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Journal of the

# National Finch & Softbill Society

Vol. 27, No. 6

Nov / Dec 2010



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## NFSS Mission Statement

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.

## Journal of the National Finch & Softbill Society

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Cover: Serinus dorsostriatus or White Bellied Canary male. Photo by John Santegoeds.

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# President's Message



## Finch and Softbill Save: Preserving the Future of Aviculture

**T**his issue contains two articles focused on the genus *Serinus* and the European avicultural community's efforts to establish breeding strains of these birds in the absence of wild caught imports. Tom Keegan, our Journal Editor and NFSS 2nd VP, addresses the relevance of the European experience to our future, which almost certainly includes disruption of imports and ultimately complete cessation of the importing of wild caught birds. This comes as we refocus on our own NFSS Finch and Softbill Save (FSS) program. There are now six Species Groups up and running on Yahoo Groups.

NFSS-FSS-Coliidae-Mousebirds  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS-FSS-Coliidae-mousebirds>). Species Coordinator: Kateri Davis ([DLAviaries@aol.com](mailto:DLAviaries@aol.com)).

NFSS-FSS-Erythrura-Parrot-Finches  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS-FSS-Erythrura-Parrot-Finches>). Species Coordinator: Scott Golden ([scottgoldens@hotmail.com](mailto:scottgoldens@hotmail.com)).

NFSS-FSS-European-Softbills  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS-FSS-European-Softbills>). Species Coordinator: Jim Heffernan ([Tielnmore@aol.com](mailto:Tielnmore@aol.com)).

NFSS-FSS-Pynonotus-Bulbuls  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS-FSS-pynonotus-Bulbuls>). Species Coordinator: Sally Huntington ([sallych@san.rr.com](mailto:sallych@san.rr.com)).

NFSS-FSS-Serinus-Group  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS-FSS-Serinus-group>). Species Coordinator: Bob Peers ([r.peers@comcast.net](mailto:r.peers@comcast.net)).

NFSS-FSS-Uraeginthus-Bue-Purple-Waxbills  
(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NFSS-FSS-Uraeginthus-Blue-Purple-Waxbills>). Species coordinator: Vonda Zwick ([VondaFSS@finchaviary.com](mailto:VondaFSS@finchaviary.com)).

If you are keeping/breeding species included in these groups, please consider joining the species group. Contact Vonda Zwick, 3rdVP@nfss.org or John Wilson president@nfss.org with questions.

Vonda Zwick the 3rd VP - NFSS Finch and Softbill Save Program/Census Manager has written a "Letter to Breeders" providing contact information for the program to be passed to buyers and provided to dealers so those buying any of these birds will have an opportunity to join our community of breeders. The letter is available @ <http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/64168/120869874/name/FSSLetterToBreeders.pdf>

Please support our FSS outreach effort by printing and distributing this letter.

This issue also contains a special election ballot for Membership Director. Tiffany Park has provided a responsive and professional presentation to this very critical position and I ask the membership to join me in removing "pro tem" from the title by casting a vote for Tiffany in this special election.

This issue will be reaching you very close to the opening of our NFSS Annual show, deftly resurrected in San Diego after the NCBS was cancelled. I sincerely hope to see many of you there and want to express special thanks to Sally Huntington and the Finch Society of San Diego County for their efforts to host our annual show.

Respectfully,

John Wilson  
President

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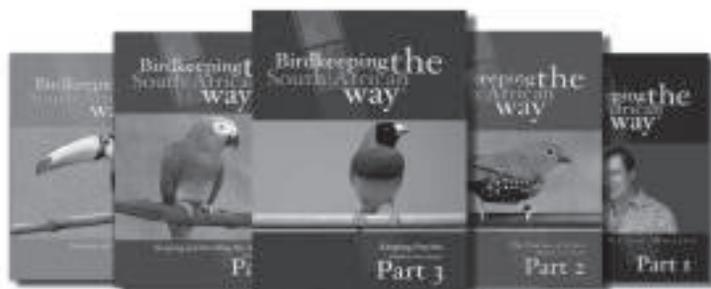
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# NFSS Board Of Directors Meeting

## 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER 2010

- Bank Balance: \$31,116.35
- MEMBERSHIP: 552 AFFILIATIONS: 43
- Legislative Liaison continues work with CAPWIZ, involved in the "Garcia confiscation", AAV and AVMA regarding development of guidelines for animal confiscations in the future, and working with some reps from zoos regarding their involvement in NFSS FSS.
- 4th working with Standards Committees on development of new standards for Cuban Melodious and European Goldfinch
- Region Realignment presents suggestion for re-organization of NFSS regions
- NCBS Cancelled for 2010, San Diego Finch Club and West Coast Zebra/Society Show Committee will host a "National Finch Show" in San Diego in November
- Bill Parlee and Michael Gravely complete review of the 2009 Financial Records of NFSS
- 2011 budget being developed. 2011 is an Election Year and associated costs for that process to be incorporated into the budget. BOD will not be paying an accounting firm to collect or count ballots this year.

MOTION#	BY	SECOND	MOTION	RESULT
2010-11	Murphy	Moase	SEE BELOW	PASS
2010-12	Peers	Park	SEE BELOW	PASS
2010-13	Mikel	Moase	Accept 2009 Audit	PASS
2010-14	Gravely	Mikel	SEE BELOW	PASS
2010-15	Peers	Murphy	SEE BELOW	PASS
2010-16	Murphy	Ortman	Accept Minutes/ Adjourn Meeting	PASS

11: The show proposed by the Finch Society of San Diego on the dates of the cancelled NCBS be designated the 2010 NFSS Annual Show and NFSS guarantee financial support in an amount not to exceed \$1000 to cover expenses associated with hiring a judge

and advertising show. Futher, regular budgeted expenses of awards and Afternoon of Aviculture will be handled as in previous shows

12: Realign regions by taking following actions (definition of new regions)

- 1: Add Region 8 and move VA nad WV to Region 2
- 2: Add VA, WV, and PR and move TN to Region 3
- 3: Add TN
- 4: Combine Region 4 & 5
- 5: Previous Region 6

14: BOD to authorize the NFSS FSS Group Coordinators to award one year free NFSS memberships to not more than 5 individuals or organizations to encourage their participation in the NFSS FSS.

