



NATIONAL FINCH & SOFTBILL SOCIETY

THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

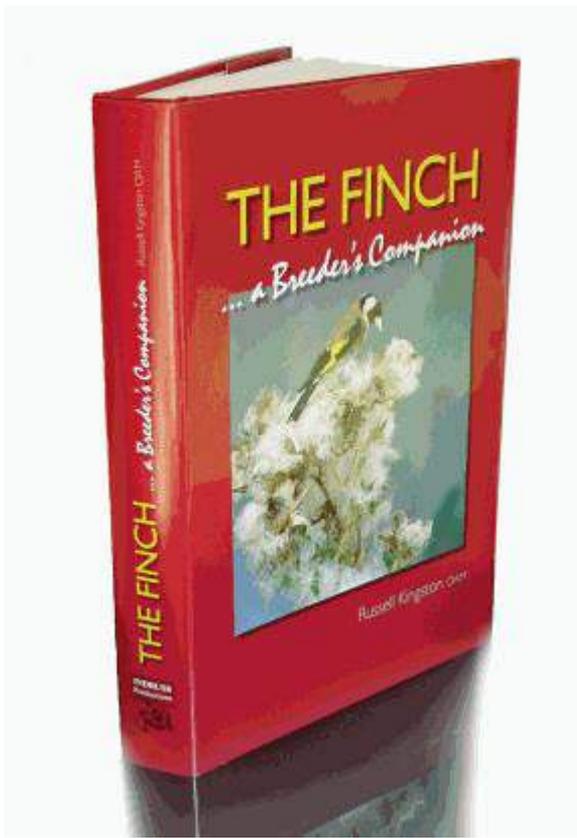
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MAY/JUNE 2014



REMEMBERING CECIL GUNBY

AVICULTURE'S FUTURE IS NOW

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NFSS MISSION STATEMENT

The National Finch and Softbill Society is dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of keeping and breeding Finches and Softbills to all interested parties, enhancing our knowledge of the proper care of these birds, encouraging breeding programs, and working with other organizations for the preservation of aviculture in this country.

JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

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JOURNAL ARCHIVE PASSWORD

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On the Journal Cover...  A Crimson Seedcracker

The NFSS thanks David Monticelli for his submission of this Crimson Seedcracker which he captured by chance for our viewing pleasure. Here is his story of the luck behind the lense he encountered that day..

"I photographed the seedcrackers during a birding visit to the golf course area in Freetown [Sierra Leone's capital city]. The course has a lot of vegetation and waterholes, with some rather overgrown areas.

The birds (3-4 total) were on the ground feeding upon seeds in grassy areas, and were rather difficult to photograph when feeding. At some point I photographed one individual that perched for 30 seconds in the open on a bare log about a meter above ground level. This is when I managed to obtain this nice profile."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's mid-May as I write this (May 15th to be exact) and it should be warm and sunny. However here in Southwest Michigan, we had a heavy frost last night. I've said this quite a few times already this year, but "it can't be long until Spring now!"

My outside bird rooms are heated and well lit - and I often tell people - even in the most awful of Michigan winters - "it's always summer in the bird room". When I walk through the door, it's warm and bright inside, and the birds are singing and oblivious to the temperatures, snow, and wind outside - or to the fact I spent the past hour snow-blowing a path to their door!

Your NFSS Board has been very busy and we still have a full schedule ahead of us. I'm happy to report we're operating with all positions filled at the moment! One of our "newbies" is Amber Kincheloe who is taking over as our Advertising manager. Amber

is quickly re-structuring and bringing some long-overdue organization to our Advertising Department procedures. The Board's recent purchase of "Quick Books" will help Amber maintain a high level of organization and transparency.

Chelsea Gitzen, our new Editor, is breathing new life and enthusiasm into our Journal. One of the articles Chelsea is working on is one about those who choose to increase their flock size near or into the triple-digits.

While we are aware of the differences when working with birds in different geographical parts of the country, or the differences in care required for varied species, is there a point at which procedures for caring for your flock change due the numbers in your birdroom? And, if so, what are those changes and challenges? The information presented by those who have successfully managed flocks of this size may be of help to you if you're considering expanding your numbers.

The 2014 National Caged Bird Show (NCBS) seems a long ways away right now - but before you know it, it'll be time to start packing for the trip to Dayton, Ohio. Be sure to check out the www.ncbs.org website to see all the details unfolding with regard to the Annual Show. Your NFSS Board

"The 2014 National Caged Bird Show seems a long ways away right now - but before you know it, it'll be time to start packing for the trip to Ohio."

will be nominating and voting on the names of NFSS Panel Judges they believe would be appropriate candidates to judge the 2015 NCBS. If you have a particular judge you feel would best represent the NFSS at that annual event, contact any BOD member to suggest that name be one of the nominees.

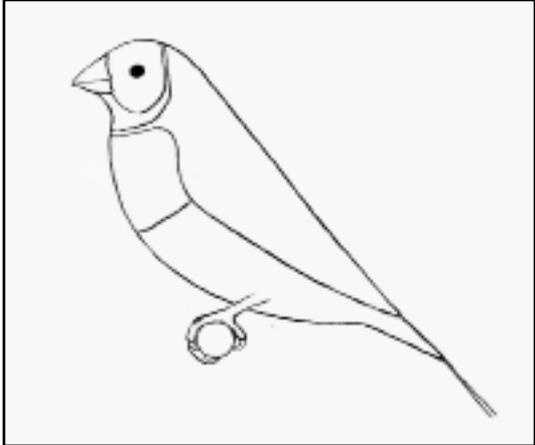
The NARA (National Avicultural Recognition Award) - an award tied to breeding as opposed to exhibition/showing - is one of the many awards to be presented by the NFSS Board each year. There are guidelines for meeting "Level A" or "Level B" of that award - either one of them representing an outstanding accomplishment. If you know of someone you believe should be nominated, please contact Sally Huntington for more information about the nomination process and award criteria.

There has been a new profile

developed for the Gouldian show standard which will be incorporated into the current Judge's Handbook. You can contact Vince Moase, 4th VP/Judge's Chair for more information. The Judge's Handbook also now contains the latest new standards for Cuban Melodious and Orange Cheeked Waxbills, which represents months of work by committees dedicated to developing worthy show standards for those who choose to participate in this part of the hobby.

I'm ready to enjoy some Summer weather - and SOON! I'm anxious to get my birds out of their winter cages and flights and into outdoor aviaries where they can enjoy some sunshine, fresh air, and lots of space. In fact, I'M ready to enjoy some sunshine and fresh air!

Rebecca Mikel
NFSS President

<h1>GOULDIAN FINCH</h1>		
N F S S		N F S S
<h1>SHOW STANDARD</h1>		

NFSS 2ND QUARTER 2014 BOD MEETING

BANK BALANCE

1/1/14: \$35,547.85

3/31/14: \$34,402.67

MEMBERSHIP: 439

RESIGNATIONS: Bob Peers/Advertising

APPOINTED: Amber Kincheloe/Advertising; Chelsea Gitzen/Editor

- \$150 increase to Advertising budget approved to purchase “Quick Books” software.
- New postal rates went into effect in February, Elastic E-Z rings ordered.
- The 2013 FinchSave Census closed on April 15, final tabulations will be in the Jul/Aug Journal.
- Official Facebook page up and running, currently 235 members.
- Paula Hansen, Scott Golden, Sally Huntington, Roland Cristo working are working with the AFA to help organize Finch/Softbill division show at the 2014 Convention & Show. The NFSS will have a table to promote our society. Speakers include Roland Cristo, Nancy Igram, Scott Golden, Kateri Davis, and Sally Huntington.
- Rooms for NCBS reserved for AOA, Membership Meeting, table for silent auction, and bench for small and large cages, as well as gallery seating arranged. No changes to NFSS Classifications for 2014.
- Judge’s handbook updated to include Cuban Melodious and Orange Cheek standards.
- Julie Duimstra retires as Panel Judge.
- New Gouldian Profile approved (page 5).

