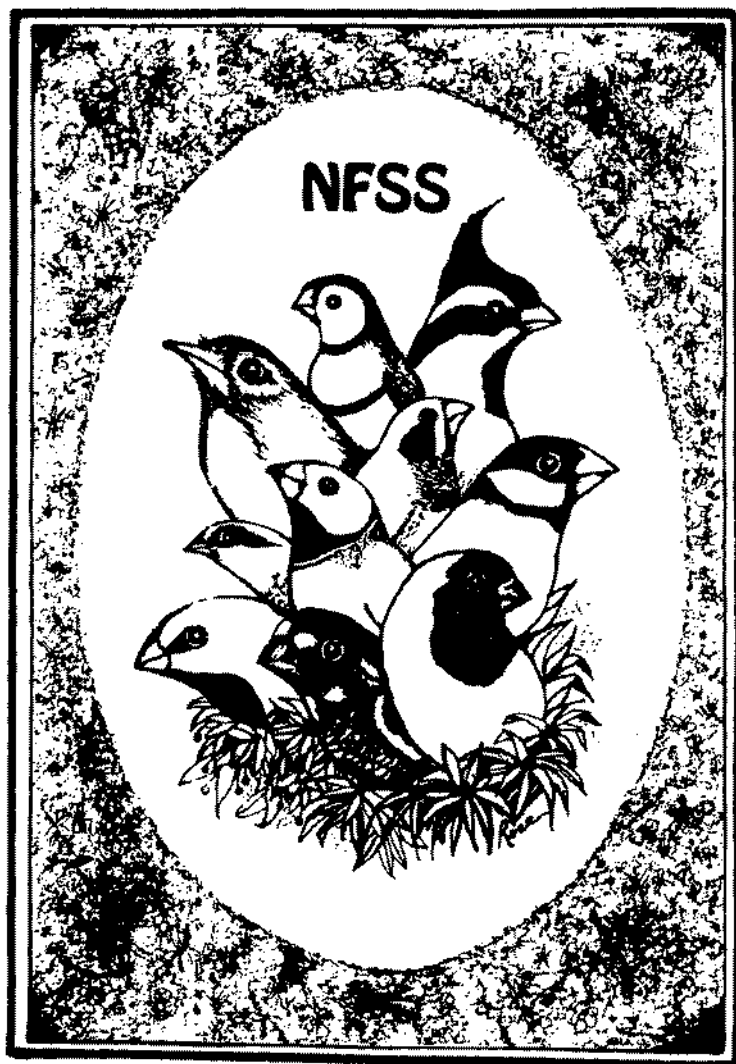


The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 13, No. 6



NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

November—December 1996



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Thank you to you all!!

Editorial Policy/Disclaimer

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In this issue:

The Cumulative Index is in the issue. The index list all articles and such from April 1984 to the Sept—Oct 1996 issue, over twelve years of information! We also have another excellent article from Mr. Castaner of Florida, concerning our birds health. We also have an article from a fellow member that lives in the Philippines. Mr. Tan's article could have easily fit into "Your Bird's Health" column as well as the "Lessons from Fellow Aviculturists". I desperately wanted both Mr. Castaner's and Mr. Tan's articles in this issue.

This *Bulletin* also has a couple of interesting articles, one on raising and showing Doves, and another on the tiny Gold Breasted Waxbills. There is a letter from the Regional Vice President of the Caribbean to fellow members. Two revised proposals for finch standards. One on the Cut-throat Finch and the other on the Parson Finch. I strongly recommend you check over them for accuracy.

Thank you to all of our contributors! The *Bulletin* still needs articles. Beginning the new year I would like to have a column highlighting a member's aviary, and do a different aviary each issue. So if you would like to brag about your aviary please contact me. We want lots of pictures!

**Deadline for the next issue is
January 1st 1997**

The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 13, No. 6
November—December 1996

Features

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8 3rd Quater Board Meeting Minutes | <i>Patrick Vance</i> |
| 13 A Letter to the Membership | <i>Rich Morales</i> |
| 15 Treating Finches for Shock | <i>Ron Castaner</i> |
| 17 A Tip on Air Sac Mites | <i>Jerry Tan</i> |
| 19 Breeding Gold-breasted Waxbills | <i>Lainey McClaflin</i> |
| 21 Learning About Doves | <i>Candice Patrick</i> |
| 26 Cut-throat Finch Standard Proposal | |
| 28 Parson Finch Standard Proposal | |
| 31 Cumulative Index to <i>The NFSS Bulletin</i>
April 1984 through Sept/Oct 1996 | |

Cover Credit

NFSS Logo, adopted Fall 1994
by Rose Gianferrara, Bonita Springs, Florida

Departments

In This Issue	1
NFSS News & Notes	4
Changing Your Address?	52
FINCHSHOP - The NFSS Store	55
NFSS Leg Band Sizes	56
NFSS Band Order Form	57
NFSS Leg Banding Procedure	58
Classified Ads	59
<i>Bulletin</i> Advertising Rates	47
Membership Application	60

Directories

Board of Directors - Phone numbers	<i>Inside Front Cover</i>
- Mailing Addresses	9
Affiliates, Delegates and Shows	48
Show Dates	53
NFSS Panel of Judges	<i>Inside Back Cover</i>

NFSS News & Notes

Compiled from NFSS Directors

Judges Panel Manager

Congratulations to Dale and Eileen Laird of Florida on the CHAMPIONSHIP of their Persa Touraco (SPBE DJL37 93). This is only the second softbill in the history of NFSS to complete a championship. Also congratulations to Dale and Eileen on their second bird this year to achieve championship this season. Their Normal Java Rice bird (NFS K493 94) is the newest Champion in NFSS.

The following apprentices have passed the NFSS test and have three apprentices yet to fulfill:

Jerry McCawley - Texas
Jacky Civitarese - Puerto Rico

The following has completed one apprentice with two remaining:

Frank Hudson - Texas

The following have completed their three apprentices and await Director Approval:

Armando Lee - Florida
Christine Voronovitch - Connecticut

*Marty Von Raesfeld has announced his resignation as an NFSS judge effective 12/31/96.

All judges are urged to pay close attention to where they are to mail their show reports, which are due no later than two weeks from the date of the show. The first copy is to mailed to the Points Director (Dr. Al Decoteau) while the second copy goes to the Editor (Robert Petrie).

Please note that the second issue of the proposed Cut-throat and Parson Finch Standards are now published in this issue. A previous proposed standard for the Cut-throat Finch was published in March-April 1996. A previous proposed standard for the Parson Finch was published in May-June 1996. Judges on the Standards Committee are urged to work together in assigned groups and not individually.

National Finch & Softbill Society standing Committees on Standards:

Cut-throat Finch

Jerry McCawley - Chair
Armando Lee
Christine Voronovitch
Frank Hudson

Parson Finch

Conrad Meinert - Chair
Charles Anchor
Harold Bowles
Laura Bewley

Pintail Nonpareil

Stephen Hoppin - Chair

Patrick Vance
Paul Williams
Marty Von Raesfeld

Red Headed Parrot Finch
Hal Koontz - Chair
Clayton Jones
Brian Mandrich
Joe Krader

Mynah Standards
Miki Spartzak - Chair
Jacky Civitarese

FINCHSAVE NEWS

The FinchSave Manager, Kristine Spencer has a new mailing address and also has an E-mail address, which is: "arting@sprymat.com". The Finch-Save also has a Web Page. It can be found in the same location as the NFSS Web page, "<http://www2.msstate.edu/~rbh2/NFSS.html>". Both are courtesy of Robert Hole Jr..

News from Region #2

by Dale Laird

The Kaytee Great American Bird Show was held on October 5th in Sarasota, Florida. Everybody who attended agreed it was a fantastic show. A Board Meeting was held on Friday night. The Show and Banquet on Saturday and lots of vendor browsing on Sunday. Steve Hoppin judged 114 Finches and Softbills and picked a magnificent Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu owned by Sally

Huntington of San Diego, California as Best In Division. Of course, at this point we did not know for sure who had won as there is an overall best in show. The winner was whisked away by Dr. Al Decoteau as soon as the top bench was set. I do have to admit Sally had a big smile and a gleam in her eye.

Later that night at the banquet the "Finch" table consisted of Dale & Eileen Laird, Sally Huntington, Steve Hoppin, Ginny Allen, Sue Debusk, and Dwight & Beth Greenberg. The peanuts and popcorn were a big hit. At least Ginny & I thought so until Eileen told us to quit throwing them around the table. One interesting thing about the Kaytee Show, they give away money for the overall Best-in-Show. \$250 for 3rd, \$500 for 2nd, and \$1000 for 1st place. When it came time to announce the winners the excitement began to build. Third place went to a Cockateil, second place to a Hook-bill, and when Dr. Al Decoteau announced the Finch table had won first place, the room went wild. Well at least the Finch table did. What we lacked in numbers, we more than made up for in enthusiasm and volume.

Our President, Frank Hudson, opened the NFSS table and distributed lots of NFSS information and sold several FinchShop items. We had large crowds for the Kaytee Show and most of them, at least, saw our table and name.

One interesting note, Vince Huntington (better know as Sally's husband) has developed a knock down lightweight Finch Show Cage. So that the judge would not know whose birds belonged to whom, several of us used them. The nice thing about these cages is they tear down flat, fit in your suit case, and go

together in about a minute. For years exhibitors have complained about the problems of shipping their show cages. Vince has, at least, given us an alternative. If you attend the Nationals, check them out! I know I am going to use the two I have and will order more.



Judge and Winners of the Kaytee Great American Bird Show. From left to right: Sally Huntington, winner of Best In Division and Best In Show, Stephen Hoppin, NFSS Division Judge, Eileen Laird, and Dale Laird. Eileen and Dale took second place in NFSS Division and received CHAMPIONSHIP of two of their birds.

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 - shows •
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- links to other Internet resources on birds •

If your society has a WWW page, we would be pleased to include a link to your site.

NFSS 3th Qtr 1996 Board Meeting

Held: Kaytee Great American Show, Sarasota, Florida
Recorded: 10/10/96

Lacking a quorum, no votes were taken. The minutes of the Board Meeting were mailed to all Board Members, along with a ballot to vote by mail.

The 1st item on the agenda concerned unadvertised shows and whether or not NFSS should award points to exhibitors and birds in cases where the show was not advertised. A motion by E. Laird, and second by D. Laird, that no points would be awarded to either exhibitor or bird unless the show was advertised in *the NFSS Bulletin* for a minimum of one issue prior to the show. Motion defeated: Yes - 5; No - 6. One yes vote was a conditional yes.

The 2nd item, apprentice judge, Armando Lee, was given the opportunity to speak to the Board concerning his three apprenticeships. A vote will be held at the 4th Quarter Board Meeting at the National Show.

The 3rd item was in regards to leg bands and whether NFSS should recognize individual club bands, as well as a discussion of adding band sizes for larger species. Discussion was tabled until the meeting at the National.

The 4th item was as to whether or not NFSS should pay the Judge's Fee for judging the National Show in cases where the judge selected is not the one

recommended by NFSS, yet is a Panel Judge. Motion passed. The vote-by-mail: 9 - votes yes; 0 votes - no; and 1 abstaining.

Item #5 discussed concerns about the Unflighted Show Ribbons. Currently the Rosette package includes 3 unflighted ribbons. Considering the expense to NFSS of providing the ribbons and the relative unimportance to an exhibitor of receiving a 2nd or 3rd place unflighted rosette, it was suggested the affiliation package be limited to 1 unflighted ribbon. Motion passed. Vote-by-mail: 7 - votes yes; 2 - votes no; and 1 abstaining.

The 6th item was a discussion of the need for NFSS to advertise nationally. All Board Members agreed that there is a need yet the expense is prohibitive.