15: Shelly Ortman and Deb and Brad Clark to receive and count ballots for Membership Director Special Election.

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# The European Society of Serinus Breeders: RELEVANCE TO AMERICAN AVICULTURE

by Tom Keegan, NFSS 2nd Vice President

In this issue of the Journal, I'm happy to print the first two articles in a series of six that was recently sent to me by representatives of the European Society of Serinus Breeders (ESSB). This European initiative is being undertaken to help preserve the various species of carduelian finches in European bird rooms and aviaries in light of the current ban on importation of these birds in Europe.

American aviculturists should take note of the state of affairs across the Atlantic. Just a few years ago, we ourselves could not obtain imported birds from Africa (or at least could obtain very few) due to our country's ban on importing any CITES-listed species, even those on Appendix III. Only after Ghana delisted many bird species it had placed on Appendix III did we once again see the flow of African finches to quarantine stations in the U.S. These events, and the decision by the European Union to ban all imports of wild-caught birds, should highlight the precarious state of bird importation for us all. Relying on imported, wild-caught specimens to fill our aviaries is not a long-term avicultural strategy.

It is a virtual certainty that the future will bring more disruptions to the trade in wild birds, if not an outright permanent ban in the U.S., as the Europeans have enacted. This means that it is the primary task of aviculturists now to hone our skills at breeding any birds that we wish to have long-term access to. Just a few years ago, I remember the price

of Green Singing Finches skyrocketing to \$250/pair, and they were not easy to find. Many estrildid species were almost impossible to find: lavenders, cordon bleus, fire finches, goldbreasts, and many others. Why? Because we had not managed to learn how to breed these birds in sustainable numbers so that we could maintain them in the country without imports. We see this now with the currently banned Asian species. Strawberry Finches are now very rare in this country, and those that are here tend to be old birds who are not likely to produce many offspring at this point.

If you have birds that you hope to always have in your bird room, I urge you to learn how to produce a reliable strain of breeding birds, either by yourself or in conjunction with other aviculturists. Join Finch and Softbill Save to work with other NFSS members on creating sustainable captive populations. Document your methods that lead to success by publishing your experiences in the Journal or in other avicultural outlets. With all the many thousands of finches and softbills currently living in American bird-keepers' care, if we can't sustain our avocation in the face of the next ban, we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

# ESSB: The European Society of Serinus Breeders

by Huub Vervest, Gaétan Vicentini and John Santegoeds

## A New Initiative for Breeders of All Serin Species

Well, here you are, a bird breeder. All of a sudden the importation of birds you want to breed has "dried up." So you will have to do with the birds you have available to you, at this moment. Because you sort of anticipated the ban on importation, you maybe managed to secure a spare hen or cock bird to make up an unrelated pair. But that's just about it. Luckily you know a few people with the same species, with whom you have swapped birds in the past. However, they are few and far between, because there are few breeders with the same species as yourself, let alone the same subspecies.

Anyway, you have the contacts. We all have phone numbers stacked away of people with the same species. In the meantime prices of these species go through the roof and you get inundated

by people who want to purchase birds from you. Unfortunately you have to disappoint most of them, because you have never been able to breed in numbers (our species don't breed that easily) and you would rather swap the surplus birds or sell to a breeder whom you know you can approach whenever you need a bird yourself.

So at this very moment fanciers and breeders of, for instance, exotic bullfinches, exotic greenfinches, Passerinas, Desertfinches, Grossbeaks etc. will be in the same boat. In the past these birds were imported on a regular basis, but that is in the past...

So, what now? Because of access to the internet it is easy to make contacts overseas. It is because of this that some enthusiasts of Serinus species have banded together and initiated the European Society of Serinus Breeders (ESSB).

*Serinus reichenowi* or Yellow Rumped Seedeater . Regular import in the past and still fairly represented in the European aviaries. Photo by John Santegoeds





*Serinus dorsostriatus* or White Bellied Canary hen. Not in all *Serinus* species the sexes are clearly defined, but in this species it is. Photo by John Santeagoeds

## ESSB

It's a mouthful but the initiative needed a name, and this covers its aim.

### European

We would be dreaming if we were thinking we have enough of these birds within our respective countries to save the *Serinus* species for aviculture. Furthermore, mainly due to the internet, contacts have already been laid with people in The Netherlands, Belgium, France and Germany.

### Society

Above all, we did not want an organisation with a structure and restrictions that go with it. Because we were thinking globally we chose the word Society: a group of individuals with the same aims and interests.

### Serinus

The bird species we are focused on are of the genus: *Serinus*. This is a group of some thirty species, the majority of which come (or came) from Africa.

### Breeders

The aim is to preserve these bird species for European aviculture through breeding. Because importations appear out of the question, it is imperative to breed purebred birds.

### ESSB is a Go-Between

We started of with the principle that the ESSB will act as a go-between, between people who want have contact with enthusiasts/breeders of the same species. To that effect a database is available for members. This database contains details of what species respective members



*Serinus dorostriatus* or White Bellied Canary male. Birds with lots of temperament and a strong song.  
Photo by John Santegoeds

have and/or breed. Members can contact other members directly, without the involvement of a third party.

Furthermore, the ESSB wants to supply information on the various species/subspecies in several European birdfancy publications pertaining to, amongst other things, breeding. There is quite a bit of vagueness about the different species, especially with the

species where, in the past, several subspecies were imported. It is going to be quite a task to keep the subspecies pure. For this reason it is important to know what subspecies one owns him/herself, and which of the other members breeds this species.

