: _____ and Softbilled Birds.
21. Another name for the Variable Seedeater or Lineated Finch is the _____ Seedeater.
22. A term used for a male finch. _____.
23. A ___ Colored Parrot Finch.
24. This lady is one of the world's most beautiful finches and is from Australia. _____.
25. A small round black seed used mostly in canary diets. _____.
26. Also known as "Lonchura Ferruginosa". ____.
27. The mainstay of a finch's diet. _____.
28. Either African or Australian, this little red bird is known as a _____ Finch.
29. The most prominent feature of a Wydah. _____.
30. _____ Plantain Eater.
31. The Crimson Winged or Aurora is a member of the _____ family.
32. Another word for a bird's beak: _____.
33. The _____ Toucan is quite rare in American aviculture.
34. Common term for a female finch. ____.
35. It can be fertile or infertile, and can vary in color. _____.
36. _____ Crested Cuckoo "Clamator Jacobinus".
37. _____ Finch is also known as the Barred or Bicheno Finch.
38. _____ Nightengale.

NFS Puzzle of the month, continued.

39. If dried grasses are supplied, Weavers will weave a very intricate _____.
40. _____, also called gravel, is used in many diets.
41. The _____ or "Parus Caeruleus" of Europe is rarely kept in captivity.
42. Kinglets and _____ fall into the same category as warblers.
43. Some finches prefer a wooden nest _____.
44. Munia is its name but is commonly called the _____ Finch.
45. The Crimson _____ Hummingbird is considered to be the most beautiful of all hummingbirds.
46. A _____ Toucan.
47. _____ are smaller and more slender than Toucans.
48. Diamond _____ or "Geopelia Cuneata".
49. The Purple _____, while easy to care for, is too aggressive to be kept with smaller birds.

The answers to all these questions can be found in Bates and Busenbark's Finches and Softbilled Birds.

Yes, count me as a member of the
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EGG-BINDING SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT

BY EARL R. GROSSMAN

It is quite possible that the most dreaded situation for the breeder of birds is a condition known as egg-binding. While most breeders know of the condition's existence, the pet bird owner is usually wholly unaware of this nightmare until it is too late to assist the afflicted bird. In fact, too many pet owners are unaware of the sex of their birds.

The symptoms of egg-binding are general malaise, puffiness of the feathers and, usually, a pronounced swelling of the abdominal region. Quite frequently because the unexpelled egg is putting pressure on the digestive as well as the genital tract, the vent area will have a messy, plastered down appearance.

Make no mistake, egg-binding is a life-threatening situation for the bird because of the extreme physical stress to which the bird is subjected. The first step to effective treatment is the application of heat. If facilities exist, the bird should be placed in a hospital cage, without perches, at a temperature of 85 degrees. In the home situation, covering three sides of the cage and placing it on a heating pad at medium heat or near a heat lamp will have the desired effect, though internal temperature of the cage should be closely monitored. In the initial stages of treatment, food should be limited to those items with a low fat content. In the smaller birds, straight canary seed is probably the least fatty seed that the birds will accept. In the larger hookbills, both sunflower and safflower seed should be avoided because of their high fat content.

At this point you must decide whether to take the bird to veterinarian with some expertise in the treatment of birds or take treatment into your own hands. Recently, success has been reported for a technique in which the contents of the egg is removed by syringe, thus collapsing the eggshell and making it easier for the bird to expel the remnants herself. This operation should only be performed by an expert because of the danger to the subject bird. A possible complication of this procedure is the laceration of the oviduct as well as internal organs by the eggshell fragments.

A popular technique for treating this situation on your own is to insert several drops of mineral oil into the vent in the hope of providing sufficient lubrication to allow the hen to expel the egg. This is often followed by holding the bird's vent over the escaping steam from a teapot so as to direct heat and moisture to the area. Be careful that you are not so close to the steam as to burn the bird or

yourself. On return to the cage, + energy to expel the egg. Some very gentle downward massage of the area will also be of assistance. As a last resort, you may manually attempt to break the egg within the oviduct and hope that it may be expelled without serious injury to the bird.

If there is evidence that success has been achieved, i.e. eggshell fragments, deformed egg, the diet should be immediately changed to provide a high energy regimen for the bird to aid it in building up its bodily resources severely weakened by both the egg-binding and its ensuing treatment. Very effective in this regard is the offering of peanut butter in a separate dish, which most birds seem to accept with relish. Simple sugars, such as corn sugar or fructose, dissolved in the drinking water will also assist in the recovery.

