

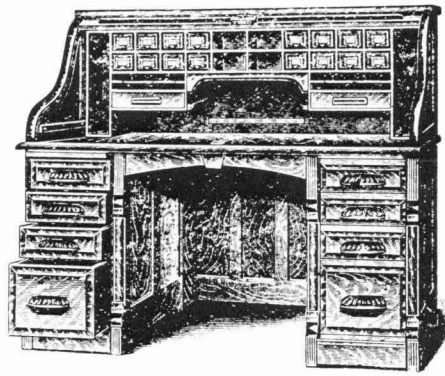
NOTICE

All correspondence intended for the editor of the Watchbird should be mailed directly to his address.

Sheldon Dingle
P.O. Box 340
Norco, CA 91760

From The Editor's Desk

by Sheldon Dingle



Well, Dr. Baer is gone. After three years of fighting with him, when I was just about to win one round what does he do? He retires. Drat and blast! Now I must start all over again with Tom.

Because of Dr. Baer's astute and selfless leadership, Tom has inherited an

organization that has gained much in numbers, prestige, honor, and influence. We all trust that President Ireland will add to that.

Now, while I'm studying my strategy for the future, we should push on with a few letters that have come to me.

Dear Sheldon,

Through the pages of Watchbird I wish to thank the AFA for inviting me to speak at the AFA convention in San Diego. It was a most enjoyable and rewarding experience to be among so many enthusiastic aviculturists—indeed, it was the highlight of my year. The generous hospitality of the Southern California aviculturists who invited my husband and me to their homes was also greatly appreciated and will be long remembered.

Yours sincerely,
Rosemary Low

I speak for all of us when I say the pleasure was all ours, and may the two of you visit us all the more often.

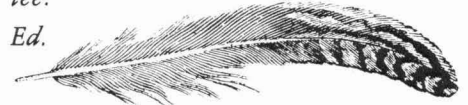


Photo by Larry McPhail

Honored guests, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grantham from England. The Granthams are both very skilled aviculturists and Mrs. Grantham (Rosemary Low) is well known for her writing and speaking.

fact, at the A.F.A. Annual Business Meeting last August, your humble servant caused an A.F.A. Conservation Committee to be created. Personally, I hope its first act will be to declare CITES extinct, but then I'm not on the committee.

Ed.



Dear Editor:

After I had read with great interest Tom Bradley's "Another point of view" and your extensive reply (A.F.A. Watchbird, Vol. VIII, No. 3, 1981), I felt prompted to join the discussion. I hope that you will publish my letter and that it will elicit another round of letters and replies.

While it is certainly true that Mr. Bradley did not support his statements by hard statistical numbers, he may nevertheless have pointed into the right direction. His statement, "The only way to promote captive propagation on a large scale basis is by placing limitations on the number of Psittacines that can be . . . imported" seems to be supported by the developments in aviculture after Australia had put a complete ban on the exportation of *any* Australian wildlife. Contrary to what some aviculturists had feared, Australian Psittacines did not disappear from American and European aviaries, but enjoyed a real boom. The Budgies, Cockatiels, Red Rumps, Grass Parakeets, Rosellas, Princess Alexandras, Red-collared and Moluccan Lorikeets, etc. are not only well established aviary birds of Australian origin, but their captive breeding success can probably be matched only by that of some of the *Agapornis* species.

How can this success story be explained? When it was not possible any longer to import wild Australian birds, the value of the few remaining birds in captivity rose tremendously—and suddenly it became economically profitable to work hard at captive breeding programs. At first, the prices for Australian parrots remained very high, but as more and more Australian Psittacines were raised in captivity and subsequently sold, the prices came down. The very positive results of the Australian export ban for aviculture cannot be denied.

When one takes a rather sober look at human nature, one must sincerely wonder whether captive breeding programs will ever receive priority over "pet keeping" as long as it is much cheaper to buy an imported bird than to try to breed one. (The cost of breeding a bird includes the costs of buying the parental

Dear Mr. Dingle:

I would like to commend you for publishing Tom Bradley's point of view on the CITES decision regarding Psittiforms. It shows a healthy respect for individual rights that you should print his comments of opposition.

