

THE NATIONAL FINCH
AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
1993



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Presidents' Message:

As of the first of October 1993 I resigned both my elected position as President of NFSS and my appointed position as Editor of the NFSS Bulletin.

I was told by Miki Sparzak that as a result of various complaints (made about me - NDT TO ME) that several members intended to form a new finch society. I would hate to see the finch fancy fragmented in this way and so I chose to resign. As of this date (November 1, 1993) those who were named as wanting to run a finch society have not stepped forward to assist in running this one.

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5/6 '92

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 125 W. Jackson St.
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 Sharpeburg, GA 30277
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 Certerville, GA 30120
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 Springtown, TX 70002
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 San Jene, CA 95126
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 P. B. 00X 309
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 (603) 003-0355
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NFS JUDGES PANEL 1993, Cont'd.

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PAUL S. WILLIAMS
703 Donegal Drive
Papillion, NE 68046
(402) 592 5480

=====

NOTE: For more information on the Judges' Panel, contact Dr. Al Docotoss.

=====

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=====

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Central Alabama Avicultural Society; Lorane Clubb, (205) 857 3817

CALIFORNIA

Aviary Assn. of Kern Co.; Ysma Baker, (805) 765-6110

Capital City Bird Society; Mary Ann Maija, (916) 452 2037

Finch Society of San Diego County; Sharon Russell, (619) 546 1870

Fresno Canary and Finch Society; Dixie Les, (209) 584-3764

Golden Gsta Avian Society; Claudio Selo, (510) 455 9909

Ssn Diego Bird Show, Inc.; Sharon Russell, (619) 546 1870

Santa Clara Vallys Canary & Exotic B. C.; Neil Crowley, (408) 258 4601

COLORADO

Colorado Cage Bird Association; Terri McAuliffe (719) 576 9009

Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture; Julie Karn, (303) 753-6145

CONNECTICUT

Coanacticut Association for Aviculture; Chris Voronovitch, (203) 649 B220

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

FLORIDA

Aviary & Caga Bird Society of South Florida; Len Brower (305) 931 3468

Colorbred Canary Club of Miami, Inc.; Armando J. Lee, (305) 270 1000

Exotic Bird Club of Florida; Mary Petty, (407) 632-7494

Florida State Fair Exotic Bird Show; Dele Laird, (407) 657 7989

Gold Coast All Bird Club; Nike Merisceno, (305) 929 1606

Gulf Coast Exotic Bird Club; Diana Pittman, (813) 772-1150

Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.; Carola Miller, (813) 971-1190

Jacksonville Cage Bird Assn.; Paul D. Stickweb, (904) 744-5811

Suncoast Avian Society; Joa Ventimiglia, (813) 392 9391

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

West Florida Avian Society, Inc.; Barbare Farrell, (904) 683 1634

GEORGIA

Central Gaorgie Exotic Bird Club; Dawn Miller, (404) 460 8233

HAWAII

Honolulu Canary and Finch Club; Lorraine Chang, (800) 595 3689

ILLINOIS

Greater Chicago Cage Bird Club; Jane Muacato, (708) 305 9043

Illini Bird Fenciers; Jen Mercott, (217) 347-9690

Springfield Pet Bird Club; Tom Rood, (217) 774 5265

INDIANA

Indiana Bird Fanciers; Conrad Meinert, (219) 269 2873

Nest Central Indiana Bird Club; Tom Rood, (217) 774 5265

IOWA

Mid-America Cage Bird Society; Ermafern Collins, (515) 992 3539

KANSAS

Kanaaa Avicultural Society; Jamea Williams, (316) 663-5609

Heartland Cenary & Finch Club; Shirley Landkamer, (913) 594 6795

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Centrel Kantlyucky Cage Bird Society; Steve Slates, (606) 223 2600

LOUISIANA

Gulf South Bird Club; Evon Kruse, (504) 649 2392

Cajun Canary Club; Ernie Brown, (504) 834 5100

Capital Area Avicultural Sociaty; Tim Schexnaydra, (504) 562 3579

MAINE

Maine State Caged Bird Society; Sheryl Adams, (207) 727 5633

MARYLAND

Baltimore Bird Fenciers; Deb Clerk, (410) 242 0471

Maryland Cnge Oird Society; Theresa Brown, (410) 735 7662

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Cnge Bird Association; Dienna Smith (508) 540 3214

