

# Feathered Beauty

## AT THE 2014 AFA CONVENTION

By Julie Corwin

The birds entered into the show at AFA in Portland brought wonderful colors and feathered beauty for everyone to enjoy. The bird shows at the AFA conventions are hosted by Lory League and bring a different style of education, in a different format, along with some fun competition. The bird shows give exhibitors recognition for their part in aviculture, along with educating the exhibitors and the gallery watching the show. Attendees have a chance to see different species of birds in the best condition, and beginners, who are considered a "Novice", get to learn more about exhibiting, and what the judges are looking for.

Lory League researches the area where the AFA Convention is to be held, and attempts to host show divisions which are the most popular in that specific region and which has the best chance of having a large number of entries in the show or species that are not often seen at shows.

This year the bird shows at the AFA Convention included many different species and mutations of Finches, several species of Softbills and a variety of parrot species. It was a special treat to see turacos, doves, a mousebird, and an aracari entered in the NFSS division of the show, along with a great showing of lorries in the NAPS (parrot) division.

Lory League hosted the annual bird show at the AFA Convention in Portland, Oregon. This year the show was Co-sponsored by the National Finch & Softbill Society and Triangle Bird Club of Beaumont, Texas. The show was located in the Walk-through Aviary frame work in the Atrium area of the hotel and was enjoyed by convention attendees, hotel staff and the public. Many comments were made about enjoying the show being in a more open area.



Best Overall – Sally Huntington— Zebra Finch - CFW Hen

Divisions this year included NFSS—National Finch & Softbill Society and NAPS—North American Parrot Society, plus a Junior Class.

It was exciting to watch as the judge lined up the birds in order of top placements. The Judges were both from Texas and judged the different show divisions. Clarence Culwell judged for NFSS, and Jeff Robinson for NAPS. Jeff Robinson also judged the Junior Class, and both judges conferred for the Best Overall and Most Rare awards. The judges were recognized and presented with a thank you gift of a ceramic tile featuring the Black Cap Lory at the AFA banquet dinner.

Thanks to the many volunteers who helped set up, break down and clean up. Teamwork is so important in having a well-organized show. Special mention: **Chuck Hawkes** for helping to remove the interior of the aviary and set up tables for the bird show. **KJ Brown** loaned us his beautiful judging bench for the NFSS division of the show and helped to set up tables and chairs for the bird show. **Mary Wilson** who came from Chicago helped every year with the bird show at AFA.

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## Junior Class Sponsored by Lory League and AFA4Kidz

It is great to see the younger generation getting involved in Aviculture and in the show world. Judge Jeff Robison did a great job of educating the junior exhibitors on how the birds were judged and what is expected from the different species.

Ribbons were awarded to all Junior Exhibitors and were donated by Julie Corwin.

### Junior Class

Judge: Jeff Robinson

Show Secretary: Mary Wilson

Show Steward: Nancy Atkinson

9 entries · 3 Exhibitors

1st: Society Finch—Desirae Lord—age 11

2nd: Society Finch—Desirae Lord—age 11

3rd: Green Cheek Conure—Kaylee Johnson Corwin—age 7

4th: Society Finch—Desirae Lord—age 11

5th: Sun Conure—Robert Hewitt—age 15

6th: Rose-breasted Cockatoo—Kaylee Johnson Corwin—age 7

7th: Society Finch—Desirae Lord—Age 11

8th: Society Finch—Desirae Lord—Age 11

9th: Society Finch—Desirae Lord—Age 11

\*Youngest Exhibitor—Kaylee Johnson Corwin—age 7

The Youngest Exhibitor plaque was sponsored by Lory League, created and donated by Gary Morgan of GEM Custom Laser.

The parrot division presented a wide variety of species and beautiful colors. It was wonderful to see many different species of Lories entered since Lory League hosts the show.

### NAPS Division

Judge: Jeff Robinson

Show Secretary: Mary Wilson

Show Stewart: Nancy Atkinson

28 entries · 9 Exhibitors

Top Ten Rosettes and Best in Show Plaque were sponsored by North American Parrot Society. Best Novice Plaque sponsored by GEM Custom Laser. Best Lory in Show Rosette sponsored by Lory League, Best Lory in Show Plaque sponsored by Lory League, created and donated by Gary Morgan of GEM Custom Laser.

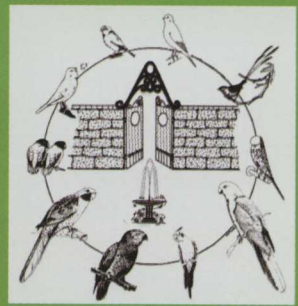
1st: Goffin Cockatoo—Mariana Mejia

2nd: Black Lory—Chuck Hawkes

3rd: Cape Parrot—Julie Corwin

4th: Senegal—Nancy Atkinson

5th: Painted Conure—Julie Corwin



# AFA Exhibitor Award Program

How many NCBS members recognize the logo on the left? I mean without reading it? It is the logo for the American Federation of Aviculture, commonly known as AFA. Now, how many of you know what this organization does? AFA is the legislative watchdog for bird related regulations. How many of you are members of AFA? Very few I assume. Why should you join AFA when you aren't affected by legislation?

Maybe you have only Canaries and you think you are immune. In fact, the "anti-bird" regulations are gaining momentum. Just last year the Endangered Species Act, ESA, expanded its listing of protected birds to add many common species of Cockatoos and Macaws for example. Now, many of these birds need an Endangered Species Permit to transfer ownership across state lines. Some states are "safe states" and in some it may actually be illegal to take an ESA listed bird to a Show in another state. In my state of Colorado we have updated regulations that included weekly removal and disinfecting of perches, cage sizes based on a calculation using the bird's size, etc. There is still a lot of sifting through the regulations, but the fact is the rules and regulations are creeping to encompass more and more birds.