I believe Mr. Bradley's arguments are sound and well considered. I support the CITES decision because I believe it will best ensure the survival of psittacines. Maybe conditions will change in the future, and the CITES ban can be lifted. In the meantime it is encouraging to see more people becoming concerned about conservation of bird life, even if we have disagreements about how to ensure that.

Yours sincerely,

David Hancocks

Director, Woodland Park Zoological Gardens, Seattle, WA

As I have pondered the Bradley opinion over the last couple of months I have come to the conclusion that his remarks were irrelevant as well as ill prepared. The CITES decision is likewise irrelevant and ill prepared. Its formula is faulty. It does not address the problem.

Even you, sir, do not believe the bald-faced lie that CITES has laded on us. You know as well as I do that not all parrot species are "threatened." Regulations built upon the CITES lie will be understandably treated with irreverence.

The original U.S. proposal (that was abandoned) to place all parrots on Appendix II for control purposes was at least honest. Most of us, like you, would like to see honest and effective measures taken to conserve the world's bird life. In

pair, building an aviary, buying the food, paying the veterinarian, and spending innumerable hours on the care for the birds.)

I agree that "in a free market economy there is no 'only way' to do anything." But there may be a "better" way, one of which could be to induce aviculturists to work within a traditional free market situation in which scarcity creates an increased demand on the product, which in turn makes increased production profitable.

If the aviculturist's claim that captive propagation of wildlife is an important way to support wildlife conservation is to be taken seriously by governmental agencies and conservationists, the aviculturists, too, have to provide "hard facts." This means that they have to show that they are capable and willing to maintain self-sustaining captive populations of parrots *now*, not some time in the future.

I am looking forward to your reply. With best regards,

Sincerely, Dominique G. Homberger
Department of Zoology & Physiology
Louisiana State University

For years I have been speaking from the burning bush. It is not done, my dear professor, to refute my proclamations with such lucid logic. Folks might figure my burning bush emits more smoke than anything else.

Your letter has extinguished me. I find no fault in it. I should like to emphasize your final point, however, and once again urge all A.F.A. members to diligently fill out the new, revised Bird Census forms that will be available about the first of 1982. We must compile our breeding data.

Well, now back to the old flint and steel. It won't be any simple chore to rekindle my bush this time.

Ed.

Dear Sheldon:

I have been asked to prepare a studbook for the Rothschild's myna by my superiors and the Species Survival Committee of the AAZPA. Since it will be a monumental task, I have agreed to do it for the U.S. and Canada only. I have *not* agreed to carry it on through the years. It will be their first effort for a bird. The species and I was selected because I have already done some captive population research on it.

With the help of Carolyn Emerick, birds keeper leader here, we will attempt

to set up a computerized register of the populations.

We will appreciate your assistance in learning the names and addresses of current and former owners. We plan to send forms and explanations to each of them. We will then prepare a register showing the status of the American population. We will arrange for a yearly supplement starting in 1982. Copies will be sent to all owners who participate.

Please remind owners that confidential information as to sources of individuals, etc. will not be released without the express permission of the submitter.

Very truly yours,

Guy A. Greenwell
Senior Ornithologist
Conservation & Research Center
Front Royal, VA 22630

The Rothschild's myna studbook is a very worthy project and can serve as a model for other such endeavors with bird species. I wholeheartedly urge all of you who now own or have owned a Rothschild's myna to contact Guy Greenwell as soon as possible.
Ed.



Convention, cocktails and conversation—Guy Greenwell (left) and Jim Fouts in some serious bird talk.

Dear. Dr. Tkachuck,

In the last several issues of *The AFA Watchbird* I have seen several articles related to avian nutrition, and many letters requesting scientific information.

I would like to share with you what I have been able to find out. All this information took weeks to compile. I would be very disappointed not to see at least parts of it reprinted.

I got curious when Mr. Dean's letter appeared (June 80) asking for information about sunflower, I waited when I saw Sheldon Dingle's comment in Aug. 80 about a future article. When no article appeared I called Mr. Dean who says he never got any letter from Dick Top-

per. Curiosity killed the cat, I wanted to make sure that lack of it would not hurt my feathered friends.

