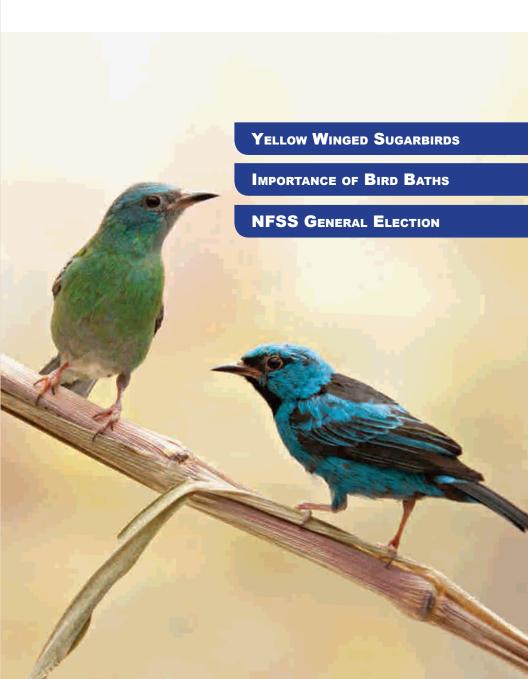


National Finch & Softbill Society

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THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY



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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.

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Submitting Materials for Publication. All materials should be submitted to the editor, at *editor@nfss.org*. NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all written, photographic, and advertising materials submitted. With the exception of advertising, deadlines are the 15th day of November, January, March, May, July, and September for the following issue.

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Journal and NFSS Dues. New memberships and late renewals (expired memberships) received by the 15th day of any month immediately preceding a journal issue will receive six consecutive issues, beginning with the issue immediately following the month they joined. For dues received after these cutoff dates, the first issue will be one issue later. Cutoff dates to receive the next published issue are as follows: the 15th day of December, February, April, June, August, and October.

Members Only Password — **RedSiskin14** www.nfss.org/members-only



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Cover photo: Blue Dacnis. ©Roy Beckham

ADVERTISING RATES

PLEASE NOTE AD SIZES

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*

Half Page, 4.5" x 4" \$40.00/issue; \$204.00/year*

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



President's Message Rebecca Mikel

Summer already! Thank goodness!

As usual, your BOD has been busy-busy. For those who aren't connected "electronically" to the NFSS via our yahoo groups or e mail and who rely on the Journal for all updates, I have a few you may like to hear about . First of all, Michelle McKenzie, has been appointed by the BOD to serve as your new Membership Director. This allows Amber Kincheloe – who was "filling in", to return to her position of Executive Secretary and all the work that position brings. Sally Porter was approved to serve in the position of 3rd Vice-President, covering FInchSave and the Census. Sara Roberts has also officially began her work as "Treasurer Trainee" and is working with Lisa Murphy to learn the "ins" and "outs" of our Treasury Department in preparation for taking that position on when Lisa finishes her term in late December. Thank you to all who have agreed to serve and help us out. It takes a lot of time and energy to keep things in forward motion at all times!

The Board has had several discussions regarding the focus and direction of the FinchSave program - including the layout of the Census, the StudBook software, etc. We'd love to hear from any of you about what changes you might like to see in any of those areas. Sally will be the leading the troops on these fronts, but it takes more than just one person to keep that program running effectively. Please consider giving some of your time as a Species Captain, a volunteer for ideas or "busy work" that may need to be done behind the scenes in that program.

NCBS continues work on the 2015 National Caged Bird Show . Please check out their website regularly for updates — www.ncbs.org. Don't forget, the schedule for this year's event is going to be slightly later than in prior years due to some scheduling conflicts at the hosting location.

2015 is also a General Election year – so please stay tuned for General Election information in your next few issues of the Journal. Our hope was and is that we may be able to provide electronic voting options for the General Election this year. There are still bugs to be worked out so it may not be available for THIS election, but our hope is to move in that direction as quickly as possible.

Happy Birding,

Rebecca Mikel NFSS President

NFSS BOD – 2nd Quarter 2015

- All BOD members present except Chelsea Gitzen
- TREASURY
- 3/31/15 BANK BALANCE: 36,172.08 12/31/14 Bank Balance: \$36,295.84
- FINCHSHOP
 - Lauren Ogburn takes over finchshop
 - Finch Store group added to Face Book