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Centerfold (2 center pages, when available)	\$180.00/issue; \$900.00/year
Cover (back, when available), 5" x 4"	\$90.00/issue; \$450/year*
Covers (inside, when available), 5" x 8"	\$90.00/issue; \$450/year*
Full Page, 4.5" x 8"	\$60.00/issue; \$306.00/year*
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Quarter Page, 4.5" x 2"	\$20.00/issue; \$102.00/year*

* year = any 6 *consecutive* issues; does not always run January-December

DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING ADS

ALL ADS MUST BE RECEIVED TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

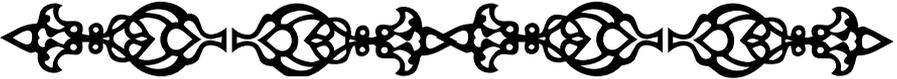
Jan/Feb issue must be received by November 1 • Mar/Apr issue by January 1

May/Jun issue by March 1 • Jul/Aug issue by May 1

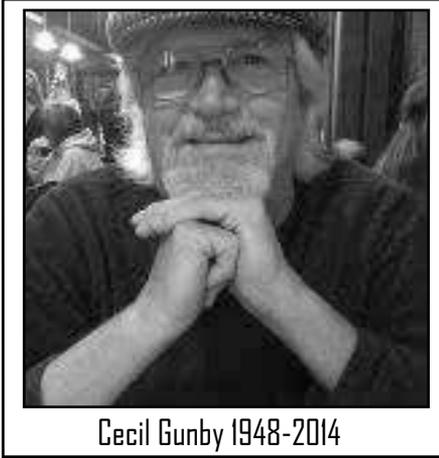
Sep/Oct issue by July 1 • Nov/Dec issue by September 1

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT JOURNAL EDITOR

EDITOR@NFSS.COM



REMEMBERING CECIL GUNBY



By Bill Parlee
President Emeritus

On May 17, 2014 at the age of 65, one of the dearest members of the Avicultural community passed away. Cecil Dean Gunby was the dearest to many, he showed his love of birds and people everyday. His wit, his knowledge, and yes his teasing was dispensed with true caring in abundance to all those he welcomed to the bird hobby.

Cecil was born August 1, 1948 the son of the late Robert and Norma Gunby. He is survived by his wife of twenty years, Judith and their 2 children and 3 grand children. He also leaves his brother NFSS Judge Ken of Florida and brother Robert of Texas. He graduated from East Coweta High School in 1965 and served in the United States Air Force from 1967 to 1972. Cecil was graduated from West Georgia College in 1983 with a double major in Biology and Chemistry. He was self employed with his wife Judy, maintaining aviaries in the Atlanta, Georgia area.

Cecil was welcomed immediately into the field of Aviculture. He started with a pair of Zebra Finches. He exhibited his first bird in a local show in Atlanta where he met the late Ray Johnson, noted Finch and softbill Judge. He won that show with a Shafttail Finch and Ray encouraged Cecil to go to the National Cage Bird Show in Chicago.

Cecil went and won Best Shafttail, then Best Finch and went on to win the coveted Kellogg Award in 1983. That is where I first met Cecil and his Mom, Norma. Upon meeting Cecil in the Finch Division, we discussed some of the birds awaiting to be judged and up walks his Mom Norma. After a very brief introduction "Mom" and Cecil invited me up to their hotel room for a "Sugar Shack", a southern Bourbon and Honey concoction. We had some great bird talk. I left that National feeling I had known Cecil for twenty years.. He was the most warm and sharing persons I had ever met in the bird World.

Aviculture being high on his list of interests, many don't know that Cecil was an avid Orchid enthusiast, and raised many varieties in a greenhouse on his property in Sharpsburg, Georgia. He also grew Lime Trees and I am told that he made the best home-made Key Lime Pie on the planet. Cecil also raised and exhibited Burmese Cats for a time.

Upon the urging of the late Dr. Val Clear, that the Northeast Finch Society go National, I immediately thought of Cecil. He drove up from Sharpsburg to attend one of the very first National Finch and Soft-

OUR DEAR FRIEND & MENTOR

bill Society Board Meetings.

He quickly involved himself and in 1986 became a NFS Sanctioned Judge. He was instrumental in the first re-write of the NFS Judges' Handbook. Cecil made friends where ever he judged and judge he did, judging dozens upon dozens of shows throughout the United States during his 28 years of judging.

I judged a lot of shows before retiring and I am sure he judged far more shows probably well over 100, as he was also a Parrot Judge for a time. Cecil judged the National Cage Bird Show in 2004 in Lansing, Michigan and the National in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 2013. Cecil was also a Region two Vice President and Fourth Vice President of NFSS. He served as Judges' Panel Director and was involved in the rewriting of several Species Standards.

Cecil's judging was unique, he was always highly engaged with his gallery, spreading his knowledge and answering every question with his warm southern charm. There will

be an informal gathering of friends and family to honor the life of Cecil Gunby at Calloway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia, Saturday June 14th, 1:00p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friends, I am heartsick! Cecil was a great friend of mine from even before the beginning of NFSS. He was usually the calm and centered mind, as to what had to be done and how to accomplish it. We didn't always

"He was a great judge, fair and honest, never holding back on sharing his knowledge, which was vast."

agree, but I respected Cecil and he respected me. He was a great judge, fair and honest, never holding back on sharing his knowledge, which was vast.



His contributions to NFSS over the years are immeasurable. As we age we lose more and more family and friends, the loss of Cecil leaves me very sad. But more important than my sadness, is knowing that NFSS and the Avicultural

world has lost one of it's greatest friends. Rest in peace Cecil, know that the world loved you. To all of his family and friends I extend my deepest sympathies.

AVICULTURE'S FUTURE IS NOW

By Scott Golden
3rd Vice President

FORWARD

In 1993, the African country of Ghana placed every bird that was endemic or migratory through its lands on Appendix III of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna). Appendix III species are listed after one member country has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling trade in a species.

The species are not necessarily threatened with extinction globally. In all member countries trade in these species is only permitted with an appropriate export permit and a certificate of origin. In North America, this meant the virtually complete shutdown of importation of wild-caught African Finches. By 1995, almost all African Finches had disappeared in the United States, with the exception of perhaps a few Blue Capped Cordon Bleus, Fire Finches and Gold Breasted Waxbills, which occasionally were still brought in via quarantine stations or through Canadian importers.

During these years, 1993-2006, many European aviculturalists, who were still receiving the finches that had been banned in the United States under CITES Appendix III, successfully established many species. With the advent of widespread outbreaks of bird flu during the last few years, Europe now has a complete ban on the

importation of birds. Yet, because of the work of serious breeders, they still retain many species. In the United States, due to a change in Ghanaian politics, 2007 brought the lifting of the Ghana Appendix of CITES. This has meant the sudden availability of finches that we have not seen in this country for at least 14 years!

Western Bluebills, Goldbreasted Waxbills, Red-Cheeked Cordon Bleus, Pytilia, Green, Brown and Rosy Twinspots, Senegal, Kulikoro and Black-Faced Fire Finches, as well as many other species are now available in the US. Soon, without question, imports of wild-caught birds will cease. One case of bird flu and imports are done. Pressure on airlines from animal rights groups already makes it almost impossible to fly birds out of Africa. The time to establish these finches is now! Using the European example as a model, we can breed these birds and assure their future in American Aviculture. Please, consider taking up the challenge.

QUARANTINE & ACCLIMATIZATION OF NEW BIRDS

If you are wise, you will quarantine new birds for 30 days or longer. Every new bird brought into your aviaries represents a possible source of contagion that could wipe out every bird that you have. Ideally, new birds should be isolated in a separate building from your current collection. Feed these new birds last and change

your clothing before re-entering your already existing location. Bacteria, but most worrisome, viruses, can be moved from location to location via clothing or hands.

If any kind of illness develops, a veterinarian may be consulted. However, most vets have little experience dealing with bird-related diseases. Plus, due to the small size of finches, they have little ability to resist disease for long. Therefore, it's important to have an arsenal of life-saving medications on hand.

RECOMMENDED MEDICATIONS/SUPPLEMENTS

15 years ago, there was very little in the way of medications for cage birds. Time has changed this situation! With some advanced preparation, many finches can be saved that would otherwise have died in previous years.

