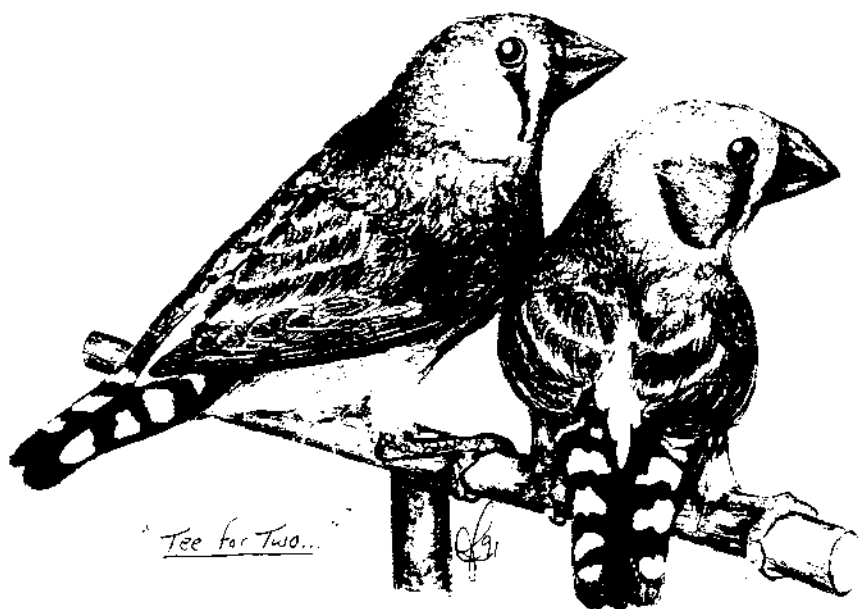


The NFS Bulletin

Vol. 11, No.2

OUR TENTH
YEAR!



The National Finch and Softbill Society

March—April 1994



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NFS CUMULATIVE INDEX

This issue of *The NFS Bulletin* includes a Cumulative Index (see page 35) of the articles, show reports, and administrative matters included in the first ten years of the *Bulletin*, covering April 1984 through Jan—Feb 1994. The Index, here appearing in a new format, makes your back issues of the *Bulletin* an invaluable reference tool.

Glance under the two general headings of *FINCHES* and *SOFTBILLS* for a complete listing of species articles NFS has published. *And there's so much more!* Back issues of the *Bulletin* can be ordered from *FINCHSHOP* (see page 56).

WANT SPECIAL TREATMENT?

FIRST CLASS DELIVERY of your copy of *The NFS Bulletin* can now be ordered for an extra **\$5.00/year!** Simply include the extra amount with your membership application or renewal form.



If your membership is not up for renewal, but you would like first class delivery of your remaining issues, send a letter explaining your wish, along with \$.85 per issue, payable to NFS, to NFS Membership Chairman Lynda Bakula (see page 8 or 52 for address).



President's Message

By Steve Hoppin

The policy of NFS is and always has been to focus little on politics and emphasize primarily the interest of finches and softbills (you are probably thinking, have I heard this somewhere before?). As you will note from our first issue of *The NFS Bulletin* in 1994, we are back on track.

Our new editor, Martha Wigmore has produced a high quality first publication — the January / February 1994 issue. This issue is packed with the entire show results of 1993, NFS News and Notes, and more!

I have been inundated with members contacting me regarding this issue. Fortunately, all comments have been in support of the entire *Bulletin*, including the new style Martha has incorporated. I am very pleased to hear these favorable comments from the membership; however, I suggest you drop Martha a line and let her hear it directly from you. Give credit where credit is due.

As you know, *The NFS Bulletin* is our primary link of communication to the NFS membership. Our intention with each issue is to continue to provide educational articles, NFS News and Notes, FINCHSAVE information, information on affiliated clubs and upcoming show dates, classified ads and much more. We try to keep you informed and entertained to the best of our ability.

In the past, *The NFS Bulletin* has published an array of articles from the novice finch and softbill keeper to the aviculturist with a tremendous amount of experience. All articles have had something to offer the membership.

An invitation!

A special invitation from the NFS editor went out with our first issue of 1994 requesting the "old timer" NFS members to participate during our 10th year anniversary celebration by sending in a note or two for future issues of *The NFS Bulletin*. I hope each and every one of you responds to her request. Thanks!

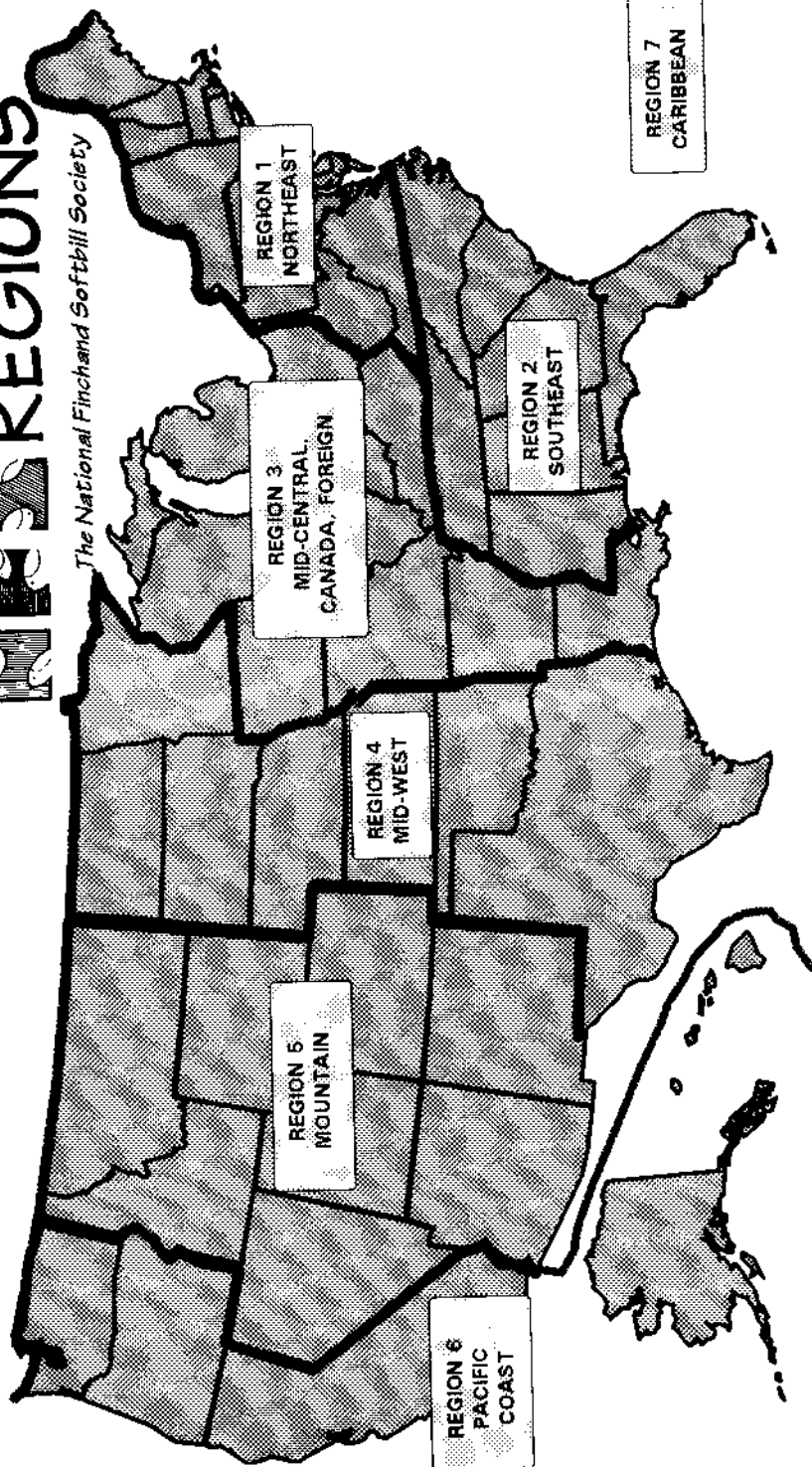
Upon closing, I ask you to consider sharing a bit of your knowledge and expertise with our membership by submitting an article for *The NFS Bulletin*. It is apparent to me that the membership is eager for information of all kinds pertaining to finches and softbills. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our editor, Martha as I am sure she will offer guidance and assistance in constructing and/or publishing your article in *The NFS Bulletin*.



REGIONS



The National Finchard Softball Society





*National Finch And Softbill
Society's*

FINCHSAVE

*"the successful
breeding program
serving as a model
for others to
follow!"*

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*Give Something Back to
Aviculture!*

NFS News & Notes

Compiled from NFS Directors

1994 Show Classifications

As your local clubs begin to plan 1994 shows and show catalogs, please note that the show classifications published in the The NFS Handbook are obsolete and **should not be used**. The current NFS classifications will be published in the May-June 1994 issue of the *Bulletin* (and can also be found in the May-June 1988 *Bulletin*).

