

AFA's Tenth Annual Convention

by
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Tampa, Florida

AFA's 10th annual convention was held at the Hyatt Hotel just outside of the Magic Kingdom of Disney World in Kissimmee, Florida, August 2-5, 1984. Over 900 persons from the United States, South Africa, Trinidad, Sweden, Canada, and Spain congregated for a full three days of avicultural lectures given by some of the world's leading aviculturists.

The convention started with the annual board meeting which was held on Thursday, August 2nd at which time the board voted into effect an updated and revised set of by-laws. It was also voted to award grants to the following avian research projects:

1. Protein and Energy Utilization of Amazon Parrots — C.R. Grau and T.E. Roudybush.
2. Breeding Biology of the Monk Parrot — Prof. Stephen J. Emlen, Section of Neurobiology and Behavior, Cornell University.
3. Development and Validation of Egg Waste Estrogen Analysis in Rare and Endangered Psittacine Species; Applications in Neonates for Sex Identification and Non-invasive Assessment — Arden Bryan Bercovitz, Ph.D., San Diego Zoo.
4. Nutritional Requirements of Budgerigars Through Their Life Cycle — Dr. Donald Polin, Dept. of Animal Science, Michigan State University.
5. Cryogenic Preservation of Psittacine Semen — Timothy L. Hargrove, Florida Atlantic University.

At the Friday luncheon Dr. Val Clear honored AFA's presidents — Jerry Jennings, Lee Horton, Richard Baer, Tom Ireland, and Mrs. Lee Phillips, the current president.

This year AFA encouraged affiliated clubs to set up an educational booth in the commercial exhibit area of the convention. All the participating clubs did an outstanding job and I am sure the judges had a difficult time making a decision. The first place cash award of \$100.00 went to the Sunshine State Cage Bird Society, Orlando, Florida, for

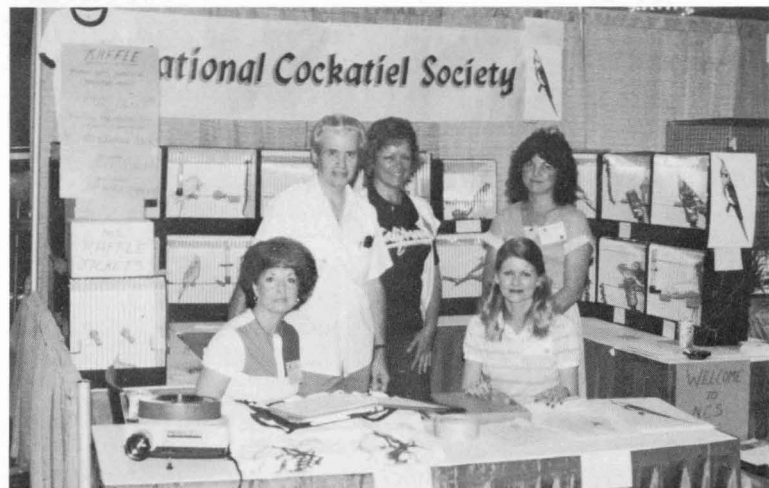
their very beautiful and educational display of a garden patio aviary. The second place award of \$75.00 was given to the National Cockatiel Society, Marietta, Georgia, for their display of live cockatiel mutations. A third place prize of \$50.00 was given to the Sun-

coast Avian Society, St. Petersburg, Florida. This club ran a videocassette tape of handfeeding baby birds and also used live subjects to demonstrate the techniques for handfeeding different species of birds and outlined the formulas to be used.

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First place club booth winner — Sunshine State Cage Bird Society, Orlando, FL., featured a cleverly constructed garden patio aviary filled with beautiful birds and plants.



Second place club booth winner — National Cockatiel Society, Marietta, GA., featured an impressive display of live cockatiels in their many color mutations.

Photos by Chuck Saffell, Snead Island, Palmetto, FL.