- *Ronivet-S: Treatment of choice for birds suffering from protozoa infections including canker, giardia, cochlosoma, and hexamiter. Water-soluble and water stable, it has extremely high safety margins. It can safely be used at any stage in the birds breeding cycle. Mix 1 teaspoon per quart of drinking water for 7 days.
- *Amtyl: Broad-spectrum antibiotic dissolves easily in water. Amoxicillin trihydrate (150mg / g) and Tylosin tartrate (100 mg / g) are combined to produce a highly effective and safe antibiotic to treat a wide range of bacterial infections. Includes directions for administering in the drinking water or directly into the crop. We recommend you follow up with probiotic to reestablish the gut flora after antibiotic treatment.
- Doxycycline: Doxycycline is a broad spectrum antibiotic for birds with bacterial diseases, ornithosis, psittacosis, one eyed colds, respiratory infections and chlamydia infections.
- Baytril: Treats a wide range of bacterial infections in birds. Mix 2ml to a quart of drinking water for the first 4 days, then mix 1ml to a quart of drinking water for the remaining 6 to 10 days. The medication of choice for Paratyphoid, E-Coli, Ornithosis, and Respiratory infections.
- Amphotericin-B: Megabac-S is a unique water soluble formulation of Amphotericin B. Megabac-S has proven effectiveness against Megabacteria in caged and aviary birds.
- Medistatin: Contains Nystatin 400 000 i.u./g. The only Nystatin powder specifically for birds. Ideal for crop dosing baby birds, for prevention and treatment of Candida in birds. Nystatin is the choice for most fungal problems. Has been used with great results for Stargazing / Twirling in birds. For treatment: mix 1g to 20ml

of water give 1ml per 100g bodyweight twice daily in crop for 7 days. For prevention: mix 1g per 200g of soft food daily for as long as symptoms prevail.

- *Probiotic: Nine strains of probiotic work together to promote normal gut flora and a healthy digestive system. Essential after times of stress or antibiotic treatment. Can also be added to hand feeding formula to improve the chick's immune system. Contains 180CFU/gram Use just 1g per liter.
- *SCATT: A safe, effective treatment for air sac mites and scaly face mites
- Avian Insect Liquidator: Safe for birds, deadly to insects including mites and ANTS! Safe enough to spray on even newly hatched chicks, AIL kills insects on contact and the residual action guards against reinfestation for 6 weeks.
- *Worm Out Gel: Water soluble wormer in a pump bottle (Praziquate 120g/L and Oxfendazole 20g/L). Can be administered in drinking water or directly into the crop. Two-day treatment is effective against threadworm, tapeworm, roundworm, caecal worm and hookworm.
(* = REALLY necessary)

A course of antibiotic medication should last 7-10 days, followed by 7 days of antifungals. Antifungals should then followed up by probiotics. Many finches die of

fungal infection (aspergillosis) after antibiotic treatment because fungi are often the first to recolonize a bird's digestive tract after medication. If not controlled, fungi can overwhelm the bird's system and lead to death of the bird.

Although there are many suppliers of these products, All Bird Products (www.allbirdproducts.com) has them all. Plus, they are a California company and can get these necessities to you right away.

If a viral problem occurs, it is vital that your sick birds are separate from the rest of your collection. Many virii are spread via fecal material or shed in feather dander. An air filter with a hepafilter, small enough to trap viral particles, may be of help.

Additionally, cleaning all surfaces with bleach water may lessen the chance of the viral disease spreading. With time, birds that survive a virus tend to develop an immune response and may inactivate the virus.

If your bird(s) die, the County Vet of San Diego has a full, low-cost necropsy service that can give you very valuable information as to what is affecting your finches. The county vet has an after hours/ weekend drop box (refrigerated, of course). DO NOT freeze dead specimens. It makes them useless by exploding the cells. The best thing to do is wet the specimen with clean (bottled) water and place it in a sealed Ziploc bag in the lowest and furthest back part of the fridge, where it's coldest.

The sample will be (essentially) useless after 72 hrs. The cooler the specimen and the quicker the drop off, the better.

Contact info:
Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday
5555 Overland Ave, Bldg 4
San Diego, CA. 92124
858-694-2838
(<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/awm/vet.html>)

"MY BIRDS ARE THROUGH WITH QUARANTINE, NOW WHAT?"

Set them up to breed! The average Finch has a reproductive lifespan that is, at most, only a few years. If we are to establish new birds in captivity, we must be able to produce a significant number of offspring from them and do it quickly. The Dutch, Belgians and Germans are true masters at this. If it were not for the efforts of European aviculturalists, MOST of the finches established currently in the United States would not exist here. The constant importation of European-bred Australian finches provided most of the foundation stock for the strains of these birds currently in the US.

The basic premise of breeding these birds is as follows (and I know, it goes against what many of us are doing!):

- Cage breeding, 1 pair per cage
- Pulling eggs from your wild caught birds and fostering them under societies (or other potential foster parents)
- Supplemental hand-feeding chicks to assure proper growth and fledging (It really is not that hard!!)
- Retaining most, if not all of your F1 or first generation offspring. These birds are worth their weight in gold towards establishing a strain of birds.

If I haven't completely overwhelmed you, read on! We can do this. Remember, in the 1950's and 1960's, Lady Gouldian and Red-Headed Parrot Finches were almost impossible to keep alive in captivity. They are now firmly established in aviculture because of people like you, who were not afraid to step to the plate and take on the challenge.

BREEDING SET-UP

- 1 pair per flight or cage is ideal
- Indoor breeding is FAR preferable, even in sunny Southern California. Indoors, many variables can be controlled (weather, predators, rodents, etc).
- Boxed cages work very well. In a box cage, all sides of a cage, except the front, are blocked via cloth or solid panels. This greatly increases the wild-caught birds' sense of security and increases the likelihood of nesting.
- Provide a variety of nesting sites: whicker baskets with artificial foliage, traditional Finch nest boxes, Christmas 'evergreen' type garlands, dried grasses and brush are all good examples of what should be offered.
- Provide a variety of nesting materials: coconut fiber, soft dried grasses, sisal, jute, white feathers from a pillow (very important for many African species).
- Artificial lighting, on timers, should be on every cage. My birds' lights go on at 6:00 a.m. and off at 10:40 p.m..

If all goes well, your wild-caught finches will calm down and become adjusted to life in captivity. In most cases they will lay fertile eggs, but rarely raise the young to completion. These young represent the future success of these species in captivity and must be saved! (Think of the effort the San Diego Zoo made in establishing the California Condor or New Zealand with the Chatham Island Robin).

"I HAVE FERTILE EGGS, NOW WHAT?"

You must foster these first eggs to insure that the genetics of your wild-caught finches are not lost if something happens to the original birds. (Murphy's Law of Birds: The birds you can least afford to lose will be the first ones you discover upside down, dangling from the tip of one toenail that got caught on a wire.)

A BIT ABOUT FOSTERING

Many Finch breeders feel that fostering is wrong or that birds that have been reared by foster parents will not rear their own young.

- This has no scientific basis! None. Zilch.
- Our failure to use the strongest tool in our Finch-breeding arsenal in the 1990's (FOSTERING) led to the almost complete

disappearance of African Finches in the US until the recent imports of 2007-2008

- Fostering fertile eggs enables us to get the first generations of domestically bred finches (F1 and F2) established. These birds only know life in captivity and are MUCH more likely to rear their own young on the foods you provide.
- I use exclusively the old-fashioned, American brown and white society finches for fostering. I have found that the Euro societies, though very pretty, are vastly inferior when it comes to fostering.
- Younger societies that have never raised their own young are ideal for new species. They eventually see the new species as 'what their own chicks look like' and do a fantastic job of raising them.

HOW TO SET UP SOCIETIES AS FOSTERS

Note: Societies are really worth their weight in gold. They are extremely dependable as foster parents for most species of estrildid finches. However, societies may harbor some bacteria or protozoa to which they are completely immune and the fostered species chicks are susceptible. It may be wise to put your societies on a thorough antibiotic-antifungal-probiotic regimen before setting them up as fosters.

