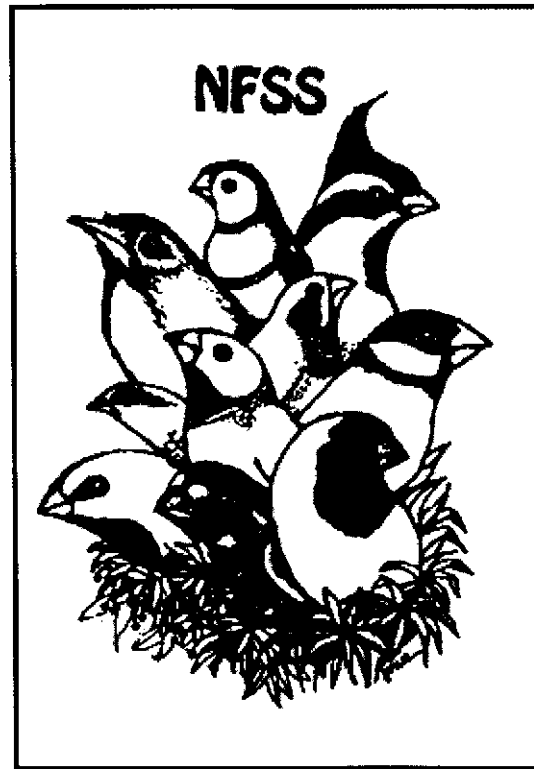


Mar/Apr  
2000  
Volume 17,  
No. 2



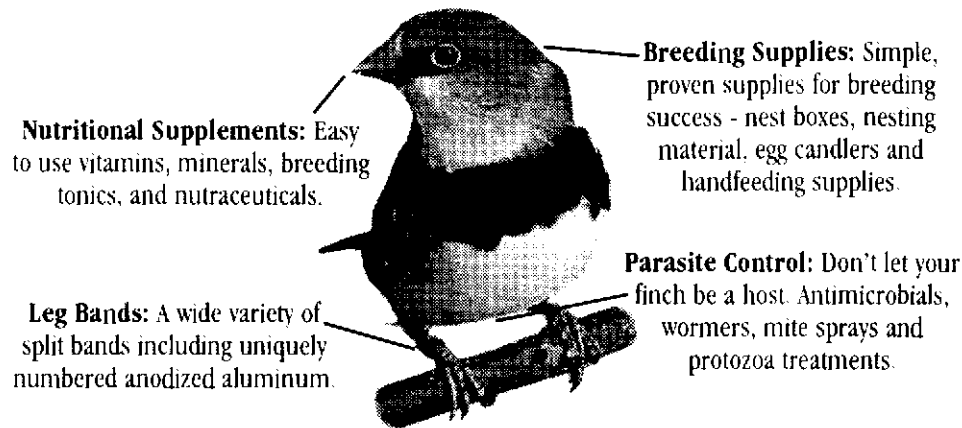
Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ The 2000 NFSS Census Form !!!
- ◆ Finches with Wishes (Mary Wilson)
- ◆ The Nutritional Value of Eggs (Kathy Dezern)
- ◆ 1999 Show Results (Second Installment)
- ◆ Mousebirds (Kara Black)
- ◆ Surviving Aviary Predators (Billy Cochran)

Coming Next Month

- ◆ Avian Conversations (Tom Riggs & Ross Bishop)

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## The NFSS Bulletin

Home Office  
4310 Ascot Road, Hephzibah, GA 30815  
<http://NFSS.net>

Publisher: The National Finch and Softbill Society  
Editor: Steve Poe

### 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:

Issue	Deadline for Submissions	Mailed (Target Date)
Volume 1, January/February	January 1st	February 1st
Volume 2, March/April	March 1st	April 1st
Volume 3, May/June	May 1st	June 1st
Volume 4, July/August	July 1st	August 1st
Volume 5, September/October	September 1st	October 1st
Volume 6, November/December	November 1st	December 1st

NFSS members are encouraged to submit articles, drawing and photographs. NFSS reserves the right to edit and/or reject all editorial, photographic and advertising materials 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.

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

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## From the Editor

I would like to urge, plead and beg you all to fill out the Census forms found near the center of this bulletin. This is one of the most important functions of the NFSS, in my humble opinion. Once published, this is used throughout the year to help members locate the species they need to maintain diverse bloodlines. Once you remove the center page (31-34) for the raffle, the remaining center pages can be removed or copied to send in. Your participation makes a **great** difference.

Speaking of the raffle, be sure to check out what we have this month. See page 36 for an explanation and be sure to send your tickets in. You can copy the forms and enter as often as you like.

You may be delighted to know that seven years after it was first published in hardcover, the finch aviculturist's "bible", FINCHES AND SPARROWS: AN IDENTIFICATION GUIDE by Peter Clement, Alan Harris and John Davis is now available in paperback! List price is \$29.95. This is a **MUST HAVE!!** Once you see its terrific color plates, you'll know why! If your local bookstore doesn't have a copy, ask them to order it for you - the paperback edition's ISBN is 0-691-04878-9

To repeat from last month, I am getting very good participation with regards to people submitting articles for publication. So much so that I cannot squeeze them all in as quickly as I'd like. Please be patient and eventually I will make room for everything. Don't let this discourage you from submitting articles. Also, please note the deadlines published on page 3 of every bulletin. It is necessary for me to adhere strictly to these deadlines to be able to get the bulletin out on time. Thanks.

Please check phone numbers, as many area codes are rapidly changing.

Finally, next month we will continue the series Avian Conversations by Ross Bishop and Tom Riggs. Unfortunately, space became too short this issue to do justice to their hard work and research. They have some great information on nutrition in the months ahead.

Steve Poe  
4310 Ascot Road  
Hephzibah, GA 30815  
stevepoc@mindspring.com  
706-790-5262

## Message from the President

Last issue we talked about what I would like to see for the next couple years. This issue what I want to do is let the membership know what we need to start accomplishing those goals.

### VOLUNTEERS.

That is correct. This month we need a minimum of two volunteers. Julie Duimstra has had the Finchshop for much longer than she intended to ever keep it and would like for somebody to take it over from her. Julie has performed commendably and is keeping things running, but needs to have some closure in this matter. I would love to see somebody come in and add some new items, work closely with Harry Bryant to get the Finchshop on the NFSS web site, and continue the excellent job Julie has done.

The other volunteer we need is for the Awards manager. Kerri McCoy has taken it over temporarily to get things rolling for 2000 but she cannot do this on a full time basis. Kerri is looking into a "drop ship" arrangement with a vendor so the only thing required is keeping the paperwork straight.

Every person on the Board, both elected and appointed, is a volunteer. With 750 active members in NFSS, two people should step forward and get involved.

This is your opportunity to make a difference.

Dale Laird  
President NFSS  
Wanted: Finchshop Manager  
Wanted: Awards Manager

## 1st Quarter Board Meeting Minutes

**1. Shall Ms. Julie R. Duimstra be appointed to the NFSS Panel of Judges?**

Yes 15, No 0, Did not vote 1

**2. Should NFSS accept receipts over 90 days old for the above expense of \$132.69 from the 3rd Vice President**

Yes 8, No 7, Did not vote 1

**3. Shall the Baltimore Bird Fanciers be allowed to affiliate at 1/3rd the basic affiliation cost of \$25.00. i.e. \$8.34?**

Yes 14, No 1, Did not vote 1

All motions passed.

### Reports

#### AFA report

Sally & Vince Huntington (Vince is NFSS's AFA representative) will represent NFSS at the AFA convention for 2000, man the NFSS table and distribute NFSS literature, and present an interactive program. Below is their proposal to the Board. **NO VOTE REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.** I will call for a vote when they have a price.

3. Vince and I have written a proposal to do a presentation at AFA this year...pending the NFSS boards approval. Its a three hour drive from our house...no airfares.

We proposed to them ;

- 1) A presentation on hand raised finches and softbills.
  - a) Vince and I will sit inside a netting, our audience, in chairs outside within a few feet .

- b) We'll introduce one hand raised finch, softbill and button quail at a time.
  - c) With each presentation will be info about the bird in general, and particulars to that species.
  - d) Demonstration how each species presented was hand reared, lessons learned.
- 2) We will also promote NFSS by managing a booth. Local NFSS members already in line to man it.
- 3) We will conduct a meeting for NFSS if desired or necessary. Let us know soon so we can reserve a time/space, etc. Not sure if that would be additional cost.
- 4) One presenter gets in free. I would appreciate it if NFSS would pay the second fee, as we don't mind paying all other expenses, transportation, hotel, etc. Will let you know that fee amount as soon as Sandee Molinda lets us know.

Below is a report from the Judge's Panel Chairman, Steve Hoppin.

National Finch and Softbill Society  
Office of the Fourth Vice President  
Judges Panel Director, Standards, and Points Manager  
First Quarter, 2000 Report

Effective 01/16/00 the following numbers apply to this department:

**\* 29 NFSS Panel Judges:** please refer to J/F 2000 NFSS Bulletin for complete listing.

Congratulations and welcome note sent to Huntington, Laird, and McAuliffe following recent appointment to the NFSS Judges Panel.

**\* 5 NFSS Apprentice Judges:**

Mr. Luis Garcia  
Mr. Kenneth Gunby  
Mrs. Annette Howard  
Mrs. Julianna Kern  
Mrs. Laura MacDonald/Tinker



\* Ms. Julie R. Duimstra has successfully completed the NFSS Apprentice Judge Program and has applied for review, consideration and appointment to NFSS Judge's Panel. To be presented at First Quarter 2000 NFSS Board Meeting "By Mail".

Request, recommendation, and motion submitted by NFSS Judges Panel Director.

\* Judges Panel Report - 2000: ready to be mailed to all NFSS Panel Judges first week of February 2000. (Includes request for 2000 Judges Panel listing fee.)

\* All 1999 exhibition statistics including Exhibitor Champion, Champion Bird, Show results, and Honor Roll have been forwarded to NFSS editor, Mr. Steven Poe, for review and publishing in J/F and M/A 2000 NFSS Bulletins.

\* Effective 01/15/00 complete 1999 exhibition statistics, NFSS Proposed General Standard, Intro to NFSS Standards, up-dated NFSS Classifications, up-dated NFSS Panel Judges listing, up-dated Apprentice Judges program, Introduction to NFSS Exhibition and copy NFSS show report w/ instructions have been forwarded to web site manager Harry Bryant.

\* Information on new alternative NFSS Apprentice Judge testing sites (as adopted by NFSS Board, 3rd Qtr 1999) to be published in up-coming NFSS Bulletin (following publishing of respective Board meeting minutes).