The 7th item concerns prices for FinchShop items. Currently there is no provision for price increases when the cost of goods and shipping rises, without Board approval. This situation has resulted in selling at a loss to NFSS. A debate ensued. Motion by M. Spazak, seconded by Dr. Decoteau, that the FinchShop Manager would have the right to increase prices of all items to maintain a minimum of a 20% profit to NFSS. The only stipulation is that the price increases be announced in *The NFSS Bulletin* at least one issue prior to the increase. Motion passed. Vote-by-mail: 9 - votes yes; 1 - votes no.

The final item, as presented by D. Laird, concerns the problem of tardiness in shipping the Erik Peake prints, the selection of the Regional Shows, and the forms for the advertising of shows being sent to the *Bulletin* editor. President Frank Hudson took the issue for action.

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From the Editor's Desk...



Snow! In October! Maybe for Canadians that is not unusual, but for a Midwesterner it was definitely a surprise. We're not talking about flurries. This was a real snow storm with accumulations of over 5 inches.

Was it the end of last year or the beginning of this year, that parts of the Northwest were having severe floods? I remember a friend and fellow aviculturist that lives in Oregon telling me about those floods. She was safe living in the mountains, but worried about some of her other friends with birds.

Then this summer there were the two hurricanes that hit the East coast and Puerto Rico. I remember hearing the reports of the large number of people that were evacuating their homes. My wife and I wondered if we could possibly move all our birds that quickly and were thankful we didn't have to.

One of those hurricanes not only wreaked havoc on the coast but it caused flooding farther inland. The image of those houses with the water

covering everything except their roof is embedded in my mind.

Then this fall the news kept reporting on wildfires in the Southwest. I used to think Florida would be the ideal place to keep birds. You could keep them all in outside aviaries. After hearing reports about those hurricanes, I rethought that Southern California would be the perfect place. But it seems that between the wildfires and the earthquakes maybe it is not the avicultural utopia I may have thought it was.

Here in the center of the country, our biggest natural villain is the almighty tornado. I strongly remember, as a child, visiting areas (and not far from where I lived!) that were recently hit by a tornado. Those images will never leave me. I can only say they are impressive. It seems that with wildfires, floods, or hurricanes there is some warning time. It may only be hours, but with tornadoes it is only minutes. Because of the threat of tornadoes we keep most of our birds in the basement and have a plan-of-action to move the rest there if needed.

A couple of years ago the Midwest was severely flooded and we managed to escape by living on a hill. Except for a little moisture (and we're lucky that it was only a little moisture) in our basement, we were

unaffected. We considered our birds to be pretty safe from natural disasters.

Back to the snow storm, I normally enjoy a big snow storm but this one was not a pleasure for us. It not only surprised us humans, but it took the trees by surprise. The majority of the trees had not yet dropped their leaves. This coupled with no wind and big, wet flakes created a disaster. Large tree limbs were knocked down throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area. A lot of these tree limbs took power lines down with them.

An estimated 175,000 people were out of power. We were without electricity for three days and it seemed like much longer. The temperature was not the major problem, it only varied from the 60's to the 30's. Keeping our birds in the protected confines of our basement proved to work against us in this case.

I am strong believer that these primarily grassland birds need a very bright environment to live in. In order to duplicate this each and every aviary or cage has at least one fluorescent light fixture on it. Without any electricity, my normally bright, bright basement was almost pitch black! Birds have excellent vision, but only in the light. Even the

primarily nocturnal owls have poor vision at night.

Without light my birds would be unable to drink or feed. Since we ended up going three days without electricity, my birds would have not still been alive if something hadn't been done. The area is far too big for a few battery powered lights. Fortunately we were some of the first people to the rental store to get a generator.

It was annoying to constantly listen to that loud motor but we were very grateful to have a generator. It saved our birds. It also took a pretty large generator to run those lights all day long. We were so, so lucky it was not cold. That generator would not have run even a tiny heater with all those lights.

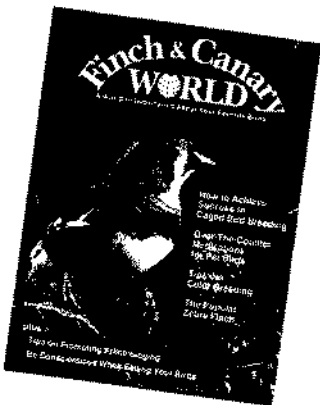
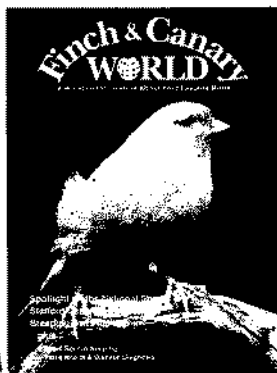
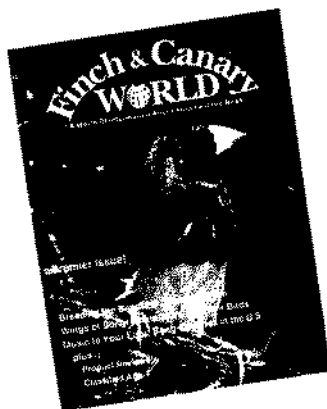
You can bet that this year's Christmas list will have one, possibly two, generators on it. My whole point is that there is no perfect part of the country to keep birds. We all have some type of hazard to be aware of. My advice is to try and prepare yourself as best you can for a possible disaster ahead of time. It is much easier than improvising when something actually does happen.

P.S. My best wishes to all of our fellow aviculturists that had to deal with the floods, fires, and other natural disasters over this past year.

Best Wishes to your Bird Club!

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A Letter To the Membership

by *Rich Morales*
Regional Vice President
Caribbean Region

When someone approaches you to learn about how to breed finches, your duty is to play the role of a counselor. The opportunity allows you to share the names of breeders, articles, diets, tricks, anecdotes, experiences, and discoveries. You do not need to be mystic to breed birds. You don't need to belong to a secret society to succeed in the task. Spread the news. NFSS is here! How can they know what they want if they do not know what is available.

You are smart! Your capacity, enthusiasm and talent will allow this society to grow. Relax! No one needs selling skills, closing techniques or advertising tricks to sign a new member. These are the principals that will allow new members to join.

#1. CALL.

Learn the name of the person. Know where he or she lives. Write down the phone number. A call should be handled like love-making.

#2 SHARE.

He is a diamond without a single trace of coal inside; he transmits energy through his birds. When

our mentor, teacher and friend, Dr. Rainer Erhart was asked who could (position) Puerto Rico's National Cage Bird Show, he answered without hesitating: Dr. Al Decoteau! Share. . . It is a smart choice.

#3 LISTEN.

The person who knows how to listen and to whom to listen to, ends up somewhere. For God's sake, put your tongue on a diet. Listen, let the person talk!

#4 PROMOTE.

There are different ways to promote in life. You could promote a cause in life by being detached from your personal interest. You must have a vision. Please understand that the system and the people who surround us are not perfect. We will encounter manipulators, critics, gossipers, and folks who suction your energy. With human beings who do not have enough light to light a candle, that may lead somewhere. We all have a portion of the truth, but not the totality of the truth. Truth can't be handled like a grenade that you throw at the enemy to wipe them out, and yourself too. First consider that we are not in war. To promote we need to unify. We can not foster division. Become indispensable. It is not enough to be good. You have to be good for something. Promote. All members are necessary. A new member is indispensable.

#5 COMPETE.

God grant me the strength to compete against myself. When you compete against yourself there is no need to arrive at the show hall to bite your nails, or to be looking at someone else's birds. You do not need to be like the husband at the hospital waiting to see what his wife gave birth to. Let us motivate ourselves to compete with wisdom. Let us focus more on a winning bird, not in a champion breeder.

#6 STUDY.

Read. Imitate the model of the champion and you will eventually be one to. Get in touch with other breeders. Exchange good and frustrating experiences. During this year I have had the opportunity to share with many novice breeders. I compare them to people who are taking lessons at driving school. Novice breeders are excellent teachers. Have you noticed how they pay attention to details?

#7 INTEGRITY.

How is your credit in the bank of integrity? Are you handling people strictly for business? Is the offer they make or the demand they have what links you to them? If your convenience is what motivates you to look out for people; if you can not resist surrendering people to your

will through manipulation, dictatorship and intimidation; if you can not live without having people rendering cult to your image, then. . . something is wrong. You can't fake integrity!

#8 PRIDE.

Pride is a bond that holds the chains together. Pride is negative when we are unwilling to forgive; when we operate with the principle of exclusion; when we are unable to settle differences because "I think I'm Godly right!"

#9 ASK.

You want to add more members to the Society? Ask? How are you? How is your wife and kids? Discover people when you ask. Insist to ask over and over again.

#10 SPIRITUALITY

It took me a bit too long to find out that effort is primary and awards are secondary. An award will reach you not when you demand it from life, but when your God feels that you deserve it. When a breeder lacks respect and veneration for his/her God, they turn to greed and selfishness. Let us give good example. When give good example, you preach better than those who eat saints and excrete devils.

Your Bird's Health

TREATING FINCHES FOR SHOCK

*by Ron Castaner
West Palm Beach, FL*

*All Rights Reserved
written specially for the: Aviary
and Cage Bird Society of South
Florida*

Any sick bird usually follows a rapid downward spiral of loss in stamina which quickly results in death because of lack of heat. Most sick birds show a lack of interest in food. This refusal to eat results in a lower body temperature and less stamina as well as a loss of interest in living.

If you are a serious breeder, you should have an infirmary cage (or a sick cage) ready at all times. Even if we don't like to admit it, we all have sick birds at one time or another, and if we don't cooperate with each other and ask for help some of these beautiful birds will be gone forever. No matter how much we love and care for them, just like us they can become ill. You should have a quiet, scenic, warm, humid and dimly lit environment ready (the infirmary or sick cage).

Keeping the bird warm is the greatest concern. A bird's temperature should be 40-42 degrees Celsius. Birds lose body heat rapidly, that is why the first sign of illness is being perched and all fluffed up. The feathers are not tight to the body. Being fluffed they increase the insulating properties of their feathers and reduce heat loss from their body. Have the infirmary cage warmed to 80-85 degrees Fahrenheit using an incandescent red bulb or place a heating pad on the bottom of the cage (it's a good idea to cover the heating pad with several paper towels). Cover all three sides of the cage to keep heat in. Be sure to put a humidity and temperature gauge inside the cage. The heat lamp should be placed either in the middle of the cage or toward the bottom. If the bird is not perching, put a perch a few inches from the bottom of the cage so that the bird will try to perch. Put another perch in the middle of the cage. Make sure that the perch is long enough so that the bird can move freely. It will feel more comfortable moving in and out of the heat.

Dry heat can dehydrate a bird, so keep the humidity about 75-80 percent. If you need to increase the humidity, place a small shallow dish or container with water

in one corner. Be sure to cover the dish with a piece of window screen and secure it with a rubber band or string. You don't want the bird to fall in and drown.

It's very important to put a small, shallow seed dish and a small, shallow dish of fresh water on the infirmary cage floor. You want shallow dishes, again so the bird won't drown and because it can't perch. This makes it easier for the bird to eat and drink. DO

NOT GIVE ANY FRUITS OR VEGETABLES, AND ESPECIALLY GRIT, TO THE BIRD.

No matter how much we love and care for them, just like us they can become ill.

Another thing that has helped me is I found it's best for the sick bird to have a mate. Place the mate in the infirmary with the sick bird. If there isn't a mate, place a Society with it for company. DO NOT EXAMINE THE BIRD AT THIS POINT. Generally, there are two symptoms to look for when a bird is sick or in shock. The first symptom is when you see a bird perched, fluffed up, its head is tucked in his back, and the eyes appear smaller. The second symptom is when you find a bird on the floor of the cage or aviary. The bird will appear weak and doesn't want to move when you approach. The bird will have a drooping posture. The breathing is very shallow (runs out of breath quickly). The pupils may be dilated (wide open) resulting in a

staring gaze, loss of stamina and no interest in food. This is the most critical stage. If the bird is handled too long it could die right in your hand, so you must act quickly. Be sure and have everything ready in advance to minimize any further stress for the bird. The main thing to remember DO NOT HANDLE THE BIRD LONG, when in the second stage of shock (finding bird on floor-not perching). And most importantly; even though you may want

to, DO NOT FORCE FEED OR GIVE ANY MEDICATIONS AT THIS TIME AS IT CAN CHOKE AND KILL THE BIRD.

