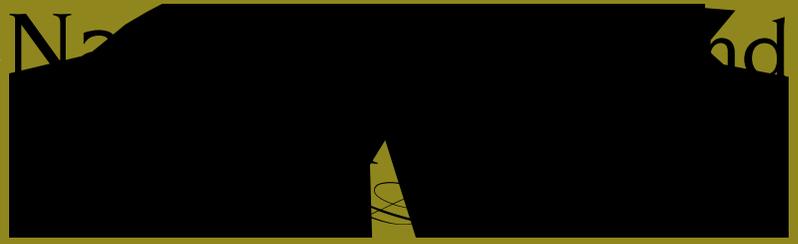
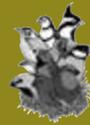




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Volume 24, No. 2 March/April 2007

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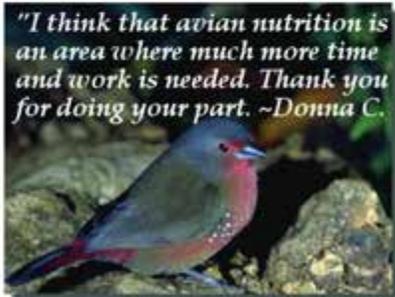


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The National Finch & Softbill Society is dedicated to the introduction of the enjoyment of keeping and breeding Finches and Softbills to all interested parties, enhance the knowledge of our members in keeping and care of these birds, encourage breeding programs, and cooperate with organizations for the preservation of aviculture in this country.

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Table of Contents

NFSS President's Message - Sally Huntington	2
Finches in Aviculture : An Introduction to the Vitamins - Robert Black	4-7
The Penguin Zebra Finch	9-10
Use of droppings for Diagnosis	13-14
In Search of the Zebra Finch	16, 21-22
Special Election Ballot	17-19
NFSS Board of Directors 4th Quarter Meeting - 2006	24-27
NFSS 2006/2007 Board of Directors/Appointed Officers	28
NFSS 2006 Panel of Judges	29
Membership Application	31
NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events	33-35
Band Order Form	36



NFSS President's Message

March/April 2007

The Joy of Robert's Rules

Who was Robert, the guy who formulated Robert's Rules? Who wrote the 'rules' we all use for plan, purpose, design, order, procedures, etc., in order to get things done 'with grace and order'.

As president of NFSS for the past 6 years, I recently discovered something I would never have thought possible, what with Robert's Rules so prevalent in our society. It appears, from here, not too many members are aware that their path to me is, as president of NFSS is two fold.

First, for informal purposes, via my posted telephone number or through my posted e mail address, both in the NFSS journal.

Second, for more formal purposes such as recommendations for NFSS, new ideas for NFSS, suggestions on how NFSS might improve in a particular area of your interest, your path to me is via your area VP. whose phone number and e mail address (when available) are posted in the journal. The purpose of the area VP is to serve you, hence serve NFSS. The VP 'job' is to formulate the wording for your 'suggestion', make it in to a formal motion following Robert's Rules, to be brought up and voted on by the NFSS Board of Directors (BOD) at the next quarterly board meeting. I have been taken back lately to learn that some members believe they have no path to make formal requests for changes, motions, etc. within NFSS. What did someone say recently, "I know I know things, I know I don't know things, but, it's the don't knows I don't know I don't know that bother me the most."

Please help me pass the word. Suggestions and ideas are very welcome by this president and by the BOD. Let us hear from you directly.

Changes are Good...

There have been many changes on the BOD. We have a new Editor, Katy Dodd. As you can see from the ballot in this Journal there are about to be a few more. And the general election is also this year so even more changes.

The May/June issue will have the positions for the election described, the July/August issue will contain the Ballot and the Biography's of the candidates. Please show your respect the system and for the efforts of the candidates by voting. The new BOD's will be announced in November at the National Cage Bird Show.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Sally Huntington". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.



Airsac Mite Infestation?

Airsac mite (*Stenostoma Tracheacolum*) is an internal parasite that lives in airways and air sacs. Infestation causes local irritation and secondary respiratory infections. Heavy infestations cause breathing difficulties, wheezing, open mouth breathing and death in fledglings and adult birds. Canaries and Gouldians are particularly susceptible to airsac mite infestations (respiratory acariasis).

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Finches in Aviculture

Robert G. Black

An Introduction to the Vitamins

Vitamins are defined as relatively complex organic substances that are essential in small amounts for the control of metabolic processes. In order to be classified as vitamins, they must be dietary essentials rather than products of synthesis within the body. The vitamins function as intact, free chemical compounds or as coenzymes in metabolic reactions in a variety of ways. The vitamins serve primarily as catalysts without which another chemical process in the body cannot occur. This is undoubtedly the most important function of most of the vitamins.

Vitamins are classified into two groups. The first group consists of the fat soluble vitamins. These are found in fatty compounds and are carried by fats. They are not soluble in water and are usually found dissolved in fats. Vitamins A, D, E and K are all in the fat soluble group. The essential fatty acids also fall within the fat soluble vitamin group. These have been referred to as vitamin F in some writings in the United States, and they are known by this designation in Europe. I have gradually become more convinced of the widespread deficiencies of the essential fatty acids in the diets of most cage birds, and now consider this to be one of the most likely of the dietary deficiencies that you will encounter in the care and breeding of birds in captivity.

The second group of vitamins is the water soluble vitamins. This group includes ascorbic acid and all of the B-complex vitamins. As the name implies, these vitamins are soluble in water and can be washed away easily with water. Cooking foods in water dissolves the water-soluble vitamins out of the food. The only thing the B-complex vitamins have in common is that they are all water soluble. Because of this, the old 'B' designations are gradually being dropped in favor of the chemical names of the individual vitamins. Though the formal names may cause a little short term confusion, over the many years

of the future the new chemical method of naming the vitamins will be far more advantageous.

Vitamin C is one of the most versatile of the vitamins in its proven functions, but it is technically not a vitamin for birds, since they synthesize internally all that they require with the known exception of some of the bulbuls. As examples, vitamin C is vital to the formation of collagen, the material that holds individual cells and tissues together as functioning units. It also serves as a chelator that attaches itself to a mineral and transports it for use by the cells of the avian body. Vitamin C can also attach itself to poisons and carry them out of the body, including such toxic metals as cadmium. Since this compound is technically not a vitamin for most avian species, it should be referred to by its chemical name, ascorbic acid, in any references to its use in the avian body.

One may also note another letter designation used rather frequently in the past. The name 'vitamin P' is used in some references for the compounds that are usually known as the 'bioflavonoids'. The bioflavonoids are found in close contact with ascorbic acid in nature. All foods that contain vitamin C also contain bioflavonoids, so it is logical to assume that when consumed, they will also work together in the body's metabolism. Though most birds in captivity seem to be able to make their own ascorbic acid, birds are not able to synthesize the bioflavonoids internally and may need to get them in the diet. The purpose these may serve in the body is still conjecture, but it certainly cannot do any harm to supply them in an avian diet. Fruits and peppers will be the best sources, but leafy greens should also supply enough of these compounds for the daily needs of the birds.

The destruction of vitamins and other nutrients

is a serious problem in food processing and cooking. Any amount of processing destroys some of the vitamins, removes minerals, and alters the chemical structure of fats and proteins. High heat accounts for most of this damage. These accumulated alterations of foods have resulted in widespread nutritional problems. This article will discuss a few of the specific deleterious effects of cooking and processing.

The tryptophan-niacin relationship is an example of the far-reaching effects of any food processing. Though most of the components of protein are stable in heat, one of the essential amino acids is not. This amino acid is tryptophan, and it will be destroyed by heat. A longer period of exposure to heat and higher heat both accelerate this destruction, which renders all of the protein in the cooked food incomplete. Since the body can synthesize the niacin from an adequate supply of tryptophan, a niacin deficient diet that also lacks tryptophan is an invitation to several niacin deficiency symptoms. This is only one of the complex interrelationships found in the study of the individual nutrients.