Your NFS Region

NFS Regional Vice Presidents, elected to office by the members of their regions, are listed both inside the front cover and on page 8. A map showing the NFS regions is included in this issue on page 5. You can also find your region number listed on your *Bulletin* mailing label.

Your Regional Vice President, in addition to *The NFS Bulletin*, is your primary NFS contact year-round, answering your questions and

forwarding your concerns to the entire NFS Board of Directors.

NFS Regional V.P.'s work with members and affiliated clubs in support of regional shows and meetings each year. Occasionally workshops are prepared. Do you have thoughts of how NFS can aid aviculture in your region? Contact your NFS Regional V.P.!

New NFS Membership Brochure

If you or your club are in need of NFS membership brochures give your Regional Vice President a call. A limited supply of the attractive new brochure is available. After NFS' Membership Chairman Lynda Bakula moves to her new address this summer the brochure will be reprinted and distributed for the height of the show season.

Coming In the Next Issue:

The Owl Finch

1993 NFS Census

**Tom Rood's 1st Ten
Years With NFS**

**NFS Show Classifica-
tions for 1994**

**Cumulative Index by
Author**

and more!

Comments On Proposed Revisions to the Society Finch Standard

The comment period on the proposed revisions to the Society Finch Standard, which was published in the Jan—Feb 1994 issue of *The NFS Bulletin*, is still open. All comments are valued and considered, and your participation is welcome! Please address your items to Dr. Al Decoteau, Standards Chairman (see page 8 for address).

1993 Financial Report

We hope to see the 1993 Financial Report from Treasurer Miki Sparzak in the next issue.

New Affiliation Deadline

1994 club affiliations must be received by **May 31, 1994**. For information, contact Russ Armitage, NFS' Liaison Officer.

Regional Show Requests for 1994

Regional show requests for 1994 *must* be received by Russ Armitage by **April 30, 1994**.

Prizes for *Bulletin* Contributors

Every six months one lucky contributor to *The NFS Bulletin* during the previous six months will be randomly selected to receive a gift from FINCHSHOP. Send in your articles, artwork and photos for inclusion in one of aviculture's most useful publications!

The first drawing will be held in early July from contributors to the first three issues of 1994. You can still be included! The deadline for submissions to the May—Jun 1994 issue is **April 1st**.

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GIVE US A CALL!

FINCHSAVE Progress Report**FINCHSAVE
PARTICIPATING
SPECIES**

By Linda Oja
FINCHSAVE Director



During 1993 we lost two participating species and gained two new ones. We ended up with 62 species (which is the same as last year) and 48 participants (some working with several species). These figures may change after I receive the annual reports for 1993.

We especially need to add more species to the *EUROPEAN* and *SOUTH AMERICAN* groups.

Two participants have volunteered to conduct a survey among participants to obtain specific species information so that we can begin writing up species management plans for each species.

Promoting FINCHSAVE

We also need to concentrate on publicity in publications and at shows. Perhaps we can supply FINCHSAVE material to all show judges to be distributed at the various shows. I'm sure more ideas will come in with the annual FINCHSAVE reports.

A listing of the current FINCHSAVE participating species, with the number of participants in each species indicated in parenthesis, is presented below. Please contact me if you would like a FINCHSAVE application (see page 8 for address).

FINCHSAVE PARTICIPATING SPECIES
AUSTRALIAN & PARROT FINCH GROUP (6 species)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Poephila bichenovi</i> | Owl (Bicheno) Finch (4) |
| <i>Poephila ruficauda</i> | Star Finch (1) |
| <i>Poephila personata</i> | Masked Grassfinch (1) |
| <i>Erythrura trichora</i> | Blue-faced Parrot Finch (2) |
| <i>Erythrura psittacea</i> | Red-headed Parrot Finch (3) |
| <i>Erythrura prasina</i> | Pintailed Nonpariel Parrot Finch (1) |

continued next page

FINCHSAVE PARTICIPATING SPECIES, continued
MANNIKIN GROUP (9 species)

- Lonchura (Eodice) cantans* African Silverbill (3)
Lonchura (Eodice) malabarica Indian Silverbill (1)
Lonchura nigriceps Rufous Back Mannikin (2)
Lonchura bicolor Black & White Mannikin (1)
Lonchura molucca Moluccan Mannikin (1)
Lonchura punctulata Spice Finch (1)
Lonchura malacca Tri-color (Chestnut) Mannikin (1)
Lonchura maja White-headed Munia (Nun) (1)
Lonchura fringilloides Magpie Mannikin (1)

**WAXBILL GROUP (13 species)**

- Amandava a. amandava* Strawberry Finch (4)
Estrilda subflava subflava Gold-breasted Waxbill (9)
Estrilda astrild St. Helena Waxbill (3)
Estrilda troglodytes Red-eared (Black-rumped) Waxbill (4)
Estrilda melpoda Orange-cheek Waxbill (3)
Estrilda caerulea Lavender Waxbill (5)
Estrilda melanotis Yellow-bellied Waxbill (1)
Estrilda erythronotos Black-cheek Waxbill (2)
Estrilda rhodopyga Rosy-rump Waxbill (1)
Uraeginthus bengalus Red-cheek Cordon Bleu (7)
Uraeginthus cyanocephala Blue-headed (Blue-capped) Cordon Bleu (7)
Uraeginthus granatina Violet-eared Waxbill (2)
Uraeginthus ianthinogaster Purple Grenadier (3)

OTHER AFRICANS GROUP (18 species)

- Amadina erythrocephala* Red-headed Finch (1)
Amadina fasciata Cutthroat Finch (5)
Emberiza tahapsi Cinnamon-breasted Bunting (1)
Hypargos niveoguttatus Peter's Twinspot (2)
Mandingoa nitidula Green Twinspot (1)
Lagonosticta senegala Red-billed (Senegal) Firefinch (5)
Pytilia hypogrammica Yellow-winged Pytilia (1)
Pytilia melba Melba Finch (2)
Pytilia phoenicoptera Aurora (Crimson-winged) (3)
Serinus leucopygius Gray Singing Finch (2)
Serinus mozambicus Green Singing Finch (3)
Spermaphaga haematina Red-breasted Bluebill (1)
Sporopipes squamifrons Scaly-crowned Weaver (1)
Plesiositagra (Ploceus) cucullatus Rufous-necked Weaver (1)
-

Other Africans Group, continued

- Steganura paradisea* Paradise Whydah (1)
Vedula regia Queen Whydah (1)
Hypochera ultramarina Senegal Combassou (Steel Finch) (1)
Pyrenestes sanguineus Crimson Seedcracker (1)

SOUTH AMERICAN GROUP (3 species)

- Lophospingus pusillus* Black-crested (Pygmy Cardinal) (2)
Paroaria coronata Brazilian Cardinal (2)
Spinus magellanicus Green Siskin (1)



EUROPEAN GROUP (2 species)

- Carduelis carduelis major* Siberian Goldfinch (1)
Carduelis carduelis carduelis European Goldfinch (2)

SOFTBILL GROUP (11 species)

- Liothrix lutea* Pekin Robin (2)
Mesia (Liothrix) argentaris Silver-eared Mesia (2)
Zosterops palpebrosa Oriental White Eye (1)
Sturnus pagodarum Pagoda Mynah (1)
Leucopsar rothschildi Bali (Rothschild's) Mynah (2)
Gracula religiosa Indian Hill Mynah (1)
Mino dumonti Dumont's Mynah (1)
Dacelo novaeguineae Laughing Kookaburra (1)
Coracias caudata Lilac Breasted Roller (1)
Tockus deckeni Von Der Decken Hornbill (1)
Tauraco leucotis White-cheek Touraco (1)

Drawings of estrildid and canary begging postures from "Breeding finches—fostering" by Linda Oja. Virginia Finch Forum, 7/92.

Flocking Together...



Want to correspond with fellow NFS members who share your interest in a particular species or who may have met a challenge in their bird room similar to the one you are facing? Use the NFS **FLOCKING TOGETHER** column to send a call out to the membership. Mail your request, name and address to the Editor. *The NFS Bulletin*. Your request will run free in two issues of the *Bulletin*. **BEGINNING NEXT ISSUE!**

A Decade With The English Zebra

By Tom Rood
Shelbyville, Illinois

As I turned my new 1994 calendar forward, I realized that the new year is sort of an anniversary for me as a bird breeder and exhibitor. No, it doesn't have anything to do with when I started out in the bird hobby. That really started over 32 years ago. Actually, it was ten years ago that I started breeding and exhibiting the English Zebra Finch. Therefore, I'd like to pass along a few thoughts and personal experiences about my last decade with the English Zebra. Please understand that the article that follows is strictly my personal opinions and thoughts. What works for some may not work for others.

Prior to August of 1984, I had worked for several years with what we now call the "pet-type" or "American" Zebra Finch. At that time I still practiced selective breeding—trying to pick out the larger, cobbier birds for breeding and exhibition purposes. However, even those specially selected birds were no match to what we refer to as the English Zebras today.

I had read an article written by the late Dr. Val Clear about the Zebra Finches he had viewed at various shows in England. After corresponding with Dr. Clear, I learned that Zebras with the quality he had seen in

England were probably not available in the U.S.