\* Overdue awards for Richard Pizzurro, 1999 Exhibitor Champion and Exhibitor of Excellence Award Recipient, completed and mailed effective 01/14/00. A free one year NFSS dual membership has been awarded to Richard and Jeri Pizzurro compliments of Mr. Steve Hoppin, NFSS Points Director.

Dale Laird  
President NFSS  
Wanted: Finchshop Manager  
Wanted: Awards Manager

## **The Nutritional Value of Eggs and Incidence/Prevention of Salmonella Infection by Kathy Dezern**

Most finch fanciers make their own version of homemade "eggfood". While there are as many recipes for eggfood as there are breeders the basic ingredient is hard-boiled egg and for good reason. Eggs have often been referred to as the perfect food. Eggs are a complete food source designed by nature to feed a rapidly developing embryo with all of the nutrients it will need to develop. Eggs contain the highest quality source of protein available and almost every essential vitamin, mineral and fatty acid. Egg protein is the standard by which other proteins are compared. Eggs have a biological value, the efficacy of which protein is used for growth, of 93.7%. Comparable values are 84.5% for milk, 76% for fish, and 74.3% for beef.

The following is a list of vitamins and minerals found in eggs:

**Vitamins:** A, D, E, B12, Biotin, Choline, Folic Acid, Niacin, Pantothenic (B3), Pyridoxine (B6), Riboflavin (B2) and Thiamin (B6)

**Minerals:** Calcium, Chlorine, Copper, Iodine, Iron, Magnesium, Manganese, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sodium, Sulfur and Zinc.

While we are attempting to provide optimal nutrition for growing chicks by preparing and feeding eggfood many are destroying some of that nutrition by overcooking eggs for fear of salmonella infection. Many bird keepers have been erroneously taught that in order to prevent salmonella infection of their birds, eggs must be boiled an excessively long time. I have seen recommendations to boil eggs anywhere from 20-40 minutes "to ensure killing salmonella". Over-boiling is not necessary and as earlier stated may well destroy much of the nutritional value of the eggfood. Prolonged cooking and exposure to high temperature degrades proteins and vitamins with the B vitamins being particularly heat sensitive. To retain the highest nutritional value of any food the cooking time and temperature should be the minimum possible.

In earlier decades salmonella infections were caused by fecal contamination of the eggshell. Stricter procedures for the cleansing and inspection of eggs implemented during the 1970s virtually eliminated salmonella infections due to fecal contamination. During the late 80s and 90's there was a rise in salmonella infections across the United States, particularly in the Northeast. This increase was not the result of fecal contamination but transovarian contamination. The ovaries of the chicken are infected with *salmonella enteridis* and the bacteria are shed into the egg before the shell is formed. Only a small number of hens seem to be infected at any given time and an infected hen can lay many normal eggs while only occasionally laying a contaminated egg. Therefore the incidence of Salmonella contaminated eggs remains low. In the northeast where the highest number of infected hens are concentrated approximately one in 10,000 eggs are contaminated.

Here is some useful information about Salmonella:

Like all bacteria, Salmonella need food, moisture, a favorable temperature and time for growth. Under ideal conditions, the number can double every 20 minutes and a single organism can increase to more than a million in 6 hours.

The majority of salmonella outbreaks (and the media hype) have been associ-

ated with commercial preparation of eggs where large numbers of eggs are pooled together and left standing at room temperature, then inadequately cooked. (If 500 eggs are pooled then one in 20 batches will be contaminated.)

Salmonella enteritis will not grow at temperatures below 40°F.

Freezing does not destroy Salmonella but it may impair some cells.

Temperatures between 40°F and 140°F, known as the danger zone, are ideal for rapid growth.

Salmonella organisms are killed after 3 1/2 minutes of exposure to 140°F or if they reach an end-point temperature of 160°F.

Any temperature above 160°F instantly kills the bacteria.

The internal temperature of hard-cooked eggs will easily reach more than 160°F after five minutes of boiling.

In my own home experiment, I measured the temperature of an egg in its center after five minutes of boiling to be 180°F. After ten minutes of boiling, the temperature measured 188-190°F, well above the end point temperature of 160°F which kills *salmonella enteritidis*.

Below are two methods for properly boiling eggs, both which will kill any salmonella present but not over-cook the egg.

1) Place eggs in a single layer in a saucepan and add enough water to come at least 1 inch above the eggs. Cover and quickly bring to a boil. Turn off the heat and let the eggs stand, covered in the hot water for 15 minutes for large eggs (adjust the time up or down by 3 minutes for each size larger or smaller).

2) Cover eggs with water and bring to a boil, slow boil for 8 minutes for large eggs. You can increase or decrease the time by 2 minutes for small or extra-large eggs.

Immediately run cold water over the eggs or place them in ice water until completely cooled. This will make the shell peel easily and help prevent a dark ring from developing around the yolk. A green ring around the yolk is the result of sulfur and iron compounds in the egg reacting at the surface of the yolk. It may occur when the eggs are overcooked or when there is a high amount of iron in the cooking water. The color may be a bit unappealing, but the egg's flavor and nutrition are unaffected.

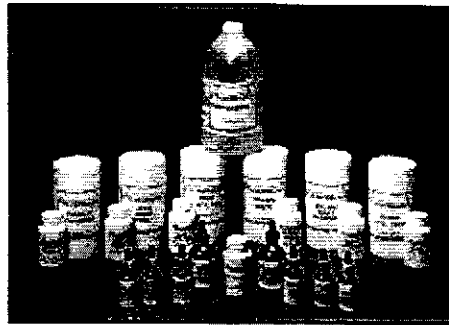
Kathy Dezern  
Charlotte, NC

#### References

- 1) Department of Agriculture, Food Safety Inspection, 1998, Proposed Rules, Federal Register vol. 63, No. 96: 27052-27511
- 2) Center for Disease Control, Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases, 1996, *Salmonella enteritidis* Infection
- 3) US Food and Drug Administration, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, 1992, Food borne pathogenic Microorganisms and Natural Toxins Handbook. Chapter: *Salmonella spp.*
- 4) Egg Nutrition Center, Washington, DC Information from Web Site Conversations with Jill Comess MS, RD of the egg Nutrition Center.

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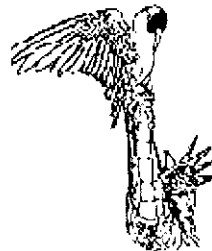
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All Bird Show Judges to be announced

**1999 Show Results**  
**Tallied by Steve Hoppin**  
**Chairman of the Panel of NFSS Judges**

Here are the remaining show results that were not published in the last issue. Again, congratulations to all the participants who made these shows a success.

<b>Mid-America Cage Bird Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 9</b>	<b>Entries: 76</b>	
<b>10/2/99</b>	<b>Des Moines, IA</b>	<b>Judge: Earl Courts</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Darla Dandre	Persa Touraco	D-6718-99	7
2	Nita Haas	Grey Zebra cock		6
3	Rhoda Shirley	BH Gouldian		
4	Darla Dandre	Green Singer	D-2740-97	4
5	Jamic Jackson	Light-backed Blk	D-6641/	3
		Checked Zebra Pr.	6627-99	
6	Jamic Jackson	Grey Zebra hen	D-6707-99	2
7	Rhoda Shirley	Pekin Robin		

<b>Kaytee Grt. Amer. Bird Show</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 20</b>	<b>Entries: 120</b>	
<b>10/2/99</b>	<b>Isla Verda, PR</b>	<b>Judge: Miki Spartzak</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Luis Vasquez	Firefinch		
2	Jorge Mojica	Lt Back Zebra		
3	Raphael Echevarria	Cordon Blue		8
4	Jose Cante	Pied Java		
5	Ramon Fernandez	Spice Finch		
6	Luis Vasquez	BF Parrot Finch		
7	Victor Torrellas	Cordon Blue Pr.		4
8	Edwin Garcia	CFW Zebra	12275	
9	Victor Torrellas	Chestnut & White Zebra	E-385-99	2
10	Ramon Fernandez	Cuban Melodious		

<b>Mid-Tennessee Bird Club</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 11</b>	<b>Entries: 46</b>	
<b>10/2/99</b>	<b>Nashville, TN</b>	<b>Judge: Clarence Culwell</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Billy Cochran	Strawberry cock		5
2	Ginny Allen	Chocolate Self Society	D-180-99	4
3	Debbie Bohannon	RH Gouldian		
4	Ginny Allen	Dybowski Twinspot		2
5	J. & T. Burnette	Fawn Zebra hen		

<b>Canary &amp; Finch Breeders</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 11</b>	<b>Entries: 72</b>	
<b>10/2/99 Livonia, MI</b>		<b>Judge: Tom Rood</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Jackie Meyer	LB Zebra cock		7
2	Patrick Vance	YH WB Gouldian	D-2605-98	6
3	Gunther Giesecke	Lutino Greenfinch	A-1041-98	
4	Larry & Bea Endsley	Bicheno		4
5	Patrick Vance	Melba		3
6	Patrick Vance	Pearl Headed Amadine		2
7	Gunther Giesecke	Agate Greenfinch		

<b>Kaytee Grt. Amer. Bird Show</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 20</b>	<b>Entries: 120</b>	
<b>10/3/99 San Juan, PR</b>		<b>Judge: Daren Decoteau</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Luis Vasquez	RH Finch		
2	Jose Figueroa	Zebra	D-187-99	
3	Alexander Rivera	Parson		
4	Ramon Fernandez	Cuban Melodious		
5	Luis Vasquez	BF Parrot Finch		
6	Luis Vasquez	Indian Silverbill		
7	Jose Cantre	White Java Rice Bird		
8	Alfredo Brugueras	St. Helena		2
9	Raphael Echevarria	Cordon Blue		1

<b>Indiana Bird Fanciers</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 11</b>	<b>Entries: 70</b>	
<b>10/9/99 Fort Wayne, IN</b>		<b>Judge: Miki Spartzak</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Darla Dandre	Ringneck Dove		7
2	Patrick Vance	Melba		6
3	Darla Dandre	Indian Hill Mynah		5
4	Darla Dandre	Persa Touraco		4
5	Patrick Vance	Crested Society	E-4571-95	3
6	Patrick Vance	Firefinch Pr.		2
7	Larry Endsley	Bicheno	A-1091-98	1

<b>Sunshine State Cagebird Soc.</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 5</b>	<b>Entries: 37</b>	
<b>10/9/99 Sanford, FL</b>		<b>Judge: Armando Lee</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Chris Eichner	RH Gouldian		4
2	Steve Hoppin	CFW Zebra hen		3
3	Steve Hoppin	Parson cock		2
4	Dale & Eileen Laird	Java Rice Bird		1

