

REBECCA MIKEL, President

I have served on the NFSS Board since December of 2006, when I began as Executive Secretary. I was elected President in 2013 and have continued in that position since that time. In my time on the Board, I've served on several committees, worked on various projects including elections, financial audits, document creation, by law revisions, and various other general responsibilities. I also serve on the Board for the National Bird Show, am a member of Michigan Society of Canary and Finch Breeders, participate in the NFSS Census each year, and contribute articles for the Journal. I work as Operations Manager for a firm in Elkhart, Indiana; and reside in SW Michigan. I keep Finches and Softbills and a few smaller Hookbills. I support local and national shows as an Exhibitor, Show Secretary, Award Sponsor, or helping out with whatever needs done at the moment. I would appreciate your vote to allow me to continue to serve as President.

SALLY HUNTINGTON – 1st Vice-President (Regional Vice-Presidents, Education)

I have served on the NFSS BOD as President and most recently as Vice President. Memberships and offices held include MAP certified (model aviculture program), life member of AFA, a charter member of Nat'l Avian Welfare Alliance, Finch and Softbill Save (FSS), member of Aviculture Society of American (ASA), currently Vice president of ASA and President and life member of the Finch Society of San Diego County (FSSDC). I have 30 years experience raising many types of finches, softbills and doves along with published avian related articles and chapters (AFA Watchbird, NFSS Journal, Bird Talk Magazine, Just Finches and Softbills Magazine, Hand Rearing Birds). In the past I have sponsored and coordinated NFSS's and FSSDC'S annual Afternoon of Aviculture (AOA) at the National Bird Show (NBS), with speaker presentations on various aviculture subjects. My day job is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in private practice in La Jolla, California .

-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President (Publications)

(no current candidate)

-3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President (FinchSave, Census)

(no current candidate)

LAURA TINKER - 4th Vice President - Judge's Panel Director, Standards, Research

As the current 4<sup>th</sup> VP, I hope to have your support to continue in the role of Judge's Panel Director. I have been a member of this panel for 16 years and I also judge for two other societies (parrots and cockatiels). I have gained valuable experience judging for these organizations that I have been able to leverage with NFSS.

I've represented our judge's panel on the NFSS BOD, reaching out to the panel for opinions and keeping them posted on important updates. Each year I have held an annual judge's meeting and also a clinic for the judges to discuss matters pertaining to judging keeping our judges in good alignment on procedures.

I manage our show point database, the apprentice testing program, the show classification system, the standards and the judge's handbook with a high level of quality, accuracy and timeliness.

I am also the NFSS interface to the National Bird Show and have maintained our affiliation paperwork, coordinated our BOD's NBS judge selection and helped to run the NBS division by assigning division volunteers.

As a breeder of birds for 34 years, I have had past leadership experience running local organizations and shows.

I have received good feedback, enthusiasm and support from our Judge's Panel regarding my performance as the Judge's Panel Director. I would be honored to continue to serve our Judge's Panel, the BOD and the general membership once again in these capacities should you choose to vote for me in 2019.

DANNY MALDONADO – Region 1 Vice-President (Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Canada) Hi, my name is Daniel Maldonado. I have bred, banded and exhibited birds since 1991. To this day I show and promote birds as a hobby. I have a passion for type canaries and finches and love the challenging nature of some of the varieties.

As a retired military officer and currently a software developer I tend to be a stickler for logic and rules. I guess it has always been part of my nature. I enjoy the fact that we have standards for our birds and I tend to stick pretty close to the standard when it comes to selecting my own show teams. I admire and understand the passion, dedication and sacrifices we all make when we stick with this hobby. That being said, I take my responsibility as any board member very seriously and I must put the birds and the hobby first. Sometimes this does not make us very popular but it is our job.

I am a current active enthusiastic member as well as a sanctioned judge of the National Gloster Club and Old Variety Canary Association. I am also a member of the National Finch and Soft-bill where I serve as the Region 1 VP. I have held many board positions as a member of the National Gloster Club, East Coast Finch Society, CT Canary Club (defunct) and many others. I would be honored to serve as a member of the board and would work hard to ensure our hobby is preserved and that our members voices are heard.

Thank you for the opportunity

VAN TO – Region 2 Vice-President (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, N Carolina, S Carolina, Virginia, W Virginia, P Rico, Carribean Basin)

I grew up in Vietnam, helping my dad with his finches a far back as I can remember. I have bred Australian finches and canaries and currently work with Zebras, Shaftails, Gouldians, Strawberries, and Parrot Finches, to name a few. My goal is to improve health, genetic diversity, and increase the number of species we have in the U.S. through captive breeding. I currently reside in Jacksonville, Florida with my wife, birds, and a dog.