Not long after Dr. Clear's article was printed, I saw an ad published in *American Cage Bird Magazine* offering English Zebras for sale.

First birds from Canada

This ad was placed by my friend in Canada, Mr. John Bennett. I quickly wrote to John and he was very helpful in getting some of his English Zebras into my hands. I remember starting out with three pair of peds and three pair of fawns. John didn't have any normals available at the time, so I had to wait another year or so before acquiring some of his normals and chestnut-flanked whites (CFW's).

In the beginning, I found the breeding of the English Zebras a little slower than breeding the smaller pet type birds: similar to the stories you hear about breeding the English Budgies compared to the pet parakeets. With a little experience and a



Honoring the prospect
of a possible future merger
of ABS & NFS.

Drawings by Karl Kline.

lot of patience I was quickly "into" breeding the English Zebras.

The breeding cages I use are wooden box cages with wire fronts. Each cage measures 36" long x 18" high x 12" deep. I find the box cages afford more privacy for each breeding pair. They pay more attention to each other rather than worrying about their neighbors! I use a wooden nesting box with the half-open front instead of a wicker basket. I think the box provides more

*I find the box cages
afford more privacy
for each breeding
pair.*

room for the larger birds, plus, it is much easier removing the babies for banding (NFS bands, of course!!).

The usual basic finch mix is fed year-round along with lots of millet spray and mineral grit. Egg food is given to all breeding pairs throughout the breeding season. I find that the young Zebras seem to really be fond of millet spray at the critical weaning period. Many seem to start eating the millet spray before cracking the harder seeds in the finch mix.

Most of my breeding Zebras really seem to work well together without any harm being done to the babies. It seems that the English Zebras aren't as prone to the feather plucking problems posed by some of the smaller pet type birds. Any birds

who did prove to be serious feather pluckers were weeded out generations ago. Of course, you will always have a few feathers pulled for nesting material, or an occasional plucked tail feather, but no real damage is ever done.

Second year quality

The young Zebras molt and mature very quickly. However, I find that they really show their true quality in their second year. I'm sure that all Zebra breeders have sold young birds only to wish they hadn't when they see them as old birds.

I try to keep the colors of most of my breeding pairs pure, although I do use a normal x fawn or a normal x CFW mating once in awhile. But I found when crossing the normals with CFW that the young (split) males lost some of the intensity in their color, particularly in the primary flight feathers. I've since gone back to pure normal matings.

I think most CFW's show the color fault we see at most shows,



New Wave Crested

that is, male markings that are too pale, especially the cheek patches. Even though our present show standard calls for cream to orange cheek patches, I think we all strive for the latter. Male CFW's showing deep orange cheeks, dark flanking, black teardrops, and distinct black barring are truly beautiful birds: but, they are also too few and far between. Once in awhile, hens pop up showing unwanted traces of male markings on the breast, and we should be very careful in using these hens as breeders.

Importance of hens

Speaking of hens, my personal opinion is that the hen is the most important partner of the breeding pair. Quality hens are in the minority, whereas it seems you can always get your hands on a nice good quality male. If more exhibitors would show a few Zebra hens and/or Zebra pairs, I think we'd be forced to concentrate on our hens a little more. Some exhibitors feel that hens do not stand a chance at winning over males, but this has been proven wrong on *numerous* occasions. I'd like to encourage all Zebra exhibitors to show more hens and more pairs.

If I have a pet peeve concerning Zebras, I guess it's the Rodney Dangerfield "don't get no respect" theory. No one will argue the fact that Zebras have the reputation of being free and easy breeders, and I agree. Raising baby Zebras is no real problem. But, raising good show quality Zebras is a challenge. If you don't believe me, just attend a major

show and try putting some Zebras on the top bench!

An accomplishment!

I like breeding and exhibiting English Zebras because no matter where you go to show, you will always find a large entry of good quality Zebras on display. Most Zebra sections are very competitive. Not only is it difficult to win the Zebra section, then you've got to try to put one up on the top bench. It's a nice feeling of accomplishment when this happens.

After ten years of working with the English Zebra, I have not lost any affection for them; nor have I lost any enjoyment from them. I still find every breeding season exciting along with each new show season. It's never too late for any exhibitor to add a few English Zebras to their "flock". Believe me, there are a lot more birds available from breeders now than there was in 1984!! I'm sure you will find them challenging. Why not give them a try?



The newest advance
in Zebra genetics.

Whydahs: Parasite—Host Relationships

by Dr. Al Decoteau
Groton, Massachusetts

As part of NFS' celebration of its ten years of service to aviculturists, this article has been compiled from two articles which appeared in The NFS Bulletin in October 1984 and Jan/Feb 1986.

There are two distinct kinds of whydah in Africa: one is classed as EUPLECTES (formerly classed as Coliuspasser) which nests similar to the weavers, building a woven nest, and which is not parasitic. The other is the extremely interesting genus VIDUA, which are distinguished by being brood parasitic; they lay their eggs in other birds' nests in the manner of allowing the foster parents to raise their young.

The plain, sparrowlike female whydah does not build a nest. She looks for a host's nest where a full clutch has not yet been produced. Apparently, the female whydah comes into condition for egg laying when it sees the host waxbill preparing her nest. Ovulation takes place when the waxbills start mating.

The female whydah always selects a nest of a specific African finch, generally a waxbill. Baby finches have a distinct pattern of dark spots that lie in the throat

cavity: this stimulates the parent birds to feed them. Interestingly, baby whydahs exhibit the exact markings as the host finch. Therefore, the host parents feed them as well as their own.

Unlike the Cuckoo

You might recall learning the way the Cuckoo does the same thing. Unlike the Cuckoo, however the female whydah does not remove an egg before laying her own, and neither does the newly-hatched whydah eject its nest mates. Instead it successfully passes for one of the family. It is then reared exactly like one of the waxbills that were its foster parents.

*Interestingly,
baby whydahs
exhibit the
exact markings
as the host
finch.*

Young whydahs spend their entire fledgling youth with the waxbills, but as soon as it leaves the nest, it joins groups of whydahs.

Most *Vidua* species are parasitic on a single estrildine host, but the Pin-tailed Whydah (*Vidua macroura*) uses several *Estrilda* species as hosts. In captivity, the Combassu (*Vidua chalybeata*) has been known to construct its own nest.

If you intend to attempt the breeding of whydahs, it will be important that you know the identity of each host and its specific parasite. Here is a listing of parasite—host relationships:

Whydah Parasite-Host Relationships

PARASITIC WHYDAH

Queen Whydah (Shafttailed Whydah)

Vidua regia

Pintailed Whydah

Vidua macroura

Paradise Whydah

Vidua paradisaea

Broadtailed Paradise Whydah

Vidua orientalis orientalis

Togo Paradise Whydah

Vidua orientalis togoensis

Congo Whydah

Vidua orientalis interjecta

Fischer's Whydah (Strawtailed Whydah)

Vidua fischeri

Combassou

Vidua chalybeata

Steel-blue Whydah (Longtailed Combassou)

Vidua hypocherina

Red-throated Congo Whydah

Vidua funerea

HOST ESTRILDID

Violet-eared Waxbill

Uraeginthus granatina

Several species, including the

Red-eared, St. Helena, Orange-cheeked, and the Rosy-rumped Waxbills

Melba Finch

Pytilia melba

Orange-winged Pytilia

Pytilia afra

Yellow-winged Pytilia

Pytilia hypogrammica

Aurora Finch

Pytilia phoenicoptera

Purple Grenadier

Uraeginthus ianthinogaster

Red-billed Fire Finch

Lagonosticta senegala

Black-cheeked Waxbill

Estrilda erythronotos

Jameson's Fire Finch

Lagonosticta rhodopareia



Preparing a Bird Room for Breeding

by Jose Aleman
Orlando, Florida

Not long ago, I was building my new bird breeding facilities at my new home. I started to debate mentally if this time around I was going to build an outdoor aviary, an indoor aviary or a screened-in room. a "Florida-style" set-up.

Back in 1986 I was breeding finches in an outside aviary that measured 4' wide, 8' long and 6' tall, made out of 2" x 4" treated wood with 1/2" x 1/2" hardware cloth. It had a shingle roof and was mounted on top of four cement blocks. After two or three occasions in which I had to remove snakes from this enclosure, I decided to cage breed inside a screened-in room. Here I also experienced some difficulties with the neighborhood cats and escaped birds.

After that I built a 12' x 12' x 6' tall outside aviary to house all of the imported finches. Again I experienced problems with snakes, cats and some sort of jay which is gray in color and wears a black mask around his eyes and eats other birds (my finches in this case!).

At my new home I

knew I should try something more efficient, more secure, and less risky, so I opted for a 10' x 12' x 7' tall aluminum shed which I positioned in a corner of my backyard. This unit comes fully assembled from the factory, and has a total of three windows, a four foot high door, a single light fixture in the center of the ceiling and a light switch with two electrical outlets by the entrance door.

