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Volume 2 Number 2

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 1985 National Finch Society Show is shaping up to be quite a show. Bill Lumley of Harrisburg is predicting a large turnout for the show. We all expect this to be the largest finch showing in Aviculture.

At press time the New Jersey legislature has introduced legislation to ban the importation of wild caught birds into the state of New Jersey. Although we have no additional information at this time, it appears that this is the same type of bill introduced in Conn., and Mass. Read our Alert page in this issue for further information on this legislation in other states.







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		i

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T 0:	NFS Band Secretary, c/c	Russ Armitage, 345 Boston Road, Middletown, CT O6	
Pleas	se send me the following:	bands. Use multibles of 10 only.	
A <u>/</u> _	_/ B <u>/</u> / C <u>/</u> / D <u>/</u> /	E// E// 3// K// L//	
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Individual \$15 / / Dual \$20 / / Junior 7 Oual Membership is two individuals residin same address (one bulletin). Juniors are u	g at the
Club affiliations	
How long have you been involved in finches	·•
How many species have you bred?	•
Briefly describe your interest in joining National Finch Society and what you hope to out of your membership.	

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

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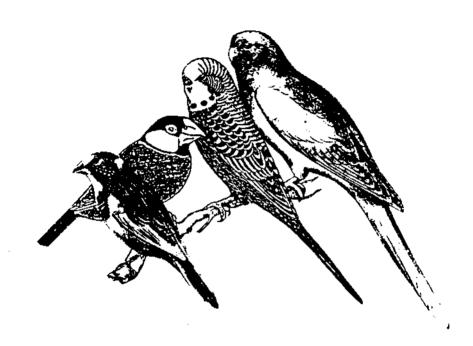






The National Finch Society

ARMY'S AVIARY



BREEDER DF BUDGIES, FINCHES, AND REDRUMP PARAKEETS

RUSS A. ARMITAGE, JR. 345 BDSTDN RDAD MIDDLETDWN, CT (203) 346-5875

1984 NFS EXHIBITOR POINTS

Unfortunately there were no champion exhibitors for last year. Three NFS members came very close and tied for highest accumulated points.

D & D AVIARIES, KELLY DAHILL AND JERRY D'AGATA. CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR AVICULTURE.

KENNETH AKEY JR. OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE AVICULTURAL SOC.

STEVE HOPPIN OF FLORIDA'S GOLD COAST BIRD CLUB

THESE MEMBERS ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE SHOW BENCH FOR THE LAST YEAR.

MANY OTHER MEMBERS ACCUMULATED POINTS LAST YEAR. WE REMIND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ACCUMULATED POINTS, THAT THESE POINTS WILL CONTINUE ON NEXT YEAR IN YOUR COUNT FOR THE EXHIBITOR'S EXCELLENCE AWARDS. Points for Champion Exhibitors must, however be achieved within the calender year.

BREEDER OF AUSTRALIAN FINCHES

FINCH AND SOFTBILL JUDGE COCKATIEL JUDGE

BILL PARLEE

529 BURNSIDE AVENUE EAST HARTFDRD, CT. 06108 203-528-1458



The March Board Meeting was called to order at 4 pm on March 10, 1985 at the home of Nancy Reed. Present were all officers and the Show Chairman.

The Treasurer's and Secretary's reports were read and accepted as presented to the board.

The first area of discussion was the NFS Bulletin. Bill pointed out that we had received several letters complimenting us on the quality of the bulletin. All added that while he was at the NCBS semi-annual meeting in San Antonio he had also received similar comments. Bill stated that he was happy to receive these letters, but pointed out that the bulletin was plagued by typos. Nancy agreed that this was our major problem with the bulletin and offered to proof read for us.

Bill stated that he was pleased with the input from members in regard to articles and that continued participation from members is essential to a successful bulletin.

The next order of business was a discussion on the March 2, 1985 meeting of the National Cage Bird Show in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Decoteau, a newly elected director of the NC8S, traveled to Texas and was present at the meeting

Al announced that at the meeting the board, which includes NFS members Charles Anchor, Paul Williams and Al, voted on the previously submitted NFS list of finch classifications for the National Cage Bird Show. These classes are in keeping with our NFS "National". They voted to accept our NFS classifications for the 1985 NCBS in San Antonio, Texas. Al pointed out that this was a great victory for the finch fancy in America, and one that all NFS members can be proud of. This is the first change in NCBS finch classifications in the last twenty years. Al further stated that any changes we make in classifications will not be accomplished until the following year by the NCBS, due to their limited meetings.