In addition to this problem with niacin, four other vitamins in the B complex are destroyed or badly depleted by cooking. Thiamin (which is also spelled correctly as 'thiamine') is the most easily destroyed by the heat of cooking. Folic acid is from 50% to 90% destroyed in cooking, and high heat will destroy it completely. Pyridoxine is also partly destroyed by cooking and completely destroyed by very high heat. Dry heat, such as that used in baking, will completely destroy pantothenic acid. All of the enzymes are known to be destroyed in heat of only 125° Fahrenheit, also, though the results of this are still unknown.

Cooking any food in water dissolves some of the water soluble vitamins into that water. At least twelve vitamins are affected in this way. If the cooking water is then incorporated into other foods, the vitamins can be salvaged in this way. Since most cooking water is discarded, the loss of vitamins in this manner is considerable.

Most food items that are cooked are first cut up or peeled in some manner. This opens the food

item to another vitamin destructive process in the form of oxidation. Vitamin C is especially susceptible to this oxidative destruction. Though this vitamin is inconsequential in the nutrition of most cage birds, it is absolutely vital for the health of the human population. Oxidation will render biotin inactive, and thiamin is also very susceptible to oxidation damage. Vitamin A will be destroyed by oxidation, in addition. Much of this destruction occurs on contact with oxygen in the air. The longer these vitamin compounds are exposed to the air, the greater will be the destruction.

Light, acids, and alkalis are three other destructive influences on some of the vitamins. Riboflavin, for example, is particularly susceptible to destruction caused by exposure to light. Other vitamins are destroyed by exposure to either acid or alkaline solutions. It should be obvious from this that most vitamins are rather unstable compounds and great care must be taken to preserve them in the foods offered to your birds.

Many of the commercially available vitamin-mineral preparations for birds are prepared for mixing with the seed or drinking water. I cannot support either method of supplementation. Supplements in the drinking water are at least 75% wasted in splashing, bathing, and discarding when fouled by the birds. Powdered supplements mixed in the seed are probably at least 90% wasted in birds that shell their seed. For pigeons and the gallinaceous birds that would eat the seeds in their diet whole and unshelled, the waste will be reduced to perhaps 80%. Powdered supplements do not stick to the seed well. Most of the powder will sift down through the seed and will be lost in the bottom of the container.

Only by mixing a supplement completely with a soft food acceptable to the birds can you be assured that all of the birds will get the full benefit of the supplementation. This is the method of supplementation that I have always used for my own birds, and I have found it very effective with a minimum of waste. I estimate my supplement waste at less than 10% in soft food that is removed uneaten, and this is my own fault for giving the birds more food than they will

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consume during the day. My birds are always given all they will consume of this nutritious food, and for this reason a little excess supply is unavoidable. Nevertheless, this method still translates to an actual rate of consumption by the birds at over 90% of the supplement supplied. No other method of vitamin supplementation can equal this method.

Partial or Total Loss of Vitamins

- Wet Heat will destroy ascorbic acid, folacin, pyridoxine, and thiamine but the fat soluble vitamins are stable in wet heat.
- Dry Heat will destroy ascorbic acid, folacin, pantothenic acid, thiamin and vitamin E.
- Oxidation will destroy ascorbic acid, biotin, pyridoxine, thiamine and vitamins A, D, E, K & the essential fatty acids.
- Acids will destroy pantothenic acid and vitamin K.
- Alkalis will destroy biotin, cobalamin, pantothenic acid, pyridoxine, riboflavin, thiamin, and vitamins E & K.
- Visible Light will destroy folacin, riboflavin and vitamin K.
- Ultraviolet light will destroy pyridoxine, riboflavin and vitamins A & E.
- Storage will destroy ascorbic acid, but the fat soluble vitamins are all stable in storage.
- Freezing will destroy pyridoxine, but the fat soluble vitamins are all stable to freezing.
- Exposure to trace minerals will destroy ascorbic acid and vitamins A & E.
- Rancid Fats will destroy vitamins D, E, & K, but all water soluble vitamins are stable in rancid fats.

As important as the vitamins are in nutrition, most act simply as catalysts for the completion of a biological reaction. Only a few of the vitamins are actually incorporated into the struc-

ture of the bird's body, primarily the essential fatty acids and choline. Without the minerals, the vitamins are unable to perform their functions and are mostly useless. Still, never forget that the vitamins are vital to life and to the health of birds maintained in captivity.

No nutrient works totally alone in the avian or human body. All work in concert and in cooperation with other vitamins, minerals, and enzymes. A deficiency or total lack of one of these nutrients invariably will mean deficiencies or misappropriations of others. My only regret is that so little information and research specifically on birds is available to pass along to the readers of this article.

The suspicion that vitamins may perform more esoteric functions than the strictly physical job of a catalyst is strengthened in viewing special photographs of the structure of vitamin crystals. Photographing them with magnification under polarized light reveals an unknown microscopic world. These micro-photographs reveal a pattern of structure and color that surpasses the appearance of any abstract art in beauty and design. The incredible, breathtaking beauty of the photograph of pantothenic acid, in particular, is proof of the unseen worlds that exist around us in the most delicate and perfect of microscopic structure. A number of these photographs of the vitamin crystals were published in GEO magazine, volume 2, in the July, 1980, issue.

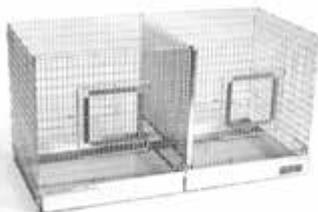
Vitamins are vital to the life, health and breeding of any bird. There is no substitute for these vitamins, and your own perfect health and the health of all of your birds depends upon an adequate intake of both the fat soluble and water soluble vitamins in the foods that you supply to your birds.

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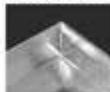
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The Penguin Zebra Finch

Tips to breeding show winning birds

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Huib Janssen

The first Penguin Zebra Finches that I bred was in 1982. I wanted to start with zebra finches that year and received a pair of normal grey which were to split penguin from a friend. I bred three Penguins from that pair and I right away loved the mutation, with its contrast between the dark grey and the white belly which was very attractive to me.

This became the my start with Penguin grey, and although penguins did not have the same physical characteristics as a normal grey can have, I still was very successful at the shows.

This was because of the good color and design they had, and they were not small but just not as big as the normal grey Zebras being shown.

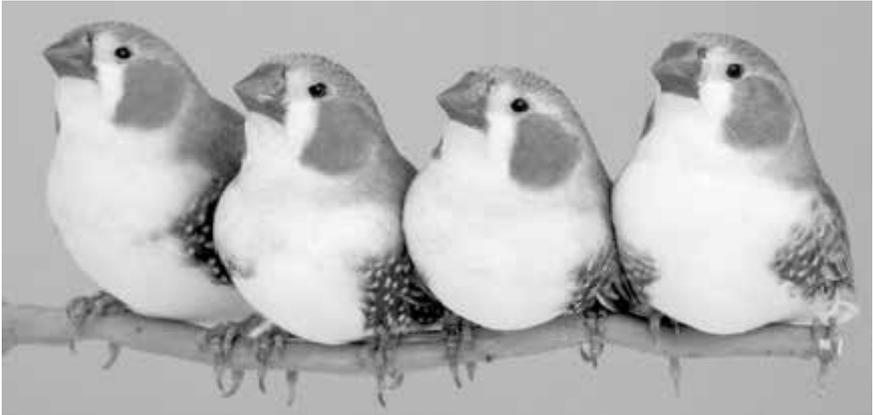
In about 1993 I decided to stop breeding penguins because I wanted to try something else.

One of the reasons was because it had been very hard to maintain the physical characteristics, and often it was hard to compete against other mutations because they didn't have that problem. Then in 1998 I heard from friends who had been in Germany, there were some very nice Penguin grey which had extremely nice confirmation.