Enclosed please find a copy of a lab report I requested on Sunflower, to substantiate or dispel the rumor that sunflower is narcotic.

Also please find a listing of oils and grains' nutritive values as listed in *Composition of Food*, Agric. Handbook 8, Dept. of Agriculture, and *Nutritive Value of American Foods*, Agric. Handbook no. 456, Dept. of Agriculture.

In addition to the above, I have a condensed listing of common vitamins, how they effect the body, what they are readily available in and what destroys them. This information was gathered from *Nutrition Almanac*, McGraw-Hill and *Vitamin Bible*, Warner Books, and *Bird Diseases*, Arnal & Keymer TFH.

Very truly yours,
Cathy Sarmento
San Jose, CA

At this writing, Dr. Tkachuck is out of the country on assignment so I'll take the liberty of addressing this matter.

As you know, I contacted Topper regarding Dean's letter. Eventually Topper got his answer to me but Dr. Tkachuck and I considered it inconclusive.

We decided to leave Topper and Dean out of it and find out for ourselves whether sunflower contains papavarin or not. Toward this end, I contacted Tom Roudybush at U.C. Davis' Department of Avian Sciences. He agreed to submit normal sunflower and papavarin-injected sunflower seeds to the California Dept. of Food and Agriculture laboratory. The State lab is even now working on the problem but has encountered great technical problems. There is no simple screening test that is satisfactory.

When the lab work is done, or if, for technical reasons, it can't be done, Tom Roudybush will write a paper summarizing the results.

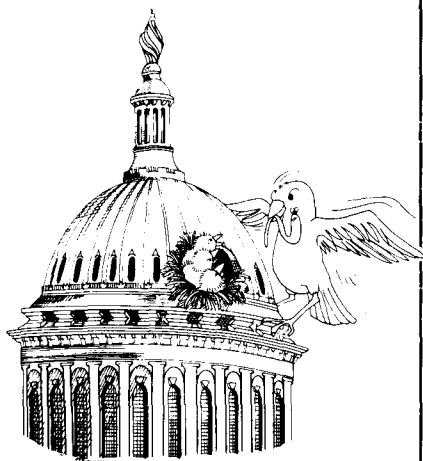
Your efforts are greatly appreciated but I feel a moral obligation to Tom Roudybush and the others at U.C. Davis. They are doing worlds of good things for aviculture and we should wait for their report. Your vitamin charts are well done and interesting but lack of space prohibits our reproducing them here. I refer all readers to your listed sources.

My congratulations on your curiosity, energy, and well organized mind. Would that all aviculturists were the same.
Ed.

Wings Over Washington

American Federation of Aviculture

8th Annual Convention 1982



August 4th thru 8th

Washington, D.C.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO SEE—

- The Capitol or Supreme Court
- The White House
- The Smithsonian's National Gallery of Art or Air & Space Museum
- The National Zoo
- The Kennedy Center
- The Memorials and Monuments: Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington
- The National Aquarium (Baltimore)
- Mount Vernon

AND AT THE SAME TIME ENJOY AN AFA CONVENTION FEATURING SUCH SPEAKERS AS:

(partial listing)—

- A. A. J. Stoodley—Pionus
- Didi Graham—Pheasants
- Eric Peake—Budgerigars
- Risa Teitler—Bird Psychology
- Arthur Freud—Bird Identification
- Richard Baer—Aviary Construction
- Ray Jerome—Lories
- Herschel Frey—Finches
- William Peratino—Eclectus
- Dr. s Carpenter & Erickson—
Reintroducing Species into the Wild
- Dr. Randolph Perry—Condors
- Guy Grenwell—Rothschild's Mynahs

**NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO DO BOTH!!!
AFA IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL—
JOIN US AUGUST 4th THRU 8th, 1982**

