Cathy Ford, the new Drawing Coordinator of the AFA, comes to us with extensive experience in coordinating fundraising drawings and raffles. She served six years as the Drawing Coordinator for the Santa Barbara Bird Club, of which she is a founding member. For two years, she also served in the same capacity for the Ventura County Bird Club, where she was also active as club secretary.

In 1994, Ford represented these two clubs as an AFA delegate at the AFA’s national convention. It was at this convention that Ford was drafted into handling the AFA’s drawing when the person holding that position was unable to attend. Her experience as Drawing Coordinator for the national conventions of the Avian Research Fund and the Association of Avian Veterinarians served her well.

This year, Ford has introduced a new concept in drawings. Each ticket will have six different prizes listed on it. Alongside each prize is a box. Choose the prize you most desire and put a check mark in the appropriate box. This way, you will be in a smaller raffle for the prize of your choice rather than a huge raffle for random prizes some of which you might not even want. Be sure to check only one box. This is a very user-friendly drawing.

There will be an additional drawing for those attending the banquet at the convention. In this case, you put your name on the back of each ticket. The tickets will be drawn out of a drum and the winner must be present to collect the prize. If the prize is a live bird, it will not be on site but will be shipped to the winner at an appropriate time.

Fran Gonzales

Fran Gonzales and her husband have been breeding birds for over 13 years and currently have a collection that includes African Greys, Amazon parrots, Hawk-headed Parrots, cockatoos, macaws, and caiques. They also have two retail outlets specializing in birds for pets and also for captive breeding. Their philosophy is to educate their customers in all aspects of birdkeeping whether they have just one pet or are getting started in breeding.
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