- Small, divided breeding cages work well for society finches
- Whicker baskets or externally-mounted nest boxes (my new favorite) work well
- It doesn't matter what sexes your societies are: 2 males, 2 females, trios of males or females, or any combination of the 2 sexes are just fine! Really! Personally, I prefer 2-3 males as fosters, as it is easier to regulate their incubation.
- Synchronize your societies' incubation to match that of the eggs to be fostered by the use of the blue plastic canary eggs. Societies do not care about the color. Put one a day in the societies' nest until you have a clutch of 5 or so canary eggs. 99% of the time, the societies will begin brooding these fake eggs. If they bury them in nesting material, dig them out and do it again! It works. Trust me. By the way....interested in some swampland in Florida?
- When it is obvious the societies are brooding, remove the nest box and fake eggs. Make a small mark on the eggs to be fostered using a Sharpie marker (just in case the societies start to lay their own clutch, you can remove unmarked eggs).

- Use a plastic spoon to put the fostered eggs in the nest...carefully!
- Put nest back in the society cage
- Societies should begin brooding new eggs promptly
- Often, I place a small utility towel on the bottom of the societies' cage as sometimes societies accidentally take an egg with them if they quickly exit the nest. If a towel is on the bottom of the cage, most eggs land, unbroken, and can be placed back in the nest.
- On an index card, write the information about the parents of the eggs being fostered (i.e.: species, which cage if you have more than one pair of that species, and hatch date-generally 14 days from the start of incubation)

"THE EGGS HAVE HATCHED! NOW WHAT?"

- First, squeal a little bit and get excited. After you have done that, it is time for you to supplemental hand-feed the chicks (Most Societies will start feeding unfamiliar chicks after a couple of days. Your job is to get them to live that long! This is not hard. It just takes a bit of extra time and TLC.)
- I use the small banding tool that comes with split plastic bands as my hand feeding implement. It is perfect for the job.
- In preparing your hand feeding formula, float a smaller bowl in a larger bowl of relatively warm water. Mix a very small batch of formula (I use Exact Hand Feeding Formula) in the floating bowl. The warm water in the larger bowl will keep this hand feeding formula warm.
- Remove the nest from the society cage. Remove chicks with a plastic spoon. Dip the end of the hand feeding tool in a very 'liquidy' part of the formula (i.e. not too thick). Gently insert tool into the mouth of the begging chick, with the groove (food-containing portion) facing the chick's tongue. The chick will lick the food out of the groove and will see the food in the crop along the chick's neck.
- Do not over-feed, as you can aspirate the chick by forcing food into its lungs
- I feed new chicks before work (6:30 a.m.) and 2-3 times after the work day (4:30; 7:30; 10:30 p.m.)
- Within a couple of days, your societies should be feeding the new chicks relatively well

- In subsequent clutches, try to give the societies the same type of fostered eggs. Often, they will start feeding these chicks from day 1, recognizing them as their own.
- I will continue to supplemental hand feed chicks to assure their proper growth and fledging

"I DID IT! MY CHICKS FLEDGED!"

With a little hard work and some time, you will be saying these words. Now, my biggest bit of advice: Do not sell or get rid of these chicks. If you do, your breeding program will be doomed to fail within 2 years. Yikes! I know it sounds kind of harsh, but that is the most honest, heart-felt advice I can give you. This F1, or first generation of chicks removed from wild-caught stock are going to be used to your schedule, your food, your avicultural techniques and will be much more likely to breed without the need of fosters. That is the true goal: to establish these birds in captivity, where they will breed on their own under domestic conditions.

RANDOM NOTES & FURTHER BITS OF ADVICE:

- Close band your chicks whenever possible. At the very least, color-band family lines so you do not breed closely related birds together. Keep records of which young were produced by which pairs.
- Never buy just one pair of a species, particularly a rare species. Often, something beyond your control happens to one of the birds. Whomever you got the birds from no longer has any available and there you are, with a beautiful bird that will never be bred. Buy as many pairs as possible. 3 pair, genetically speaking, is the minimum number of pairs you should first obtain.
- Work closely with other breeders in establishing the same species. This allows you to trade young or obtain other bloodlines.
- Join other groups/clubs and educate yourself. Recommended groups:
 1. National Finch and Softbill Society (www.nfss.org)
 2. Yahoo! Groups has many Finch groups, including one for NFSS, African Finches, Parrot Finches, Gouldians and MANY others. Check them out!
 3. Queensland Finch Society (Australia) (<http://www.qfs.org.au/>)
 4. Waxbill Finch Society (England) (<http://www.waxbillFinchsociety.org.uk/>)

With some current hard work, we can firmly establish many of these rare species in American Aviculture. Are you ready for the challenge?

NFSS 2013 SHOW REPORTS

Heart of Illinois

June 1, 2013

Peoria, IL

Judge: Bob Peers

Number of Entries: 51

Number of Exhibitors: 5

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	African Silverbill	NFSS 12-1732 D	Susan Stieve	6
Second	Parson Finch	EIA 12-83 E	Susan Stieve	5
Third	Zebra CFW Cock	NFSS 13-1627 E	Susan Stieve	4
Fourth	Shafttail	NFSS 12-3035 D	Susan Stieve	3
Fifth	Mutation Ring-neck		Julia Howard	
Sixth	Dilute Gouldian Cock	NFSS 12-3044 D	Susan Stieve	1
Seventh	Choc. Self Society	NFSS 12-619 D	Susan Stieve	
Eighth	Zebra Cock AOV		Susan Stieve	
Ninth	Star Finch	NFSS 07-1129 C	Susan Stieve	
Tenth	Dybowski's Twinspot		Susan Stieve	
Unflighted	Zebra CFW Cock	NFSS 13-1627 E	Susan Stieve	

Judge's Observations: Great African and Australian section, very nice club. Biggest thank you to Susan Stieve for great birds and all her extremely hard work.

Puerto Rico Zebra Finch Club

June 1, 2013

Coliseo Manuel IGUINA Reyes Arecibo P.R.

Judge: Laura Tinker

Number of Entries: 173

Number of Exhibitors: 31

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Zebra CFW Cock		Luis Serrano	
Second	Zebra Normal Grey Cock	PRZC 13-1873 D	Alexander Rivera	
Third	Fawn Society	NFSS 13-273 D	Hector Tosado	
Fourth	Zebra Cream Cock	NFSS 12-7964	Gene Perez	9
Fifth	Zebra Normal Grey Hen	NFSS 12-? D	Hector Tosado	
Sixth	Zebra Fawn Cheek Hen	PRZC	Amary Quilez	
Seventh	Zebra Full Orange Cock		Elvin Momtero	
Eight	Gouldian Red Head		Angel DeLeon	
Ninth	Black Brown Society	NFSS 13-2670 C	Daniela Victoria	
Tenth	Zebra Normal Grey Cock		Alexander Rivera	
Unflighted	Zebra Normal Grey Cock	NFSS 13-1873	Alexander Rivera	
Novice	Gouldian Red Head		Angel DeLeon	
Junior	Zebra Fawn Cheek Hen	NFSS 12	Amaury Quilez	

Judge's Observations: Very nice show consisting mainly of Zebra Finches but there were also 50 other non-zebra birds entered in the show, including gouldians, societies, and green singers. Bird condition has been affected by the humid weather. Nice turn out!

Mountain States Avian Society

September 9, 2013

Brighton, CO

Judge: Clarence Culwell

Number of Entries: 27

Number of Exhibitors: 3

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Dybowski Twinspot		Denise Cook /Gary Morgan	3
Second	Fife Canary		Denise Cook / Gary Morgan	2
Third	Yellow Fife Ca- nary		Denise Cook / Gary Morgan	1
Fourth	Gouldian Black Head		Stephanie Palmer	
Fifth	Shafftail		Denise Cook / Gary Morgan	

Judge's Observations: None

NIROC

September 28, 2013

Chicago, IL

Judge: Alfredo Brugueras

Number of Entries: 16

Number of Exhibitors: 3

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Shafftail Normal		Bob Peers	
Second	Dybowski Twinspot		Bob Peers	
Third	Java Rice Bird		Bob Peers	
Fourth	Fawn & White Socitey		Bob Peers	
Fifth	Cuban Melodi- ous		Bob Peers	
Sixth	Cherry Finch		Bob Peers	
Seventh	Linnet Finch		Bob Peers	
Eighth	Serin Finch		Bob Peers	
Ninth	European Gold- finch		Gianelli	

Fifth	Common Indian Mynah		Mike Manley	4
Sixth	Yellow Star Finch	AAC 13-768 C	Pete Van Erp	3
Seventh	Red Legged Honey Creeper		Mike Manley	2
Eighth	Self Euro Black Benglanise		Mike Manley	1
Ninth	Zebra CWF	AAC 13-151 C	Jake Hoekstra	
Tenth	Superb Starling		Mike Manley	
Unflighted	Yellow Star Finch	AAC 13-768 C	Pete Van Erp	
Novice	Normal WB Gould- ian	AAC 13-593 C	Arram Joseph	

Judge's Observations: Beautiful birds. Great staff. Outstanding softbills.