If the bird doesn't show any signs of improvement after 8-12 hours you should call for your Vet's advice. In about 80% of the time you will see a great improvement in those 8-12 hours and the bird has recovered from shock. Now you can examine the bird to help determine the illness and/or the cause of the illness and proceed to apply the appropriate treatment.

Again, I can't emphasize enough: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FORCE FEED THE BIRD DURING THE SYMPTOMS OF SHOCK. only because, most of the time you will end up choking and killing the bird. Wait the 8-12 hours and see if the bird is perching or any other signs of improvement occur.

Lessons from Fellow Aviculturists

A Tip on Air Sac Mites

*Jerry Tan
Quezon City, Philippines*

I've been taking care of finches since 1992. It was the following year that I started to breed them. I acquired two pairs of Gouldian Finches from China in October 1993. Housed each pair in a 15" by 18" by 15" breeding cage. By December of the following year, both pair had produced a total of eight offspring. By the young's second month, all had finished molting into their bright, lovely plumage, ironically all of them were males.

It was in August 1994 when my problem started. I noticed that one of the young was ill. He was breathing heavily through his mouth, sneezing and coughing, and when I picked him up, to isolate him from the rest, I heard a clicking sound coming from inside his beak. I gave him some medication, only to find it had no effect. By December 2 more birds showed the signs of the same illness. At first I thought it was just a respiratory ailment and started giving antibiotics, from Erythromycin

to Tetracycline. Still no sign of recovery. It was only after I joined NFSS, that I realized that I was dealing with Air Sac Mites. By September 1995, two-thirds of my flock was infected.

Ivermectin and Avian Veterinarians are not available since exotic birds, finches in particular, are not common in our country.

I was frustrated. Thinking Air Sac Mites are parasites, I went to a poultry and livestock store and bought an antiparasitic medication [CHLOROFON -NEGUVON made by BAYER]. The medication was made for use on sheep, horses, cattle and chicken parasites. I also purchased an Electrolyte solution for the drinking water.

I tried it first with one bird. Following the instructions, I used a trigger spray and sprayed the bird with a fine mist. Just enough to moisten his feathers. After 4 days, the symptoms seemed to be decreasing. The bird appeared physically unaffected by the treatment. After two weeks, all symptoms disappeared.

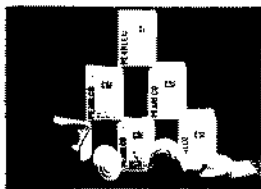
Right now all my Gouldians show no sign of Air Sac Mites. I hope other members find my story helpful.

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Breeding Gold-breasted Waxbills

by *Lainay McClafflin*

Although the Gold-breasted Waxbill is the tiniest finch in captivity, it is by no means the most delicate. Gold-breasts are generally very healthy, and are able to hold their own among much larger and more dominant finches.

We keep our Gold-breasts in aviaries with all our other finches, both when they are breeding and when they are resting. They always manage to get enough to eat and drink, and can almost always defend their own nesting sites successfully.

Our Gold-breasts tend to eat a little of everything, but do not seem to have any strong preferences. They like sprouted seeds, as well as spray millet, but they also eat the other foods we give them, including Lafeber granules, eggfood, fruits, vegetables and worms. Baby Gold-breasts particularly enjoy the Lafeber granules, as their tiny beaks have trouble cracking seeds. Gold-breasts like to take baths every day, but the young are so small they can easily drown if the bath water is too deep.

While breeding, our Gold-breasts do best in aviaries between 4'x3'x3' and 6'x3'x3', but I think larger aviaries would work just as well. They particularly like to find secluded nest sites surrounded by grasses, branches and artificial foliage. Our Gold-breasts nest high, but I have heard that they will also nest low. They choose small wicker baskets and small tube nests most often, but some build their own nests in branches, and some prefer large, half-open, wooden nest boxes.

**Fertility is high
among our Gold-
breasts, and five
chicks per clutch is
common.**

Fertility is high among our Gold-breasts, and five chicks per clutch is common. From these large clutches, we will sometimes lose one or two chicks before they finish their first molt. It is

particularly important to make sure the fledglings are eating well and are warm enough until they get their full coloring.

On a few occasions we have had problems with competition for nest sites between Blue-capped Cordon-bleus and Gold-breasts in a mixed breeding aviary. Sometimes these two species get along fine, raising their own young side by side. But once in a while we have had our Blue-caps take over Gold-breast nests, dumping out either the Gold-breast eggs or chicks, and then using the nest as their own.

Banding Gold-breast chicks can be challenging, as most bands fall off their minute legs. Size "A" closed bands sometimes stay on if you put them on just after the chicks fledge. It is also possible to use open aluminum bands if you crush them down to size before putting them on. Gold-breasts' legs break easily, so it pays to be extra careful when banding them. It is also important to keep an eye on Gold-breasts' claws, as these can quickly become long and curly, making it difficult for the birds to perch. For many years, importers have been bringing in Gold-breasts from the wilds of Africa in enormous numbers. Now, suddenly, the U.S. has passed legislation to prevent further imports of this species. The Gold-breast needs all our attention and breeding efforts if we want to enjoy its small brilliance in years to come.

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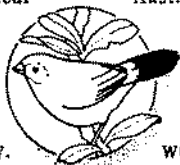
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Learning About Doves

*by Candice Patrick
Madison, Tennessee*

Trying to raise doves (or any birds for that matter) in an apartment offers a few unique challenges. One has neighbors to think about, pet fees, is the manager going to tolerate several birds in a bedroom (or wherever the place is you decide to breed your birds), cleanliness and the list goes on. I have found square, stackable cages to work best. The walls and carpet are covered with white trash bags (black shows up the feather dust real well!) and the bottom cages are also covered part way up the cage in the plastic. This keeps seed and feathers in and makes vacuuming a breeze. Also the plastic is easy to wipe down periodically. Another thing I have done so that the air is cleaner, is to buy a small air purifier/ionizer. It works great. A humidifier in the room helps especially during the "winter breeding season" since doves can breed year round.

Cages

While the cages may not be real "showy," they are very functional the way I have them. It took some trial and error to know where to place the cages and what kind to get. I found that the kind with a slide out plastic tray work great. The whole

cage fits nicely in the bathtub anytime I want to clean it. An old toothbrush works great at getting in any crevices.

When I got my first "big" cage, it was perfect for my doves. Generally they require a cage that is at least 2 feet x 2 feet x 2 feet. A dove should be able to flap its wings and not touch anything in the cage. One round perch at one level and a square type perch at another level is ideal for a dove's feet. For my silkies (which do not fly) I place a perch at a very low level.

Ringneck varieties

There are three feather types of Ringneck Doves—normal, silky, and crested. Most everyone has seen the normal. The silky doves have "fluffy" feathers and a sideboard on each wing. The barbs on the feathers are not hooked together like a normal bird, thus the birds cannot fly as air passes right through their feathers.

The crested come from Asia and are rarely seen in the U.S. One always breeds a silky to a normal. If you breed a silky to a silky, you will end up with birds that are too silky and their feathers can look a mess. Breeding a silky to a normal will result in the babies being both normal or one being a silky and one being a normal or both being silkies.

Silkies are wonderful pets. They are normally gentle birds to begin with and there is really no training to teach them to be finger tame.

Show results!

I had set my goal last year to raise a good show bird. That was really all I wanted. I tried to find the best conformed birds that I could get and breed them with my two silkies (Snowfire's Top Flight and Snowfire's Sweetie Pie) while keeping my fingers crossed. I wanted a winner.

A friend of mine had a nice wild pied hen (Snowfire's Pretty Delight) that I bred to Snowfire's Top Flight. They produced 5 babies. Only one placed third. The other 4 were all winners, with two being Best In Class Winners and one, Snowfire's Iroquois, becoming the Champion Best Silky and Best Marked Silky at the 1994 National Young Bird Show. This was his very first show! Because SF Pretty Delight was unbanded, I decided to sell her before I realized her potential. I know better now.

Top Flight was found dead when I came home from work one day. It was suspected he had a heart attack. I was just sick. This was a good show bird. I still had Sweetie Pie though. She has produced 9 babies with 5 to show and one winner. A friend from Ohio sold me a cock bird I named Snowfire's Sparkler (it was hatched on the fourth of July). He was a pretty bird but a bit too rowdy with my hens so he was sold. But he did sire 4 babies before he left. One was a show winner and two others placed 2nd at the shows.

Show prep

Around June I stopped all my breeding and started getting my birds ready for their first show which would be held in the fall. Every other day I dunked my birds in a sink of warm water, being VERY careful not to loose any feathers. I lost a few but nothing major. The birds got used to being handled and soon did not mind getting wet. It was like they knew what was coming their way every time I went into the bird room. I had thought about spraying the birds, but in the past found that the walls or carpet or something that should be dry, ends up getting wet. I don't need mold growing in the bird room.

Doves have the ability to loose their feathers practically on contact if frightened. This is a protective method they have to escape predators. Another thing I did was putting the birds in different cages. I had small "finch" type breeding cages as well as budgie show cages. The birds learn to stand quietly in a small cage for prolonged period of time. At the show, the judge can always tell which bird has not been "small caged trained". That bird is going back and forth in the cage and sometimes tries to fly up the side of the cage. I start with my baby birds and soon they are just as calm in a large flight as they are in a cage in which they can hardly turn around. Start with babies and periodically put them in a small cage. Soon, no cage will bother them.

Feeding

One very important thing in getting birds ready for a show is nutrition. Many people are surprised to learn that there really is "dove food". Companies such as Kaytee, Brooks, Sun, Hagen and others all carry dove seed. In addition to seed, I also feed vegetables. They can include boiled rice, boiled corn on the cob, cooked split peas, boiled egg with crunched up egg shell (an excellent source of calcium carbonate), sweet potatoes, cauliflower, broccoli, chopped up carrots, lettuce, and an occasional meal worm. I have learned to--ah--chop the meal worms up a little so they won't propagate indoors! It is no picnic to find a couple in the closet roaming around.

People often ask if they should feed grit. It sort of depends on the diet. I occasionally give my doves "dove grit" (also known as dove gravel). Grit can help break up those hard to digest seeds that doves sometimes eat. Many breeders have never fed grit and have had no ill effects. I tell new dove owners that if they choose to feed grit, feed it in a separate container and do not mix it with the seed or sprinkle it on the ground where the birds can soil it. Above all do NOT feed grit made for parakeets or very small birds. This very small sand like grit can stay in a doves crop for weeks. I know, first hand. I obtained a pair of doves that had been fed "parakeet grit". Of course I did not feed them any grit at all until all of the parakeet grit had passed from their systems. One could see it

in the droppings. It took 2 1/2 months before the birds were free of grit. The dove grit is grey in color and larger than the parakeet grit.

Often times I take one or two of my silkies outside and we go for a "walk". The neighborhood kids just love to pet them and it gives the birds time in the sun as well as getting use to being around all kinds of people. I have one simple rule. Before anyone can pet the birds, hands must be washed with soap and water. The kids now know the rule and tell the newer ones in the neighborhood. If nothing else, it is sorta surprising to see these kids enforce this rule.

If you decide to breed doves, try to breed the best to the best (and hope for the best). Cull out the ones that don't suit your fancy but hold on to the ones that may have some potential. That may be your future show winner!