I immediately realized the in-

*I knew I should
try something
more efficient,
more secure,
and less risky*

side had to be insulated against the cold temperatures and the long, hot summers of Florida. I used 1/2" foam board to cover all of the inside walls and ceiling and, after that was in place, the entire inside was covered with 1/2" sheet-rock panels and finished just like a home. The whole interior was painted with a high gloss white enamel paint and finally



the wood floor was covered with plain white (no design or pattern) linoleum floor covering.

Part of this room is dedicated to a mini-refrigerator, a mini-microwave, an air filter, a radio for constant music, a table to work on, and storage for utensils and feed. All of these components are hidden in cabinets that close. A grow-light has been installed with a timer to extend the amount of hours of "daylight".

Inside, against two side walls there are 12 units, stacked four cages

high for a total of 48 breeding units, and under the two side windows there are two flight cages to house all of the babies produced.

The three windows are fully screened and the entrance door has a handle with lock. The backyard is surrounded by a board on board fence for privacy and the bird room is protected against burglaries with an alarm. Hopefully, breeding finches this time will be a little more efficient with less problems.



Impact of the New Legislation

By *Martha Wigmore*
Editor

As first of an occasional series of articles discussing the impact on aviculturists of the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992, the *Summary of Effects FACT SHEET*, prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is presented on the following page. NFS' FINCHSAVE is working toward recognition as a "cooperative breeding program" (more on this in an upcoming issue).

*Senegal is the
world's largest
exporting nation
of wild-caught
birds*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has also issued a *Traveling Abroad With Your Pet Bird FACT SHEET*. The U.S.F.W. recently advised the public that two petitions have already been received under the new regulations to consider moratoriums on imports from Senegal and Indonesia. As Senegal is the world's largest exporting nation of wild-caught birds, and deals heavily in non-psittacine birds, these moratoriums could have a significant

impact on the availability of imported birds from Africa. The comment period on these petitions expired in early January. More on moratoriums in future issues.

You will find a great deal of information about the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992 in earlier issues of *The NFS Bulletin*, and indexed under **LEGISLATION** in the **Cumulative Index** included in this issue.

Fact Sheet



U.S. Fish
and Wildlife
Service

Office of
Management
Authority

1301 N.
Fanny Drive
Room 129
Arlington, VA
22203

1-800-858-2101

or

1-800-878-3443

WILD BIRD CONSERVATION ACT OF 1992

SUMMARY OF EFFECTS

The Wild Bird Conservation Act (Act), a significant new step in international conservation efforts to protect exotic birds subject to trade, became effective on October 23, 1992. The Act focuses on bird species listed on the Appendices to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). If you import birds, you must now meet requirements imposed by this new law in addition to existing requirements imposed by CITES, the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or other regulations that may apply.

It is important to note that the Act does not cover exotic bird products or all birds. The following birds are exempt from the provisions of the Act:

- birds native to the 50 States and the District of Columbia;
- domestic poultry, sport-hunted birds, museum specimens, and dead scientific specimens; and
- birds in the families Phasianidae (pheasants and quail), Numididae (guinea fowl), Cracidae (guans and curassows), Meleagrididae (turkeys), Megapodidae (megapodes), Anatidae (ducks, swans and geese), Struthionidae (ostrich), Rheidae (rheas), Dromatidae (emus), and Gruidae (cranes).

IMPORTATIONS
ALLOWED UNDER
THE ACT*Permit Required*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) may issue permits to allow importation of otherwise prohibited species if the Service determines the importation does not undermine the species' survival. A permit must be issued by the Service prior to importation. Permits may be issued only for the following purposes:

- scientific research;
- zoological breeding or display;
- pet importation when owners are returning to the United States after at least a year's absence; and
- cooperative breeding programs, if the programs have been approved by the Service.

In addition, the Service allows birds listed under CITES that were exported from the United States by their owners to return to the United States. These importations are allowed provided the birds were exported legally with a CITES permit and a copy of that permit is presented when the birds are to be returned to the United States. Also, owners must accompany these birds when they are returned to the United States.

Permit Not Required

The Act provides for certain otherwise prohibited importations without a permit provided the Service has approved the species, the captive breeding facility, or a scientifically based management plan for the species. The Service has not approved any species, breeding facilities, or management plans to date for imports without a permit. In the future, the Service will publish an approved list for each of the following categories:

- certain approved captive-bred species;
- certain species from approved foreign captive breeding facilities; and
- certain wild-caught species from countries with approved management plans.

Until the Service has issued approved lists for these species, their import will not be allowed.

APPLYING FOR
A PERMIT TO
IMPORT BIRDS

Permit applications and any other information you may need are available from the Office of Management Authority.

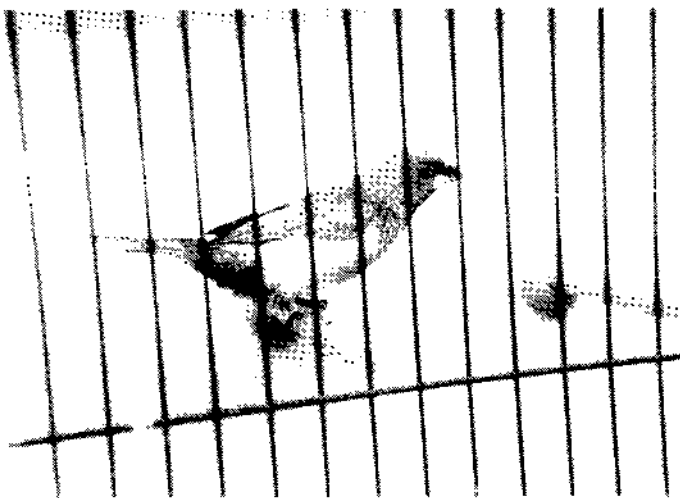
In Praise of Society Finches

*By Bethany Tudor
Brattleboro, Vermont*

These cheerful and friendly finches have much going for them! Some people may perhaps have overlooked this, as nearly everyone is impressed by a colorful bird with beautiful song. Societies can't boast either of these qualities, but they make up for it in many other ways.

You will not find Society Finches anywhere in the wild. People believe they are a cross between a Striated Finch of southern India and Ceylon and Sharp-tailed Finch from India and Burma. They have been bred and tamed by the Chinese for centuries. As a result, their nature is calm and not stressed by life in a cage. However, don't let this mislead you into providing too small a home for them. All finches require flight space for daily exercise, otherwise their health suffers.

Societies have such a quiet and peaceful disposition I find them very relaxing to live with. They are so friendly and trusting it is delightful to care for them. During the daylight hours they are busy "doing things" most of the time. My four birds are allowed some freedom each day in a sunny room with window sills full of geraniums. In the pots I have planted a variety of seeds from finch food mix. These sprout and make tasty healthful treats. The birds enjoy eating, scratching them up and sam-



Self Chestnut Society Finch owned by Patrice Ripple.

pling bits of earth. They don't care for geranium but any aphid or tiny spider is snapped up quickly. On warm days the birds thoroughly enjoy a shallow dish of water to bathe in while I sprinkle them lightly with a clean plant sprayer. Sun-bathing is another favorite.

Societies are very family-oriented birds and enter wholeheartedly into domestic pleasures. As many people know, they are famous as brooders and foster parents for some finches which breeders find

unsuccessful with their own eggs and young. Practically any time of the year will find the Society ready to begin nesting if you provide a good sized finch basket and proper nest material. Mine prefer fine dry grasses, horse hair and shreds of paper towel. The birds sleep in baskets at night, even when not nesting. Peek in and see how cozy they look!

Societies don't have a pretty song but it's very cheerful. The male twitters, fluffs out his feathers and hobs up and down on the perch in his courtship display. Both the male and female look alike, but only the males do this display. When you see the pair carrying material to the nest, watch carefully. They love to weave, and spend much time creating and shaping a nest inside their basket. Even after the female begins to lay, her mate stuffs in more grasses and bits of things to improve the home. My two pairs (Societies are very social as the name implies) decided to share one basket and between them laid seven eggs. Every egg hatched. As the four parents wanted to sleep there after dark, the basket contained eleven finches! It was much too small but such an adorable sight to see the growing young ones carefully packed together underneath the adults.

Societies are clean, neat and easy to care for. They are excellent birds for beginners, living eight to

ten years with good care. Their diet consists of small millet varieties, canary seed, dark greens, apple and sprouted seeds. I also provide cuttlebone, mineral blocks, grit and crushed, sterilized egg shells from chickens. Millet spray is a much favored treat. The widest possible choice of food is important. During spring and summer I dig up dandelion or chickweed plants with roots and a bit of soil included. The birds

busily pick this over.

Eventually everything is eaten. It's a good source of vitamins and minerals!

The warm earthtone color of Societies is very pleasing. Commonly seen colors are chocolate-brown and white, fawn and white or pure white. People greatly enjoy breeding for interesting

color patterns. No two birds look alike. Raising Societies is a lot of fun and fascinating to observe. They actually seem to enjoy the company of people. Anyone who really wants to take time with them can tame young babies ready to leave the nest. They will sit on your finger and take food.

If you are tired of flashy colors, loud shrieks or restless activity, then choose a pair of Society Finches. Their cheery, easy-going personality has charmed people for a very long time.

