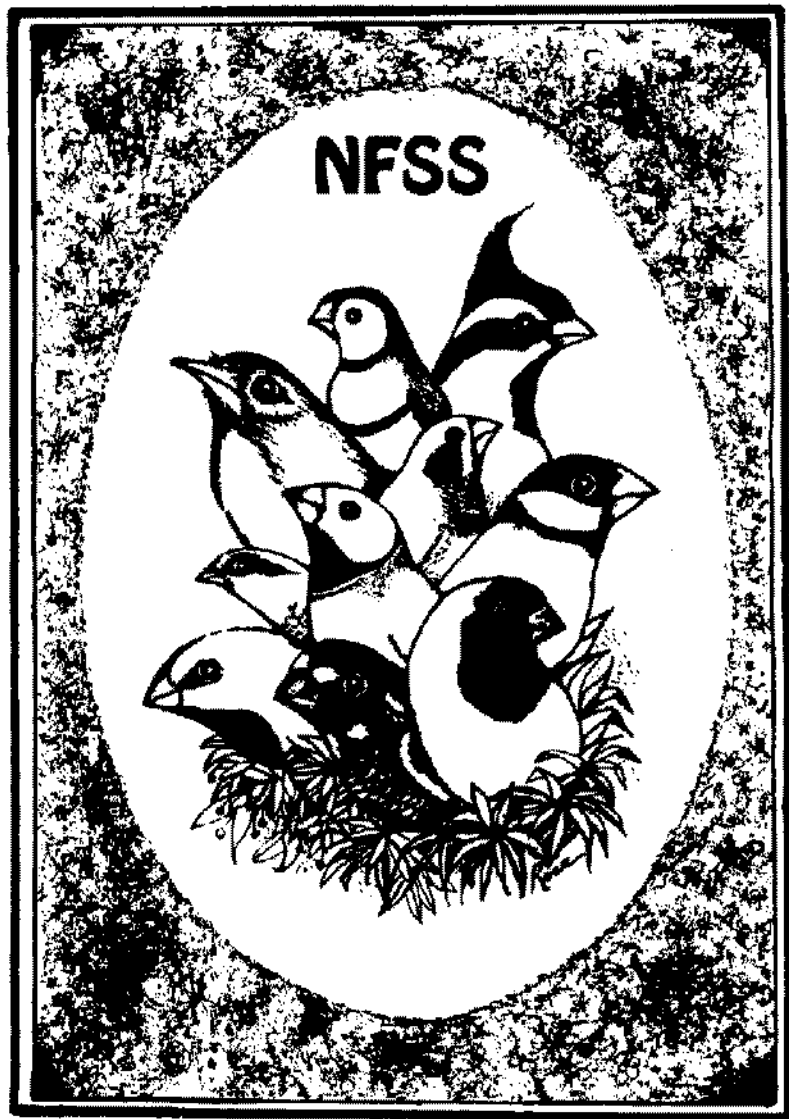


# The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 14 No. 2



National Finch & Softbill Society

March—April 1997



# THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

## OFFICERS

President	Frank Hudson	Phone and Fax (409) 364-2868
1st Vice President Regional V.P.s	Charles Anchor	(630) 543-3757
2nd Vice President Publications	Robert Petrie	(816) 459-9800
3rd Vice President FINCHSAVE & Census	Kristine Spencer	Phone (360) 253-4572 E-mail NTERNEST@pasifier.com
4th Vice President Judges Panel, Stds & Research	Dr. Al Decoteau	Phone (603) 672-4568 Fax (603) 672-3120
Membership Director	Lynda Bakula	(314) 394-3530
Executive Secretary	Patrick Vance	(810) 443-0643
Treasurer	Miki Spartzak	Phone (410) 282-9233 Fax (410) 288-1762
Liaison Officer Club Delegates, Show Dates	Jerry McCawley	(512) 858-4136
Band Secretary	Eileen Laird	(407) 657-7989
President Emeritus	William Parlee	(203) 569-0200

## APPOINTED OFFICERS

Editor	Robert Petrie 4325 NE 53rd st Kansas City, MO 64119	(816)459-9800
Promotions Manager	Jerry McCawley	(512) 858-4146
Points Manager	Dr. Al Decoteau	(603) 672-4568
FINCHSHOP Manager	Julie Duimstra	(541) 757-3117
Awards Manager	Ginny Allen	(334) 749-7168
Advertising Manager	Lynda Bakula	(314) 394-3530
Non-Board Volunteer Census Manager	Stephen Hoppin	Phone(941) 997-2237 Fax (941) 997- NFSS

## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Region 1 - Northeast	Kris Kroner	(215) 628-4143
Region 2 - Southeast	Dale Laird	(407) 657-7989
Region 3 - Mid-Central	Tom Rood	(217) 774-5265
Region 4 - Mid-West	Clarence Gulwell	(817) 220-5568
Region 5 - Mountain	Julie Kern	(303) 753-6145
Region 6 - Pacific Coast	Catly Knight	(510) 634-5068
Region 7 - Caribbean	Rich Morales	(809) 791-4500

# The NFSS Bulletin

Home Office

4325 NE 53rd St., Kansas City, MO 64119

On the World Wide Web at: <http://www2.msstate.edu/~rbh2/NFSS.html>

## Publisher

The National Finch and Softbill Society

## Editor:

Robert Patrie

## Addresses/Advertising:

Lynda Bakula

## Assistant Typists:

Susan De Busk,

Lynda Scott, Janice Trost

*Thank you to you all!!*

## Editorial Policy/Disclaimer

The *NFSS Bulletin* is published bi-monthly by the National Finch and Softbill Society. The following deadlines normally apply to all aspects of the *Bulletin*: 1/01, 3/01, 5/01, 7/01, 9/01, 11/01. Question? Just call!

**NFSS members are encouraged to submit articles, drawings and photographs.** NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all editorial, photographic and advertising material submitted to *The NFSS Bulletin* for publication. Photographs, when submitted, shall become the sole property of NFSS and shall be subject to use in any and all NFSS programs. We will return them to you after use, if requested.

Affiliated clubs have permission to reprint all articles unless marked "All Rights Reserved". "All Rights Reserved" articles must have the author's written permission and all "reprinted by permission of" articles require written permission from the originating source.

Opinions expressed in articles and published in the *Bulletin* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, NFSS or its Board of Directors.

Advertisements in the *Bulletin* are not endorsed by NFSS unless stated otherwise. NFSS assumes no responsibility for advertisers' claims or the quality of their products or services.

Copyright © 1997, The National Finch and Softbill Society.

## In this issue:

We have a letter to the membership concerning shipping birds via the US Mail. There is also an article that takes a look at Bird Judges by the Region #4 Vice President. Ron Castaner has another article dealing with birds 'going light'. In the "Lessons from Fellow Aviculturists" column there is story about a hookbill, but it could just as easily been a softbill. There are two articles, from an Australian journal about, observing finches in the wild. From a European journal we have an article on Blue-cap Waxbills. And finally we have the conclusion to the 1996 Show Season.

## Attention!

### FINCHSAVE Manager Needed

Unfortunately due to time constraints and a career change, the current FINCHSAVE Manager is resigning and a new one is needed. Are you interested in helping to lead aviculture into the the next century?

If so contact:

Kristine Spencer  
FINCHSAVE Manager  
(360)253-4573

Deadline for the next issue is  
May 1st 1997

# The NFSS Bulletin

Vol. 14, No. 2  
March—April 1997

## Features

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 8 A Letter to the Membership                                | <i>Sally Huntington</i> |
| 11 Judging: From an Exhibitor's Perspective                 | <i>Dale Laird</i>       |
| 13 Going Light: Wasting Diseases in Finches and Small Birds | <i>Ron Castaner</i>     |
| 17 Raffi's Lost Love  | <i>Harry Burleigh</i>   |
| 19 Finches I Have Seen In and Around Brisbane               | <i>P. J. Hendry</i>     |
| 21 Chasing Wild Finches From Brisbane to Derby              | <i>Ray Leggett</i>      |
| 23 Success With Blue Cap Waxbills                           | <i>Terry Cook</i>       |

### **SPECIAL SECTION: 1996 Show Season**

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 28 Top Ten Shows in 1996     | <i>Dr. Al Decoteau</i> |
| 29 1996 Exhibitor Awards     | <i>Dr. Al Decoteau</i> |
| 30 1996 Bird Points          | <i>Dr. Al Decoteau</i> |
| 31 1996 Show Reports part II |                        |

## **Cover Credit**

**NESS Logo, adopted Fall 1994  
by Rose Gianferrara, Bonita Springs, Florida**

## Departments

In This Issue	1
Changing Your Address?	12
Affiliation Agreement	41
FINCHSHOP - The NFSS Store	47
NFSS Leg Band Sizes	48
NFSS Band Order Form	49
NFSS Leg Banding Procedure	50
Classified Ads	51
Membership Application	52

## Directories

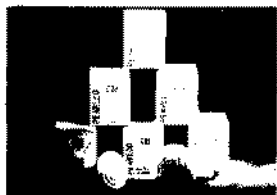
Board of Directors - Phone numbers	<i>Inside Front Cover</i>
- Mailing Addresses	7
Affiliates, Delegates and Shows	42
NFSS Panel of Judges	<i>Inside Back Cover</i>

# Warmth is not just Comfort, it's Survival!

Cool room temperatures may stress your birds. This particularly true of weaning babies, nesting birds or birds that are ill. Be prepared for climate and health emergencies. Infrared heating will allow you to provide nurturing warmth just for your birds while the rest of the family stays comfortable.

## PEARLCO™ INFRAREO ELEMENTS

- Natural Sun-Like Heat Source. Emits NO Light
- Shatter & Splash Resistant
- 60, 100, 150 and 250 Watt Sizes
- Up To 10,000 Hour Life



## ENERJOY® INFRAREO HEAT PANELS

- Gentle Radiant Heat. Emits NO Light
- Only 1 inch thick, Weighs Ounces
- Includes: Line Cord, Switch, On Indicator
- 7"x12" - 35W; 12"x24" - 100W; 18"x24" - 150W



## BREEDER'S SUPPLIES

- **Pipettes** - Easy to use & Sanitary. Small (1.5cc) Size available
- **"O"-Ring Syringes** - 1cc, 3cc, 5cc, 10cc, 20cc, 60cc, 100cc.
- **NutriBiotic™ Citrus Extract** - Prevents Sprout Mold & Souring.
- **Oxyfresh™ Cleaning Products** - Safe and effective cleaning and disinfecting. Purchase helps IARF research projects.
- **Nets** - Six Sizes Available.
  - Nutritional Supplements
  - Lamp Holders
  - Vita-Lites
  - Dimmers
  - Thermometers
  - Nets



P.O. Box 329  
Frazier Park CA 93225



To Order Call:  
**(805) 245-1013**  
FAX: (805) 245-1336

# NFSS News & Notes

*Compiled from NFSS Directors*

## Membership Director

Our Membership Challenge has come to a close for 1996 & the winners are as follows:

**1st Place- 6 New Members**  
Shirley Perkins- Washington

**2nd Place- 4 New Members**  
Christine Spencer- Washington

**3rd Place- 3 New Members**  
Julie Duimstra- Oregon

74 new members were acquired through other sources. 283 was the total number of new members for 1996. We welcome all of the new NFSS members & thank you to all members for your efforts. Remember to include your name or membership number on the Membership application so we'll know how people are becoming aware of NFSS.

## Judges Panel Notes

**Notice to all members:** you will recall that the Parson Finch Proposed Standard and Cuthroat Finch Proposed Standard were published in the Nov/Dec 1996 journal. Please read them carefully and offer any suggested changes soon.

We need additional volunteers to continue work on the Star Finch Standard.

**Notice to all Judges:** Your judge's fee of ten dollars must have been mailed to the Judge's Panel Chairman by March 1.

1997. Please submit this fee promptly. This fee does not go to the Membership Director or the Treasurer directly. Likewise, you must submit a listing of shows you have to judge in 1997; this listing was due on March 1, 1997.