<b>Kings County Canary Club</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 12</b>	<b>Entries: 30</b>	
<b>10/9/99 Brooklyn, NY</b>		<b>Judge: Nizam Ali</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Christ Taylor	Green Singing Finch		4
2	Christ Taylor	BH Gouldian		3
3	Christ Taylor	Fawn & White Society		
4	Mimmo Cipriano	St. Helena		

<b>Bird Fanciers of Oklahoma</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 4</b>	<b>Entries: 57</b>	
<b>10/9/99 Oklahoma City, OK</b>		<b>Judge: Cecil Gunby</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	H & M McBrayer	Shaftail	4713-99	6
2	Clarence Culwell	CFW Zebra	1010-99	5
3	H & M McBrayer	Starling		4
4	H & M McBrayer	Parson		3
5	Clarence Culwell	Pied Zebra Pr.	1166/7-99	2
6	H & M McBrayer	Cordon Blue		1

<b>Cleveland Cagebird Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 2</b>	<b>Entries: 9</b>	
<b>10/9/99 Middleburg Hts. OH</b>		<b>Judge: Paul Williams</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Tim Howard	Forbe's Parrot Finch		

<b>Birds of a Feather</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 10</b>	<b>Entries: 46</b>	
<b>10/9/99 Nasbua, NH</b>		<b>Judge: Bill Parlee</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Tim Roche	Lutino Greenfinch		5
2	Kathy Vieweg	Blue Capped Waxbill	G-1-98	4
3	Kathy Vieweg	Fawn Zebra cock	D-2732-99	3
4	Kathy Vieweg	RH Gouldian cock	E-344-98	2
5	Kathy Vieweg	Florida Fancy Zebra hen	E-1599-97	1

<b>MA Cagebird Association</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 12</b>	<b>Entries: 54</b>	
<b>10/16/99 Bellingham, MA</b>		<b>Judge: Daren Decoteau</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Kathy Vieweg	Gouldian cock	E-344-98	6
2	Kathy Vieweg	Lavender Waxbill cock	D-2346-98	5
3	Michael Marcotrigiano	Chocolate Self Society		4
4	Kathy Vieweg	BlueCapped Waxbill cock	G-1-98	3
5	Tim Roche	Lutino Greenfinch hen	2264-98	2
6	Kathy Vieweg	Florida Fancy Zebra hen	E-1599-97	1



<b>Grtr KS Avicultural Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 7</b>	<b>Entries: 33</b>	
<b>10/16/99 Grandview, MO</b>		<b>Judge: Martha Wigmore</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Moses Linn	YH Gouldian	D-488-92	4
2	Nita Haas	Pied Zebra	4829-98	3
3	Jamie Jackson	Yellow Gouldian	D4721-97	2
4	Moses Linn	European Starling		

<b>Great Lakes Avicultural Soc.</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 5</b>	<b>Entries: 30</b>	
<b>10/16/99 Rockford, MI</b>		<b>Judge: Conrad Meinert</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Patrick Vance	White Java Rice Bird	K-195-99	4
2	Patrick Vance	RH Gouldian	D-3955-96	3
3	Patrick Vance	Pearl Headed Amadine		2
4	Patrick Vance	Crested Society	E-4571-95	1

<b>Badger Canary &amp; Finch Soc.</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 7</b>	<b>Entries: 50</b>	
<b>10/16/99 Waukesha, WI</b>		<b>Judge: Harold Bowles</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Darla Dandre	Zebra		6
2	Darla Dandre	Indian Hill Mynah		5
3	Sheila Jester	YH Gouldian	3993-99	4
4	Darla Dandre	White Java Rice Bird		3
5	Sue Feldstein	Choc & White Society	BCF-141-99	2
6	Darla Dandre	Green Singer	D-2740-97	1

<b>Capitol City Bird Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 4</b>	<b>Entries: 26</b>	
<b>10/16/99 Sacramento, CA</b>		<b>Judge: Jacky Civitarese</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Jane Zimmerman	Pied Zebra		3
2	Jane Zimmerman	Choc Crested Society	E-2699-	2
3	Jane Zimmerman	Dilute Society		1

<b>Oklahoma Cagebird Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 3</b>	<b>Entries: 13</b>	
<b>10/23/99 Tulsa, OK</b>		<b>Judge: Clarence Culwell</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Laura Bewley	RH Gouldian		

<b>CT Assoc for Aviculture</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 9</b>	<b>Entries: 36</b>	
<b>10/23/99 West Hartford, CT</b>		<b>Judge: Dennis Lewis</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Tim Roach	Satinette Greenfinch	147	4
2	Michael Marcotrigiano	Choc Self Society		3
3	Laura McDonald	Shaftail Pr.	C198/200-98	2
4	Laura McDonald	Shaftail	C199-98	2

<b>FL W. Coast Avian Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 5</b>	<b>Entries: 30</b>	
<b>10/23/99 Palmetto, FL</b>		<b>Judge: Tom Rood &amp; Tigger</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Steve Hoppin	Senegal Firefinch	B-458-96	4
2	Joy Johnson	Java Rice Bird		3
3	Steve Hoppin	Parson		2
4	Bobbi Keenan	Goldbreast Waxbill	A-449-98	1

<b>Grtr Chicago Cagebird Club</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 12</b>	<b>Entries: 85</b>	
<b>10/30/99 Arlington Hts, IL</b>		<b>Judge: Paul Williams</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Darla Dandre	Persa Touraco		8
2	Tom Rood	Cream Zebra Pr.	D-3910/3908-99	7
3	Bob & Sue Rahe	Lavender Waxbill	GC-14-97	6
4	Bonnie Leader	Parrot Finch		5
5	Tom Rood	Fawn Zebra Pr.	D-2166-97/D-4508-98	4
6	Darla Dandre	Glossy Starling		3
7	Bonnie Leader	Seedeater		2
8	Bob & Sue Rahe	Violet-eared Waxbill cock		1

<b>Canary &amp; Finch Society</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 11</b>	<b>Entries: 90</b>	
<b>10/30/99 Houston, TX</b>		<b>Judge: Armando Lee</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	H & M McBrayer	White Eye Zosterop		8
2	Clarence Culwell	CFW Zebra cock		7
3	H & M McBrayer	Parson		6
4	H & M McBrayer	Peter's Twinspot		5
5	H & M McBrayer	Shaftail		4
6	H & M McBrayer	Isabel Shaftail		3
7	H & M McBrayer	Chocolate Self Society		2
8	H & M McBrayer	Violet-eared Waxbill		1

<b>Motor City Bird Breeders</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 6</b>	<b>Entries: 39</b>	
<b>10/30/99 Warren, MI</b>		<b>Judge: Martha Wigmore</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Patrick Vance	Melba cock		4
2	Patrick Vance	Yellow-faced Star		3
3	Patrick Vance	Melba hen		2
4	Gary Leming	White Java Rice Bird		1

<b>Central CA Cagebird Club</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 7</b>	<b>Entries: 91</b>	
<b>11/6/99 Modesto, CA</b>		<b>Judge: Clayton Jones</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Richard Pizzuro	Lavender Waxbill		8
2	Steve Payne	Bicheno	C-1385-97	7

3	Richard Pizzuro	Diamond Firetail	6
4	Richard Pizzuro	Chocolate Self Society	5
5	Alvin Lea	Orange Cheek Waxbill	4
6	Alvin Lea	Pekin Robin	3
7	Richard Pizzuro	Chocolate Self Society Pr.	2
8	Alvin Lea	White-hooded Nun	1

**Rocky Mtn Soc of Aviculture Exhibitors: 3 Entries: 18**  
**11/6/99 Denver, CO Judge: Conrad Meinert**

<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Glenda Pullum	RH Finch cock		

**Finch Soc of San Diego Co. Exhibitors: 10 Entries: 52**  
**11/6/99 Del Mar, CA Judge: Julie Duimstra**

<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Sally Huntington	White-cheeked Bulbul		6
2	Lea Phillips	RH Gouldian		5
3	Sally Huntington	Cream-cheeked White Zebra hen	D-6745-98	4
4	Sally Huntington	Button Quail	L-100-99	3
5	Sally Huntington	Firefinch		2
6	Clara Gontero	Blk-cheeked Waxbill Pr.		1

**Georgia Cagebird Society Exhibitors: 7 Entries: 41**  
**11/6/99 Atlanta, GA Judge: Armando Lee**

<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Cecil Gunby	Parson cock		5
2	Cecil Gunby	Bali Mynah		4
3	Cecil Gunby	Pied RH Parrot Finch		3
4	Cathy Palmer	Blue Cap Waxbill		2
5	Billy Cochran	Strawberry Finch		1

**Missouri Cagebird Club Exhibitors: 11 Entries: 84**  
**11/6/99 Eureka, MO Judge: Martha Wigmore**

<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Tom Rood	Fawn Zebra Pr.	D-2166-97/D-4508-98	8
2	Darla Dandre	Pekin Robin		7
3	Bonnie Leader	RH Parrot Finch		6
4	Jackie Meyer	Cream Zebra hen	3861-99	5
5	Darla Dandre	Indian Hill Myhan		4
6	Darla Dandre	Orange Bishop Weaver		3
7	Dennis Burhans	Chocolate Self Society		2
8	Pat Kane	European Goldfinch		1

<b>Texas Bird Breeder Fanciers</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 5</b>	<b>Entries: 75</b>	
<b>11/6/99 Temple, TX</b>		<b>Judge: Charlie Anchor</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	H & M McBrayer	Spreo Starling		7
2	H & M McBrayer	Parson		6
3	H & M McBrayer	Violet-eared Waxbill		5
4	Donna Malloryfield	Cutthroat		4
5	H & M McBrayer	Diamond Sparrow		3
6	Donna Malloryfield	Choc & White Society		2
7	H & M McBrayer	Lilac Breasted Roller		1

<b>Grtr Pittsburgh CB Show</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 5</b>	<b>Entries: 22</b>	
<b>11/6/99 Monroville, PA</b>		<b>Judge: Christine Voronovich</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Margie Jonnet	Ringneck Dove		
2	Jamie Felix	Orange Bishop Weaver		2
3	Steve Patrick	Strawberry Finch		

<b>Rocky Mtn Soc of Aviculture</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 3</b>	<b>Entries: 18</b>	
<b>11/7/99 Denver, CO</b>		<b>Judge: Harold Bowles</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Anna Sinclair	Chestnut Crested Society	E-1152-99	