BANDS

- E-Z ring reloads are in and sales are picking up
 - All NFSS judges have been provided with their jackets
- MEMBERSHIP: 432
- Election information is up to date. A few positions are still vacant at this time but info will be sent to Chelsea Gitzen to be included in the correct journal.
- Membership dept. is being brought up to date
- Three volunteers are needed to do the financial audits for 2014 and 2013. Two
 volunteers stepped up
- Motion was made to allow hybrids into the NFSS shows. Motion was not carried.
- Motion was made and carried to increase misc. budget \$700 to cover sponsorship in the AFA Convention/Lorry League Show
- Suggestion was made that NFSS advertise to increase membership numbers
- President approved payment of a \$180 invoice on 5/13/2015 for two (2) NFSS ads @ \$90 each to be placed in the catalog for NCBS.
- Out of pocket expenses were made for the FinchShop and it was a concern that they should be reimbursed by the NFSS
- Permission to advertise on Face Book was asked for by Kelsey Weyland, but put aside until further discussion with John Wilson could be established.
- It was suggested that we provide a letter of thanks to the Finch Society of San Diego for again donating \$1000 to cover the NFSS's costs for the Afternoon of Aviculture
- Motion was made and carried to increase the Finch Shop budget by \$350 to a total of \$400
- Motion was made and carried to increase misc. budget an additional \$550 to have Brian Cole speak at the AFA Convention
- Motion was made and carried to approve an amount, not to exceed \$250, to purchase accounting software for the treasury dept.
- Motion was made and carried to approve minutes and adjourn meeting.

The NFSS FinchSave Groups

A word from Scott Golden:

The NFSS needs to shift gears if we are going to keep the FSS program and NFSS viable and growing. Our online focus for many years has been the Yahoo! groups, which are closed to all non-NFSS members. Unfortunately, participation in the Yahoo! forums has greatly diminished. Most FSS groups have had no activity for months and the NFSS group has mostly had a few administrative postings for the last several months.

I feel that we are missing the opportunity to appeal for broader participation and new members because most people in the Avicultural community simply do not know that the National Finch and Softbill Society and the Finch and Softbill Save program even exist. We have hidden our existence away to new people.

We will be keeping the current Yahoo! groups for those NFSS members that find them useful. In addition, we have established the following groups on Facebook under the umbrella of NFSS and FSS. These groups will each have a triad of moderators, be similar in design and be open to the public (with moderator approval), while advocating for the joining of NFSS and the benefits that membership provides (bands, Journal, greater political voice, etc).

I invite you all to find these groups on Facebook! Invite your friends, far and wide to join us too. With a little bit of time and effort, I feel we will see a resurgence in member-ship in NFSS and a greater interest in the hobby which we all hold dear.

Please join our NFSS & FSS species-related Facebook group pages www.nfss.org/fss/groups

- Red Siskin Cooperative
- Turaco Cooperative
- Blue/Purple Waxbill Cooperative (*Uraeginthus*)
- African Finch Cooperative
- Song Bird Cooperative
- Strawberry/Goldbreast Cooperative
- Parrot Finch Cooperative
- Honeycreeper, Dacnis and Tanager Cooperative
- · Rare Australian Finch Cooperative

- · Bulbul Cooperative
- Mousebird Cooperative
- Serinus Cooperative
- Munia and Mannikin Cooperative
- Java Sparrow Cooperative North America
- Toucans and Aracaris Cooperative
- South American, Central American and Caribbean Finches Cooperative
- NFSS: Avian Legislation, Politics and Debate



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2015 NFSS General Election For Officers Serving 2016 & 2017

NFSS Bylaws specify an election will be held every two years to elect the officers of the Society. All elected and appointed offices are open to current members. Serving on the NFSS Board of Directors is an honor, a responsibility, and a commitment of time in addition to the responsibilities of your office.

Board meetings are held four times yearly. Three are held online and the 4th quarter Board meeting will be conducted prior to the annual membership meeting held at the NCBS (it may be necessary to conclude the 4th quarter meeting online). Internet accessibility on a daily basis is necessary.

Elected officers should vote during the official meetings. Board members present annual budgets for consideration and are required to submit a detailed account of their expenditures and income to the treasurer on a monthly basis. In addition, officers must submit quarterly reports to the Board of Directors.

Knowledge of the NFSS Bylaws is essential and a basic understanding of Roberts Rules of Order is helpful. The board member's duty is to lead the organization in its mission and to keep it financially and legally viable. It is important that each candidate understand the responsibilities of the office.

Every person who intends to become a candidate for any office will be required to submit a bio/resumé to the chairman of the nominating committee stating their background and experience.

Time required: Four quarterly Board meetings are conducted, each lasting approximately a month, require a *minimum* of one hour daily to monitor and respond to posts. Time is also required to perform the duties of the office.

PRESIDENT

Preside over all meetings; attend to the day-to-day operations of the Society; be available to members of the Board, and also monitor NFSS Forums.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT (REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS, EDUCATION)

Work closely with the President. First in succession to fill the position of President in absentia or if the President is unable to fill his/her term; will coordinate activities and be responsible for Regional Vice Presidents, and approve checks made payable to the President.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT (Publications)

Second in succession to fill the position of President. Responsible for all NFSS publications; supervises NFSS WebMaster and Journal Editor. Available to the Editor and Advertising Manager for guidance in securing articles and ads; assists in obtaining competitive printing prices.