We invite interested parties to visit our website [www.Serinus-Society.eu](http://www.Serinus-Society.eu) If you are the owner of one or more Serinus

species, please register on the website and help this initiative, which can also be of benefit to your hobby.

In three or four years, many of the birds spread around aviaries at the moment will be lost to aviculture. Working together can be the solution, but we have to act NOW. Current bird breeders determine what we will have flying around aviaries in ten years time.

You can play your part here. Sitting back is losing time...

---

*Serinus citrinelloides* or African Citril. Only one of the *Serinus* species the ESSB wants to concentrate on at the European level.  
Photo by John Santegoeds



# Serinus, Alario, Dendrospiza, Chritagra, Ochrospiza, Polioospiza?

by John Santegoeds and Huub Vervest

Ever since we have known the phenomenon of importing exotic birds, there has been confusion around the naming of a relatively large group of birds from – mainly – Continental Africa. For a small grey coloured seed eating bird the name “Grey Singer” was invented. Another African bird, more yellowish with a green back and nice eye markings – the cock bird of which, by the way, is also a good singer – was named “Green Singer.”

If one refers to more recent publications, for instance *Guide des Passereaux Granivores* (Gilbert Armani, 1983) and *Finches and Sparrows* (Peter Clement, Alan Harris, John Davis, 1994), one will see that the aforementioned Grey Singer and Green Singer form part of a group of some thirty bird species that are grouped under the name *Serinus*. In older publications some of these birds are referred to by their scientific names.

Nowadays in The Netherlands and Belgium, the name “Cini’s” is also used when one refers to the above-mentioned group of seed eating birds, all of whom are related to the species *Serinus canaria*; well known to be the forefather of the current domesticated canary.

## Confusion in Names.

The scientists cannot agree as to how to classify these “canary-like” birds by name scientifically, not to mention the bird fanciers themselves! It is possible that a species has several names. This is in part due to the many subspecies

there are of the genus *Serinus*. The German, French and Italian names are somewhat clearer as the name mostly starts or finishes with “Girrlitz,” “Serin,” or “Canario.” In more recent publications these “canary-like” birds are referred to as the genus *Serinus*. In German-oriented countries, this varies. In older reference books these birds can also be found under scientific names beginning with *Alario*, *Dendrospiza*, *Chritagra*, *Ochrospiza*, *Polioospiza*. All this represents taxonomic confusion amongst scientists and name confusion amongst bird fanciers.

## CINI

Exceptions confirm the rule. *Serinus alario* is simply named ‘Alario’ or ‘Alariogirrlitz’ in Germany. The French are a little more logical with the name ‘Serin Alario.’ In Italian it is also simple: ‘Alario.’ In the Netherlands, the bird suddenly becomes a finch: ‘Alariofinch.’ The English follow the relationship better than the Dutch: ‘black headed canary.’

There are regular changes in the scientific names of the bird species within *Serinus*. For instance: 15 June 2004 in the alterations of the Clements’ checklist of Birds of the World, it was published that the genus name *Serinus* for the “Alario” is replaced by the genus name *Alario*. Following this checklist, the scientific name *Alario alario* for the alariofinch and the white throated alariofinch or *Damara alariofinch*, or sometimes named Kings alariofinch, should be named (here we go again) *Alario leucolaema*.



Adult cock *Serinus citrinipectus*. Photo by John Santegeeds



Adult cock bird Green Singer granti (*Serinus mozambicus granti*). These are still plentiful in European aviaries. Breeding them is the only possibility to preserve this *Serinus* species for aviculture. Photo by John Santeagoeds

Hermann Heinzel introduced the name "cini" in March 1968 in the Belgian Ornithological Association's (AOB) magazine *Vogelwereld* ("Birdworld"), more than likely a corruption of the French "Serin," a term already in vogue in Belgium for some time as an alternative to "canary-like birds."

### ESSB

The authors have combined in an attempt to clarify the confusion over naming of birds by fanciers by compiling a list of the genus *Serinus*. This list gives the popular names in Dutch, supplemented by French, German, English and Italian names. In compiling this list

we used the (maybe since changed) indexing of these birds of the genus *Serinus*. Based on the above-mentioned, well illustrated Gilbert Armani and Peter Clement handbooks, the group of birds belonging to the genus *Serinus* is relatively large.

Rightly or wrongly? That is something we leave to the scientists. Our interest is in the breeding of these birds. Via the internet the interested *Serinus* breeders have already been contacting each other for some time. From these contacts the idea has developed to form the "European Society of *Serinus* Breeders" known as ESSB for short. The purpose of the ESSB is to be of service

Adult hen *Serinus citrinipectus*. Photo by John Santegoeds





Adult hen *Serinus citrinipectus*. Photo by John Santegoeds

to people interested in the *Serinus* species, service by way of supplying of an illustrated overview of the species and subspecies, bringing breeders into contact with each other and trying to keep these (sub)species pure for European fanciers by swapping of birds.

This is a necessity now that the importation is banned. A “*Serinus*” website in the Dutch, English and French languages has recently been up and running. Are you enthusiastic about the bird species in the genus *Serinus*? Maybe a keeper or breeder? Let us know and work with us to keep these beautiful, active, bird species in European aviculture. Visit the website [www.Serinus-Society.eu](http://www.Serinus-Society.eu) and register as a fancier/breeder.

Grey singers, canaries, finches or ‘cinni’s’? The fact is that the cock bird is a beautiful singer, that the birds often display beautiful colours, and that it is interesting to breed them. The ESSB focuses on advancing breeding in order to maintain these species for European aviculture.