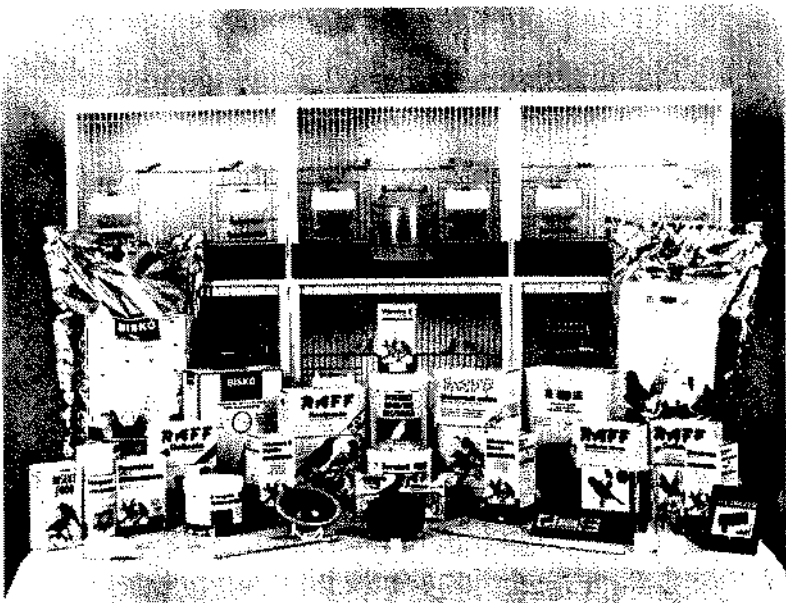
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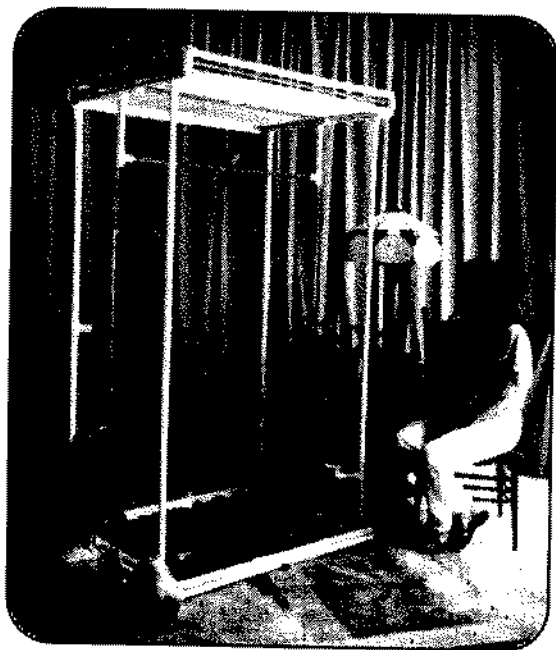
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Proposed Cut-throat Finch Standard

(Amadina fasciata)

This is a revised proposal of the Cut-throat Finch Standard. It is only a proposal and an comments considering this proposal should be sent to:

Dr. Al Decoteau
Judges Panel Manager
P.O. Box 369
Groton, MA 01450

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

The Cut-throat Finch is 4 1/2 to 5 inches long and sexually dimorphic, a sparrow-type bird, slightly larger than a spice finch and broader bodied. It has a short bill of a horny-grey color; wings long and pointed. Tail should exhibit only slight roundness on the end. The iris is brown. Legs and feet are flesh colored. The ground color is a sand or fawn but more on the pink side of these colors. Two slightly curved black bars appear on each feather.

The Cut-throat's nape, forehead and crown should be the sand or fawn color. On the mantle and back the bars may be single and take on an arrowhead shape (more pointed than curved) sometimes they are just a dot of black and the ground color in this area has a pinker tinge than on the head. On the upper tail coverts and rump the barring is broader. Wing tips are creamy white. Wing coverts are a darker greyish brown. Under wings are pinkish fawn. Central tail feathers are brownish-black with outer feathers tipped in white. Upper throat and front of face creamy-white.

THE COCKS: The cock exhibits a broad red band or "ribbon" which extends from ear to ear under the chin, the band on its lower edge is bordered by a thin black line. The male's upper breast under the band is creamy and the abdomen is chestnut. Flanks are pink-fawn with narrow black fringes forming a "scaling pattern".

THE HENS: The hen is essentially the same as the cock, but there is no band under the chin which is a creamy-fawn in color. May have only a hint of color on the belly.

There are three known subspecies:

1. *Amadina fasciata fasciata* - described above.
2. *Amadina fasciata alexanderi* - found further south of the nominate subspecies. Tends to be duller in its colors with wider black markings.
3. *Amadina fasciata meridionalis* - very similar to *alexanderi* but darker still (without being melanistic) and smaller in size.

On the edges of the territories the varieties interbreed.

The Cut-throat Finch has a tendency to become melanistic in captivity. This is a common fault on the show bench and can be corrected by adding vitamins A&D to the birds diet and a better light program.

These are self-assured birds that will defend their mates, nest, and territory. On the show bench they should portray the confident, steadiness of that attitude. Their comical display of holding their beaks open, waving their heads and raising the feathers on their heads and backs and hissing at a perceived threat gives the impression of a great protector.

Proposed finch standards are proposals and need to be reviewed by the Society's Membership for accuracy. If an error or something is lacking in the proposed standard and it goes unquestioned, the faulty standard may become the actual standard that the species is judged by. So please review the standards and forward any comments you may have to the:

**Judges Panel Manager
Dr. Al Ducorouau
P.O. Box 309
Grafton, MA 01450**

Proposed Parson Finch Standard

(*Poephila cincta*)

This is a second proposal for the Parson Finch Standard. It is only a proposal and any comments or suggestions should be sent to:

Dr. Al Decoteau
Judges Panel Manager
P.O. Box 369
Groton, MA 01450

CONFORMATION	45 POINTS
Head, Body, and Tail	25 points
Wings	15 points
Tail	10 points
CONOITION	25 POINTS
COLOR AND MARKINGS	20 POINTS
STANCE	10 POINTS

CONFORMATION (45 POINTS)

(Distributed as follows)

HEAD, BODY, LEGS, AND FEET: 25 POINTS The beak, head and body should equal three inches, excluding the tail. The body should appear trim and muscular with the cobbiest points on the chest and shoulders. The chest should have a smooth curve. The body should only taper slightly in width, and less in depth to the point where the legs appear from the feathering. From the back of the legs to the tail, the body should taper more gradually but should still appear full. A small portion of the thigh will show below the body and should be of some substance. The back should leave the contour of the neck and carry a straight line to the tail. It should be slightly rounded from shoulder to shoulder and continue a decreasing contour to the tail.

The upper and lower mandible should be smooth, clean, and meet evenly and be free of imperfections. The head should have a gently rounded crown. The broadest point should be just behind the ears. Eyes should be bright and set just above the point where the mandibles meet. From all views the neck should appear broader than the head, and should increase slightly as it approaches the shoulder. The head and neck, less the beak, should equal in

length. Legs should be equal, parallel, clean and free of any scaling. Missing toes or nails should be faulted. Nails should be suitable in length to assure proper grip.

TAIL: 15 POINTS THE TAIL SHOULD BE NO LONGER THAN TWO INCHES. IT IS SHORT BUT WITH THE TIPS OF THE TWO CENTRAL FEATHERS SHARPLY POINTED BUT ONLY A LITTLE LONGER THAN THE REST OF THE TAIL.

WINGS: 10 POINTS The wings should be neat and compact and be carried very close to the body. The tips should just meet over the center of the upper tail coverts without crossing or drooping. All flight feathers and coverts must be present, smooth and clean.

CONDITION (25 POINTS)

The Parson Finch should always appear very neat and clean and be in immaculate condition at all times. The feathers, skin, and beak must be clean, smooth and lustrous. The body feathering should be very smooth and look as one big feather, meaning that all feathers should be very tight to the body. Eyes should be bright and the bird should appear alert, vital, and agile.

COLOR AND MARKINGS (20 POINTS)

Head is silvery-gray. Beak, throat patch, and a streak from the base of the beak to the eyes are black. Back is fawn and more brown on the wings. A black bar is over the rump. Under tail coverts are white and tail black. Cinnamon is on the breast and under parts. Flanks have a black patch and under the tail is white. Feet are reddish. Overall length five inches. Three inch body and two inch tail.

STANCE (10 POINTS) **(INCLUDING CAGING AND PRESENTATION)**

The Parson Finch should stand at about 40 to 45 degrees and not crouch on the perch. It should not be faulted for taking an occasional head down and rump up position, as this is a natural curiosity position. The Parson Finch should be steady and stand looking at the judge, not showing any sign of fear or nervousness. A standard finch box is highly recommended when showing the Parson Finch.

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"NFS Affiliated Organizations, Delegates and Show Dates", 1st appearance 10/84, and included in nearly every issue.

"Affiliation Agreement"—1st appearance for each year:

- 1986, JF86.
- 1987, SO86.
- 1988, ND87.
- 1989, OND88.
- 1990, JF90.
- 1991, SO90.
- 1992, ND91.
- 1993, ND92.
- 1994, JF94.
- 1995, JA95.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE (AFA)

"AFA in Brief"—for month of:

- 6/88, MJ88.
- 4/89, MA89.
- 6/89, MJ89.
- 7/89, JA89.
- 1/90, JF90.
- 3/90, MJ90.
- 7/90, JA90.
- 7/91, JA91.
- 1/93, JF93.
- 2/93, JF93.

Anchor, Charlie, "Finch Breeders and Others", MJ95.

Anchor, Charlie, "No More Birds in Captivity", ND94.

Armstrong, Don, "A Letter to the NFS Editor Regarding AFA", MJ93.

Clark, Janis L., "Let's Join AFA", JF95.

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BALLOTS

see

ELECTIONS

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see

NFSS PEOPLE

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see

NFSS MEETINGS

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see

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see

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- Kopecky, Norm, "NFS Breeding Encouragement Program: NFS Member Viewpoint", SO86.
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- Parlee, Bill, "FINCHSAVE is a Reality", SO87.
- Clear, Dr. Val, "An Open Letter to the Editor on Importing Birds and FINCHSAVE", ND87.
- Koontz, Hal M., "FINCHSAVE", OND88.
- Brissette, Jeff, "My Thoughts on FINCHSAVE", MJ90.
- Oja, Linda, "Portrait of a FINCHSAVE Director", JA91.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Questions and Answers", ND91.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Report", ND91.
- Oja, Linda, "New FINCHSAVE Outline as Proposed 11/91.", ND91.
- Oja, Linda, "NFS' FINCHSAVE Program", MJ92.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Report 6/92", JA92.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Report", SO92.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Report 11/92", ND92.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Participating Species", MA93.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Report", MA93.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Report", JA93.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Breeding Successes 1992", JA93.
- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Structure", SO93.

- Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Definition/Purpose", SO93.
 Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE For You!", JF94.
 Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Participating Species", MA94.
 Oja, Linda, "FINCHSAVE Program- Definition & Purpose", JA95.
 "FINCHSAVE Softbill Group 1993 Annual Breeding Report Results", ND94.
 "FINCHSAVE Australian/Parrot Finch Group 1993 Annual Breeding Report Results", JF95.

FLOCKING TOGETHER (QUESTIONS & ANSWERS)

1st appearance MJ94, and each issue thereafter

FOSTERING

- "Special Focus Section", ND94.
 Aleman, Jose, "Reasons for Fostering", ND94.
 Gianferrera, Rose, "Society Finches and Fostering", ND94.
 Koontz, Hal M., "Foster Raising Australian Finches", MA87.
 Oja, Linda, "Breeding Finches-Fostering", ND94.

FUN AND GAMES

- Butler, Pam, "Finch and Softbill Search-and-Find", MA94.
 D'Agata, Jerry, "Educational Puzzle", MA86.
 Reed, Nancy A., "Enter The Great National Finch Pursuit Contest", JA85.
 Reed, Nancy A., "Winners of the G.N.F.P. Contest", MA86.
 Sherman, Laura, "Finch Word Search", JA93.

-G-

GENETICS

- Cruce, Robert E., "Genetics 1", JF93.
 Cruce, Robert E., "Genetics 3", MJ93.
 Garcia, Luis, "The Yellow Body Gouldian Gene", SO94.

