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Showtime for Budgies

by Chris Christman
Garden Grove, California

The Great Western Budgerigar Society presented their Thirty-Second Annual Show on November 21 through 23rd, 1986 at the Rosemead Community Center in Rosemead, California. Show chairman Ron Croteau had a dedicated committee bustling about at an early hour the day before dealing with the many details that are not visible to the casual observer.

This show turned out to be the largest budgerigar show in the U.S. for 1986. Over eleven hundred birds were entered. Exhibitors traveled from all over the U.S. and Canada to participate in this event. Mr. Eric Lane, a world class breeder, exhibitor and judge from the United Kingdom, served on the judges' panel. In addition to his duties as judge, Mr. Lane presented a slide program about raising budgies in the U.K. Jeff Watkins served as moderator. Mr. Lane also generously donated a pair of beautiful budgies from the Lane Aviaries for a special raffle. Other judges that traveled considerable distances were John Petrillo, New Jersey, and Gerald Collins, Colorado.

The AFA booth sitters, Aletta Long, Jean Hessler and myself, arrived on Saturday morning dragging our usual boxes and bags of show paraphernalia. The show chairman assigned us an excellent spot right by the entrance to the bird-packed showroom. AFA representation at this important show gave opportunities to answer questions, establish contacts and locate future articles for the *Watchbird*. The show committee extended their hospitality by inviting us to enjoy a wonderful member-donated pot luck buffet lunch.

The winners of the show were breeders Jeff Watkins and John Miller for Best Bird in the Show. Don Denny took honors for Best Opposite Sex Bird. Rookie of the Year award went to Brad Atwood.

The next event the GWBS sponsors will be their Annual Baby Show on July 26, 1987. In conjunction with, but

separate from the Baby Show, will be the First Annual Great Western Best of Winners Invitational Sweepstakes. The Winners Invitational is open to any budgie that has won 1st through 10th "Best of Show," or 1st through 3rd "Best Hen" at any ABS Patronage Show held in ABS (American Budgerigar Society) District #9 and #10 during the 1986 season. This show will again be held at the Rosemead Community Center.

The 33rd GWBS fall show will be held on the 3rd weekend of November, 1987. The show location is yet to be determined.

Still another important budgie event will be the All American Show which will be held in Las Vegas at the Frontier Hotel September 18th - 20th, 1987. This show will be hosted by the Silver State Budgie Society.

The Great Western Budgerigar Society meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Rosemead Community Center. ●



Presenting awards at the GWBS 32nd Budgerigar Exhibition, left to right, show chairman Ron Croteau, A.B.S. panel judges Lou Smaldino and Gerald Collins.



GWBS president Brenda Bateman with the logo banner of this very ambitious, accomplished and dedicated budgie breeders club.



One of the winners of the juniors' division, breeder Tiffany Hawkins.

Photos by Chris Christman, Garden Grove, CA.



Rows of beautiful "look alike" quickly distinguish themselves under the judge's critical eye.

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