3RD VICE PRESIDENT (FSS AND CENSUS)

Oversee day-to-day operations of the National Finch/Softbill Save (FSS) program; work closely with FSS Committee, Group Managers, and Species Captains to develop species profiles; collect data, maintain records; coordinate activities of NFSS Captive Breeding Program; compile and publish a yearly census.

4th VICE PRESIDENT (Judges Panel/Standards/Research)

Must be NFSS Panel Judge, serves as Judges Panel Director, chairs the Research and Standards Committee, and in charge of Species Classifications. Maintains records/points earned by members and birds from NFSS shows. Represents the NFSS as liaison with the National Cage Bird Show Board.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Responsible for encouraging membership and club affiliation in the Society within the region he/she resides. Responsible to the First Vice President and serves as part of the Education Committee. Encouraged to attend the Regional Show in their region, and hold at least one membership meeting annually within their region. They should always be a visible NFSS representative.

TREASURER

Must have business experience and accounting skills. Deposits/transfers funds electronically into and from various accounts will maintain up-to-date records, request budgets from all departments, and prepare annual budget for NFSS. Also receives/deposits/documents weekly payments to the proper account and provides the President with a weekly report. Requests approval for expenditures prior to payment. Prepare and submit to the Board at the 4th Quarter Board meeting a budget to be approved by the Board. Responsible for establishing and maintaining NFSS financial accounts and filing tax returns. An audit of the prior years financial records shall be performed by 2 BOD members not to include the current Treasurer each year and at any time the Treasurer is relieved of responsibilities.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Must have good verbal and written communication skills, experience with using word-processing software and the internet. Takes minutes during all Board meetings, compile the minutes, and submit to the Board for approval. Maintains an archive of all minutes and the Society's official documents, and assist other Board members with correspondence as necessary.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Responsible for receipt of and processing of new/renewal memberships. Maintains current membership rolls, making them available to Department Managers.. Documents checks and sends to treasurer, sends membership materials to new/renewal members, Must be familiar with Excel and able to monitor his/her computer on a daily basis.

BAND SECRETARY

Responsible for ordering and issuing NFSS bands, verifying membership status for purchases. Submits monthly itemized expense/income report to the Treasurer. Requires computer knowledge, Excel, converting files to PDF, internet, and basic accounting skills. Negotiates purchases with band suppliers, working with foreign currency and verifying incoming merchandise.

FINCH SHOP DIRECTOR

Responsible for the inventory and sales of merchandise. Receives and process all orders. Works within financial guidelines approved by the Board for expenditures, prepares/submits annual budget, establishes/maintains contact with vendors.

AFFILIATE/AWARDS DIRECTOR

Responsible for club affiliations, selection of clubs hosting Regional Shows, and processing award orders. Submits monthly financial report along with any funds received to the Treasurer. Sends re-affiliation packets to clubs and when returned, enters all necessary information into a database. Forwards information to appropriate Department Managers. Information must be sent to the Membership Director for inclusion in the membership database. Also processes awards orders and maintains award inventory adequate for show season.

APPOINTED NFSS OFFICERS

The following officers are appointed via recommendation by the NFSS President & a majority vote of the BOD.

NFSS JOURNAL EDITOR

Basic grammar, spelling, computer, Excel, and publishing programs necessary, as well as knowledge of file types and how to utilize or convert them for use in the Journal. Handles all activities related to production of the bi-monthly NFSS Journal, including procuring articles and photographs, maintain communication with all NFSS Board members, ensure accuracy of NFSS information and forms in each issue, creates/edits each NFSS Journal issue, delivers to printer in timely manner, and approves payment Also supervises Advertising/ Promotions Manager. Responsible to 2nd Vice President and President.

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONS MANAGER

Solicits ads for the Journal and coordinate with the Editor and Website Manager for placement of ads in the Journal and on the Website. Maintains electronic files with up-to-date records; handles all invoicing and record-keeping for all advertisers. Cooperates with Regional Vice Presidents in promotion of Regional Shows. Responsible to NFSS Editor and Second Vice President.

NFSS WEBSITE MANAGER

Must be completely knowledgeable with all operating systems, software, hardware, and any other programs required to create, set up, maintain and update (as needed) the NFSS Website. Reports to the 2nd Vice President.

MODERATOR: NFSS FINCH/SOFTBILL FORUM

Acts as moderator of the NFSS Listserv, determines eligibility and approves subscribers in conjunction with the Membership Director. Writes and distributes list rules and enforces a civil forum through thoughtful correspondence. Responsible to President.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

Responsible for interrelationships between NFSS and other national and local avicultural organizations, investigates and reports to NFSS Board & membership current or proposed legislation affecting bird owners/breeders. Reports to President.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE (AFA) REPRESENTATIVE

Responsible for keeping the NFSS membership informed as to activities of the AFA . Reports to President

2015 NFSS General Election For Officers Serving 2016 & 2017

The NFSS By-laws require that the Society have an election of Officers every two years. A ballot which includes all positions open for election and the names of candidates running for each position in the 2015 General Election will be published in the **July/August** NFSS Journal.