A less common type of egg-binding may also occur in which the bird does not respond to the more gentle attempts to attempt to assist her. It is possible that the egg has become lodged in the oviduct before the stage at which the shell is secreted. Usually, if the bird survives the first 48 to 72 hours of the eggbound situation, it is this less common type of egg-binding that has occurred. In this circumstance, the bird should be provided with the same lowfat diet plus the addition of sugar to the drinking water. Given time, anywhere from two weeks to four months, the bird will often succeed in reabsorbing the contents of the egg.

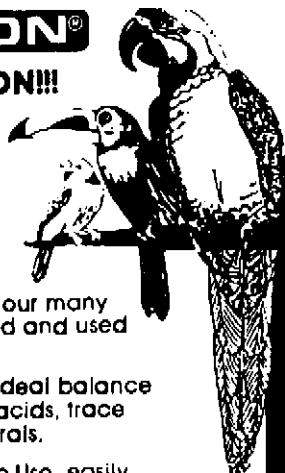
Be aware that the treatments suggested here, while often effective, can never be guaranteed to be successful. There is always a significant element of risk when dealing with egg-binding.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Earl Grossman is a friend of the National Finch Society and a member of NFS affiliate, the New Hampshire Avicultural Society. Earl's articles are found frequently in avicultural journals. We thank Earl for this article on a much overlooked subject.

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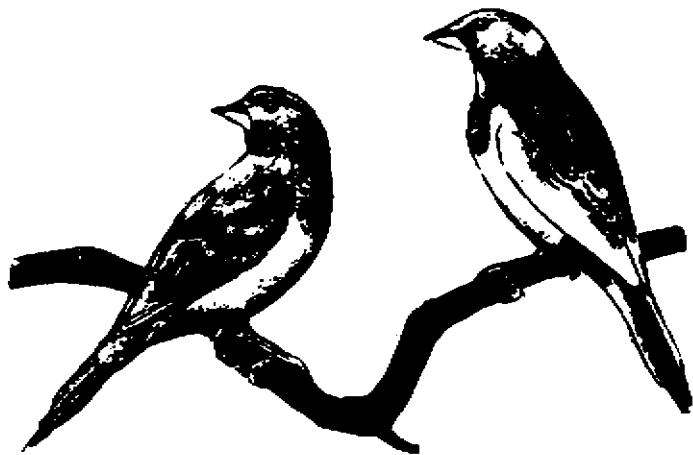
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BREEDING THE MASKED GRASSFINCH, by Hal Koontz

The Masked Grassfinch has long been one of my favorite species of finches. It is a beautiful and striking bird. It has a brown body, a yellow beak and a black mask over its eyes (from which it gets its name). The yellow beak in front of the black mask is very striking. The Masked Grassfinch is not a very popular finch. The only reason I can think of for its lack of popularity is that most breeders do not know what a Masked Grassfinch is or what it looks like. I believe that if more people were exposed to the species, Masked Grassfinches would be much more popular.

The Masked Grassfinch is a member of the Peophila family which also includes the Shafttail and the Parson Finch. It has the white rump like the Shafttail and Parson Finch, and a long tail with two feathers which extend even longer. Compared to the Shafttail, the Masked Grassfinch's tail is not as long and the two longest tail feathers are wide feathers rather than thin.

The Masked Grassfinch is a very gentle, nice bird. It tends to be somewhat shy and always tries to hide its nest so it cannot be found. I have six pair of Masked Grassfinches set up for breeding. Each pair is in a different aviary. The aviaries are not heated in any way and the Masked Grassfinches take temperatures into the high twenties with no problem. In the summer, they take temperatures of 110 degrees, also with no problems.

My Masked Grassfinches prefer to build their nests right on the ground in tall Bermuda grass. It is usually very difficult to find their nests because it is camouflaged in the Bermuda grass. I know a pair is nesting when I go into the aviary and cannot find both birds. Unlike many species, Masked Grassfinches will not leave the nest when you enter the aviary and will do their best not to disclose the location of the nest. To find a nest, I will carefully poke around in the Bermuda grass and the female will fly off of the nest when I am right on top of her. I have not had a problem with Masked Grassfinches abandoning their nest after my disturbance.