Third place club booth winner — Suncoast Avian Society, staffed by Cal St. Clair, left, J. Cerda, right, talking with Anders Hamson of Sweden. This booth featured a video tape show of hand-feeding baby birds and demonstrations with live birds.

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4) Do you transport birds regularly?

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5) If yes, explain _____

6) Have you had any losses in the past three years (whether covered by insurance or not)?

- Yes
- No

7) If yes, explain _____

8) Describe type of aviary and/or cage construction, location and general security: _____

9) Are you a member of the AFA?

- Yes
- No

Membership expiration date _____

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Species	Name or ID #	Sex if known	Description (color, character, talent, etc.)	Value

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For the third year AFA has put together a well-rounded educational and informative commercial exhibit hall for the public and convention attendees to visit. There were 45 exhibitors displaying the best in avian nutritional products, feeds and seeds, exotic birds, books covering all phases of bird keeping, the latest in cages and accessories, paintings and photographs of many species of birds, equipment to aid in the rearing of young birds and the Focuscope system for sexing adult birds.

To the amazement of the convention committee, there were 211 entries in the AFA Watchbird Photo Contest — 142 color prints, 62 color slides/transparencies, and 7 black and whites. The winners of the photo contest will be published in this issue and subsequent issues of *Watchbird*.

Thanks to friends and supporters who donated items for the auction, AFA was able to collect \$1,687.00. This money will be added to the \$744.36 cash donations collected at the banquet and placed in the avian research fund.

During the Saturday night banquet AFA awarded Gold and Silver Avy Awards to several aviculturists for their outstanding achievements in the field of aviculture. Dr. Susan Clubb, Gary Lilienthal, Joe McLaughlin and Dale Thompson were presented with Bronze Avy Awards for their continued dedication and outstanding service to AFA. President Phillips also presented Gary Lilienthal, AFA's legal counsel, with the Presidential Award. For the second year, Bill Wilson was presented with the Outstanding Membership Promotion Award. This award is presented to the person or club who obtains the most members to AFA during a given year. AFA commends Bill. He was responsible for bringing in over 50 new members to AFA last year.

Another first for AFA. There were 192 aviculturists and veterinarians present for the full day of veterinarian seminars on Sunday, August 5th. The morning session was geared toward the pre-natal and pediatric care of psittacines and waterfowl with the afternoon session devoted to the preventative care and diagnostic procedures for adult and breeding birds. All participants received a transcript of the lectures which were written in layman's language.

The 10th annual convention was a great success. We had the best available speakers in the world to share their experiences and knowledge with us, aviculturists from all countries to attend and exchange their ideas, and a great committee who made it all happen. ●

Photo by Larry McPhail



Jean Hessler, speaking for the Watchbird staff, announced the names of the publication's longest continuously running advertisers.

AFA Honors Long Time Advertisers

At the recent "10th Birthday" convention in Orlando, Florida, many important people and groups were recognized for their contributions and support to AFA: founders, past presidents, officers, staff and committees, researchers, breeders, etc., etc. This year there came to light still another group of names that deserved recognition—*Watchbird* advertisers. In particular, those who have believed in AFA and offered their support to the then fledgling magazine eight to ten years ago. Jean Hessler announced nine names at the Saturday evening banquet, August 4th. Certificates of appreciation will be mailed to them sometime during the next few weeks. AFA and the *Watchbird* staff wishes to thank these businesses for their continuous presence in the magazine throughout the years after their initial ad was placed.

10 YEARS

1st issue — August 1974
Magnolia Bird Farm, Anaheim, CA
 2nd issue — November 1974
Walnut Acres, Woodland Hills, CA
Marsh Farms, Garden Grove, CA

9 YEARS

4th issue — April 1975
Rainbow Mealworms, Compton, CA
Red Bird Products, Sacramento, CA

8 YEARS

9th issue — Feb/Mar 1976
Feed Bag, La Puente, CA
 11th issue — June/July 1976
Palos Verdes Bird Farm, Palos Verdes, CA
 13th issue — Oct/Nov 1976
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