## Author Biography

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Huub Vervest  
[huub@vervest.net](mailto:huub@vervest.net)

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**Have a good idea for an NFSS  
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Contact editor Tom Keegan  
at [editor@nfss.org](mailto:editor@nfss.org)



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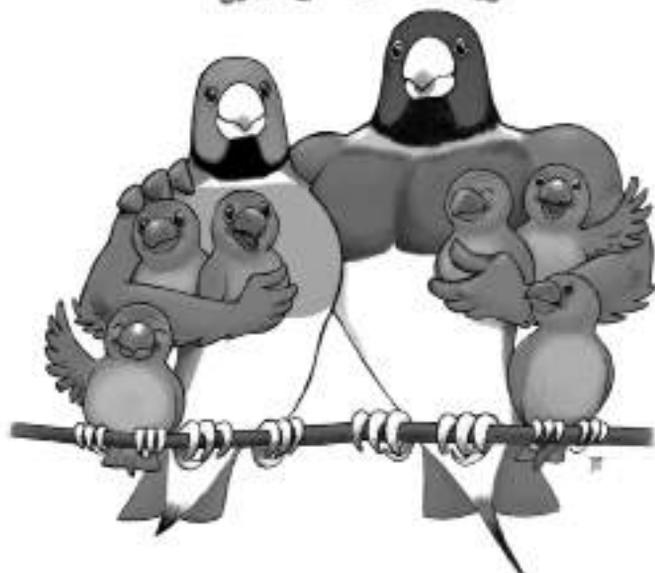
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# The Florida Finch Show Bird Club: AN INTERVIEW WITH RON CASTANER AND TIM MCCORMICK

by Tom Keegan, NFSS 2nd Vice President

As this issue of the Journal goes to press, we'll be nearing the end of show season. Many have lamented the flagging interest in exhibition in the avicultural community in recent years. We seem to be going through a generational shift, where many people who were enthusiastic show organizers and participants are less active in these endeavors, but there are not many new local club members ready to take on this part of the hobby.

We need to remember that it's not just birds. Participation in all kinds of clubs and civic organizations is waning. In fact, almost every kind of social participation has plummeted in recent decades, even visiting with relatives. This is well-documented in the groundbreaking book *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community* by sociologist Robert Putnam (2000). The title is a reference to the fact that, even though a greater percentage of the public bowls today than ever before, there is lower participation in bowling leagues.

I feel the same may be true with birds. There are lots of birdkeepers out there, but they don't seem interested in joining clubs and organizations based on their shared interests. Exhibition requires the most collective activity of all. You need a group to get together to put on a show and just sharing the knowledge of how to show birds and why it's important requires a certain level of community to

exist. As more and more people spend more and more time alone, we tend to turn to more remote forms of communication (like internet groups) and less face-to-face interaction.

Luckily, there is still an active core of people out there interested in putting on a good show. Just this year, NFSS President Emeritus Ron Castaner and Tim McCormick got together to form a new show in Florida, which turned out to be a great success. And, the interesting part is that they were able to harness the power of our online bird-keeping community to get this show off the ground and get donations of many items. Putting on a show requires a lot of money upfront, and the donation of awards and other materials for the show is an enormous help in getting a new show started.

I interviewed Ron and Tim (by email, of course!) about getting this show off the ground. I think the story of this fledgling bird show is evidence that people with common interests can still come together and create a community event. In addition, it's a great lesson in how modern channels of communication can be a help to community event planning, rather than a hindrance.

## Interview with Ron Castaner and Tim McCormick

When did you start planning this show?

After the Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club Regional NFSS show in Stuart Florida on 03-21-2010. Mr. Charles Tillman, the promoter and president of Exotic Bird Society of America, Inc. (Bird Brain of America) got in touch with us about putting on a show. He had attended the Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club Expo, host to the NFSS regional show. Mr. Tillman runs the largest bird expo in Florida; he wanted to talk to me about doing a NFSS show in Orlando. We told Mr. Tillman that it was too expensive for one person to do. Normally clubs put on a show with the revenue they create doing the Bird Expo, and that is the only way it can be done. Ron explained to Mr. Tillman all the things it takes to run a NFSS show, or any other show for that matter, from judges expenses, ribbons & plaques, electricity, show benches, tables & chairs, a building that has to be rented, advertising, other minor things, not counting getting everyone together, secretarial paper work and someone to steward the show. After all the things I said, Tillman said to me how about if I give you the building, tables and chairs, electricity, air condition and all the advertising you need at no cost to you. Ron was very surprised and all he could say was he would get back to Mr. Tillman in a couple of days. Ron talked to Tim, who was all for it. The two of us thought about it some more and talked it over during the following week.

On 4-11-2010 Ron sent an-e-mail to John Wilson, Bob Peers and Bill Parlee asking their opinion on the NFSS show

I was planning for Florida. They were all for it and they would support the challenge. I also asked if I could ask the NFSS members to sponsor sections, they were all for this too.

Who was involved in planning? Who was the show committee?

Tim Mc Cormick, Carrie & Ron Castaner, with Mr. Charles Tillman's support as he gave us all the advertising, building that we need it to run the NFSS bird show.

Did it completely run on donations?

No, but most of it. Tim did the show bench at his cost. Ron did the rest of things that take to run the show at his cost: printing, color pictures, affiliation fee and lots of hours of computer work. It's hard with three people doing everything, but we got it done with Carrie's (Castaner) help. Carrie and Ron donated five pairs of Black Cheek Zebras from their collection for the raffle table to recoup some of the expenses.

Did you do the show in conjunction with another show or club?

Once we got all the facts together, Ron asked the NFSS members if they would donate the ribbons and plaques, and they say they would sponsor sections. Ron contacted Mr. Tillman to let him know that we would go ahead with the plans. At that time he said that probably they would have a Cockatiel and Parrot show at the same time. That was still in the works but most likely. They did have a Cockatiel and Parrot show along with the NFSS show the same day.



Tim McCormick: A True Finch Lover!

Any other people you'd like to "especially" thank?

