Convention '83
by Tom Marshall
Great Falls, Virginia

"You can't get there from here," was a familiar refrain at the spanking new Chicago Marriott Hotel, setting for yet another exciting AFA convention. The people movers, i.e., the elevators and escalators were first to be mastered before you could attend all the attractions that Ralph Milos and his able convention committee arranged for our enjoyment and education. There were two banks of elevators, and the one that I invariably got on went to the 7th and 28th floors, but never to the 20th floor where my room was. There were escalators that climbed nicely from the 5th to the 7th floor, but if you were on the 4th or 5th floors, you couldn’t get to either the 7th where the commercial exhibits were housed, or to the 5th, where the registration was being held. Utilizing the stairwell on several occasions, I did manage to see and do almost everything I wanted.

The first thing that I did was to attend the "traumaless" AFA Board meeting on Thursday, presided over by a thankful and overworked retiring chief executive, President Tom Ireland. The new national officers for ’83-'84 were announced. Heading AFA will be Lee Phillips (MD), Pres.; P. Martin, 1st VP (FL); Tom Marshall (VA) 2nd Vice President; Chief Financial Officer, Janice Pritchard (CA).

Dr. Val Clear’s luncheon had an interesting twist to it this year, as he honored the editors of all the various avicultural publications. The guest of honor at the event was the dean of this followers. There literally was something for everyone and everyone got something of value from the 1983 Convention in Chicago.

Orlando, Florida is the site of next year’s convention when AFA will celebrate its 10th birthday. You can’t miss this one! Tell the boss now, you are taking your 1984 vacation in Orlando.

Photographs by Joe McLaughlin, Dundee, Oregon

Newly elected officers L to R - Tom Marshall-2nd vice president, Phyllis Martin-1st vice president, Lee Phillips-president, Janice Pritchard chief financial officer.

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