

**NFSS BOD
2nd QUARTER 2009**

PRESENT: Bob Peers, Doug White, Lisa Murphy, Sharon Dvorak. Bill Parlee, Cecile Aguilera, Alfredo Brugueras, Roland Cristo, John Wilson, Sally Huntington, Vonda Zwick, Gail Benson, Tom Keegan, Mike Gravely, Paula Hansen, Jason Crean, Vince Moase, Rebecca Mikel, Laura Bewley

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

TREASURER, Lisa Murphy

DEPT	INCOME	EXPENSE
Bands	\$ 4,345.06	\$ 2,700.06
Membership	\$ 3,757.16	\$ 100.00
Advertising	\$ 1,538.96	\$0
Judge's Panel	\$ 99.41	\$0
FinchShop	\$ 388.41	\$ 200.00
Affiliations	\$ 827.00	\$ 25.26
Awards	\$ 257.85	\$ 16.50
Journal	\$0	\$ 5,688.94
Misc	\$ 5.44	\$ 351.24
FSS	\$0	\$0
1 st VP/Regional	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$11,219.29	\$ 9,082.01

MONTH	INCOME	EXPENSES
January 2009	\$ 1,050.85	\$ 4,051.52
February 2009	\$ 5,265.81	\$ 4,292.59
March 2009	\$ 2,765.35	\$ 2,875.18

BANK BALANCE

1/1/09:	\$24,040.95
3/31/09:	\$26,178.23
5/1/09:	\$25,473.09

Treasurer requests 2 BOD members volunteer to conduct audit of 2008 NFSS Financial Records – Michael Gravely and Bill Parlee volunteered. Treasurer also requests the Finch Shop budget be increased by \$200 to cover the cost of postage and supplies for the DVD project (SEE MOTION #2009-6). IRS Form 990 filed with the IRS on March 27, 2009.

FINCH AND SOFTBILL SAVE, Vonda Zwick

CENSUS: Published in March/April Journal and available on line at <http://www.nfss-fss.org/Census/CensusReport.aspx>

FINCH SAVE: Updates to functionality of Community portion of software nearing completion. Users can now network with other participants by browsing breeder information. The feature which allows users to post a list of birds available for sale and a list of birds wanted is available. "Messaging" portion of software being finalized. The Designer (Vonda) needs assistance with testing the software – please contact her if you're interested in assisting. Once the "Community" portion is complete, the next major area to work on will be displaying the "studbook/pedigree" information. The code to collect this info is already in place.

AFFILIATIONS/AWARDS – Alfredo Bruqueras

Of the 45 clubs which affiliated with us last year, 31 have affiliated for 2009. A few more are expected to do so, and this will be reported as it transpires.

MEMBERSHIP, Cecile Aguilera

DUAL: 72 FOREIGN: 17 JUNIOR: 6 SINGLE: 418 TOTAL: 585

We have a new member – from Italy!

BANDS, Paula Hansen

Ongoing discussion with alternate source for bands indicated they are not an option for us at this time. Band Sizing – When numbers are applied to the closed bands, the process slightly increases band size – especially those with more numbers. A new system of numbering being developed will result in more consistent sizing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ELECTION COMMITTEE, Bill Parlee

We have nominees for every position on the ballot. Bios were forwarded to the 2nd VP for inclusion in the Journal.

TOP BIRD AWARD, Sally Huntington

Committee is discussing two (2) awards:

- 1) Yearly award/recognition to the bird with the highest number of points in a show season
- 2) Finch and Softbill Save Breeder Accomplishment Recognition outside the show arena

The committee will work out the specifics/details and report further information as this information comes together.

JUDGE'S HANDBOOK, Tom Keegan

Nearing Completion – Laura Bewley, 4th VP Pro-Tem will combine the completed sections into one document.

JUDGE'S FEES, Bob Peers

All Judge's Membership Dues and Judge's Fees are paid current.

REGIONAL SHOW ASSIGNMENTS, Alfredo Bruqueras

Region 1: Baltimore Bird Fanciers

Region 2:

Region 3: Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society

Region 4: Mid-America Cage Bird Club

Region 5:

Region 6: Columbia Canary Club

Region 7: Asociacion de Criadores de Finches del Este, Puerto Rico

Region 8: Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society, Canada

Those who requested, but were not awarded this year include:

Region 1: Chester County Bird Club

Region 3: Finch and Softbill Breeders and Exhibitors Club

Region 4: Fort Worth Bird Club

DIRECTOR'S AND OFFICER'S INSURANCE, John Wilson

Further inquiries and investigation conducted regarding the purchase of a D&O Policy.

Anticipated annual cost is \$1000-\$1500, not including the deductible due if a claim is processed.

Decreases in membership, increases in bands and Journal costs, and decreasing profit margins were part of this discussion. There is support for the purchase of such a policy, but most agree this is not the wisest use of our Treasury money at this time. This may need to be revisited when

FSS goes live as the availability of system information may increase legal exposure. Terms of agreement will need to be written for that program once it goes "live".