NFSS Members and the Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club for their donations. Without their help it would not been possible. We'd like to thank Mr. Charles Tillman for giving the building we needed to run the show and Carrie Castaner and Jerri Wiesenfeld for their help and many hours of work. We also thank Armando Lee and his wife Liset. Armando was judging in Punta Gorda, Florida (on the West Coast of Florida) on Saturday and drove that night after the show to Orlando, which is on the East Coast, to give us a hand, so thank you both. To Jerri Wiesenfeld: thank you so much for judging the show at a minimum expense. To John Wilson, Bob Peers, Bill Parlee: thank you for your support to go ahead with the challenge. We all believe that it was great way to promote the NFSS.

---

Ron Castaner would like to thank the NFSS members listed below. You made it possible.

Best in Show Plaque donated by Joaquin Torres

Best Finch of the Americas Plaque donated by Paula Hansen

Thanks to the following for donating show rosettes: Daniel Almaguer , Bob Peers, Misty LaRue, John Wilson, Chase Austin, Kenny Stephens, Felipe Bonilla, Sally Porter, Travis Mercede, Alfredo Brugueras, Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club, Barbara Jaquez (donated Youth Award and Novice Award), and Tiffany Park (donated the Judge's Award).

[And most thanks of all to Ron and Tim for

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The Dynamic Duo: Ron Castaner (L) and Tim McCormick





Judge Jerri Wiesenfeld (L) with Ron and Carrie Castaner and their winning Java Rice Bird "Spot".

## 2010 Florida Finch Show Bird Club Show Results

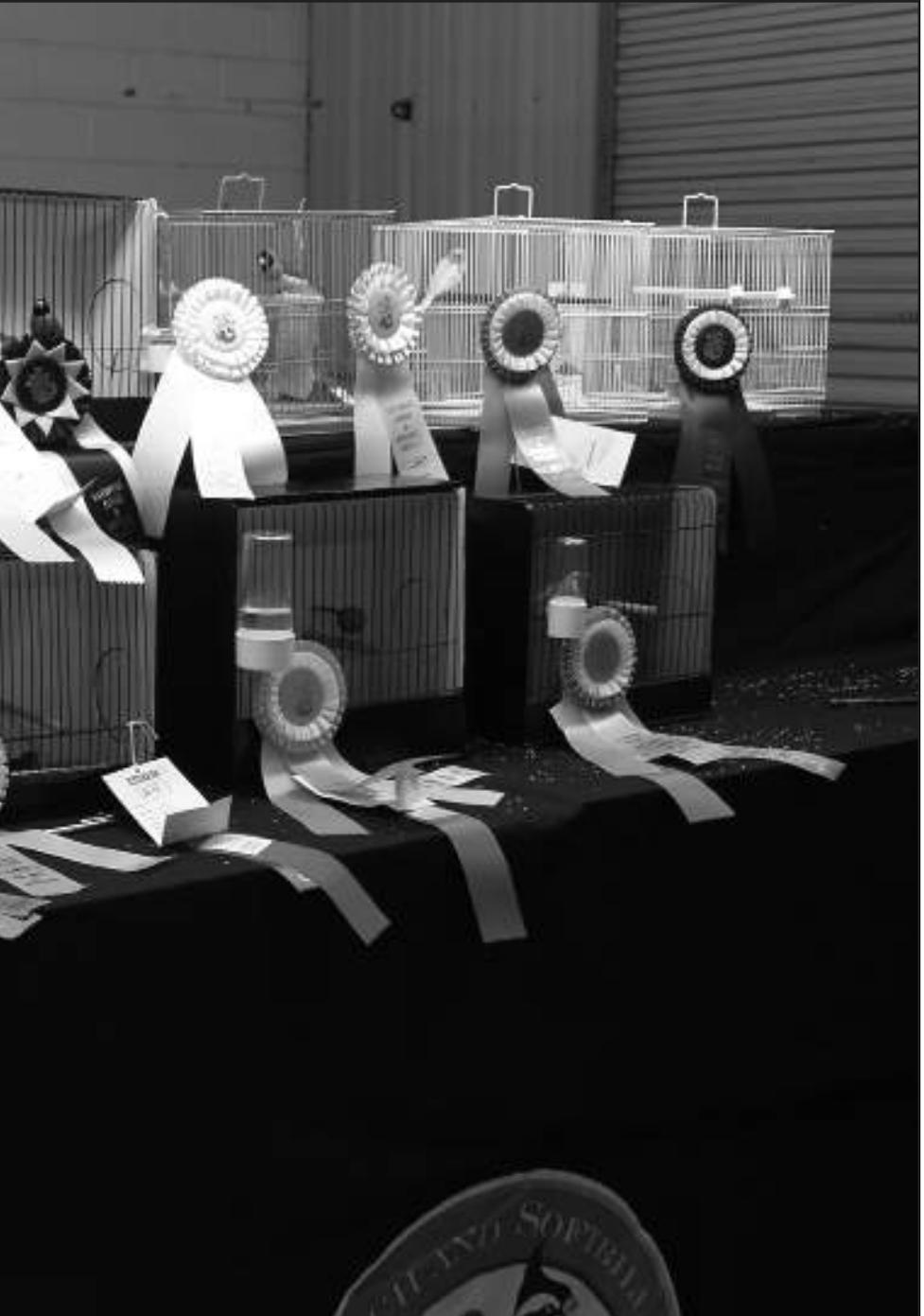
Number of Entries: 28 | Number of Exhibitors: 5 | Judge: Jerri Wiesenfeld

### TOP TEN BENCH

1st Place: White Java Rice Bird ("Spot"), Ron & Carrie Castaner

2nd Place: Red-Billed Fire Finch, Armando Lee





Top Ten Bench



Best in Show and Best Finch of the Americas plaques, donated by Joaquin Torres and Paula Hansen respectively