<b>Finch Soc of San Diego Co.</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 11</b>	<b>Entries: 60</b>	
<b>11/7/99 Del Mar, CA</b>		<b>Judge: Brian Mandarich</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Rosemary Flamion	Bearded Reedling	J-92-88	
2	Sally Huntington	Purple Grenadier	D-2006-96	
3	Sally Huntington	Firefinch		
4	Sally Huntington	Button Quail	L-100-99	
5	Rosemary Flamion	Star Finch		
6	Sally Huntington	Zebra Finch		
7	Rosemary Flamion	RH Finch		

<b>National Cagebird Show</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 42</b>	<b>Entries: 278</b>	
<b>11/19/99 Hosted by Int'l Canary Society</b>		<b>Judge: Paul Williams</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Steve Hoppin	Senegal Firefinch cock	B-458-96	15
2	Bob Rittman	Chocolate Self Society	E-32-97	14
3	H & M McBrayer	Violet-eared Waxbill cock		13
4	Martha Wigmore	Fawn Zebra cock		12
5	Kerri McCoy	Parson Finch		11
6	Cecil Gunby	Bali Mynah		10
7	Gunther Giesecke	Greenfinch		
8	Steve Hoppin	Black Crested Finch	E-361-98	8

9	H & M McBrayer	Blue Cap Waxbill	7
10	Sally Huntington	White-checked Bulbul	6

<b>CT Canary &amp; Finch Club</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 9</b>	<b>Entries: 47</b>	
<b>11/13/99 Hartford, CT</b>		<b>Judge: Christine Voronovich</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Kathy Vieweg	Lavender Finch	D-2347-98	5
2	Kathy Vieweg	Bicheno Pr.	C-298-99/F-9714	4
3	Judy Taylor	Pintail Whydah		
4	Laura Tinker	RH Parrot Finch		2
5	Judy Taylor	Cuban Melodious		

<b>Santa Clara Valley C&amp;E Club</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 8</b>	<b>Entries: 65</b>	
<b>11/27/99 Santa Clara, CA</b>		<b>Judge: Julie Duimstra</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Rich & Jeri Pizzuro	Black Bellied Firefinch		7
2	Rosemary Flamion	Bearded Reedling hen	J-92-98	6
3	Rich & Jeri Pizzuro	Lavender Finch		5
4	Rich & Jeri Pizzuro	Diamond Sparrow		4
5	Maria Wyles	Zebra		
6	Steve Payne	White-hooded Nun Pr.	D-13002/C-1609	2
7	Rich & Jeri Pizzuro	Chocolate Self Society		1

<b>Nat'l Inst. Of Red-Orange Canaries</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 11</b>	<b>Entries: 69</b>	
<b>12/4/99 Grove Village, IL</b>		<b>Judge: Steve Hoppin</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Martha Wigmore	Fawn Zebra cock	D-3343-99	7
2	Ellie Merriman	Seagreen Parrot Finch hen	N1-111-99	6
3	Martha Wigmore	Grey Zebra coek	D-3363-99	5
4	Darla Dandre	Green/Blue Glossy Starling		4
5	Darla Dandre	Bronze-winged Mannikin	GC-58-95	3
6	Darla Dandre	White Ringneck Dove	S-40-99	2
7	Darla Dandre	Indian Hill Mynah		1

<b>OPA</b>		<b>Exhibitors: 12</b>	<b>Entries: 80</b>	
<b>12/4/99 Guaynabo, PR</b>		<b>Judge: Jacky Civitarese</b>		
<i>Award</i>	<i>Exhibitor</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Band #</i>	<i>Points</i>
1	Miguel Navarro	CFW Zebra	D-11254-99	8
2	Ramon Fernandez	Chocolate Society		
3	Luis Vasquez	Indian Silverbill		
4	Raul Diaz	Orange Bishop Weaver		
5	Alexander Rivera	Blue Cap Waxbill		
6	Ramon Fernandez	Cherry Finch		
7	Ramon Fernandez	RH Parrot Finch		
8	Luis Vasquez	Saffron Finch		

End

## Mousebirds

by Kara Black <http://www.angelfire.com/tn/owlfinches/index.html>

I guess I was under the impression that the only pet birds available were parrots. If you went to the bird shows in the Nashville area, you could easily see how I had come to that conclusion. There were a sprinkling of canaries and budgies, a dusting of finches, and a full-blown infestation of larger squawking birds that frankly overwhelmed this former finch fanatic. Oh sure, I had had the obligatory cockatiel back in my college days, but had since moved on to finches in my early thirties, opting for a more quiet and less demanding exchange between pet and owner.

One day online I stumbled upon an article on mousebirds. How simply delicious: here was a creature with all the charm, affection, and personality of my cockatiel, if not more, and none of the noise, a marketing coup if ever there was one. I rejoiced for every neglected cockatiel whose cage had been relegated to a dark closet or an outside location somewhere only to scream out of the earshot of its owner.

Going through a divorce has a way of simplifying your life, and mine was no exception. I was eager to get back to the basics of avian husbandry. Breeding finches had evolved from a delight into a burden. I had become more concerned with producing babies rather than marveling at their creation. I was eager to return to the peaceful days in which hours were spent just watching my birds, much to the neglect of rest of my life, (and I wonder why my marriage didn't work!). I was tickled to finally find someone willing to trade several Pekin Robins and a pair of Speckled Mousebirds for all of my finches. Eagerly I awaited the arrival of my shipment.

I had once read that mousebirds were, "superficially unremarkable in appearance": how truly appropriate. Named more for the way in which they creep and crawl rather than for the way they look, mousebirds are visually similar to cockatiels but much drabber in color. Sexually monomorphic, (the sexes do not differ in appearance), they are 11 to 14 inches with a long, stiff tail two thirds of their total length. There are several other species like the Red-Faced, Red Backed, and Blue-Naped Mousebirds, but I was obtaining the more common Speckled Mousebirds.

Mousebirds, or Colies, are considered prolific breeders, and I had high expectations. Either loving or fighting, I would sometimes catch the male feeding the hen, or the hen feverishly chasing the male, and when they were doing neither, they kept out of sight. They preferred a cup-shaped nest located in a low lying shrub. The male would hop methodically several times next to the hen, who would then allow him to mount her. Laying anywhere from 4 to 6 eggs, they began the 17 to 19 day incubation period with the first egg. Despite their aggressive courtship and subsequent mating, my mousebirds only laid two sets of two eggs, both of which were in-

fertile.

When I placed them in the quarantine cage, they eagerly scrambled for the mashed fruit that I had prepared for them. How very exciting for me to see a bird actually hold their food and chew it, (much like my Uncle Arnie did after he had taken his dentures out for their nightly soaking). They absolutely loved bananas, and anything soft, or cooked, came in a strong second. According to Martin Vince in his, must-have book, *Softbills*, they are considered frugivores that do well on a diet similar to the fruit based omnivores, but require a lower protein intake. He recommends a diet of 55 percent fruit, 30 percent softbill pellets, 10 percent hard-boiled eggs, with 5 percent vegetables and greens. Due to their penchant for vegetation, Colies are considered pests in their native Africa, where they live in dry bushland up to the forest's edge. None of the species are considered endangered, but farmers and gardeners do not look fondly upon them. I can certainly understand, as they made short order of my newly emerged fern fronds and totally emaciated a ficus tree by summer's end.

After I moved to my new, "single again", home, I made sure I had enough money to build my lifelong dream of an outside aviary. It was a triangular shaped cage, attached to one corner of my deck, that was made out of pressure treated 2 by 2's and vinegar-treated galvanized wire. It measured 14 feet on its longest side and was 9 feet high. I had numerous plantings, real and otherwise, and several perching sites made from sticks placed between taut wires. One third of the cage butted up against my house with a two-foot roof overhang and a vinyl siding wall. I used a bug zapper during the summer months for an endless supply of insects. Ignored for the most part by the mousebirds, the assortment of moths was relished by the Pekin Robins. I made a small pond from the upside-down top of a plastic garbage can that I balanced on a large plastic plant lid. An old recirculating pump made a delightful babbling noise that, when turned on, encouraged all except the mousebirds to take a bath. They never bathed in water and certainly didn't drink it either, but I later learned that the mousebirds were taking very extravagant dust baths in the colored softbill pellets that I had mistakenly believed I was providing for nourishment purposes.

My mousebirds loved the aviary. When they were exceptionally happy, you could hear them making their cute little squeaks and "giggles", certainly well below urban decibel guidelines. I never saw much of them though. Whenever I walked by the aviary they would scurry to the top corner of the cage. Their feet were more or less level with their shoulders and they remained motionless until I left. Most of their time was spent either lounging in the hanging basket, perching vertically between the wires, or scuttling rapidly about the ground. Remember in the movie *Alien*, when the embryo springs from one the crewmember's chest and scurries across the floor? For some reason, my Mousebirds seem to remind me of that image. At night they prefer to sleep in groups, and my pair were often found cling-

ing torpid together in tete a tete fashion appearing much like a Rorschach inkblot test. In an effort to conserve energy, they allow their body temperatures to drop during the night. As a result, the next morning you could find them fluffed up in the first sun-kissed corners of the flight, much like the tumble-dried Pink Panther cartoon character I used to love as a child.

By November, the temps occasionally dropped into the thirties and I brought the mousers inside. They never seemed to mind the cold, but I soon became quite annoyed with their ruckus poop and banana slinging. I rushed to head off future wall scraping Saturdays by the timely placement of a bamboo print wallpaper, but the sight of my fruit-flung room overwhelmed me. One week of this and I was ready to place them in the witness protection program. I never said that I had mastered the spiritual gift patience.

As I continue my research into aviculture, I am further inspired by all of the unique species there are, and I am eager to see which will be the next inhabitant to grace my aviary.

End

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising (display ads), Inside cover \$300/yr or \$70/issue. Full Page \$200/yr or \$50/issue. 1/2 page \$120/yr or \$30/issue. 1/4 page \$80/yr or \$20/issue. Web site advertising \$100/yr, \$50/yr for Inside cover advertisers. Classified ads are \$.25 per word for NFSS members and \$.30 per word for non-NFSS members. Classifieds are also posted to the web site at no additional charge.