So I contacted the German breeders of these large penguins, and they sold me some nice birds to start over again. These birds were genetically different than those we had before in the Netherlands, the "old type" did have some sort of size limiter coupled with the penguin mutation. These new birds didn't have that limiter because of a crossing over from genes.

So now we could pair penguin x penguin (generation after generation) without a loss of size. In fact, I found that the grey/penguin in fact did get smaller after pairing them together, which seems to prove the crossing over. Now in Europe the Penguin is a more popular mutation because people don't have to deal with smaller birds and because there have been many good show results with Penguin grey since 1999, which stimulates others to give it a try to breed Penguin grey for showing.

What are the important characteristics of a Penguin grey to me? First of all, they have to be as good as normal grey physically, with a nice head and short beak. They must have nice dark color, and nice deep colored cheeks and flanks. The breast of a male must be as white as possible, but to me in the beginning some stripes are



allowed because the dark color is more important, and when you have a strong dark bloodline you can select to the wanted white breast. It is more difficult to work with pale birds with white breasts working towards dark backs and markings. So again, first you have to concentrate on the nice dark color and deep colored cheek and flanks, and then select to the wanted white breasts. The same for the desired wing lacings, this is also best selected for after you first get a strong dark bloodline of Penguin grey.

So I started to select my breeding birds based on:

Males and females with a nice type.

Males and females with a nice dark colour.

Males with some breast markings was not a problem to me.

Some males and females with teardrops also was no problem to me, and the same for females with a little grey in their cheeks, because they were that dark.

In the beginning they didn't have enough of the wing lacings required in the standard because I selected only the darkest birds. This and also the white breasts of the male, improves by pairing penguin to penguin.

I don't use normal Grey or Grey/Penguin very much since the restart in 1999.

In average about 3-4 birds every 20 pairs, but that also was a result of selecting only the darkest birds to breed with. The normal greys I use

all come from a good friend of mine Mr. Bart Houben. He has the best normal greys over here in continental Europe for many years. I select for nice typed birds, with a very nice dark color and who don't have many faults. A male may not have faults like markings above the eye and behind the cheeks like split Black Cheeks often show, and their teardrops may not be washed out. Nice teardrops (even a bit wide) is no problem but should not be washed out. A normal breast bar is also allowed and they don't have to be very small because if the Penguin mutation does its job in the right way, the normal breast bar will disappear as easy as a smaller one.

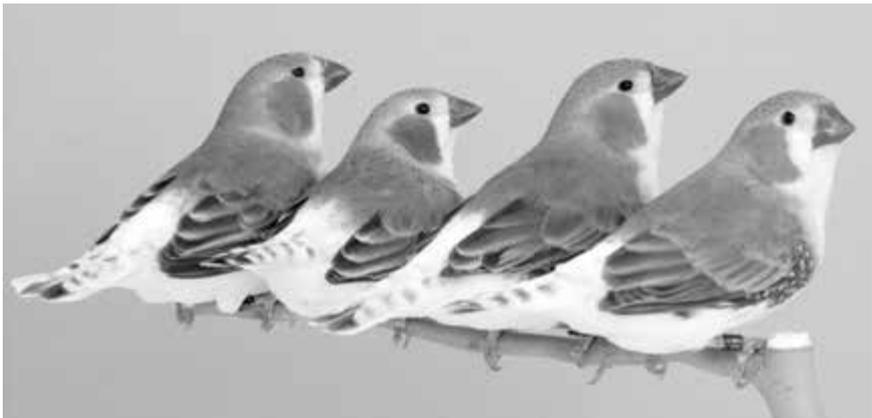
Some last hints:

Try first to get a strong bloodline of dark colored penguins and after that concentrate on the white breast of the male, the white cheeks of a female, the teardrops which must be selected away, and the lacings on the wings. Never pair birds together who have to wide wing lacings or too much white behind the cheeks.

I wish you all good luck with this beautiful Zebra finch mutation.

Huub Janssen.
Netherlands (Europe)

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Use of Droppings for Diagnosis

Reprint Exotic Bird Report - Summer 1991
Avian Sciences - UC Davis

Veterinary Insights
Dr. Jeanne Smith

Bird droppings may be a mess and a nuisance, but they can also serve as significant indicators of the birds' health and management status. I encourage my clients to become familiar with their birds' droppings and make it a habit to check the droppings before cleaning them away. If a client is bringing a bird in, I ask them to keep the same paper under the bird for several hours so I can make observations, or, if I intend to use fresh droppings for diagnostics, I ask them to put a sheet of wax paper down. You can learn certain things about a bird without ever laying a hand upon them just by checking their droppings.

Before going on, let me define a few terms. A dropping is a combination of urates (urine) and feces. The urates are generally white or cloudy and solid. Feces are usually green, tan or brown, depending on diet. Both are deposited together via the avian cloaca where the ureters and colon both exit.

Diarrhea: Diarrhea in birds is either an increased volume of feces or a more fluid form of feces. The normally mounded, formed fecal portion of the dropping is flat or may look plumper and larger than normal. I have many people tell me their birds have diarrhea when they do not. Diarrhea pertains to the fecal portion of the dropping. Diarrhea can be an indication of a sudden change in diet, an intestinal or systemic infection (bacterial, viral, *Chlamydia*, yeast or parasite), improper dietary fiber, toxins, or side effect of some medications (such as steroids or some antibiotics). Voluminous droppings, the plump, large form of diarrhea, may be an indication of malabsorption, diabetes, kidney tumors or may be a normal morning dropping.

Polyuria: Polyuria mean increased urine output. When a bird is polyuric, the droppings are usually watery, and a ring of fluid is seen on the paper around the dropping. The fecal portion still has form, however. Polyuria can be normal

in warm weather or in parents with young chicks. It may also be considered "normal" when seen in chicks just being weaned; some chicks fill up on water or moist foods instead of dry, hard foods. Polyuria is also considered normal in birds which choose to eat lots of fruits and vegetables. It can be seen with certain medications, such as gentamicin, amikacin or steroids. It may also be an indication of a kidney disease (bacterial, viral, metabolic, neoplasia) or systemic infection (feverish, systemically ill birds generally are polyuric, polydypsic), diabetes or toxicity.

Small, scant, dark green droppings: Check the food and water supplies. When birds have automatic waterers make it a point to check the waterers, periodically and check the droppings daily. Dry, small, scant droppings are an early indicator of a shortage of food or water. If the bird has access to food and water, it usually means anorexia, lack of appetite. Whenever a bird is given a change of diet or a new feeder or waterer, clean under the cage at the time of the changeover. Check the droppings daily, cleaning daily if possible. By watching the droppings you can tell if the bird is eating the new food or accepting the new feeder. I once discovered my own bird was not drinking out of a new, unfamiliar waterer by noticing her droppings had become small and dark green. When I offered her water from a syringe, she desperately drank as much as I would offer her.

Black or dark brown feces: Melena, digested blood in the feces, looks black or dark brown. Sunflower seeds sprouts have been associated with this. Trauma to the upper GI tract or upper respiratory tract (swallowing blood from sinuses, mouth, crop), lead poisoning, liver disease, severe bacterial or viral intestinal infections can cause this.

Fresh blood in droppings: Cloacal trauma, tumors, papillomas, egg laying can all lead to fresh blood seen in droppings.

Yellow/Green droppings or urates: Viruses, *Chlamydia*, liver disease can manifest as yellowish green droppings.

Reddish/brown urates: The fluid ring around a dropping looks reddish brown. This can be seen with liver damage, lead poisoning, plant pigments especially carotenoids. This is often reported in handfed babies. If the dropping is examined to rule out the presence of blood, the cause is usually unknown. These birds seem to be otherwise healthy with normal growth patterns.

Undigested Food in feces: Whole seeds or pieces of pellets in the feces may be an indication of proventricular dilatation, giardiasis, pancreatic disease, severe upper intestinal inflammation or infection. It is never considered normal.

Besides observation of droppings, other diagnostic tests can be performed using droppings.

