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Installment plan available with
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American Federation of Aviculture

P.O. Box 56218, Phoenix, AZ 85079-6218
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Are You Will Endowed?

You Should be at 25!

*by Jim C. Hawley, Jr., E.A.
Chief Financial Officer, AFA*

This is the year of the American Federation of Aviculture Endowment Trust and AFA's 25th (Silver) Anniversary. Here is your Formal Invitation to participate.

Let's Party

But you've got to remember who's writing this article — an accountant. And how does an accountant party best, you got it, with numbers and financial statements (how boring).

The best way I see to celebrate this silver anniversary is to make sure AFA is around to celebrate many, many more anniversaries. So lets get started!

Twenty-five for Twenty-five

Twenty-five Life Memberships for 25 years of AFA. Your AFA board of directors came up with this incredible idea, 25 for 25. A lifetime membership in AFA amounts to a one time, one thousand dollars (\$1,000.⁰⁰) for which

you receive for the rest of your life all the rights and privileges of a membership year after year.

In addition to your membership, you will receive special recognition for your help and assistance with the AFA's 25th year anniversary goal 25 for 25. There's more to it though. When you sign up for a lifetime membership, 70% or seven hundred dollars (\$700.⁰⁰) goes into the AFA Endowment Trust to start the process that can ensure many, many more AFA anniversaries to come.

To make sure everyone has an opportunity to help with the AFA goal, 25 for 25, your lifetime membership can be paid in monthly installments. With a credit card authorization of one hundred dollars (\$100.⁰⁰) per month for 12 months you can become a Life Member and help in building the Endowment Trust (the additional \$200.⁰⁰ covers processing and credit card merchant fees).

The AFA Endowment Trust

The American Federation of Aviculture Endowment Trust is one of the main keys to the future stability and assurance that AFA will be here for many, many more anniversary celebrations.

There have been a lot of questions and misunderstandings about the new AFA Endowment Fund, so here is an