MICHIGAN

Greet Lakes Avicultural Society; Joan Lenon, (616) 677 5082

Mid-Michigan Bird Club; Mary Lou Terwilliger, (517) 463 5695

Mid-West Cnge Bird Club; Pntrick Vance, (313) 443 0643

Motor City Bird Breeders; Petrick Vence, (313) 443 0643

Society of Canary and Finch Breeders; Patrick Vance, (313) 443 0643

MISSOURI

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society; Jim Leach, (816) 254 0415

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South Jersey Oird Club; Raymond Passaro, (201) 291 9224

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society; Oenise McCbne, (603) 485 8184

New Hampshire Avicultural Society; Larry Martin, (508) 392-9137

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Rochester Cage Bird Club; Vicki Steffanagen, (716) 964 2840

NORTH CAROLINA

Charlotte Matrolina Cage Bird Society; Melvin Yoder, (803) 459 5319

Raleigh-Ourham Caged Bird Association; Karen Whitlou, (919) 557 0450

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Classic Feathers; John Neff, Jr., (419) 784-5985

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Chester County Bird Breeders; Barbara Archibald, (215) 644 1760

Delaware Valley Bird Club; Kris Kroner, (215) 628 4143

Greater Pittsburgh Cage Bird Society; Dr. Lindsay Clack (412) 363 6438

Philadelphia Avicultural Society; Rick Szlachta, (215) 635 2097

Seven Mountains Exotic Bird Club; Stevan Funk, (717) 667 9504

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Palmetto Cage Bird Club; Melvin Yoder, (803) 459-5319

TENNESSEE

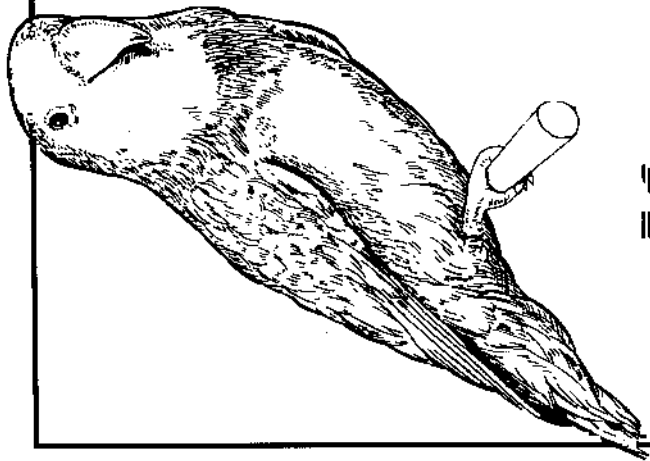
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TEXAS

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Cage Bird Society of Hamilton; Peter Webb, (416) 575 0858

Confederacion Ornitologica Nacional; Rafael Saurez, (889) 752 4433

Budgerigar & Foreign Bird Society of Canada; Brian Eddy, (416) 244-6976

Durham Avicultural Society of Ontario; Vincent Moase, (416) 723 1978

Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society; Alfred Mion, (519) 948 6398

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"A MAN WITHOUT GUILE"

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by Brent Andrus
President, Los Vegas Aviculturals Society

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As I near the half-century mark, I have been doing a lot of reminiscing. I was born and raised in Idaho and spent my first seventeen years there. Most of them in a small farming community named Lewierville. My father was a farmer and when that didn't succeed, he made his living as a blue collar worker. He only completed the sixth grade but knew more about the lend and hoe to repair things than most of us have ever learned. He was well thought of in Lewierville; active in the local church and served several terms on the town council. He was asked to serve as Mayor, but declined due to feeling inadequate.

When he died the church was overflowing at his funeral. It was at the funeral that one of the speakers made an observation that I have never forgotten. He said it could be said of my father that he was like Nathaniel who was called as an apostle of Christ - "a man without guile".

Webster defines guile as "deceitful cunning - duplicity". Being without guile means being straight forward in all dealings with others, being honest - not trying to trick or take advantage of others.

Ever since then I have tried to emulate my father's example. I have not always succeeded but I hope to have the same said of me when I pass on.

Think of what that means, to be without guile. When we decided to become actively involved in breeding birds we began looking for appropriate stock. One of our first purchases was at the Bird Mart here in Las Vegas. A member was selling a bonded breeding pair of Timneh African Greys. Guaranteed they were male and female. Our next purchase was a pair of Nitred Conares at the Pomona Bird Mart. Several months later, after finally having both "pairs" sexed, we found out they were all females. Even though we had been warned, we found out the hard way that there is plenty of guile in the bird business.