-H-

HEALTH CONCERNS

- Ayres, Marlene, "Warning About Wool!", MA91.
 Bauck, Dr. Louise, "Finch Medicine Update", JF95, MA95, MJ95, ND95.

- Castaner, Ron, "Antibiotics Used For Finches", SO96

- Gibson, Les, "Deep Throat Swab (or Lung Mites)", JF92.
 Gibson, Les, "G'Day, Mites!", JF92.
 Grossman, Earl R., "Egg-binding Symptoms and Treatment", MA86.
 Humane Society News, "How to Identify The Poisonous Plants That Can Hurt Your Pets", ND85.
 Jenkins, D.V.M., Jeffrey R., "Aspergillosis", JA92.
 Kelly, Nancy J., "Iron Storage Disease", SO94.
 Koontz, Hal M., "Hal Koontz on Milk Feeding", JF87.
 Roskopf, D.V.M., Walter, "Pet Avian Emergency Care", MJ92.
 Thorschmidt, Don, "Doing Your Own Cultures and Saving Lives", JA94.
 Thorschmidt, Don, "Successful Cure of Star Gazing/Twirling", SO93.
 Wangler, R.B., "Insecticides and Your Birds", MA95.
 Worell, D.V.M., Amy, "Phlebotomy for Treatment of Hemochromatosis in Two Sulfur-breasted Toucans", MA92.

-I-

INDEX

"The NFS Bulletin Cumulative Index"

through:

- Jan/Feb '86, JF86.
 Jan/Feb '87, JF87.
 Jan/Feb '88, JF88.
 Oct/Nov/Dec '88, JF89.
 Nov/Dec '89, JF90.
 Sep/Oct '90, JF91.
 Nov/Dec '91, JF92.
 Nov/Dec '92, JF93.
 Jan/Feb '94, MA94.
 May/June '95, JA95.

"The NFS Bulletin Cumulative Index - by Author" through Jan/Feb 1994, JA94.

-J-

JUDGING

- "1994 Revision to NFSS Apprentice Judge Program", SO94.
 "Changes to Judges Handbook", JF86.
 "Changes to Judges Handbook", MA86.

- "Judges Panel—1st discussion of the idea", 7/84.
- "Judges Panel (with only three judges)", 1st listing 10/84.
- "Judges Panel 1985 (including 13 judges)", MA85.
- "Revised Version of the NFS Apprentice Judge Program", ND90, SO92, ND92, JF93, MJ94.
- Anchor, Charlie, "A Judge's Comments", SO87.
- Brissette, Jeff, "The Importance of Standards", ND89.
- Hoffman, Jon, "An Open Letter to All NFS Members", ND89.
- Hoppin, Steve, "A Labor of Love? You Bet!", MJ96.
- Parlee, Bill, "Best in Show Judging: The Possibilities", SO86.
- Reed, Nancy A., "Questionnaire to NFS Judges", JA86.
- Rood, Tom, "Report of Judges Clinic", ND95.
- Rood, Tom, "'Taking a Closer Look' on Apprenticing", SO92.
- "The NFSS Apprentice Judge Program", JA95.
- Wigmore, Martha, "Have You Considered Judging?", MJ94.
- Wigmore, Martha, "The Trembling Perch: A Judge's Cautionary Tale", MA95.
see also
STANDARDS
- K-**
- L-**
- LEGISLATION
in order of publication date:
- "Alert: Legislative News of Interest", MA85.
- "Alert: Legislative News of Interest", MJ85.
- American Federation of Aviculture, "Fact Sheet Relating to Laws Which Would Prohibit the Sale of Wild Caught Foreign Birds", ND85.
- "News of Interest", MJ87.
- "Conservation News Alert: Australia", JF90.
- Clubb, D.V.M., Susan and Jorgen B. Thomsen M.S., "Future of Avian Imports in the U.S.", ND90.
- Geesey, Brenda, "An Editorial: Regarding the Bills Now Before the House and Senate", JA91.
- "Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to HR 5013 Offered by Mr. Studds", JA92.
- Geesey, Brenda, "Legislative Update", ND92.
- "Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992", ND92.
- Geesey, Brenda, "Common Names of Species Under Quota", ND92.
- Gustafson, Mary, "A Corrected and Updated Version of the Appendices", MA93.
- Huntington Audobon Society, "Break Up Wild Bird Trade", MA93.
- Geesey, Brenda, "Editor's Comments re: Huntington Audobon Society", MA93.
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "Proposed Rule Implementing the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992", SO93.
- Wigmore, Martha, "Impact of the New Legislation", MA94.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "WBCA of 1992 - Summary of Effects", MA94.
- Wigmore, Martha, "Proposed Regulations Under WBCA: Published 3/17/94", MJ94.
- Wigmore, Martha, "Clearing Up Misunderstandings: A Court Order; First Cooperative Breeding Program Applications", JA94.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "Commonly Asked Questions by Bird Owners and Breeders", JA94.
- Anchor, Charlie, "No More Birds in Captivity", ND94.
- Wigmore, Martha, "Final Regs; Yet More to Come - Watch!", JF95.
- "Special Focus Section", MJ95.
- McCawley, Jerry, "NFSS Attends USFWS Meeting on WBCA", MJ95.
- "Potential Addressees for Your Letters About the WBCA", MJ95.
- McCawley, Jerry, "Statement of the National Finch and Softbill Society", MJ95.
- Anchor, Charlie, "Finch Breeders and Others", MJ95.
- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Garcia, Luis, "Update on a Gouldian Challenge", JF96.
- LIVING WITH BIRDS
Anson, Karen, "Finches Are Not Just Golden - A Visit with Gene & June Miller", JF95.

- Archer, Ken, "Ramblings From a Bird Person". ND92.
- Auito, Russell, "Some Bird Prices During the Thirty-four Year Period, 1944-1974 (or thereabouts)", JF95.
- Deacon, Wanda, "Cats, Kids and Birds", ND85.
- Eisenhauer, Melissa, "Finches in the Last Frontier", MJ93.
- Gibson, Les, "Backyard Sanctuary", MJ91.
- Gibson, Les, "His Holiness and the Little Birds", JF91.
- Gibson, Les, "Who Sang White Rome Burned", ND92.
- Heard, Joe, "Rocky Mountain High", MA91.
- Hole, Robert B. Jr., "The Importance of Dead Birds", MJ95.
- Holmes, Helen, "Cats, Birds and Love", MA87.
- Kopeccky, Norm, "The Community Aviary", MJ86.
- Perkins, Shirley, "Plight of the Gouldians", JF92.
- Photographs - Gene & June Miller, JF95.
- Rosen, Matthew, "Butterflies, Canaries Soar Under Dome", OND88.
- Sister Shiva Kumari, "Brother Sun, Sister Finch", ND87.
- Smith, Dwight, "Aviculture in Puerto Rico", SO94.
- Sparzak, Marion (Miki), "Do Hookbills, Finches and Softbills Mix?", SO90.
- Stone, Debbie, "Once Upon A time, in a Place Called Pittsburgh: The Pittsburgh Aviary", JF92.
- Underhill, Sally, "The Trip to Raleigh", SO95.

LOCAL CLUBS

- Binns, Brian and Margaret, "The Zebra Finch Society of England's Overseas Section", MA91.
- Bird Clubs of Virginia, "More on the Avian Crisis in Florida", SO92.
- Dewald, D. David, "Support Your Local Club", MJ85.
- Oja, Linda, "A Report From the Bird Clubs of Virginia's Annual Convention", MJ92.
- Fire, John, "What is a Dove Club?", MA87.
- Rood, Tom, "Promoting Your Local Bird Show", MJ95.
- Rood, Tom, "Remember Your Local Shows", SO89.

- Wheeler, Neva, "Letter From South Florida Avian Relief", SO92.
- Wigmore, Martha, "Barbecuing Finches", MJ90.

-M-

MANAGEMENT

see

CARE AND MANAGEMENT

MEMBERSHIP

- "Congratulations to NFSS Top Recruiter - Julie Duimstra", MA95.
- "NFS Membership Application", 1st appearance JF85.
- Armitage Jr., Russ, "Notes From Membership Services", JA90.
- Geesey, Brenda, "The Ides of March 1992", MJ93.
- Sparzak, Miki, "Now Hear This! A Message From Membership Services", JA92.

° CLUB ROSTER

- 1984—1st listing, 10/84.
January 1985, JF85.
January 1986, JF86.
1986-87, ND86.
1988, JF88.
1989, MJ89.

° NEW MEMBER LISTING

for membership numbers:

- 171-192, MA85.
191-204, MJ85.
204-221, JA85.
222-242, SO85.
243-284, ND85.
284-301, JF86.
301-343, MA86.
343-368, MJ86.
368-386, JA86.
382-409, SO86.
409-500, ND86.
501-571, JF87.
478-572 (and reassigned earlier #'s), MA87.
Reassigned #'s, MJ87.
573-578 (and reassigned #'s), JA87.
578-618, SO87.
618-700, ND87.
700-743 (and reassigned #'s), MA88.
743-767, MJ88.
767-838, JAS88.
838-900, OND88.
Reassigned #'s, JF89.
900-949 (and reassigned #'s), SO89.

949-1065 (and reassigned #'s), JF90.
 1066-1097, MA90.
 1097-1177, JA90.
 1177-1200 (and reassigned #'s), SO90.
 1201-1236 (and reassigned #'s), JF91.
 2,222-2,356. MJ94.
 2,213, 2,221 and 2,365-2,473, SO94.

-N-

NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

"1987 Organizational Plan", JF87, JF88.
 "A Survey of the Readership", ND94.
 "Logo Design Contest", JA94.
 "President's Message", included in nearly every issue. Some messages are included below.
 Alarcon Jr., Paul, "Notice of Trademark Infringement", SO89.
 Geesey, Brenda, "About The 1992-93 Handbook", ND92.
 Geesey, Brenda, "The 1st NFS Video is Completed", ND92.
 Geesey, Brenda, "The Caribbean Region! A New NFS Region!", JA93.
 Geesey, Brenda, "To The Members of NFS", ND93.
 McCawley, Jerry, "Shoptalk", SO89.
 Parlee, William, "A Message To All Members", ND93.
 Parlee, William, "President's Message", 1985 NFS Show Catalog, MA89.
 Reed, Nancy A., "Welcome to the NFS", 4/84.
 Travnick, Dr. Robert G., "Member Viewpoint (Make NFS The National Finch and Softbill Society)", JF86.
 Wigmore, Martha, "From My Flock to Yours", MJ94.

NFSS MEETINGS

° BOARD MEETINGS

1st meeting—4/15/84, 4/84.
 7/13/84, 7/84.
 9/9/84, 10/84.
 12/2/84, JF85.
 3/10/85, MA85.
 6/2/85, MJ85.
 9/8/85, SO85.
 11/15/85 & 11/17/85, ND85.
 12/1/85, ND85.
 3/9/86, MA86.
 6/8/86, MJ86, JA86.
 9/7/86, SO86.

12/7/86, JF87.
 3/15/87, MA87.
 8/12/87, SO87.
 11/20/88, ND87.
 3/13/88, MA88.
 6/12/88, JAS88.
 8/10/88, JAS88.
 10/2/88, JAS88.
 3/11/89, MA89.
 ~6/89, JA89.
 8/9/89, SO89.
 11/17/89 at NCBS, ND89.
 Spring 1990 by mail, MJ90.
 6/90, JA90.
 8/90, SO90.
 11/15/90 & 11/16/90, ND90.
 Spring 1991 by mail, JF91.
 6/91, MJ91.
 8/91, JA91.
 11/91 at NCBS, ND91.
 Spring 1992, MJ92.
 6/92, JA92.
 ~8/92 by mail, SO92.
 11/92, ND92.
 11/18/93 at NCBS, JF94.
 2/28/94 by mail, MJ94.
 526/94 and 8/02/94 by mail, SO94.
 9/30/94 at GABS, JF95.
 11/17/94 at NCBS, JF95.
 2/17/95, MJ95.
 11/16/95, JF96.
 7/15/95 by mail, SO95.
 9/24/95 by mail, ND95

° GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1st meeting—11/17/84 at NCBS, JF85.
 11/16/85 at NCBS, ND85.
 11/15/86 at NCBS, ND86.
 11/17/88 at NCBS, OND88.
 11/91 at NCBS, ND91.
 11/92 at NCBS, ND92.
 11/21/93 at NCBS, JF94.
 10/02/94 at GABS, JF95.
 11/19/94 at NCBS, JF95.
 11/18/95 at NCBS, JF96
 "NFSS Regions Map", JA95.
 "NFSS Members in Each State", JA95.
 "NFSS Members in Each Region", JA95.