Last year judges were given several copies of the judging form: please write to the Judge's Panel Director if you need additional copies for 1997.

Please note that the Unflighted Rosette is designed for the Best Banded Bird of the current year. This award must be given to the current year Best at each show. If it is early in the year, or for some reason there are no current year banded birds exhibited, the Rosette is not to be awarded. Please note that the color of 1997 bands are purple.

## NFSS Bulletin Advertising Rates

*New rates effective 1/01/95*

### Display (camera ready) Ads:

Full page \$50/issue: \$200/year  
Half page \$30/issue; \$120/year  
Qtr. page \$20/issue: \$80/year  
Inside cover \$70/issue: \$300/year

### Classified Advertisements

FINCHSAVE: free to participants  
Others: \$.15 per word, per issue

### Deadlines

12/1, 2/1, 4/1, 6/1, 8/1, 10/1  
for next bi-monthly issue.

### Send ad and payment (payable to NFSS) to

Robert Petrie  
NFSS Bulletin Editor  
4325 NE 53 rd St.

## From the Editor's Desk...



Okay; I tried to avoid the inevitable but now I'm giving-in and I will be mentioning my child in this writing. After he was born last year I said to myself that I was not going to be one of those people that continuously talk about their children. I have so far avoided mentioning him but now I'm going to because I have gained an extra appreciation for my birds and what they go through.

I work out of the home, and during the days I also take care of our child while my wife goes off to her job. Just after he was born I felt a little sorry for her having to leave her baby. Now after 10 months I feel more as though she gets to escape for 9 hours each day.

Don't get me wrong, I'm very happy and thankful for our arrangement. We are very lucky, he has never had colic or been sick. He slept through the night since day one. He is a really good baby, but there are days! Days when I wonder if he may be the Antichrist. I get nothing done on those days. Nothing occupies him for more than a few moments at a time. It seems like he is constantly whining. Whining that

drives me crazy. By the time my wife gets home; I am in desperate need of some time of my own.

On a day after one of those days the boy seemed possessed, while feeding our birds, he was playing wonderfully in his swing. I was enjoying the peace and quite when a pair of Owl Finches began feeding their babies. There was five nestlings that were getting close to becoming fledglings. The sound of begging chicks is one of my all-time favorites sounds. It signals that I will soon have some more youngsters. It's fascinating to watch the chicks a day or two after they fledge. The chicks constantly follow the parents around begging them for more food.

Suddenly; I wondered at that point if those Owl parents felt the same as I did about their interesting little ones. I began comparing my situation with theirs'. I have but one child and they had five. Although I'm home with my child all day, without my wife. After work she is wonderful enough to take him for a couple of hours and let me have some peace and quite. Although there is two Owl parents, neither one of them truly gets a break from the incessant crying of those babies. But just as I was developing some sympathy for the nestlings' parents, It occurred to me that within several weeks those youngsters will be able to leave the parents for good. But for me I still have around eighteen years to go.



## NFSS Board of Directors 1996-97

Frank Hudson  
**President**  
 P.O. Box 328  
 Calvert, TX 77837  
 (409) 364-2868  
 Phone & Fax

Charles Anchor  
**1st Vice President**  
**Regional V.P.'s**  
 630 Lake Park Dr  
 Addison, IL 60103  
 (630) 543-3757

Robert Petrie  
**2nd Vice President**  
**Publications**  
**Editor**  
 4325 NE 53rd St.  
 Kansas City, MO 64119  
 (816) 459-9800

Kristine Spencer  
**3rd Vice President**  
**FINCHSAVE Manager**  
 3100 SE 168th Ave  
 Apt LLL 331  
 Vancouver, WA 98683  
 (360) 253-4572  
 E-mail- NTERNEST  
 @pasifier.com

Dr. Al Decoteau  
**4th Vice President**  
**Judges Panel**  
**Standards & Research**  
**Points Manager**  
 P.O. Box 369  
 Groun, MA 01450  
 Phone (603) 672-4568  
 Fax (603) 672-3120

Lynda Bakula  
**Membership Director**  
**Advertising Manager**  
 P.O. Box 3232  
 Ballwin, MO 63022  
 (314) 394 3530

Eileen Laird  
**Band Secretary**  
 1166 Village Forest Place  
 Winter Park, FL 32792  
 (407) 657-7989  
 Phone & Fax

Patrick Vance  
**Executive Secretary**  
 18175 Avilla  
 Lathrup Village, MI  
 48076  
 (810) 443-0643

Marion (Miki) Spartzak  
**Treasurer**  
 517 Old North Point Rd.  
 Baltimore, MD 21224  
 (410) 282-9233  
 Phone & Fax

Jerry McCawley  
**Liaison Manager**  
**Club Delegates**  
**Show Dates**  
**Awards Manager**  
 111 Barton Bnd  
 Dripping Springs, TX  
 78620  
 (512) 858-4136

Jerry McCawley  
**Promotions Manager**  
 111 Barton Bnd  
 Dripping Springs, TX  
 78620  
 (512) 858-4136  
 Phone & Fax

Julie Duijnstra  
**FINCHSHOP Manager**  
 4400 NW Walnut Blvd  
 #68 Corvallis, OR 97330  
 (541) 757-3117

William Parke  
**President Emeritus**  
 631 4N Takonville Rd.  
 Vernon, CT 06066  
 (203) 569-0200

Kris Kroner  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 1 - Northeast**  
 433 Houston Rd.  
 Ambler, PA 19002  
 (215) 628-4143

Dale Laird  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 2 - Southeast**  
 1166 Village Forest Place  
 Winter Park, FL 32792  
 (407) 657-7989  
 Phone & Fax

Tom Rood  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 3 - Mid-Central**  
**and Foreign**  
 313 N. Broadway  
 Snelbyville, IL 62565  
 (217) 774-5265

Clarence Culwell  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 4 - Mid-West**  
 250 Horseshoe Dr.  
 Springtown, TX 76082  
 (817) 220-5568

Julie Kern  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 5 - Mountain**  
 2749 S. Lafayette Circle  
 Denver, CO 80210  
 (303) 753-6145

Cathy Knight  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 6 - Pacific Coast**  
 P.O. Box 188  
 Byron, CA 94514  
 (510) 634-5068

Rich Morales  
**Regional Vice President**  
**Region 7 - Caribbean**  
 Villa Marina Calle 4 F-11  
 Carolina, Puerto Rico  
 00982  
 (809) 791-4500

# A Letter to the Membership:

*This is a copy of a letter that a fellow NFSS member, Sally Huntington, sent to the Postmaster of the United States. I am aware that some members in parts of the country are still currently able to send their birds through the mail. But there is an increasing number of areas of the country in which employees of the postal service are aware of the article described herein and so those members are unable to utilize the Postal Service to ship their birds. For those unfamiliar to bird shipping; to ship birds via airlines, freight and counter-to-counter services, the cost can be \$75 to \$130, where as the overnight service of the post office can be \$15 to \$25. When dealing with birds that average a \$100 per pair the cost of shipping through airline companies has not always been feasible. Logistics has been a constant problem with finches and keeping the gene pools mixed. The Postal Service could be a saving grace for us finch breeders. I have used both methods 100% successfully. I prefer to use the post office because the birds are shipped at night when they are normally quiet and inactive, just the way you want them when you ship them. Maybe we all need to band together to help Sally get the article corrected. After all: it is part our U.S. Postal Service!*

## Dear Postmaster,

I am writing on behalf of several hundred different postal customers who use the mail to exchange small birds in support of various breeding programs around the nation. Until November 4, 1996, we were mailing various breeds of finches (finch means: "seed-eating bird") by putting them in containers approved years ago by the mail acceptance codes (small wooden boxes with food, water sponges, proper ventilation etc.) and sending them overnight mail. These birds do not produce odors nor loud noises. Also: in ten years as a breeder and exhibitor of birds, I have never heard of a bird being lost, injured or killed in the mail.

On November 4th, at around 11am, I mailed a typical box of 8 birds to a breeder in Corvallis, Oregon, at a fee of about \$22.00. That night, about eight pm, I received a call at my home from a man at the San Diego airport mail room. He stated I'd have to come and retrieve my birds, as he was "not permitted to send them on, under law." He quoted article C022-3.3 of Ref (A) and said, while the birds met all other provisions of 3.3, they weighed less than 6 ounces each, and besides, he "didn't want his boss to holler at him".

(Actually, the birds weigh between 3 and 6 ounces, and I appreciate, no one wants their boss "hollering at 'em").

Note, he stated the birds were probably okay as far as safety, odor, etc., but he held fast to his position. Upon returning to my post office, both counter clerks (at 92122), who I've done business with for many years, were very surprised that the birds were returned back. They promised to "look into it." After a few days, they telephoned to also say they were tied to article 3.3, that someone from 92122 had spoken with the PMG and the birds could not be mailed because they are "singers". Note: Finches are not singers. Canaries are singers and technically, a canary is a finch because it too, eats seeds.

For info: The biggest reason we ship birds is to improve the breeds by introducing strengths from one breeder's birds to the strengths we've developed in our birds. Over the past several years, most countries (as you know) have stopped exporting birds, so we exhibitors and breeders, in cooperation with the American Federation of Aviculture (AFA), are intent on keeping the birds alive and well, and, in some cases, such as in the case of the near extinct Red Siskin, are breeding them to return them to the wild. Because ten years ago birds were becoming interbred and weakened, we were encouraged to ship birds and exchange birds, we certainly have developed extremely healthy and strong lines of bird breeds. Now, we're at a loss since that gentleman discovered the obscure rule. We all wonder why we could ship a chicken, dove or quail, but not a huskier, less troublesome (non-singing) finch.

So, . . . what do we do to change article 3.3 to permit these hearty Finches a seat in the mail? I (we) sincerely appreciate your attention to this seemingly small but actually, important matter. If you need more information, please telephone me at (619) 452-1199. I will be happy to provide you with names, addresses, etc., of the national bird breeding organizations.

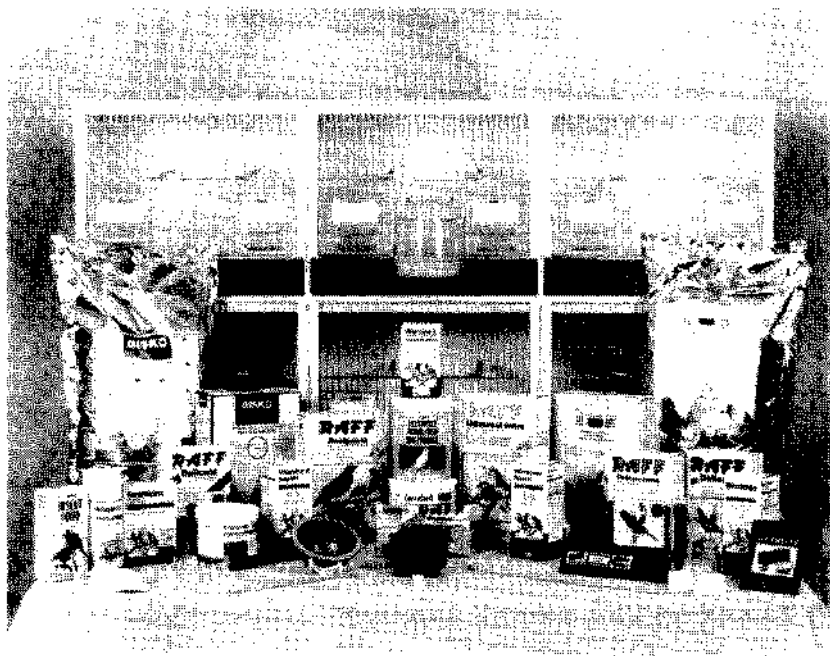
Sincerely;

Sally Cutler Hungtington

# PROFESSIONAL and RAFF

## RAVASI

Complete Line of Rearing Foods, Vitamins and Medicines  
Manufactured in Italy Since 1870  
New Line of Cages and Accessories



ALL FOODS ARE PACKAGED IN PLASTIC BAGS OR ALUMINUM SACS WITH NITROGEN, AND BOXED WITH MANUFACTURED AND EXPIRATION DATE

**MIAMI PET SUPPLY DISTRIBUTORS, INC.**

DEALERS WELCOME  
CATALOG AVAILABLE

(305) 635-4800  
FAX 635-9658

3601 N.W. 54th STREET  
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33142

## Judging, From an Exhibitor's Perspective

*by Dale Laird  
Winter Park, Florida*

I am an avid Finch and Softbill breeder and exhibitor, who with my wife Eileen, attend about 10 shows a year. We go to both large and small shows primarily in Florida competing against some of the same exhibitors. With the number of shows in this area and the limited number of judges available, aviculturists often exhibit under the same judges over the years with both common birds as well as those rarely seen.