Fresh fecal smears: Fresh feces can be examined microscopically to diagnose flagellate parasite infections, such as trichomoniasis or giardiasis. Eggs of other parasites can also be found this way. Smears may also be further processed and stained to look for parasites, gram stained for bacteria and yeast, acid fast stained to look for tuberculosis organisms.

Fecal flotation: Fresh feces are collected and mixed with a saturated salt or sugar solution. This method concentrates the eggs of parasites which will float to the top of the solution, increasing the chances of finding parasite eggs in the feces.

Fecal cultures: Feces are not the ideal sample for bacterial cultures due to the chances of contamination from the environment. A very fresh, uncontaminated dropping can be used, or droppings can be used to culture for *Salmonella*, as *Salmonella* is not likely to be an environmental contaminant.

Virus isolation or Chlamydia isolation: Feces can be collected into viral transport or *Chlamydia* transport media, solutions containing certain nutrients and antibiotics. Collecting feces over a few days from several birds increases the chances of recovering a virus or *Chlamydia* which may be intermittently shed by birds. The feces should be collected over a period of a few hours on wax paper to limit bacterial contamination.

Chlamydia ELISA or Fluorescent Antibody: Feces can be examined for *Chlamydia* antigen via enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). This is a very sensitive test which is more likely to identify *Chlamydia* than via isolation, however, false positives occur. fluorescent antibody test of droppings is very unreliable due to cross reaction with other organisms in the feces.

Get to know what normal droppings look like for your birds. If any changes occur, run through the possible causes. If you cannot determine a change is normal, consider it a valuable sign to describe to your veterinarian.



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In Search of the Zebra Finch

A Trip into Outback Australia - 2005

Roy Beckham



Abandon trailer in outback Australia

What does an abandoned trailer in the outback have to do with the search for wild Zebra finches? Here's the my story of my fifth trip to Australia, but my first time actually seeing the country's most numerous grassfinch.

Like many finch aviculturists, the Zebra was my first finch and remains my favorite finch to this day. In fact, it was my interest in Zebras that started my interest in Australia as a travel destination, but after four trips to Australia, I still had not seen a wild Zebra finch. I finally planned a

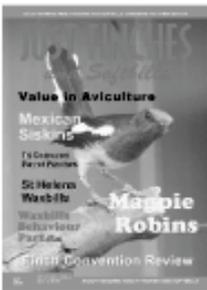
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trip that would take me to the hot and arid center of the continent and some very desolate areas specifically to find Zebras.

September 5, 2005 – This morning has me waking up at the Cape Crawford roadhouse. A small waypoint for truckers, road crews and travelers. Common for the outback, a place for gas, food and rest that is hundreds of miles from anything and usually at the juncture of joining highways. Cape Crawford joins the Capenteria and Tablelands highway – two single lane roads between nowhere and noplac and the only place to stop for the night.

The owners of the Cape Crawford roadhouse have created an oasis in the middle of the desert, but it requires that they water the grounds all night. This was great as it created little puddles all around the grounds. Birds would gather to get their morning drink and then head back into the dry bush. I'm lucky to see so many finches here

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NFSS Special Election Candidate Information

Candidate for Region 3 Vice President

I am proof positive that the saying, "Behind every good man is an even better woman." Without my wife's patience, understanding and unconditional love, I wouldn't be able to do my little hobby. We had to build 2 new house in as many years to help accommodate the growing number of birds. She said "enough" after that. She is right. It can get out of hand if you're not careful. This all started with 2 pairs of Zebra finches and a home made aviary. I never owned a "cage" until almost a year later. This has been going on for 5 years now. I have also grown into a somewhat permanent fixture in many bird fairs in the Chicago area and beyond. Between the two of us, we are raising 5 wonderful daughters between the ages of 22 and 16. Some are beginning to leave the nest (no pun intended), but they are home quite often.

Tim Wiesemann

finchwise@verizon.net

Candidates for Membership Director

Nancy D. Ingram, age 59, lives in southern Oregon with her husband and about 40 finches. She was the secretary of the NW Bird Club for the past 4 years and is currently the Vendor Chairman for their annual bird mart. Nancy maintains the current membership list for this group on a computer database. She has been breeding finches for 10 years. She has written 3 articles for the Journal of the NFSS ("Little Green Singers," "Finches and Medicinal Plants," and "Exotic Finches on a Sun Porch Aviary").

Nancy Ingram

tilesnancy@mighby.net

My name is Steven Stice and I reside in Wichita Falls, TX. I am in management for Blue Cross Blue Shield. I have experience in multi tasking, organization, budgeting, staffing, development and leadership. I also have experience in Micosoft Word and Excel. I am interested in volunteering my time for the position of NFSS Membership Director. I feel I have the skills, dedication and time required to perform the duties of this position. I am a past President and Show Chairman of the Faith City Kennel Club. I lead the board in promoting the sport of pure bred dogs. As Show Chairman, I was involved in hiring judges, organizing vendors, and working closely with the AKC to ensure we were in compliance with the show rules and regulations. The last show that I was superintendent, the club netted a profit of over \$10,000. I look forward to the challenge of the Membership Director position if elected. I would appreciate your vote of confidence.

Steven Stice



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as it is an intergrade zone between the Northern coast, the Kimberley and the central plains. I photograph Shafttails, Masked Grassfinches, Owls and now Zebra finches and would like to stay longer, but we must head down the highway towards the Barkly Homestead. The drive will take most of the day in some of the most remote areas of the Northern Territory. I'm excited to finally see the Zebras, but I also know that I have left the finches of the Kimberley and Top End behind. There will be no more Owls, Shattails or Masked Grassfinches on the rest of my trip so I turn my attention to more Zebras.



Zebras restrict movement and nap in the heat.

After Leaving Cape Crawford the roadside foliage soon changes to low scrubby bushes and grasses. No trees, just flat earth as far as the eye can see in all directions. Very few cars are encountered, but the few that we do pass all have boats. We joke that maybe they know something that we don't about this desert especially since every few miles there is a sign warning of a floodway. After hundreds of miles are behind us, we still have a few more to go, but at least the landscape is changing and there are a few trees here and there. Then, I spot an odd sight. Like a beached whale, there sits an abandoned trailer in the middle of nowhere. I must stop to photograph this strangeness.

It is hot, well over 100 degrees, so I leave the car running so that my wife can sit with the air conditioning. She is laughing that I would stop for this, but it is the first thing to break the otherwise flat horizon in hours. I mount the wide angle lens on the camera and step out into the heat. I compose and shoot my beached whale. I think, this gives new meaning to "trailer trash." I keep getting a whiff of something dead. I look to my left and behind me and finally notice the

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dead kangaroo that is decomposing under the tree. It's really hot and now it stinks. I have my shots so it's time to leave.

Then I hear the "beep, beep" of the Zebra finch!

Quick, back to the car to change camera lenses. Working with the speed of a race car pit crew, I get the long lens on and back to the tree. There are about 6 birds in the tree and they seem to be sticking together as pairs. In the heat, they seem reluctant to move away from the tree, so at least they are holding still for the photos and I can get in fairly close. However, they sit with their eyes closed and I know that this is going to make for some poor photos, so I call to them with my Zebra call to get their attention. I'm having a harder time trying to get a clear shot through the branches of the tree and keep maneuvering for a shot. If I get a clear shot, the birds move to a different branch.

After many shots, I notice that one male is ripping apart one nest and moving the materials over to a new nest. Curious as to the status of the nest, I decide to get a peek into the nest. It's too high in the tree to see from the ground even with

the telephoto lens. So I move the Land Cruiser close to the tree and get on the roof to look in the nest. Amazingly, the Zebra continues his activity of ripping apart the old nest and moving it to the new. While the nest is complete, it does not appear to have any eggs or chicks and he is simply building another roosting nest.

I'm tired of the heat and the Zebras look tired of me, so I start to pack up. I look back at this lone tree and the derelict trailer. If it were not for this strange sight I probably would not have stopped at this small tree and noticed these Zebras.



