

multiples? Any problems? Do you have other species housed with them; what are they; and any problems?

46- If your birds are set up for breeding, describe the cage, nest boxes (number provided) sizes and composition.

47- What nesting materials do you offer and which are their favorites?

48- What special diet do you give your breeders and how long before and after chicks are reared?

49- Eggs: number infertile, fertile. Incubator hatched?

50- Number of chicks hatched? Died: age of death and cause, if known. Number alive at one year?

51- Banded? Open or closed? At what age? Any problem with bands?

52- Have you allowed parents to rear chicks? Were they successful? If not, when and what happened?

53- If parent-hatched, at what age do you remove chicks for hand-rearing and what food do you use?

54- How often do you feed? Is it by the clock or on demand?

#### Questions and More Questions

55- What do you think would be a reasonable price for a Mynah/Starling book?

56- Would you rather keep the cost down by having fewer color photos or pay more to include them?

57- I have other subjects covered in addition to the above. Are there other topics you want me to discuss? Suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.

If you have any good, clear color or B/W photos of your mynahs to include in the book, I'd love to see them. Because of the large amount of paperwork, I can return only those photos with a SASE included.

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer questions and giving your input. ➤

## Linda S. Rubin of Boston Visits Australia

by Graeme Hyde, Australia

The American Federation of Aviculture's long time [now retired] Northeastern Region Director, Linda S. Rubin, of Boston, Massachusetts, traveled to Australia earlier this year as the guest of the Brisbane-based Australian National Cockatiel Society and the Sydney-based Native Cockatiel Society of Australia. The two cockatiel societies decided to share their resources to bring an experienced aviculturist from the U.S. who was knowledgeable in the genetics of cockatiel mutations.

As a result, they invited Linda Rubin to Australia to speak at two specially convened meetings; the first in Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland, and the second in Sydney, the capital city of New South Wales.

Linda's two one-hour programs in each city were titled "*Recent Mutations in Cockatiels*" and "*History of Cockatiel Husbandry in the United States*." Mike Anderson of Brisbane, the coordinator of Linda's trip to Australia, said: "Linda's four lectures were professionally presented, highly informative, and

illustrated with excellent colour slides."

Following her commitments to the cockatiel societies Linda flew to Melbourne, Victoria (Australia's most southern mainland state), where she was met by Warwick Remington and Graeme Hyde, who were hosting the final part of her trip "Down Under." We had met Linda Rubin in 1994 when, together with Barry Hutchins, we were the three speakers representing Australia at the AFA's Twentieth Anniversary Convention held in Knoxville Tennessee.

As secretary of the Avicultural Society of Australia I arranged a special meeting of the ASA in Melbourne in our regular venue, for Friday May 30, 1997, with Linda as the "Overseas Guest Speaker" on the subject "*Keeping Parrots and Cockatiels in American Aviculture*."

One hundred members enjoyed Linda's colour slide presentation, which was followed by a 30 minute question and answer segment, after which members had the opportunity to talk with Linda informally on a one to one basis during the extended supper time. ➤



Linda S. Rubin is welcomed to the Avicultural Society of Australia by President John Buchan

Photo by Graeme Hyde