Some of my Masked Grassfinches nest in tumbleweeds and bushes. They always build a new nest from scratch each time they lay a clutch of eggs. Their nests are very good with a small entry way. They are one of the better Australian finch nest builders. They usually lay a clutch of 5 eggs. Fertility has been excellent and they do a fair job of raising their babies. I have some pairs which raise their babies well. I have a few pairs which consistently refuse to feed their babies after they hatch them out.

The Masked Grassfinch spends a lot of time on the ground foraging for seeds and other tidbits. They usually spend the night in a roosting nest and will build a crude nest for this purpose when they are not breeding. In a holding flight where there were no nests available, I had some Masked Grassfinches take over a large seed cup as a roosting site.

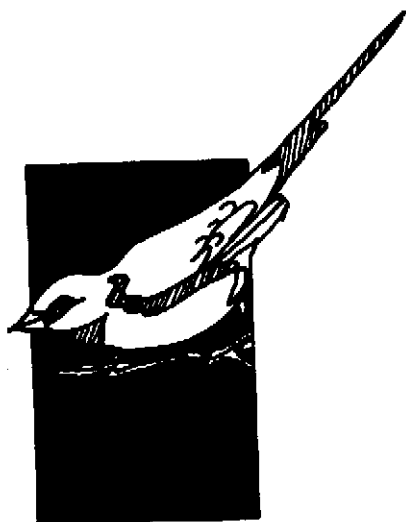
I have bred approximately 50 Masked Grassfinches in each of the last two years. The secret to breeding the Masked Grassfinch is providing it a suitable nesting site and giving it privacy. Masked Grassfinches like dense vegetation, especially on the ground. I have done much better with my Masked Grassfinches in aviaries with dense vegetation than in aviaries where a tumbleweed was the only nesting site. I encourage you to look into this beautiful and delightfully shy bird.



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THE OFFICIAL LADY GOULDIAN STANDARD

as adopted by the National Finch Society

March 1986

CONDITION: 20 POINTS

The conditions of the Lady Gouldian is of paramount importance, as this bird normally holds a good appearance, and the degree of difficulty is not great in keeping the bird in top condition. The Lady Gouldian must be immaculate with no soiled or frayed feathers. There must be no pin feathers. Missing toes, nails, or damaged or missing feathers are show faults and will count heavily in the point count.

CONFORMATION: 40 POINTS

(broken down as follows)

HEAD AND BODY: 20 POINTS. The head should be nicely rounded with eyes set on the center line of the head. The body should be approximately 5 1/2 inches, or 14 cms. The body shape should be slightly tapered to the tail. The Gouldians body must be substantial without being overly robust. The Gouldian must never be a thin snakey bird. The line from the beak over the crown, nape, back, rump, and tail should be smooth and complete with no breaks.

The line from the lower mandible, over the chin, throat, chest, abdomen, vent, and to the tail should flow evenly and smoothly. Faults in body conformation would include: drooped tails, pouted (overly broad) chests, nipped necks (flow from head to back), and cocked tails.

WINGS: 10 POINTS. The wings should be carried evenly and held close to the body. The tips of the wings should meet evenly at the tail and should not be drooped or crossed.

TAIL: 15 POINTS. In conformation, the tail is of the utmost importance. Tail feathers should be of equal length and held evenly. The central pin tail feathers must be elongated, separated, and running parallel with each other. These pin tail feathers should be as long as possible with other tail feathers being in proportion to the body.

STANCE: 5 POINTS. The Lady Gouldian being a well domesticated bird, should be quite calm on the perch and should not appear overly nervous. The judge should be able to use a probe without overly disturbing the bird.

GENERAL STANDARD FOR HENS. Hens will differ from cocks somewhat in that the two central pin feathers of the tail will not be as long. The hen will tend to be a little more robust than the cock which is encouraged in the Standard.

COLORATION 30 POINTS.

The National Finch Society considers Conformation to be of the utmost importance in the Finch Standards. Coloration is always assigned 20 points as a guideline in judging. However, for the Lady Gouldian, coloration takes on an added importance, and is assigned 30 points. The Gouldian is one of the most beautiful of all finches and the evenness and intensity of color is of a much more dominant consideration.

COLOR STANDARD - BLACK-HEADED CUCK.

The forehead, crown, ear coverts, chin and throat should be deep black with a slight glossy sheen. A line of sky-blue at the edge of this black extends from the throat right around the back of the head. The edges between the blue band and the black should be sharply defined. On the throat, the line of blue should be sharply defined from the chest color but should extend and merge into the green of the side of the neck and the mantle.