Bill thought that this was probably our major accomplishment nationally since the start of our organization.

BOARD MINUTES CONT.'. . . .

Show boxes were discussed. All told us that the boxes that were to be at this meeting did not come in. He stated that there were problems regarding Don Perez's company Picadilli Bird Circus. He thought the company was in the process of being sold and would look into this matter at a later date. The show box matter was then tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

A membership report was given, stating that we had 180 members, with Florida leading the states in membership. Connecticut, Massachusetts, Illinios, and New York are other states with large memberships. Bill announced to the board that we now have several members in Canada and England. We also have a member in Saudi Arabia. The matter of international memberships was discussed and a fee of \$25 for foreign members was approved: The added cost to cover postage fees.

Club affiliations are growing. An item for discussion was the request of a Bird Fair in the Mid-West to become affiliated with the National Finch Society. It was voted to allow this type of affiliation on a time by time vote of the directors, based on the merit of each request.

Bill stated that he had sent letters to members of NFS that belong to local clubs, that had not as yet affiliated with us. Those letters pointed out the benefits of affiliation and urged the individual member to help get their club affiliated with us.

1985 Bird Show dates were discussed. The Judges for the National Finch Society Show in Harrisburg are confirmed. They are Conrad Meinart and Juanita McLain. Bill Lumley of Harrisburg is the site chairman and Tony Patterson is the Show Chairman. Questions regarding the administration of the show and catalog are to be directed to Tony at the home office and questions regarding the Harrisburg show, NFS accommodations, the Holiday Inn rates, etc. are to be directed to Bill at 123 State Street, Harrisburg, PA Zip. 17101.

The board voted to accept Clarence Culwell, Daren Decoteau, and George Warren from England as Panel Judges of the National Finch Society.

Al and Bill announced that the new classifications for 1985

BOARD MINUTES CONT.'.

had been completed, with only minor changes made in species classifications, most changes were additional species. A new division was added for Mules and Hybrids. This new division is in keeping with the NFS policy to promote this part of the hobby. The new classifications and rules are as follows:

DIVISION 1D

MULES AND HYBRIDS

Class 1001 European Goldfinch crosses

1002 Greenfinch crosses

1003 Chaffinch crosses

1004 Linnet crosses

1005 Siskin crosses

1006 All other crosses

Note: All crosses must be listed on the outside of the show tag, so that the judge may judge each cross in the most fair manner. Crosses not listed may be disqualified.

All pointed out that the National Cage Bird Show will not not have these changes until the 1986 show. All 1985 NFS shows will however, have these changes.

Russ Armitage stated that he had received several requests for standards for all finches. It should be pointed out that at the present, NFS has only standards for Zebras and Society finches. We are working on standards for the Lady Gouldian, which should be available in the near future. No other standards presently exist in our Society. Any member that wishes to be heard on this matter may write to: A.E.Decoteau, Judges Panel director, Groton Road, Dunstable, MA 01827.

Jerry D'Agata and Kelly Dahill brought up the subject of the show catalog cover. This conversation evolved into the color cover for the Holiday issue of the bulletin which never was realized this year. After much discussion we voted to have a color cover for the show catalog for the NFS National Show and drop the color cover for the bulletin It was further voted to charge for the show catalog, except for one copy free to each member of NFS. A \$2 cost was decided upon, in keeping with other national catalogs.

BOARD MINUTES CONT.'.

On the matter of back issues of the bulletin, Russ stated that he had had many requests from members for these old issues and for last years National catalog.

The Judges Handbook was discussed and Al presented the final rules for judges. Al stated that the Handbook in final form will include the classifications, standards, and rules of policy for the Judges Panel. It was stated that these handbooks would be mailed to all judges on the panel sometime in May of 1985.