Pictorella, Persa Touraco, Plush-capped Jay, White Eye Zosterop, Red-legged Honey Creeper, Pagoda Mynah, Paradise Whydah, Superb Starling, Black Cheeked/Black Faced Zebra, and Blue Grey Tanager are just a few. Due to the nature of these birds some of them are exhibited in non-standard one-of-a-kind show cages. I am certain a judge seeing an unusual cage for the second or third time in a couple of years has a pretty good idea who the exhibitor is, especially if the judge used the bird on the top bench before.

Just because a judge thinks they know who a birds belongs to, does the exhibitor have an advantage over another exhibitor? I would certainly

hope not. As an exhibitor, we expect the judges we hire to be completely fair and impartial regardless of the circumstance.

NFSS has a number of standards for both Finches and Softbills as well as a general standard for those species without one yet. One of the most impressive things I have seen was a judge who had the Judge's Handbook available and throughout the day referred to each standard before evaluating the corresponding class of birds. The judge also added profiles and color photos of examples of what was considered to be both the ideal representation of the species and examples of faults for comparison value. Another judge used a notebook containing color pictures of those birds that most represent the standard and those that did not. Both of these judges shared the information and used the opportunity to educate the gallery.

We exhibitors have a responsibility to our judges. We should never say anything that would positively identify a bird's owner. I firmly believe that this does not preclude asking questions of the judge about the traits of a species, how to identify a male or female of the species, how to better show train a bird that may be faulted for being "flighty", or possibly breeding and nesting characteristics. A show should be a learning experience for the exhibitors and the gallery in attendance.

When told a bird's condition is off that day the exhibitor wants to know how to improve that condition before the next show. When faulted for a conformation flaw, is it a genetic body flaw or a problem caused by an improper size cage or perches? Would the judge use that particular bird in their own breeding program? The novice as well as the most experienced exhibitor values the judge's opinion.

I most certainly am not advocating doing away with the anonymity of the exhibitor, but do feel the judges should use the opportunity to educate the exhibitors about the species being judged. The majority of NFSS Judges meet these expectations. The Society and the birds in our charge are the better for it.

## Changing Your Address?

**Let NFSS be the first to greet you at your new address! Please send this form or this information to:**

Lynda Bakula  
NFSS Membership Director  
P.O. Box 3232  
Ballwin, MO 63022

**Club Delegates should also send their change of address separately to:**

Jerry McCawley  
NFSS Liason Manager  
111 Barton Bnd  
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

# Your Bird's Health

## Going Light: Wasting Disease in Finches and Small Birds

by Ron Castaner  
West Palm Beach, FL

*Written specifically for the "Aviary and Cage Bird Society of South Florida".*

Veterinarians are not even sure of the answer to the question of going light, but I will share some of what I have learned with you. You may not be able to save all of your birds, but you might be able to save the majority of them.

One sick bird looks just like any other to the casual observer, but an experienced aviculturist can determine a great deal about why a bird is sick by carefully observing it in its' own environment, then very carefully catching it and examining it close up.

I have found through the years that it does not matter how much you pamper your birds, the best food, best conditioning, the best of everything, eventually some birds will become ill. But for a bird in good condition, with a good nutritional

background, a clean environment, the effects of the disease can be minimized and the recovery time will be much shorter. Catch it right away and do not wait until tomorrow to tend the bird. The longer you wait the worse it gets and the harder it is to correct it. As an owner becomes more familiar with the normal appearance and behavior of their birds, the signs will be easier to detect.

To be able to diagnose and treat a digestive tract disease it helps to know something of how a birds digestive tract works. I will try to keep it simple. The beak and tongue are used to grasp food. After swallowing, the food passes through the esophagus and into the crop, which is a temporary storage tank. Food may be regurgitated from the crop; regurgitation is part of normal mating, or feeding of the young. Also some birds secrete a substance called crop milk from the lining of their crop. Crop milk is very rich in fat and protein which provides an excellent source of nutrition for the nestlings.

From the crop, food travels by way of the lower esophagus to the proventriculus or glandular stomach. Digestive chemicals are secreted to begin the active digestive process. After mixing with the digestive juices the food enters the second part

of the stomach, the gizzard: where the food is ground. Digestion continues into the small intestines with aid of more enzymes from the pancreas and bile from the liver. Most nutrients from the food are absorbed from the small intestines. The large intestines absorbs fluid from the digested material passing through it and leads directly to the cloaca where feces from the digestive tract and urine from the urinary tract mix together before being voided through the vent.

Now you have some idea how it works. Almost any problem can interrupt the kidneys, gizzard, or other vital organs from working, causing the bird to "go light", unable to break the food down into nutrients.

Going light is not a disease in itself, but a sign of a single or multiple cause. This is what you have to decide, what needs to be done to try and save the bird? You must become familiar with the bird, look at its eyes, this is usually a good indicator of any illness. In a healthy bird they look normal in size and clarity. In a sick bird the eyes look much smaller and the bird will sit most of the time with both eyes closed. Some of the things that can trigger going light: Gastrointestinal disorders (enteritis), chronic infections: such as, kidney, liver, or respiratory disease, vitamin E deficiency, gizzard worms, inflammation, cancer, parasites, malnutrition, poison, young birds that are introduced to hard seed too early or any birds diet that is changed too

abruptly, bully birds in the aviary. Just to name a few. The list goes on and on. Including bad water, bad seed, just about anything can upset the birds system and bring on the going light condition.

Another sign to look for is a bird that is always eating, and I do mean constantly. If this occurs, I guarantee you the bird is sick. Sometimes you see a bird losing weight from diarrhea, from eye problems, caused by sinuses, but the one that is the "killer" is the one where you see the bird eating all the time. Be aware of your birds habits and behavior, so you can catch any change before it goes unnoticed for too long and impossible to reverse the symptoms. Also, remember when you want to make a change in their diet or their seed, do it gradually. Doing it all at once could have disastrous results.

You must catch the bird in the early stages, this is very critical. The longer you wait greatly lessens the chances you have to reverse the problem, and if you wait too long some of the vital organs will be damaged so severely that it might be impossible to reverse the condition and the bird will die.

A sharp keel bone is one of the characteristics of birds that go light and is the result of a bird that has been ill for some time. Feeling the birds keel bone is a good place to start the physical examination. The keel bone should feel rounded with muscle on both sides. Feel another



bird to get familiar with the feel of the keel bone. If the bird is too sick and you found it on the bottom to the cage or aviary, please read the previous article "Treating birds For Shock", printed in vol. 13 no. 6 issue of The Bulletin. Do not attempt to do anything to the bird now.

Also, you must crop feed the sick bird after recovery from shock, otherwise it will probably not recover. The whole digestive system has shut down for one reason or another. The bird is unable to break down the seed or food into nutrients to sustain it. Sometimes you see whole seed in its droppings, we call this the popcorn effect. Unable to break down the seed it will try to eat and eat but retain nothing from it, quite possibly the gizzard is damaged.

The following are the steps I have followed and have had very good success in saving most of the birds. First, if you do not know how to crop feed a bird you better learn or do not waste your time. I guarantee the bird will probably die.

Use about ten to fifteen cc's of water, six drops of vitamin B complex, one drop of vitamin A, one drop of vitamin E (wheatgerm oil), add a pinch of lactobacillus, a pinch of pancreatic enzymes, add an antibiotic, like Emtryl, baytril, tetracycline, oxytetracycline. Mix well and add the handfeeding formula. Make sure it is not too thick or hot and crop feed the bird. If possible, twice a

day, if not, then once a day for sure, for two to three weeks. What I normally do is, feed the sick bird twice a day for a week, then once a day for a week, then every other day for one more week. This makes it a three week process, if you skip one day a week it is okay, but it is best to stay on schedule. Also, I take about forty cc's of water with ten drops of vitamin B complex in the drinking water for three months. It will take about three to six months to gain the weight back. Just remember, the longer you wait to treat the bird, the longer the period of recuperation. And if you wait too long, it may never recuperate.

So please, diagnose the problem as soon as possible. Do not wait till the bird is on the floor before you treat it. I can promise you that medication alone will not save the bird, so please learn how to crop feed the birds. You may want to read the previous three articles: 1: "Treating Finches for Shock" printed in vol. 13 no.6 of The Bulletin, 2: Recovery from Shock in vol. 14 no.1, and 3: Antibiotics for Finches in vol 13, no.5. I cannot stress enough, knowing how to crop feed is one of the best tips I can pass on to each and everyone of you. It is one of the only ways to keep a sick bird alive. So please, have some one that is experienced in crop feeding teach you as soon as possible. You never know when the need will arise. I have been very fortunate to save a lot of my own birds just with that one bit of experience.

# Revolutionary

Revolutionary really does apply. World renowned chemist Dr. Harvey Ashmeid has developed a formula, that I believe will forever change the raising of birds. He has been awarded 52 patents on his formulas. I am convinced that our birds will have much better youngsters from the **Breeding Edge** formula that I am making a money back guarantee. If you don't see significant improvement in your birds health and stamina in just 7 days, return the formula for a full refund. If the guarantee isn't enough, or you want more information, order a cassette tape on which Dr. Ashmeid explains how and why the formula works. The tape is \$2 and you may return the tape for a \$2 credit on your first order. We have lots of breeders using this formula. I get calls every day with glowing reports! You have nothing to lose and a great deal to gain with this product.

**Breeding Edge** is designed specifically for breeders and youngsters. Youngsters will come out of the nest with super health, better muscle and feather quality. Breeders will undergo much less stress on the **Breeding Edge** formula. Because youngsters will be super healthy, they will grow quicker. The **Breeding Edge** formula contains **NO** drugs.

**One months supply (treats 32 gallons of water) \$18 U.S.**

*"I was very skeptical, but the birds look fantastic. breeders and youngsters thrive on the Breeding Edge formula"*

*Rick Winegar, Salt Lake City, UT*

*"My 14 year old foundation hen was on her 'death bed'. After a week on the Breeding Edge formula, she recovered completely. Amazingly!"*

*Bill Tracy, Fort Washington, MD*

## *BreakThru Products*

Kyle Bolton

535 W Broadway • Red Lion, PA 17356 • (717) 246-0936

## Lessons from Fellow Aviculturists

### Raffi's Lost Love

by Harry Burleigh  
Gilbert, AZ

It began as I raised two finch cages to the show bench, and the loud speaker sounded. I was assisting Martha Wigmore, judge the Finch Section, during my first Colorado Cage Bird Association Show. And, I was being whispered to by local bird expert Luis Garcia as to which bird was going to take the blue ribbon (... his pick was right). But through the excitement I positively heard my name being butchered over the loud-speaker, plus there were people pointing at me. Maybe I should have just fled then!

I had won, with one of my obligatory tickets, a yellow Cockateil, which had been donated by Steve Kayhas of Trade Wings of Colorado Springs. Ohhh Man, I was too psyched! As it turned out, Raffi (alias Raffle bird) acquired a distinct dislike for me. I fed him, watered him, talked to him, and still I was less than discarded feathers in his book of friends. My son faired not much better. However, Raffi grew to love and adore my Honey. He whistles Yankee Doodle, says "Raffi Bird", "Pretty Bird", "Hello" and with his wings up and head down

yells "Crazy Bird". He loves to ride on her shoulder, talk to her, do antics to please her, and express love for her with his eyes.