Wanted: Black Crested Cardinal Finches single or pairs. Need new bloodlines for 1999 related pairs. Silver Eared Mesia male needed for single hen or pair. Felipe Bonilla, 561-967-1032

Wanted: New Bloodlines-(Forbes) Blue Breasted Parrot Finches, Fairy Bluebirds, Red Crested Cardinals, Luzon Bleeding Heart Doves, Cape Doves, and Yellow/Red Diamond Doves.  
Daniel Almaguer, 407-894-3808 or DRAfinch@aol.com

I'd like to find some young Forbes (E. tricolor) for sale or trade. I now have 11 fledged (parent raised, YES!!) Forbes for sale or trade and need some unrelated stock. Steve Heller, 516-454-0367





## THE 2000 NATIONAL FINCH & SOFTBILL SOCIETY CENSUS FORM

The NFSS Annual Census continues to be a valuable service for finch and softbill breeders. Through the voluntary census, NFSS is able to identify breeders of finches and softbills being bred in captivity. Unfortunately, the current status of bird importations has had a detrimental effect on breeders trying to obtain new bloodlines. The census results that are published in the NFSS Bulletin, provide the necessary information to assist various breeders in locating avian stock, locating others with shared interests, and continuing preservation efforts. Please take a few minutes to review and fill out this census form. The information you share with your fellow NFSS members will assist aviculture and help preserve finch and softbill species in captivity in the years to come. **Deadline: June 4th, 2000.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

NFSS Membership # : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Daniel Almaguer NFSS Census Manager**

**P.O. Box 533015, Orlando, Florida 32853-3015**



SPECIES	M	F	U
Barbet, Bearded ( <i>Icthyophaga nuda</i> )			
Bluebird, Fairy ( <i>Irena puella</i> )			
Bulbul, Black Crested ( <i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i> )			
Bulbul, Red Whiskered ( <i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i> )			
Bulbul, Red Vented ( <i>Pycnonotus cafer</i> )			
Button Quail, Chinese Painted (Normal) ( <i>Excalfactoria chinensis</i> )			
Button Quail, Chinese Painted, (Silver) ( <i>Excalfactoria chinensis</i> )			
Button Quail, Chinese Painted, (White) ( <i>Excalfactoria chinensis</i> )			
Canaries			
Canary, Wild			
Canary, Serinus			
Cardinal, Black Crested Finch ( <i>Lophospingus pusillus</i> )			
Cardinal, Red Crested (Brazilian) ( <i>Paroaria coronata</i> )			
Cherry Finch (Plumhead) ( <i>Aidemosyne modesta</i> )			
Chlorophonia, Blue-Naped ( <i>Chlorophonia cyanea</i> )			
Crimson Seed Cracker ( <i>Pyrenestes sanguineus</i> )			
Cuban Melodious Finch (Cuban Grassquit) ( <i>Tiaris canora</i> )			
Cuban Olive Finch ( <i>Tiaris olivacea</i> )			
Diamond Sparrow (Firetail) ( <i>Stagonoplura guttata</i> )			
Dove, Bleeding-Heart Bartlett's ( <i>Gallicolumba criniger</i> )			
Dove, Bleeding-Heart Luzon ( <i>Gallicolumba luzonica</i> )			
Dove, Cape Masked (Namaqua) ( <i>Oena capensis</i> )			
Dove, Diamond - Blue ( <i>Geopelia cuneata</i> )			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Dove, Diamond - Cinnamon ( <i>geopelia cuneata</i> )			
Dove, Diamond - Red ( <i>geopelia cuneata</i> )			
Dove, Diamond - Silver ( <i>geopelia cuneata</i> )			
Dove, Diamond -Yellow ( <i>geopelia cuneata</i> )			
Dove, Fruit Black Capped ( <i>ptilinopus melanospila</i> )			
Dove, Ringneck Albino ( <i>streptopelia risoria</i> )			
Dove, Ringneck Barbary-Wild Type ( <i>streptopelia risoria</i> )			
Dove, Ringneck Tangerine ( <i>streptopelia risoria</i> )			
Dove, Ringneck White ( <i>streptopelia risoria</i> )			
Dove, Tamborine ( <i>turtur tympanistria</i> )			
Dove, Zebra ( <i>geopelia striata</i> )			
European, Chaffinch ( <i>fringilla coelebs</i> )			
European Goldfinch ( <i>carduelis carduelis</i> )			
European Greenfinch ( <i>chloris chloris</i> )			
Finch, Cutthroat (Ribbon) ( <i>amadina fasciata</i> )			
Finch, Cutthroat (Ribbon) Pied Finch,			
Finch, Hawfinch ( <i>coscocthraustes coccothraustes</i> )			
Finch, Red Headed ( <i>amadina erythrocephala</i> )			
Finch, Pallas Rose Finch ( <i>carpodacus roseus</i> )			
Firefinch, Black Bellied ( <i>lagonosticta rara</i> )			
Firefinch, Black-faced ( <i>lagonosticta larvata</i> )			
Firefinch, Jamesons ( <i>lagonosticta rhodopareia</i> )			
Firefinch, Senegal (Red Billed ) ( <i>lagonosticta senegala</i> )			
Goldfinch, Siberian ( <i>carduelis carduelis major</i> )			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Gouldian, Normal (chloebia gouldiae)			
Gouldian, Black Head, Purple Breast			
Gouldian, Orange Head			
Gouldian, Red Head/Purple Breast			
Gouldian, Black Head/White Breast			
Gouldian, Orange Head/White Breast			
Gouldian, Red Head/White Breast			
Gouldian, Black Head/ Purple Breast/ Yellow Body			
Gouldian, Orange Head/ Purple Breast/ Yellow Body			
Gouldian, Red Head/ Lilac Breast/ Yellow Body			
Gouldian, Red Head/ Purple Breast/ Yellow Body			
Gouldian, Red Head/ White Breast/ Yellow Body			
Gouldian, Blue Body			
Gouldian, Black Head/ Purple Breast/ Blue Body			
Gouldian, Black Head/ White Breast/ Blue Body			
Gouldian, Red Head/ Purple Breast/ Blue Body			
Gouldian, Red Head/ White Breast/ Blue Body			
Gouldian, Silver Body			
Gouldian, Black Head, White Breast/ Silver Body			
Gouldian, Red Head, Silver Body			
Gouldian, Red Head, Lilac Breast, Silver Body			
Gouldian, Red Head, Purple Breast, Silver Body			
Gouldian, Dilute			
Gouldian, Black Head/ Dilute			
Gouldian, Black Head, Pastel/Powder Blue Body/ Dilute			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Gouldian, Black Head, Purple Breast, Pastel/Dilute Blue Body (single factor silver)			
Gouldian, Orange Head/ Dilute			
Gouldian, Red Head, Pastel/ Powder Blue Body/ Dilute			
Gouldian, Red Head/ Dilute			
Gouldian, Orange Head/ White Breast Dilute			
Grassfinch, Masked ( <i>poephila personata</i> )			
Grassfinch, Parson (Black Throated) Finch ( <i>poephila cincta</i> )			
Grassfinch, Parson Cream ( <i>poephila cincta</i> )			
Grassfinch, Shaftail (Heck's) Long-tailed Finch ( <i>poephila acuticauda</i> )			
Grassfinch, Shaftail Creme (Heck's) ( <i>poephila acuticauda</i> )			
Grassfinch, Shaftail, Fawn (Heck's) ( <i>poephila acuticauda</i> )			
Grassfinch, Shaftail White (Heck's) ( <i>poephila acuticauda</i> )			
Gray Singing Finch ( <i>serinus leucopygia</i> )			
Green Singing Finch ( <i>serinus mozambicus</i> )			
Honeycreeper, Red Legged ( <i>cyanerpes cyaneus</i> )			
Honeycreeper, Yellow Legged ( <i>cyanerpes caeruleus</i> )			
Hornbill, Von Der Decken's <i>Tockus deckeni</i> ( <i>jacksoni</i> )			
Hummingbird, Jamaica Mango ( <i>anthracothorax mango</i> )			
Hummingbird, Western Streamertail ( <i>trochilus polytmus</i> )			
Mannikin, African Silverbill ( <i>lonchura cantans</i> )			
Mannikins, Black & White ( <i>lonchura bicolor</i> )			
Mannikin, Bronze Winged ( <i>lonchura cucullata</i> )			
Mannikin Chestnut Breasted ( <i>lonchura c. castaneothorax</i> )			
Mannikin, Grand Valley ( <i>lonchura teerinki</i> )			

# NFSS Raffle

**Check here for your chance  
to win. See page next page  
for tickets and page 38 for  
more exciting details.**

**How it works:**

Pull out this page containing the raffle tickets.

Fill in your name, phone #, NFSS #, and signature.

Include a check in US Funds in the amount due made out to  
NFSS.

Cost per ticket is \$1

Mail completed raffle tickets and check to:

**RAFFLE TICKETS**

Kerri McCoy

NFSS Fundraising Coordinator

3327 Aberdeen Avenue

Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7M 3Y4

**OR**

Harry Bryant

NFSS Webmaster

37212 Butternut Ridge

Elyria, Ohio 44035-8544

**Questions?**

[kerri.mccoy@sympatico.ca](mailto:kerri.mccoy@sympatico.ca)

or phone (905) 319-0680

**NFSS Raffle \$1.00 (US)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle, I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Officers and Board Members of the NFSS, and their family members, are not eligible for this raffle.

**NFSS Raffle \$1.00 (US)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle, I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Officers and Board Members of the NFSS, and their family members, are not eligible for this raffle.

**NFSS Raffle \$1.00 (US)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle, I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Officers and Board Members of the NFSS, and their family members, are not eligible for this raffle.



**NFSS Raffle    \$1.00 (US)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle, I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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**NFSS Raffle    \$1.00 (US)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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**NFSS Raffle    \$1.00 (US)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am a current NFSS member and I understand that should I be the winner of the NFSS Raffle, I assume all costs associated with shipping should it be deemed necessary and that NFSS and donator are not liable for any losses or illnesses that may occur.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Officers and Board Members of the NFSS, and their family members, are not eligible for this raffle.

**Fundraising Raffle #1 Prizes****Pair of Forhes Parrot Finches** (Donated by Vince Moase)**Pair of Painted Firetail Finches** (Donated by Kerri McCoy)**Pair of Japanese Society Finches** (Ino hen and split Ino chocolate male) (Donated by Garrie Landry)Rules and Regulations:

Raffle is open to NFSS members ONLY. Your membership must be current for you to be eligible to win. (Not a member? Click here for an application to join us!)

You may enter as many times as you would like, however, you can only win one prize per raffle. Photocopies of tickets may be made, or for convenience additional tickets are available for printing at the NFSS Website

Make sure to write your name, phone number, NFSS number and signature under disclaimer on EACH raffle ticket. Tickets mailed in without above information will not be included in raffle. Tickets must be signed to be valid.

First name drawn will have first choice of birds offered for raffle; 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> will follow suit. Winners will be notified by phone and will have their names posted on the NFSS Website.

