



AFA in action... NEWS and VIEWS

DECEMBER 1986

Legislative Round-up

by Lee Phillips
Harwood, Maryland

With the recent adjournment of the 99th Congress, House of Representatives bill 4535 passed into oblivion. This bill was introduced on April 9, 1986 by Representative Charles Rose (D. NC, 7th District) and had picked up 32 additional sponsors before adjournment. There is every reason to believe that the bill will be reintroduced in the next session.

HR-4535 would have amended section 19 of the Animal Welfare Act by adding the following thereto:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, any person may commence a civil action on his own behalf or on behalf of any animal protected by this Act to compel any person or persons charged with the duty by statute or regulation to enforce the provisions of the Act to execute such duty."

Thus the bill would permit any person to institute a civil lawsuit to compel the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to enforce the Animal Welfare Act against anyone alleged to be violating the Act and since suit could be brought on behalf of any animal protected by the Act, this would give animals a legal right of access to the judicial system of our country for the first time. If passed, this bill could have led to the filing of hundreds of frivolous, nuisance suits against APHIS and could conceivably jeopardize anyone from rancher and farmer to pet owner, and the subsequent wasting of APHIS resources to investigate and defend its actions.

The bill was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture which twice requested comments from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and twice received unfavorable comments.

Listed below are the names of the additional sponsors of this legislation: Rod Chandler (R. Wash. 8th); Joe Moakley (D. Mass. 9th); Barbara Boxer (D. Calif. 6th); Robert C. Smith (R. NH 1st); William G. Whitehurst (R. VA 2nd); Patricia Schroeder (D. Colo. 1st); Tom Lantos (D. Calif. 11th); Sala Burton (D. Calif. 5th); Parren J. Mitchell (D. MD 7th); Frank Horton (R. NY 29th); Robert J. Mrazek (D. NY 3rd); Matthew G. Martinez (D. Calif. 30th); Thomas J. Manton (D. NY 9th); Brian J. Donnelly (D. Mass. 11th); Howard C. Nielson (R. Utah 3rd); Robert G. Torricelli (D. NJ 9th); Andrew Jacobs, Jr. (D. Ind. 10th); Bruce A. Morrison (D. CT 3rd); Joe Kolter (D. Penn. 4th); Matthew J. Rinaldo (R. NJ 7th); Ted Weiss (D. NY 17th); Robert A. Borski (D. PA 3rd); James J. Howard (D. NJ 3rd); Edward J. Markey (D. Mass. 7th); Bill Hendon (R. NC 11th); Mervyn M. Dymally (D. Calif. 31st); Ronald V. Dellums (D. Calif. 8th); John Conyers, Jr. (D. Mich. 1st); Helen Delich Bentley (R. MD 2nd); Newt Gingrich (R. GA 6th); Edolphus Towns (D. NY 11th); Benjamin A. Gilman (R. NY 22nd); Glenn M. Anderson (D. Calif. 32nd).

While some of these legislators undoubtedly will not return to Congress, I urge each of you to contact those in your state who survive the election and make your views known to them. They may be addressed at House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

The animal welfare program administered by USDA's APHIS has received funding in the amount of \$5,878,000 for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, an increase of \$1,250,000 over last year.

Going abroad? The Fish and Wildlife Service of the U.S.

Department of the Interior in cooperation with the World Wildlife Fund — U.S. has developed a new brochure alerting travelers to the pitfalls of buying wildlife and wildlife products abroad. "Buyer Beware!" describes the animal and plant products that are most commonly sold in foreign countries and whose importation into the United States is illegal. It also explains the Federal and international laws and treaties under which the Fish and Wildlife Service seeks to stem the growing trade in illegal products and to promote the conservation of the world's endangered wildlife.

Because of the complexity of regulations governing wildlife importations, "Buyer Beware!" advises travelers with specific questions to contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the World Wildlife Fund well in advance of their trip to obtain more detailed information.

Single copies of "Buyer Beware!" are available free from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Publications Unit, Room 148, Matomic Building, 1717 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20240. ●



WWPSA trade show, Long Beach, CA., July 19-21, '86 was the first on AFA's rigorous schedule for improving our public appearances. Dr. Grau, left, was a key speaker on avian nutrition. Chris Christman, at right, has been the expeditor of show scheduling and shipping booth materials.

Photo by Linda Sun



OCBB, Sept. 21, '86, club members presented a beautiful, tame umbrella cockatoo to AFA/OCBB member Chuck Marshall, winner of the fund-raising raffle. L. to r., Ron Berrier, Susan Eubanks, Chuck Marshall holding bird with daughter in front, Chris Christman and Marcia Risdon.

Photo by M. Jean Hessler



WWPSA trade show, Oakland, CA., Nov. 1-2, '86. Due to ball restrictions on some types of display props, the crew manning the AFA booth did its best with a colorful display of magazines.

Members in Action . . .