What did it gain the people that used deceit to sell their birds? Whenever I go to Pomona I avoid that vendor and advise others to do so also. So he gained one sale and has lost countless others. I think that is what happens to most people who practice guile - they have to find new people to fool, whether it be in business or in life. What a miserable way to live!

I recommend that we go out of our way to be honest in all our dealings and more so in regard to birds. It's difficult, especially in this day and age. But, it will be worth it and, as my father, we will be respected as being without guile.

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Editor's note: LVAS is a club that exchanges newsletters with NFSS. When I read Brent's article in their September issue I asked his permission to reprint it here for you. I hope you enjoy it and take it to heart.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR SALE: Gouldians - white-breasted, dilute, yellow, blue end splits, including extra hens!! Call for prices and availability. Roddy Gabel (ND) (301) 585-9647. jf

FOR SALE: Gouldians, Waxbills, Parrot Finches and Owls. All domestically bred. Lainey Claflin and John Biketes (MA) 617-091-4056. ma94

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FOR SALE: High quality Gouldian chicks. All three head colors, white-breasted and split to white-breasted AND our first dilutes and yellows! Will ship. Brenda Geesey, (PA) (717) 854 2604. nd

WANTED: Desperately need female Rufous-necked Weaver and Cuban Melodious. Jacky, (MD) (410) 485 7042. nd

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Gouldians, Red-headed Parrot Finches and Gold-breasted Waxbill. Bob Maddox (PA) (717) 632-7332. jf94

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FINCHSAVE CLASSIFIED ADS

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BIRDS WANTED

WANTED: Female Melba Finch, Female Yellow-winged Pytilia. Melissa (WA) (206) 852 3227.

WANTED: Golden Song Sparrows, Gold breasted Bunting cocka, Red-cheeked Cordon Bleus. Will buy or trade for Blue-caps. Sylvia (VA) (703) 347 7249.

WANTED: Black-crested Finches (Pigmy Cardinal) Will buy or trade. Bob Maddox (PA) (717) 632-7332.

WANTED: Blwa-fecad Perrot finches, pair & hen; Aurore finchas, pair & han; Green Siskina, pair or hen; Paerl-haeded silverbills, pair. Will be treveling through MO & IL in August end could pick them up. Mery Cehow (WI) (715) 346 3487 (w) or (715) 344 6117.

WANTED: Violet-eared Waxbills, prefer close-banded. Will trade close-banded for new blood. Also female Blue-faced Perrot finches. Velerie Fallermen, (PA) (215) 435-5925.

WANTED: Femele Quail Finch. Mickey Greves (TX) (817) 540-1629.

WANTED: Want to trsde young Fire Finches for new blood. Jey Hutson (PA) (717) 869-2106.

WANTED: Naed Quaeen Whydahs. Mark Sproule (Ontario, CA) (416) 845-7215.

BIRDS FOR SALE

FINCHSAVE bred Gold-breasted Waxbills. Bob Maddox (PA) (717) 632 7336.

FINCHSAVE bred Sceley-crowned Weavers, '93 closed-banded young. Sylvis (VA) (703) 347 7249.

FOR SALE: Tri-colored Nuns (4), Orange-cheek Waxbills (4). Special price to use these species in FINCHSAVE - \$10 each. Linda Oja, (VA) (804) 874 8581. If you have birds to donate or sell for special prices for FINCHSAVE participation, please let me know.

SALE OR TRADE: Male Melba Finch, very healthy. Melissa (WA) (206) 852 3227.

Pair Diamond Sparrows, \$100; pair Greensingers, \$75. Martha Brady, (VA) (804) 874-2731.

Gouldians, 1 black-head normal F, 1 black-head white-breasted F, 1 older red-head split to white-breast male, 1 red-head normal male. Selling stock to make room for FINCHSAVE birds. Linda Oja, (VA) (804) 874-8501.

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A MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS. . . .from President Emeritus - Bill Parlee

TO ALL OLD AND NEW FRIENDS OF NFS.

IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I HAVE ADDRESSED YOU. THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT FOR NFS. BRENDA GEESEY HAS RESIGNED AS PRESIDENT AND EDITOR OF DUR FINCH SOCIETY. BRENDA HAS SERVED LONG AND WELL, BUT SHE, IN THE PAST YEAR HAS SOME NEW PRIORITIES, THAT ALONG WITH BEING A LITTLE BURNT OUT FROM THE WORK LOAD OF THE JOBS, HAS CAUSED HER TO MAKE THE DECISION TO RESIGN FROM HER POSTS.