1981 Raffle Results

PRIZE	DONOR	WINNER
\$100.00	Nancy Reed Windsor, CT	Key Enterprises Athens, GA
\$100.00	Mark Runnals Holyoke, MA	Willett Ojai, CA
\$100.00	Jim Smith Oroville, CA	Kate Jacobs Worthington, OH
10 Surgical Sexings	Dr. Hannis L. Stoddard, Norco, CA	Tom Marshall Great Falls, VA
Pr. Pearl Headed Amadines	Victor & Pearl Swatsek, Vista, CA	E. G. Earhart Dunedin, FL
Pr. Red Crested Cardinal	Hugh Sperling Santa Ana, CA	Brenda J. Zellie Jacksonville, FL
Pr. Violet Eared Waxbills	Dave Pancoast Lowesville, VA	K. C. Lint San Diego, CA
Pr. Cinnamon Cockatiels	John & Marguerita Agrella, Lakeside, CA	John Gibson Tiller, OR
Pacific Exotic Bird Cage	Jim & Brenda Bateman Ontario, CA	Tom Marshall Great Falls, VA
Pr. Blue Masked Lovebirds	Dale Thompson Canyon County, CA	Cliff Knox Westminster, CA
Pr. Blue Masked Lovebirds	Barry & Sandy Wold Sepulveda, CA	Kim Welsh Arnold, MD
6 pr. Mutation Budgerigars	Rich & Carol Haga Phoenix, AZ	Karen Allen Torrance, CA
1 Rosella Parakeet	Sonny Cosco Santa Ana, CA	Mike Delong Torrance, CA
Pr. Indian Ringnecks	Bob & Mary Quick Chula Vista, CA	Randy Kolt Seattle, WA
#465-3 Parrot Cage	Vicky & Kent Didlen Kent, OH	E. Johnson Sebastotol, CA
Pr. Pied Peachface Lovebirds	Pearl De Hoog Redlands, CA	Rich Cahill Des Moines, IA
Pr. Peachface Lovebirds	Ed & Sue Wellman Las Vegas, NV	Sel Long Long Beach, CA
Prevue/Hendryx Macaw Cage & Stand	Bill Wilson Marengo, IL	Craig DeWitt San Francisco, CA
\$100.00 & Book Lovebirds: Answers	John Biggs San Bernardino, CA	Greg L. Wickett Jefferson, OR
Pr. Bourke Parakeets	Boldon & Jeanne Crist Palm Springs, CA	Bill & Mary Hilton Indiana, PA
Pr. Bourke Parakeets	Earl Haga Phoenix, AZ	Carol Hamilton Oelriches, SD
Pr. Bourke Parakeets	Gene Hall San Marcos, CA	L. Waranha Oak Circle, WI
Pr. New Zealand Red Fronted Kakarikis	Sigie & Ethel Meyer Alhambra, CA	Les Nielson Queensland, Australia
Pr. Owl Finches	Frank Gabin Pacifica, CA	Ruth Murchison Red Bluff, CA
Pr. Cherry Headed Peachface Love- birds "Parrots of the World"	Hank & Emmy Bollen Norco, CA	Ken Mestas Ontario, CA
Pr. Diamond Sparrows	Jerry Jennings Woodland Hills, CA	Bollen Norco, CA
Pr. Mutation Lovebirds	Ernie & Nancy Polloreno Encinitas, CA	Gary Long Costa Mesa, CA
Pr. Mutation Lovebirds	H. Richard La Puente, CA	C. Val Calder Seattle, WA
Pr. Mutation Lovebirds	Vince & Virginia Smith Chino, CA	D. England Mt. View, CA
Pr. Mutation Lovebirds	Lee Horton & Rolland Dubuc, Vista, CA	Lloyd A. Lacy Laramie, WY
Pr. Mutation Lovebirds	Don & Darel Cavender Escondido, CA	Don Byers Spring Valley, CA
\$100.00	Jim Coffman Burlingame, CA	D. Gillilan San Diego, CA
\$100.00	Herschel Frey Pittsburgh, PA	Mischele B. Davis W. Valley, UT
1 Cockatiel & 1 Budgie T-Shirt	GB Enterprises Long Beach, CA	David Gillilan San Diego, CA
2 Myrtlewood Plaques with exotic birds or parrots	Penny Olson North Bend, OR	Avicultural Society of America
1 BD 102 Hanging Parrot Perch	The Bird Depot N. Miami Beach, FL	Lynn Johnson Hermosa Beach, CA