Fort Worth Bird Club
September 28, 2013
Fort Worth, TX
Judge: Armando Lee
Number of Entries: 125
Number of Exhibitors: 7

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Self Choc. Society	NFSS 11-501	Cheryl & Leland Burns	10
Second	Blue-capped Waxbill	NFSS 12-1335 C	Sally Porter	9
Third	Self Choc. Society	11-1538	Tom McWhirter	8
Fourth	Indian Silverbill		Clarence Cul- well	7
Fifth	Self Chestnut Society	NFSS 12-637 D	Cheryl & Leland Burns	6
Sixth	Mutation Shafftail		Clarence Cul- well	5
Seventh	Saffron		Cheryl & Leland Burns	4

Eighth	Society Pair	NFSS 13-746 D	Cheryl & Leland	3
		NFSS 13-745 D	Burns	
Ninth	Diamond Dove		Cheryl & Leland	2
			Burns	
Tenth	RH Normal Gouldian Cock	12-6225	Tom McWhirter	1
Unflighted	Society Pairs	NFSS 13-746 D	Cheryl & Leland	
		NFSS 13-745 D	Burns	
Novice	Zebra Black Cheek		Joshua Anthony	

Judge's Observations: Excellent societies, good showing of pairs section. Good show, we had a lot of fun. I was very happy to see a novice competing with good birds. As always thank you for your great Texas hospitality.

Colorbred Canary Club
 October 5, 2013
 St. Jude's Church, Brooklyn NY
 Judge: Nizam Ali
 Number of Entries: 95
 Number of Exhibitors: 15

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Fawn Cheek Zebra Hen	2013	Jose Urrutia	
Second	RH Normal Gouldian	2013	Luis Morales	
Third	Red Head Finch	2011	Fazil Ali	
Fourth	Self Choc. Society		Anton Chua	
Fifth	Chestnut Munia	477	Hiram Ramper- saud	4
Sixth	Cuban	2012	Joseph Yee	
Seventh	European Goldfinch	12-2253	Maria Rodriguez	
Eighth	Fawn Zebra Pair	2013	Jose Urrutia	
Ninth	South American Siskin	2013	Carlos Bar- tolomeu	
Tenth	Shafftail	2012	Hiram Ramper- saud	
Unflighted	European Siskin	2013	Keniss Marshal	

Judge's Observations: Congratulations to the best bird in show a fawn cheek Zebra Finch hen, excellent condition.

Canary & Finch Society

October 12, 2013

Houston, TX

Judge: Clarence Culwell

Number of Entries: 100

Number of Exhibitors: 8

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	White Zebra	NFSS 13-121 D	Stephani Spruill	9
Second	Self Choc. Society	NFSS 13-755 D	Cheryl Burns	8
Third	Cherry Finch		Brianna Morrison	7
Fourth	Chestnut Society	NFSS 11-59 E	Cheryl Burns	6
Fifth	CFW Zebra Hen	NFSS 12-138 E	Stephani Spruill	5
Sixth	Blue-capped Waxbill	NFSS 12-1335 C	Sally Porter	4
Seventh	Chestnut Society	NFSS 12-637	Cheryl Burns	3
Eighth	White Zebra	NFSS 13-329	Stephanie Spruill	2
Ninth	Normal Shafftail		Jan Door	
Tenth	White Zebra	NFSS 13-121D	Stephani Spruill	
Unflighted	Shafftail	NFSS 10-5404	Misty Larue	
Novice	Cherry Finch		Misty Larue	

Judge's Observations: None

Suncoast Canary & Finch

October 12, 2013

Punta Corda, FL

Judge: Bob Peers

Number of Entries: 146

Number of Exhibitors: 11

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Normal Shafftail		Javier Perez	11
Second	Fawn Zebra	NFSS 13-582 E	Alex Villarreal	10
Third	Cuban Melodi- ous	NFSS 13-1081 B	Javier Perez	9

Fourth	BH Normal Gou- dian		Raul Morales	8
Fifth	Normal Grey Zebra	NFSS 13-2207 E	Van To	
Sixth	Owl Finch		Luis Garcia	
Seventh	Black Breasted		Raul Morales	5
Eighth	Bronze Wing	LTM 13-708 B	Luis Garcia	
Ninth	Fawn Zebra	NFSS 12-1590 E	Alex Villarreal	3
Tenth	Bronze Wing Pair	LTM 13-1771 B LTM 13-738 B	Luis Garcia	
Unflighted	Fawn Zebra	NFSS 13-582 E	Alex Villarreal	
Novice	Normal Shafftail		Javier Perez	
Junior	Pied Java		Brandon Garcia	

Judge's Observations: The club puts on a great show, very hospitable, wonderful people. Some great zebra finches and nice to see many unflighted birds.

Baltimore Bird Fanciers
 October 19, 2013
 Towson, MD
 Judge: Laura Tinker
 Number of Entries: 27
 Number of Exhibitors: 6

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Shafftail	AAC 12-830	Hiram Ramper- saud	3
Second	Dilute Fawn Society		Hiram Ramper- saud	2
Third	African Gold Breasted Pair		Hiram Ramper- saud	1
Fourth	CFW Zebra		Hiram Ramper- saud	
Fifth	Cutthroat		Steven Funk	
Sixth	Black Chest Zebra		Hiram Ramper- saud	

Seventh	Black Check Zebra	Hiram Rampersaud
Eighth	BH WB Gouldian	Steven Funk
Ninth	BH WB Gouldian	Steven Funk
Tenth	BH WB Gouldian	Steven Funk
Unflighted	Choc. Self Society	NFSS 13-972 C Tiffany Park
Novice	Gouldian Pair	Christine Roberts

Judge's Observations: A smaller show with a large percentage of Gouldians. Lovely awards- I would encourage exhibitors to try this show next year!

Cascade Canary Breeders Association

October 19, 2013

Monroe, WA

Judge: Bob Peers

Number of Entries: 32

Number of Exhibitors: 7

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Java – Grey Cock		Ivan Montes	4
Second	Zebra Grey Cock		Susan Dickson	3
Third	Euro Choc. So- ciety		Hector Diaz	2
Fourth	Chestnut Society		Ivan Montes	1
Fifth	CFW Zebra Cock	NFSS 13-672	Larry Holling- sworth	
Sixth	RHPB Dilute Goul- dian Cock		Claudia Montes	
Seventh	Star Finch Pied cock		Susan Dickson	
Eighth	OH Normal Goul- dian Cock		Kaye Simeon	
Ninth	Parrot Finch Sea Green Pied		Hector Diaz	

Tenth	Fire Finch Red Billed	Nina Rapp
Unflighted	Zebra Grey Cock	Susan Dickson
Novice	Java Grey Cock	Ivan Montes

Judge's Observations: Congratulations to a show of all Novice exhibitors. Some beautiful birds, it was obvious that much work and preparation.