NFSS NEWS AND NOTES

"NFS News and Notes"—1st appearance, ND86.
 Other appearances: OND88, JF89, JF90, MA90, JF92, JF93, JF94, MA94, MJ94, JA94, SO94, ND94, JF95,

MA95, MJ95, JA95, SO95, ND95,
JF96, MA96, MJ96, SO96.

see also

NFSS MEETINGS

NFSS ORGANIZATION

"1987 Organizational Plan", JF87, JF88.

NFSS PEOPLE

"In Memory of Phillip Shaw", MJ85.

"Meet An NFSS Director: Julie Duimstra",
MA96.

"Meet The NFSS Board of Directors
1994-95" JA95.

"Thanks, Denise!", MA94.

"The Passing of Lawrence Brandt", JF89.

Aleman, Jose, "Congratulations!! on the
NFSS Ten Year Anniversary", MJ94.

Anchor, Charlie, "A National Family",
SO94.

Anson, Karen, "Finches are Not Just Golden
- A Visit with Gene and June Miller",
JF95.

Bailey, Jim, "In Memory of Dr. Val Clear",
SO92.

Binns, Brian and Margaret, "Congratulations
on Your Tenth Anniversary", JF95.

Gabel, Roddy, "Biographies of NFS Folks:
Roddy Gabel", MA90.

Gabel, Roddy, "Biographies of NFS Folks:
Jon Hoffman", MJ91.

Gabel, Roddy, "Biographies of NFS Folks:
Jerry McCawley", SO90.

Gabel, Roddy, "Biographies of NFS Folks:
Tom Rood", SO90.

Geesey, Brenda, "An Introduction to Our
Newest Regional VP: Rafael (Pilo)
Saurez", JA93.

Geesey, Brenda, "In Memory of George War-
ren", JF92.

Geesey, Brenda, "Roddy Gabel Receives
AFA Avy Award—US 1st Breeding
Award for the Rufous-backed Man-
nikin", JA91.

Hoffman, Jon, "Ten Years of NFSS", SO94.

Hoppin, Steve, "Meet NFS President Steve
Hoppin", JF94.

Hoppin, Steve, "Ten Years with NFSS",
ND94.

Novickas, Bill, "In Fond Memory of Mr.
Brian Binns", MA95.

O'Connell, Roger, "A Part of a Life", JA94.

Oja, Linda, "Portrait of a FINCHSAVE Di-
rector", JA91.

Parlee, William, "In Memory of Dr. Val
Clear", SO92.

Parlee, William, "NFS Highlights a Member:
Karl and Peggy Kline", MJ88.

Photographs - Gene & June Miller, JF95.

Rood, Tom, "NFSS - The First Ten Years",
MJ94.

Rubin, Linda S., "In Remembrance of Jona-
than Beryl Hoffman", ND94.

Smith, Dwight, "Aviculture in Puerto Rico",
SO94.

Wigmore, Martha, "Potatoe Ayes", ND95.

Wigmore, Martha, "The Passing of Jon Hoff-
man" (insert), SO94.

NOT STRICTLY AVICULTURE...

Andrus, Brent, "A Man Without Guile",
ND93.

Collins, Barbara H., "Springtime" (poem),
MA95.

Collins, Barbara H., "Sunshine" (poem),
SO95.

Conser, Ray, "'60 Minutes' and the Zoologi-
cal Society of San Diego", MA90.

Doria, John, "Bluebirds Are Coming Back",
MJ87.

Gibson, Les, "Backyard Sanctuary", MJ91.

Hole, Robert Jr., "The Importance of Dead
Birds", MJ95.

Hudson, Richard L., "Tough European Bird
Laws Mean Little When It's Time for
Dinner", MA90.

NUTRITION

Petrie, Robert, "Protein Requirements"
MA96.

Petrie, Robert, "Calcium, Phosphorous & Vita-
min D₃", MJ96.

-O-

OBITUARIES

see

NFSS PEOPLE

-P-

PHOTOGRAPHS

"A Visit with Gene and June Miller", (4)
JF95.

"Assorted Finches", MA86.

"Being at the Show can Feel Pretty Good",
SO95.

"Cuban Melodius Young", JF95, MA95.

"Diamond Dove", MJ94.

"GABS Show", 10/86.

- "Laird's Best-in-Show 1995", MJ95.
 "Living With Softbills", ND95.
 "Mynahs", SO95.
 "NCBS Show", 11/86.
 "NFSS Booth at FL Show 1994", JA94.
 "NFSS Table at SE Regional Show 1994", JF95.
 "Orange Weaver Finch", (2) MJ95.
 "Owl Finches", MJ94.
 "Owl Finches in Nest", JA94.
 "Red-crested Tropicbird", MA86.
 "Red-eared Waxbill", (2) SO94.
 "Showing Finches & Softbills in the U.S. of A.", SO95.
 "Show-winning Starling", ND94.
 "Society Finch", MA94.
 "Society Finch Family", ND94.
 "Softbill Foods at Phil Barth's", SO94.
 "Touraco", MJ94, (3) ND94.
 "Waxbill Aviary", SO94.
 "What the Judges are Thinking", SO95.
 Peake, Eric, "The Diamond Sparrow" Lithograph", 1st appearance SO89, cover MA95.

POINTS

see

SHOW POINTS

-Q-**-R-**

REGIONS

- "NFSS Membership in Each Region as of April 1994", MJ94.
 "Region Map", SO85, ND85, JF86, MA86, MA94.
 "Region Map, Including New Region 6", MJ86.
 "Region News", MJ94, JA94, SO94, JF95.
 "Regional Show Listing", 1st appearance MJ86.
 "What Region is Your State In?", SO90, ND91.
 Photographs, JA94, JF95.

-S-

SHOW AWARDS

see

AWARDS

SHOW CLASSIFICATIONS

- "1984 Classifications", 4/84 (Div. 1-5), 7/84 (Div. 6-10).
 "1985 Classifications", MJ85.
 "1986 Classifications", MJ86.
 "1987 Classifications", MJ87.
 "1988 Classifications", MJ88.
 "1988 Classifications with Minor Corrections", MJ94.
 "1994 Classifications", MJ95.
 Parlee, Bill, "The 1988 Classifications", MJ88.
 "1995 Classifications", JA95.

SHOW POINTS

- Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "1994 Individual Bird Points Records", MA95.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "1995 Individual Bird Points Records", JF96.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "A Report on Birds With Championship Points", MJ90.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "Addition to 1993 Birds with 20 Pts. or More", MA94.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "NFS Champion Birds—A Quest", JF91.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "Point Standings for Individual Finches & Softbills", SO94.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "Show Report Completeness", MJ95.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "The 1993 NFS Show Season", JF94.

° NFSS CHAMPIONS & NFSS EXHIBITORS OF EXCELLENCE

in the year:

- 1984, JF85, MA85.
 1985, JF86.
 1986, JF87, MA87.
 1987, JF88.
 1988, MA89.
 1989, SO90.
 1990, MA91, MJ91.
 1990 Honor Roll—Exhibitors With 200 or More Points IA91.
 1st Champion Bird! JA91.
 2nd Champion Bird!, SO91.
 1991, MA92.
 1992, MJ93.
 1993, JF94.
 1994, MA95, JA95.
 1995, JF96.

° POINTS SCHEDULE

- 1st appearance—1985, ND85.
 1986, JF86, MA86, MJ86.
 1987 (1st year 50, rather than 40 pts. required to make Champion), JF87.

1988, MA88.
 1989, JA90.
 1990, JF91.
 1991, ND91.
 1992, ND92.
 1993, JF94.
 1994, SO94, MA95.
 1995, JF96, MA96.

SHOW RESULTS

for shows judged by NFSS judges during:

1984, JF85.
 1985, ND85, JF86, MA86.
 1986, ND86, JF87, MA87.
 1987, ND87, JF88.
 1988, OND88, MA89.
 1989, JA90, SO90.
 1990, JF91.
 1991, ND91, JF92.
 1992, ND92, JF93.
 1993, JF94.
 1993 Regional & National Shows,
 MA94.
 1994, JF95, MA95.
 1995, JF96, MA96, MJ96.

SHOW SEASON REVIEWS

in order of publication date:

Paterson, Tony M., "The NFS 1984 National Show", JF85.
 "NCBS—1985, A Preview", SO85.
 "NCBS—1986, A Preview", MA86.
 Lanoitan, Walley, "National Finch Show 1986", ND86.
 "GABS—1987, A Preview", JF87.
 "NCBS—1987, A Preview", JF87.
 Parlee, Bill, "Computerization of Judging Results: What Does It Show Us?", MJ87.
 Rood, Tom, "Notes on the National—1987", JF88.
 "Ten Largest Shows of 1988", JF89.
 "GABS—1989, A Preview", MA89.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "A Summary of the 1989 Show Season", JF90.
 "The Largest Shows of 1989", JF90.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "1990 Show Season", JF91.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "Top 10 Shows of 1990", JA91.
 "Top 10 Shows of 1991", MA92.
 Cotterell, Fred, "The 1991 St. Louis Show: A Novice's Eye View", JA92.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "The 1993 NFS Show Season", JF94.
 "Top 10 NFS Shows in 1993", JF94.

"1994 NFSS Show Season is Underway (1st Seven Shows of 1994)", SO94.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "Finch and Softbill 'Best-in-Show' Winners - 1994", JF95.
 Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "Top Ten NFSS Shows in 1994", MA95.

SHOWING BIRDS

see

EXHIBITING

SOFTBILLS

"FINCHSAVE Softbill Group 1993 Annual Breeding Report Results", ND94.
 Archer, Kenneth, "Response to 'I Was Just Wondering...'", ND92.
 Archer, Kenneth, "Softbills, A Mixed Collection", ND90.
 Gibson, Les, "The Day of the Turtle", JF93.
 Gibson, Les, "Why Not Keep Softbills?", ND90.
 Naether, Carl, "Tell Me, Why Don't They Sing?", JA89.
 Travnicek, Dr. Robert, "Softbills Are Fun", ND87.
 Wigmore, Martha, "I Was Just Wondering...", JA91.

BARBETS

Petrie, Robert, "Barbets" SO96.

GRASSQUITS

Aleman, Jose, "Breeding the Black-faced Grassquit", JA92.
 Clear, Dr. Val, "Breeding the Blue-back Grassquit", JF87.

HONEYCREEPERS

Leli, M.D., Ubaldo, "Portrait of a Family: The Honeycreepers", MJ91.

HORN BILLS

Petrie, Robert, "Tockus Hornbills", MJ96.

HOUSE SPARROWS

Clear, Dr. Val, "It's No Joke", JAS88.

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anchor, Charlie, "Keeping Hummingbirds", SO87.
 Leli, M.D., Ubaldo, "Keeping Hummingbirds", ND90.

IXULUS

see

SOFTBILLS-YUHINAS

JAYS

Miller, Paul, "The Plush-capped Jay", MA85.

MOUSEBIRDS

Archer, Ken, "Ramblings From A Bird Person", ND92.

Gibson, Les. "International Scientific Survey: Sexing Mousebirds". MJ91.

° **MYNAHS**

Decoteau, Dr. A.E., "The Mynah Birds Called Indian Hill", MJ94.