*Their diet
consists of small
millet varieties,
canary seed,
dark greens,
apple and
sprouted seeds.*

Special Issues Coming Your Way!

FIRST, A REQUEST FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!!

*By Martha Wigmore
Editor*

SPECIAL FEATURE sections, focusing on a particular finch or softbill and on other topics of interest to NFS members will be included in upcoming issues of *The NFS Bulletin*. The first features will cover:

**TOURACOS
RED-EARED WAXBILL and close relatives
CAGE BREEDING**

If you wish to submit an article, long or short, photographs or artwork for any of these *SPECIAL FEATURE* subjects, **submissions should be made prior to August 1st, 1994**. Of course, your submissions on *any* topic are welcome at any time!

Watch upcoming issues for calls for your articles, etc. on additional *SPECIAL FEATURE* topics. Readers' requests for *SPECIAL FEATURE* subjects are invited.

To All NFS Exhibitors

*By Dr. Al Decoteau
Points Chairman*

If you are exhibiting banded birds and place in the top ten, make sure you go up the Secretary and the Judge after judging is completed and insure that your band numbers are recorded on the show report.

Last issue we listed all the individual birds that currently had 20 points or more. Here is an addition:

Pintailed Nonpareil
NFS D 3646 (91)
32 points

Owned by Stephen Hoppin

Thanks, Denise!

NFS received a special thank you from a member for the work that NFS Band Secretary **Denise Capazzi** has done for NFS, distributing over 25,000 leg bands yearly to the membership. The sheer numbers involved!

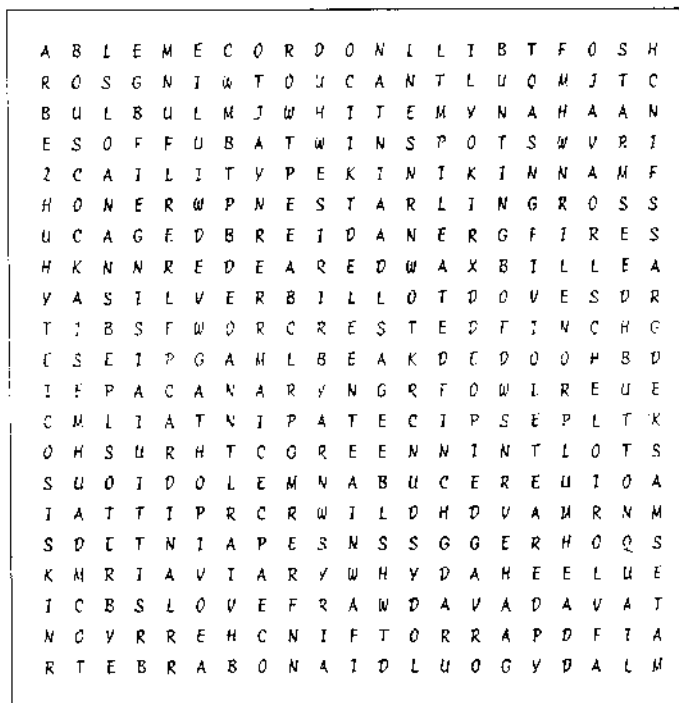
Denise's work has been performed reliably, with few glitches, and always with an eagerness to be of help. For many reasons, this member felt, Denise's conscientious work has been particularly valuable for NFS in recent years.

Congratulations, Denise!

FINCH AND SOFTBILL SEARCH-N-FIND

By Pam Butler

Grab the magnifying glass and find the 78 words in the 21 x 21 puzzle below. The words are hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards.



AVADAVAT

AVIARY

BARRET

BEAK

BIRD

BUFF

BULBUL

BUNTING

BUTTCQUAIL

CAGE

CANARY

CAPE

CARDINAL

CHERRY

COCK

CORDON

CRESTEDFINCH

CROW

CUBANMELODIOUS

DOVES

DWARF

EGGS

FAWN

FIRE

FOWL

GRAVINGINGFINCH

GREEN

GRENADIER

GROSS

HEN

HOODED

JAVA

JAY

LADYGOULDIAN

LOVE

MAGPIE

MANNIKIN

MASKEDGRASSFINCH

MATES

MELBA

NESTA

MOULT

HYNAH

NEST

ORIOLE

OWLFINCH

PAINTED

PARROTFINCH

PEKIN

PIED

PILEATEDFINCH

PINTAIL

PITTA

PLUMHEAD

PYTILIA

REDEAREDWAXBILL

ROBIN

SEED

SILVERBILL

SING

SISKIN

SOCIETY

SOFTBILL

SPICE

STAR

STARLING

TANAGER

THRUSH

TOUCAN

TWINSPOTS

VIOLETEARED

WEAVER

WHITE

WHYDAH

WILD

WINGS

WREN

ZEBRA

The Official Cherry Finch Standard

Aidemosyne modesta

as approved by the *National Finch and Softbill Society*
November 1993

CONFORMATION.	50 POINTS
Head and Body.	25 pts
Wings.	15 pts
Tail.	10 pts
CONDITION.	20 POINTS
COLOR AND MARKINGS.	15 POINTS
DEPORTMENT AND PRESENTATION. . .	15 POINTS

CONFORMATION (50 POINTS) (distributed as follows)

HEAD AND BODY: 25 POINTS The Cherry Finch should measure 4-4.5 inches from tip of beak to end of tail. The head should be nicely rounded. The line from the beak over the crown, nape, back, rump, and tail should be smooth without any breaks. The body and chest of the bird should be nicely rounded but not bulging or squared off. The line from the lower mandible, over the chin, throat, chest, abdomen, vent, and to the tail should flow evenly. There should be just enough substance between the legs as to make the bird not look too thin. The Cherry's eyes should always be bright and alert. The Cherry Finch exhibits a sleek appearance, not a cobby look typical of the Zebra Finch.

WINGS: 15 POINTS The wings should be held close to the body, carried evenly, and the wing tips should just meet at the base of the uppertail coverts and they should not cross.

TAIL: 10 POINTS The tail should be approximately 1.5 inches in length. It should flow evenly from the rump, carrying equal length. The tail should taper evenly on both sides with the central tail feathers being the longest. There should be no missing feathers. A drooping or cocked tail would be faulted.

CONDITION (20 POINTS)

The Cherry's condition must be smooth and sleek. Missing toes, nails, or damaged or missing feathers are major condition faults. The beak and feet should be clean with no evidence of flaking or scaling.

COLOR AND MARKINGS (15 POINTS)

COCKS: The upper parts are deep brown with white spots on the wings. Top of head dark claret-red extending to the mid-point of the eyes. A small dark claret-red, almost black bib beneath the beak of the male. Underparts are white, transversely barred brown. Center of breast, abdomen, and under tail coverts white. Tail is black with white spots on outer feathers. Eyes are dark brown, beak black, legs flesh brown.

HENS: The female has a smaller area of dark claret-red on head and lacks the bib. White tips of feathers on sides of forehead form a line extending from the base of the upper mandible over the eye. The red on the head will extend into this white line. The barring is less pronounced than on the male.

FAWN: The fawn Cherry should have the same color pattern as the normal. The base color should be that of light plywood fawn. The top of head is a lighter red than that of a normal. The tail is a dark brown. Feet and legs pink.

DEPORTMENT AND PRESENTATION (15 POINTS)

The Cherry Finch should be calm and yet alert, moving back and forth between the perches. It should stand at about a 45° angle. The Cherry should appear elegant, commanding the attention of the judge. Slouching or roosting on the perch would be faulted.



Share the beauty of your birds



*Send a bird photo to the Bulletin for
the next issue!*

The Official Fire Finch Standard

Lagonosticta senegala

as approved by the *National Finch and Softbill Society*
November 1992

CONFORMATION.	50 POINTS
Head and Body.	20 pts
Wings.	15 pts
Tail.	15 pts
CONDITION.	20 POINTS
COLOR AND MARKINGS.	15 POINTS
DEPARTMENT AND PRESENTATION.	15 POINTS

CONFORMATION (50 POINTS) (distributed as follows)

HEAD AND BODY: 20 POINTS The head should be slightly rounded over the top from the base of the upper mandible to the nape of the neck, so the overall shape of the head is slightly elliptical, front to back. The neck should flow smoothly into the back, which should be straight to the tail. Birds should have good substance, with a somewhat rounded chest, but not lumpy in the chest or fat. This roundness should continue in a gentle curve through the abdomen to the under tail coverts, which taper into the tail. A nipped neck, an abrupt break from the neck into the body, or snaky, gawky appearance should be faulted. Eye should be centered front to back and slightly above the midline of the beak. The beak should be conical and slender. Overall length. 3 inches. from the crown to the tail tip.

WINGS: 15 POINTS Wings should be carried close to the body and meet evenly over the back. with the tips of the primaries just meeting over the rump at the base of the tail. Drooping or crossed wings are a fault.

TAIL: 15 POINTS The tail should continue on a straight line with the topline of the bird. A tail held consistently above the horizontal or a drooping tail should be penalized, although the tail may be slightly elevated when the birds are excited and flicking it from side to side in the typical waxbill manner. The tail should be about 1 inch long and should be compact and blunt, with slightly rounded edges at the tip.