SCFB of MI

October 19, 2012

Livonia, MI

Judge: Ken Gunby

Number of Entries: 80

Number of Exhibitors: 7

Award Specie Band # Exhibitor Points

First	CFW Zebra Cock		Steve Brown	
Second	Normal Shafttail		Kristen Reeves	7
Third	Masked Grassfinch		Susan Stieve	6
Fourth	Choc. Self Society		Susan Stieve	5
Fifth	Parson		Susan Stieve	4
Sixth	African Silverbill	NFSS 13-864 C	Dristen Reeves	3
Seventh	RH WB GB Gouldian		Stephen Stapelton	2
Eighth	CFW Zebra Cock		Stephen Stapelton	1
Ninth	BH PB GB Gouldian		Stephen Stapelton	
Tenth	Chestnut Self So- ciety		Susan Stieve	
Unflighted 2 nd	CFW Zebra Cock	NFSS 13-864 C	Steve Brown	
Unflighted	Silverbill		Stephen Stapelton	
Novice	RH WB GB Gould		Stephen Stapelton	

Judge's Observations: None

54th Canadian National Cage Bird Show & Expo

Hosted by Budge & Foreign Bird Society

October 19, 2013

Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada

Judge: Vince Moase

Number of Entries: 115

Number of Exhibitors: 16

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Silver Zebra Pair	HBS 13-2995 G HBS 13-2994 G	Ricardo Gaskin	9
Second	RH Gouldian Male	AAC 13-119 D	Julie Lawson	8
Third	White Java Male		Jimmy Tam	
Fourth	Blue-headed Tanager		Mike Manley	6
Fifth	Long Tailed Grass Normal		Ricardo Gaskin	5
Sixth	RH Gouldian Normal	BFB 12-195 D	Julie Lawson	4
Seventh	Green Singer		Bob Whittle	
Eighth	Bearded Tit		Mike Manley	2
Ninth	RH Gouldian Normal	BFB 12-291 D	Julie Lawson	1
Tenth	Yellow Hooded Siskin	AZ 12-18926	Mario Gauci	
Unflighted	Silver Zebra Pair	HBS 13-2995 G HBS 13-2994 G	Ricardo Gaskin	

Judge's Observations: Very enjoyable show, good repport with public and exhibitors. Nice collection of birds.

Alamo Exhibition Bird Club

October 26, 2013

San Antonio, TX

Judge: Alfredo Brugueras

Number of Entries: 13

Number of Exhibitors: 5

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Pintailed Whydah		Laura Warlick	
Second	RH PB Gouldian Cock		Laura Warlick	
Third	BH Gouldian Normal Cock		Carole Merz	
Fourth	WB YB Gouldian		Carole Merz	
Fifth	OH WB YB Gouldian Hen		Laura Warlick	
Sixth	PB YB Gouldian		Carole Merz	
Seventh	RH WB YB Gouldian Cock		Laura Warlick	
Eighth	RH Normal Gouldian Hen		Tommy York	
Ninth	Napoleon Weaver		Tommy York	
Tenth	Normal Shafftail		Danny Krueger	

Judge's Observations: This club is trying very hard to keep the Finch Division going. This club had eliminated it years ago. We need to offer this club all the help we can. Birds good condition, ready to show, but small showing.

Chester County

October 26, 2013

Axton, PA

Judge: Laura Tinker

Number of Entries: 37

Number of Exhibitors: 6

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Normal Grey Zebra	NFSS 13-18	Jose Urrutia	
Second	Gold Breasted Pair		Hiram Rampersaud	3
Third	Black Cheek Zebra		Hiram Rampersaud	2
Fourth	Normal Grey Zebra	NFSS 13-1264	Jose Urrutia	
Fifth	WB SFY Gouldian		Allison Berry	
Sixth	Owl Finch		Steven Funk	
Seventh	Euro Society		Orlan Remarca	
Eighth	RH WB NB Gouldian		Steven Funk	
Ninth	Fawn Zebra		Bob Vargo	
Tenth	Cutthroat		Steven Funk	
Unflighted	Normal Grey Zebra	NFSS 13-18	Jose Urrutia	
Novice	WB SFY Gouldian		Alizon Berry	
Junior				

Judge's Observations: Nicely conditioned birds today.

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club

November 2, 2013

Joliet, IL

Judge: Laura Tinker

Number of Entries: 66

Number of Exhibitors: 4

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Zebra CFW Cock	NFSS 13-1626 E	Susan Stieve	7



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Second	Society Euro Choc.	Dennis Burhans	6
Third	Zebra Grey Cock	Dennis Burhans	5
Fourth	Blue Face Parrot Finch	Dennis Burhans	4
Fifth	Star Finch Yellow Face	Steve Brown	
Sixth	African Silverbill	Susan Stieve	2
Seventh	Society Euro Choc.	Susan Stieve	1
Eighth	Fawn Cherry Finch	Susan Stieve	
Ninth	Society Pair Grey Dilute	Dennis Burhans	
Tenth	BH PB GB Gouldian Cock	Dennis Burhans	
Unflighted	Zebra CFW Cock	Susan Stieve	
Novice	Star Finch Yellow Face	Steve Brown	
Junior			

Judge's Observations: Excellent type and conformation on today's birds.

CCCBC

October 26, 2013

Manteca, CA

Judge: Laura Bewley

Apprentice: Laura Watkins

Number of Entries: 22

Number of Exhibitors: 4

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Normal Zebra Hen	2013	Cuong Do	
Second	Cherryhead		Roy Beckham	2
Third	Black Cheek Zebra Cock		Roy Beckham	1
Fourth	RH Gouldian	2012	Janet Edmonds	
Fifth	Penguin Zebra Male	2011	Cuong Do	
Sixth	Star Finch		Roy Beckham	

Seventh	Shafttail Normal	Roy Beckham
Eighth	Continental Zebra Cock	Roy Beckham
Ninth	Timor Zebra	Roy Beckham
Tenth	Zebra Pair	Roy Beckham
Unflighted	Normal Zebra Hen	2013 Cuong Do
Novice	Normal Zebra Hen	2013 Cuong Do

Judge's Special: Zebra- Dominant Fawn Black Face Black Breast shown by Cuong Do

Judge's Observations: Nice group of Zebras. All of the birds were presented well and made for good competition. Enjoyed the exhibitors.

Asoc. Criadores Finches

November 1, 2013

Caguas, Puerto Rico

Judge: Armando Lee

Number of Entries: 409

Number of Exhibitors: 27

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Zebra Fawn Cock	ACF 13-1658 D	Rurico Vidal	
Second	CW Fawn Grey Society	ACF 13-94 C	Hiram Morales	15
Third	RH PB GB Gouldian	ACF 13-1292 D	Juan Roman	
Fourth	NG Zebra Cock	ACF 13-97 D	Ramon Colon	
Fifth	BH PB GB Gouldian	ACF 13-1291	Juan Roman	
Sixth	YH WB GB Gouldian	ACF 13-11 D	Tomas Ruiz	
Seventh	Creamino Society	ACF 13-474 C	Rurico Vidal	
Eighth	Zebra Fawn Hen	ACF 13-96	Ramon Colon	
Ninth	Zebra Pair	ACF 13-1668 D ACF 13-1890 D	Hiram Morales	8
Tenth	Society Diluted Fawn	ACF 13-91 D	Hiram Morales	7

Unflighted	Zebra Fawn Cock	ACF 13-1658 D	Rurico Vidal
Novice	Gouldian Pair	ACF 13-530 D	Desland F.
		ACF 13-532 D	Vando
Junior	Zebra Pair	ACF 13-956 D	Eddie Coss JR
		ACF 13-2221 D	

Judge's Favorite: The youth participation!

Judge's Observations: Biggest show of the year with the most entries and exhibitors. Just about every mutation was presented. Excellent birds exhibited by the members of this "All Breeders" club. A beautiful place to visit with a very warm hospitality.

Texas Bird Breeders 61st Annual Show

November 2, 2013

Temple, TX

Judge: Laura Bewley

Number of Entries: 136

Number of Exhibitors: 16

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Choc. Society	NFSS 13-10753 D	Leland & Cheryl Burns	10
Second	Normal Grey Zebra Hen	NFSS 13-1359 E	Gary Spruill	9
Third	RH WB Normal Gouldian	NFSS 13-1197 D	Ace Goates	8
Fourth	Goldbreasted Waxbill		Sally Porter	7
Fifth	Light Back Zebra Cock	NFSS 13-1369 E	Gary Spruill	6
Sixth	Blue Face Parrot Finch	NFSS 13-6174 D	Laura Erwin	5
Seventh	Bearded Tit		Jan Door	
Eighth	Normal Grey Zebra Cock	NFSS 13-1364 E	Gary Spruill	3
Ninth	Fawn Society	NFSS 13-785 D	Leland & Cheryl Burns	2
Tenth	Diamond Dove	NFSS 13-2 L	Leland & Cheryl Burns	1

Unflighted	Choc. Society	NFSS 13-753 D	Leland & Cheryl Burns
Novice	RH WB Normal Gouldian	NFSS 13-1197 D	Ace Goates
Junior			

Judge's Observations: Great birds, enjoyed the zebra section with 50+ birds. Several good Africans birds also. Exhibitors were on top of caging and displaying their birds. A wonderful show to compete at and visit.