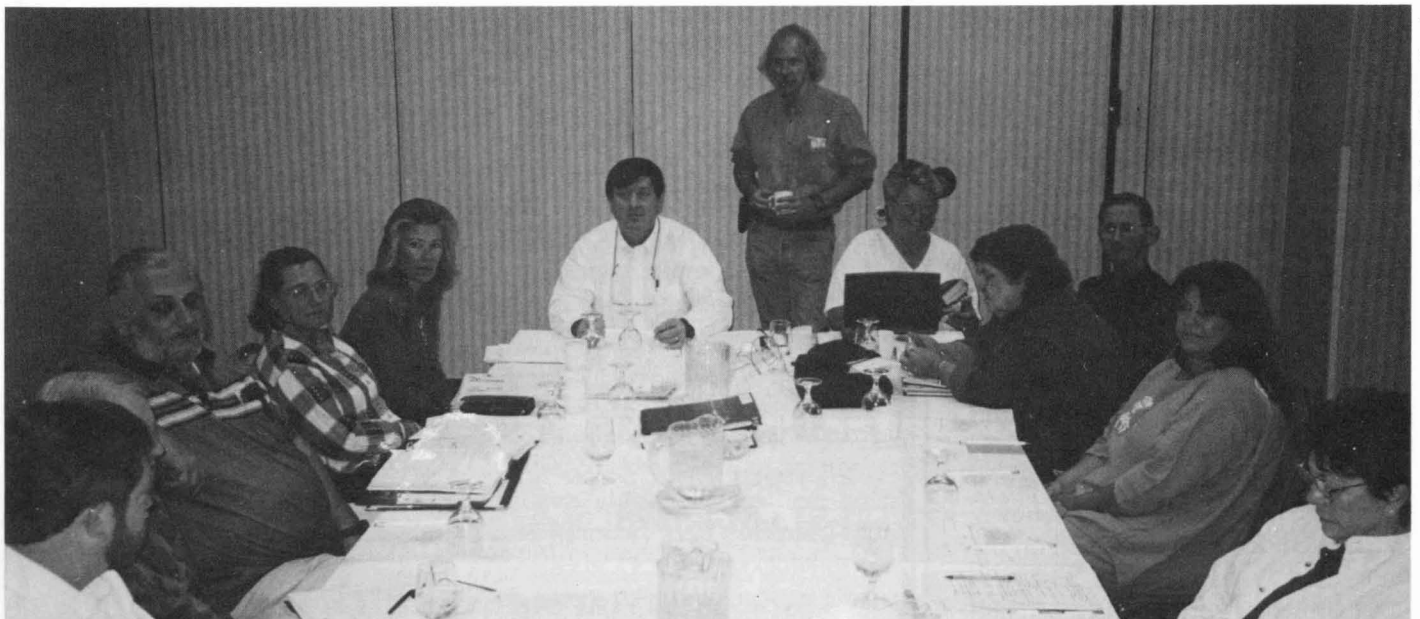


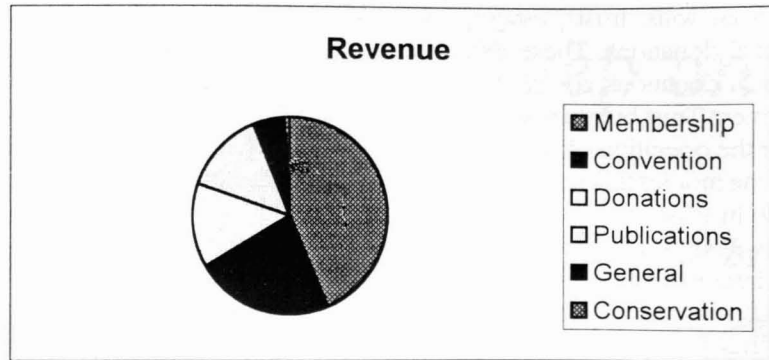
Photo by M. Jean Hessler

Part of the AFA Board of Directors in session at the 14 November 1998 Board meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Left to Right: Jim Hawley, Laurella Desborough, Bob Sunday, Natalie Frumin-Weiss, Janis Clark (2nd vice-president), Dwight Greenberg (1st vice president). President Gary Clifton (standing). Louise Dittoe (secretary), her husband, Bud, in the background, Wanda Elder, Yvonne Catena, Donna Tondreault.

1998 Financial Summary

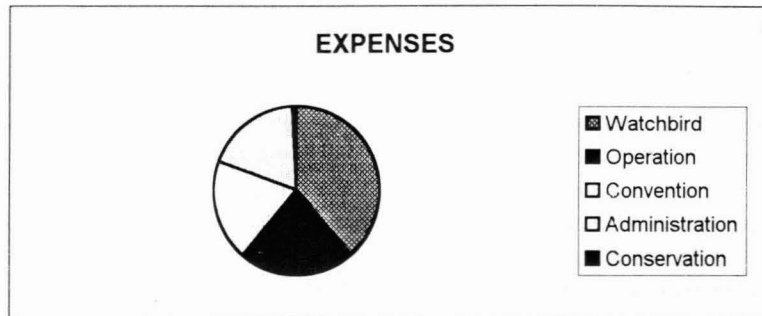
REVENUE

Membership	\$157,031
Convention	\$82,326
Donations	\$49,770
Publications	\$48,647
General	\$19,088
Conservation	\$3,032
TOTAL	\$359,894