So, what does this have to do with you, a member of NCBS? AFA is struggling with its annual convention just like we have experienced in NCBS. Fewer people are attending their Conference. We have seen a decline in attendance and entries. They are working to change their direction. We are making some major changes of which you are aware.

I reached out to AFA last year in an effort to begin a more collaborative relationship between our organizations. For the last few years AFA has

hosted a Bird Show at their Annual Conference. It was the idea of Julie Corwin, Mary Wilson and others. Their show is gradually gaining momentum and has the luxury of a dynamic mix of Divisions that change each year. I asked their President, Nancy Speed, if they were interested in working together. What Julie and I have begun is a series of more involvement in the coming years. This year we will do a "booth swap" at each of our events. We will also do an "ad swap" in each of our catalogs/programs. We did this as sort of a grass roots trial run this year. In 2015 we are hoping to roll out an "AFA Exhibition Award" program.



In Dayton, at the Awards Banquet, you may have noticed that we presented an "AFA Exhibitor" award. This was presented to the entry that placed the highest in the show by an AFA member (essentially the highest placing bird in the Scannell balloting). I was very honored to have won the award. We used to present the same award in previous years, but we ceased doing that in Lansing in 2008. This year, Julie and I are going to create a system of accumulating points at the local clubs where you show your birds. Exhibitors will receive points for showing locally and be tracked. At the NCBS Banquet the exhibitor with the most points will be presented the award. There are a lot of logistics to be worked out like ensuring the exhibitor is an AFA member, reporting function, points system, some kind of bonus for showing at the AFA and NCBS events, etc. but this is exciting for both organizations. Hopefully it will increase interest in AFA and NCBS, promote showing at the local level, and increase memberships in both orgs.

Look for information in the future newsletters. If you have any ideas, please feel free to contact me directly, and I will present them to Julie.

Yours in the Hobby,

**Gary Morgan**  
President NCBS

- 6th: Apricot Head Caique—Cindy Ryder
- 7th: Black Head Caique—Julie Corwin
- 8th: Green Cheek Conure—Nancy Atkinson
- 9th: Blue Crown Lory—Chuck Hawkes
- 10th: Yellow Nape Amazon—Mariana Mejia
- Best Novice: Chuck Hawkes—Black Lory
- Best Lory in Show: Black Lory—Chuck Hawkes

Chuck Hawkes was presented with a special plaque from Lory League for "Best Lory in Show", created and donated by Gary Morgan - GEM Custom Laser and a Red, White and Blue 24" Rosette sponsored by Lory League .

Mary Wilson was presented with a special Red, White and Blue Rosette by Lory League for "Best Helper at Show", for her continuous support and work in making sure the Lory League shows run smoothly at the AFA Conventions.

This was the first time a Finch and Softbill Division was hosted by Lory League at the AFA Convention. It was exciting to see so many different species and such a glorious show of colors entered into the show. It was a special treat to have numerous species that are not common in exhibiting, or in the Pacific Northwest region, so it was a great chance for others to see and learn about them.

### NFSS Division

- Judge: Clarence Culwell
- Show Secretary: Doug White
- Show Steward: KJ Brown
- 63 entries · 9 Exhibitors

Awards that were sponsored by NFSS included: Rosettes, Plaques, Coffee Mugs and more.

- 1st: Zebra—CFW Hen—Sally Huntington
- 2nd: Shafttail—normal—Laura Watkins
- 3rd: Merin—Silver Eared—Sally Huntington

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- 4th: Fruit Dove–Black Nape–Kateri Davis
- 5th: Zebra pair–Dominate Silver–Janet Edmonds
- 6th: Parrot Finch–Forbes Pair–Sally Huntington
- 7th: Owl Finch pair–Laura Watkins
- 8th: Zebra–Fawn Penguin–KJ Brown
- 9th: Turaco–White face–Kateri Davis
- 10th: Blue-cap–J Brown
- Best Unflighted: Zebra–CFW Hen–Sally Huntington
- Best Novice: Aracari–Curl-crested–Carol Stanley
- Best Junior Society: Pied Chocolate–Desirae Lord

Other Show Awards included Plaques created and donated by Gary Morgan- GEM Custom Laser featuring a Black Cap Lory inscribed with show information

- Best Overall: Sally Huntington— Zebra Finch - CFW Hen
- Most Rare: Julie Corwin – Cloncurry Parakeet
- Best Lory in Show: Chuck Hawkes – Black Lory
- Youngest Exhibitor: Kaylee Johnson Corwin – age 7

Judges' gifts were presented at the AFA banquet dinner by Lory League. These were ceramic tiles featuring a Black-cap Lory inscribed with show information.

AFA show awards were presented at the AFA banquet dinner.



Most Rare – Julie Corwin – Cloncurry Parakeet

Next Year the AFA Convention will be held in Chicago, IL, featuring several different divisions. If your show group is interested in working with Lory League for the 2015 shows, contact Julie@LoryLeague.org.

**NAPS Division**

Best Bird in Show; Bred, Banded & Exhibited by an AFA Member: No qualifying entry

Best Bird in Show; Exhibited by an AFA Member: Mariana Mejia–Goffin's Cockatoo

**NFSS Division**

Best Bird in Show; Bred, Banded & Exhibited by an AFA Member: Sally Huntington–Zebra–CFW Hen

Best Bird in Show; Exhibited by an AFA Member: Sally Huntington–Zebra–CFW Hen

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