National Cage Bird Show

November 15, 2013

Tulsa, OK

Judge: Cecil Gunby

Number of Entries: 105

Number of Exhibitors: 16

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Points
First	Forbes Parrot Finch	NFSS 12-160 C	Sally & Vince Huntington	9
Second	Light Back Zebra	NFSS 11-2158 E	Sally & Vince Huntington	8
Third	Choc. Society	NFSS 13-753 D	Cheryl Burns	7
Fourth	Masked Grass Finch Pair	NFSS 13-372 C NFSS 13-371 C	Sally & Vince Huntington	6
Fifth	Crimson Pileated		Andrew Green & Rebecca Mikel	5
Sixth	Masked Grass Finch Hen	NFSS 12-151 C	Sally & Vince Huntington	4
Seventh	Choc. Society	NFSS 09-6275	Cheryl Burns	3
Eighth	Yellow Face Star Finch		Helen Hoffman	2
Ninth	Diamond Dove	NFSS 13-2	Cheryl Burns	1
Tenth	Blue Face Parrot Finch	NFSS 12-7262 D	Dimitrios Dovras	
Unflighted	Choc. Society	NFSS 13-753	Cheryl Burns	
Novice	Yellow Face Star Finch		Helen Hoffman	

Judge's Observations: Very nice top bench. Excellent quality Australian and Indo Pacific birds.

Puerto Rico Zebra Finch Club Winter Show

December 14, 2013

Arecibo, P.R.

Judge: Laura Watkins

Number of Entries: 221

Number of Exhibitors: 30

Award	Specie	Band #	Exhibitor	Pts
First	Zebra DS BB Male	NFSS 13-1791 E	Gene Perez	14
Second	Zebra Fawn Hen		Gene Perez	13
Third	Zebra Penguin Hen		Gene Perez	12
Fourth	Euro Black Brown Society		Gene Perez	11
Fifth	Zebra Normal Male		Adner Rivera	
Sixth	YH WB Gouldian Male		Janelys Nunez	
Seventh	Zebra CFW Hen		Hector Tosado	
Eighth	Zebra Normal Male		Gene Perez	7
Ninth	Chestnut Self Society		Brian Arguelles	
Tenth	Zebra White		Ramses Colon	
Unflighted	Zebra DS BB Male	NFSS 13-1791 E	Gene Perez	
Novice	Gouldian YH WB Male		Janelys Nunez	
Junior	Zebra Normal Male		Adner Rivera	

Judge's Observations: A nice variety of Zebra mutations & other birds in this show. Some condition challenges due to recent weather, but still a pleasure to see such a wonderful turnout, especially among the juniors (9 Junior exhibitors total). A great show for my judging debut!

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NATIONAL AVICULTURAL RECOGNITION AWARD

The purpose of this award is to recognize a Finch and Softbill Save member who has developed a protocol (program) of avian breeding success of sequential generations of a rare, endangered, difficult [to breed] or CITES bird - accomplishment worthy of this award.

LEVEL B: HONORABLE MENTION (FIRST STEP TOWARDS NARA)

1. The aviculturist must be a member of FSS for 2 years.
2. Detailed genealogical records must be kept.
3. Four generations of birds must be closed –banded and/or documentation must be provided in the form of a pedigree. (This requirement may be eased for long-lived softbill species at the discretion of the NARA Committee).
4. References are preferred but not required.

LEVEL A: FULL NARA AWARD

1. The aviculturist must have already earned the Level B NARA Award in a previous year.
2. A written protocol on how the success was accomplished with enough detail that another aviculturist could follow the same protocol and replicate it with success must be submitted to the NARA Committee before NARA voting.
3. An article for publication in the NFSS Journal must be submitted to the Committee describing the breeding program protocol submitted above as well as the information garnered about this species.
4. Written references from at least three NFSS members who have seen the nominee's setup and birds must be provided. Ideally, such references should describe the candidate's qualifications, community involvement, and accomplishments. Much weight will be placed on the quality of these references and the information they provide.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

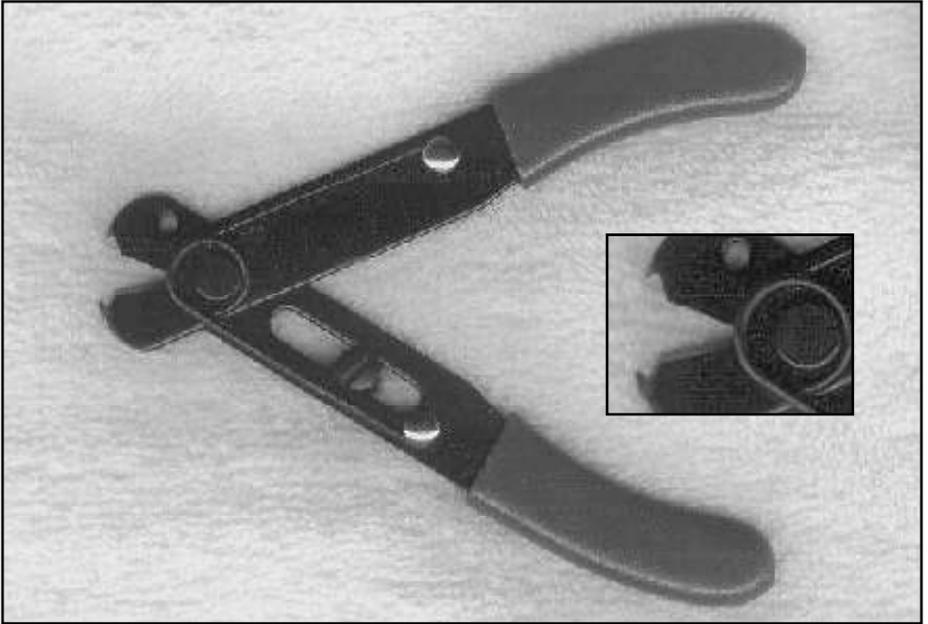
The requirements listed above are the minimum breeding experience and documentation required to be eligible for the award, but they are not the deciding factor for receiving the award. The NARA is designed to be a very prestigious award that is difficult to achieve. We are seeking candidates who have done exceptional things in the field of aviculture and who have shared that experience with the community to better aviculture.

They may do that in many different ways. They may show their birds and share them with the community, teaching others about them. They may judge bird shows and share their knowledge with exhibitors of all experience levels. They may write for publications. They may speak at events such as expos, conventions, shows, and bird clubs. They may organize bird groups, volunteer for bird organizations, or assist with organized conservation efforts. The possibilities are infinite.

In short, candidates should be individuals who (1) have experience and have demonstrated success working with their birds, (2) contribute to aviculture in a relevant way by working with species that are rare or difficult, and (3) share their knowledge with the avicultural community in a way that helps the community to grow and thrive.

