Nestmates Anonymous

This service is to match unmated birds, to bring joy to forlorn single birds and their discouraged owners, and to broaden the gene pool in needy species.

To list a bird give as much of the following as you can: English name or names by which it is known, Latin name and sex; your name, address and phone number; one dollar for up to four birds.

To answer a listing send a separate letter for each bird sought (each one goes to a different source), including your name, address and phone number; enclose a dollar for each bird sought (to cover mailing your response).

Address all communications to Ms. Cathy Grosse, 3120 Epworth Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211. Do not write to the *Watchbird!*

Female Blue Crowned Chlorophonia *(Chlorophonia occipitalis)*
Female Thick Billed Euphonia *(Euphonia laniirostris)*
Female Red Breasted Bluebill *(Spermophaga haematina)*
Male Golden Eared Tanager *(Tangara chrysotis)*
Male Noble Macaw *(A.n. cumanensis)* formerly *(A. nobilis)* prefer S/S
Male Lesser Patagonian *(Cyanoliseus patagonus)*
Male Noble Noble Macaw *Ara nobilis* prefer breeding age
Female Greater Sulfur Crested Cockatoo *(Cacatua galerita galerita)*
Either sex Rose Breasted Cockatoo, Galah *(Eolophus roseicapillus)*
Female Peter's Twinspot *(Hypargos niveoguttatus)*
Male Orange Winged Amazon *(Amazona amazonica amazonica)*
Female Alexandrine *(Psittacula eupatria nipalensis)*
Male Scarlet Chested Parakeet *(Neophema splendida)*
Male Madagascar Lovebird *(Agapornis cana)*
Male African Cape Parrot *(P. robustus* or *P. rolonstus suahelicus)*
Male Meyers Parrot *(P. meyeri)* ●

promised by making a meter wide entrance at the rear of the wire netting dividing both aviaries and so occupants from the old aviary had free access to the new aviary. I thought that once harassment commenced the young birds would discover the new aviary and take up residence there. It didn't work out exactly as planned, for one young pair resisted all attempts to evict them and nested in the original aviary. The clutch was small; three eggs laid and only one chick eventually flew. The young from the second generation flew two days before its parents were a year old.

A second pair of aviary bred birds did nest in the new aviary only a meter or so from the other aviary bred pair but with the dividing wire between them. These young should fledge in early January 1984.

As stated the new aviary is larger and more heavily planted. Extensive use has been made of creeper grown or covered screens. Again the misting system has been incorporated and hooked up to the other aviary so that the two can be watered simultaneously from a single point. Artificial perches are non-existent and some of the tree stumps positioned in the aviary are up to two meters high. A list of growing plants include: fish ferns, fuschias, thriptomenes, native heaths or ericas, pineapple sage, Johnson grass, bluebell creeper, banksias, several melaleucas, dwarf pampas, phalaris, veldt, panicum and all the usual bird seeds including rape, linseed, maw, and a great deal of others, including thistles, etc.

I believe this aviary will reach its full potential in 1984.

CAPTIVE EFFECT ON BEHAVIOR

The effect of captivity influencing behavioral changes in Australian finches has long been regarded by ornithologists as an important area of study, so the opportunity to record such changes in such a "new species" (aviculturally speaking) as the beautiful firetail should be regarded by ornithologists as being important. Although in time much of the material I've gathered will be edited by an experienced ornithologist for me, and then rewritten in scientific terminology for publication in an accredited ornithological journal, I am very pleased (as an aviculturist) that this information will be first published in *Australian Aviculture.*

There can be no doubt that exposure to the human presence will raise the species profile. This is amply demonstrated in wild birds at Wilson's Promontory in Victoria and Mount Gambier in South Australia. However, these changes have, or may have taken many years to evolve, so the opportunity to document my own birds' response in this regard I deemed worthy.

There can be no doubt that a dramatic rise in profile has taken place and many knowledgeable aviculturists have witnessed this fact. They include John Schorer—past president of the society, Ron Hastings—committeeman of many years standing, Graeme Hyde—our secretary and editor, Barry Hutchins of Adelaide South Australia and Dorothy Payne—former editor of the Avicultural Society of Western Australia. Each has remarked on this "raised profile," although they nearly all attributed it to aviary design, I would like to think that my management program has, to some degree, contributed to it.

For the first few months after release the birds were rarely sighted except for the previously described early morning and late evening aerial flights after which they gradually displayed themselves in the more open sections of the aviary and flight. Also, feeding in the relatively open spaces of the clover-sown enclosure was commonplace after 5 months.

I first witnessed the courting display around this time and the fact that it was also observed by Graeme Hyde, in 1983, in the same open enclosure, was confirmation of how far this *"raised profile"* had progressed. I can only assume that it will continue to do so.

As far as the care of the young is concerned it would appear as if captivity has effected little change. For the first week after fledging they are secreted to the rear or furthermost portion of the aviary and appear to spend the entire day in dense cover at ground level. In fact, feeding calls are the only indication of their presence. Entry of a person to the aviary in this first week results in much agitation and chattering by parents, particularly the cock bird.

The second week will provide sightings of one or two young at feeding sources with parents and it is only in the third week that the actual number of young can be determined. From then on the offspring appear quite readily, and usually together.

It would appear as if captivity has brought about some changes. However, the difficulty of positive identification of sources in the field obscures the actual percentages of this change. All offered seeds are now taken and Vetemul enriched soaked seed is now