The 31st National Cage Bird Show was held at the Hacienda Hotel in El Segundo, California, November 15-18, 1979. There were 1588 birds entered under twelve divisions: 1147 canaries (including Borders, Type, Hartz, Glosters, Old Varieties, Color Bred Lipochrome, and color Bred Melanin), 80 American Singers, 130 Love Birds, 79 Cockatiels, 106 Foreign and Hookbills, 45 Budgerigars.

The Southern California Bird Club and the Fresno Canary and Finch Club served as sponsors. With both clubs’ help, plus the show managers: Paul Ballew, John Sullivan, Jim O’Connor, Scotty McNiff; consultant Neil Romando; and Margie McGee, the untiring Show Secretary; it proved a good team that is to be congratulated for a successful show.

The judges are also to be thanked for their work:

Borders . . . . . . . Pat Kane, IL.
Type . . . . . . . . . . Arthur Ricks, CA.
Glosters . . . . . . G.R. Wolfendale, England
Lipochromes . . . . Harold Sodamann, KS.
Melanins . . . . . . Ignacio Perera, IL.
Foreign & Hookbills . Jerry Jennings, CA.
Love Birds . . . . . Gene Hall, CA.
Cockatiels . . . . . Tom Squyres, TX.
Budgies . . . . . . . Betty Morrow, TX.
The Loft-Kellogg Seed Co. of Milwaukee, Wisconsin annually sponsors the prestigious "Kellogg" trophy for each 1st place winner of the 12 Divisions.

Borders Paul Dee, IL.
Type Ray Bowen (Yorkshire), CA.
Hartz Leonard Green, IL.
Glosters Harold Sodamann, KS.
Old Varieties Kelvin Clegg (Lizard), CA.
American Singers Cliff Williams, IN.
Lipochrome Alberta Varda, CA.
Melanin Domenic Tenuta, CA.
Foreign Birds Lois Godsmen (Lady Gouldian), CA.
Hookbills Jim Nichels, CA.
Ken Foster won 1st in the Hookbill Division with his top Love Bird entry. However, he was not a member of NCBS, which is a stipulation for eligibility for the Kellogg trophy. He is of course credited as a winner of this Division, but the Kellogg trophy was awarded to NCBS member Jim Nichels, who placed 2nd in Division.
Cockatiels Nancy Reed, CT.
Budgerigars Hugh Wilson, CA.

The coveted Pat Scannell Memorial trophy for Best Bird in Show (chosen from the twelve Division winners) went to Ray Bowen for his Yorkshire Canary.

Two specialty bird clubs held their nationally sponsored shows in conjunction with the National Cage Bird Show:

The American Cockatiel Society held its 2nd National A.C.S. Show with the following top ten awards:

1st, 2nd, 3rd Nancy Reed, CT.

4th Louis Snyder, CA.
5th Nancy Reed, CT.
6th Earl & Shirley Courts, MO.
7th Craig & Jaynee Salan, CA.
8th Nancy Reed, CT.
9th Earl & Shirley Courts, MO.
10th Bob Ziegler, IL.

The African Love Bird Society joined the NCBS for its first National showing and were included as a sub-division within the Hookbill category. A beautiful trophy was awarded by ALBS to the winner. (Next year, Love Birds will be made a separate division and eligible for the Kellogg trophy.) The 1979 Love Bird winners were:

Best in Division
1st Ken Foster, CA (an Abyssinian)
2nd Agapornis, Acres, CA (a Yellow Fischer's)
3rd Agapornis Acres, CA (a Lutino Peach Face)
4th Agapornia Acres, CA (a Yellow Masked)

Best Unflighted Agapornis Acres, CA (a Yellow Fischer's)

Next year's 32nd National Cage Bird Show will be sponsored by the Greater Jacksonville Avicultural Society and held at the Hertz Skycenter Inn, at Jacksonville International Airport, Florida, November 13-16. The A.F.A. will be holding a mini-convention at the same time. We urge all aviculturists to consider attending this show mini-convention: two important events in one trip.

It is urged that early accommodations be made. The Skycenter can only set aside 150 rooms at $28 single, $34 double. Alternate hotels will be the nearby Holiday and Ramada Inns with shuttle service to the Skycenter.

Watch for more information in future "Watchbird" issues. Anyone wishing to join the National Cage Bird Show can receive specific show information given in bulletins and 1980 show catalogue, by sending $5.00 membership dues to: Margie McGee, 25 West Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, California 93160.

We anticipate an entry of over 2,000 show birds and an AFA mini/convention that will top any previous mini or possibly maxi (annual) convention! Start planning NOW to attend.

Betty Morrow, Budgie judge.