3rd Place: Black Headed Normal  
Gouldian, Diane Hlubaky

4th Place: Black Headed Normal Goul-  
dian, Addie Nicholas

5th Place: Crested Creamino Society,  
Addie Nicholas

6th Place: Red Headed Normal  
White Breast Gouldian, Addie  
Nicholas

7th Place: Black Crested Finch Ron &  
Carrie Castaner

8th Place: Black Bellied Fire Finch,  
Armando Lee

9th Place: Blue Capped Waxbill,  
Armando Lee

10th Place: Fawn Shafttail, Armando Lee

#### Special Awards

Best in Show (Plaque): White Java Rice  
Bird, Ron & Carrie Castaner

Best Finch of the Americas (Plaque):  
Black Crested Finch, Ron & Carrie  
Castaner

Best Unflighted (Rosette): Black Head-  
ed Normal Gouldian, Addie Nicholas

Best Novice (Rosette): Black Headed  
Normal Gouldian, Dianne Hlubaky

Judge's Award (Rosette): White Java,  
Ron & Carrie Castaner



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<b>Size B (2.34mm):</b> Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cordon Bleu, Cuban Melodious Finch, Fire Finch, Olive Finch, Rufus-backed Mannikin, Timor Zebra.				<b>Size E (2.89mm):</b> Black-crested Finch, Diamond Sparrow, European Greenfinch, Golden Song Sparrow, Nuns, Peter's Twinspot, Siskins, Spice Finch, European Goldfinch, European Zebra.				<b>Size J (3.4mm):</b> Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias, small softbills.			
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								<b>Size L (4.30mm):</b> Diamond Dove, Mousebird, small doves, quail.			
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# NFSS Affiliated Clubs/Events

Liaison Officer - Alfredo Brugueras  
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affiliations@nfss.org

## Alabama

Central Alabama Avicultural Society, Inc. Montgomery. tedsexton@bellsouth.net www.caasociety.com Events: Show/Bird Fair, Sept 4-5, 2010, Quality Inn & Suites, 2705 East South Blvd, Montgomery, 1-334-288-2800 (reservations). Contact: Ted Sexton, tedsexton@bellsouth.net, (334) 301-2920 or loveoffinches@live.com, (256) 892-3072.

## California

Central California Cage Bird Club, Modesto, www.mycCBC.org Event: Canary and Finch Show and Mart, October 30, SOS Club, Modesto. Contact: Janna Place, naturesplaces@sbcglobal.net.

Finch Society of San Diego County, San Diego, www.finchsocietyofsandiego.com, spitech@yaho.com. Nation's largest all finch/softbill club.

## Florida

Florida Finch Show Bird Club, Event: EXPO, Oct 24, 9-4, Central FL Fairgrounds, Orlando, 4603 W Colonial Dr (U.S. 50). Seminars, trick bird show, NFSS finch show (Judge: Jerri Wiesenfeld). \$5 Admission covers all; reduced admission for NFSS members with membership card. Contact: Ron Castaner (finches@bellsouth.net, 561-792-6794) or Tim McCormick (tm50et@yahoo.com).

Suncoast Canary and Finch Club <http://community-2.webtv.net/suncoastcanaryclub2010/SUNCOASTCANARYCLUB/index.html> First annual show held Oct. 22-23, 2010. Colorbred/type canary and finch show. Check website for meeting schedule & place. Contact: Alexander Villarreal, 23128 Diane Ave, Port Charlotte, Florida 33954, 941-627-4868, Vetagator@embarqmail.com.

RAZ, Event: Orlando Show, Dec 4 (2 ACS shows) & 5 (2 NFSS and 2 NAPS shows). Judges: Cecil and Ken Gunby. Contact: Annette Howard (OH), 330-337-7654, howardaj78@yahoo.com.

Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club Inc., Stuart, [tcexoticbirdclub.com](http://tcexoticbirdclub.com) Event: South East Regional Finch Show and Bird Expo, March 21, Martin County Fairgrounds, 2612 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart. Contact: Kathy Dwyer, [jim.dwyer@netzero.net](mailto:jim.dwyer@netzero.net).

Tri-State Avian Society, Tallahassee, [webmaster@tristateaviansociety.org](mailto:webmaster@tristateaviansociety.org) , [www.tristateaviansociety.org](http://www.tristateaviansociety.org) Event: Spring Bird Fair, May 15-16, North FL Fairgrounds, 441 Paul Russell Rd, Tallahassee. Contact: Barry Laster, [barryL7523@comcast.net](mailto:barryL7523@comcast.net).

## Illinois

The Avicultural Society of Chicagoland (TASC) , Lombard/St. Charles, 630-336-0197, TASCCHICAGO@aol.com, [www.tasc-chicago.org](http://www.tasc-chicago.org). Event: Midwest Bird Expo 2010, May 22, 9:30-4:00, Kane County Fairgrounds, 525 South Randall Road, St Charles. Huge event with vendors, speakers, education stations, wild animal shows, and so much more, [www.midwestbirdexpo.com](http://www.midwestbirdexpo.com). Contact: Jason Crean, [tascchicago@aol.com](mailto:tascchicago@aol.com), 630-985-8146.

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club, Clarendon Hills, 708-258-0682, [secretary@gccbc.org](mailto:secretary@gccbc.org), [www.gccbc.org](http://www.gccbc.org). Event: Bird Show, Oct 30, Du Page Expo, 4050 E Main St, St Charles. Contact Shar: Toby, [Sharlant2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Sharlant2000@yahoo.com).

Heart of Illinois Bird Club, Peoria, hoibc@yahoo.com. Events: Bird Fair, Feb 28; Bird Show & Fair; Bird Fair, Oct 24. All events at Grand Hotel (Ramada Inn), 4400 Brandywine Dr, Peoria. Contact: Jody Lewis balu716@yahoo.com, 309-645-7773.