All votes must be returned to the designated address for collecting and counting the ballots with a postmark of **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1**st, **2015.** Specific instructions will be included in the ballot.

The announcement of the winners in the election will be made at the 2015 National Caged Bird Show .

Please remember these deadlines as it pertains to renewal of your membership – don't allow an interruption in your active membership to occur – especially if your renewal date is near any of these deadlines. You must allow the Membership Director adequate time to process renewals and prepare mailing lists. New members and existing members who renew their membership BEFORE OCTOBER 15th, 2015, will be provided with a ballot, but it will be their personal responsibility to make sure it is returned and postmarked BY NOVEMBER 1, 2015 in order to be eligible.

Dual members will each have one (1) vote each and will be allowed to copy the ballot.



The Under-Appreciated Hero of Your Garden

By Kelsey Weyland

They are seen everywhere, specifically in many gardens as decoration, particularly placed for visual enhancement. The unsung hero of your yard, the key to diversity and life, a source of entertainment and enlightenment: the bird bath. Most bird baths are chosen based on how they will interplay with the fauna colors or aesthetic theme, rather than the important roles they play in your community ecosystem or in your domesticated flocks. Bird baths provide vital opportunities for your birds to reach a water source, especially in low precipitation seasons like summer and winter. Like all living things, birds need water to drink, however they also need it for bathing and rearing their young.



The Benefits of Bathing

Outdoors, having a well-established and well-designed bird bath will bring more birds and diversity to your gardens than providing a food source. Birds will often fly further and more regularly to a steady water source than they will for food. In addition to hydration, baths are used for grooming; however, unlike your teenager or a poodle, when birds bathe they are cleansing themselves from parasites as well as preparing their feathers for insulation for the season, flight, and mating. After washing themselves, they will preen their plumage, removing parasites while simultaneously adding a protective oil layer from their uropygial gland as they dry in the sun. Having well maintained feathers will keep a bird warm in the winter and cool in the summer as well as allow the right feather placement for aerodynamics. Periods of peak feather conditions and bathing also correlate with mating rituals.

Courtship & Reproduction

Bathing provides roles in mating and reproduction as well. After birds bathe, allopreening strengthens and reforms bonds between mates. In addition, males are often triggered to display and sing after bathing in order to attract a new mate. Providing proper baths will privilege insight to many mating display opportunities that would otherwise not be seen. When it comes to hatching success, bathing becomes a silent hero. The oil on the bathed plumage from the uropygial gland provides protection to the embryos from bacteria penetrating the shells' semipermeable pores. When parents sit on their eggs, the oil is then transferred to the shells and spread with each rotation which enhances the eggs natural cuticle. The oil also aides in controlling the humidity of the clutch. As the embryos grow, the humidity should average about 65% allowing the air sac to grow with the chick. About 3 days prior to hatching,



the humidity must increase to allow the chicks to break the membrane and shell. Often the parents will bathe then lay on the eggs to lock in humidity with their feathers. It's vital for the parents to have conditioned plumage from bathing and preening to regulate their nests. Too high humidity will not allow the air sac to grow which will kill the chicks, while too low humidity will prevent chicks from being able to break out.

Tips for Your Bird Bath

Acknowledging the imperative roles that bird baths play in your garden and community is first; second, is recognizing a well maintained and proper bird bath. Consider offering a bath that allows for constant shallow water, resembling a puddle, and also has traction to enable the birds to comfortably stand. You should also provide sticks and stones to allow access to water without causing the birds to submerge themselves. This is particularly helpful for winter,

when a bird will want to drink without getting wet. Another key is to use material for your bath that is easily cleaned. Porous materials, like cement and wood, allow for algae and bacteria growth. These can then be taken back to the nest and can damage the eggs, but they



may also be harmful when they are ingested. In addition, refrain from putting any chemicals or additives in the water, like glycerin, which can be toxic to birds as well as damage and mat feathers. Providing misters and drippers with your baths is a creative and fun way to allow for a continuous fresh water. supply. Considering the diverse roles that water plays for wild and domesticated birds, you can enjoy creating water features that are more dynamically productive while knowing you are providing birds with a necessity. Once you have established your bath, or baths, sit back and watch the show as the assorted activities increase.

For ideas and more specific information on bird baths, please see the article on bird baths continued in the next edition.

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Yellow Winged Sugarbird (Cyanerpes cyaneus)

Written by John Robinson

Also known as: Red Legged Sugarbird, Red Legged Honeycreeper, Yellow Winged Honeycreeper.

The Yellow Winged Sugarbirds distribution ranges over the majority of northern South America through to Central America and some of the Caribbean islands.