A year ago we packed up "all" of the birds and left beautiful Colorado Springs for the drier climate of Gilbert, Arizona (i.e. Phoenix). Our new house was in a sad state of disrepair and the work to implement the vision continues. In fact, I was on top of the fireplace mantle (... a fireplace in Arizona?) when I heard a very strange sound coming from my mate as she came in from the backyard. At first I thought to say "gazuntite", but after looking at her face and noticing the agitation, I bravely leaped down to provide assistance. Her face was truly a sorry sight as she struggled to say that she had absently walked outside with Raffi on her shoulder. I raced outside and actually saw him circling at 100 feet. I called and he chirped a response. He appeared to break flight and begin a descend. We live in an old Pecan grove and have four large trees in our yard alone. At this time of year (31 Dec 96) they have shed their leaves, thus offering "many" landing spots. I grabbed his cage and put it outside, while my Honey shouted bird talk.

Down the street, 15 minutes later, I somehow spotted Raffi 50

feet up. My Honey came and talked sweet nothings... to the bird. I got a chair, his cage and Emmitt, one of our Australian Shepherds who Raffi likes to ride and walk around the house with. Two hours later, someone drove off in their big 4x4 truck and spooked Raffi into flight. When I came back to see how things were going, I saw the limb empty and the chair by the community wall. I knew my Honey had scaled the obstacle in pursuit.

On the other side of the wall is an irrigation canal that is five feet deep and 15 feet wide, and she could only go left or right. I knew she was wearing her tennis shoes, but could not tell whether tracks went hither or yon! Across the canal was an elderly man who saw my plight, took pity on me, and asked what I was looking for. Yes, he had seen a young, petite gal who must have been in hot pursuit of something as she went hither along the canal. Briskly I followed in a hither direction, and would have passed by had I not heard the Honey of my dreams talking gibberish.

The day was now late and dusk was setting in. A yellow bird sat in a very large Pecan tree. After a half an hour of getting nowhere, we decided that since I was a good tree climber (... 30 years ago!) I should go up after our feathered family member. As I reached my finger out at 75 feet up and 2 feet from the bird, I firmly believe he said, "You're still ugly, you've got bad breath, and adios" as he flew into the sky. With hurt

feelings, I watched as two Grackles (black birds about the same size) flew up and attacked. Cockateils are better and faster fliers, but he did head down for a clump of pine trees far, far, far away... I noted range and elevation.

Helping my rough and ready mate over the wall, we jogged three miles to the spot. We talked to area homeowners, went into backyards, yelled, squeaked and hollered. Our chances of bringing Raffi home had faded. It was now dark. Raffi had been out for four hours with no water, dehydration would be a problem. For as many tears that got shed that night I was concerned for my Honey as well.

The next morning, I received a knock on the door from Fred (I was painting and the phone was removed.), my wife had found the bird in his tree and I should come a running. We had made cardboard signs, and my Honey had taken these to hang them in the area we had left last evening. Of course, she had to talk her talk, and Raffi loving to talk to his Honey had responded. I took the cage, the seed, the net, the net-man (our son) and we went. Raffi definitely wanted to get to my Honey, but he was up 15 feet and it was a bushy Pine. We got the a ladder, she got on the roof, pulled the limb down, and that bird bounded over pine cones and branches and pines needles to get to his lost love.

In life there is always a way...

*The following articles are reprinted from the Finch News, the official publication of The Queensland Finch Society of Australia. The first article was taken from the January 1994, vol.23, no.1, issue and the second article from the April 1994, vol.23, no.4, issue.*

## Finches I Have Seen in and Around Brisbane

by P.J. Hendry

Before I start, it is noted that these are purely my own observations, made over the past eighteen months and are by no means an accurate account of where birds may be found.

I have only seen five types of finches in the Brisbane area being:

Chestnut-breasted (Bulley), Double-bar, Zebra, Red-head, and the introduced Spice Finch (Nutmeg).

Starting north and working south, at Beachmere, I was delighted to observe a small flock of Bullies, feeding on wild grass seeds. It was noted that in the flock of about ten, the majority of birds were young, not fully coloured, the time of year being early May. Also at Beachmore

was sighted a lone Double-bar which landed on a fence, called and took of looking hopelessly lost.

Moving closer to Brisbane, out past the Gap, near the State Forest on Nebo road, I had the experience of getting close to a number of Red-heads and Double-bars seen around Lantane scrub. The Nutmegs in the Brisbane area must be coming as common as the House Sparrow, due to its ability to live with man. I've spotted them in too many places in Brisbane to mention. I've had them in my own yard in both Manly and now Hemmant. Flocks of 20—30 can be seen in some farm areas around Manly, so have a few Double-bars. But unlike the Nutmeg which is often seen in the open fields, especially ones containing green panicum, the Double-bars I've seen around Manly prefer scrub country and I've often seen them amongst Lantana. I had a fright one morning when I awoke up to the call of Nutmegs outside my window and going down to my aviaries seeing Double-bars on the outside, but all were wild birds.

West of Brisbane at Mt. Crosby I've seen a few pairs of Double-bars, again near Lantana scrub. South of Brisbane, at Loganholme on the banks of the Logan River, I witnessed a spectacular sight while working late one afternoon. I noticed a pair of Bullies flying overhead and landed in a wheat field, followed by four or five from another direction. Soon Bullies were landing in the wheat field in twos and small groups

from all directions. At a rough estimate within 15 minutes, 100 to 150 Bullies had come to rest amongst the grain. This was the largest flock of finches I have seen.

At Morayfield, about one mile south of Caboolture, Bullies were again sighted. This time only three, all were adults, seen feeding on green panicum. Two pair of Double-bars were also sighted, of which one pair spent some time in what appeared to be a roosting nest, constructed in a needle pine. Two other nests were also found in nearby pine trees, none which contained eggs or young, being in the month of November.

At Burpengary I've seen Double-bars on a number of occasions around the same area. One occasion I was near a tree into which half a dozen Double-bars landed. They came in ones and twos calling to each other from across the road and left in the same manner. It was noted that the tree was quite close to a house, in a built up area. This was the closest I've seen Double-bars to homes. On the banks of Burpengary Creek, Double-bars were again seen flying in and out of Lantana. Also at Burpengary Creek, towards the end of March, I came across a Red-head nest in a Gum sapling. Because of the long funnel structure, I could not see into the nest, so I took hold of the tree and bent it back slowly on which occasion a Red-head flew from the nest. I had chance to visit the nest three times within two

weeks and on bending back the tree on each occasion, a Red-head flew from the nest leaving me with the conclusion that the nest contained eggs or young birds. Only two pair of Red Heads were seen on the creek bank. But in some scrub a quarter of a mile from the creek I observed a small flock of about 15.

Further south at Bethania Rail Station, just north of Beenleigh. I was surprised to see about 20 Zebras, these were the only wild Zebras I've seen apart from one lone cock bird at a water hole near Nebo west of Mackay. At Beaudesert I've seen Double-bars in thick wattle scrub while nearby in an open field, Nutmegs were feeding. In the high country in the back of Nerang I've seen Double-bars and Red Heads feeding together. Here I had the occasion to cut down a nut bearing Shee Oak and on returning the next day I was delighted to see the Red Heads and Double-bars feeding on the seedings of the nuts.

Both species were mingled together when feeding but when disturbed, separated to their own type setting in different trees. Whenever I can I always collect some of these nuts, pick them green and in a day or so, they will open up and drop out. I find my birds love them.

Well that is about it. I always enjoy observing wild birds and it is good to see a variety of birds in the Brisbane area.

# Chasing Wild Finches from Brisbane to Derby

*Ray Leggett*

While we all enjoy keeping and observing their behaviour under aviary conditions it is another side to our hobby to study them in the wild.

Monty Heidke and I set off in July 1986 to travel from Brisbane to Derby via Roma, Blackall, Winton, Mount Isa, Tennant Creek and then north to Dunmarra before turning west to Wave Hill, Fitzroy Crossing and finally the small town of Derby situated at the head of King Sound and the Timor Sea.

We had seven days to make this trip and this allowed time for lots of stops along the way for bird watching. Red-brows were seen near Ipswich and leaving Toowoomba. Small groups of Turquoise Parrots were disturbed as they fled along the road side and soon after a flock of about 20 Zebs flew across the road. These were the first of thousands of Zebra Finches we were to see during our trip as they proved to be the most wide spread of all our native finches.

Just west of Chinchilla a single Plum Head was seen sitting in a dead

shrub in a grassy paddock, I suspect others were in the grass feeding on the fallen seeds. From Roma to Winton nearly every telegraph pole had a raptor of one species or another sitting and no doubt waiting, for a chance to swoop down and catch an unsuspecting mouse or small native mammal. The Zebs were very common along this stretch and so were Brown Falcons, I suspect the Falcons were enjoying the abundance of food in the form of young Zebs as all flocks had a proportion of uncoloured birds among them.

On the Cloncurry to Mt. Isa leg we were keeping an eye out for a sighting of the Cloncurry Parrot and sure enough while passing through some low hills with stunted Eucalypt trees a male Cloncurry was seen to fly across the road. Monty stopped the truck and we walked in to where the male had landed, a female was disturbed from feeding on the ground and from the bent tail feathers we guess she was nesting in a tree hollow close by. This was the first time either of us had seen a Cloncurry in the wild and so ten minutes was spent watching as the pair fed on herb and grass seeds. It was late afternoon and the western sun highlighted the beautiful blue green of their plumage.

Overnight in Mt. Isa, and early start was made and by 6 a.m. we were on the Barkly Highway and seeing large flocks of Zebs, many around man made watering spots. The area had received some winter

rain and the Acacias were in full flower which attracted lots of insects which in turn brought a variety of birds to feed on them. The Crimson Chats were in small parties along the road side and we never grew tired of stopping to have a good look at this beautiful bird.

Zebs were the only finch seen until we turned west at Dunmarra and then traveled through miles of grassland with Spinifex being the dominant grass. Checking every flock of Zebs we eventually saw five finches fly off and noticed the telltale red rump of the Painted Finch. Stopping the truck I noticed this small flock spiraling up into the air much higher than I had ever seen a finch fly and then, almost too high to see, they moved off, gradually descending to land in the shade of a spinifex clump about a quarter of a kilometer away. We locked the truck and took off with our binoculars and twenty minutes later finally managed to get what was a first for both of us, a good look at Painted Finches in the wild.

Then it all happened and we realized the traveling, the heat and the flies were definitely worthwhile, we had set up camp at a small oasis in the desert which our map told us went by the name of Palm Springs. Just on dusk as we prepared an early tea flocks of Longtails, Masks, Chestnut Breasted, Yellow Rumps and Double Bars and Pictorellas flew in to drink at the spring. Not to be out done Spinifex Pigeons joined the

finches and it was only when all light had faded did we eat tea. As Monty said at the time, the food can wait, how often do we get the chance to see so many of our favorite native finches all in one place.

Next day a very late start was made as once again flocks of birds kept us entertained till late morning. Only adult birds were seen at this site and I guess breeding had not yet begun in this area. Near Halls Creek Partridge Pigeons were sighted and for the rest of the trip we saw ones and twos of this attractive bird.

From Fitzroy Crossing west to Derby large flocks of Red-tailed Black Cockatoos were encountered along the road side apparently feeding on the fallen seeds of various grasses and herbs. Reaching Derby near dusk we were surprised to see ahead of us that the median strip of Derby's main road appeared to be white? Only when we drove near the did the puzzle unfold, dense flocks off Little Corellas took off to land once again as we passed their feeding area.

We saw very few finches around Derby but perhaps that was because our minds were on other things, shopping had to be done and the vehicle serviced as this was the start of a three month survey of the Kimberly Rivers, perhaps I may be allowed to tell you of this trip in a later issue of Finch News.



# Success with Blue Cap Waxbills

*(Uraeginthus cyanocephalus)*

by Terry Cook  
England

*This article is reprinted from the March 1996 issue of The Waxbill, the magazine of the Waxbill Finch Society of England.*

The Blue Capped Waxbill or Blue Capped Cordon Bleu is found in southern Somalia and south through to Kenya. It lives in semi-arid and dry desert, thorn bush, or open grassland. It feeds on the ground on a variety of seeds and grasses and small insects, termites and ants are also taken.