Mid West Bird Breeders & Exhibitors, www.midwestbirdbreederexhibitor.info. Lawrenceville Events: Show, March 20, Lawrenceville. Contact Lisa Grimes, lgtiels@yahoo.com. Judge: Annette Howard. NFSS show in conjunction with the Gateway Parrot Club's Parrot Festival, Sunday, Aug 29. Judge: Annette Howard. See Gateway's listing (MO) for location details.

Finch and Softbill Breeders and Exhibitors Club, Palatine, www.fsbec.finchfiles.com Event: TBA.

## Iowa

Mid America Cage Bird Society, Des Moines, 239-851-8132, Thielking@lowalink.com, www.MACBS.org. Events: Bird Fairs, Mar 28, May 16 & Aug 22, Des Moines Botanical Center. Contact: John Thielking, Thielking@lowalink.com.

## Maryland

Baltimore Bird Fanciers, Baltimore, info@baltimorebirdfanciers.org, www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org Events: Bird Mart, May 15 and Bird Show & Mart, Oct 12, Tall Cedars Hall, 250 Putty Hill Ave, Baltimore Contact: Joe Jones, josephmjones@comcast.net.

Maryland All Canary Club, Baltimore MD, 410-875-9417, rmdrought@yahoo.com, mdallcanary.org Event: Annual Canary and Finch Show, Nov 20, 9:00 - 4:00 pm, Clarion Hotel, Aberdeen, MD. Judge: Laura Tinker. Contact: Elaine Ortman, eortman@comcast.net.

## Massachusetts

Massachusetts Cage Bird Assoc, Foxboro, 781-335-3927, www.masscagebird.org. Event: Annual Bird Show, Oct. 16, Lowell Elks Lodge, 40 Old Ferry Rd, Lowell 01854. Contact: Tom Keegan, 781-335-3927, nfss.pubs@gmail.com.

## Michigan

Great Lakes Zebra and Society Specialty Show. Event: Bird Show, Aug 21, Maplewood Community Center (Detroit Area), 31735 Maplewood, Garden City 48135. Hall open for entries on Friday, 8/20, 4-8 PM and Sat 7-9 AM. Judge: Vince Moase. Contact: Rebecca Mikel spkennel@aol.com or Jim Heffernan tielnmore@aol.com, 313-247-5900.

## Missouri

Gateway Parrot Club, St. Louis, 636-343-8097, President@GatewayParrotClub.org, www.gatewayparrotclub.org. Event: All American Hookbill Fair & Seminar, Aug 28-29, Doors open at 10:00 AM, Machinists' Hall Dist. 9 Building, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd, Bridgeton. Scheduled speakers: Jean Pattison & Michelle Karras. Contact: Christine Kinkade, 636-343-8097.

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society, 1807 NE Colbern Rd, Lee's Summit, 816-252-1120, dayforthebirds@aol.com, www.GKCAS.org. Events: SPRING BIRD FAIR, April 24, Hilton Garden Inn, 19677 E Jackson Dr, Independence and Annual All Bird Show, Oct 16, Coronation of Our Lady Church, 13000 Bennington, Grandview. Contact: Anthony Day Phone: 816-252-1120.

## Nebraska

Qban Finches Club of Omaha Nebraska, Omaha, 402-614-7800, Qbanfinchesclubofomahane@yahoo.com

## New Hampshire

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society, Manchester, 603-362-6106, member.support@BOAF.com, www.BOAF.com. Event: Annual Fall Exotic Bird Show and Mart, Oct 23, All Dogs Gym and Inn, Manchester. Contact: Ray Schwartz, President@BOAF.com, 603-362-6106.

## New York

Empire Finch & Canary Club, West Hempstead, irmanperez@aol.com Event: Annual Show, Nov 13, St. Mark's Methodist Church, Rockville Center. Judge: Laura Tinker. Contact: John Lund, irmanperez@aol.com.  
New York Finch & Type Canary Club, NYC, barstand@verizon.net Events: Feather Show June 27, Averill Blvd Park (Meeting Hall), Elmont. Contact: Stan Kulak, barstand@verizon.net; Annual Show, Sept 25, St. Jude Church (Gyne Hall), 1677 Canarsie Rd, Brooklyn.

## Oklahoma

Oklahoma Cage Bird Society, Tulsa, 918-446-3999, lbewley@yahoo.com. Event: Oklahoma Cage Bird Show, Oct 23, EconoLodge, Tulsa. Contact: Laura Bewley, 918-446-3999, lbewley@yahoo.com. Judge: Alfredo Bruguera.

## Oregon

Columbia Canary Club, Portland. jeeperspeepers55@aol.com, 503-266-7606 Event: TBA.

## Pennsylvania

Chester County Bird Club, Frazer, www.CCBirdclub.com. Event: Annual Bird Show & Mart, Oct 30, Exton. Judge: Conrad Meinert. Contact: Doris Rickards, 610-647-4632, rickards@quixnet.net.

## Puerto Rico

Asociacion De Criadores de Finches, Inc, Caguas PR, finchespr@yahoo.com Events: Summer National Show, June, Centro Comunal, Alturas de Villas del Rey, Caguas. Show Judge: Martha Wigmore. Winter Regional Show, November 5-7, Centro Comunal, Alturas de Villas del Rey, Caguas. Judge: Armando Lee. Manager (both shows): Juan Alicea, jualanicea@yahoo.com, 787-479-7405. Note: The only finch species allowed for these competitions are Zebra, Society, Gouldian, Cutthroat, Cordon Bleu, Green Singer, and Brazilian Crested Cardinal Finch.

Puerto Rico Zebra Finch Club, Gurabo, przfc@yahoo.com, www.przfc.com. Event: Puerto Rico Zebra Finch Fall Show, Sept 10 – 12, Centro Comunal Santa Juana, Caguas. Contact: Jorge Mojica, przfc@yahoo.com, 787-550-3163. Judge: TBA.