PRIZE

- 5 Copies Pet Bird Handbook
- Pr. Pied Peachface Lovebirds
- 1 Golden Cinnamon Cockatiel
- 1 Amazon Parrot
- Exotic Bird Clock
- Book: "Parrots of the World"
- Book: "Finches & Softbill Birds"
- Original Macrame Owl
- 5 lbs. of Field Fresh Milo
- Surprise
- Surprise
- Surprise
- 1 Cockatiel
- 1 pr. Bourkes
- Pr. Blue Masked Lovebirds
- 2 pcs. Sterling Silver Bird Pieces
- 1 pr. Yellow Fischers Lovebirds
- \$150.00
- Pr. Red Rumps
- Pr. Cockatiels
- \$25
- Pr. Red Peachface Lovebirds
- Pr. Pheasants
- Pr. Conures
- Pr. Canary Wing Beebees
- 1 hand-fed Sunday (hybrid) Conure
- Pr. Mutation Cockatiels
- Pr. Lutino Cockatiels
- Pr. Pied Cockatiels
- Pr. Cockatiels
- Pr. Normal Cockatiels
- Pr. Fischer Lovebirds
- 2 Pr. Gold Breasted Waxbills
- Pr. Maroon Bellies (surgically sexed)
- Pr. Birds

DONOR	WINNER	PRIZE	DONOR	WINNER
P. Sutherland Jackson Heights, NJ Ron & Sandy Morris Mentone, CA The Medlars Oxnard, CA Hookbill Hobbyist of of S. Cal., San Diego, CA Henry Gray Apple Valley, CA Dee Pledger Feathers with a Flair Derwood, MD Ruth Hanessian Animal Exchange Gaithersburg, MD Marlene Walder Vista, CA Wolly Walters Las Vegas, NV Gail Worth Aves International Torrance, CA Gail Worth Aves International Torrance, CA Gail Worth Aves International Eric & Georgina Von Gorlitz, Lemon Grove, CA Walter & Willa Willoughby S. Windsor, CT Dave Campbell Woodland Hills, CA Marion Packer D & W Novelty Sparks, NV Rainer Erhart Kalamazoo, MI Jeff Wigginton Kent, WA Chris & Bryan Rowson Santee, CA Chris & Bryan Rowson Santee, CA Long Beach Bird Breeders Long Beach, CA Ed & Sue Wellman Las Vegas, NV Jim Gunderson San Juan Capistrano, CA Francis Billie Tropical Jungle Temple City, CA Ken & Ruth Schlomer Barona Bird Farm Lakeside, CA Tom Ireland Tuwana Aviaries Lake Worth, FL Joe & Mary Lannom Lannom Farms San Diego, CA Dr. Richard Baer The Gilded Bird Cage Groveport, OH Tony Barret Glendora, CA Bill Hardingham Ellicott City, MD Patty Rowles Kelso, WA Ray Brode Torrance, CA Philadelphia Zoo Larry Shelton Philadelphia, PA Rex Kennedy Port Lincoln Aviaries Salt Lake City, UT Bill Parlee East Hartford, CT	Guy Greenwell Nat'l Zoological Park, VA L. McKenzie Escondido, CA Larry Landon Livermore, CA John Roberds Little Rock, CA Larry Landon Livermore, CA N. S. Klonowski D.H.S., CA John Goddard Oceanside, CA J. Marks N.M.B., FL Joe Rich San Pedro, CA Rod & Mary Godzman Vernon Hills, IL M. Moss El Monte, CA F. Bonsal Charleston, SC George Harwell Ft. Lauderdale, FL Fred Russ Palm Springs, CA P. Barbera Larkspur, CA Isabell Forward Port Townsend, WA Larry Turner Dallas, TX Merle Batic Chico, CA Hans Rosenlinoh Bjou, Sweden Mark, Alcy Pennebhner Fairbanks, AI Janina Lutomirski Los Angeles, CA Long Sei Long Beach, CA Kathy Ingram Phoenix, AZ D. & L. Godzman Camarilla, CA Vi Jost Ellisville, MO M. J. Slorach Lake Worth, FL Marg Cavanaugh Columbus, OH The J. Gardners Lilburn, GA Craig Snodgrass Seattle, WA Jack & Jackie Taylor El Reno, OK J. Stephens A. L. North Riverside, CA Ellis Crabtree Fair Oaks, CA Lee Cunningham K. Swann Westbank, B.C.	