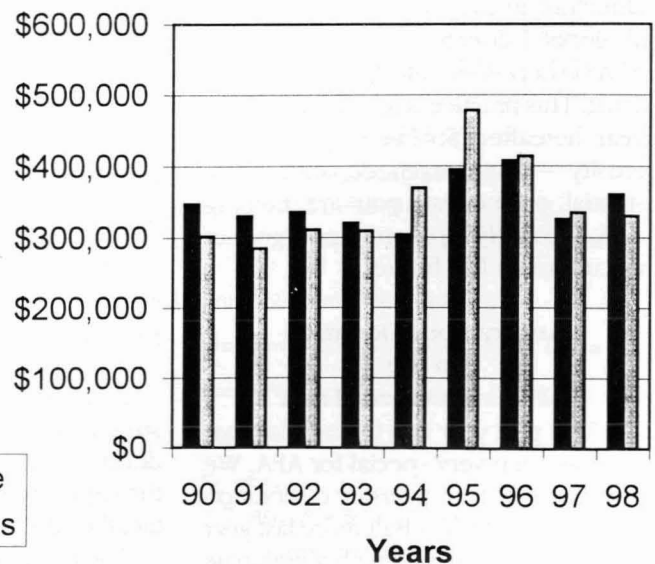
EXPENSES

Watchbird	\$127,686
Operation	\$74,111
Convention	\$63,660
Administration	\$61,645
Conservation	\$2,854
TOTAL	\$329,956



Summary of Years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
90	\$347,000	\$302,000	\$45,000
91	\$330,000	\$285,000	\$45,000
92	\$335,000	\$311,000	\$24,000
93	\$320,000	\$309,000	\$11,000
94	\$304,000	\$369,000	-\$65,000
95	\$394,000	\$479,000	-\$85,000
96	\$407,000	\$413,000	-\$6,000
97	\$325,000	\$334,000	-\$9,000
98	\$360,000	\$330,000	\$30,000



■ Revenue
▨ Expenses

explanation of what it is and what it can do.

The AFA Endowment Trust has been established to receive funds, primarily from wills, trusts, estates, and substantial donations. These gifts and substantial donations go *into* the AFA Endowment Trust but do not come *out* of it for the operation of AFA. In other words, the monies that go into the trust are *held* in trust and are not used to run AFA. They are to be invested so as to earn interest and/or dividends. Only these interest and/or dividends earnings of the Endowment Trust can be used by AFA.

This method of allowing only the *earnings* to be used in the operation of AFA always leaves the Endowment Trust Funds intact to continue earning.

As the Endowment Fund grows, the annual earnings will grow also — giving more operating funds each year for the AFA while leaving the Endowment Trust Funds in the Trust. This can allow a steady cash flow for the operation of AFA creating an assurance that AFA will be here to continue its aims, goals and programs on into the future.

Think about this concept of the Endowment Fund for a moment. If each member of AFA included in their Last Will and Testament a 10% bequest to the AFA Endowment Trust Fund, in a number of years the Fund could grow by millions of dollars. Think what those earnings could provide for the future programs of AFA and the ability to continue them year after year without the fear of a lack of funding.

There is more. The AFA Board of Directors, in 1998, directed that 10% of all general donations received by the AFA be deposited into the Endowment Trust. This practice is to continue every year hereafter. So keep up the generosity — with each donation, substantial or modest, you are helping AFA accomplish our common goal of aviculture and its future.

Anonymous Donation to the

AFA Endowment Trust

This past year and the holiday season has been very special for AFA. We started the 25th anniversary celebration at the convention in Baltimore last year and look to culminate with a big finale

at the Denver convention this August. (Hopefully every member will be in attendance to join in).

Twenty-five years is a long time to keep a national organization of volunteers together with only a feather in common. Actually we AFA members have a lot in common, our love for birds, our big hearts, our willingness to help each other and the organization, our ability to fill in the ranks and step up when the rights of aviculture are challenged. But the best of all we have in common is our tenacity — we keep on keeping on. Happy Silver Anniversary.

Now all this “keeping on” takes more than volunteering, it takes dollars. A most inspiring thing is to see someone who is willing to not just *talk* about the AFA, but *donate* to it also. AFA is full of members who are very, very inspiring.


During this holiday season we had an individual step forward to inspire us all with a substantial donation and a humble request. The donation was for \$10,000.⁰⁰ and was given anonymously. The humble request was to merely print the following:

“This gift to the AFA is made in honor of Jeffrey, a pet Cockatiel, who gives his owner much companionship and pleasure.

He overcame the abuse he suffered in the first six years of his life, and his character and ‘heart’ deserve some small amount of recognition.

This gift in honor of Jeffrey should be used to honor, respect, and recognize birds that have been abused, neglected, mistreated, or made to suffer in any way due to the intentional actions of humans. Hopefully, the funds will be used for any project, research, or educational program that contributes to the promotion of good aviculture and that keeps our exotic birds from extinction.”