DURING THE PAST MONTHS SOME OF YOU HAVE BECOME DISSATISFIED WITH NFS. I ASK THAT DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS YOU BEAR WITH US. A NOMINATING COMMITTEE HAS BEEN APPOINTED AND WE WILL HAVE A NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS TO PRESENT TO YOU AT THE NATIONAL IN HOUSTON.

FOR THOSE OF YOU SO OISENCHANTED THAT YOU HAVE ACTUALLY THOUGHT OF STARTING A NEW FINCH SOCIETY, I ASK YOU TO THINK TWICE. TALK TO THE COCKATIEL PEOPLE. NOW THAT THE PASSION OF THE SPLIT IS LONG OVER, THEY ARE TRYING TO COMBINE THEIR ORGANIZATIONS ONCE AGAIN. THE SPLITTING WAS A LOT EASIER THEN THE PUTTING BACK TOGETHER PROCESS IS NOW.

I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WITH CONCERNS FOR NFS. LET'S MAKE THE NATIONAL IN HOUSTON A WORKING SESSION TO DEFINE WHAT IS WRONG WITH NFS AND SET IT STRAIGHT. LET'S DO THE PUTTING BACK TOGETHER NOW. THE GOALS OF NFS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN TO HAVE A SOCIETY THAT CONCENTRATES ON THE BIRDS AND TRIES TO KEEP POLITICS TO A MINIMUM. WITH A LITTLE UNDERSTANDING AND WORK WE CAN REACH OUR GOALS. IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO SERVE NFS. WRITE TO ME: BILL PARLEE, P O BOX 380607, E. HARTFORD, CT 06138.

PLEASE KEEP THIS THOUGHT IN MIND. ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR NFS. DO SO VOLUNTARILY. THERE'S A LOT OF WORK AND VERY LITTLE REWARD. IN THE PAST NINE YEARS MANY HAVE CONTRIBUTED MUCH. BRENDA GEESEY HAS DONE MORE THAN HER SHARE. I HOPE THAT THERE ARE MEMBERS OUT THERE WILLING TO DO AS MUCH.

I HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU AT OUR NATIONAL SHOW IN HOUSTON, AND HOPE TO WORK TOGETHER WITH YOU FOR TO ASSURE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR NFS.

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To the members of The National Finch and Seftbill Society

The last time I wrote to all of you was in late May. The topic then was the "board meeting by mail" and the opening letter was a sincere "thank you" for the authorization you had given to Miki Sporzak and Al Docuteau for their "surprise" gift of the eleven hummingbird priatn, at a cost of \$400. I am still amazed that you authorized that expenditure from the treasury and still planned that you thought so highly of me that you thought that I was worthy of so expensive a gift. According to Al, who originated the idea and counted the votes, only two board members disagreed with his idea.

With those thoughts in mind, this letter is even more difficult to write. Throughout the month of September I spent a great deal of time evaluating my priorities and announcing my future commitments. A few of the decisions I reached were very personal ones. I had my hair cut, a dramatic change after 18 years of long hair, and I also started seeing "the patch" so that I could quit smoking.

Then came the most difficult and wrenching decision. I know that many of you have been seriously disappointed in my performance as editor and you have been justified in being annoyed with the Bulletin being late. As I have before, I apologize again for the late issues.

As many of you know I have become very much committed to the rehabilitation of wild birds and I am honored to lead a group of rehabilitators that have received over 700 birds in 1993 and have managed to release over 70% of them back into the wild. Wild bird rehab and being your Bulletin editor do not mix well. To be totally committed to a publication deadline a person cannot be totally committed to the spontaneity and flexibility that is demanded of wild-bird rehabilitators. When injured or orphaned birds arrive on my doorstep they cannot wait till I'm done typing and you should not have to wait till I make splints and feed chicks for your Bulletin to be assembled.

I am not a person who is well suited to dealing with hard deadlines. I know that you think that I had realized that earlier and I do too. The decision to give up editing the Bulletin in favor of continuing to deal with a crisis-a-day in the wild bird rehab wasn't too hard for me and is much more fair to you than for me to continue to make you wait while I try to resuscitate Caroline Wrens. By the second week of September I had decided to resign as Bulletin Editor.

During this time I had several personal quarrels with Al Docuteau and with Miki Sporzak over decisions that sharply defined our differences of opinion on ethics and propriety. Those differences of opinion may yet become public but I will not make them public at this time.