CONDITION (20 POINTS)

Missing toes, nails, etc. are faults. Feathers should fit the body tightly and should have a slight gloss, giving an impression of smoothness and sheen. There should be no missing feathers, especially down the midline of the chest or around the legs.

COLOR AND MARKINGS (15 POINTS)

BEAK AND LEGS: 5 POINTS Beak, red or pink (may be slightly paler in females) with black lines running along the midline of the top and lower mandibles, from the base of the beak out to the tip. Legs, brown to brownish-flesh colored.

PLUMAGE, EYE, AND EYE RING: 10 POINTS MALE—Ruddy to bright red on the forehead and hind neck, less bright on the hind crown and nape. Face, sides of neck, chest, and most of underparts variable shades of rosy red, purplish red, dull scarlet, or an intermediate shade. Intensity of the red is important in comparisons of birds on the show bench. Some chest feathers have very small white dots, variable in number, singly or in pairs on individual feathers. Other plumage brown, darker on wings with some red along fringes of wing coverts. Rump, upper tail coverts, and central tail feathers have varying shades of red along webbing. Outer tail feathers, dull brown, others dull black. Area around vent and under tail buffish brown. Eye, iris brown to brownish red. Old birds (2 or more years) should have a bright yellow, conspicuous eye ring.

FEMALE—Red mark from base of lower mandible to or over the eye. Rump, upper tail coverts, and tail similar to male; otherwise, uniform buffish to greyish brown, but with larger and more numerous white spots than males. In areas that would be red in the male, hens may show a rosy or reddish suffusion. Eye ring paler than that of the male, can be whitish or silvery.

DEPORTMENT AND PRESENTATION (15 POINTS)

DEPORTMENT: 10 POINTS Stance should be about 30° above the horizontal. A horizontal posture or roosting is faulted, as is a too-erect stance. Firefinches should show typical waxbill demeanor, i.e., active but not flighty—and definitely not lethargic. Like other waxbills, the Firefinch should move from one perch to another, licking the tail with each hop. The Firefinch should

display a degree of curiosity that contributes to a pleasant personality. Pairs should be attentive to one another if shown together.

PRESENTATION: 5 POINTS A #1 National Finch and Softbill Society show cage is recommended, or a flat-topped open wire cage appropriate to the size and requirements of the bird. There should be no identifying marks, swings or toys. Perches should be firmly attached, of correct thickness, and placed to enhance the bird's natural movement.

NOTES ON OTHER FIREFINCHES

Although the Red-billed Firefinch is the most commonly seen of the genus *Lagonosticta*, other species exist and occasionally appear on the show bench, so a cursory treatment of these is given for purposes of identification and comparison.

Bar-breasted Firefinch (*L. rufopicta*): Similar to the Red-billed Firefinch, but plumper with slightly wider tail and larger bill. The primary distinguishing characteristics of this species are that the female is nearly identical to the male, except the red on the faces and breasts of some females may be slightly paler. The coloration is more uniformly wine-red in this species, and as the name indicates, the white spots on the breast are elongated and give the appearance of barring. The eye rings are also silvery grey to whitish instead of the yellow in *L. senegala*.

Brown Firefinch (*L. nitidula*): This species is "appreciably larger" than the previous species according to Goodwin (1982) and is mauvish pink to mauvish red with large breast spots. The pink-red hues of the female are less intense and extensive than on the male. Eye rings are bluish white.

Black-bellied Firefinch (*L. rara*): As its name implies, this species is best identified by its black coloration in the center of the lower breast, belly and under tail coverts. This species also lacks the spots on the breast and has greyish eye rings. It is about the same size as or slightly larger than *L. senegala*.

Dark Firefinch (*L. rubricata*): This species is similar in size to the previous one, but is distinguishable from other firefinches because of its grey or blackish bill with a black tip. This species is also known as the Black-billed Firefinch. It is similar to the previous species in that it has sooty grey where *L. rara* has black on the undersides. However, the Dark Firefinch does have spots on the breast and flanks, although these generally appear singly rather than in pairs on individual feathers.

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PANEL CHAIRMAN*

NFS Affiliates and Delegates

(Listing as of February 20, 1994)

ALABAMA

Central Alabama Avicultural Society
Lorene Clubb (205) 857-3817
Show September 3, 1994
Montgomery, AL
Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

CALIFORNIA

American Family Bird Show
Sharon Bolivar (310) 323-4788
Show April 23, 1994
Panel Judge: Joseph Krader

Aviary Assn. of Kern County
Willis & Velva Baker (805) 765-6110

Capital City Bird Society
Dare B. Cagle (916) 452-4526
Show October 22 & 23, 1994
Roseville, CA
Panel Judge: Clayton Jones

Finch Society of San Diego County
Sharon Russell (619) 546-1870

Fresno Canary and Finch Society
Dixie Lea (209) 584-3764

Golden Gate Avian Society
Claudio Salo (510) 455-9909
Show November 12, 1994
Panel Judge: Clayton Jones

San Diego Bird Show, Inc.
Sharon Russell (619) 546-1870

Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic
Bird Club
Neil Crowley (408) 258-4601

COLORADO

Colorado Cage Bird Association
Teri McAuliffe (719) 576-9009

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture
Julie Kern (303) 753-6145

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture
Chris Voronovitch (203) 649-8220
Show October 22, 1994
Manchester, CT

New England Finch Fanciers
Russell Armitage, Jr. (203) 756-1753

FLORIDA

Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South
Florida
Phil Barth (305) 426-5340
Show August 20, 1994
Margate, FL

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami, Inc
Armando J. Lee (305) 270-1000

Exotic Bird Club of Florida
Mary Petty (407) 632-7494
Show October 29, 1994
Melbourne, FL
Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show
Claire Remo (813) 482-5352

Gold Coast All Bird Club
Mike Mariscano (305) 929-1606

Gulf Coast Exotic Bird Club
Diane Pittman (813) 772-1150

Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.
Carole Miller (813) 971-1190
Show September 17, 1994
Tampa, FL
Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

Jacksonville Cage Bird Association
Paul D. Stickweh (904) 744-5811

Suncoast Avian Society
Joe Ventimiglia (813) 392-9391
Double Show

October 15, 1994 *Saturday*
October 16, 1994 *Sunday*
Panel Judge for 1 day: Dr. Al Decoteau

FLORIDA, continued**Sunshine State Cage Bird Society**

Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

Show October 8, 1994

Orlando, FL

Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

West Florida Avian Society, Inc.

Barbara Farrell (904) 683-1634

GEORGIA**Central Georgia Exotic Bird Club**

Dawn Miller (404) 460-8233

Show November 5, 1994

Atlanta, GA

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

HAWAII**Honolulu Canary and Finch Club**

Lorraine Chang (808) 595-3689

ILLINOIS**Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club**

Jane Muscato (708) 305-9043

Illini Bird Fanciers

Jan Marcott (217) 347-9690

*Double Show*June 4, 1994 *Saturday* Shelbyville, IL

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

June 5, 1994 *Sunday* Shelbyville, IL

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Springfield Pet Bird Club

Tom Rood (217) 774-5265

Show September 10, 1994

Springfield, IL

Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

INDIANA**Indiana Bird Fanciers**

Conrad Meinert (219) 269-2873

Show October 8, 1994

Fort Wayne, IN

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

West Central Indiana Bird Club

Tom Rood (217) 774-5265

IOWA**Mid-America Cage Bird Society**

Ermafern Collins (515) 992-3539

Great American Cage Bird Show

October 1, 1994

Crystal Inn, Des Moines, IA

Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

KANSAS**Kansas Avicultural Society**

James Williams (316) 663-5609

Heartland Canary and Finch Club

Shirley Landkamer (913) 594-6795

KENTUCKY**Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society**

Steve Slates (606) 223-2600

Show November 5, 1994

Lexington, KY

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

LOUISIANA**Gulf South Bird Club**

Evon Kruse (504) 649-2392

Cajun Canary Club

Ernie Brown (504) 834-5100

Capital Area Avicultural Society

Tim Schexnaydre (504) 562-3579

MAINE**Maine State Caged Bird Society**

Sheryl Adams (207) 727-5633

MARYLAND**Baltimore Bird Fanciers**

Deb Clark (410) 242-8471

Maryland Cage Bird Society

Theresa Brown (410) 735-7662

MASSACHUSETTS**Massachusetts Cage Bird Association**

Dianna Smith (508) 540-3214

*Get the most from your affiliation dollar:***SEND SHOW AND EVENT INFO TO NFS EARLY!**