Group of Zebra finches seeking shade.

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NFSS BOD 4th QUARTER MEETING - 2006

Meeting called to order on December 3, 2006 by Sally Huntington, President

PRESENT: Sally Huntington, Brenda Josselet, Raspberry, Bob French, Bob Peers, Alfred Mion, Ginny Allen, Harry Bryant, Bill Parlee, Cecil Gunby, Lisa Murphy, Wick Goss, Paula Hansen, Doug White, Rebecca Mikel, John Wilson, Ron Castener, Daniel Gonzales, Jim Heffernan, Gail Benson, Bill Fiorini, Sharon Dvorak
ABSENT: Terry Lane Cox, Roberto Rosa, Laura Bewley.

Review of minutes from the **11/17/06 meeting at the Nationals:** Concerns with costs of Journal and band orders; Two members taking the Judge's Exam (Ken Gunby and Alfredo Brugueras) Need additional articles for the next issue of Journal; Gail Benson assumes responsibility for procuring journal advertising; First 2007 closed band shipment rec'd and preparing orders to be mailed Christmas week. 2nd 2007 closed band order is already in production – ETA January 2007. Finch Shop "on hold" until Manager appointed and funds allocated.

The following resignations were submitted to and accepted by Sally Huntington: Jim Heffernan, Exec Sec and Region 3 VP, Wick Goss, Finch Shop Manager and 1st VP ; Bob French, Region 1 VP.

"A review of Motion #2005-19 ***Board Member Packets to be prepared and sent to new Board Members,***" made by Brenda Josselet and seconded by Shelley Ortman in 2005, verifies that the Exec. Secretary is responsible for preparing and sending these packets. Information to include: List of all Officers and contact information, a map defining each "Region", By-Laws of the Society, Membership Apps., General informational brochure about the NFSS"

Awards Manager as voting/non-voting and appointed/elected status reviewed. Ginny to search historical information for clarification; any changes may include a by-law change. Bill notes Board-appointed positions and Pres. Emeritus are appointed & non-voting.

Proposal that **Society Finch Standard** be accepted as written. Suggested BOD hold formal action until they hear fully from the NFSS membership. Membership was provided the opportunity to comment with scientific data or studies which substantiate suppositions. Ongoing controversy regarding the hybrid vs non-hybrid status. Raspberry to write a summary of discussion held on the membership forum and submit as article in the Journal. Cecil Gunby offers to assist in filtering information received by a committee established to conduct further review.

Judges Handbook continues to be distributed to persons expressing interest in entering the Apprenticeship Program. Paula to work on an updated version and requests any updates.

All members of the BOD encouraged to complete and submit their copy of the **Census** included in the most recent Journal.

Harry Bryant advised the BOD that the **FSS** information currently on the NFSS website is outdated and needs to be updated by the FSS Department. Census results can and will be placed on the website once they are compiled. Harry also advised that we could set up Census interactively on the website in the future, but it would take some time and if the FSS Manager would have to monitor. He also advised that if it was put on line, members without computer access could not access.

Membership information provided by Brenda; data base appears to be current and work on renewals begins. Report of membership expirations posted and some appear to include Judges and Officers. Delinquency to be confirmed given errors evidenced in the past. Cecil provided with the names of Judges with expired memberships and has contacted them. Membership monies relating to **band sales** - only members in good standing are sold closed, traceable NFSS bands. Brenda to provide a confirmed copy to Paula for use in distribution of bands.

Affiliation packets ready for the printer; electronic copies to be e-mailed to clubs for whom we have e-mail addresses. Doug will place article in the upcoming Journal regarding club affiliation. "One year" membership expires on December 31st.

Finch Shop items reviewed. Finch Shop Manager to be delegated responsibility of assuring items are carried for which a profit can be recognized. Manager requested to submit a list of suggested available items and costs vs profits to the BOD. Purchases of over \$200 require BOD approval. Need to assure all prior obligations are fulfilled.

Lisa submits request for Departmental **Budget** info - Some information unavailable due to vacant positions. If necessary, budgets to be developed with \$0 funds allocated to those cost centers until a Director elected. Once elected they may then submit a request for approval of a budget and funds will be allocated. Lisa posts draft of 2007 budget as well as 2006 to provide basis for comparison. She requests information pertaining to audits and 501 (3) (c) documents, which allow us to maintain not-for-profit status. Maintenance of this status also requires a 1099 form be provided to any person receiving over \$599 per calendar year. Significant decline in available funds over past year is noted.

Journal & related costs reviewed. Run quantities are total membership plus 10% - Harry needs accurate membership numbers. Quantity discounts available when meeting minimum order quantity criteria. Cost of First-Class mailing was questioned and Harry reported that it eliminates delivery problems. He also noted that when mailing "bulk" the Post Office requires that the mail be sorted and presented in mail trays and only saves money when in large volumes; (i.e. 1000 + pcs). Journal is one of our biggest assets but also significant expense. Current financial standing of the Society requires reduction of costs in all areas including journal. Harry to review format, paper stock used, appropriateness of submissions, assuring no duplicity. Gail Benson, **Advertising Manager**, is soliciting ads for the Journal and conducting an audit to research payment status for current ads. Timeliness of distribution, printing, and publication as it relates to payment of editors fees reviewed.

NFSS Judges expected to possess a strong working knowledge of species and mutation standards while recognizing breeders create color mutations not fitting current standards. Mutations must be stabilized with enough consistency to justify the production of a standard with which a judge may familiarize her/himself. Judges held to standards adopted by the Society in the selection process as well as in the continuing education of the Panel. Plans are to institute Continuing Education program for current judges with study assignments for particular areas and approval programs becoming more stringent. Recommendations made for NFSS Panel Chairman to select a prominent exhibitor/breeder in each mutation field and ask for comments regarding changes in mutations that will be of assistance to judges. A compilation of that information to be sent to each Judge along with a list of papers and books available on finch mutations. Caution taken to assure Apprentice Test addresses mutations. Also, Judges Panel Director to attend the National show and conduct Judging Clinics and give consideration to requiring Judges to "re-qualify" when not having judged a show within a pre-determined period of time.

2007 PROPOSED BUDGET

Please find below the Proposed Budget for 2007 as submitted by each department. We have a difficult year ahead for all of us, but as a "Team" we can pull our financial matters together. As you can see from the submitted budget below, we have very little room for error this coming year and ALL departments will need to stay within the proposed budget. I am in hopes that during the next several months, adjustments will be made to lower some of our expenses and we will start to see a rise in our bank accounts. The End of Year/4th Quarter Treasurer's Report will be submitted at the 2007 1st

Quarter BOD meeting, as not all information required to finish the report has been received.

NFSS 2007 BUDGET

DEPARTMENT	INCOME	EXPENSE
Bands	\$11,950	\$6,009
Finch Shop	\$500	\$500
Membership	\$22,500	\$1,450
Awards	\$1,750	\$1,600
Affiliations	\$1,000	\$200
Finch Save	\$0	\$0
1 st VP/Regional VP	\$0	\$200
4 th VP Judges Panel	\$230	\$0
Misc	\$850	\$615
Journal	\$0	\$27,012
Advertising	\$3,000	400
Website	\$0	\$150
TOTAL	\$41,780	\$38,136
PROFIT/LOSS	\$3,644	

You will find below information concerning the Open Issues we have with the IRS. Per Sally's request, I am posting the information as it stands today (12/31/06). **If you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please direct your questions to Sally Huntington or Bill Parlee.** I will inform the BOD of any other information I receive on this matter.

Issue 1: (Repercussions for Non Filers- IRS Form 990) If the IRS does not receive a tax return from a Tax-Exempt Organization, they may file a "Substitute for Return" for the organization, based on the last return filed with **NO** deductions allowed. A tax-exempt organization that fails to file a required return is subject to a penalty of \$20.00 a day for each day the failure continues (May 15, 2006 to Dec. 31, 2006 would be 230 Days @ \$20.00 = \$4,600.00) plus interest (8% compounded daily) and 1/2% per month for failure to pay from the due date of that return which was due May 15, 2006. If the IRS files a "Substitute for Return", NFSS will owe taxes. Four notices are sent to pay the taxes. After the fourth notice, the IRS can take action and begin to levy bank accounts. The IRS could also revoke our 501(c)(3) status.