The cock has a full blue head, face and breast with a red beak. The hen has less colouration, less blue on the breast and head, and is easily sexed when paired with a cock in full colour.

I first attempted seriously breeding these beautiful birds in early 1992. I had been listening to a talk given by Howard Robinson at an A.F.S. branch meeting, and one of the items discussed was the impending import restrictions on waxbills. The suggestion was for people to try and breed their own as did the A.F.S., when exports were stopped

from Australia, and subsequently build up English bred stock. I came away from that meeting enthused with the idea, and the intention of attempting to breed Blue Caps.

In a 22' x 6' covered flight I fixed cut conifer branches around the walls of the flight, giving a dense thicket covering the top 3' of the sides up to the roof. This would give cover, and nesting sites hopefully. In addition, already established were Ivy, Cottoneaster, Honey-suckle, Bamboo, and various ground grasses, providing plenty of insect life. A pile of compost and well rotted manure lay in one corner of the flight, this I turned daily and added a shovel full of well rotted leafmold from stored bags, which had been collected previously. I fixed various sizes of nest baskets and boxes among the conifer, dried grass, coconut fibre, hay, white feathers were placed on the floor, keeping clear of the perching above. All that was needed now were the birds to compliment my handiwork.

I released one pair of Blue Caps in the middle of March, it was still cold but the aviary was in sunlight and the sides were covered with glass double-glazed panels, (a gift from a double glazing engineer friend), so the temp. inside was quite hot during the day. The seeds and various foods were inside the birdroom adjoining the flight with access via two large bobholes, so the access was available at nighttime to the birdroom. Also released at the same time were 1 pr.

Stars, 1 pr. Grass Finches. 1 pr. St. Helenas and a pair of Red Eared Waxbills. All these pairs had been indoors together during the preceding weeks without any bickering.

Immediately on being released into the flight the cock Blue Cap began displaying to the hen, bobbing and singing whilst carrying a long piece of grass in his beak. The hen perched alongside, tail quivering, the natural posture prior to mating, which commenced immediately. To say I was amazed was an understatement. The birds must have been fit and just waiting for the opportunity of the freedom the flight had given them.

During the next four days the cock was seen carrying long pieces of grass with roots attached (he seemed to prefer this at this point for nest building) dragging them into a site behind the conifers, right up to the aviary wire, the hen playing no part in building. During this time, whenever I approached the aviary, he would cease building until I moved away. I have only noticed this behavior in my outside aviaries, and not with Blue Caps breeding subsequently in indoor flight cages. I missed the completion of nest building, and the start of egg laying, but the absence of the hen prompted me to venture a nest check. The hen flew off the nest as soon as I approached. The nest was jammed behind conifer twigs and wedged right up to the wire, there was no way I could check for eggs without damaging the nest.

so I left the aviary and left well enough alone for the time being. I suddenly remembered some years ago when I kept British Finches I used to check Goldfinch nest with a dentist mirror, the type used to check inside the mouth. So armed with a torch and the mirror I had no problems checking the nest again, but this was two days after so it gave hen time to settle in again. A clutch of five eggs had been laid, which surprised me, being her first clutch. I had expected no more than three.

The cock shared the sitting of the eggs, but neither he nor the hen would enter the nest while I was in view. I was able to keep observation from inside the birdroom through the bobholes which gave me view of the site even though it was at the far end of the aviary. At this stage the Heck's and Stars were building, so I could envision a problem with amounts of live food needed if all the chicks were in the nest together. I had fruit fly cultures growing in the birdroom so I filled four buckets with over ripe bananas and placed wire mesh over the tops to keep the birds from going inside and placed some old culture in each bucket and positioned them around the floor of the aviary ready for when the chicks subsequently hatched.

It soon became apparent when chicks hatched, because both parents were taking large amounts of mini mealworms, plus softfood, which had been provided when they had first been placed together. During

the next two to three weeks I was filling a 2" dish at least three times a day with mealworms not only for the Blue Caps but the other birds were taking them. The fruit flies were hatched also in the flight, but the birds were not used to the tubs providing flies yet. Once a day whilst turning and topping up the leaf mold pile I tapped the sides of the fruit fly tubs, this would make them swarm out and settle on the vegetation, which allowed the birds to catch them easily. (I noticed that the Blue Caps spend a lot of time picking the flies off the floor, a point worth noting to anyone keeping Quail. The Quail would obviously take the flies depriving the waxbills of food required for the chicks).

I made a rough calculation at the date the chicks were due to fledge but it seemed well past that time. I had kept listening for the chicks calling for food, but at no time was any sound heard. This fact has been born out with all the other nest of Blue Caps and it's only when out of the nest and being fed outside that calling is heard. Anyway I foolishly decided to check the nest, as I put my hand behind the conifers there was an explosion of young chicks and all hell broke loose. Youngsters were crashing into the aviary sides and some on the floor. The parents were flying in all directions, so were the Australian Finches. (My first lesson in breeding waxbills well and truly learnt) I hastily left the flight cursing

myself for not leaving well enough alone. This was early morning when I checked the nest, so during the course of the day I kept observing the parents feeding them at various points in the aviary. I was thinking I would have to try and catch the chicks up and place them back in the nest, no mean task considering the amount of cover in the flight. However the chicks eventually settled in the nest, obviously the parents had guided them there. Over the next five days 5 chicks were counted being fed in a row among the conifer and later on the centre of the flight.

They were grey-blue in colour with black beaks and spiky down on the top of their heads. At this stage they could not be sexed, some people say they can, but I couldn't tell the sex until well after the moult out. This first clutch of many more Blue Caps moulted out into 2 cocks and 3 hens a good result for the first time.

The cock started building another nest at the opposite side of the aviary whilst the chicks were still being fed by both parents. They went on to rear two more clutches of 5 and 4 making a total of 14 chicks all strong and healthy.

In conclusion, we can all rear our own waxbills, if we try to give them as near a natural diet as they would get in the wild especially now that more types of foods are available.

# Oxyfresh®

**For the health and well-being of our birds!**

Your purchase supports IARF, Inc. (International Avian Research Foundation, Inc.)

**Dent-A-Gene** - Kit makes approximately 12 1/2 gallons

- Excellent disinfecting solution for cages, food/water bowls, brooders, handfeeding tools, counters, and other hard surfaces.
- Effective against Polyomavirns.
- EPA Registration #9804-1-53647.
- Mix 2 1/2 Tablespoons (38cc) concentrate with 3/4 Teaspoons (4 grams) of citric acid crystals. Let sit for 5-10 minutes then add 1 gallon of water.

**Cleansing Gele'** - 12 oz and 32 oz sizes

- Loosens dried fecal material and food from cages, food/water bowls, and walls/floors.
- Use as a cleaning solution for syringes, tubes, spoons, & other utensils.
- Effective against Polyomavirus.
- Mix 1 Tablespoon per quart of water.

**Mouthrinse** - 16 oz and 1 gallon sizes

- Cleans and deodorizes baby bird mouths after feeding.  
This helps reduce infections from the residue of food left in the mouth.
- Mix 1 to 1 with water. Wipe out mouth with Q-Tip

**Pet Gel** - 4 oz size

- Aids in some cases of "feather picking".  
Use 1 part gel to 4 parts water in spray bottle. Spray on affected areas.
- Aids in wound healing and with minor burns, cuts, or insect bites.
- Use full strength in surgical incisions.

**EasyQUIT™** - Smokers Support System

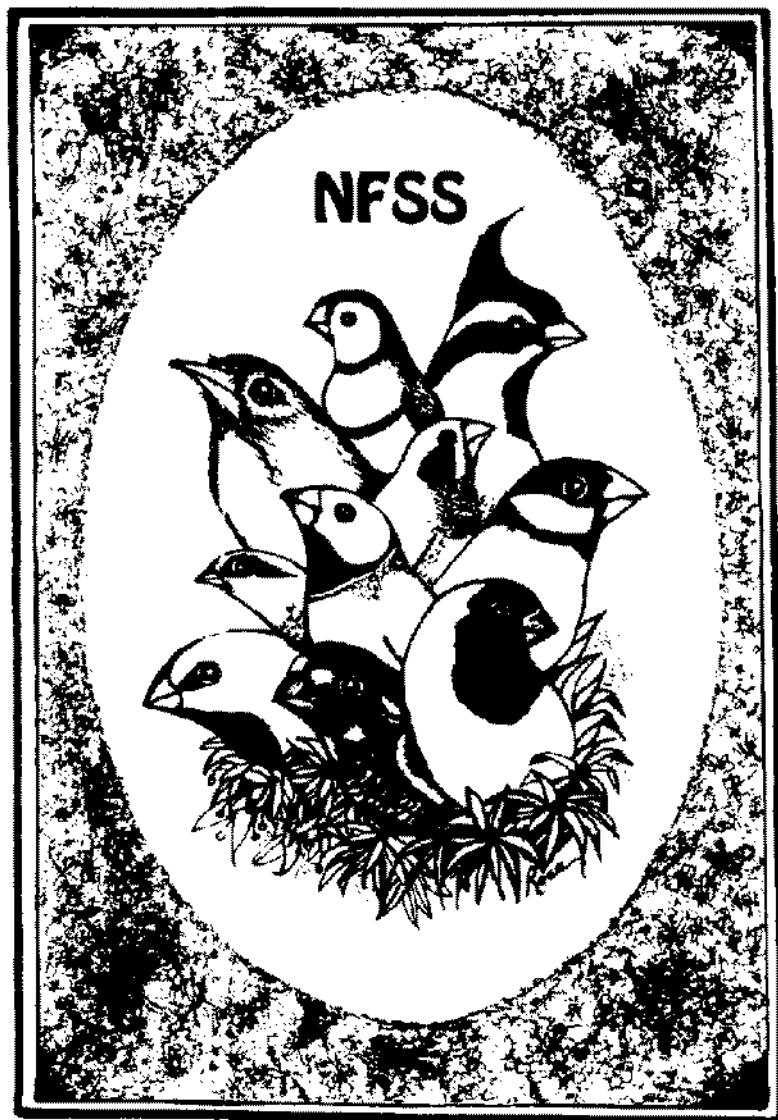
Help yourself and your birds! This program is an all natural herbal formula that is designed to support a person that truly wants to be smoke free. The herbal capsules are taken 3 times daily for only 7 days.

**Oxyfresh® has products for people and other pets too!**  
**Nutritional, Oral Health, Skin/Hair, Pet, and Home Care**

**We're looking for Oxyfresh® Distributors to introduce our products to new people and areas. Please contact us if you are interested.**

**Paul and Diana Hugo, Oxyfresh® Independent Distributors**  
**1-800-999-9551 Extension 645601, E-Mail: hugo@iserv.net**

# 1996 Show Report part II



**NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY**

# The National Finch & Softbill Society

## Report of Shows in 1996

There were 62 shows judged and reported to the Panel Judge Chairman with a total of 3850 birds entered and the average was 62 birds per show. There were 36 major shows with 50 or more birds entered. Only 7 shows had less than twenty birds.