Also regarding the panel, Al has sent letters to all those members who stated an interest in becoming a NFS Judge. This letter informed all those interested in the procedure involved in becoming a NFS Judge. The letter pointed out that we have a program to fit your needs and time requirments. It was mentioned that the next test would be administered at the AFA convention in San Francisco this August. Other testing sites will be announced.

The last item to be discussed at this meeting was NFS Bands. Bill stated that the bands ordered from the Hughes Co. of England should be in within a week, as he had already received the bill for the bands. Russ is the Band Secretary and stated that he had already received orders for the bands. Bill pointed out that the next bulletin would have printed order forms.

The next board meeting of the society was planned for June 2, 1985 at the home of Jerry D'Agata and Kelly Dahill.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

NOTICE REGARDING BOARD AND NATIONAL MEETINGS:

All board meetings of the National Finch Society are posted in advance and any NFS member is welcome to attend any board meeting. General National Meetings will be held this year in Fort Myers, Florida; San Francisco; Calif.; Harrisburg, Penna.; and San Antonio, Texas. For info on any of these meetings contact: Jerry D'Agata, 109 Seymour St., Windsor, CT 06095.



ALERT

LEGISLATIVE NEWS OF INTEREST!!

In each NFS bulletin you will find this legislative news alert, which should be of interest to all finch fanciers. Watch this column for legislative developments in your state that may affect your hobby. Also consider the developments in other states as your notice of possible activity in your state legislature. If you feel detrimental legislation is being considered in your state and you don't know what to do about it, contact the National Finch Society. Area Code 203-528-1458. This number for legislative info only.

NEW YORK:

Ban on imports PASSED. To go into affect November 1, 1985. Bept. of the Environment considering ways of enforcement. Write your local senator and congressman, complain that this is unfair and was passed without any opinion from those who this bill will regulate.

CONNECTICUT:

House Bill 6541, NOT PASSED. This bill has been sent to Summer Study committee due to the massive opposition to the bill by Aviculture and the Pet Industry. Be aware that this bill may again come forth after summer study. At that time another hearing may not take place.

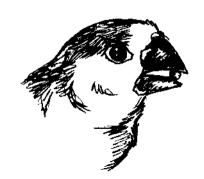
MASSACHUSSETS:

Senate Bill 1810, NOT PASSED. As in Connecticut a massive outpouring of hobbyist and the Pet Industry attended the hearings on April 4, 1985. Strong opposition was expressed against bills of this nature. Sent to Summer Study Committee. NFS testified against the CT and MA Bills.

When someone asks the so familiar question, so well known to bird folks: "What type of birds do you raise?", and you reply "Society Finches", the reply is usually a low-keyed, "oh". It so much reminds me of the time when I was working at the Animal Hospital where I was kennel manager. The vet's and the lab tech's always tend to look down on the kennel people. What they seemed to forget is that our job was just as important as theirs. If the kennels weren't washed and disinfected daily, or the animals were not fed according to their schedules; or if they didn't receive their baths and groomings before their owners were due to pick them up; believe me they wouldn't be in business too long!

In other words, without the person who takes the time to produce a quality strain of Society Finches; the folks who have gotten clutches of rare finch eggs might not have been able to raise those species in captivity. A healthy pair, or even a trio will successfully raise just about any reasonable size egg you place under them. They Society Finch is surely "THE LITTLE CAPT. MARVEL" of the finch world.

It is really a shame that more breeders don't take the time to produce a particular strain of Society Finch. I'm speaking of a possible chocolate pied with a white head and white flights; or a cinnamon pied with white flights, tummy or tail. The reward is that the strain will breed true. It actually takes little genetic knowledge but a lot of common sense to get such a strian going.



Chocolate and white Society

OUR LITTLE CAPT, MARVEL CONT.'

Chocolate and White crested Society Finch



Societies have been cage-birds for as long if not longer than Canaries. Like the canary it has been totally domesticated. Especially since it is a man-made species. Since it has been around for so long; why haven't more colors been produced? I don't mean a cardinal red or a sky blue Society Finch; but more on the realistic sense of producing a pearl grey or even a self butter-cream colored Society Finch. It may take a bit of time to sort out the genetics and to find out what makes the Society Finch tick; but I'm sure with true blue efforts it can be accomplished.