We have received three notices to file the return to date. The NFSS Treasurer (Lisa Murphy) has sent a letter to the IRS addressing this issue requesting that they withhold any actions of enforcement and has requested a May 31, 2007 time line to complete the form. The last letter was received 12/30/06 (forward from Mark Phelps) stating that the file has now been forwarded to the ACS (Automated Collection System) department for **ACTION. The letter dated 12/23/06 requested a response within 10 Days.** Due to the fact I did not receive the letter till yesterday, this will not be achieved.

The IRS offices are closed till 1/3/07, at which time I will call as well as send a copy (return receipt requested) of the letter sent to Ogden, UT. last week. The Treasurer will notify the NFSS BOD when she receives a response.

Issue 2: (2004 Financial Records Missing)

The reason the 2005 Form 990 has not been completed is that information from the 2004 return is required. **All financial records for 2004 are missing from the Treasury files.** A request has been mailed to the IRS requesting a copy of the 2004 Form 990; normally it takes 6 to 8 weeks to receive. If no records are available for 2004, and the return is pulled for an audit, **NO** deductions will be allowed because they cannot be substantiated. Taxes will be owed plus a 1/2% penalty for failure to pay and 8% interest (compounded daily) from **May 15, 2005.**

Lisa Murphy, NFSS Treasurer

As of 1/8/07 the following is where we stand with the open IRS issues:

ISSUE 1: (IRS Form 990)

The IRS Form 990 was completed and mailed on 1/5/07. We are due to receive a notice from the IRS (late Feb./early March) informing us of the penalties/interest we owe for not filing the Form 990 on time (May 15, 2006). I have been informed that we should pay the penalties/interest in full, at which time we can also file a IRS Form 843 (Claim for Refund and Request for Abatement) which I have requested Sally to complete and forward to me. I have been in contact with the IRS concerning this issue several times thus far, and will continue to do so until this issue is resolved. The penalty of \$20.00 per day (since May 16, 2006) will stop once the Form 990 is received, **BUT** the interest (8% compounded daily) **WILL** continue until the **FULL** amount is paid. We will have to pay the **FULL** amount owed before the Form 843 can be filed. Once the Form 843 is filed, (which only covers the penalty **NOT** interest), it will take approximately 2 months for the review and a decision to be made by the IRS.

ISSUE 2: (2004 Financial Records)

The Financial Records for 2004 have been received from Bob French on 1/6/07, which closes this issue.

Lisa Murphy, NFSS Treasurer

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Cecil Gunby, 4th Vice-President, Judges Panel, Standards/Research: Not all show reports have been received as of the date of this writing so show and point reports will not be ready for publication until the Mar/April Journal. Ended 2006 with 22 Judges on Panel, 1 new Judge approved during present BOD meeting. One Apprentice passed test and will serve Apprenticeship in

'07; 2 other Apprentice Applicants – 1 a Canadian member. Largest show this year was Puerto Rico with 359 entries – most of which are unflighted. Second largest show – NCBS Nationals with 228 birds from Puerto Rico, U.S., and Canada. Under the guidance of our new 1st VP we are hoping to see a renewed stimulation in the interest of shows which will be of great benefit to the Society. **NOTE:** Failure to place membership numbers on show reports delays timeliness and accuracy of point assignments.

Bob Peers, 1st Vice President/Awards Manager & Doug White/Affiliations: During FY 2006, awards and affiliations sales were combined. During FY 2007, there may be separate cost centers established for both. Sales for these 2 departments for 2006 were \$2255.50 and expenses were \$1807.41, for a profit of \$448.09. There were no expenses or current activities report for the 1st VP position at this time.

Brenda Josselet, Membership Director, Pro-Tem: Renewal notices sent to members with expiring memberships back to 8/06; "Thanks for Renewing" letters out to members who joined or renewed through 12/06; membership lists by region sent to Regional VP's with request to assist in contacting current and expired members. **Current Membership:** Single: 498, Dual 182, Junior 8, Foreign 22, Dual Foreign 2, Affiliates: 24. TOTAL: 712 (not including Affiliates).

Harry Bryant, 2nd Vice-President/Editor: Journal back on schedule and Jan/Feb issue is at the printer's and to be mailed soon. Mar/April issue being laid out and will go to printer soon. All 2007 issues started. Website moved to new host and now runs faster. New reporting capabilities show various statistics (# of hits, what pages viewed, viewer info – location, their search engine, what browser). Web pages being updated and uploading NFSS journals so available for free download.

Paula Hansen, Band Secretary: Total Band Sales and Estimated Sales:

September - 17 mail/17 Pay Pal	Total \$ 560.25
October - 12 mail/14 Pay Pal	Total \$ 606.05
November - 26 mail/26 Pay Pal	Total \$2,799.45
As of 12/5/06 - 16 Mail/10 Pay Pal	Total \$ 538.75

Remember to use the NEW band order form effective 1/1/07. Was informed Amazon Books on line is sold out, but NFSS still has a few issues of *Breeding American Song Birds* left.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1/7/07 – Sally Huntington.

Motions from NFSS BOD 4th Quarter Meeting - 2006

MOTION	COMMENT	BY	2ND	VOTE	STATUS
2006-8	Clarify Motion 2006-1 and provide (1) free, full pg ad to Affiliating Clubs sponsoring Regional Shows	Bryant	Josselet	9 Yes 0 Against 0 Abstain	Pass
2006-9	Rebecca Mikel be appointed Exec Sec. Pro Tem (Resume provided)	Bryant	Hansen	10 Yes 0 Against 1 Abstain	Pass
2006-10	BOD forum be closed except 4 months during 1/4ly Meetings	Bryant	Josselet	2 Yes 9 Against 0 Abstain	Fail
2006-11	Bob Peers be appointed Region 3 VP Pro Tem (Bob later submits resignation; see Motion 2006-15)	Bryant	Raspberry	10 Yes 0 Against 0 Abstain	Pass
2006-12	NFSS Judges to distribute NFSS Membership Apps.	Bryant	Hansen	10 Yes 0 Against 1 Abstain	Pass
2006-13	Sharon Dvorak be appointed Finch Shop Mgr (Bio provided)	Murphy	Gunby	6 Yes 4 Against 1 Abstain	Pass
2006-14	Ken Gunby be accepted as NFSS judge (all requirements met)	Murphy	Gunby	8 Yes 3 Against 0 Abstain	Pass
2006-15	Bob Peers be appointed 1st V.P.	Murphy	Gunby	7 Yes 3 Against 1 Abstain	Pass
2006-16	Bill Fiorini be appointed Region 3 V.P. (Bio provided)	Murphy	Gunby	6 Yes 3 Against 2 Abstain	Pass
2006-17	4th Quarter Meeting be Adjourned	Bryant	Raspberry	3 Yes 8 Against 0 Abstain	Fail
2006-18	Accept 2007 Budget as proposed	Mion	Bryant	12 Yes 0 Against 0 Abstain	Pass
2006-19	4th Quarter Meeting be Adjourned	Peers	Gunby	10 Yes 0 Against 0 Abstain	Pass

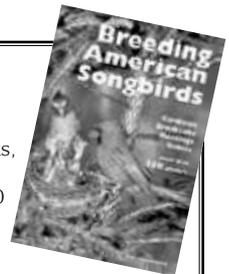
Respectfully submitted, Rebecca E. Mikel, NFSS Executive Secretary, Pro-Tem

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white.douglas@lincoln.navy.mil

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Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society

Delegate: Ray Schwartz,
Phone: 603-362-6106 - email: Primsdad@aol.com
Club Email: member-support@BOAF.com
Club website: www.boaf.com
Show/Expo: Spring Mart 5/20/07
Location: Wayfarer Convention Center
121 South River Rd Bedford, NH 03110
Information contact: Wick Goss, Ph. 603-463-3738
Show/Expo: Fall Show and Mart 10/27/07
Location: Wayfarer Convention Center
121 South River Rd Bedford, NH 03110
Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau
Information contact: Ray Schwartz,
Phone: 603-362-6106 - email: Primsdad@aol.com

Astoria Bird Club

Delegate: Dan Griffin, email: dgriffi1@yahoo.com
Show/Expo: TBA
Location: 9401 Seaview Ave, Brooklyn NY
Information contact: Dan Griffin
Phone: 917-741-3124 - email: dgriffi1@yahoo.com

Gulf Coast Bird Club Inc.