### Top Ten Shows in the Country

1	<b>National Cage Bird Show</b>	Detroit, MI Judge: Stephen Hoppin	175 entries
2	<b>Capitol City Bird Society</b>	Sacramento, CA Judge: Marty Von Raesfeld	169 entries
3	<b>Aviary &amp; Cage Bird Society of South Florida</b>	Ft Lauderdale, FL Judge: Charles Anchor	163 entries
4	<b>Florida State Fair</b>	Tampa, FL Judge: Daren Decoteau	161 entries
5	<b>Florida State Fair</b>	Tampa, FL Judge: Harold Bowles	150 entries
6	<b>Illini Bird Fanciers</b>	Sheibyville, IL Judge: Clarence Culwell	140 entries
7	<b>Golden Gate Avian Society</b>	Tracy, CA Judge: Clayton Jones	118 entries
8	<b>Kaytee Great American Bird Show</b>	Sarasota, FL Judge: Stephen Hoppin	114 entries
9	<b>Puerto Rico National Show</b>	Carolina, PR Judge: Daren Decoteau	106 entries
10	<b>Greater Brandon Avian Society</b>	Tampa, FL Judge: Conrad Meinert	100 entries

## 1996 Exhibitor Awards

The Exhibitor of Excellence in 1996 is:

Jerri Wiesenfeld

Champion Exhibitors of 1996 are:

Sally C. Huntington	130 points
Dale & Eileen Laird	111 points
Alvin & Dixie Lea	101 points
Margie & Harold McBrayer	74 points
Tom Rood	67 points
* Gene and June Miller	66 points
Felipe Bonilla	55 points

Champion Birds in 1996 are:

European Starling	Jacky Civitarese	(Band - SPBE BRA15"93")
Persa Touraco	Dale & Eileen Laird	(Band - DJL37"93")
Java Rice Bird	Dale & Eileen Laird	(Band K493"94")

\* *Gene and June Miller were accidentally omitted from the Champion Exhibitors list published in the January/February 1997 issue of The Bulletin. This is Gene and June Miller's fourth straight year of making the Champion Exhibitors list.*

## 1996 Individual Bird Point Records

These are birds with 20 points or more towards Championship title.

49 Cinnamon Java Rice Bird (K58"93")	Patrick Vance
41 Fawn Parson Finch (C215"93")	Pat & Mary Kritchen
39 Cherry Finch (D4948"92")	Dennis Burhans
38 Green Singing Finch (C511"91")	Virginia Patrick
38 CFW Zebra Finch (C3126"91")	Tom Rood
37 Java Rice Bird (K463"90")	Jerri Wiesenfeld
33 Parson Finch (C197"93")	Pat & Mary Kritchen
33 Bronze-wing Mannikin (D7216"89")	Kris Kroner
33 Fire Finch (B14"94")	Gene & June Miller
32 Pintail Nonparcil (D3649"91")	Stephen Hoppin
31 Black-crested Finch (E2331"91")	Stephen Hoppin
29 Cordon-bleu (B268"89")	Pat & Mary Kritchen
27 Self Society (D1936"91")	Rick Szlachta
26 Dilute Society (E446"93")	Dennis Burhans
23 Yellow-rumped Diamond Sparrow (E25"95")	Gene & June Miller
23 Red-headed Gouldian (D2312"90")	Pat & Mary Kritchen
23 Fire Finch (B123"92")	Gene & June Miller
23 Yellow-faced Star (C192"89")	Gene & June Miller
22 Shaft-tail (C2951"92")	Jan Thomas
22 CFW Zebra Finch (C3159"91")	Tom Rood
21 Orange-breasted Zebra Finch (D6248"95")	Sally Huntington
21 Fire Finch (B@"92")	Gene & June Miller
21 Crimson-winged Pytilia (C463"91")	Pat & Mary Kritchen
20 Shaft-tail (C35"92")	Patrick Vance
20 Shaft-tail (C474"94")	Chuck Galusha

*\*Note - Birds not earning points in a two year period will be dropped from the list starting in 1997 - But not from the Master List.*



**Baltimore Bird Fanciers, Baltimore, MD., October 19, 1996**  
**Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau—5 Exhibitors, 18 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
	Donald Strause	Parson	D1640 95
	Woody Hughes	Lilac Breasted Roller	
	Donald Strause	Chestnut Flanked Zebra	D3153 96

**Capital City Bird Society, Roseville, CA., October 19, 1996**  
**Judge: Marty Von Raesfeld—18 Exhibitors, 169 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
12	Sally Huntington	Red Headed Finch Hen	G140 96
11	Richlyn Aviaries	Painted Finch	
10	Sally Huntington	Red Cheeked Cordon Bleu	
9	A & D Lea	Rufous Weaver	
8	Sally Huntington	English Orange Breast Normal Cock	D6248 95
7	Claudia Salo	Red Head Gouldian	
6	Ella Galik	Owl Finch	
5	A & D Lea	5 Color Nun	E3707 92
4	Sally Huntington	English Normal Zebra Cock	D3855 96
3	Ed & Sharon Johnson	Gold Breasted Bunting	

**Great Lakes Avicultural Society, Rockford, MI., October 19, 1996**  
**Judge: Miki Sparzak—7 Exhibitors, 30 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
4	Mary Lou Terwilliger	Normal Shafttail	C455 96
3	Mary Lou Terwilliger	White Fawn	K183 95
2	Mary Lou Terwilliger	Fawn Pied Zebra	3731 96
1	Mary Lou Terwilliger	Fawn & White Society	E634 96

**Gulf South Bird Club, New Orleans LA., October 19, 1996**

**Judge: Clarence Culwell—3 Exhibitors, 14 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
	Justin Stramm	Indian Silverbill	
	Justin Stramm	Bronze Winged Mannikin	
	Justin Stramm	Timor Sparrow	

**Massachusetts Cage Bird Society, Hanover, MA., October 19, 1996**

**Judge: Conrad Meinert—7 Exhibitors, 33 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
4	Diane Smith	Rufous Backed Mannikin	661
3	Tim Roche	European Goldfinch	
2	Phillis Landers	Fawn Zebra	
1	Tim Roche	Cinnamon Greenfinch	1,112

**New York Finch & Type Canary, Knight of Columbia, October 19, 1996**

**Judge: Laura Bewley—11 Exhibitors, 73 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
7	Ian Johnson	Red Head Finch	
6	Alfredo Rohles	Rainbow Bunting	823-96
5	Bob Vargo	Blue Gouklian	204
4	Bob Vargo	Zebra Finch	11,350
3	Bob Vargo	Zebra Finch	15,906
2	Charlie Angell	Chocolate Society Hen	11,802
1	Nizam Ali	Parsons	145

**Sun Coast Avian Society, St. Petersburg, FL, October 19, 1996**  
**Judge: Tom Rood—7 Exhibitors, 32 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
4	Dale & Eileen Laird	Normal Java	K 2276 490
3	Felipe Bonilla	Society Dilute Fawn	3391-E 95
2	Steve Hoppin	Red-checked Cordon Bleu	B 454 96
1	Felipe Bonilla	Blk Face Blk Cheek Zebra	15580 95

**Connecticut Association for Aviculture, Manchester, CT, October 26, 1996**  
**Judge: Darren Decoteau—12 Exhibitors, 50 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
6	Donald Strause	Parsons	1640 95
5	Dianna Smith	Rufous backed Mannikin	
4	Sally Underhill	Fawn Zebra Hen	NFS 96
3	Donald Strause	Pearl-headed Amadine	
2	Sally Underhill	Superb Starling	
1	Dianna Smith	CFW Hen	D 4310 94

**Fresno Canary & Finch Club, Fresno, CA., October 26, 1996**  
**Judge: Joe Krader—9 Exhibitors, 81 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
8	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Choc. & White Society	
7	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Diamond Dove	
6	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Blue Cap	
5	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Fischer Whydah	
4	Val Garcia	Gouldian	
3	Richard Pizzyro	Shafttail	
2	Bill Novickas	Silver Zebra	
1	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Green Singer	

**Motor City Bird Breeders, Warren, MI., October 26, 1996**  
**Judge: Harold Bowles—5 Exhibitors, 20 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
3	Mary Lou Terwilliger	Shafttail	455 96
2	Mary Lou Terwilliger	White Zebra	11138 95 (?)
1	Mary Lou Terwilliger	White Java	11138 95 (?)

**Oklahoma City Bird Society, Tulsa, OK., October 26, 1996**  
**Judge: Ray Johnson—7 Exhibitors, 26 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
3	Earl Courts	Normal Shafttail	C1572 92
2	Penny David	Bali Mynah	
1	Penny David	Red Headed Parrot Finch	

**Texas Bird Breeders & Fanciers Assoc., Temple, TX., October 26, 1996**  
**Judge: Tom Rood—7 Exhibitors, 78 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
7	Gene & June Miller	Yellow Rump Diamond Sparrow	E112 94
6	Gene & June Miller	Red Head Gouldian	D66 96
5	Harold & Margie McBrayer	Paradise Whydah	
4	Harold & Margie McBrayer	White Eye Zosterops	
3	Gene & June Miller	Red Head Gouldian	D65 96
2	Gene & June Miller	African Fire Finch	B 43 96
1	Harold & Margie McBrayer	Black Hooded Nun	

**Georgia Cage Bird Society, Marietta, GA., November 2, 1996**  
**Judge: Earl Courts—8 Exhibitors, 40 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
5	Dale & Eileen Laird	White Eye Zosterops	
4	Dale & Eileen Laird	White Eye Zosterops	
3	Dale & Eileen Laird	Red Head Gouldian	D65 96
2	Dale & Eileen Laird	African Fire Finch	B 43 96
1	Harold Bowles	Fawn Hooded Nun	D9910 95

**Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club, Rolling Meadows, IL.,**  
**November 2, 1996 Judge: Paul Williams—14 Exhibitors, 60 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
7	Carolyn Belisle	Yellow Head Gouldian	D 8162 96
6	Steve Hopman	Blue Cap	D66 96
5	Bob & Sue Rahe	Male Violet Ear	
4	Bob & Sue Rahe	Society	17 96
3	Bob & Lyn Almy	Chestnut Flank Zebra	
2	Bob & Sue Rahe	Pekin Robin	
1	Steve Hopman	Black Head Gouldian	191C 96

**Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Club, Pittsburgh, PA,**  
**November 2, 1996, Judge: Conrad Meinert—7 Exhibitors, 21 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
3	Woody Hughes	Lilac Breasted Roller	
2	Woody Hughes	Black Crested Cardinal	
1	Donald Strause	Chestnut Flanked Zebra	3156 96

**Missouri Cage Bird Association, Eureka, MO,  
November 2, 1996, Judge: Martha Wigmore—12 Exhibitors, 70 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
7	Gene & June Miller	Yellow Rump Diamond Sparrow	E112 94
6	Tom Rood	Gray Zebra Male	D1621 94
5	Tom Rood	Gray Zebra Male	D411 96
4	Gene & June Miller	Red Head Gouldian	D108 96
3	Richard & Rose Dickman	Red Head, Purple Breast, Green body Dilute Gouldian	D6832 95
2	Tom Rood	Cuthroat Male	E105 96
1	Jackie Bourney-Meyers	Chocolate White Society Female	E4694 95

**San Diego Finch Society, San Diego, CA,  
November 2, 1996, Judge: Brian Mandarich—8 Exhibitors, 54 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
6	Sharon Russel	Blue Button Quail	
5	Sally Huntington	Pearl Headed Silverbill	D411 96
4	Sally Huntington	Red Head Normal Gouldian Cock	D12128 95
3	Sally Huntington	Red Headed Finch Cock	6134 96
2	Larry Phoneix	Emerald Toucanette	
1	Sharon Russel	Pair Star Finches	

**Texas Canary Club, Houston, TX,  
November 2, 1996, Judge: Laura Bewley—4 Exhibitors, 19 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
	McBrayer	St. Helena	
	McBrayer	Shafttail	
	McBrayer	White Eye	

**Exotic Bird Club of Florida, Melbourne, FL. November 9, 1996**  
**Judge: Martha Wigmore—7 Exhibitors, 53 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
6	Steve Hoppin	Red-Cheeked Cordon Bleu	B454 96
5	Dale & Eileen Laird	Persa Touraco	DJL37 93
4	Dale & Eileen Laird	Red Head Gouldian Hen	
3	Jerri Wiesenfeld	Normal Java	96K73
2	Dale & Eileen Laird	Fire Finch Hen	B1701 95
1	Steve Hoppin	Yellow Face Star Finch	C776 96

**Golden Gate Avian Society, Livermore, CA., November 9, 1996**  
**Judge: Martha Wigmore—7 Exhibitors, 53 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
9	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Owl Finch	
8	Sally Huntington	Red Head Gouldian	D12128 95
7	Richard Pizzurro	Normal Shafttail	
6	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Blue Cap	
5	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Pekin Robin	
4	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Green Singer	
3	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Orange Weaver	
2	Alvin & Dixie Lea	African Silverbill	
1	Alvin & Dixie Lea	White Hooded Nun	