Winner is responsible for any and all costs associated with shipping birds if that is deemed necessary. Particulars regarding shipping will be worked out with donor and raffle winner.

Due to the generosity of the donators, losses that may or may not be incurred during shipping and upon receipt will be at the winner's risk.

NFSS assumes no liability whatsoever in the event casualty or illness in raffle items occurs.

Raffle #1 will run during March/April and May/June issues of NFSS Bulletin. Drawing date for Raffle #1 will be on July 1, 2000.

Raffle #2 will run during July/August and Sept/October issues of NFSS Bulletin. Winners for Raffle #2 will be announced at the National Cage Bird Show in mid-November. Exact date of drawing forthcoming. Items available for Raffle #2 will also be forthcoming.

Officers and Board Members of the NFSS, and their family members, are not eligible for this raffle.

Questions?

kerri.mccoy@sympatico.ca  
or phone (905) 319-0680

SPECIES	M	F	U
Mannikin, Grand Valley ( <i>lonchura teerinki</i> )			
Mannikin, Grey Crown (Headed) ( <i>lonchura caniceps</i> )			
Mannikin, Indian Silverbill ( <i>lonchura malabarica</i> )			
Mannikin, Tri-colored Nun ( <i>lonchura malacca</i> )			
Mannikin, White Hooded Nun ( <i>lonchura maja</i> )			
Mesia, Silver Eared ( <i>mesia argenteauris</i> or <i>liothrix argenteauris</i> )			
Mousebirds, Blue Naped ( <i>colius macrourus</i> )			
Mousebirds, Red Faced ( <i>colius indicus</i> )			
Mousebirds, Speckled ( <i>colius striatus</i> )			
Munia, Green Avadavat (Green Munia) ( <i>amandava "stictospiza" formosa</i> )			
Munia, Java Sparrow (Rice Bird) ( <i>lonchura oryzivora</i> )			
Munia, Java Sparrow (Rice Bird), Fawn ( <i>lonchura oryzivora</i> )			
Munia, Spice Finch (Nutmeg) ( <i>lonchura punctulata</i> )			
Munia, Strawberry (Red Avadavat or Red Munia) ( <i>amandav amandava</i> )			
Munia, Strawberry (Chinese or Oriental) ( <i>amandav punlcea</i> )			
Munia, Timor Sparrow ( <i>lonchura fuscata</i> )			
Mynahs, Golden Crested ( <i>ampeliceps coronatus</i> )			
Mynah, Indian Greater ( <i>gracula religiosa</i> )			
Mynah, Rothschild's ( <i>leucopsar rothschildi</i> )			
Owl (Bicheno) Finch, White Rump ( <i>poephila bichenovii</i> )			
Owl (Bicheno) Finch, Black Rump ( <i>poephila bichenovii</i> )			
Painted Finch Painted Finch ( <i>emblema bella</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Bamboo ( <i>erythrura hyperythra</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Tricolored (Blue Breasted or Forbes) ( <i>erythrura tricolor</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Blue Faced ( <i>erythrura trichroa</i> )			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Parrot Finch, Blue Faced (Lutino) ( <i>erythrura trichroa</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Red Headed ( <i>erythrura psittacea</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Red Headed, Pied ( <i>erythrura psittacea</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Red Headed, Seagreen ( <i>erythrura psittacea</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Peales ( <i>erythrura pealei</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Pintailed Nonpariels ( <i>erythrura prasina</i> )			
Parrot Finch, Pintailed Nonpariels (Yellow)			
Plover, Spur Winged ( <i>vanellus spinosus</i> )			
Purple Grenadier ( <i>uraeginthus ianthinogaster</i> )			
Pytilia, Aurora, Red Faced (Niassa) ( <i>cryptospiza</i> )			
Pytilia, Crimson Winged ( <i>crypospiza reichenoovii</i> )			
Pytilia, Green Winged (Melba Finch) ( <i>pytilia melba</i> )			
Pytilia, Orange Winged ( <i>pytilia afra</i> )			
Quail Finch ( <i>ortygospiza atricollis</i> )			
Reedling, Bearded (Tit) ( <i>panurus biarmicus</i> )			
Robin Pekin, (Nightingale) ( <i>leiothrix lutea</i> )			
Roller, Blue Bellied ( <i>coracias cyanogaster</i> )			
Saffron Finch ( <i>sicalis flaveola</i> )			
Seed eater, South American ( <i>plco plat</i> )			
Siskin, Black Headed ( <i>carduelis notata</i> )			
Sivia, Golden			
Society Finch, Bengalese ( <i>Lonchura striata</i> var. <i>domestica</i> )			
Society Finch, Chestnut & White			
Society Finch, Chocolate & White			
Society Finch, Self Chocolate			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Society Finch, Self Chocolate			
Society Finch, Dilute Self Chocolate			
Society Finch, Cream			
Society Finch, Fawn			
Society Finch, Fawn & White			
Society Finch, Fawn & White/ Dilute			
Society Finch, Self Fawn			
Society Finch, Crested			
Society Finch, Self Chestnut Crested			
Society Finch, Chocolate & White Crested			
Society Finch, Self Chocolate Crested			
Society Finch, Fawn & White Crested			
Society Finch, Fawn Dilute			
Society Finch, Self White			
Society Finch, White Crested			
Society Finch, White Pied Crested			
Society Finch, White Pied			
Society Finch, Albino			
Society Finch, Split Albino			
Society Finch, Chocolate Pied			
Society Finch, Clearwing fawn self			
Society Finch, Dark eyed white			
Society Finch, European Black Browns			
Society Finch, Fawn Pied			
Society Finch. Japanese Bonten frill self			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Society Finch, Japanese Chiyoda bonten frills self			
Society Finch, Japanese Chiyoda frills self			
Society Finch, Japanese chuunagon frill self			
Society Finch, Japanese Pearl self			
Society Finch, Japanese Split Pearl self			
Society Finch, Silver Self			
Society Finch, White Pied			
Sparrow, Golden Song ( <i>passer luteus</i> )			
Star Finch (Isabelle) ( <i>neochmia ruficauda</i> ) "Isabelle"			
Star Finch (Red Faced) ( <i>neochmia ruficauda</i> )			
Star Finch (Pied) ( <i>neochmia ruficauda</i> ) "pied"			
Star Finch (Yellow Faced) ( <i>neochmia ruficauda</i> ) "yellow"			
Starling, Royal ( <i>cosmopsarus regius</i> )			
Starling, Superb (Spreo) ( <i>spreo superbus</i> )			
Sunbird, Beautiful ( <i>nectarinia puichella</i> )			
Sunbird, Golden Winged ( <i>nectarinia reichenowi</i> )			
Sunbird, Scarlet Chested ( <i>nectarinia senegalensis</i> )			
Tanager, Blue-Necked ( <i>tangara cyanicollis</i> )			
Tanager, Opal-Rumped ( <i>tangara velia</i> )			
Tanager, Paradise ( <i>tangara chelensis</i> )			
Tanager, Silver Beaked ( <i>ramphocelus carbo</i> )			
Tanager, Spangled ( <i>tangara nigroviridis</i> )			
Tanager, Turquoise ( <i>tangara Mexicana</i> )			
Tanager, Violet Euphonia ( <i>euphonia violacea</i> )			
Tanager, Yellow-Bellied ( <i>tangara zanthogastra</i> )			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Thrush, Shama ( <i>copsychus malabaricus indicus</i> )			
Thrush, Red Wing Laughing ( <i>tharrgarrulax</i> )			
Thrush, Black Throat Laughing ( <i>tharrgarrulax</i> )			
Toucan, Sulpher Breasted ( <i>ramphastos sulfuratus</i> )			
Toucanette Emerald ( <i>alaucorhynchus haematopygius</i> )			
Turaco, Guinea (Persa) ( <i>touraro persa</i> )			
Turaco, Red Crested ( <i>tauraco erythrolophus</i> )			
Troupial, ( <i>icterus icterus</i> )			
Twinspot, Dybowski ( <i>euchistospiza dybowskii</i> )			
Twinspot, Green Backed ( <i>mandingoa nitidula</i> )			
Twinspot Peter's ( <i>hypargos niveoguttatus</i> )			
Waxbill, Black Cheeked ( <i>estrilda erythronotos</i> )			
Waxbill, Black Crowned ( <i>estrilda nonnula</i> )			
Waxbill, Blue Capped, Cordon Bleu ( <i>uraeginthus cyanocephalus</i> )			
Waxbill, Cordon Bleu (Red Cheeked) ( <i>uraeginthus bengalus</i> )			
Waxbill, Gold Breasted ( <i>amandava subflava</i> )			
Waxbill, Lavender ( <i>estrilda caerulescens</i> )			
Waxbill, Orange Cheek ( <i>estrilda melpoda</i> )			
Waxbill, Red Browed Firetail, (Sydney) ( <i>aginata temporalis</i> )			
Waxbill, Red Eared (Black Rumped) ( <i>estrilda troglodytes</i> )			
Waxbill, St. Helena (Common) ( <i>estrilda astrild</i> )			
Waxbill, Swees (Yellow bellied or Dufresne's) ( <i>estrilda melanotis</i> )			
Waxbill, Violet Eared ( <i>granatina(uraeginthus) granatina</i> )			
Weaver, Orange Bishop (Red) ( <i>euplectes orix</i> )			

SPECIES	M	F	U
Weaver, Scaly Crowned ( <i>sporopipes squamifrons</i> )			
White Eye, Zosterop Indian ( <i>zosterops palpabrosa</i> )			
Whydah, Paradise ( <i>vidua paradisaea</i> )			
Whydah, Pintailed ( <i>vidua macroura</i> )			
Whydah Queen ( <i>vidua regia</i> )			
Yunias Whiskered ( <i>yuhina</i> )			
Zebra Finch, Grey (Normal) ( <i>poephilia guttata</i> )			
Zebra Finch, Black Cheeked			
Zebra Finch, Black Faced			
Zebra Finch, Black Breasted			
Zebra Finch, Cream			
Zebra Finch, Chestnut Flanked White			
Zebra Finch, Fawn			
Zebra Finch, Florida Fancy			
Zebra Finch, Fawn Penguin			
Zebra Finch, Fawn Cheeks			
Zebra Finch, Pied			
Zebra Finch, Silver			
Zebra Finch, White			
Zebra Finch/ English			
Zebra Finch/ English, Chestnut Flanked White			
Zebra Finch/ English, Grey Cheeked White			
Zebra Finch/ English, Fawn			
Zebra Finch/ English, Light Back			
Zebra Finch/ English, Orange Breasted			
Zebra Finch/ English, Silver (recessive)			
Zebra Finch/ English, White Cheeked Silver			



## **Securing Your Aviary From Outside Predators**

by Billy Cochran

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The only time I had a run in with wild animals invading my outside aviary was about 5 years ago. It was my second year of having an outside aviary and was really my second year of breeding finches.