Plumage Colouration: The male Yellow Winged Sugarbird is primarily purple, except for virtually the whole of the wing, tail, ventral area, mantle, and eye stripes, of which are black. The nape is a beautiful electric/aquamarine blue. This species takes its name from the underwing coverts which are bright buttercup yellow and can only be observed when in flight or stretching its wings.

Sexing: Both Male and Female are easily distinguishable from each other

Females are mainly dirty grey/green above and green/cream below with green striations. Juveniles are identical to the female.

Males do not attain full adult color until they are between 18-24 months old. Males appear to be fertile once adult color is 3/4 complete.

Feeding: A nectar diet is the mainstay for these birds, but also fruit such as pear, banana, and pomegranate. Live food in the form of mini mealworms, small waxworms, and fruit flies are essential as an insectivorous mixture.

I used to use 2 nectar mixes but now I use a particular one, which is excellent. It consists of 1 scoop of Wysoy Baby Powder, 2 scoops of glucose powder, and 4 heaped dessert spoons of castor sugar all mixed until dissolved with a little boiling water then topped up to 500 ml's with cold water. This will sustain them in excellent health.



male



female



iuvenile



Fruit fly breeding tray. All the trays have holes in the bottom to allow very slow drainage of the fluids from the rotting fruit. I fill the top tray up first. I use mainly rotting bananas and pears. I just split them open and place on the tray. I then allow that to get filled with fruit fly maggots and start on the second tray from the top. I continue this procedure until all the trays are full. By the time the bottom tray is full, the top one will have dried out. Just empty it of its contents and throw into the bin, then refill and start the process all over again. Underneath is a bucket that collects the rotting juices. Just throw away every day.

Housing: They can be kept quite happily in a large indoor cage the size of a double budgerigar breeder. But I prefer to try and keep these birds in an aviary on their own, which will give them their best chance of breeding. They can have access to an outdoor aviary during the summer months as long as the temperature does not drop below 60°F. The temperature must not be allowed to drop below 60°F in the winter months either. This is to allow fruit flies to breed and pinky maggots to turn into flies.

They must have access to drinking water and a bath at all times as they love to bathe.

Breeding: An aviary to themselves will attain the best breeding results. They will utilize a square finch nest box or wicker basket, but the best I have found is half a coconut screwed into the side of the aviary with a small artificial branch next to it. They will build a small cup shaped nest made entirely of coconut fiber. The usual clutch consists of 2 eggs and these will hatch after approximately 10-14 days. Most of mine have been 10-12 days with the odd exception of 14 days. For the first 24 hours the chick absorbs the egg sac, but after this period, they will feed small fruit flies and the odd hatching pinky maggot flies. From day four up until day 10, they feed the chicks on hatching flies and the odd spider I can find. After day 10, they dip the flies into the nectar and then feed them to the chicks, continuing until the chick eventually weans to a complete nectar diet.



Simple nest they build

When they have eggs in the nest, it is best to start providing live pinky maggots by placing 2 handfuls a day on a tray. At a temperature averaging 60°F they will hatch in approximately 2 weeks, so if the first lot is placed on the tray the same day the sugarbirds' eggs are laid, then the first flies should be hatching in time for the chicks' first change of diet at about 4 days old.

Place 2 handfuls in every day while incubating until 6 days after they have hatched, and they will have a constant supply of hatching flies to feed on. (All the maggots are kept cold in a fridge until taken out for use in the aviaries' trays.)

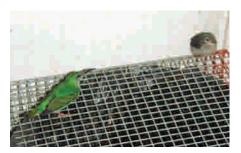
I also add sponge fingers soaked in nectar right away until they have fledged.

Hints/tips: When purchasing any softbill do not worry too much about the feather condition, even if the birds are nearly devoid of feathers; in time the feathers will grow back. Do, however, check that there is no scarring on the skin of the bird, as permanent scarring can results in feather follicles being irreparably damaged. The birds must have bright, clear and round eyes and be quite active. Avoid birds that are fluffed up and lethargic as these birds probably will not survive.

When they are first acquired, they must be kept on separated in quarantine and not in an aviary with others for approximately 2 weeks. This will allow any diseases that they may be harboring to become apparent without subjecting other birds to the infection.



Young male I bred just coming into colour.



Adult hen and her youngster. It also shows my old way of breeding fruit flies. Simple dustbin bag in a bucket and throw fruit in and let rot away.

Unique Characteristics: They are very active birds and the males are frequently singing, yet not at all noisy. They are not suitable for the newcomer to bird keeping. I would, however, recommend them to someone that wants to start with nectar feeders, after having experience with other softbills.