**Rose City Exotic Bird Club, Hillsboro, OR., November 9, 1996**  
**Judge: Conrad Meinert—10 Exhibitors, 53 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
6	Julie Duimstra	Yellow Rumped Diamond Firetail	BC 94 289
5	Patreetzia Munk (Faye) Silverstein	Peter's Twinspot	
4	Julie Duimstra	Fawn Diamond Firetail	E1855 96
3	Patreetzia Munk (Faye) Silverstein	Pekin Robin	
2	Hal Caples	Red Head Gouldian	
1	Patreetzia Munk (Faye) Silverstein	Moluccan Mannikin	

**National Cage Bird Show, Dearborn, MI., November 15 1996**  
**Judge: Steve Hoppin—36 Exhibitors, 175 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
12	Trineado	Purple Sugar Bird	
11	Tom Rood	Gray Zebra Hen	D386 96
10	Tom Rood	Cuthroat	E105 96
9	Robert & Susan Rahe	Lavendar	
8	Carolyn Belisle	Yellow Head Normal Gouldian	D8162 96
7	Mary Lou Terwilliger	Shafttail	455 96
6	Jackie Bourey-Meyer	Chocolate & White Society	E4694 95
5	Harold & Margie McBrayer	White Eye	
4	Tom Rood	Gray Zebra Male	D1621 94
3	Tom Rood	Pair Gray Zebras	D411 96 D384 96



**Colorbred Canary Club of Miami, Hialeah, FL.,  
November 30, 1996, Judge: Steve Hoppin—8 Exhibitors, 71 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
7	Felipe Bonilla	White Cheeked Silver Zebra	D1573 95
6	Felipe Bonilla	Dilute Fawn & White Society	E3391 95
5	Dale & Eileen Laird	Normal Java	K493 94
4	Dale & Eileen Laird	Fire Finch Hen	B1701 95
3	Dale & Eileen Laird	White Eye Zosterops	
2	Felix Rodriguez	Red Head Gouldian	
1	Felipe Bonilla	Dilute Fawn & White Society	E3922 96

**Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic Bird Club, Santa Clara, CA.,  
November 30, 1996, Judge: Martin Von Raesfeld—8 Exhibitors, 56 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
6	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Pekin Robin	
5	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Rufous Weaver	
4	Val Garcia	Dilute Gouldian	
3	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Chocolate/White Society	
2	Ed & Sharon Johnson	Normal Gray Zebra Male	
1	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Tricolor Nun	

**Judge: Martin Von Raesfeld--7 Exhibitors, 68 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
7	Sally Huntington	Red Headed Gouldian, male	D12128 95
6	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Green Songer, male	
5	Sally Huntington	Pekin Robin	
4	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Five Color Nun	
3	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Red Headed Parrot Finch	
2	Alvin & Dixie Lea	Owl Finch	
1	Sally Huntington	Pintail Nonparcil	

**National Show of Puerto Rico, Carolina, PR., December 9, 1996,  
Judge: Daren Decoteau--15 Exhibitors, 106 Entries**

Points	Exhibitor	Species	Band # (Yr)
9	Juan Ramon Rios	Diamond Sparrow	
8	Samuel Figueroa	Meiba	
7	Victor Torulas	Owl	
6	Jacky Civitarese	European Starling	SPBE BRA
5	Marcelino Rivera	Pearl Headed Almondine	
4	Marcelino Rivera	Zebra	10726 96
3	Alfredo Brugerass	Red Headed Gouldian	734 96
2	Alfredo Brugerass	Zebra	4652 96
1	Victor Torrellas	Crested Society	4487 95



# National Finch and Softbill Society

## 1997 Affiliation Agreement

- \* Select a current NFSS member to represent your club
- \*\* Send the appropriate fee and all the enclosed form to **Jerry McCawley**, Affiliation Manager, by **April 30, 1997**. Make checks payable to NFSS.
- \*\*\* The minimum affiliation fee is \$35.00.

\_\_\_\_\_ Base Affiliation Fee - \$10.00... Add to award fees.

\_\_\_\_\_ This includes an Eric Peake lithograph "Diamond Sparrow".

\_\_\_\_\_ Service/Breeder Award Plaque - \$ 25.00

This is primarily for clubs that do not have shows. You will be entitled to a 7" X 9" plaque, to be used at your discretion. In addition, you will receive all NFSS publications.

\_\_\_\_\_ "Best in Show" Plaque - \$25.00 ( 7" X 9" )

\_\_\_\_\_ "Second Best in Show" Plaque - \$ 25.00 ( 6" X 8" )

\_\_\_\_\_ "Third Best in Show" Plaque - \$25.00 ( 6" X 8" )

\_\_\_\_\_ "Best Softbill in Show" Plaque - \$25.00 ( 6" X 8" )

\_\_\_\_\_ Rosettes - \$25.00

Ten long-streamer rosettes for the ten best finches or softbills, plus 3 rosettes for the three best unflighted finches or softbills. Unflighted birds are those close-banded with 1997 bands.

Please check the award (s) your club wants. Total the amounts plus the \$10.00 base affiliation fee and send check and forms to:

**Jerry McCawley, NFSS. . 111 Barton Bnd. . Dripping Springs, TX 78620**

\_\_\_\_\_ Total amount of check, payable to NFSS

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Show Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Club Delegate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

NFSS # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

# NFSS Affiliates, Delegates & Shows

(Listing as of March 1, 1997)

## ALABAMA

Central Alabama Avicultural Society  
Ginny Allen (334) 749-7168

Rocket City Cage Bird Club  
Ron Clifton (205) 852-7155

## CALIFORNIA

Aviary Assn. of Kern County  
Willis & Velva Baker (805) 765-6110

Capitol City Bird Society  
Dare B. Cagle (916) 944-2437  
Show October 18, 1997  
Placer County Fairgrounds  
Roseville, CA  
Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Finch Society of San Diego County  
Sharon Russell (619) 273-2005

Fresno Canary and Finch Society  
Dixie Lea (209) 584-3764

Golden Gate Avian Society  
Claudia Salo (510) 455-9909

Santa Clara Valley Canary & Exotic  
Bird Club  
Neil Crowley (408) 258-4601

## COLORADO

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture  
Julie Kern (303) 753-6145

## CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Association for Aviculture  
Chris Voronovitch (203) 649-8220

New England Finch Fanciers  
Russell Armitage, Jr. (203) 756-1753

## FLORIDA

Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South  
Florida

Phil Barth (305) 426-5340  
Show August 23, 1997  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Panel Judge:

Central Florida Bird Breeders  
Eugene F. Goss, Jr. (407) 957-1274

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami  
Armando J. Lee (305) 270-1000

Exotic Bird Club of Florida  
Jonathan Jones (407) 724-9498

Florida West Coast Avian Society  
Show November 30, 1997  
Sarasota, FL  
Panel Judge: Stephen Hoppin

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show  
Dale Laird (407) 657-7989  
Double Show  
February 15, 1997 *Saturday*  
Panel Judge Martha Wigmore  
February 16, 1997 *Sunday*  
Panel Judge William Parlee  
Tampa, FL

Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.  
John Floyd (813) 677-7679

Sun Coast Avian Society  
Joe Ventimiglia (813) 392-9391

Sunshine State Cage Bird Society  
Dale Laird (407) 657-7989

## GEORGIA

Georgia Cage Bird Society  
Candy Wright (404) 633-4364

\* not NFSS affiliate, but points  
earnable under NFSS Panel Judge.

HAWAII

Honolulu Canary and Finch Club  
Kathy Perreira (808) 839-2269

ILLINOIS

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club  
Jane Muscato (708) 305-9043

Illini Bird Fanciers

Jan Marcott (217) 347-9690

Show June 7, 1997

Shelbyville, IL

Panel Judge: Earl Courts

National Institute of Red-Orange  
Canaries (NIROC)

Stephan V. Hopman (815) 469-8455

Springfield Pet Bird Club

INDIANA

Indiana Bird Fanciers

Conrad Meinert (219) 269-2873

IOWA

Mid-America Cage Bird Society

Rhoda Shirley (515) 243-1511

KANSAS

Kansas Avicultural Society

Sharon Mills (316) 687-2497

Show October 10, 1997

Wichita, KS

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

KENTUCKY

Central Kentucky Cage Bird Society

Patricia Wilkins (606) 271-0273

LOUISIANA

Capital Area Avicultural Society

Tim Schexnaydre (504) 562-3579

Gulf South Bird Club, Inc.

Jeanne Murphy (504) 833-4241

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fanciers

Maryland Cage Bird Society

Theresa Brown (301) 735-7662

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Cage Bird Assoc.

Dianna Smith (508) 540-3214

MICHIGAN

Great Lakes Avicultural Society

Diana Hugo (616) 842-0163

Mid-Michigan Bird Club

Mary Lou Tewilliger (517) 463-5695

Mid-West Cage-Bird Club, Inc.

Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643

Motor City Bird Breeders, Inc.

Robert Zalewski (313) 356-5942

Show October 25, 1997

Warren, MI

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders

Patrick Vance (810) 443-0643

MISSOURI

Greater Kansas City Avic. Society

Nita Haas (816) 331-5285

Heart of America Hookbill & Finch  
Society

Moses Linn (816) 523-4661

Missouri Cage Bird Association

Richard & Rose Dickman

(314) 928-3444

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society

Kaytee Great American Bird Show

Show October 4, 1997

Holiday Inn Center of New Hampshire

Manchester, NH

Panel Judge: Daren Decoteau

**NFSS  
INTERNATIONAL  
AFFILIATES**

**CANADA**

**Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society  
of Ontario**

Jim Marks (416) 292-3852

**Cage Bird Society of Hamilton**

**Durham Avicultural Society of  
Ontario**

Vincent Moase (905) 723-1978  
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

**Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society**

Alfred Mion (519) 948-6398  
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

**NFSS  
INTERNATIONAL  
CORRESPONDENTS**

**AUSTRALIA**

**Queensland Finch Society**

Gavin Dietz, P.O. Box 1600,  
Coorparoo DC 4151  
Queensland, Australia

**GREAT BRITAIN**

**The Estrildian**

Ian Hinze, Coetref, Tyu Lon,  
Holyhead, Gwynedd LL65 3LJ,  
Wales, United Kingdom

**The Waxbill Finch Society**

Mr. Buzz Hope-Inglist,  
10 Litchfield Close, Plympton,  
Plymouth PL7 3UU, England

**Zebra Finch Society, England**

Margaret Binns, 97 Bent Lanes,  
Davyhulme, Nr. Urmston, Manchester.  
M31 8WZ, England

**NEW ZEALAND**

**New Zealand Finch Breeders Assn.**

293 Albany Highway  
Albany, New Zealand

**NEW MEXICO**

**New Mexico Bird Club, Inc.**

Gail Ranshaw (505) 822-1483

**NEW YORK**

**Finger Lakes Cage Bird Association**

Rena Rouse (315) 252-7673

**New York Finch & Type Canary Club**

Marie Grein (718) 468-0881

**Rochester Cage Bird Club**

Patrick Goonan (716) 288-5653

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society**

April Blazich (919) 851-8079

**Smokey Mtn. Cage Bird Society**

Jim Cody (704) 686-5157

**OHIO**

**Cleveland Cage Bird Society**

Arnette Howard (216) 337-7654

**Fort Defiance Bird Club**

Larry Endsley (419) 263-2795

Show September 27, 1997

Defiance, OH

**Toledo Bird Assn. & Zebra Finch Club  
of America**

Robert Ayling (419) 536-8736

**OKLAHOMA**

**Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma**

Gene and June Miller (405) 382-7066

**Oklahoma Cage Bird Society**

Doug Paris (918) 446-2447

**OREGON**

**The Finch Connection**

Kristine Spencer (206) 253-4572

**Rose City Exotic Bird Club**

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Central Pennsylvania Cage Bird  
Society**