MICHIGAN**Great Lakes Avicultural Society**

Joan Lenon (616) 677-5082

Show October 15, 1994

Grand Rapids, MI

Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

Mid-Michigan Bird Club

Mary Lou Tewilliger (517) 463-5695

Show November 5, 1994

St. Johns, MI

Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

Mid-West Cage Bird Club

Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643

Show September 10, 1994

Westland, MI

Panel Judge: Brenda Geesey

Motor City Bird Breeders

Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders

Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643

Show October 29, 1994

Panel Judge: Roddy Gabel

MISSOURI**Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society**

Jan Leach (816) 254-0415

Show October 15, 1994

Kansas City, MO

Panel Judge: Earl Courts

Heart of America Hookbill & Finch Society

James Johnson (913) 268-3209

Missouri Cage Bird Association

George & Joyce Alles (314) 677-4723

Show November 5, 1994

Eureka, MO

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

NEW JERSEY**South Jersey Bird Club**

Raymond Passaro (201) 291-9224

NEW HAMPSHIRE**Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society**

Denise McCabe (603) 485-8184

National Cage Bird Show

November 17-19, 1994

Manchester, NH

New Hampshire Avicultural Society

Larry Martin (508) 392-9137

NEW YORK**Astoria Bird Club**

Leslie Leber (516) 431-9267

Buffalo Canary & Budgerigar Society

Kathy Free (716) 896-6119

Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association

Rena Rouse (315) 252-7673

New York Finch & Type Canary Club

Ron Casper (215) 723-8643

Rochester Cage Bird Club

Vicki Steffenhagen (716) 964-2840

NORTH CAROLINA**Charlotte Metrolina Cage Bird Society**

Melvin Yoder (803) 459-5319

Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society

Karen Whitlow (919) 557-0450

OHIO**Classic Feathers**

John Neff, Jr. (419) 784-5985

Cleveland Cage Bird Society

Maureen Mehozonek (216) 234-7674

Show October 8, 1994

Cleveland, OH

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Toledo Bird Assn. & Zebra Finch Club of America

Patrick Vance (313) 443-0643

Show September 24, 1994

Toledo, OH

Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

OREGON**Rose City Exotic Bird Club**

Sally Smith (503) 658-5242

OKLAHOMA**Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma**

Gene and June Miller (405) 382-7066

Show September 24, 1994

Oklahoma City, OK

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

PENNSYLVANIA**Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird Society**

Pat Krichten (717) 632-8092

Show September 24, 1994

Grantville, PA

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Chester County Bird Breeders

Barbara Archibald (215) 644-1760

Delaware Valley Bird Club

Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143

Show November 12, 1994

Ft. Washington, PA

Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society

Dr. Lindsay Clark (412) 363-6438

Philadelphia Avicultural Society

Rick Szlachta (215) 635-2097

Seven Mountains Exotic Bird Club

Steven Funk (717) 667-9504

Show September 24, 1994

Panel Judge: Roddy Gabel

SOUTH CAROLINA**Palmetto Cage Bird Club**

Melvin Yoder (803) 459-5319

TENNESSEE**Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club**

Eva Duffey (615) 361-5939

Show October 29, 1994

Nashville, TN

Panel Judge: Cecil Gunby

TEXAS**Bay Area Cockatiel & Cage Bird Club**

Karol Deem (409) 737-1557

Show September 3 & 4, 1994

Galveston, TX

Fort Worth Bird Club

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

VIRGINIA**Peninsula Cage Bird Society**

Linda Oja (804) 874-8581

WISCONSIN**Badger Canary Fanciers Ltd.**

Patrice Ripple (414) 527-1980

Show October 22, 1994

Milwaukee, WI

Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

**NFS
INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATES****AUSTRALIA****Queensland Finch Society**

Gavin Dietz, Queensland, Australia

CANADA**Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society of Canada**

Brian Eddy (416) 244-6976

Cage Bird Society of Hamilton

Peter Webb (416) 575-0858

Durham Avicultural Society of Ontario

Vincent Moase (416) 723-1978

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society

Alfred Mion (519) 948-6398

Show October 15, 1994

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

GREAT BRITAIN**Zebra Finch Society, England**

Brian Binns, Manchester, England

NEW ZEALAND**New Zealand Finch Breeders Assn.**

Mrs. E. M. Foster, New Zealand

PUERTO RICO**Confederacion Ornitologica Nacional**

Rafael Saurez (809) 752-4433

Show December 1-3, 1994

Bayamon, Puerto Rico

Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

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For Sale: Finches & Finch Breeding Items. Seeds, fruit & veg. egg food, grit, millet, cuttle bone, antibiotics, breeding cages, cage spray, nest boxes, nesting material, fake eggs, open bands, nets, cage accessories, candling light and breeding records. Please send S.A.S.E. to: A-1 Aviary, 11536 Chestfield Ct., Orlando, FL. 32837. FREE price-list. FREE shipping (first order). nd

For Sale: Gouldian, Waxbills, Parrot Finches and Owls. All Domestically bred. Lainey Claflin and John Bikates (MA) (617) 891-4056 ma

FINCHSAVE Classifieds

FINCHSAVE classifieds run *FREE* of charge to FINCHSAVE participants. All readers are welcome to respond to FINCHSAVE ads.

BIRDS WANTED

Wanted: Trade Red Siskin, either male or female, for same for future FINCHSAVE project. None for sale. Dale Laird (FL) (407) 657-7989. ma

Wanted: Pair or male Siberian Goldfinches. Black-cheeked Waxbills for FINCHSAVE. Linda Oja (VA) (804) 874-8581. ma

FOR SALE

For Sale: Fire Finches, Diamond Sparrows, Plumhead Finches, White Societies and one pair Green Singers. Carole Miller (Tampa, FL) (813) 971-1190 (after 6pm). mj

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NFS Bulletin Editor
18913 Boston St. NW
Elk River, MN 55330
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For Sale: Selling entire collection of Yellow-winged and Aurora Pytilias; hardy, healthy, most closed banded. Will ship anywhere. Melissa Eisenhauer, (WA) (206) 852-3227. mj

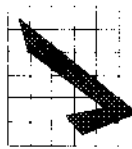
For Sale: FINCHSAVE bred hand-led Purser's Touraco. '93 closed-banded and NFS registered. \$300.00 ea. or 2 for \$500.00. Dale Laird (FL) (407) 657-7989. ma

For Sale: Owl Finches, good fostering Societies. Shafttails. Gouldians. No shipping. Bea Rogers (VA) (804) 484-6001. ma

For Sale: Red & Yellow-faced Star Finches, unrelated. Charles Gaiusha (NY) (518) 686-5263. ma

A CUMULATIVE INDEX to *The NFS Bulletin*

APRIL 1984—JAN/FEB 1994



* A subject index of the first ten years of *The NFS Bulletin*. *
An index by author will appear in the May/June 1994 issue.

To order any issue of the *Bulletin* use the FINCHSHOP order form at the back of this issue.

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- Geesey, Brenda, "Cage Breeding Finches", JA91.
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- Black, Robert, "Egg Food Recipe Based on Robert Black's", JA87.
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- "The Kaytee Award at the NFS National Show", MA85.
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FINANCIAL REPORT**-UVWXYZ-****And the feathers fall out...****CORRECTIONS:**

The most remarkable items occasionally get left out; in this case the name, phone number and address of NFS President Emeritus William Parlee were left off the listings of NFS Board members in the Jan-Feb 1994 issue. You'll find him reinstated to his rightful position—inside the front cover and on page 8.

Yes, that really is a picture of President Steve Hoppin with his President's Message. Those of you who know him will be relieved to know that Steve *promises* to send the original photograph for the *Bulletin*! Now that should be a revelation...

On a more serious note, the host clubs for the national and NFS Regional shows were not listed in the 1993 Show Reports listing in the Jan-Feb 1994 issue. They are to be congratulated and were as follows:

NATIONAL CAGE BIRD SHOW, 11/19/93, Bay Area Cockatiel & Cage Bird Club, Houston, TX (200 entries).

GREAT AMERICAN BIRD SHOW, 10/2/93, Mid-America Cage Bird Society, Des Moines, IA (94 entries).

CANADIAN NATIONAL BIRD SHOW, 10/16/93, Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society of Canada, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada (197 entries).

REGION #1 SHOW, 10/30/93, Rochester Cage Bird Club, Rochester, NY (55 entries).

REGION #2 SHOW, 9/18/93, Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc., Tampa, FL (entries 108).

REGION #3 SHOW, 10/16/93, Grif South Bird Club, New Orleans, LA (entries 48).

REGION #4 SHOW, 9/25/93, Bird Fanatics of Oklahoma, Okla-homa City, OK (entries 58).

REGION #5 SHOW, 10/16/93, Colorado Cage Bird Association, Colorado Springs, CO (entries 49).

REGION #6 SHOW, 10/30/93, Fresno Canary & Finch Club, Madera, CA (entries 146).