Come One! Come All! Come Canaries, Cardinals, and Even Cuckoos

By Kelsey Weyland

You're a caged one, Mr. Finch, but you really aren't alone! As social creatures, people and birds alike enjoy breaking out of their enclosures and joining clubs. Clubs provide opportunities for individuals of similar interests to connect and share experiences and knowledge. Along with this immediate endorphin reinforcement, clubs also provide networking, activity, and event opportunities. On a more specific note, our wonderful NFSS club provides all these and specialized prospects to softbill enthusiasts. Let's not ruffle our feathers, allow me to thank you and offer you each a self-stimulating pat on your own back! Thank you for being the best members around!

My favorite thing about being a member is seeing everyone's pictures and experiences. I've learned so much from reading your advice and meeting your birds. I never imagined the diversity of beauty out there, and of course, your birds too! As members, we love to hear from each other and also share our passion with others, whether they want to hear it or they are slightly coerced. A few weeks ago, my birds earned the topic of conversation from a real life bird anti-enthusiast, my husband. Flustered from my young daughter's gargling demands and after I spent a whole tuppence for a bag to feed my birds, I got careless and one of my little cordon bleus flew the nest. As the shameful explicit escaped my mouth, my daughter's cries of boredom turned to contentious laughter, as if to egg (pardon my poor pun) my finch further on. After finally catching the little bird, and watching my daughter's elated little face and squeals of joy, my husband gleefully returned it to its proper cage shaking his head and stating that he can't wait to share the clumsy mess with his co-workers. Instead of thanking him for falling all over our house with me to catch my prized little friend, I told him not to forget to tell them to join the NFSS for more delightfully twisted stories of finch ownership because we "Gotta get 'em where we can!"



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With all the wonderful things our members are doing, it's no wonder the NFSS is so successful! I'd like to see our membership numbers continue to grow! What are some ideas you have to recruit new birds to the flock? I've been including a NFSS flyer and application in each adoption packet with every bird I sell. It's a great way to offer bird owners of all experience levels access to support, resources, and catastrophic articles written by yours truly. I encourage everyone to find a new friend to bring into our club. You can lead a finch to water, but you can't make him fill out the NFSS application and send in the check; so let's help him hold the pen: remember membership includes access to show points, bands, classifieds, the journal, forum conversations, and membership aviary listings, just to name a few. For a full list, visit the membership tab of www.NFSS.org.

I personally invite you to share your stories, experiences, and ideas with everyone! Post to your favorite NFSS Facebook groups or submit to an article or story to the editor for the journal. Your participation and your voice matter. Have an idea for a great read, but don't want to write it yourself? Send me an email; I welcome ideas to write about. In addition, if you'd like information on advertising in the journal, chirp at me – advertising@nfss.org

Thank you members! Without U there is no US.







Affiliate/Awards Director: Laura Bewley 3538 65 W. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74107 Affiliations@NFSS.org

CALIFORNIA

West Coast Zebra and Society Finch Show - Speciality Club

Meetings: None

Website: www.efinch.com/show

EVENT 1

Show - 10th Annual West Coast Zebra & Society Finch Show, July 31 & Aug. 1, 2015

Location: Sacramento, CA Manager: Sally Huntington Phone: 858-452-9423

Finch Society of San Diego County

Meetings: 2/22, 3/29, 4/26, 5/24, 6/21, 7/26, 8/23, 9/27, 10/25, & 12/6/2015

Location: Poway Elks Lodge, 13219 Poway Road, Poway, CA

Website: www.finchsocietyofsandiego.com

Email: sdfinchsociety@gmail.com

EVENT 1

Fair – Birthday Party of FSSDC, September 27, 2015 Location: Poway Elks Lodge, 13219 Poway Rd, Poway, CA

Manager: Antonio Rodrigues Phone: 914-512-0632 Email: antonio979@aol.com

Other: Grand "Bird" Raffle and Auction

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Affiliate/Awards Director: Laura Bewley 3538 65 W. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74107 Affiliations@NFSS.org

Finch Society of San Diego County (cont)

EVENT 2

Fair - Holiday Craft Fair & Bird Mart, December 6, 2015 Location: Poway Elks Lodge, 13219 Poway Rd, Poway, CA

Manager: Antonio Rodrigues Phone: 914-512-0632 Fmail: antonio979@aol.com

FLORIDA

Suncoast Canary & Finch Club

Meetings: 1st Wed. of Month, 1419 Collingswood Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Website: www.suncoastcanary andfinchclub.com

Email: vetagator@yahoo.com

EVENT 1

Show – Suncoast Canary and Finch Show, October 10-11, 2015

Judge: Saturday-Laura Bewley, Sunday-Armando Lee

Location: Charlotte Harbor Event Center, 75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, FL

Show Manager: Alex Villarreal

Phone: 941-661-1115

Florida Canary Fanciers, Inc.