The wing coverts should be of dark grass-green with a slight glossiness. The primaries should be dark gray, almost black, with a lighter edging to the flight feathers.

The deep violet breast should extend from the sky-blue throat band to a line running between the lesser wing coverts across the chest. This line should be clear cut and have a reddish tinge. Below this line and running over the abdomen and flanks, the color should be deep buttercup yellow gradually fading to white in the area of the vent. The back should have a blue band which merges on the head with the grass green of the mantle and back. This area should carry a gold suffusion, more intensive on the mantle and approaching the rump. The rump should be light sky blue.

The undertail coverts should be clear white, while the upper tail coverts will be light sky-blue, some white frosting of the feather edges is acceptable.

The Tail will be black.

The Bill will be pearl white with either a rose or yellow tip.

The legs should be flesh colored and nails of horn coloration.

The eyes should be black with a thin flesh colored eye-ring.

COLOR STANDARD FOR RED HEADED-COCK.

Same as for Black Headed except the the forehead crown and ear coverts will be deep scarlet red, which should be evenly colored with no black or orange flecking. Chin and throat deep black, with a black line continuing around the head. This is fringed by a further line of sky-blue, which extends and merges into the green of the side of the neck and mantle. The red, black and sky-blue markings should otherwise be sharply and clearly defined.

COLOR STANDARD FOR DRANGE-HEADED COCK. As for Red-Headed Cock, but red replaced by either golden orange or a deep buttercup yellow.

COLOR STANDARD FOR WHITE-BREASTED COCK.

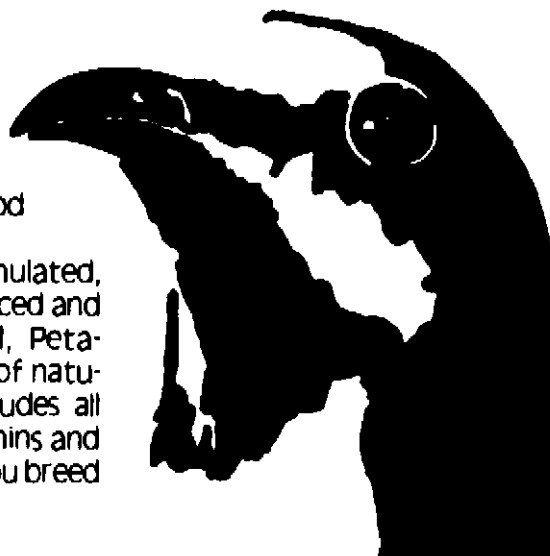
As for normal colored cocks but chest purple is replaced by clear intense white with no flecking.

COLOR STANDARD FOR HENS.

As for cocks except that chest purple will be much paler, the mantle and back lack the gold suffusion and the whole plumage is duller and lacks the glossiness of cocks.



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The National Finch Society

NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY AFFILIATED CLUBS

THE ASTORIA BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Alex Grivas

Show date: November 1, 1986, Panel Judge: Kelly Dahill.

THE BALTIMORE BIRD FANCIERS - Delegate: Brenda Geesey

BIRDS OF A FEATHER AVICULTURAL SOCIETY - Delegate: Larry Brandt

THE BOSTON COCKATIEL SOCIETY - Delegate: Linda Rubin

Show date: October 11, 1986, Panel Judge: Jerry D'Agata.

THE BOSTON SOCIETY FOR AVICULTURE - Delegate: Roger D'Connell

THE CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: William Lusley

THE CHARLOTTE METROLINER CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Patricia Gibson

THE GREATER CHICAGO CAGE BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Charles Anchor

Show date: in conjunction with GABS, Oct. 1-2, 1986.

THE CLEVELAND CANARY AND CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Louis Di Santo

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOC. FOR AVICULTURE - Delegate: Jerry D'Agata

Show date: October 26, 1986, Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert.

THE GEORGIA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Cecil Gunby

THE GULF COAST EXOTIC CAGE BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Karl Kline

THE GREAT AMERICAN CAGE BIRD SHOW - NFS REGIONAL SHOW.

Show date: October 2-3, 1986, Panel Judge: A.E. Decoteau.

