Friday’s lunch speakers. A highlight of the convention was the meeting of these five great men, each representing a major organization regarding avian life forms. Left to right: Dr. Joe Fontaine, president of the Sierra Club, Dr. Val Clear, representing A.F.A. and various other cage bird organizations, Marshall Meyers, of the International Bird Institute, C. Eugene Knoder, director of the Western Environmental Science Program of the Audubon Society, and Dr. Jesus Estudillo-Lopez of the World Wildlife Fund.

**Las Vegas Convention**

The A.F.A. 1980 annual convention is history. Like any other historical event, each participant will look back and see things in the light of his or her own perspective. The following perspective is that of S.L. Dingle, your humble servant (whose perspective was materially brightened when his wife won a major raffle prize).

The affairs of the convention can be divided into two parts. First the actual convention activities, meetings, speakers, luncheons, workshops, business, banquets - and second, the off-duty action in the outrageous entertainment capital of the U.S.A., the lights, gambling, fantastic shows, stars, entertainers, winning, dining, dancing.

In the latter category Vegas is filled to bursting with luminaries both neon and human. As a frequent Vegas visitor, I learned years ago to favor the neon. I go as an observer and watch the kaleidoscope streets and casinos teeming with the greatest assortment of businessmen, hippies, highrollers, hookers, down-and-outers, beautiful women, wide-eyed bumpkins, cowboys, millionaires, and celebrities ever assembled in one place on earth. Puck’s pronouncement, “What fools these mortals be” was never so aptly illustrated.

I acknowledge my failure to participate in this world. Most of my time is spent out in space, as it were, observing the affairs of earth. The real people of this world, on the other hand, enjoyed to the hilt the shows, the grand productions, the excitement of gambling, the sharing of experiences with friends, and the total excitement only Las Vegas can evoke. Such involvement serves as a well earned catharsis to wipe away the mundane cares of every day plodding. Whatever one’s pleasure might be, Las Vegas satisfies. The convention goers had a marvelous time in Vegas and the off duty time was well spent. So was most of the money.

Jeanne Parker, a native resident of Las Vegas, gave tremendous support to AFA and Jim Reid by pulling together the endless details.

AFA Las Vegas Convention Chairman, Jim Reid, shouldered a lot of headaches and responsibilities and pulled off a very successful convention.
THE EXACT PRESCRIPTION FOR A HEALTHIER, HAPPIER, CONTENTED BIRD.

RAINBOW MEALWORMS contain 12 of the 16 elements that are found in living tissue and rich in vitamins A and B. Natural vitamin A is essential to your birds nutrition and growth. Vitamin B is required to maintain the nervous system.

RAINBOW MEALWORMS are a living food, clean and odorless. They should be kept under refrigeration at 40° to 48° (but not necessary). At this temperature they become dormant and maintain perfect condition for several months.

RAINBOW MEALWORMS are graded in four sizes for your conveniences: SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE, and MIXED. Each and every worm is fresh and lively. No need for sorting or sifting. We guarantee 10% or more over-count per measure.

PROMPT SHIPMENT ALL YEAR AROUND.
INSTRUCTIONS ON CARE ARE ENCLOSED WITH FIRST ORDER.

RAINBOW MEALWORMS BULK WHOLESALE PRICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNT</th>
<th>BULK WHOLESALE PRICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>$2.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>$38.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>$63.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

California Residents add 6% Sales Tax.

P.O. BOX 4525
126 E. SPRUCE ST.
COMPTON, CA. 90220

(213) 635-1494

MEALWORM BULK WHOLESALE PRICES
COUNT
50 $3.96
100 $5.94
500 $16.80

PROMPT SHIPMENT ALL YEAR AROUND.
INSTRUCTIONS ON CARE ARE ENCLOSED WITH FIRST ORDER.