Unfortunately, I feel the white self strain of the Society Finch has really suffered the price of being improperly bred. Without a record of the generations; the poor white has been bred too often to cinnamon pied, thus producing a blind, deaf bird with wing and foot deformities. Like all mutated species, when a weak point of any sort is noticed, the strain should be bred back to the original color. Which in the Society Finch is the chocolate pied.

So fellow breeders, let's spend a little time to work with the genetics of the CAPT. MARVEL; and with us all working together we may accomplish the new color Society Finch.

A JUDGE'S NOTE ON THE SOCIETY FINCH:

The most common fault of the Society Finch is in the tail. When looking at several Societies on the show bench this fault is immediately noticed: Sky tail. I define this as a tail that does not flow evenly off the body, but reaches upward at from 10 to as much as 50 degrees.



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NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY MAKES "NATIONAL NEWS"

BY A. E. DECOTEAU

The National Cage Bird Show, Inc., "Your show of shows", conducts an outstanding national show each November in a different host city each year. This November the show will be held in San Antonio, Texas.

On March 1st and 2nd, the sixteen board of directors of the National Cage Bird Show met in San Antonio to prepare for this fall's show. In addition to other important decisions made by the board, the finch classifications of the National Finch Society were accepted and passed by the National board. This is a major accomplishment for the National Finch Society, as classifications were very poor for the National and this marks the first change in many years.

One of the highlights of the Annual National Cage Bird Show is the presenting of the coveted Kellogg trophy which is given to the best bird in each division. One must be a member of the National Cage Bird Show, Inc. to be eligible for a Kellogg award.

To join the National Cage Bird Club, Inc. which we urge you to due if you plan to participate, all you need due is send in the \$10 dues, payable to the National Cage Bird Show, care off Margie McGee, 25 West Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

As you may remember the first national meeting of the National Finch Society was held at the National Cage Bird Show this past November in Chicago, Illinois. This year we will again have a national meeting at the National in San Antonio.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: IT IS TIME TO WRITE AN ARTICLE
FOR THE NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY BULLETIN. SHARE YOUR
EXPERIENCES WITH OTHER MEMBERS. MANY OF YOU INDICATED
AN INTEREST. . . . NOW IS THE TIME, SEND IN YOUR ARTICLE!







NFS AFFILIATED CLUBS

The ASTORIA BIRD CLUB

delegate: Alex Grivas

The BOSTON SOCIETY FOR AVICULTURE, INC. delegate: Roger O'Connell

The CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY delegate: William Lumley

The CHICAGO CAGE BIRD ASSOCIATION, INC.

delegate: Charles Anchor

The CLEVELAND CANARY AND CAGE BIRD SUCIETY delegate: Louis Di Santo

The CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR AVICULTURE, INC. delegate: Gerald D'Agata

The GULF COAST BIRD CLUB

delegate: Dick Muench

The GULF SOUTH BIRD CLUB

delegate: Evon W. Kruse

The LONG ISLAND CAGE BIRD ASSOCIATION, INC.

delegate: Thomas Cauarro

The MARYLAND CAGE BIRD ASSOCIATION

delegate: Dallas Johnson

The MASSACHUSSETTS CAGE BIRD ASSOCIATION delegate: Shirley Eaton

The MID-WEST CANARY CLUB

delegate: Mary Kaszyca

The GREATER MIAMI AVICULTURAL SOCIETY

delegate: Karl Kline

The NEW HAMPSHIRE AVICULTURAL SOCIETY delegate: Lawrence Brandt

THE GREATER OMAHA CAGE BIRD CLUB

delegate: Wayne Eichelberger

The WESTERN NEW ENGLAND CAGE BIRD SOCIETY delegate: Bill Pattison

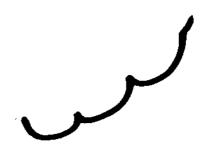
The WISCONSIN CAGE BIRD CLUB

delegate: Mary Zuidema

ATTENTION ALL DELEGATES: If you have not already notified the home office of your show date and judges, please do so at once, so that we may order plaques and have your show date published in the bulletin.