If you are interested in becoming a *substantial* donor now or a *future* donor to the AFA Endowment Fund through your will or estate, please contact the AFA office 602-484-0931.

You can make a difference, too. 

Message from the President

Welcome to 1999 and AFA's 25th anniversary. This is a time to look back long enough to learn from the past as we set our course for the future. Much of AFA's past has been devoted to defending our rights as aviculturists. We have done this by educating the avicultural community when adverse legislative or regulatory threats appeared. Concerned members have exercised their civic responsibilities by getting involved with legislative or regulatory matters affecting them. We have been successful at the state and federal levels, to the point that most threats now appear at the city and county levels.

AFA's mission is to promote the advancement of aviculture. Not only have we been defending the rights of aviculturists, we have been the leading edge in continuing avicultural education by providing the *Watchbird Journal* and outstanding speaker line-ups at our annual conventions.

In addition to our ongoing work to preserve the Red Siskin, AFA has been encouraging marking of captive-bred birds and makes closed bands available to our members, even in small quantities. Although we lack the resources to promote it enough to give it the same household familiarity as the AKC program for dogs, we have an operational Exotic Bird Registry that preserves the known genetic background of registered birds without divulging information about the owner, location, or whereabouts of the registered bird.

As 1992 and the effective end of avian importation recedes further into the past, preserving genetic or pedigree information will move from “important” to “essential” in preserving genetically viable populations of the avian species we are working with today.


With the approach of the new millennium, perhaps now is the time we can each ask ourselves what we as *individuals* are doing to secure the

future of aviculture — in addition to AFA's efforts as an organization of concerned aviculturists.

As individuals, we can and should give consideration to finding the next generations of aviculturists. There is certainly no shortage of messengers attempting to influence public opinion *against* keeping birds. Yet all the money spent on those efforts can be rendered ineffective if we set the respectable examples and encourage exposure to and a passion for aviculture in the younger generations following us. This cannot be done by coercion or forcing it upon our children, it is accomplished by planting the seeds of interest and nurturing them when we see that interest in the eyes of a youngster, whether our own or a neighbor. It is accomplished by making the time to spend with our kids or their friends when we see that spark of interest in the birds.

Securing our future doesn't mean we have to raise huge sums of money to spend trying to influence public opinion or supporting an expensive public relations campaign. Sure these things can help, but how many among us are public relations experts willing to donate that much of our time, effort, and money to a large, ongoing expense? We are, after all, an organization of bird enthusiasts rather than public relations or media experts. We can, individually, spend a little time nurturing that spark of interest to encourage the next generation or two of future aviculturists. If each of us can cause that interest to grow just a little in one or two young people each year, imagine how many will grow up knowing what we are and what we are about.

It only takes a few minutes to make a big difference. That neighborhood kid you spent a few minutes with one afternoon may not grow up to be an aviculturist, instead he might grow up to be a Congressman or an influential leader either in business or the community. Wouldn't it be nice if he/she got there at least knowing what aviculture is all about if not actually involved with it?

Gary Clifton, President 
American Federation of Aviculture



"Gifts that Keep on Giving"

The American Federation of Aviculture's Endowment Fund



Leaving a Legacy to the Future

For Further Information on How to Participate
Through Honoraria and Bequests, Please Contact
Jim Hawley, Jr., AFA Chief Financial Officer

P.O. Box 56218
Phoenix, AZ 85017

Yes, count me as
a member of the



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THE WATCHBIRD IS THE OFFICIAL BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE AFA, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Please accept my application for membership in the American Federation of Aviculture. Send me 6 issues (1 year) of *the a.f.a. WATCHBIRD* magazine, and a membership card which entitles me to all the rights and privileges of AFA membership.

Check membership category desired: NEW RENEWAL
Individual \$30/year Family \$35/year Supporting \$50/year
Commercial \$100/year, includes listing in WATCHBIRD

FOREIGN MEMBERS: Add \$18 for year in U.S. Funds. First Class rates available on request.

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Name _____ Charge my MC or VISA account: MC Visa

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