MARK READER
Owner

Now available - Superior Assortment of Australian Parakeets:

- Barnard
- Port Lincoln
- Twenty Eights
- Plicated (Red Capped)
- Yellow Rosella
- Green Rosella
- Adelaide Rosella
- Blue-Winged
- Barraband
- Rock Pebbhar
- Princess of Wales
- Pennant Rosella
- Blue Rosella
- Stanley Rosella
- Golden Mantled Rosella
- Many-Colored
- Bourke’s
- Mutation Bourke’s
- Red-Fronted Kakariki
- Yellow-Fronted Kakariki
- Red-Rumps
- Yellow Red-Rumps
- Cockatiels
- Lovebirds
- Rare Lovebird Color Mutations
- Assorted Cockatoos

2692 Landsburn Drive - Columbus, Ohio
(614) 471-3881 Evenings Suggested
Back in the meeting rooms and the banquet halls the convention proper was an equally great success. The committee reports were all expeditious with only a little pushing and pulling for fine tuning. The board agreed to some minor A.F.A. reorganization which will be refined in committee and put into effect in 1981. The various budgets were squeezed a little here and trimmed a little there to ensure the financial health of the organization. And, believe it or not, after all these years a Ways and Means committee was formed under the chairmanship of a very capable Mr. Glen Haddock. The A.F.A. is gradually shaking itself into a really strong, healthy national organization that is a definite power in behalf of American aviculture.

To my mind the highlight of the whole convention was the luncheon during which representatives of five major organizations met together to focus on areas of agreement regarding birds. The A.F.A. is deeply indebted to Dr. Val Clear for making such a momentous meeting possible. Dr. Clear, representing the A.F.A., presented awards to Mr. Marshall Meyers of the International Bird Institute, Dr. Jesus Estudillo-Lopez of the World Wildlife Fund, Dr. Joe Fontaine, president of the Sierra Club, and Mr. C. Eugene Knoder, director of the Western Environmental Science Program of the Audubon Society.

These gentlemen representing millions of concerned people met in private session to work toward a mutual understanding and to focus on areas of accord. Although some differences in method do exist, all agreed that conserving the world’s natural environments and wildlife has top priority. A crucial dialogue has been opened that bodes well for the future.

Before the luncheon and afterward, of course, many other very fine speakers presented slide shows, lectures, and papers, and conducted workshops. A great wealth of avicultural knowledge was poured out upon an enthusiastic and eager audience. The whole convention was one huge learning process - (even in the casinos some naïve members went through a rapid-firing learning process that has them still shaking their heads and feeling in their empty pockets).

No matter how much knowledge is poured out, though, our little sponge...
brains are soon saturated so we all attended the grand banquet to saturate the rest of our bodies. The raffle was raffled, food was fed, speakers spoke, awards were awarded, and all hands clapped. People cheered (being rather full of cheer themselves) and everybody had a roaring good time. Now that's what conventions are all about.

The A.F.A. owes much gratitude (no pay, mind you) to three people who were most instrumental in making this 6th annual convention really work. Hats off to Tom Ireland, Jim Reid, and Jeannie Parker. Many other members of the Las Vegas Avicultural Society were busy in the background and without this excellent cadre of hard workers the rest of us could not have had such a good time.

Jimmy the Greek gives 8 to 5 odds that the 1981 convention in San Diego will be just as good. I'll see you there.

NEW COMMITTEE FORMED

At the A.F.A. convention in Las Vegas, a Ways and Means committee was formed to raise money for future operations and legislative emergencies.

Plans call for an ambitious program aimed at giving A.F.A. substantial financial means through many possible sources such as gifts, bequests, lifetime memberships, and solicitation of public and private funds for grants, etc., etc.

All members should be aware of this program and communicate all ideas for sources and possible donors and other means to:

Glen Haddock, Chairman
10495 S.W. Walnut
Tigard, Oregon 97223
(503) 639-7157 Home
(503) 246-5615 Work

All clubs please inform your membership of this important committee.