Nancy A. Reed 55 Sunnyfield Dr. Windsor, Ct. 06095



TOM ROOD

313 M. BRDADWAY





I have been a member of the National Finch Society since the fall of 1984 and enjoy it very much. Being a breeder and exhibitor of finches exclusively, a national organization for finches means alot to me. The quality of the bulletin and the material contained within, certainly beats that of any other organizations I've belonged to. Of course, I'd like to see the bulletin as a monthly, but can live with a bi-monthly! The club bulletin is really what keeps you in touch with the other finch breeders all over the country, whether you actually know them personally or not.

Like most other cage bird fanciers, I've tried all the different breeds and varieties - - - parakeets, a pair of cockatiels, pet type canaries, expensive Gloster canaries, and etc. Mind you, I've always had my finches while trying the others. All the others have long since gone by the wayside, making room only for finches.

I was happy to see some discussion on two subjects in the Jan/Feb bulletin; namely, extending finch sections at local shows and show cages. If you care to read on, I'd like to express my views on these two subjects through the pages of this bulletin.

First of all, my pet peeve; extending finch sections at local shows. I'm certainly very happy to see this brought up in the NFS. This is something I've been "fighting" for for some time at the shows in my area. I must say that I did get something accomplished this past year. I've always believed we needed more sections for finches at the shows. When you look at show catalogs and see umteen sections for canaries, budgies, etc., but only see 1 or 2 for finches, it's hard to comprehend.

The first cage bird show I ever attended had only 2 sections for finches - - Zebras and "everything else" ! ! The "everything else" section would include everything from a Society Finch to an Owl finch to a Lady Gouldian to a Toco Toucan! Now can you see why people complained because of the low entries in this division? "Why aren't there many finches?

FINCH TALES CONT'. . . .

Lots of people have finches. Why don't they show them? My answer was, "How can you expect entries when you lump a possible 30 - 40 breeds together and give only a couple of awards?" Now I realize we cannot expect a section for each and every breed of finch there is, but we can break those larger sections down into smaller more competive ones.

The next year I offered to sponsor a section for Society Finches, and have ever since. Each year since a section and awards have been offered, the club has averaged about 15 Society Finches at their show. This isn't bad considering it's a small club and there used to be $\underline{\text{NO}}$ Society Finches!

This past year, the same club $\underline{\text{FINALLY}}$ offered 6 different sections in the finch division and we had the largest entry of finches I can remember. In other words, you have to give to get. The more the club offers to the exhibitors, the more entries they will get.

The Jan./Feb. bulletin mentions offering guidelines to local clubs on setting up finch classes. I certainly hope this goes through and most clubs respond. I also hope the NFS can get the National Show to offer more sections also.

Getting some type of standardized finch show cage is another subject which we all will be hearing about in the years to come. At this point, I hold a neutral position on the subject, but can see me moving to accept them. It's going to be hard to come up with a "standard" show cage such as the Gloster, Budgie, and Cockatiel breeder have. There are simply too many breeds, varieties, and sizes in the finch group. I would like to see several sizes of the same type of box cage made available. I do believe that that finches show better in a box cage. Mine were made for me by a friend several years ago.

One thing we must remember when making rules about show cages: We must not forget the novice or beginner in our hobby. It's hard enough getting started in any hobby. When we require each exhibitor (whether he be a beginner or a seasoned veteran) to show only in a standard show cage, I think we're going to lose a lot of people. For example: Let's take a beginner who purchases several pair of finches, buys or builds his cages, gets a flight cage or two, joins

a couple of clubs, subscribes to a magazine, etc.--- he's got quite an investment already. Then he raises a few birds and is enthused about showing them. He finds out he can't show them unless the standard \$20 cage is used. I believe we are going to stop his enthusiasm and interest before he even gets to the show. We must keep these people in mind when making up strict show rules about standard show cages. Possibly we could include beginner or novice sections which would allow rany style cage. These people could show in this category for a year or two while they are getting established. Just my thoughts. . .

I take this opportunity to wish all National Finch Society members a successful 1985 breeding and show season. I'm hoping everyone participates in providing material for this publication. With nothing to publish, the officers won't be able to mail anything to us. Best wishes to all.



THE KAYTEE AWARD!