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Grasslands Exotic Finches

Parrot Finches:

Blue-faced
Blue-faced Lutino
Red-headed
Red-headed Pied
Red-headed Sea Green
Pin-tailed
Peale's
Tricolor

Gouldian Finches:

Normal
White-breasted
Yellow
Blue, Dilute, and Silver

Waxbills:

Lavender
Gold-breasted
Violet-eared
Swee (Yellow-bellied)
Blue-capped Cordon Bleu
Senegal Fire Finch



Also:

Cuban Melodius Finches
Cinnamon (Fawn) Star Finches
Owl Finches
Zebra Finches
Society Finches

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Lainey Claflin & John Bikales 226 Ash Street Weston, MA 02193

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Please send this form to

Lynda Bakula
NFS Corresponding Secretary
3421 Meadow Ct.
Bettendorf, IA 52722

Club delegates should also send their change of address *separately* to

Russell Armitage Jr.
NFS Liaison Officer
28 Piping Rock Dr.
Waterbury, CT 06706

Name _____ Membership # _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____



THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL

Membership is for twelve months
and includes six bi-monthly issues of *The NFS Bulletin*.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____
New Member? _____ Renew NFS # _____

CHECK ONE: Single \$15 _____ Dual \$20* _____ Junior (under 16 yrs) \$7.50 _____

* 2nd name for dual membership _____

U.S. 1st class mailing, add \$5.00.

Canadian & foreign subscriptions are mailed 1st class. Please send US funds.
Canadian, add \$5.00 Foreign, add \$10.00

PLEASE GIVE US SOME MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOU!

Species of finches and softbills you are interested in:

Check the topics that are of most interest to you in *The NFS Bulletin*:

Nutrition _____ Breeding _____ Husbandry _____ Classifieds _____

Conservation _____ Exhibition _____ Census _____ NFS News _____

MAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO:

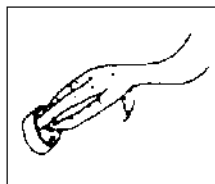
Ms. Lynda Bakula*
NFS Membership Services
3421 Meadow Ct.
Bettendorf, IA 52722

* Watch for Lynda's new address in Spring 1994.

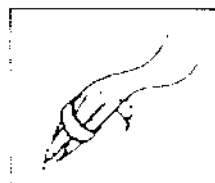
LEG BANDING PROCEDURE

courtesy of

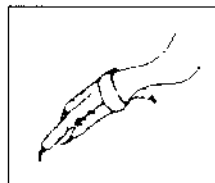
The National Finch and Softbill Society



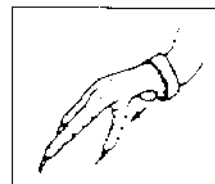
The most important thing to remember when banding chicks is to do it over a counter or table so if the chick is dropped it doesn't fall to the floor. The age to band varies between species but is generally between 5 and 10 days. You can tell by looking at the ankle joint (the joint where the toes come together) and the size of the band.



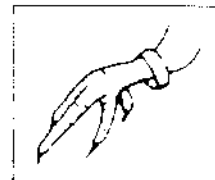
Have the bands, a toothpick (or other small blunt instrument) and some lubricant ready. Be sure you have the bands "right side up" for easier reading.



The band is generally placed on the bird's right leg. Banding just before the parents go to roost in the evening will prevent them from picking at the band. By the next morning they will have forgotten about it.



Hold the chick firmly but in such a way as to not cut off its breathing and so that you don't harm it. Remember, their bodies cannot tolerate compression. Put a little bit of lubricant on the chick's foot and slide the band over the three front toes and finally over the ankle joint. The back toe will probably have to be gently pried out from under the band with a toothpick. The band now should be in the proper location between the ankle and the elbow joints.



Check on the chick the next few days to be sure that the band has not slipped off and that there are no scrapes or irritations on the foot or leg.

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

BAND ORDER FORM

NFS offers to members only closed traceable aluminum bands. Available only in the NFS color of the year, the bands are engraved with the initials *NFS*, size code, year and number. No choice of numbers.

NO RUSH ORDERS!
 Allow 30 days from receipt of your order for delivery.
 Anticipate your needs to avoid frequent re-orders.

All orders are recorded for permanent reference. Bands are ordered in strings of ten, all the same size. New members may order before receiving membership number. Write "New" for membership # on order form.

BAND SIZE	# OF STRINGS	PRICE/ STRING	TOTAL AMT
A		\$2.75	
B		\$2.75	
C		\$2.75	
D		\$2.75	
E		\$2.75	
G		\$2.75	
J		\$2.75	
K		\$2.75	
L		\$2.75	
POSTAL INSURANCE: Under \$50 - \$.75 From \$50 to \$100 - \$1.60 Over \$100 - \$2.40 If you choose not to include this sum NFS <u>will not</u> be responsible for replacement of bands lost in shipment.			SUBTOTAL _____ INSURANCE _____ TOTAL _____

Name _____ Membership # _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail form and payment to:

Denise Capazzi
 NFS Band Secretary
 976 Long Cove Road
 Gales Ferry, CT 06335
 (203) 464-6961

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

GUIDE TO ORDERING NFS CLOSED LEG BANDS

NFS welcomes comments and suggestions for this Guide. Contact the home office.

size "A"

Small Waxbills
Gold-breasted Waxbill
Orange-cheeked Waxbill
Bicheno (Owl) Finch
Quail Finch
Red-eared Waxbill
Strawberry Finch

size "B"

Black-checked Waxbill
Cordon Bleu Waxbill
Cuban Melodious Finch
Fire Finch
Lavender Finch
Olive Finch
Rufous-backed Mannikin

size "C"

Black and White Mannikin
Blue-capped Waxbill
Bronze-winged Mannikin
Cherry Finch
Green Singing Finch
Grey Singing Finch
Heck's Shafftail
Painted Finch
Pileated Finch
Pytilias
Red-headed Parrot Finch
Shafftail Finch
Silverbills
Star Finch

size "D"

Blue-faced Parrot Finch
most other Parrot finches
Chestnut-breasted Finch
Gouldian Finch
Pictorella Finch
Pin-tailed Nonpareil
Yellow-rumped Finch
Zebra Finch

more size "D"

most smaller Mannikins
most Twinspots

size "E"

Black-crested Finch
Diamond Sparrow
Golden Song Sparrow
Nuns
Peter's Twinspot
Siskins
Society Finch
Spice Finch

size "G"

European Goldfinch
Magpie Mannikin
other large Mannikins
small Tanagers

size "J"

Pekin Robin
Silver-eared Mesia
other small softbills

size "K"

Java Rice Bird
Red-crested Cardinal
Saffron
Shama Thrush

size "L"

Diamond Dove
other small doves
Quail
other softbills

FINCHSHOP

the National Finch and Softbill Society store

ITEM	QTY	SIZE/ STYLE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL AMT
Video " <i>The Wonderful World of Finches and Softbills: An Introduction</i> "		Members & Affiliates: Non-Members:	\$17.00 \$22.00	
Show Cage Plans (see sizes below)			\$4.00	
All 3 Show Cage Plans			\$10.00	
Plastic Water Bottle			\$6.00	
Zebra Pin			\$5.00	
Gouldian Pin			\$6.00	
Aracari T-Shirt (s/m/l)			\$12.00	
Eric Peake Lithograph <i>The Diamond Sparrow</i> Signed & numbered			\$50.00	
Name Badge (members only) <i>Print name at bottom of form.</i>			\$5.00	
Past <i>Bulletin</i> Issues			\$2.50	
Any 6 Issues of <i>Bulletin</i>			\$12.00	
NFS Handbook			\$12.00	

NFS SHOW CAGE PLANS - updated in '93

1 Cage *Finches up to and including Zebras*

2 Cage *Finches larger than Zebras*

3 Cage *Softbills*

TOTAL _____

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail form and payment to

FINCHSHOP

c/o Pat & Mary Krichten
412 E. Walnut St.
Hanover, PA 17331

For more information call
(717) 632-8092

KAYTEE

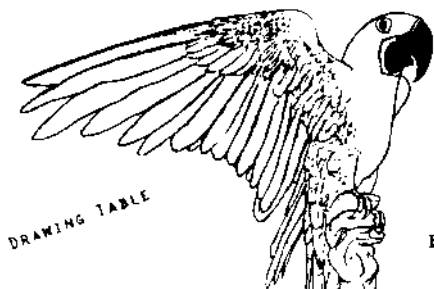
9TH ANNUAL

Great American Bird Show, Inc.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1, 1994

10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

ADMISSION: \$2.00 ADULTS
\$1.00 CHILDREN AND SENIORS



DRAWING TABLE

SALES & BIRD
RELATED PRODUCTS

CASH AWARDS FOR
SECOND AND THIRD BIRD IN SHOW

\$1,000
CASH AWARD
BEST BIRD IN SHOW

JUDGES:

ABS BUDGERIGARS ---- GERALD COLLINS
ACS COCKATIELS ----- CARL HELTON
NCS COCKATIELS ----- CONRAD MEINERT
NFS FINCHES
& SOFTBILLS ----- MARTHA WIGMORE
ALBS LOVEBIRDS ----- DAVID ARTHUR
SPBE PSITTACINES ----- RALPH MILOS
NCA CANARIES: LIPOCHROME
AND MELANIN ----- RAY RUDISILL
TYPE CANARIES ----- LARRY WILSON

HOSTED BY:

MID AMERICA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY
DES MOINES, IOWA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
ERMAFERN COLLINS
(515) 992-3539
304 KELLOGG
DALLAS CENTER, IA 50063



Crystal Inn
Conference Center

6111 FLEUR DRIVE
DES MOINES, IOWA 50321
(800) 248-4013