Delegate: Terry Perez
Club Email: tbirds@mobiletel.com
Show/Expo: Show 3/3 & 4/2007
Location: Evergreen Cajun Center
4694 West Main, Houmay, La
Judge: Laura Bewley & Dr Al. Decoteau
Information contact: Terry Perez,
Ph: 985-665-3902 - email: tbirds@mobiletel.com
Other Divisions: Cockatiel

Empire Finch & Canary Club

Delegate: John Lund
Ph: 516-564-4692, email: irmanperez@aol.com
Show/Expo: Nov 10, 2007
Location: St. Marks Methodist Church, 200
Hempstead Ave, Rockville Center, NY
Information contact: Gabe Dillon, 516-593-2841
Other Divisions: Colorbred, Type, & Gloster Canaries

Central California Cage Bird Club

Delegate: Chryse Seeman
Club Email: zbirds@hotmail.com
Club website: <http://www.geocities.com/cccbcl>
Show/Expo: show 10/27/07
Location: SOS Club, 819 Sunset Ave, Modesto, Ca
Information contact:
Chryse Seeman - zbirds@hotmail.com
Ben Jones - NJones7110@aol.com
Other Divisions: Type, Colorbred & Singer Canaries

New York Finch & Type Canary Club

Delegate: Stan Kulak,
Ph: 718-967-6899 email: barstand@aaahawk.com
Club Email: barstand@aaahawk.com
Club Web Address: www.newyorkfinch.com
Show/Expo: 10/20/07
Location: TBA
Information: Stan Kulak - barstand@aaahawk.com

Raleigh-Durham Cage Bird Society

Delegate: April Blazich
Club Email: RDCBS.org
Club website: www.RDCBS.org
Show Date: 5/26/07
Location: NC State Fairgrounds, Kerr-Scott Building
Gate 11, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607
Judge: Cecil Gunby
Information contact: Jim Dvorak
Ph: 919-266-4935 - email: dvoraknc@netzero.com
Other Divisions: NCS, ALBS, SPBE, IPS

SE Tennessee Aviculture Society

Delegate: Susan Murphy
Club Email: suern0909@bellsouth.net
Club website: www.stasbirdclub.com
Show Date: 9/22-23
Location: George R. Stuart School
Keith St & 20th St NW, Cleveland, TN 37312
Information contact: Lisa Murphy
Ph: 423-263-0483 - email: wlmurphy@usit.net
Other Divisions: NCS, NAPS

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders

Delegate: Jim Heffernan
 Club Email: tielnmore@aol.com
 Club website:
 www.societyofcanaryandfinchbreedersofmichigan.com
 Show/Expo: show 10/20-21, Fair 5/19
 Judge: Patrick Vance

Cascade Canary Breeders Association

Delegate: Janel Johnson
 Club Email: Katbird57@aol.com
 Show/Expo: show 11/24-25
 Location: Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe, WA
 Information contact: Janel Johnson
 Katbird57@aol.com
 Other Divisions: Type and Colorbred Canary

Mid America Cage Bird Society

Delegate: John Thielking
 Club Email: Thielking@iowalink.com
 Club website: www.MACBS.org
 Show/Expo: 10/6-7 Hosting GABS, 3/25 Bird
 Exhibit, 5/20 Bird Carnival, 8/26 Feather Fair
 Location: Airport Holiday Inn
 61111 Fleur Dr, Des Moines, IA 50321
 Judge: Dr Al Decoteau & TBA
 Information contact: John Thielking
 Ph: 515-278-9159 - email: Thielking@Iowalink.com
 Other Divisions: 10/6 Colorbred & Type Canaries,
 Budgies, hookbills, lovebirds
 10/7 Hookbills, Cockatiels, Lovebirds

Southeast Bird Fanciers

Delegate: Ginney Allen
 Ph: 334-749-7168, email: gndallen@bellsouth.net
 Club website:
 http://members.tripod.com/sebfg/sebf.htm
 Show/Expo: Bird Fair 3/3, 6/5, 9/8 12/8
 Location: Atlanta Farmers Market

Eastside Finch Connection

Delegate: KJ and Linda Brown
 Ph: 503-266-7606 - JeepersPeepers55@aol.com
 Show/Expo: Finch Show Nov 10-11 2007
 Location: Gresham National Guard Armory
 500 NE Division St, Gresham, OR
 Judge: Clarence Culwell
 Information contact: Linda Brown
 Ph: 503-266-7606 - JeepersPeepers55@aol.com
 Other Divisions: Type and Colorbred Canary

Suncoast Avian Society

Delegate: Mari Howard
 Club Email: whoward7@tampabay.rr.com
 Club website: www.suncoastaviansociety.org
 Show Date: August 4, 2007
 Location: St Petersburg Coliseum
 535 4th Ave N., St Petersburg, FL 34695
 Judge: Marion Sparzak
 Information contact: Mari Howard
 Ph: 727-726-6864 - whoward7@tampabay.rr.com
 Other Divisions: ACS, ABS, SPBE

Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club

Delegate: Shanna Dollarhide
 Club Email: scvcebc@yahoo.com
 Club website: www.geocities.com/scvcebc
 Show Date: December 1, 2007
 Location: Centennial Hall
 22292 Foothill Blvd, Hayward, CA
 Information contact: Shanna Dollarhide
 Shanna@coloronthewing.com

Texas Bird Breeders

Delegate: Clarence Culwell
 COculwell@myfam.com
 Club website: www.texasbirdbreeders.org
 Show Date: November 3, 2007
 Location: Mayborn Convention Center, Temple TX
 Judge: Cecil Gunby
 Information contact: Clarence Culwell,
 COculwell@myfam.com
 Other Divisions: Budgies, Cockatiels, Canaries,
 Parrots, Lovebirds

Tri-State Avian Society

Delegate: Christine Maples
 Club Email: Christine@maplerun.net
 Club website: Tristateaviansociety.org
 Show Date: May 19-20 2007
 Location: North Florida Fairgrounds
 441 Paul Russell Rd, Tallahassee Fl 32301
 Information contact: Christine Maples
 Ph: 850-562-2800 - Christine@maplerun.net

Central Wisconsin Cage and Wild Bird Club

Saturday, May 19, 2007 10am to 3pm.
 Location: Central Wisconsin Fair Grounds
 Marshfield, Wisconsin.
 Contact info: Marlene Minor
 Ph: 715-884-2659 - email: mminor@tds.net

West Coast Zebra & Society Finch Specialty Show

Delegate: Raspberry
 Ph: 503-233-4274 - email:raspberr@iinet.com
 Show Date: July 27-28, 2007
 LaQuinta Inn, 200 Jibboom, Sacramento, CA.

Central Alabama Avicultural Society, Inc.