The 1985 National Finch Society National Show, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania will mark the beginning of a tradition: The coveted KAYTEE AWARD FOR BEST BIRD IN SHOW will be offered for the first time.

Each divisional winner will compete for this prize. To win the award the exhibitor must be a member of the National Finch Society. This membership must be in effect before the start of the show on October 5, 1985. If the Best in Show winner is not an NFS member the award will go to the next place winner who is an NFS member. All other awards are open to all exhibitors.

The National Finch Society and it's directors wish to thank Harvey Smith of Kaytee Products for his contribution of this award and his support of the avicultural community.







NEW MEMBERS -- WELCOME!!

- 171 Steve Silver, Orange City, Florida 32763
- Pat B. Frey DVM, Monticello, Florida 32344 172
- George Warren, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth, England 173
- Sandy Hinkle, Belchertown, Massachussetts 01007 174
- Christine Varonovitch. Manchester. Connecticut 06040 176
- 177 David Paul Mc Collister, Ocala, Florida 32670
- Evon W. Kruse, Kenner, Louisiana 70062 178
- 179 E. J. Nagel Jr., Kenner, Louisiana
- Brenda Geesey, York Pennsulvania 17403 180
- Bruce Evanick, York Pennsylvania 17403 181
- Barry Middleburg, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19149 Tim Schexnaydre, Convent, Louisiana 70723 182
- 183
- Jose Aleman, Orlando, Florida 32809 185
- 186 Pam J. Moore, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia 11491
- Rev. Raymond A. Bucko, Syracuse, New York 13214 187
- Raymond Johnson, Fayetteville. Georgia 30214 188
- 189 Robert Ziegler, Frankfort, Illinois 60423
- Joan Gangle, Copley, Ohio 44321 191
- Charles Flama, Stongsville, Ohio 44136 192

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Know your Softbills is a monthly column, featured in each issue of the National Finch Society Bulletin. This column is edited by finch and softbill breeder and National Finch Society Panel Judge Phil Shaw.

Phil's notes: The keeping and breeding of softbilled birds has increased dramatically over the past few years. The number of softbills at bird shows is also increasing, however softbills remain one of the smallest of the caged bird fancies. If importation of foreign birds ended this year, many if not most of the softbills in private aviculture would eventually die out due to the limited size of the current genetic pool. If we are to insure the development of domestic strains of softbills we must begin to share information, breeding stock and encouragement. I hope everyone involved will take the time to share not only their successes but also their failures, in the feeding, breeding, keeping and exhibiting of their softbills.

This month's article on softbills is provided by Paul Miller of Edmond, Oklahoma.

THE PLUSH CAPPED JAY........ PAUL MILLER EDMOND, OK

One of the softbills well adapted to aviculture is the Plush-Capped Jay. This bird is a handsome blue color, and is about the size of a Mocking Bird or a Cardinal. As its name implies, its head is adorned with a low, prominent crest running from front to back. The reasons Plush-Capped Jays make such good avicultural subjects stem from their behavioral traits and their dietary needs.

Somewhat similar in behavior to the North American Blue Jay, the Plush-Capped Jay is a rather aggressive species. Once aclimated to its surroundings, this bird is not at all shy, but somewhat aloof. When I worked at the zoo, I cared for a pair of these lovely birds. As I tended to their cage, the Jays would come to their feed dish and start feeding. The fact that I would stand next to the cage and watch them eat did not seem to bother them very much. Jays are very aggressive feeders.

The topic of diet is one bounded only by lack of imagination and lack of availability. With Plush-Capped Jays, one requirment is essential: they need some form of