This aviary was 12' X 12' made with 2"x4"x8' studs and wire mesh. The studs were laid directly on the ground. I let the wire mesh hang past the wood onto the ground. Next, I dug a trench stretching the length of the aviary, and laid the overlapping mesh into it. Last, I filled in the trench with the dirt I had just dug up. This would prevent small varmints from digging their way underneath and into the aviary.

The placement of the aviary was so that it was bolted into a 60-year-old barn. There was and still is a severe crack in one of the walls of the barn. Wouldn't you know that the best placement for the aviary would be on the wall with the crack. I filled this crack with pebbles and rocks to the point that no finches could squeeze through and get out. The walls of the barn are made of concrete cinder blocks. Cinder blocks have two openings, for pouring concrete in. This is done to stabilize the foundation of the building. There is no concrete used in the blocks of my barn.

One day, I came home from school and went into the kitchen to get a glass of Mountain Dew. Some people have their coffee; I have my Mountain Dew. Well, I look out the window, and find these unusual but very nice looking birds fluttering around in the bushes. I was thinking to myself, "Man, these are some odd looking birds." One was gray and white and the other was fawn and white, both being pied. I took a closer look, and the gray pied bird had a crest on its' head. Again, I took a closer look, and lo and behold, they were my zebras. I go out to the deck to find 11 zebras loose, just flying around having a good old time. Fortunately, after a few hours I was able to catch all 11. How I caught them, is another article in itself.

I searched the entire aviary to find where these suckers could have gotten out. I know what you are thinking and NO, it wasn't from the crack in the barn wall. They found their way out through the small spaces between the wood, and the barn wall. These openings were no larger than the width of my pinky finger. I proceeded to cover every little opening with 1/4 x 1/4-inch wire mesh. That did the trick. To this day, I haven't had the joy of running through the neighborhood, looking like an idiot, and trying to catch little

finches that got loose. I wrote this section, because even though I thought the size was so small that the finches wouldn't escape, I didn't take into consideration on what could enter the aviary through these small openings. By that I mean snakes, mice, and whatever else that wants access to the birds.

One day, in the same aviary, I had three zebra chicks fledge too early, two of which were fawns, and the other a CFW. Since they decided to leave the nest before learning how to become good flyers, they occupied the lower branches of the sitting tree. A couple of days after they had fledged, I could not find them anywhere. I looked in the rock crevices, bushes, grass, and even in the corners of the aviary, and still no sign of them. They were nowhere to be found. I checked one last place, the feeding post. This occupied the space where an old window used to sit. Remember earlier when I said that the walls of the barn are made of cinder blocks with two openings in them, well the wood that made up the feeding post did not completely cover those openings. That left a 3/8-inch opening to deal with. I got a flashlight and looked down the openings to see if the zebras fell down into them. What I found was not three tiny zebras, but a four-foot long copper head snake. I ran and got a container filled with gas, hoping to irritate the snake to the point of it coming out of the wall. That did not work. Then, I grabbed a sledgehammer and from the inside of the barn, I broke through the wall. I could see the snake crawling around. I went and got some tree branch cutters hoping to cut it in half. I would have done so if the blades were not dull. I merely scraped the snake. I finally got hold of it good enough and drug it outside. There, I chopped its head off and threw it away. If I had just cut the snake in half, it still would have the ability of giving me a lethal bite. Even though the snake is dead, nerves are still active, enabling it to bite.

I had an old girlfriend to call me in the midst of this. I told her that I was killing this snake, because I found it in my aviary. She drove to my house and found me in the backyard, with my bare hands, ripping the snake in half. She thought it was hilarious, but I was enraged. There I found three gold open aluminum bands, which belonged to the missing fledglings, shining through the lining of the snakes stomach.

Now to the part you all have been waiting for. How do you keep invaders out of the aviary?

Start by digging a trench about 1-2 feet in depth and 6 inches wide around the entire parameter of the aviary. There, you can vertically lay wire mesh or metal sheathing or metal flashing. Then fill in the trench. This will help prevent anything from digging underneath and into the aviary. Next, from the inside of your aviary, dig about a foot deep and 1-2

feet out. Then lay wire mesh or sheathing down and refill the dirt. This should prevent the invaders from entering underneath. The reasons I protect my aviary in these ways are, because I like the natural look of grass and earth to be in there. But, if you don't care or don't feel like this method is for you; you can lay a concrete floor. I don't know of anything that can dig its way through that.

Those are some ways you can protect you aviary from outside invaders from underneath. Now lets take a look at the aviary itself. This part is much more simple than securing the bottom of the aviary. Start by inspecting the wire; are there any holes in it? This is a good way for birds to escape and critters to come in. Is the gap around the door too small or too big? You do not want the gap to be too small or the door will not close properly. Also, you do not want the gap to be too big as this could allow critters in and birds out. (When building an aviary, you always want an antechamber with two doors to prevent birds from escaping.) If the way you secure the wire mesh to aviary frame is by stapling it, always make sure the staples are in place and will not pop out. If the staples happen to pop out, then there is a chance an opening will appear between the frame and mesh. Secure those staples!! Last but not least, if your aviary is framed in with an existing building or a new one, be sure to cover the openings between the frame and building. Go the easy route like I did. Take extra pieces of wire mesh, cut them to length and width, and staple them around the openings. Like the old saying goes, "Better safe than sorry."

For the next issue, I will have gathered techniques from several breeders with outside aviaries, and compiled them into Part II of this article.

Billy Cochran, Birmingham, AL  
FINCHESnAL@aol.com

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## **NFSS Treasurer**

You will remember the NFSS Ballot did not contain a candidate for the Treasurer position for the 2000/2001 Board. If you can help in this area, or know of another member who can, please contact any of the Board members.

## Finches with Wishes

Mary K. Wilson  
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Mitchellville, Iowa 50169  
E-Mail: Birdystory@aol.com  
Ph: 515-957-0661

I received a call one night that my mother was going into the hospital for an unknown period of time. She had nine birds, and with me being the bird lover and breeder in the family, I was the logical choice for their care. I picked up her six finches and three parakeets not knowing if I was going to return them to my mother again. Thankfully, she's well enough so that she can care for her birds on her own, but the experience stays with me.

Open any bird magazine and there are plenty of ads for people willing to take in parrots. Pluckers, screamers, it doesn't matter as long as the bird is a cockatoo or a macaw. I hear very little about those unwanted smaller birds, such as parakeets, and yes, even finches. Watching my own finches raise their families and frolic in my aviaries, it is hard to comprehend why anyone wouldn't want to care for these little birds. Too many babies, illness, and loss of interest are all causes of lack of care and neglect.

The thought that there might be finches and softbills out there not receiving adequate attention is why I started the organization Finches With Wishes. We're a 503(c) non-profit organization dedicated to taking in unwanted finches. We take them into our homes and adopt them out to loving new residences. Our mission is also to educate people about finch care, such as why a finch needs to see a vet when it's sick, even if the bird only cost a few dollars.

The educational goals of Finches With Wishes and NFSS are very similar. It is my hope that these two organizations can work together to promote interest in and education about the finch keeping hobby. There is so much that we as existing finch owners can do to ensure that the finches in the hobby are taken care of by knowledgeable people interested in their conservation.

Finches With Wishes has adoption centers in several states, including Iowa, California, Indiana, Florida, and Massachusetts. We can be contacted on the internet at <http://www.finches.org/> or by mail at the address above. Let's work together to ensure all finches are in a good home.

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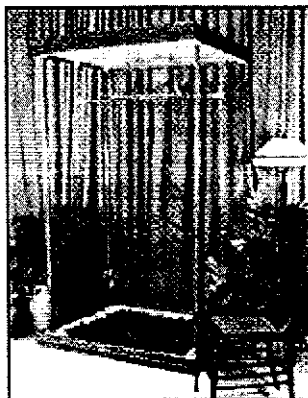
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## Affiliated Clubs 2000

STATE	CLUB NAME	DELEGATE	CONTACT#
CA	Capitol City Bird Society	Mariana Mejia lorogal@aol.com	916-452-2037
CA	Finch Society of San Diego	Sally Huntington huntington-center@worldnet.att.net	858-452-9423
GA	Southeast Bird Fanciers	Ginny Allen gndallen@earthlink.net	(none listed)
IL	Illini Bird Fanciers	Tom Rood tjrood@bmmhnet.com	217-774-5265
MD	Baltimore Bird Fanciers Dorothy Haynes	Dorothy Haynes drhaynes@ubmail.ubalt.edu	410-256-9326
MI	Great Lakes Avicultural Society	Diana Hugo hugo@iserv.net	616-842-0163
MO	Midwest Zebra and Society Finch Club	Nita Haas tjhaas@oasiskc.net	816-331-5285
MO	Missouri Cage Bird Club	Rich Dickman skdatl@accessus.net	636-928-3444
OR	Finch Connection Bird Club	Paula Hansen	503-581-8208
PR	Organizacion Puertorriquena De Aves Exoticas	Rafael Suarez Lix4me@aol.com	787-752-4433
TX	Fort Worth Bird Club	Clarence Culwell culwell5@flash.net	817-220-5568
Canada	Essex-Kent Cage Bird Soc.	Alfred Mion	519-948-6398

## Awards Manager

Ginny Allen has been the Awards Manager for more years than she originally agreed to, but has decided it is time for her to turn position over to another volunteer. If you think you may be able to help NFSS by filling this position please contact Ginny at gndallen@earthlink.net or (334) 749-7168. For more details.

## Shows and Events 2000

For corrections or additions, please contact me @ [stevepoe@mindspring.com](mailto:stevepoe@mindspring.com) or the address/phone on page 5 of this bulletin.