Meetings: 3rd Sunday Every Other Month 2:00pm

Website: www.floridacanarvfanciers.com

Email: RudiTour@aol.com

EVENT 1

Show - Florida Canary Fanciers 19th Annual Show, December 12, 2015

Judge: Kenneth Gunby

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

Show Manager: Mike Corbeil Phone: 407-468-4255

Email: RudiTour@aol.com

Other Divisions: Canary- Colorbred, Song, & Type

ILLINOIS

Lori League, Triangle Bird Club - Speciality Club

Meetings: None

Website: www.LoryLeague.org Contact: 206-501-7428z

Email: blconnection@hotmail.com

EVENT 1

Show - Hyatt Regency O'Hare, 9300 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Rosemont, IL 60018

Divisions: ALBS/NAPS/NCS/NFSS

Illini Bird Fanciers Inc.

Meetings: First Sunday of the month; Noon to 4pm. Church, 2401 S. 9th, Springfield, IL

Website: www.illinibirdfanciers.com Email: contact@illiniBirdFanciers.com

Affiliate/Awards Director: Laura Bewley 3538 65 W. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74107 Affiliations@NFSS.org

Illini Bird Fanciers Inc. (cont)

EVENT 1

Fair - BF Fall Fair, September 20, 2015

Location: Illinois Bldg., State Fair Grounds, 801 E. Sangamon Ave, Springfield, IL

Fair Manager: Rosetta Wilson Email: fairs@illinibirdfanciers.com

Phone: 217-691-2369

IOWA

Mid American Cage Bird Society

Meetings: 4th Sunday of Jan, Feb, April, May, June, Sept & October

Animal Rescue League, 5452 N.E. 22nd, Des Moines, IA

Website: www.macbs.org

EVENT 1

Fair - Feather Fair, September 6, 2015

Location: Iowa State Fairgrounds, Walnut Center, 300 University, Des Moines, IA

Fair Manager: John Thielking

Phone: 239-851-8132

Email: JThielking@comcast.net

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fanciers

Meetings: 3rd Sunday of the Month

Location: Towson Library, 320 York Rd, Towson, MD

Website: www.baltimorebirdfanciers.org Email: compteacher@vahoo.com

EVENT 1

Show - Baltimore Bird Fanciers 75th Annual Bird Show & Mart, October 17, 2015

Judge: Nizam Ali

Location: Best Western Plus Hotel & Conference Center, 5625 O'Donnell St, Baltimore, MD

Phone: 410-343-1807

Email: compteacher@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders of Michigan

Email: mtarsitano@gmail.com Website: scfbmichigan.com

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

Livonia, Michigan 48150

Event 1

Fair: Fall Bird Fair September 12th - Livonia Elk's Lodge

Event 2

Show: Saturday, October 23-24, 2015, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Colorbred Canary/Hybrids/Finch and Softbill NFSS/American Singer/Parrots NAPS/Cocka-

tiels NCS/Budgerigars-ABS

AFFILIATE/AWARDS DIRECTOR: LAURA BEWLEY 3538 65 W. AVENUE, TULSA, OK 74107 AFFILIATIONS@NFSS.ORG

MISSOURI

Gateway Parrot Club

Meetings: 3rd Sunday of the Month 2:00pm

Varietees Exotic Bird Store, 60 Meramec Valley Plaza, Valley Park, MO

Website: www.GatewayParrotClub.org Email: President@gatewayparrot.org

Event 1:

Fair - August 22, 2015

Fair Manager: Dick Grommet

Location: Machinists Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd, Bridgeton, MO

Phone: 636-529-0026 Email: rcgrommet@att.net

NEW YORK

Colorbred Canary Club of New York

Meetings: 1st Sunday of each month, 50-21 193 St., Fresh Meadows NY 11365

Website: www.newyorkcolorbredcanaryclub.com

Email: izelada@optonline.net

EVENT 1

Show - 16th Annual Show - October 3, 2015

Judge: Hiram Rampersaud

Location: 1St. Judeís Church, 1696 Canarsie Rd. (off Seaview Ave., Brooklyn, NY

Show Manager: Jose Zeldad Phone: 914-345-5707

Email: jzelada@optonline.net

Divisions: Colorbred & Type Canaries, Mules & Hybrids

OREGON

Columbia Canary Club

Meetings: 1st Sunday of each month, 2:00 p.m - 4:00 p.m.,

Website: www.columbiacanaryclub.org

Location: Milwaukie Grnger Hall, 12015 S.E. 22nd Avenue, Milwaukie, OR Contact: Sandra Gregory, 680 Douglas Avenue, NE, Gervais, Oregon 97026-7770 Email: sfoote@pressdata.net and phone is: 503-792-3582 or 503-310-3133

EVENT 1

Show - Columbia 46th Canary & Finch Show & Sale, November. 7-8, 2015

Judge: Sally Huntington

Location: Red Lion Hotel, 100 Columbia Street, Vancouver, WA

Show Manager: Sandra Foote-Gregory

Email: sfoote@xpressdata.net

Phone: 503-792-3582 Divisions: Finch & Canary

AFFILIATE/AWARDS DIRECTOR: LAURA BEWLEY 3538 65 W. AVENUE, TULSA, OK 74107 AFFILIATIONS@NFSS.ORG

PUERTO RICO

Asociacion de Criadores de Finches del Estec Inc.

