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# Las Vegas Convention

Everybody loves a convention—most of the time. Granted, the primary reason for holding our convention is to bring together the directors of the organization to expedite the business of keeping the A.F.A. healthy and growing. The business meeting can give one a headache. But when the business is over, the fun begins.

Secondary but very important reasons for having a convention are education and socialization. All of the A.F.A. conventions have featured the very finest speakers available. They have always entertained and educated the convention guests with great skill and finesse. No one can listen to the various speakers without learning one or two very helpful hints that can be applied in one's aviaries at home. In fact, if we each actually put into practice the things we learned at the conventions a great upgrading of aviculture would occur all over the country.

Human nature being what it is, however, most people probably attend conventions for the intense socializing that occurs with folks who share a common interest. Bird people like to boast a bit about their own collections or methods and I should tell you, folks, that at a convention the first liar doesn't stand a

chance. Stories get bigger and better as time goes on. But they are enjoyable and can be great fun if one doesn't take one's self too seriously. It's also nice to dress up for the grand banquet and to put one's best foot forward.

A good convention almost verges on a fantasy world where folks can get away from the humdrum bird chores and business world and enter into a select little realm of excitement, glitter, and high-tension social relationships. Fortunately, most conventions are of short duration. If not, most of us would burn out in about a week or our best forward foot would become so scuffed it would be beyond repair.

As man is a very social creature, conventions serve an important role in the continuity and growth of any hobby or business. Our avicultural world is so complex and inter-dependent now that a great coming together once or twice a year is a necessity rather than a luxury. It can be luxurious also as many convention goers will attest. All in all, not one of you should be without convention experience. Try to arrange your affairs so that you can attend the 1981 convention in San Diego. You, and all of the rest of us, will be glad that you did. See you there.

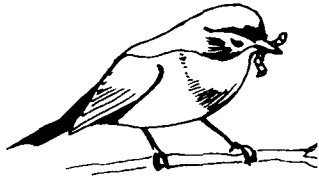


AFA booth with Pat Mackey taking a turn at answering questions.

Photo by Frank Vaden, Nevada

# choice golden mealworms

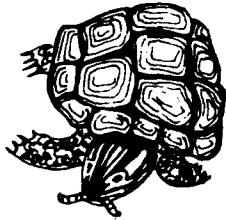
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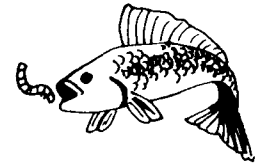
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Craig Hendee

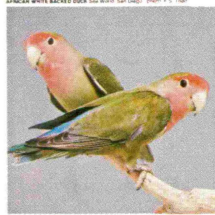
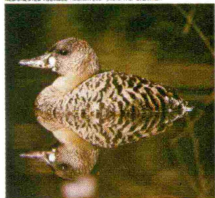
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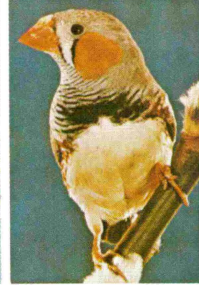
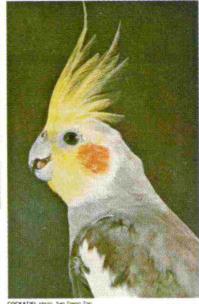
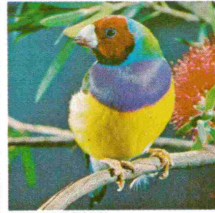
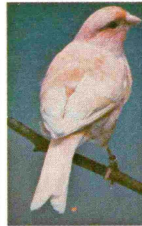