- Bird Mart: May 20 Baltimore Bird Fanciers, Tall Cedars Hall, Baltimore, MD  
9 AM - 4 PM Contact: Carol 410-239-1928
- Show: June 3 Illini Bird Fanciers Shelbyville, IL 4-H Building  
Panel Judge: Tom Rood
- Show: August 5 Midwest Zebra & Society Finch Location: TBA  
Panel Judge: Charlie Anchor
- Show: October 7 Fort Worth Bird Club Colleyville Community Center  
Panel Judge: Charlie Anchor
- Show: October 14-15 Essex-Kent Cagebird Society St. Clair College, Windsor, Ont  
Panel Judge: Vincent Moase and Sam Crabbe
- Show: October 21 Baltimore Bird Fanciers  
Panel Judge: Miki Spartzak
- Show: October 21 Great Lakes Avicultural Society Rockford Middle School, Rockford, MI  
Panel Judge: Clarence Culwell Contact: rviss@aol.com
- Show: November 4 Missouri Cagebird Association Days Inn, Eureka, MO  
Panel Judge: TBA
- Show: November 16-18 Organizacion Puertorriquena de Aves Exoticas Caribe Hilton  
Judge Panel: TBA

### The ESTRILDIAN

The ESTRILDIAN is produced for the purpose of relating the most up to date information on all species belonging to the family Estrildidae both in the wild and in captivity. Within its 124 species are all of the *Waxbills*, *Parrot Finches*, *Mannikins* and *Australian finches*. The aviculturist and the scientist have much to offer each other and the ESTRILDIAN brings together like-minded enthusiasts from around the world. The magazine is sent to 13 different countries ranging from Australia to Puerto Rico and has many leading Zoo's, Aviculturists and Researchers as both members and contributors. With well over 100 members in the USA, we have now been able to reduce our overseas subscription rates.

12 months subscription is £15 Sterling, USA \$30 personal check accepted  
ESTRILDID FORUM  
10, Gable Terrace, Wheatley Hill, County Durham, DH6 3JT  
ENGLAND

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P.O. Box 2459, Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459  
Phone/Fax: (407) 657-7989 Email: dalcl@magicnet.net

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#### 2nd Vice President

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#### FinchSave/Census

#### Manager

#### Daniel Almaguer

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Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459  
Phone/Fax: (407) 657-7989

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#### Annette Howard

#### Treasurer ProTem

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909 S. 9th Street  
Leesburg, FL 34748-6939  
Phone: (352) 787-8654  
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Email: fkeenan@digital.net

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#### Club Delegates, Show Dates

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#### Regional Vice President

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#### Armando Lee

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ajlee@bellsouth.net

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#### Nita Haas

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#### Clarence Culwell

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**Patrick Vance**  
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 Lathrup Village, MI 48076  
 Phone: 248-443-0643

### Changing your address?

Allow NFSS to be the first to greet you at your new home!

Be sure to notify:

Club Delegates also notify:

NFSS Membership Director  
 Eileen Laird  
 P.O. Box 2459  
 Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459

NFSS Liaison Officer  
 Dianna Rubly  
 525 Pottsville Street, PO Box 52  
 Wiconisco, PA 17097-0052.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 New Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

**2000 AFFILIATION AGREEMENT**

The basic affiliation fee is \$25.00. Make check payable to NFSS.

Mail to: Dianna Rubly, Liaison Officer  
525 Pottsville Street, PO Box 52  
Wiconisco, PA 17097-0052  
Phone/Fax: 717-453-9095

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

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

NFSS #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*NFSS may use this information in the NFSS Bulletin and on the web site.

Delegate's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Email Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Show/Event Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Panel Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Send NFSS Bulletin to: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list other fairs or events hosted by your club for listing in the Bulletin. Please include dates, locations, and a contact member with phone number and/or email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## AWARD ORDER FORM FOR SHOWS/EVENTS

Award order forms for shows and events will be sent to each affiliated club as soon as possible after the affiliation papers are processed by the Liaison Officer, Dianna Rubly. Allow a minimum of eight weeks before the actual show/event to process the order. The form and fee *must* accompany the order.

The prices remain the same, however, we have added a new rosette. Many clubs have indicated a desire to have an official Novice rosette with the NFSS logo. These have been designed and will be available for \$5.00. There are no NFSS rules regarding this award. Each club will set its own standard.

These are the 1999 awards available:

Ck Box	<b>PLAQUES</b> All plaques are \$25 each. They are walnut finish with the engraved NFSS logo on brass over black plate on one side and the club information on brass over black plate on the other side of the plaque. They can also be customized by	<b>Cost</b>
	Service/Breeder Award Plaque (7"x 9")	\$25.00
	"Best in Show" Plaque (7"x 9")	\$25.00
	"Second Best in Show" Plaque (6"x 8")	\$25.00
	"Third Best in Show" Plaque (6"x 8")	\$25.00
	"Best Softbill in Show" Plaque (6"x 8")	\$25.00
	<b>ROSETTES</b> The basic set consists of ten 15" long rosettes for the ten best finches or softbills, plus one best unflighted rosette. Unflighted birds are those banded with 1999 bands.	
	Basic Rosette Package	\$35.00
	Unflighted 2nd and 3rd place rosettes	\$7.00
	Novice Rosette	\$5.00
	<b>Total amount of check payable to NFSS</b>	

For more information on awards, contact the Awards Manager:

Ginny Allen  
307 Brookwood Court  
Opelika, AL 36801  
Phone/Fax: (334) 749-7168  
Email: gndallen@earthlink.net

**The National Finch and Softbill Society  
Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
New Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Renew NFSS#? \_\_\_\_\_  
How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues:

Single: \$25  Dual: \$30  Junior (under 16) \$12.50

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NFSS Band Secretary  
P.O. Box 2459  
Goldenrod, FL 32733-2459  
(407) 657-7989

**The National Finch and Softbill Society**  
**FinchSave Application**

Interested in joining FinchSave? Please fill out the below preliminary information and send to the FinchSave Manager, Mr. Daniel Almaguer. Upon receipt of this form, you will receive a complete information package outlining all aspects of the FinchSave Program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ NFSS# \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to accomplish through FinchSave?

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---

---

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Mail this completed form to:  
FinchSave Manager  
Daniel Almaguer  
P.O. Box 533015  
Orlando, FL 32853-3015  
Phone: (407) 894-3808  
Fax: (407) 894-6400  
Email: DRAFinch@aol.com

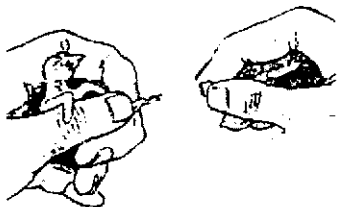
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for supporting

aviculture's foremost  
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You CAN make a difference!

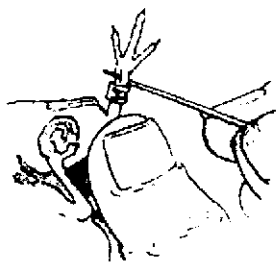
## The National Finch and Softbill Society Banding Procedures

The important thing to remember when banding chicks is to do it over a counter or table so if the chick is dropped, it doesn't fall to the floor. The age to band varies between species but is generally between 5 and 10 days. You can tell by looking at the ankle joint (the joint where the toes come together) and the size of the band. Have the bands, a toothpick (or other small blunt instrument) and some lubricant ready. Be sure you have the bands "right side up" for easier reading. The band is generally placed on the bird's right leg. Banding just before the parents go to roost in the evening will help prevent them from picking at the band. By the next morning, they will have forgotten about it.



Hold the chick firmly, but in such a way as to not cut off its' breathing, and so that you don't harm it. Remember their bodies cannot tolerate compression.

Put a little bit of lubricant on the chick's foot and slide the band over the three front toes and finally over the ankle joint.



The back toe will probably have to be gently pried out from under the hand with a toothpick.

The band should now be in the proper location between the ankle and the elbow joint.



Check on the chick the next few days to be sure that the band has not slipped off and that there are no scrapes or irritations on the foot or leg.



## The National Finch and Softbill Society Band Order Form

Mail form and payment payable to NFSS:  
 Carol Heesen  
 NFSS Band Secretary  
 P.O. Box 752  
 Riverbank, CA 95367

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 NFS, size code, year and number. There is 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 their membership number.

Write "New" for membership number on the order form. Orders processed weekly as received. Please, no mail requiring signatures. **\$1.00 handling fee effective 3/1/99.**

Band Size	# of Strings	Price per string	Total Amount
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	

**Postal Insurance:** Under \$50 = \$.85  
 From \$50 - \$100 = \$1.80 Over \$100=\$2.75  
 If you choose NOT to include this sum, NFSS will NOT be responsible for replacement of bands lost in shipment.

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Insurance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Handling **\$1.00**  
 Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ NFSS # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**The National Finch and Softbill Society  
Guide to Ordering NFSS Closed Leg Bands**

<b>Bird Species</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Bird Species</b>	<b>Size</b>
Aracaris	S	Gouldian Finch	D
Black & White Mannikin	C	Green Singing Finch	C
Black Cheeked Waxbill	B	Green/Purple Starlings	R
Black Crested Finch	E	Grey Singing Finch	C
Blue Capped Waxbill	C	Heck's Shaftail	C
Blue Head Parrot Finch	D	Hornbills (small)	T
Bronze Wing Mannikin	C	Indian Hill Mynah	S
Cherry Finch	C	Java Mynah	S
Chestnut Breast Finch	D	Java Rice Bird	K
Cordon Blue Waxbill	B	Lavender Finch	C
Cuhan Melodious Finch	B	Leaf Birds	M
Diamond Dove	L	Magpie Mannikin	G
Diamond Sparrow	E	Mannikins (most smaller)	D
Dove (other small)	L	Mannikins (other larger)	G
European Goldfinch	J	Nuns	E
European Greenfinch	E	Olive Finch	B
Fire Finch	B	Orange Cheeked Waxbill	A
Gold Breasted Waxbill	A	Owl Finch	A
Golden Song Sparrow	E	Pagoda Mynah	M

NFSS welcomes comments and suggestions for this Guide.  
Contact the Home Office

Bird Species	Size	Bird Species	Size
Painted Finch	C	Silverbills	C
Parrot Finch (most other)	D	Siskins	E
Pekin Robin	J	Society Finch (Bengalese)	E
Peter's Twinspot	E	Softbills (other small)	J
Pictorella Finch	D	Softbills	L
Pileated Finch	C	Spice Finch	E
Pintailed Nonpareil	D	Star Finch	C
Plush Capped Jay	T	Strawberry Finch	A
Pytilias	C	Sunbirds (large)	M
Quail	L	Superb Starlings	R
Quail Finch	A	Tanagers (small)	G
Red Crested Cardinal	K	Toucanettes	S
Red Eared Waxbill	A	Toucans (small)	T
Red Head Parrot Finch	C	Touracos (small)	T
Ring Neck Dove	S	Twinspots (most)	D
Rufous Backed Mannikin	B	Waxbills (small)	A
Saffron Finch	K	White Tailed Jay	S
Shaftail Finch	C	Yellow Rumped Finch	D
Shama Thrush	K	Zebra Finch	D
Silver Eared Mesias	J	(intentionally left blank)	( )

ITEM	SIZE/STYLE	EA.	Q T Y	TD L
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