Meetings: Every Tuesday @ Las Catalinas Mall Food Court, Caguas 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Facebook: Asociacion de Criadores de Finches

Email: Finchespr@yahoo.com

EVENT 1

Show – Regional Winter Show – Regional de Invierno 2015, November 6-8, 2015

Judge: Laura Tinker

Location: Dalon de Actividades Alturas de Villa del Rey, Calle Francia Final, Caguas P.R. Show Manager: Juan Alicea: Email: juanalicea@yahoo.com: Phone: 787-479-7405

TEXAS

Fort Worth Bird Club

Website: fortworthbirdclub.com

Club Contact Email:FWBC@fortworthbirdclub.com

EVENT 1

Show - 62nd Fort Worth Bird Club Show, September 19, 2015

Judge: Clarence Culwell Apprentice: Ken Rampersaud

Location: Cleburne Conference Center, 1501 W. Henderson, Cleburne, TX

Show Manager: Cheryl Burns

Phone: 682-231-3099

Email: fwbc@fortworthbirdclub.com

Other Divisions: Parrots, Budgies, Cockatiels, Canaries

EVENT 2

Fair - The Bird Mart, October 17, 2015

Fair Manager: Chervl Burns

Location: Cleburne Conference Center, 1501 W. Henderson, Cleburne, TX 76033

Phone: 682-231-3099

Email: thebirdmart@fortworthbirdclub.com

Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers Association

Club Contact: Cheryl@newworldranch.com

Website: www.texasbirdbreeders.org

Event 1:

Show – Annual Fall Show & Fair November 7, 2015

Judge: TBA

Location: Mayborn Convention Center, 3303 N. 3rd St., Temple, TX

Show Manager: Barbara Irwin

Phone: 817-572-6262

Other Divisions: NCS, NCA, BAA, NAPS

Alamo Exhibition Bird Club

Meetings: 4th Sunday of Every month, St John Methodist Church,

2202 Bandera Rd. San Antonio. TX

Website: AEBC.org

Club Contact: Ben Garza - 210-275-3369

Affiliate/Awards Director: Laura Bewley 3538 65 W. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74107 Affiliations@NFSS.org

EVENT 1

Show - Show & Bird Mart - September 12, 2015

Manager: Ben Garza

Location: Seguin - Guadalupe Coliseum, 950 South Austin St, Seguin TX

Phone: 210-275-3369 Judge: Clarence Culwell

Other Divisions: Parrots, Cockatiels, Canary

Canary and Finch Society

Club contact: windsong.hj41@gmail.com Website: http://canaryfinchsociety.tripod.com/

EVENT 1

Show – 20th Annual Show, Huston, TX

Location: Sheraton North Houston at Bush Intercontinental Airport

15700 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Houston, TX 77032

Phone: (281) 442-5100

Judges: Type Canary - Jim Pickel Finch - Laura Watkins Color Canary - Jose Zelada

WASHINGTON

Cascade Canary Breeders Association

Meetings: 4th Sunday of the Month

Woodinville, Washington

Website: https://sites.google.com/site/cascadecanary/annual-show

Email: dwhite3511@msn.com

Event 1:

Show – 47th Annual Finch and Canary Show and Sale October 17 & 18, 2015

Location: Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Bldg 501, 14405 179 Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272

Show Manager: Doug White: Phone: 360-793-0459

ONTARIO, CANADA

Durham Avicultural Society

Website: www.birdclub.ca

Meetings: 2nd Tues. of each month 7:30pm Sept. – June 2015 Location: Ajax Rotary Park Pavilion, 151 Lake Driveway W., Ajax, ON

Website: www.birdclub.ca

Club Contact Email:jacquies.parrots@sympotice.ca

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society - Speciality Club

Meetings: Members Homes Website: www.essexkentcbs.com

Email: julianne@mnsi.net Event 1

40th Annual Show, September 26 - 28, 2015

Judge: Jim Heffernan

Location: Fogolar Furlan Club, Udine Hall, 1800 E.C. Row North Service Road, Windsor, ON

Show Manager: David Sylvester

Email: d.sylvester@gmail.com: Phone: 515-727-3766 Other Divisions: All Hookbills, Type & Colourbred Canaries

NFSS JUDGES PANEL

4th Vice President - Judges Panel/Standards/Research Vince Moase • 1078 Roundelay Ct. • Oshawa, ON L1J 7R7 • Canada Phone 905-723-1978 • Email vmoase@rogers.com

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P.O. Box 546 Hollis, NH 03049 Phone: 603-878-3435 spbe1@aol.com

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