Then, in the last week of September, Miki Sporzak called me and told me that she had heard rumors that several members had become displeased with me, personally, that they had decided to quit NFSS and form another national

organization of finch fanciers. Whether that story was true or not I do not know but I was so upset by that idea that it only took me 12 hours to decide to also resign as president, in the hope that if the story was true, that my resignation would cause those members to reconsider and not leave NFSS. When I made that decision, I called Bill Parlee, the founder of NFSS, and then sent him a fax, dated September 30, that included my resignation as President and Editor of NFSS.

At that time I told him on the phone that I wanted out of the positions as soon as possible and that I hoped he would be able to notify the persons who needed to know that I had resigned, effective as of that date and that I would assemble one more issue of the Bulletin and that I would cooperate as fully as possible in the transition. I realize now that I should have taken responsibility for notifying the membership of those things myself and I regret that I did not do that.

In the past 6 weeks I have heard numerous rumors about the reasons I have left those two positions. I have chosen to write this letter to tell you my position. I think you and I deserve that. If you have further questions, I hope that you will keep in touch with Bruce and me in the future.

It has been an honor to serve as the President of this society and I will always consider it as one of my greatest pleasures to have met so many dedicated finch fanciers. I wish all of you well and I hope your flocks prosper and you and your families thrive. I will continue to judge a few shows each year and I will be an active participant in FINCHSAVE with the species we are now keeping and perhaps more, and so I will continue to be in touch with many of you in those capacities.

Thank you for your good will and your good wishes. I hope that you will wish my rehabilitation group all the best, as I wish all the best for NFSS and for each of its individual members.

Sincerely,

Brenda Geeuey

=====
NOTE: Rwsu Armitage, Jr. did his usual fine job in sending the awards to the National Show this November in Houston. He sent them UPS with plenty of time, addressed to Miki Sparzak, at the Wyndham Greensprings. He included a request that they be held until her arrival the week of the show and that she be notified when they arrive. If you, like others, are wondering why they were not presented you should be aware that, as always, Rwsu did his job.
=====

GUIDE TO ORDERING 1991 NATIONAL FINCH AND SOFTBILL SOCIETY CLOSED LEG BANDS

Thanks to the work done by the Band Size Committee we are able to offer an expanded list of suggested sizes for more species of finches and softbills. We're hoping to get more updates from societies overseas in 1991. We also welcome members suggestions for the list.

SIZE TO FIT LEGS OF:

-
- A Small Waxbills, Owls, Strawberry, Orange-cheeks, Red-ears, Gold-breasted, Quail Finch.
-
- B Cordon Bleu, Black-cheeked Waxbills, Fire, Cuban Melodious, Olive, Lavenders, Rufous-backed Mannikin and others.
-
- C Blue Caps, Green Singers, Silverbills, Stars, Shafttails, Cherry, Red-headed Parrot, Painted, Heck's, Pileated, Grey Singers, Pytilias, Bronze-wing and Black and White Mannikin.
-
- D Zebras, Gouldians, Pictorellas, Yellow-rumps, Chestnut-breasted, Blue-faced Parrot, Pintail Nonpareil, most other Parrot finches, most smaller Mannikins and most Twin Spots.
-
- E Society, Spice, Siskins, Golden Song Sparrows, Diamond Sparrows, Nuns, Peter's Twin Spots and Black Crested Finches.
-
- G Magpie Mannikins, and other large Mannikins, European Goldfinch and small Tanagers.
-
- J Pekin Robin, Silver-eared Mesias and other small softbills.
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- K Java Rice, Shama Thrush, Saffron and Red-crested Cardinal.
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2. NFS has a program named "FINCHSAVE". The goal is to establish and maintain all finch and softbill species in American aviculture. All members are encouraged to enhance the propagation of finches and softbills.
3. NFS maintains an annual census that can connect you with other breeders for the purpose of exchanging information or breeding stock.
4. NFS offers, to members, closed, traceable, leg bands.
5. NFS has an affiliation program. Your club can affiliate and receive plaques and rosettes as show awards. Non-show clubs can affiliate and receive service awards for members. Speakers are available, with slide programs that feature finches and softbills.
6. Each year NFS holds a National show. All members are encouraged to attend and participate. An International Patronage Exchange brings awards from foreign countries.
7. NFS has a Judges Panel, composed of individuals who have completed the apprenticeship program. All judge by the NFS Standard of Judging, are approved by the Board of Directors and are available to local clubs.
8. NFS has established exhibition standards for; Cordon Bleu Waxbills, Gouldians, Green Singing Finches, Java Rice Birds, Shafttails, Society Finches and Zebra Finch Standards. Lavenders, Star Finches, Fire Finchs, Diamond Sparrows and Pekin Robin Standards are now "in the works".
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