SUSAN STIEVE -Region 3 Vice-President (Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Australia, Bermuda, England)

I've kept and bred finches for many years and started showing them in 2011 at the Bluegrass Bird Breeders show in Louisville, KY...with some moderate success I was hooked! I've been a member of NFSS since 2011 and have earned Champion Exhibitor and Exhibitor of Excellence awards. One of the most satisfying aspects of exhibiting finches is winning a show with a bird I've bred myself, which I've been fortunate to do several times. In addition to finches, I also breed and exhibit many species of hookbills and am on the Board of Directors for the National Cockatiel Society and the North American Parrot Society. I have a full-time job at The Ohio State University in Columbus where I've worked as Curator since 2001 at the Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center conserving flower seeds. I travel around the U.S. collecting wildflower seeds, use bumblebees and other pollinators to produce more seeds, and ship seeds around the world for use in research and education, always something new and exciting to do!

(no current candidate) Region 4 Vice-President (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, N Dakota, S Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming)

DOUG WHITE, Region 5 Vice-President (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington)

I am married with 3 daughters, the oldest two help me with the care of the birds. We also breed and show Scottish Fold and British Shorthair cats. I am a retired US Navy Chief Petty Officer and currently work as a Senior Recruiter for Allstate Insurance at the NW Regional Office where I look for individuals to be Agent/Owners. I have owned and bred birds off and on for nearly 30 years. I currently have Zebras, Societies, and Fife Canaries. I have shown many types of birds and enjoy attending the shows and talking to people about the birds they own. I take time to discuss with the non-NFSS members the benefits of becoming a member of our great organization. I feel the greatest challenge facing the NFSS and ANY organization that is involved with birds/cats/dogs/poultry is getting new people involved in the hobby. Let's all work together over the next several years to get more people involved. I have enjoyed the past several years as your Regional Vice-President and would very much like to continue in this position.

PAULA HANSEN- Band Secretary

I am a native New Yorker, residing in Oregon the past 35 yrs. For 28 yrs I have been a member of the National Finch and Softbill Society (NFSS) and 15 of those yrs NFSS Band Secretary and Board of Directors. In 2010 I received the prestigious NFSS National Aviculturalist Recognition Award (NARA) for my 23 yrs of breeding of the Red Siskins. Participate in NFSS Facebook group and acting NFSS Webmaster. I am a member of the Columbia Canary (Oregon), Cascade Canary Club (Washington) and West Coast Zebra and Society Finch Show (California). Each of the 15 yrs as Band Secretary I strive to purchase the best quality band supplies available. Vote for me to continue as your Band Secretary.

LAUREN OGBURN – Awards/Affiliations I reside in northeast Florida with my husband of 37 years, 2 dogs, and around 50 birds. We have one son, who seems to be a perpetual graduate student.

Birds are my passion, and a huge part of my life. I breed on a limited basis, working mainly with small softbills and African waxbills. I am honored to have received the National Aviculturist Recognition Award three times from the NFSS, for dedication to the blue dacnis, violet-eared waxbill, and purple grenadier. I breed a few other species as well, including Gouldians, honeycreepers and Pekin robins. Quality, health, and conformation over quantity is my mantra.

Combining my love of animals with a drive to compete all my life, I have owned and shown hunter-jumper horses, dogs, and even fish. I have settled in with the birds pretty much exclusively the past 12 years. I have to say; the bird fancy is the most enjoyable of all. It is delightful to be part of such a friendly, helpful and encouraging group of people.

I have served on boards of national and regional dog clubs for over 25 years, the last 6 of which I have specialized in providing trophies, awards and rosettes.

I am a retired RN, (intensive care, operating and recovery room), and have a non-degreed background and experience in veterinary medicine.

I would be honored to continue on as your Awards Director

SARA ROBERTS -Treasurer

I have served as the NFSS Treasurer for the past two years. I have raised a variety of birds throughout my life including chickens, pigeons, and finches. Most recently in 2010 I started breeding finches. I joined NFSS in 2015, wanting to support education for maintaining and breeding of finch species. Now I enjoy maintaining over 12 species of finches with breeding of Gouldians and soon, hopefully, Purple Grenadiers and Strawberry babies. I am retired and enjoy my finches, bicycling, sailing with my Partner, and time with my son's families with 6 grandchildren.

AMBER KINCHELOE, Executive Secretary

My name is Amber Kincheloe and I am your Executive Secretary. I spent my first year on the NFSS Board as your Advertising Manager. I am also the owner of Blue Ribbon Finches. I specialize in Society and Zebra Finches, Java Sparrows, and Lady Gouldian Finches. I also have a Cockatiel and an African Ringneck. As far as my non-avian friends go – we have 3 dogs, a cat, and a flock of chickens and a Ball Python. I have a wonderful husband, David, that puts up with all of my pets, and a daughter, Alizay, who lives here with David and I. She is in her first year of College and works two jobs. I am so happy to be working for the betterment of the NFSS as your Executive Secretary.

LAURA WATKINS – Membership

My bird journey started when I was a child, thanks to my mom. After the typical childhood Budgie, and then a Cockatiel, I acquired a pair of Green Singing Finches which raised babies in my dining room. Then came an aviary, then several aviaries, and you can probably guess the rest. Along the way, I joined several bird clubs, including the NFSS and became a Panel Judge in 2013. In 2017 I dramatically downsized my flock and retired to Spokane Valley, WA. It has been my pleasure to serve as your Membership Director since 2018, and will be happy to continue in this role. Thank you for your support.

(No current candidate) – Advertising Manager