ZEBRA SILHOUETTE, Sally Huntington

Sally shared new silhouettes she developed following input from NFSS judges. Laura Bewley, 4th VP Pro-Tem has requested the BOD refrain from voting on the Silhouette at this time. She wishes to have further discussion with the NFSS Judges & U.S. Zebra breeders. While her wish is to finalize the project, she also wants to ensure the end result presents a version which does not require changes a short time later.

AFA AD

An ad has been developed and priced for inclusion in the AFA brochure. This is advertising we have participated in for prior years. BOD discussion included the appropriateness of continuing this advertising as well as a possibility of changing the ad size. Support for AFA remains high on this BOD. (SEE MOTION #2009-5)

REGIONAL REALIGNMENT, Bob Peers

Bob requests the BOD form a committee to review the current alignment of the Regions. Membership numbers are unbalanced and consideration may need to be given to realignment. Patterns initially established gave consideration for VP's to represent the members within his/her Region and also allow travel to events within their Region. (SEE MOTION #2009-7). Bob will Chair committee and requests anyone interested in serving on the committee contact him.

QUARTERLY DATA/STRATEGIC PLANNING – Tom Keegan/Rebecca Mikel

Spreadsheets were provided which summarize income and expenses for all departments over the past 2 years with the intent of allowing BOD to see "trends". Two items stand out – 1) Steady decline in membership since 2007; 2) "Misc. Expenses" are a significant area of activity but do not always relate to a specific dept., so are placed in "Misc". Discussion was held about allocating them to a dept., or development of line items which would make it easier to know what this total is comprised of without having to "dig". Treasurer requests no changes to current format.

REGION 5 VP – Bob Peers

Region 5 is large geographically, but has few members. We consistently have trouble finding A Regional VP for this region. We currently have 2 candidates and while we dislike leaving this position open until after the General Election, do not feel we can appoint one as Pro-Tem as both are running in the General Election. Appointing one at this time would provide unfair advantage to 1 candidate.

4th VP – Bob Peers

Cecil Gunby, Prior 4th VP, resigned effective April 1, 2009. Laura Bewley, current Region VP and NFSS Judge, has agreed to run for this position in the next General Election. (SEE MOTION 2009-8)

BOD MEMBER ADDRESSES – John Wilson

Post Office policy precludes forwarding mail when the addressees are still at the address. If correspondence is directed to a TITLE as opposed to an individual's NAME, it becomes possible to have mail forwarded by the request of this BOD should the need arise. It also reduces the number of checks issued to individual BOD member's names. (SEE MOTION #2009-12)

SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS – Bob Peers

Results of the most recent Special Elections are as follows:

2nd Vice-President: Tom Keegan

Affiliations/Awards: Alfredo Bruguerras

Membership: Cecile Aguilera

USING NFSS JOURNAL GRAPHIC DESIGNER TO ASSIST WITH ADVERTISING – Tom Keegan Graphic Designer being used for the NFSS Journal is available to assist those wishing to place ads in the NFSS Journal but who do not have the expertise or the tools to create their own advertising. Current rates are \$50 for full page creation, \$35 for ½ page, and \$25 for ¼ page. If requests for assistance are rec'd, we'll provide them contact information.

ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS DURING EMERGENCIES/DISASTERS – Doug White
The BOD did not act on establishing a fund for this purpose. Further discussion will occur during the 4th Quarter BOD meeting.

REMOVAL OF BOD OFFICER – Bob Peers
BOD rec'd 2 certified letters requesting removal of Region 7 VP due to inactivity and no response to attempts to contact him. Replacement was requested by the membership in that Region. Removal of an Officer requires a 2/3 vote by the BOD. (SEE MOTION #2009-13 & 2009-14).

MOTIONS:

MOTION #	BY	2 nd	MOTION	RESULTS
2009-5	Bewley	Keegan	Place full page ad with AFA	Pass
2009-6	Murphy	Mikel	Increase FinchShop budget \$200, purchase index. software for DVD project	Pass
2009-7	Mikel	Wilson	Form Committee to review Region Alignment	Pass
2009-8	Mikel	Hansen	Appoint Laura Bewley 4 th VP Pro-Tem	Pass
2009-9	Murphy	Mikel	M. Gravelly & B. Parlee conduct audit of 2008 NFSS Financial Records	Pass
2009-10	Hansen	Keegan	Place a full page ad in NCBS catalog	Pass
2009-11	Hansen	Murphy	Gail Benson and husband to count 2009 Gen. Election ballots	Pass
2009-12	Wilson	Murphy	*SEE BELOW	Pass
2009-13	Brugueras	Wilson	Region 7 VP will be removed from office	Pass
2009-14	Brugueras	Keegan	Appoint Orlando Rivera Region 7 VP Pro-Tem	Pass
2009-15	Bewley	Hansen	Accept minutes/adjourn meeting	Pass

*Mailing addresses for NFSS Officers shall not include Officer's name to facilitate forwarding in event Officer or address changes. Exceptions of this General Policy at the discretion of the President.