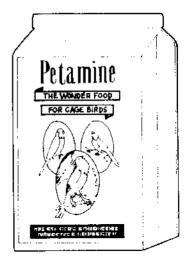
meat or insects in their diet. This is the first thing they pick out when they begin to feed. I fee a commercial "bird of prey" preparation made largely of horse meat supplemented with vitamins and some soaked grain. I would think canned dog or cat food would also satisfy these birds. It is important to cut the food up into small enough pieces so that the Jays can ingest the meat easily. Mealworms and crickets are also relished by Jays. Insects should be chilled in a refrigerator so that they don't crawl away before the Jays can eat them. The necessary amount of this type of feed is one tablespoon of meat plus four crickets and six mealworms per bird per day; ajustments can be made depending on the age of the bird, activity, breeding season, and etc. In addition to meat and insects, Jays also eat fruit and vegetables, again, cut up into pieces small enough to ingest easily. Corn, apple, carrot, peas, and many other fruits and vegetables can be fed to Jays. Soaked raisins are also suitable to the Jay's diet. Dried cat food and/or dried dog food soaked in a little warm water or milk can also be fed. Vitamins and minerals can either be top-dressed over the feed, or supplied in water soluble form. Be sure to consider calcium needs; insects can be dusted in dicalcium phosphate powder before being fed.

My experience is that Plush-Capped Jays are quite free breeding under aviary conditions. They like a nesting platform which is about nine or ten feet above the ground level, and has some cover around it to give the birds a sense of seclusion and security. Jays, due to their aggressive nature, should be kept only one pair to the aviary. Housing several pairs together could be risky. As with all birds, the art of parenting must be learned, and the first few attempts at breeding usually end in failure. This almost certain disappointment should be expected by the aviculturist. The important points in breeding any species are good nutritional support before and during breeding, a sense of comfort and security for the breeding pair, and patience on the part of the aviculturist.

In conclusion, I strongly recommend the Plush-Capped Jay as an interesting and challenging avicultural subject. This species is worthy of greater avicultural support and deserves further avicultural efforts to insure its preservation.

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National Finch Society Panel Judges subscribe to a format of standardized judging procedures, species standards, and conduct themselves in a professional manner at all

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times.

All Panel Judges charge reasonable traveling expenses and for lodging. Fees may vary from judge to judge.

The National Finch Society asks that all of its affiliated clubs use Panel Judges for their 1985 shows. We do have apprentice judges available in some areas. For further information or special consideration on the above rules write to:

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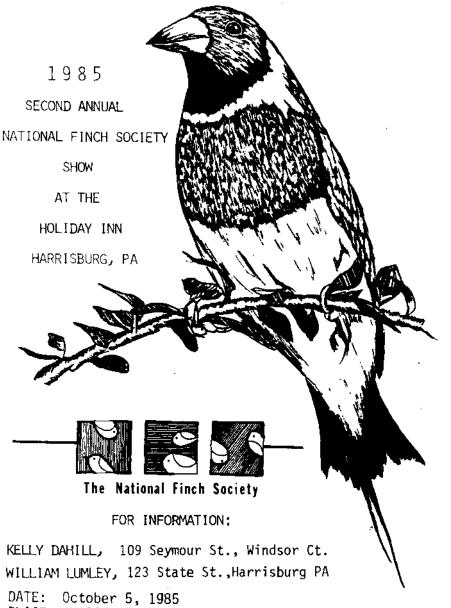
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August 17th	WISCONSIN CAGE BIRD SHOW
October 5th	Judge: A. Decoteau NATIONAL FINCH SOCIETY NATIONAL SHOW Harrisburg, PA - Judges: J.McLain -C.Meinart COMBINED MARYLAND AND CENTRAL PA SHOW Harrisburg, PA - host to the "National" GREATER MIAMI AVICULTURAL SOCIETY Miami, FL - Judge: G. Warren
October 12th	NEW HAMPSHIRE AVICULTURAL SOCIETY Nashua, NH - Judge: D. Decoteau
October 13th	CLEVELAND CANARY AND CAGE BIRD SHOW Parma, OH - Judge: not announced
October 19th	MASSACHUSSETTS ČAGE BIRD SHOW Kinston, MA - Judge: K. Dahill GULF SOUTH BIRD CLUB SHOW
October 26th	Kenner, LA - Judge: V. Clear GREATER NEW ENGLAND CAGE BIRD SHOW E.Hartford, CT - Judge: P. Shaw
November 2nd	_

Hempstead, NY - Judge: T. Corouana GREATER CHICAGO CAGE BIRD SHOW

Itasca, IL - Judge: P. Williams
WESTERN NEW ENGLAND CAGE BIRD SHOW

Springfield, MA - Judge: W. Parlee More next issue as we are notified of other show dates.

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