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For more information, visit: msasbirds.org/upcoming-shows/

DELEGATES WILL INCLUDE:



2014 REGIONAL SHOWS

Birds of A Feather Avicultural Society (Region 1)

27th Annual Fall Show

Date: October 25

Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Location: All Dogs Gym & Inn,
505 Sheffield Rd., Manchester, NH 03103

Contact: Ray Shwartz 603-362-6106 prismsdad@aol.com

Other Divisions: Parrots, Cockatiels

Florida Canary Fanciers Inc. (Region 2)

Annual Show

Date: December 12

Judge: Kenneth Gunby

Location: Ramada Gateway Hotel,
7470 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee, FL 34747

Contact: Brian Byrne 912-344-7196 tintin211@yahoo.com

Other Divisions: Canary/Type, Colorbred, & Song

Society of Canary & Finch Breeders (Region 3)

Annual Show

Date: October 18

Location: Livonia Elks Lodge #2246,
31117 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150

Contact: Rudy Yeganeh 248-478-2783

www.scfbmichigan.com

Mountain States Avian Society (Region 4)

5th Annual Show

Date: September 20 & 21

Judge: Clarence Culwell

Location: Adams county Fairgrounds S. Main Exhibit Hall,
9755 Henderson Road, Brighton, CO 80601

Contact: Jessie Avila 303-663-0399 pjbavila@aol.com

Other Divisions: 4 NAPS shows, 4 ALBS shows, 4 NCBS shows

Cascade Canary Breeders Association (Region 5)

Annual Show

Date: October 18 & 19

Judge: Laura Watkins

Location: Monroe Evergreen Fairgrounds,
14405 179th Ave. S E, Monore, WA 98272

Contact: Doug White 360-793-0459 dwhite3511@msn.com

Other Divisions: Canary

AFFILIATED CLUBS & EVENTS

CALIFORNIA

Central California Cage Bird Club

Meetings: 3rd Sun. of the month at 3800 Cornucopia Way #B, Harvest Hall, Modesto, CA 95358-9492 / Contact: Jane Perez at janep.plymouth@gmail.com or 209-245-3582

Finch Society of San Diego (www.finchsocietyofsandiego.com)

Meetings: 4th Sun., 2-4 p.m. Poway Elks Club, 13219 Poway Road, Poway, CA 92064 / Events: Annual Birthday Party & Bird Spectacular Raffle Aug 24
Contact: Sally Huntington—5634 Carnegie St., San Diego, CA 92122
858-452-9423; sdfinchsociety@gmail.com

West Coast Zebra & Society Finch Show (July 25 & 26, 2014 in Sacramento)

Meetings: No club meetings, show committee meeting in July.
Contact: Sally Huntington, 5634 Carnegie St., San Diego, CA 92122
858-452-9423

COLORADO

Mountain States Avian Society

Meetings: 2nd Sat. 1 p.m. at Animal Central, 8308 Church Ranch Blvd., Westminster CO 80021 / Contact: Gary Morgan, 15341 Kingston St., Brighton, CO 80602; 303-659-9554 burdmn@aol.com
NFSS Delegate: Jesse Avila, 7910 Greenland Road, Franktown CO 80116
303-664-0399, pjbavila@aol.com

FLORIDA

Florida Canary Fanciers, Inc. (www.floridacanaryfanciers.com)

Meetings: 3rd Sun. every other month, 2:00 p.m., Perkins Restaurant, Davenport, FL / Contact: Ruth Ann Stearns 352-394-3668 or ra.canary@gmail.com

Suncoast Canary & Finch Club (www.suncoastcanaryandfinchclub.com)

Meetings: Meetings every first Wed. of the month at 7:00 PM at Collingswood Animal Hospital 1419 Collingswood Blvd., Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Contact: Alexander Villarreal, 941-625-7500; info@suncoastcanaryandfinchclub.com

ILLINOIS

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club (www.gccbc.org)

Meetings: 3rd Fri., except Nov & Dec, at 204 S. Villa Ave., Villa Park, IL 60181 / Contact: Robert Wild, 305 Grosvenor Ct., Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630-980-4416, wild@comcast.net or secretary@gccbc.org

National Institute of Red Orange Canaries (www.niroc.org)

Meetings: 4th Fri. monthly, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Westchester
Contact: druprr@gmail.com

Illini Bird Fanciers Inc. (www.illinibirdfanciers.com)

Meetings: 4th Sun. of the month from Noon to 4 p.m. at 3233 Mathers Rd.
Contact: Karen Williams at 217-391-4648; contact@illinibirdfanciers.com

AFFILIATED CLUBS & EVENTS

IOWA

Mid America Cage Bird Society (www.macbs.org)

Meetings: 4th Sun., locations vary; Exceptions: No Nov. meeting.

Contact: President - John Thielking, 239-851-8132, JThielking@comcast.net

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fanciers (www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org)

Meetings: 3rd Sun., 2 p.m. at Towson Library, 320 York Rd., Baltimore, MD

21204 / Contact: Christine Roberts, 11 Prettyboy Garth, Parkton, MD 21120

410-343-1807, compteacher@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN

Society of Canary & Finch Breeders (www.scfbmichigan.com)

Meetings: 3rd Sat. of month, location varies.

Contact: Mary Tarsitano 586-781-6429 or mtarsitano@gmail.com

MISSOURI

Gateway Parrot Club (www.gatewayparrotclub.org)

Meetings: 3rd Sun., 2 p.m. at Varieties Exotic Bird Store, 60 Meramec Valley Plaza, Valley Park, MO 63088, (Exceptions: No meetings in June, Aug & Dec)

Events: All American Hookbill Fair & Seminar on Aug 23-24 at Machinists' Hall District 9 Bldg, 12365 St Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton, MO

Contact: Christine A. Kinkade, 2412 Angela Dr., High Ridge, MO 63049

636-343-8097 Boardmember2@GatewayParrotClub.org or

President@GatewayParrotClub.org

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society (www.boaf.com)

Meetings: 2nd Mon. at Villa Crest Retirement Home

Contact: Ray Schwartz, 19 Olde Common Dr., Atkinson, NH 03811;

603-362-6106 President@BOAF.com or Prismsdad@aol.com

NEW YORK

Colorbred Canary Club of New York (www.newyorkcolorbredcanaryclub.com)

Meetings: 1st Sun. each month at 50-21 193 St., Fresh Meadows, NY

Contact: Jose Zelada, 20 N Goodwin Ave., Elmsford, NY 10523; 914-345-5707

JZelada@optonline.net

Kings County Canary Club

Meetings: 3rd Sun., 5 Frank Ct., Brooklyn, NY 11229

Contact: Kathleen Guise Schaefer, 5 Frank Ct., Brooklyn, NY 11229

718-332-3413, kanarykate@aol.com

AFFILIATED CLUBS & EVENTS

NEW JERSEY

Garden State Bird Association (www.gsbirda.com)

Meetings: 1st Fri. of each month, 7:30 p.m., 409 Route 1 & 9 South, Elizabeth, NJ / Contact: Rui Goncalves, 908-868-1605
ruigoncalves65@icloud.com

PUERTO RICO

Asociacion de Criadores de Finces, Inc.

Contact: Juan Alicea, 12203 Urb Serenna, Los Prados, Apt. L-302, Caguas, PR 00727; 787-479-7405; juanalicea@yahoo.com

Events: Summer Show June 6-8 - Judge: Laura Bewley

Meetings: 7 p.m., Tue., Las Catalinais Mall, Food Court Area

TEXAS

Alamo Exhibition Bird Club (www.aebc.org)

Meetings: 4th Sun. at 2 p.m., Kirby Senior Center, San Antonio, TX
Contact: alamobirdclub@yahoo.com

Canary & Finch Society

Meetings: 2nd Sun. at Sheraton Hotel, Houston, TX
Contact: windsong.hj41@gmail.com

Fort Worth Bird Club (www.fortworthbirdclub.com)

Meetings: 2nd Sun. (except April & May) at Fort Worth Botanical Garden Center, 3220 University Dr. - North of I-30 in Fort Worth

Events: Our next Bird Mart will be held Aug 23 at the Cleburne Conference Center. For more information visit www.thebirdmart.com.

Contact: Cheryl Burns fwbc@fortworthbirdclub.com or thebirdmart@fortworthbirdclub.com

Texas Bird Breeders & Fanciers Association (www.texasbirdbreeders.org)

Meetings: March 29th & Nov 1st, Mayborn Convention Center, Temple, TX
Contact: Barbara Irwin 817-572-6262

CANADA

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society (www.essexkentcbs.com)

Meetings: Member homes, Windsor, Ontario

Events: Young Feather Show - June 22 at Moose Lodge #1499, 777 Tecumseh Rd. W, Windsor, Ontario

Other divisions include all Hookbills & Canaries.

Contact: Julianne Mion 519-948-6398; julianne@mnsi.net

THE NFSS IS PROUD TO AFFILIATE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

American Federation of Aviculture (www.afabirds.org)

P.O. Box 91717, Austin, TX 78709

Avicultural Society of America (www.asabirds.org/home.html)

Contact: Steve Duncan, P.O. Box 3161, San Dimas, CA 91773

Founded in 1927, this is the oldest aviculture society in the US

National Animal Interest Alliance (www.naiaonline)

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