Donald Strause (610) 926-5210

**Chester County Bird Breeders**

Lorraine LaBoyne (610) 269-6003

**Delaware Valley Bird Club**

Kris Kroner (215) 628-4143

**Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society**

Dr. Lindsay Clack (412) 363-6438

Show November 1, 1997

Pittsburg, PA

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

**Northeastern Penn. Cage Bird Club**

Gary Fino (717) 829-3891

**PUERTO RICO**

**Organización Puertorriqueña de Aves  
Exóticas, Inc.**

Jacky Civitares (787) 752-4433

Show #1 February 23, 1997

Ponce, PR

Show #2 April 20, 1997

Quebradillas, PR

Show #3 June 22, 1997

Guanajibo, PR

Show #4 August 24, 1997

Carolina, PR

Show #5 December 6 & 7, 1997

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Palmetto Cage Bird Club**

Melvin Yoder (803) 459-5319

**TENNESSEE**

**Middle Tennessee Cage Bird Club**

Eva Duffey (615) 361-5939

**TEXAS**

**Bay Area Cage Bird Club**

Linda Beeman (713) 485-0291

**Capital City Cage Bird Club**

Fenton R. Mereness (512) 310-1802

**Canary & Finch Society**

Noma Johnson

Show November 8, 1997

Panel Judge: Paul Williams

**Fort Worth Bird Club**

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

**Texas Bird Breeders and Fanciers  
Association**

Clarence Culwell (817) 220-5568

**Texas Canary Club**

Chris Davis (713) 361-3364

**VIRGINIA**

**Peninsula Cage Bird Society**

Marian "Bea" Rogers

(757) 484-6001

**WASHINGTON**

**West Washington State Fair Shows**

Show #1 April 18, 1997

Panel Judge: Miki Sparzak

Show #2 April 19, 1997

Panel Judge: Conrad Meinert

Show #3 April 20, 1997

Panel Judge: Dr. Al Decoteau

Puyallup, WA

**WISCONSIN**

**Badger Canary Fanciers Ltd.**

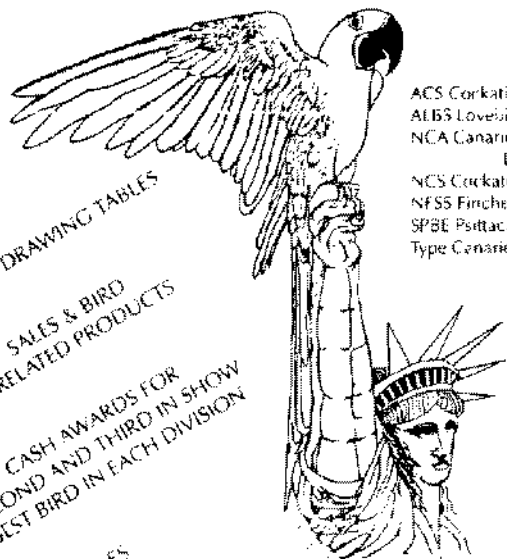
Patrice (Ripple) Brusk (414) 785-8988

**KAYTEE**

12TH ANNUAL

**Great American Bird Show, Inc.**  
**SATURDAY & SUNDAY OCTOBER 4 & 5, 1997**

SANCTIONED JUDGING- SATURDAY 9 AM -6 PM  
BIRD MART- SUNDAY 9 AM -5 PM



DRAWING TABLES

SALES & BIRD  
RELATED PRODUCTS

CASH AWARDS FOR  
SECOND AND THIRD IN SHOW  
BEST BIRD IN EACH DIVISION

RAFFLES

JUDGES

ACS Cockatiels .....	Bert McAulay, TX
ALBS Lovebirds .....	Paul Crow, PA
NCA Canaries .....	Gino Abbatte, FL
Lipochrome and Melanin	
NCS Cockatiels .....	Conrad Meinert, IN
NFSS Finches/Softbills .....	Daren Decoteau, CT
SPBE Psittacines .....	Miki Spartzak, MD
Type Canaries .....	Regina McCarthy, MA

Admission

Adults	\$4.00
Seniors	\$3.00
Children under 12	\$2.00

**\$1,000**  
**CASH AWARD**  
**BEST BIRD IN SHOW**

HOSTED BY

**Birds of a Feather**

Manchester, NH

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
Local Show, Hotel, Bird Mart, etc. info:  
call: Denise Bozgaull  
1603-893-8870

For Kaytee GABS info:  
Call: David Dollar  
Phone: (813) 947-5447  
Fax: (813) 938-4893

**Holiday Inn**

CENTER OF  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Manchester, NH



# FINCHSHOP

the National Finch and Softbill Society store

ITEM	QTY	SIZE/ STYLE	PRICE EACH	TOTAL AMT
<i>NEW T-Shirt Design!</i> 10 Colorful Finches in Stalks of Grass w/NFSS		M•L•XL•XXL (circle size) All 50/50 White	\$18.00	
Video "The Wonderful World of Finches and Soft- bills: An Introduction"		Members & Affiliates: Non-Members:	\$17.00 \$22.00	
Show Cage Plans (see sizes below)			\$4.00	
All 3 Show Cage Plans (set of all three)			\$10.00	
NFSS Plastic Water Bottle			\$6.00	
NFSS Zebra Pin			\$6.00	
NFSS Gouldian Pin			\$6.00	
Eric Peake Lithograph <i>The Diamond Firetails</i> Signed by the artist			\$35.00	
Name Badge (Members only) *Print name clearly *Includes one line of engraving		2 lines - add \$1.00 Magnetic back add - \$1.00	\$7.50	
Past Bulletin Issues-1994 and later issues			\$4.00	
-1993 and earlier issues			\$3.00	
1995 NFSS Handbook (Membership Yearbook)		<i>Includes Census, Index &amp; much more (Jul/Aug '95 issue)</i>	\$4.00	
NFSS Judges Handbook and Official Standards		<i>In handsome small 3-ring binder. Updated in 1995!</i>	\$15.00	

## NFSS SHOW CAGE PLANS

- # 1 Cage Finches up to and including Zebras
- # 2 Cage Finches larger than Zebras
- # 3 Cage Softbills

## SHIPPING & HANDLING \$

under \$10 add \$2.00  
over \$10 add \$3.00  
TOTAL \$

Member

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form and payment  
(check or money order  
payable to **NFSS**) to  
**FINCHSHOP**  
c/o Julie Duimstra  
4400 NW Walnut Blvd. #68  
Corvallis, OR 97330

# THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

## GUIDE TO ORDERING NFSS CLOSED LEG BANDS

*NFSS welcomes comments and suggestions for this Guide. Contact the home office.*

### size "A"

Small Waxbills  
Gold-breasted Waxbill  
Orange-cheeked Waxbill  
Bicheno (Owl) Finch  
Quail Finch  
Red-eared Waxbill  
Strawberry Finch

### size "B"

Black-cheeked Waxbill  
Cordon Bleu Waxbill  
Cuban Melodious Finch  
Fire Finch  
Lavender Finch  
Olive Finch  
Rufous-backed Mannikin

### size "C"

Black and White Mannikin  
Blue-capped Waxbill  
Bronze-winged Mannikin  
Cherry Finch  
Green Singing Finch  
Grey Singing Finch  
Heck's Shafttail  
Painted Finch  
Pileated Finch  
Pytilias  
Red-headed Parrot Finch  
Shafttail Finch  
Silverbills  
Star Finch

### size "D"

Blue-faced Parrot Finch  
most other Parrot finches  
Chestnut-breasted Finch  
Gouldian Finch  
Pictorella Finch  
Pin-tailed Nonpareil  
Yellow-rumped Finch  
Zebra Finch

### more size "D"

most smaller Mannikins  
most Twinspots

### size "E"

Black-crested Finch  
Diamond Sparrow  
Golden Song Sparrow  
Nuns  
Peter's Twinspot  
Siskins  
Society Finch  
Spice Finch

### size "G"

European Goldfinch  
Magpie Mannikin  
other large Mannikins  
small Tanagers

### size "J"

Pekin Robin  
Silver-eared Mesia  
other small softbills

### size "K"

Java Rice Bird  
Red-crested Cardinal  
Saffron  
Shama Thrush

### size "L"

Diamond Dove  
other small doves  
Quail  
other softbills

# THE NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

## BAND ORDER FORM

Orders processed weekly as received.  
Cashier's Check or Money Order will expedite your order.  
Please, no mail requiring signatures.

NFSS offers to members only closed traceable aluminum bands. Available only in the NFSS color of the year, the bands are engraved with the initials *NFSS*, size code, year and number. No choice of numbers.

All orders are recorded for permanent reference. Bands are ordered in strings of ten, all the same size. New members may order before receiving membership number. Write "New" for membership # on order form.

1997 or 1998 (CIRCLE CORRECT YEAR PLEASE)

BAND SIZE	# OF STRINGS	PRICE/ STRING	TOTAL AMT
A		\$2.75	
B		\$2.75	
C		\$2.75	
D		\$2.75	
E		\$2.75	
G		\$2.75	
J		\$2.75	
K		\$2.75	
L		\$2.75	
M		\$2.75	
R		\$2.75	
S		\$2.75	
T		\$2.75	
U		\$2.75	

**POSTAL INSURANCE:**

Under \$50 - \$.75

From \$50 to \$100 - \$1.60

Over \$100 - \$2.50

If you choose not to include this sum NFSS will not be responsible for replacement of bands lost in shipment.

SUBTOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

INSURANCE \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Membership

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form and payment payable to **NFSS** to:

Ms. Eileen Laird  
NFSS Band Secretary  
1166 Village Forest Pl.  
Winter Park, FL 32792  
(407) 657-7989

# NFSS Panel of Judges 1997

**Charles Anchor**  
630 Lake Park Drive  
Addison, IL 60101  
(630) 543-3757

**Laura Bewley**  
3538 S 65 W Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74107  
(918) 446-3999

**Harold Bowles**  
230 College Circle  
Cedartown, GA 30125  
(770) 748-4627

**Earl Courts**  
1807 N.E. Colburn  
Lee's Summit, MO 64063  
(816) 524-0921

**Clarence Culwell**  
250 Horseshoe Dr.  
Springtown, TX 76082  
(817) 220-5568

**Dr. Al E. Decoteau**  
*Panel Chairman*  
P.O. Box 369  
Groton, MA 01450  
Phone (603) 672-4568  
Fax (603) 672-3120

**Daren Decoteau**  
89 Pleasantview Ave.  
Stratford, CT 06497  
(203) 377-2049

**Stephen Hoppin**  
3836 Hidden Acres Circle  
N. Fort Myers, FL 33903  
Phone (941) 997-2237  
Fax (941) 997- NFSS

E-mail-  
n2finchs@peganet.com

**Ray Johnson**  
175 Stoneridge Way  
Fayetteville, GA 30214  
(404) 461-8675

**Clayton Jones**  
P.O. Box 266  
Soquel, CA 95073  
(408) 728-8676

**Hal M. Koontz**  
2604 Auburn Ct.  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
(805) 872-1063

**Joseph Krader**  
29831 Weather wood  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677  
(714) 692-8051

**Armando Lee**  
6811 SW 89th Ct.  
Miami, FL 33172  
(305) 270-1000

**Brian Mandarich**  
4743 E Hedges Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93703  
(209) 255-6508

**Conrad Meinert**  
1212 E. Cr. 300 S.  
Warsaw, IN 46580  
(219) 269-2873

**William G. Parlee**  
631 4N Talcottville Rd.  
Vernon, CT 06066  
(203) 569-0200

**Tom Rood**  
313 N. Broadway  
Shelbyville, IL 62565  
(217) 774-5265

**Marion (Miki) Sparzak**  
517 Old North Point Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
(410) 282-9233

**Patrick Vance**  
18175 Avilla  
Lathrup Village, MI 48076  
(810) 443-0643

**Christine Voronovitch**  
38 Liberty street  
Manchester, CT 06040  
(860) 649-8220

**Martha Wigmore**  
18913 Boston St. NW  
Elk River, MN 55330  
(612) 241-0071

**Paul S. Williams**  
703 Donegal Drive  
Papillion, NE 68046  
(402) 592-5488

FOR INFORMATION ON  
THE NFSS JUDGES PANEL  
CONTACT  
DR. AL DECOTEAU