Sparzak, Marion (Miki). "Alice and the Sailboat Meet Again", JF91.

Sparzak, Marion (Miki). "Do Hookbills, Finches and Softbills Mix?", SO90.

Wetzel, Dave, "Bali Mynah Breeding", JF85.

° **PEKIN ROBIN**

"Proposed Pekin Robin Standard", MA93.

"Proposed Pekin Robin Standard - Revision 2", MJ94.

"Proposed Pekin Robin Standard - Revision 3", JF95.

"The Pekin Nightingale", JA89.

Geesey, Brenda, "The Pekin Robin", SO91.

Moase, Vincent, "Our Success in Breeding the Pekin Robin", MA88.

° **STARLINGS**

Eckman, Jacky, "THE Prize-winning Starling: Her Name is Benjamin...", ND94.

Photograph, ND94.

Spreyer, Mark, "Backyard Mynahs: Starlings as Pets", ND90.

Tudor, Bethany, "Tweedy: A Love Story", JA94.

° **TANAGERS**

Weyer, Diane, "Two Tanagers (Scarlet-rumped and Crimson-collared Tanagers)", JA87.

Woolham, J.F., "Tanagers", JA89.

° **TOUCANS**

Petrie, Robert, "Aracaris", JA9.

Worell, D.V.M., Amy, "Phlebotomy for Treatment of Hemochromatosis in Two Sulfur-breasted Toucans", MA92.

° **TOURACOS**

Berry, Robert, "Captive Management of Touracos at the Houston Zoological Gardens: Part 1", MA88.

Berry, Robert, "Captive Management of Touracos at the Houston Zoological Gardens: Part 2", MJ88.

Hole, Robert Jr., "Greens and Blues", JF95.

Laird, Dale, "The Persa Touraco", ND94.

Petrie, Robert, "Touracos, Plantain-eaters and Go-away Birds", MA96.

Photographs, MJ94, (3) ND94.

° **YUHINAS**

Wigmore, Martha, "The Yellow-collared Ixulus", JA94.

SPECIAL FOCUS SECTIONS

"Bird Room Time-Saving Methods and Hints", SO95.

"Converging on Conservation", MJ95.

"Fostering", ND94.

"Red-eared Waxbills", SO94.

STANDARDS

Brissette, Jeff, "The Importance of Standards", ND89.

Wigmore, Martha, "Barbecuing Finches", MJ90.

° **CHERRY FINCH**

"Proposed Cherry Finch Standard", SO93.

"Official Cherry Finch Standard", MA94.

° **CORDON BLEU WAXBILL**

"Official Cordon Bleu Standard", MJ86.

° **DIAMOND SPARROW**

"Proposed Diamond Sparrow Standard", MJ90.

"Official Diamond Sparrow Standard", ND90.

° **FIRE FINCH**

"Proposed Red-billed Fire Finch Standard", MJ91.

"Proposed Red-billed Fire Finch Standard (Revision)", MJ92.

"Official Fire Finch Standard", MA94.

° **GENERAL STANDARD**

Hoffman, Jon, "Proposed Basic Standard", SO87.

"Draft General Standard for Finches and Softbills", MJ92

° **GOULDIAN FINCH**

"Official Lady Gouldian Standard", MA86.

° **GREEN SINGING FINCH**

"Official Green Singing Finch Standard", MJ86.

° **JAVA RICE BIRD**

"Official Java Rice Bird Standard", JAS88.

° **LAVENDER FINCH**

"Proposed Lavender Finch Standard", MA90.

"Proposed Lavender Finch Standard (Revision)", MJ90.

"Official Lavender Finch Standard", ND90.

° **PEKIN ROBIN**

"Proposed Pekin Robin Standard", MA93.

"Proposed Pekin Robin Standard - Revision 2", MJ94.

"Proposed Pekin Robin Standard - Revision 3", JF95.

"Official Pekin Robin Standard", (approved by Board 2/95), as printed in JF95.

° **SHAFTTAIL**

° "Official Shafttail Standard", ND87.

° **SOCIETY FINCH**

° "Proposed Society Finch Standard", 7/84.

° "Official Society Finch Standard", 10/84.

° "Proposed Revisions to the Society Finch Standard", JF94.

° "Proposed Revisions to the Society Finch Standard - Revision 2", SO94.

° "Official (Revised) Society Finch Standard", (approved by Board 2/95), as printed in SO94.

° **STAR FINCH**

° "Proposed Star Finch Standard", JF91, re-printed JF95.

° **ZEBRA FINCH**

° "Official Zebra Finch Standard", 10/84.

-T-

TREASURER'S REPORT

see

FINANCIAL REPORT

-UVWXYZ-



Come Enjoy Our Florida Sunshine At *The Florida State Fair* Exotic Bird Show

**2 Shows - 2 Days
February 15 and 16, 1997**

**2 X THE SHOW!
2 X THE POINTS!
2 X THE FUN!**

Following Societies Competing:

	<u>Judge 15th</u>	<u>Judge 16th</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
A.B.S.	Carl Slavin	Terry Travis	Chris Ingram (407) 287-4133
A.C.S.	Yvonne Weir	Max Kennedy	Linda Miller (813) 541-4724
S.P.B.E.	Ralph Milos	Gary Morgan	Dave Dollar (813) 938-3893
A.L.B.S.	Gary Morgan	Ralph Milos	Norm Garbutt (352) 796-7507
N.F.S.S.	Martha Wigmore	William Parlee	Dale Laird (407) 657-7989
Pet Bird	William Parlee	Wayne Davis	Bobby Nipper (352) 376-9038

For More Information Contact: Exotic Bird Show, Florida State Fair,
P.O. Box 11766, Tampa, FL 33680 or call 813/621-7821, 800/345-FAIR (FL Only)

NFSS Affiliates, Delegates & Shows

(Listing as of March 1, 1996)

ALABAMA

Central Alabama Avicultural Society

Ginny Allen (334) 749-7168

Show August 31, 1996

Montgomery, AL

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Rocket City Cage Bird Club

Ron Clifton (205) 852-7155

CALIFORNIA

Aviary Assn. of Kern County

Willis & Velva Baker (805) 765-6110

Show December 7, 1996

Taft, CA

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld

Capitol City Bird Society

Dare B. Cagle (916) 944-2437

Show October 20, 1996

Placer County Fairgrounds

20th Anniversary Show

Roseville, CA

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld

Finch Society of San Diego County

Sharon Russell (619) 273-2005

Show November 2, 1996

San Diego, CA

Fresno Canary and Finch Society

Dixie Lea (209) 584-3764

Golden Gate Avian Society

Claudia Salo (510) 455-9909

Show November 9, 1996

Livermore, CA

Panel Judge: Clayton Jones

Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club

Neil Crowley (408) 258-4601

Show November 30, 1996

Santa Clara, CA

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld

COLORADO

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture

Julie Kern (303) 753-6145

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture

Chris Voronovitch (203) 649-8220

Show October 26, 1996

Manchester, CT

Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

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 24, 1996

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

Central Florida Bird Breeders

Eugene F. Goss, Jr. (407) 957-1274

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami

Armando J. Lee (305) 270-1000

Show November 30, 1996

25th Anniversary Show

Hialeah, FL

Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Exotic Bird Club of Florida

Jonathan Jones (407) 724-9498

Florida West Coast Avian Society

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show

Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

Double Show

February 15, 1997 Saturday

Panel Judge Martha Wigmore

February 16, 1997 Sunday

Panel Judge William Parlee

Tampa, FL

* not NFSS affiliate, but points
earnable under NFSS Panel Judge.

Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.
John Floyd (813) 677-7679

Sun Coast Avian Society
Joe Ventimiglia (813) 392-9391
Show October 19, 1996
St. Petersburg, FL
Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Sunshine State Cage Bird Society
Dale Laird (407) 657-7989
Show October 12, 1996
Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

GEORGIA

Georgia Cage Bird Society
Candy Wright (404) 633-4364
Show November 2, 1996
Marietta, GA
40th Annual Show & Fair
Panel Judge: Earl Courts

HAWAII

Honolulu Canary and Finch Club
Kathy Perreira (808) 839-2269

ILLINOIS

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club
Jane Muscato (708) 305-9043
Show November 2, 1996
Rolling Meadows, IL
Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Illini Bird Fanciers

Jan Marcott (217) 347-9690
Show June, 1996
Shelbyville, IL
Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

**National Institute of Red-Orange
Canaries (NIROC)**
Stephan V. Hopman (815) 469-8455
Show November 30, 1996
Elk Grove, IL
Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell

Springfield Pet Bird Club

INDIANA

Indiana Bird Fanciers
Conrad Meinert (219) 269-2873
Show October 12, 1996

Ft. Wayne, IN

Panel Judge: Charles Anchor

IOWA

Mid-America Cage Bird Society
Rhoda Shirley (515) 243-1511
Show October 5, 1996
Des Moines, IA
Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

KANSAS

Kansas Avicultural Society
Jim Cowan (316) 263-8835
Show October 12, 1996
Wichita, KS
Panel Judge: Laura Bewely

KENTUCKY

Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society
Patricia Wilkins (606) 271-0273

LOUISIANA

Capital Area Avicultural Society
Tim Schexnaydre (504) 562-3579

Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.

Jeanne Murphy (504) 833-4241

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fanciers

Maryland Cage Bird Society
Theresa Brown (301) 735-7662

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Cage Bird Assoc.
Dianna Smith (508) 540-3214
Show October 19, 1996
Hanover, MA
Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

MICHIGAN

Great Lakes Avicultural Society
Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163
Show October 19, 1996
Rockford, MI
Panel Judge: Miki Spartzak

Mid-Michigan Bird Club

Mary Lou Tewilliger (517) 463-5695

Mid-West Cage-Bird Club, Inc.

Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643
Show September 21, 1996
Roumulus, MI
Panel Judge: Bill Parlee

**NFSS
INTERNATIONAL
AFFILIATES**

CANADA

**Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society
of Ontario**

Jim Marks (416) 292-3852

Cage Bird Society of Hamilton

**Durham Avicultural Society of
Ontario**

Vincent Moase (905) 723-1978
Show September 27, 28 & 2, 1996
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
Panel Judge: Sam Crabbe

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society

Alfred Mion (519) 948-6398
Show October 18, 19 & 20
Windsor, Ontario, Canada
Panel Judge: Paul Williams

**NFSS
INTERNATIONAL
CORRESPONDENTS**

AUSTRALIA

Queensland Finch Society
Gavin Dietz, P.O. Box 1600,
Coorparoo DC 4151
Queensland, Australia

GREAT BRITAIN

The Estrildian
Jan Hinze, Coetref, Tyn Lon,
Holyhead, Gwynedd LL65 3LJ,
Wales, United Kingdom

The Waxbill Finch Society
Mr. Buzz Hope-Ingalls,
10 Litchfield Close, Plympton,
Plymouth PL7 3UU, England

Zebra Finch Society, England
Margaret Binns, 97 Bent Lanes,
Davyhulme, Nr. Urmston, Manchester,
M31 8WZ England

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Finch Breeders Assn.
293 Albany Highway
Albany, New Zealand

Motor City Bird Breeders, Inc.