## Subscribe Now to the AFA Watchbird Magazine

For information, contact your local representative or

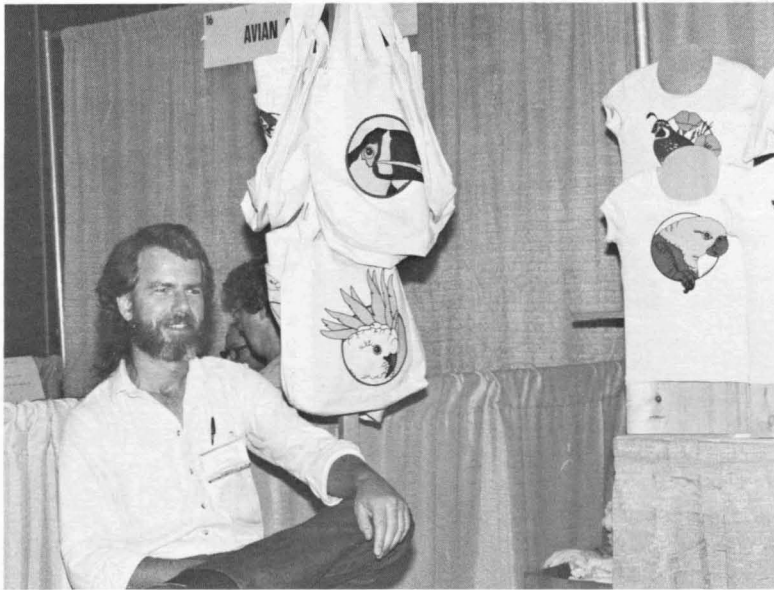
**American Federation of Aviculture • P.O. Box 327 • El Cajon • California 92022**

The Watchbird, AFA's official publication, is bi-monthly, written by experts and experienced breeders. It contains the most accurate information available on care, breeding, diet, avian medicine and housing for all types of birds. (Canaries, Budgies, Cockatiels, Parrots, Finches, Softbills, Toucans, Pheasants, Waterfowl, etc.) It also contains articles on breeding rare and endangered species, building aviaries, preparing birds for show, legislation affecting aviculture, where to buy birds and related bird products.





Bird breeders with many beaks to feed were pleased to talk with Ed Denney of Gardena Seed and Feed Corp., Vernon, CA. (See ad page 19)

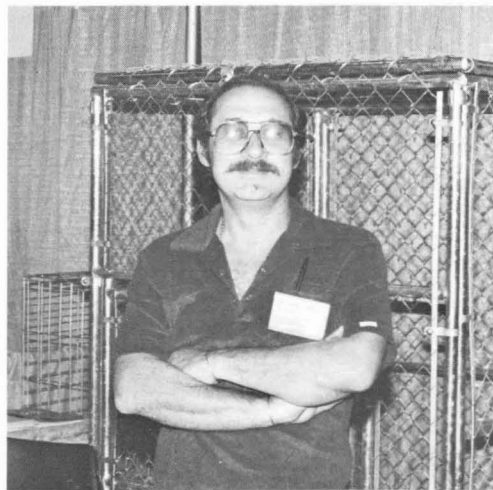


Jeremiah Sullivan, Emeryville, CA, of "Plum," showed a lot of beautiful silkscreened designs on numerous useful items.

Photo by Lawrence McPhail, Florida



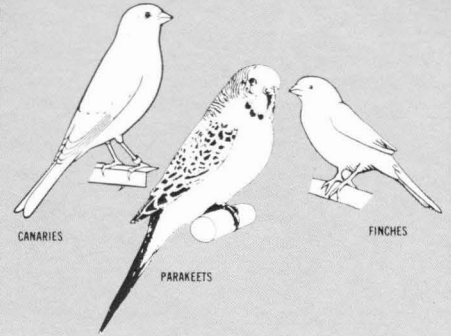
Shannon Orwing, of Kel Vitra Labs, Pomona, CA, showed a variety of fine products and support information.



Some very handsome and well-built cages and enclosures were displayed by Louis Cusamano, Environmental Enclosures, Walnut, CA. (See ad page 33)