Delegate: Margie Lanier
 Club Email: claude707@cs.com
 Club website: www.caosociety.com
 Show/Expo: Show and fair Sept 1-2 2007
 Location: Quality Inn and Suites
 2705 East South Blvd, Montgomery, AL 36116
 Judge: Miki Spartzak & Conrad Meinert
 Information contact: Ted Sexton,
 Ph: 256-892-3072 - tedsexton@bellsouth.net
 Other Divisions: Cockatiels, Parrots

Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club

Delegate: Timothy McCormick
 donglo57@bellsouth.net
 Club Email: jim.dwyer@netzero.net
 Show/Expo: meetings 4th Sunday 2pm
 Location: Port Salerno Civic Center
 4710 SE Anchor Ave, Stuart Fl

Canary Club of Minnesota

Delegate: Jeanne Murphy
 Ph: 651-459-5787 - pinataminiatures@yahoo.com
 Club website: canaryclub.su.com
 Show Date: Nov 4, 2007
 Location: River Heights Motel
 1020 US Hwy 10, Prescott, WI 54021
 Judge: Martha Wigmore
 Information contact: Darlene Witt, Jeanne Murphy,
 715-265-7008
 Other Divisions: Canaries

Fort Worth Bird Club

Delegate: Clarence Culwell -coculwell@myfam.com
 Club website: www.fwbc.org
 Show Date: September 29, 2007
 Location: Grapevine Convention Center
 1202 South Main, Grapevine TX
 Judge: Clarence Culwell
 Information contact: Jerry Cason
 Ph: 817-237-5867 - jerrycason@mindspring.com

Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club

Delegate: Ninez Giles
 Ph: 615-297-2281 - email: nineze@juno.com
 Club Email: lbryant@vci.net
 Club website:
 www.middletennesseecagebirdclub.com
 Show/Expo: Club Fair, Show, and Sale 10/13/2007
 Location: Tennessee State Fairgrounds
 Annex Bldg, Nashville Tn
 Judge: Cecil Gunby
 Information contact: Ed Phillips
 Ph: 615-848-2582 - eddiestoo@yahoo.com
 Other Divisions: NAPS, NCS, NCA

Finch Society of San Diego

Delegate: Sally Huntington - sallych@san.rr.com
 Club website: www.sandiegofinchsociety.com

Finch & Softbill Breeders & Exhibitors

Delegate: Bob Peers, email: r.peers@comcast.net

Michiana Bird Society

Delegate: Betty Gillespie
 Club Email: lollidaig@verizon.net

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society

Delegate: Alfred & Julianne Mion
 Club Email:julianne@mnsi.net
 Club website: www.essexkentcbs.com
 Information contact: Alfred Mion,
 julianne@mnsi.net

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XF (2.3mm)	XCS (2.8mm)	XCL (3.1mm)	XB (4.0mm)	X3 (4.5mm)

SIZING RECOMMENDATIONS - MORE LISTINGS AT [WWW.NFSS.ORG](http://www.nfss.org)

<p>Size A (2.20mm): Gold-breasted Waxbill, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Owl Finch, Red-eared Waxbill, Strawberry Finch, small waxbills.</p> <p>Size B (2.35mm): Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cordon Bleu, Cuban Melodious Finch, Fire Finch, Olive Finch, Rufous-backed Mannikin, Timor Zebra, Peales Parrot Finch.</p> <p>Size C (2.55mm): Violet Eared & Blue-capped Waxbills, Cherry Finch, Bronze-winged Mannikin, Green/Gray Singing Finch, Shafttail, Lavender Finch, Painted Finch, Pytilias, Red-headed & Forbes Parrot Finches, Silverbills, Star Finch, Red Siskin, Society Finch.</p>	<p>Size D (2.75mm): Blue-faced Parrot Finch, Gouldian Finch, Chestnut-breasted & most mannikins, most Parrot finches, Pintailed Nonpareil, most Twinspots, Zebra Finch.</p> <p>Size E (2.95mm): Black-crested Finch, Diamond sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspot, Siskins, Spice Finch, European Goldfinch, European Zebra.</p> <p>Size G (3.20mm): Magpie Mannikin, Siberian Goldfinch, small tanagers.</p> <p>Size J (3.4mm): Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias, small softbills.</p>	<p>Size K (3.50mm): Java Rice Birds, Red-crested Cardinal, Saffron Finch, Shama Thrush</p> <p>Size L (4.30mm): Diamond Dove, Mousebirds, small doves, quail.</p> <p>Size M (4.40mm): Leaf Birds, Pagoda Mynah, Superb Starlings.</p> <p>Size R (7.10mm): Green and Purple Starlings.</p> <p>Size S (7.60mm): Indian Hill Mynah, Java Mynah, Ring-necked Dove, Toucanettes, White-tailed Jay.</p> <p>Size T (8.70mm): Small Hornbills, Toucans, Touracos, Plush-capped Jay.</p>
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Handling Fee – Always Include Handling Fee

• Under \$40 = \$3.00 • \$41-\$60 = \$5.00 • \$61+ = 8.00

Band Subtotal: _____

Postal Insurance – Optional. No Insurance. No Replacements.

• Under \$50 = \$1.35 • \$50-\$100 = \$2.25 • \$100+ = \$3.25

Handling: _____

Mail to: Paula Hansen
 2234 Juneau Ct S
 Salem, OR 97302

Questions:
 (503) 581-8208
phhansen@earthlink.net

Insurance: _____

~ **Order On-line at www.nfss.org** ~

TOTAL: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail: _____ NFSS Member # _____

The banding and marking of wild birds is tightly regulated by the Federal government. It is illegal to use any band on a bird that is released to the wild except a Federal band issued by the US Fish and Wildlife.

THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBALL SOCIETY

Special Election Ballot – 2007

Due to the resignations of four officers on the NFSS Board of Directors, four members were appointed to fill these positions as Pro Tem Officers.

The NFSS bylaws provide for an election to permanently fill these positions. Article 5, Paragraph 5 States:

In the event an Officer, either elected or appointed, dies, resigns, or is Removed, the Board may appoint a Pro Tem Officer. If less than 180 Days remain until the next regularly scheduled election, the Pro Tem Officer will serve until that time. If more than 180 days remain until The next regularly scheduled election, the Pro Tem Officer will serve until a special election is held.

Please complete the ballot below by making an "X" in the box or writing in a candidate and return this entire document in an envelope addressed to:

NFSS ELECTION
C/O John Wilson
1238 Vermont St.
San Francisco CA 94110

ENVELOPES CONTAINING THIS BALLOT MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 28, 2007

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

NFSS Membership Number: _____

(This must be completed or the ballot will not be counted)
Dual-membership members submit two separate ballots.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT:

- Bob Peers
 Write in candidate: _____

REGION 1 VICE PRESIDENT: *Only members residing in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, and West Virginia may vote for this candidate*

Region 1 State in which you reside: _____

- Tom Keegan
 Write in candidate: _____

REGION 3 VICE PRESIDENT: *Only members residing in the states of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, Australia, Bermuda, England may vote for this candidate*

Region 3 State in which you reside: _____

- Tim Wiesemann *Candidate information back of page
 Write in candidate: _____

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:

- Nancy D. Ingram *Candidate information back of page
 Steve Slice *Candidate information back of page
 Write in candidate: _____

FINCH SHOP:

- Sharon Dvorack
 Write in candidate: _____

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

- Rebecca Mikel
 Write in candidate: _____

AFFILIATED CLUBS

Club Name: _____

(This must be completed or the ballot will not be counted)
DELEGATE: This ballot should reflect the views of the club you represent.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT:

- Bob Peers
 Write in candidate: _____

REGION 1 VICE PRESIDENT: *Only members residing in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, and West Virginia may vote for this candidate*

Region 1 State in which you reside: _____

- Tom Keegan
 Write in candidate: _____

REGION 3 VICE PRESIDENT: *Only members residing in the states of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, Australia, Bermuda, England may vote for this candidate*

Region 3 State in which you reside: _____

- Tim Wiesemann *Candidate information back of page
 Write in candidate: _____

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:

- Nancy D. Ingram *Candidate information back of page
 Steve Slice *Candidate information back of page
 Write in candidate: _____

FINCH SHOP:

- Sharon Dvorack
 Write in candidate: _____

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

- Rebecca Mikel
 Write in candidate: _____