Robert Zalewski (313) 356-5942
Show October 26, 1996
Warren, MI
Panel Judge: Harold Bowles

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders

Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643

MISSOURI

Greater Kansas City Avic. Society

Nita Haas (816) 331-5285
Show October 19, 1996
Raymore, MO
Panel Judge: Patrick Vance

**Heart of America Hookbill & Finch
Society**

Moses Linn (816) 523-4661
Show June 8 & 9, 1996
Grandview, MO

Panel Judge: Miki Spartzak & Harold
Bowles

Missouri Cage Bird Association

Richard & Rose Dickman
(314) 928-3444
Show November 2, 1996
Eureka, MO
Panel Judge: Martha Wigmore

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Bird Club, Inc.
Gail Ranshaw (505) 822-1483
Show September 28, 1996
Albuquerque, NM
Panel Judge: Harold Bowles

NEW YORK

Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association
Rena Rouse (315) 252-7673

New York Finch & Type Canary Club
Marie Grein (718) 468-0881

Rochester Cage Bird Club
Patrick Goonan (716) 288-5653

NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society
April Blazich (919) 851-8079

Smokey Mtn. Cage Bird Society
Jim Cody (704) 686-5157

OHIO

Cleveland Cage Bird Society
Arnette Howard (216) 337-7654
Show October 12, 1996
Defiance, OH
Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Fort Defiance Bird Club
Larry Endsley (419) 263-2795
Show September 28, 1996
Toledo, OH

Toledo Bird Assn. & Zebra Finch Club
of America
Robert Ayling (419) 536-8736

OKLAHOMA

Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma
Gene and June Miller (405) 382-7066
Show September 28, 1996
Oklahoma City, OK

Panel Judge: Marty von Raesfeld
Oklahoma Cage Bird Society
Doug Paris (918) 446-2447
Show October 26, 1996
Tulsa, OK
Panel Judge: Ray Johnson

OREGON

The Finch Connection
Kristine Spencer (206) 253-4572

Rose City Exotic Bird Club

PENNSYLVANIA

Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird
Society
Donald Strause (610) 926-5210
Show September 28, 1996
Grantville, PA
Panel Judge: Hal Koontz

Chester County Bird Breeders
Lorraine LaBoyne (610) 269-6003
Show September 14, 1996
Kimberton, Pa

Delaware Valley Bird Club
Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society
Dr. Lindsay Clack (412) 363-6438

Northeastern Penn. Cage Bird Club
Gary Fino (717) 829-3891

PUERTO RICO

Organización Puertorriqueña de Aves
Exoticas, Inc.
Jacky Civitares (787) 752-4433
Show December 7, 1996
Carolina, PR
Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

SOUTH CAROLINA

Palmetto Cage Bird Club
Melvin Yoder (803) 459-5319
Show September 21 & 22, 1996
Anderson, SC
Panel Judge: Harold Bowles &

Conrad Meinert

TENNESSEE

Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club

Eva Duffey (615) 361-5939

Show October 5, 1996

Nashville, TN

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

TEXAS

Bay Area Cage Bird Club

Linda Beeman (713) 485-0291

Capital City Cage Bird Club

Fenton R. Mereness (512) 310-1802

Fort Worth Bird Club

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Show October 6, 1996

Arlington, TX

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

Show October 26, 1996

Temple, TX

Panel Judge: Tom Rood

Texas Canary Club

Chris Davis (713) 361-3364

Show November 2, 1996

Panel Judge: Laura Bewely

VIRGINIA

Peninsula Cage Bird Society

Linda Oja (804) 874-8581

WISCONSIN

Badger Canary Fanciers Ltd.

Patrice (Ripple) Brusk (414) 785-8988

Show October 12, 1996

Milwaukee, WI

Panel Judge: Paul Williams



Changing Your Address?

Let NFSS be the first to greet you at your new address! Please send this form or this information to:

Lynda Bakula
NFSS Membership Director
P.O. Box 3232
Ballwin, MO 63022

Club Delegates should also send their change of address separately to:

Jerry McCawley
NFSS Liason Manager
506 Candlewyck Rd
Lancaster, PA 17601

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____ Membership # _____

1996/97 Chronological Show List

There's an NFSS Show for Everyone!

February

2/17 FL
Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show -
Day 1
(Daren Decoteau)

2/19 FL
Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show -
Day 2
(Harold Bowles)

April

4/18 WA
Pacific NW Spring Bird
Expo
Day 1
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

4/19 WA
Pacific NW Spring Bird
Expo
Day 2
(Conrad Meinert)

4/20 WA
Pacific NW Spring Bird
Expo
Day 3
(Harold Bowles)

June

6/01 IL
Illini Bird Fanciers
(Clarence Culwell)

6/08 MO
Heart of America
Day 1
(Miki Spartzak)

6/09 MO
Heart of America
Day 2
(Harold Bowles)

August

8/24 FL
Aviarty & Cage Bird
of South Florida
(Charles Anchor)

8/19 AL
Central Alabama
Avicultural Society.
(Conrad Meinert)

8/31 TX
Bay Area Bird Show
(Ray Johnson)

September

9/01 TX
Canary & Finch
Soc.
(Ray Johnson)

9/14 PA
Chester County Bird
Breeders

9/21 SC
Palmetto Cage Bird
Day 1
(Harold Bowles)

■ MI
Mid-West Cage-Bird
Club
(Bill Parlee)

■ NH
Birds of a Feather
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

9/22 SC
Palmetto Cage Bird
Day 2
(Conrad Meinert)
■ NM
New Mexico Bird Club
(Charles Anchor)

9/28 OH
Ft. Defiance Bird Club
(Dr. Al Decoteau)

■ PA
Central Pennsylvania
Cage Bird Club
(Hal Koontz)

■ OK
Bird Fanciers of
Oklahoma
(Marty von Raesfeld)

October

10/05 FL
Kaytee Great American
Bird Show
(Stephen Hoppin)

■ IA
Mid-America Cage Bird
Society
(Martha Wigmore)

■ TN
Middle Tennessee Cage
Bird Club
(Conrad Meinert)

■ TX
Fort Worth Bird Club
(Paul Williams)

10/12 FL
Sunshine State Cage Bird
Society
(Clarence Culwell)

■ IN
Indiana Bird Fanciers
(Charles Anchor)

■ KS
Kansas Avicultural
Society
(Laura Bewley)

■ OH

Cleveland Cage Bird
Society
(Tom Rood)

■ WI

Badger Canary & Finch
Club
(Paul Williams)

10/19 Ontario

Essex-Kent Cage Bird
Society
(Paul Williams)

■ FL

Sun Coast Avian Society
(Tom Rood)

■ MA

Massachusetts Cage Bird
Association
(Conrad Meinert)

■ MI

Graet Lakes Avic.
Society
(Miki Sparzak)

■ MO

Greater Kansas City
Avic. Society
(Patrick Vanca)

■ NY

NY Finch & Canary Type
Club
(Laura Bewley)

10/20 CA

Capital City Bird
Society, Inc.
Region #6 Show
(Marty von Raesfeld)

10/26 CT

Connecticut Association
for Aviculture
(Daran Decoteau)

■ MI

Motor City Bird Breeders
(Harold Bowles)

■ OK (24 entries)

Oklahoma Cage Bird
Society
(Ray Johnson)

■ TX

Texas Bird Breeders
& Fanciers Assn.
(Tom Rood)

November

11/02 CA

San Diego Bird
Show

■ CO

Rocky Mountain
Society of
Aviculture
(Hal Koontz)

■ IL

Greater Chicago
Cage Bird Club
(Paul Williams)

■ GA

Georgia Cage Bird
Society
(Clarence Culwell)

■ LA

Baton Rouge
(Miki Sparzak)

■ MO

Missouri Cage Bird
(Martha Wigmore)

■ PA

Greater Pittsburgh
(Conrad Meinert)

■ TX

Texas Canary Club
(Laura Bewley)

11/09 CA

Golden Gate Avian
Society
(Clayton Jones)

■ FL

Exotic Bird Club of
South Florida
(Martha Wigmore)

■ OR

Rose City Bird Club
Hillsboro, Oregon
(Conrad Meinert)

11/14, 15, & 16 MI

National Cage Bird
Show

(Stephen Hoppin)

11/30 CA

Santa Clara Valley Ca-
nary & Exotic Bird
Club
(Marty von Raesfeld)

■ FL

Colorbred Canary Club
of Miami
(Stephen Hoppin)

■ IL

National Institute of
Red-Orange Canaries
(Clarence Culwell)

December

12/07 CA

Aviary Assn. of Kern
County
(Marty von Raesfeld)

■ PR

Organización
Puerto Rico
(Daran Decoteau)

1997

2/15 & 16 FL

Florida State Fair
Exotic Bird Show

(Day 1 Martha Wigmore)
(Day 2 William Parlee)

2/23 PR

Ponce, Puerto Rico

4/20 PR

Quebradilla, Puerto
Rico

6/22 PR

Guaynabo, Puerto Rico

8/24 PR

Caguas, Puerto Rico

10/4 & 5 NH

Keytee Great Ameri-
can Bird Show
(Daran Decoteau)

12/6 & 7 PR

Carolina, Puerto Rico

FINCHSHOP

the National Finch and Softbill Society store

ITEM	QTY	SIZE/ STYLE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL AMT
NEW T-Shirt Design! 10 Colorful Finches in Stalks of Grass w/NFSS		M•L•XL•XXL (circle size) All 50/50 White	\$18.00	
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All 3 Show Cage Plans (set of all three)			\$10.00	
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NFSS Zebra Pin			\$6.00	
NFSS Gouldian Pin			\$6.00	
Eric Peake Lithograph The Diamond Firetails Signed by the artist			\$35.00	
Name Badge (Members only) *Print name clearly *Includes one line of engraving		2 lines - add \$1.00 Magnetic back add - \$1.00	\$7.50	
Past Bulletin Issues-1994 and later issues			\$4.00	
-1993 and earlier issues			\$3.00	
1995 NFSS Handbook (Membership Yearbook)		Includes Census, Index & much more (Jul/Aug '95 issue)	\$4.00	
NFSS Judges Handbook and Official Standards		In handsome small 3-ring binder. Updated in 1995!	\$15.00	

NFSS SHOW CAGE PLANS

- # 1 Cage Finches up to and including Zebras
- # 2 Cage Finches larger than Zebras
- # 3 Cage Softbills

SHIPPING &

HANDLING \$ _____

under \$10 add \$2.00

over \$10 add \$3.00

TOTAL \$ _____

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail form and payment

(check or money order

payable to **NFSS** to

FINCHSHOP

c/o Julie Duimstra

4400 NW Walnut Blvd. #68

Corvallis, OR 97330

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

GUIDE TO ORDERING NFSS CLOSED LEG BANDS

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

size "A"

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

size "B"

Black-cheeked 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 Shafttail
Painted Finch
Pileated Finch
Pytilias
Red-headed Parrot Finch
Shafttail 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

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

BAND ORDER FORM

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

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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.

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D		\$2.75	
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G		\$2.75	
J		\$2.75	
K		\$2.75	
L		\$2.75	

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From \$50 to \$100 - \$1.60

Over \$100 - \$2.50

If you choose not to include this sum NFSS will not be responsible for replacement of bands lost in shipment.

SUBTOTAL _____

INSURANCE _____

TOTAL _____

Please circle one year

This order is for

1996 1997 bands

Mail form and payment payable to **NFSS** to:

Ms. Eileen Laird
NFSS Band Secretary
1166 Village Forest Pl.
Winter Park, FL 32792
(407) 657-7989

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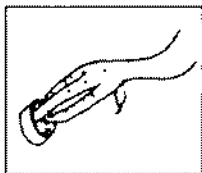
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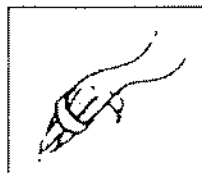
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LEG BANDING PROCEDURE

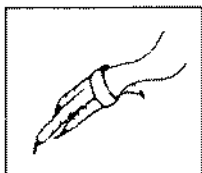
courtesy of
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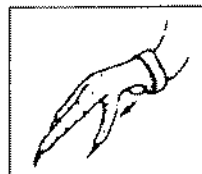
The most important thing to remember when banding chicks is to do it over a counter or table so if the chick is dropped it doesn't fall to the floor. The age to band varies between species but is generally between 5 and 10 days. You can tell by looking at the ankle joint (the joint where the toes come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



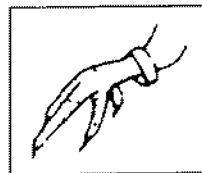
Have the bands, a toothpick (or other small blunt instrument) and some lubricant ready. Be sure you have the bands "right side up" for easier reading.



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.

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