## Tennessee

Heart of Tennessee Aviculture Society, Murfreesboro, www.heartofnaviculturesociety.com. Event: Exotic Bird Fair and Show, Sept. 11 (9-5) & 12 (10-4). Show (NAPS, NFSS) Sat only. MTSU TN Livestock Ctr, Murfreesboro 37130. Contact: Wilma 615-396-8440, tnma2@comcast.net. Hotel: Americas Best Value Inn, 1954 S. Church St, Murfreesboro 37130, 615-896-6030 (Block # 55042).

## Texas

Canary & Finch Society, Houston. 281-324-4100, Lisashepholmes@verizon.net. Event: Canary & Finch Annual Show, Oct 9, Baymont Inn & Suites, 502 N Sam Houston Pkwy East, Houston. Contact: Helen Jones, Lisashepholmes@verizon.net, Judge: TBA.

Fort Worth Bird Club, Fort Worth, jerrycason@mindspring.com, www.fwbc.org. Event: Fort Worth Bird Show, Oct 2, Azle Community Center. Contact: Jerry Cason, jerrycason@mindspring.com.

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association, Temple, coculwell@verizon.com Event: Texas Bird Breeders Show, Nov 6, Mayborn Convention Center, Temple. Contact: Clarence Culwell, coculwell@verizon.com.

## Virginia

Peninsula Caged Bird Society, Newport News, finchbreeder@earthlink.net, www.vapeninsulacagedbirdsociety.org. Events: Spring & Fall Marts & Shows, Columbian Center. Dates TBA. Contact: Deb Wilson, dwilson786@aol.com.

## Washington

Cascade Canary Breeders Assn , Seattle, sue@healeyalliance.com, www.cascadecanary.com. Event: CCBA 42nd Annual Show, October 23-24, Monroe. Contact: Coleen Anderson, coleen.anderson@gmail.com.

## Wisconsin

Central Wisconsin Cage & Wild Bird Connection, Pittsville, mminor@tds.net, www.cwwcbc.us/bc/. Event: Annual Bird & Garden Fair, Saturday, May 15, 2010.

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## Regional / National

The American Dove Association, 205-995-8612, secretary@doveline.com, www.DoveLine.com. Event: National Young Bird Show (and annual meeting), Oct. 30, Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center, 937 Phillips Lane, Louisville KY 40209.

The Avicultural Society of America, www.asabirds.org/home.html Steve Duncan PO Box 3161, San Dimas, CA 91773. The oldest aviculture society in the US, founded in 1927.

The National Animal Interest Alliance, www.naiaonline.org Dedicated to promoting animal welfare, supporting responsible animal use and strengthening the bond between humans and animals.

Northeast Bird Group, New England/NY/NJ/PA, 781-335-3927, thomkeegan@aol.com, www.northeastbirdgroup.com. Event: Summer Bird Fair, June 26, 4097 Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland, RI. [Show is Cockatiel (NCS) and parrot (SPBE) only this year].

West Coast Zebra and Society Finch Show, Sacramento, CA. www.efinch.com/show Event: Fifth Annual Show, July 30, Sacramento. Contact: Jami Arndt, jamiarndt@comcast.net.

## Foreign

Canadian Finch & Softbill Society, Brampton, Ontario, Canada, 905-723-1978, vmoase@rogers.com. Event: Show Nov 13-14, Brampton Fairgrounds, 12942 Heart Lake Rd. Judge: John Harris (England). Contact: Vince Moase, 905-723-1978, vmoase@rogers.com.

Durham Avicultural Society, Ontario, Canada, www.birdclub.ca, secretary@birdclub.ca, 416-282-5997 (Jacquie). Event: Annual Bird Show, Sep 18 – 19, Ajax Community Centre.

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, 519-948-6398, julianne@mnsi.net, www.essexkentcbs.com. Event: 35th Annual Show, Sept 25/26, 2010, Fogolar Furlan Club, Udine. Judge: Armando Lee. Contact: Julianne, julianne@mnsi.net.

Ottawa Bird Fanciers Society, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 905-723-1978, vmoase@rogers.com, www.ottawabirdfancierssociety.org. Event: Show Oct 2-3, St Ignatius Martyr Church, 518 Donald Street, Ottawa, ON K1K 1L7, Judge: Laura Tinker. Contact: Mario Gauci, 613-244-1678, mariogaucibofs@gmail.com.



**National Finch and Softbill Society  
Membership Application**

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFO CLEARLY

Primary Member First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Member's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

(If dual membership)

Dual Member First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dual Member's Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Area code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (in case we have questions)

New membership Application date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_

If Junior Membership (for children 6-16 years old) Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

If renewal, and you have it, list your NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_ If dual, 2nd NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

Aviary Name \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you want us to send you an Advertising Packet?

**NFSS MEMBERSHIP DUES**

	Single	Dual	Foreign	Junior
<b>1 - Year</b>	\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$42.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>3 - Years</b>	\$85.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$99.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>5 - Years</b>	\$140.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$165.00 <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lifetime</b>	\$1500.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$1740.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please print this application out and mail with check or money order [U.S. Funds]  
Make Check Payable to NFSS and Mail Application to:

NFSS membership 918 georgia ave., etowah, tn 37331

## NFSS Panel of Judges - 2010

4th Vice President - Judges Panel/Standards/Research — Laura Bewley (pro tem)  
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## Are You Interested in Becoming an NFSS Judge?

Contact Laura Bewley at 4thVP@nfss.org

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about journal matters  
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Red-Legged Honeycreeper Hen. Photo by Tom Keegan.

**T**he NFSS Journal is always looking for high quality digital images of finches and softbilled birds. If you have a picture that you'd like to submit for consideration, please feel free to email it to 2nd Vice President Tom Keegan at [2ndVP@nfss.org](mailto:2ndVP@nfss.org).