Pr. Birds 1 female Indian Ringneck Parakeet Pr. Peachface Lovebirds Pr. Peachface Lovebirds 1 blue Peachface Lovebird Pr. Mules or Canaries Pr. Doves Pr. Cape Doves 1 Pearly Cockatiel Ceramics Budgie Jewelry \$50 gift certificate \$25 cash \$25 cash \$20 cash \$20 cash \$20 cash 2 Bird Books 2 Bird Books Book: "Birds of the World" \$2000 Blue & Gold Macaw Pr. Stanley Rosellas Pr. Lories African Gray \$300.00 Pr. Pheasants Pr. Scarlet Crested Parakeets Pr. Gold Mantle Rosellas Pr. Turquoise Parakeets Mynah Bird Pr. Silver Brown Satinet Canaries 2 Pr. Blue Masked Lovebirds Pr. Lady Gouldians & 1 Yr. subscription to Finch Society of San Diego County Pr. Olive Peachface Lovebirds Pr. Shaftail Finches Original Watercolor	Carlton Smith & Rita Revat Glen Cove, NY Tom Marshall Great Falls, VA Don & Connie Howard Rialto, CA Max & Letha Dresser Las Vegas, NV Ken Hekel Olympia, WA Ben Giordano Methuen, MA Larry Brandt East Kingston, NH Al Muhlethaler Valinda, CA Marty Nelson West Linn, Or Jeanne Marsh Los Angeles, CA Capt. Jim Albury Miami, FL Steve & Sharon Clause S.C. Ranch Poway, CA Joseph Berthelet Olympic Mealworms La Jolla, CA Joseph Berthelet Olympic Mealworms La Jolla, CA Jan Bach Las Vegas, NV Paul & Jeanie Parker Las Vegas, NV G. J. Quinn Fort Worth, TX Tim & Ro Dahle Glen Burnie, MD Larry & Hellen Willet Ojai, CA Pat Dingle For the Birds Las Vegas, NV AFA Pet Farm, Inc. Miami, FL Gerald L. Schulman Behavioral Study of Birds & Animals North Hollywood, CA Critter Shop Tampa, FL Frank Miser Anaheim, CA Pat Barbera Larkspur, CA Ed Hamilton San Diego, CA Jack Marlette Danville, CA Craig Nendee Glenview, IL Ralph V. Smith Calimesa, CA Jim & Smitty Hinkle Escondido, CA Tony Bucci San Pedro, CA Hank Dryman Fine Feathered Friends Finch Society of San Diego County Clint & Marcella Hufford San Marino, CA Bill & Phyllis Porter Vista, CA Laura Jones Upper Marlboro, MD	Hannah's Bird Farm Las Vegas, NV Dick Vaughn Lake Worth, FL Lisa Akey Nashua, NH Norma Merkle Miramar, FL Linda Anderson Sequim, WA J. L. Niedweske Westfield, NJ B & R Aviary Riverview, FL A. E. Smeets Rockaway, NJ Troy Crook Tampa, FL Lloyd Lacy Laramie, WY R. P. Lasse Houston, TX Vinny Ellner College Park, GA Marci Spear Seattle, WA Dolores Pledger Derwood, MD Clinton Messerschmidt San Diego, CA James T. Wallace Pittsburgh, PA Dennis DeMolet Dayton, OH Kim Hart Fairbanks, AK Pauline Gareel Santa Ana, CA Louis Cushmano San Dimas, CA Rochelle Plasse Houston, TX Ann M. White Floral City, FL Turquoise Aviary Calimesa, CA Morris Sale Palm Springs, CA Lane Braver Temecula, CA Lisa Rosenlindh Sweden Schulenburg San Diego, CA Bill Winen Ticket #192777 D. S. Rimlinger San Diego Zoo, CA Cloe Williams Tampa, FL Joe Duran Riverside, CA Francisco Pet Shop Redondo Beach, CA Dick Vanek Solana Beach, CA Gary D. Holcomb Amston, CT Craig DeWill San Francisco, CA David Allen Redondo Beach, CA S C Ranch Poway, CA