McPhail

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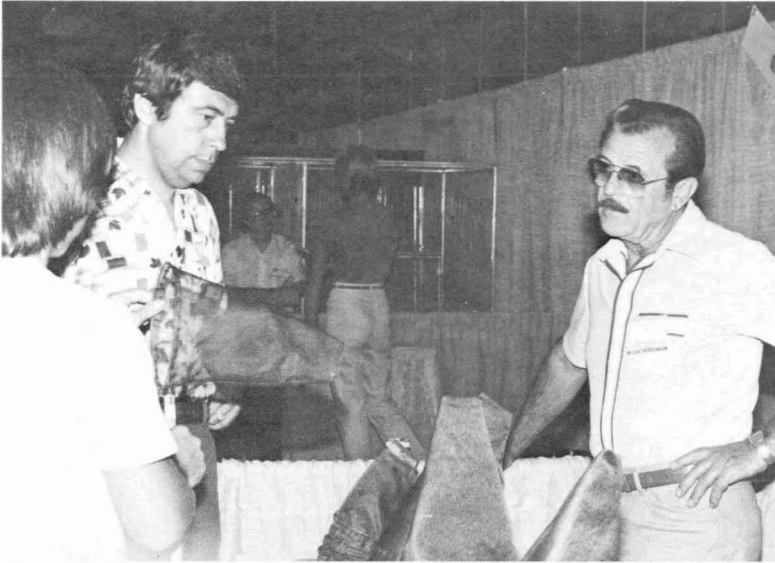
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Photo by Lawrence McPhail, Florida



Charles Sefer, of Aviary West, Hacienda Hgts., CA displayed a selection of quality nets. (See ad page 8)



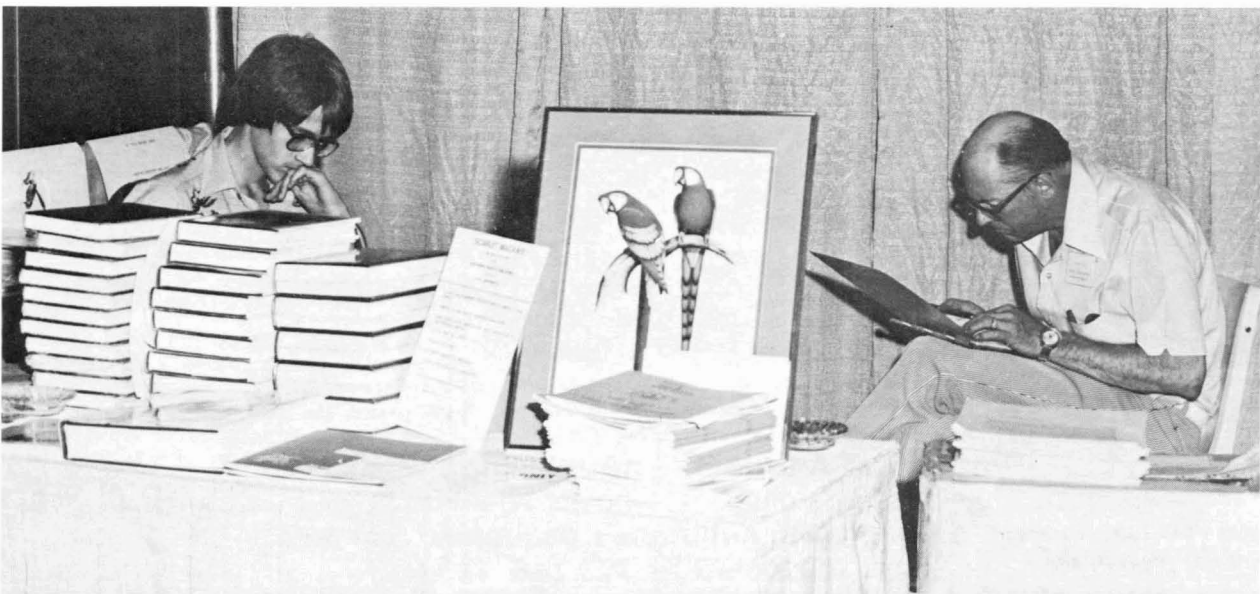
Unique and natural perches made and shown by Michaelallen McGuire of Santa Fe, NM drew a lot of interest.

Vaden



Bird Bands International, Cypress, CA, had a very colorful display of leg bands of all sizes, which kept Joanne Kuys busy. (See ad page 16)

Photo by Frank Vaden, Nevada



Lloyd Imig and his son Jim, of Avian Publications, Wausau, WI, displayed a grand selection of bird books much to the delight of collectors and bookworms. (See ad page 36)

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