THE GULF COAST BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Richard Muench

THE GREATER KANSAS CITY AVICULTURAL SOCIETY - Delegate: Andrea Shaw

THE GULF SOUTH CAGE BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Evon Kruse

- THE MARYLAND CAGE BIRD ASSOCIATION - Delegate: Dallas Johnson
- THE MASSACHUSSETS CAGE BIRD ASSOCIATION - Delegate: Shirley Eaton
 Show date: October 18, 1986, Panel Judge: William Parlee.
- THE GREATER MIAMI AVICULTURAL SOCIETY - Delegate: Hector Ugalde
- THE MID-WEST CANARY AND CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Mary Kaszyca
- MINNESOTA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Michael Bronson.
 Show date: Oct. 11, 1986 - Panel Judge: William Parlee.
- THE NATIONAL CAGE BIRD SHOW - NFS NATIONAL SHOW.
 Show date: November 14-16, 1986 - Panel Judge: William Parlee.
- THE NEW HAMPSHIRE AVICULTURAL SOCIETY - Delegate: Kenneth Akey
 Show date: October 11, 1986, Panel Judge: A.E. Decoteau.
- THE GREATER OMAHA CAGE BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Wayne Eichelberger
- BIRD FANCIERS OF OKLAHOMA - Delegate: Carol Gardner
- THE OKLAHOMA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Gene Miller
- THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SOCIETY OF AVICULTURE - Delegate: Martha Wigmore
- SUNSHINE STATE CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Ann Hurst
- THE WESTERN NEW ENGLAND CAGE BIRD SOCIETY - Delegate: Charles Biaquinta
 Show date: November 8, 1986 - Panel Judge: William Parlee.
- THE WISCONSIN CAGE BIRD CLUB - Delegate: Mary Zuidema
- WATCH NFS GROW IN 1986

ATTENTION ALL CLUB DELEGATES:

PLEASE SEND YOUR CLUB'S SHOW DATE, LOCATION AND THE NAME OF THE PANEL JUDGE YOU HAVE SELECTED TO JUDGE THE SHOW SO THAT THIS INFORMATION CAN BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT BULLETIN. MAIL THIS INFO TO EDITOR, NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY, 529 BURNSIDE AVE. E. HARTFORD, CT 06108-3592.

THE NATIONAL FINCH SHOW 1986

The National Finch Society, National Show for 1986 will be held in conjunction with the National Cage Bird Show. This years' show will be held at the Adams Mark Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, November 15-17, 1986.

Finch registration will be Thursday evening and Friday morning before the start of judging. The exact cut-off time will be announced at a later date.

This years' National Finch Show promises to be the largest and best yet. The new NFS classification system will be in effect for this show. NFS is looking for a participation that will exceed the largest entry of finches for the National Cage Bird Show. The largest entry to date is 182 in 1985. It would seem that with membership support the NFS can expect at least 300 finches for this years' show.

There will be many incentives for those members entering their birds this year. The Kelllogg award of course, will be awarded to the Best Finch in Show. The NFS Kaytee Award will be awarded the Best Breed and Banded by the exhibitor entry. These awards are in addition to all the normal Divisional, Sectional and Class trophies and rosettes normally awarded by the National Cage Bird Show.

The National Finch Society will be Awarding a plaque for the Best in each Section. The NFS Divisional awards will include a plaque for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Best in Division along with the ten best Rosettes.

This year as a special treat to Society fanciers, the National Finch Society will be awarding a first and second Best Society medal. These two medals were obtained though Dr. Val Clear, and are donations to our national show by the National Bangalese Society of Great Britain. We of the National Finch Society consider it a great honor to receive these medals. They are sure to be a treasured holding of the winners.

This year's judge for the Finch Division is NFS President and Panel Judge William Parlee. Bill brings with him his years of experience in judging finches and softbills. His style of judging is sure to be educational to all those viewing the judging.

We encourage all NFS members to attend the "National", as it is more than a show it is an education. You will meet with other serious finch breeders and exhibitors and will be able to share your knowledge. Of course you will be able to see old friends and new ones. There will be a National Finch Society booth set up during the entire show. The NFS National Annual meeting will be held Friday evening at the hotel. We hope to meet and greet all our NFS member at "your show of shows", the National Cage bird Show, St. Louis, 1986.

ATTENTION PANEL JUDGES

Please make the following changes to your JUDGES HANDBOOK. Effective as of January 1986, all NFS exhibitions will have "young banded" and "old" classifications for each class. All judges approved by NFS must look for the BLUE 1986 leg band. All other birds must be entered in the "old" classes.

POLICY CHANGE: Effective as of January 1986, all apprentices must select their shows in which to apprentice by August 1st. Each selection must be sent to the NFS Judge's Panel Chairman.

