

President's Message

by Jerry Jennings
Woodland Hills, California



We are off on the adventure of a New Year and breeding season is already underway for many of us. As we look forward to the new challenges the year will provide, and, hopefully, to the many new successes that will inevitably stem from those challenges, let us see what we can also do for aviculture as an institution. Let us give back to it something as a token of the appreciation we have for the great pleasure we receive from working with our birds, be it as a hobby or profession.

As the mainstream association for aviculturists, the AFA needs your help. Several months ago, a request for volunteers was sounded in the pages of

Watchbird, and a number of you responded. I would like to sound another call, one specifically oriented toward eliciting you, the AFA members, to a greater participation in AFA activities.

The American Federation of Aviculture is an *organization!* It is not a magazine, a convention holder, a research group, or a conservation organization. It is *all* of those things put together under one umbrella. Under this umbrella you will also find a legislation monitoring group, an education group, and a public relations group. All of these activities have one important goal — to further aviculture as an art and science and to provide the best climate possible for aviculturists.

Organizations work or don't work, depending on their ability to enlist the energy and support of their people. Our people are you, the AFA members. Conversely, your sense of belonging to an organization, as opposed to subscribing to a magazine, depends to some extent on your ability to participate in the organization's activities. There are many ways you can participate in AFA activi-

ties and I would like to encourage you to do so.

The first step you can take in participation is to have a look at the list of committees to be found in the front section of any *Watchbird* magazine. If you see one which interests you, or you have something to offer, give the committee chairman a phone call. His name and number is listed under the committee name. If you see a committee, but don't know what is involved, give the chair a call and inquire. If you think you can be of service, please offer a helping hand. But, do it with the intention of putting some meaningful time towards the committee's tasks.

Of course, there are other ways of being more involved with AFA. These include attending conferences, running for office in the organization, getting involved in putting on veterinary-taming/training seminars, representing your local club on AFA's board of directors, assisting your state coordinator, etc. There is plenty to do and we need your assistance in doing it.

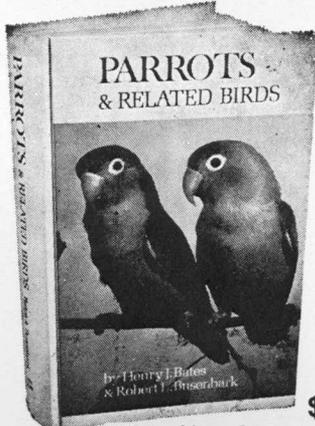
AFA has been and will continue to be the voice of American aviculture. The more you put into AFA, the more you will receive from it and the better off aviculture will be. ●

Never before has such a comprehensive encyclopedia been offered, both for the specialist and hobbyist.

YOUR LIBRARY IS NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT THIS BOOK

PARROTS and RELATED BIRDS (revised edition)

by Henry J. Bates and Robert L. Busenbark



\$19.99

Order Your Copy Now From
PALOS VERDES BIRD FARM INC.
P.O. Box 1305, Torrance, CA. 90505
Include \$1.50 postage and handling.
California residents add 6% sales tax.

Retail Store — 4146 West Pacific Coast Hwy.,
Torrance, CA 90505
(across the street from Sambo's)

Nominations Submitted To Committee For U.S. First Breeding Awards

The following species of birds have been submitted to the Avy Awards Committee for a possible U.S. First Breeding award. If you have any knowledge through personal contacts or through literature searches on previous successful breedings of these species, please contact Dale R. Thompson at 16425 Placerita Canyon Road, Newhall, California 91321. Phone (805) 252-3441.

All young must have been weaned and be self-sufficient. Hatch dates have been included with these successful breedings.

U.S. First Breeding Award Nominations submitted throughout 1986:

Species Nominated	Hatch Date
Chestnut-breasted Rock Bunting or Cinnamon-breasted Bunting, <i>Emberiza tabapisa</i>	March 1984
Five Color Mannikin, <i>Lonchura quincticolor</i>	March 13, 1986
Parrot-billed Seed-eater, <i>Neorynchus persuiensis</i>	Dec. 1985

Golden-winged Parakeet, <i>Brotogeris c. chrysopterus</i>	May 29, 1986
Gold-breasted Rock Bunting, <i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	July 30, 1982
Green-winged King Parrot, <i>Austerus chloropterus moszkouskii</i>	April 14, 1986
Celebes Golden Heart Dove, <i>Gallicolumba tristigmata</i>	May 27, 1985
Coral-billed Pionus, <i>Pionus sordidus</i>	May 12, 1986
Barred Hemapode/Barred Button Quail, <i>Turnix suscitator</i>	Jan. 3, 1986
Plum-crowned Pionus, <i>Pionus tulmultuosus</i>	June 1, 1986
Bay-headed Tanager, <i>Tangara</i>	June 11, 1986
Golden Tanager, <i>Tangara</i>	Sept. 19, 1984
Silver-throated Tanager, <i>Tangara icterocephala</i>	Oct. 23, 1985
Greater Coucal, <i>Centropus sinesis</i>	April 18, 1986
Yellow-billed Stork, <i>Mycteria ibis</i>	March 16, 1986
Black-naped Oriole, <i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	April 5, 1986 ●