The AFA is a diverse, environmentally aware group; so is Seattle. Hence, it is appropriate that our 1987 convention is being hosted by Seattle.

Seattle is the "Emerald City" of the "Evergreen State" (Washington). It is a many-faceted city of space, simple elegance, magic, and natural beauty — a jewel.

Visitors are astonished at the lush greenery and the wealth of natural beauty in and around Seattle. Literally touching the city's boundaries are thousands of square miles of evergreen forest and hundreds of miles of salt and freshwater shoreline. The views of mountains and water are spectacular.

Rand McNally rated Seattle as the #1 vacation destination four years in a row. Canada is very close, providing the opportunity to have a "two nation vacation."

Most of Seattle's attractions are clustered in pedestrian-scale sections, best savored on foot. Downtown buses are free and the Monorail speeds quickly between the convention hotel downtown and the Seattle Space Needle/Center.

Crown jewel of Seattle's attractions is the Seattle Center, the 74-acre legacy of the 1962 World's Fair. Its distinctive 602-foot Space Needle is Seattle's leading landmark. From its lofty observation deck, there's a 360-degree view of the city, Puget Sound, and snowcapped mountains, including Mt. Rainier.

The Seattle Center is an active place with outdoor concerts, amusement park attractions, special events, the Pacific Science Center, the Bagley Wright Theater (home to Seattle's repertory company), and the Opera House, which hosts the Wagner Festival (Ring of the Nibelung in German and English), one of the world's leading operatic events, August 2-7 and 10-15.

The convention hotel is downtown, just blocks from the Pike Place Market, one of the last authentic farmer's markets in the country. This market is a beehive of activity with impromptu performances and people-watching. A walk through the colorful old market becomes truly a sensory experience as vendors hawk their wares in several different languages; coffee, tea, spice shops assail you with their pungent odors; and seemingly limitless heaps of fresh fruit, seafood, vegetables, crafts, and baked goods stretch before you. The market is situated on a hill overlooking the waterfront activities and the harbor.

The waterfront is also within walking distance from downtown. A popular spot for strolling, shopping, and dining, this is where the ferry boats dock.

Pioneer Square, Seattle's preserved historic district, lies adjacent to downtown and the waterfront. The center is the original "Skid Road," a road used to skid timber down from the hills to Elliott Bay.

While Seattle is famous for its rain (they even have an umbrella festival), August is a dry, comfortable month. This has not stopped our Seattle AFA hosts from whimsically including an umbrella in the Seattle '87 logo.

Yes, the Pacific Northwest has cowboys and Indians! It also has: long summer days, opera: Wagner's Ring, scuba, access to Canada, boating, monorail, San Juan Islands, Boeing Airplane Factory/Museum, canoeing, horseback riding, Space Needle/Seattle Center, aquarium, ferry boat rides, Pioneer Square, Dance Locks: 21' saltwater/freshwater, kayaking, movie premieres, flying, dining — ethnic to seafood, swimming, classical music, eagles, infamous Pike Place Market, stand-up comedy, hiking, incredible architecture, scenic drives, bicycling, tennis, skiing, Mt. St. Helen's volcano, nightlife, historic tours, rafting, international district, Woodland Park Zoo, arboretum, museums, festival/fairs, photography, wineries, Mt. Rainier, antiquing, Indian culture, sailing, art museums/galleries, jazz, skydiving, paddleboating, fishing, professional sports, camping, ballooning, golfing, waterfront district, horseracing, theatre, windsurfing, rollerskating, mountain climbing, running, trolley.

And in August, Seattle will have one of the best AFA conventions ever! See you in Seattle.
Super Raffle planned for the AFA Seattle Convention

It's time to plan to attend the convention in Seattle. We are all looking forward to the opportunity to take a cruise on the Sound, to visit the famous Seattle Needle, and of course, to take a drive into the wilderness beauty of the Olympic Peninsula rainforest. This event provides us with a wonderful opportunity to visit an outstandingly beautiful area, to meet old friends and make new friends, all at the 1987 AFA Convention.

For our AFA drawing this year we have some wonderful prizes:

- An automobile
- A variety of home appliances
- A pair of rose breasted cockatoos
- Roundtrip airline tickets for two
- Fine bird paintings by well-known artists
- Assorted pairs of birds
- And many other items of interest

We hope you will avail yourself of a great opportunity to participate in this fabulous drawing. We encourage your participation in the drawing in several ways: your monetary contributions will be greatly appreciated. All donations of money or items for the drawing are welcome and will be gratefully received. Please make your check payable to AFA and mail to the address below.

With your permission, your name and your contribution will be acknowledged in a published listing in the Watchbird and in the official AFA Convention Program.

The annual AFA drawing is the major fund-raising event for the American Federation of Aviculture. We also urge you to participate by selling tickets. The success of our annual drawing is directly proportional to the effort and generosity of each AFA member and friend of AFA.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,
Dick Dickinson
AFA Drawing Chairman
1216 Greenbriar Ave., San Jose, CA 95128
Phone: (408) 248-1641

The British Columbia Aviculture Society is an AFA affiliated organization of about 300 members with a common interest in aviculture. We hold monthly meetings, publish a Bulletin, stage two shows a year, and hold bird auctions to raise funds to support our activities.

Last fall Jeri Wright of the Northwest Exotic Bird Society came to Vancouver to invite our members to Seattle next August when the NWEBs hosts the AFA convention.

We would like to reciprocate by extending a warm invitation to anyone attending the convention to make a point of visiting British Columbia. Vancouver is only a two hour drive from Seattle!

Unfortunately our club will be in its summer "hiatus" and we have no activities planned for the month of August. However, there is plenty to see and do in and around Vancouver, including visiting the famous 1000-acre Stanley Park, the Reifel Bird Sanctuary and, on Vancouver Island, Crystal Gardens and Butchart Gardens.

If you haven't been to Canada lately you will be amazed (and delighted) at how far your U.S. $$ go! (Who knows, you might even want to take advantage of the exchange rate and pick up a canary or two or a couple of pairs of budgies. Something to think about.)

The AFA convention is never going to be held closer to us, so hopefully you will see a good turn-out of British Columbians in Seattle. See you there!

Bob Perry
President B.C.A.S.