All selections will be sent to the NFS Judges involved; each judge in turn must secure permission from each show committee involved. All assignments must be in place by September 15th of each year.

Each Judge must send a written report to the Chairman of the Judge's Panel on each apprentice whom he evaluates.

CLASSIFICATION CHANGES FOR 1986: Please make the following changes.

Div. 2, Grassfinches; delete class 13 - Heck's. Div. 3, Indo-Pacific: add under Finches of India: 29 - White Hooded Nuns, 30 - Black Hooded Nuns, 31 - Tricolor Nuns, 32 - ADV. Div. 6, Finches of Africa, Mannikins: delete the above Nuns. Div. 7, Finches of the Americas, other So.Americans: add Crimson Pileated.

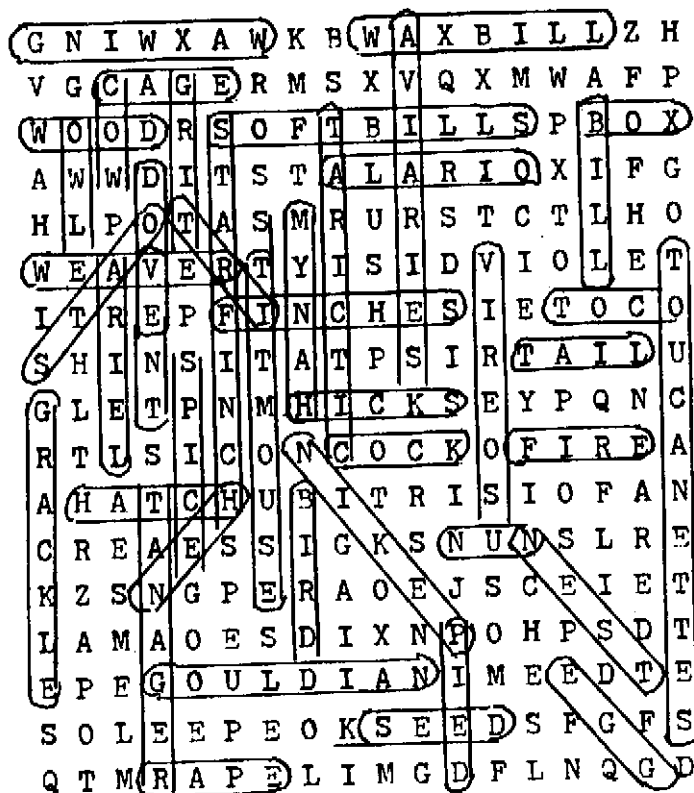
Div. 9, All Softbilled Birds: add a new Section - Doves, Quail and Rails, to read as follows: 1 - Diamond Doves, 2 - Green Wing Doves, 3 - Australian Crested Doves, 4 - Zebra Doves, 5 - Necklaced Doves, 6 - Ringneck Doves, 7 - White Doves, 8 - Button Quail, 9 - Rails, 10 - ADV.

A complete list of all classifications for 1986 will be published in the March/April issue of the National Finch Society Bulletin.



The National Finch Society

NFS Puzzle answers.



1. cage. 2. wood. 3. Waxwing. 4. Cow. 5. Weaver. 6. hatch.
7. vent. 8. Tanager. 9. Star Finch. 10. Mynah. 11. birds. 12.
- Tarctic. 13. oats. 14. aviaries. 15. Siskin. 16. Society
- Finches. 17. Eared. 18. softbills. 19. Alario. 20. Finches.
21. Hick's. 22. cock. 23. Tri. 24. Gouldian. 25. rape. 26.
- Nun. 27. seed. 28. Fire. 29. tail. 30. Violet. 31. Waxbill.
32. bill. 33. Ariel. 34. hen. 35. egg. 36. Pied. 37. Owl.
38. Pekin. 39. grit. 40. nest. 41. Titmouse. 42. Vireos. 43.
- box. 44. Spice. 45. Topaz. 46. Toco. 47. Toucanettes. 48.
- Dove. 49. Brackle.

We hope you enjoyed the challenge. Send ideas and comments to NFS.

American Federation of Aviculture CONVENTION

86



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August 6-10, 1986

THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY WILL HOLD A NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT THE AFA CONVENTION, THURSDAY, EVENING AT 8 PM. AT THE HOTEL. NFS WILL ALSO MAN A BOOTH FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONVENTION. SEE YOU THERE! !