AFA represented at major summer and fall bird shows

by Chris Christman
Garden Grove, CA

July 19-21, '86 — WWPSA (Western World Pet Supply Association), Long Beach, CA convention center. Tom Roudybush and Dr. Grau were key speakers on nutrition. Exhibit consisted of large AFA booth, hand feeding demonstration of double yellow headed parrots raised by Linda Sun. Other tame birds also added to the display. The three-day booth was manned by Ted Hearsey, Nancy Winters, Donna Briggette, Renée Jakaub, Marcia and Tom Risdon, Art and Erin North, Ed and Claudia Fitzgerald, Candy Fletcher and

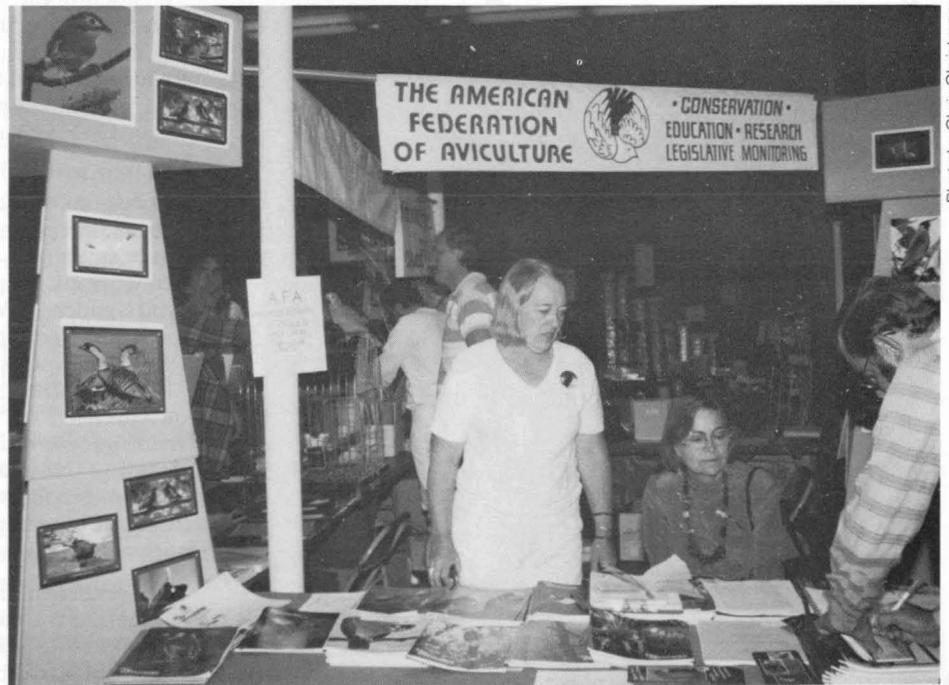
daughter, Connie Sosa, Linda Sun, Chris Christman, Aletta and Sel Long, Dick and Maureen Schroeder.

Results — raised over \$1,000, signed up 30-40 new members, obtained new ads and possible over-the-counter dealers for the *Watchbird* magazine. General impression from industry contacts was that AFA should be represented at all shows. We made contact with pet store owners, distributors and manufacturers of a great variety of pet products.

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OCBB's beautiful raffle prize was this very tame umbrella cockatoo.



BIRD AFFAIR, Oct. 18-19, '86. Lorella Desborough, standing, and Alice Colberg, seated, were busy signing up new members.

July 26, '86 — AFA 1st Pet Bird Care and Training Seminar, Sherman Oaks, CA, Senior Citizens Center. Speakers were Dr. Amy Worell and Chris Davis. An umbrella cockatoo was raffled off to generate income for AFA. Chris used the cockatoo for her training demonstration. Dr. Worell spoke on bird care.

Results — raised over \$1,000. Approximately 100 people attended the event. New members were obtained.

August 2, '86 — AFA 2nd Pet Bird Care and Training Seminar, Torrance, CA, Salvation Army Hall. Speakers were Dr. Frank Lavac of Lomita, CA, and Chris Davis. A Moluccan cockatoo was the raffle bird. Chris used it for her training demonstrations. Dr. Lavac spoke on common problems and bird care.

Photos by Chris Christman



BIRD AFFAIR is the result of one dynamo, Pat Monas, who conceived this bird trade show idea for the San Francisco area years ago. Pat has done much for the bird lovers, keepers and breeders and has contributed much to AFA.



BIRD AFFAIR — another active member from the San Francisco area, Jim Coffman, manned his own booth of cages and birds and generously donated a free parakeet with every new AFA membership signed up during the show.

Results — raised over \$2,000. One hundred fifty-five people attended the event. New members were signed up and promotional materials sold.

September 21, '86 — OCBB (Orange County Bird Breeders) Annual Bird Fair, Orange County Fair Grounds, Costa Mesa, CA. A large AFA booth display sold memberships and promotional materials. The raffle bird was a very tame umbrella cockatoo donated by Magnolia Bird Farm, Anaheim, CA, and L.A. County Pet Supply. During the time the bird was acquired and finally raffled, the care and keeping and weeks of selling tickets was in the hands of Ron and Barbara Beurrier, Rocky Mooney and David Baumgardner. OCBB/AFA members staffing the booth were Donna Brigitte, Renée Jakaub, Scott Lingwall, Tom and Marcia Risdon, Susan and Lee Eubanks, Linda Sun, Chris Christman, Ed and Claudia Fitzgerald, Art and Erin North.

Results — net profit from cockatoo raffle was over \$1,500. The winner was OCBB/AFA member Chuck Marshall of Buena Park, CA. Twelve new members were signed up. The total income generated by this event was \$1,900.

September 27, 28, '86 — Bird Affair, Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA. AFA shared a large booth with local bird clubs. This event was staged by Pat Monas. Her assistants were Wayne Arthur and Laurella Desborough. The "Bird Affair" consisted of 56 booths selling birds and bird products. AFA sold memberships and other AFA materials. Joe Krathwohl presented a bird show twice daily. The booth was manned by Frank Carrison, Wayne Arthur, Alice Colberg, Laurella Desborough, Chris Christman.

Results — raised approximately \$500 from sale of AFA materials including twelve memberships. Capitol City Bird Club asked for AFA representation at their annual bird show on October 18, 19, '86. Laurella Desborough acknowledged the request.

October 2-5, '86 — Kaytee's Great American Bird Show, Ramada O'Hare Hotel, Chicago, IL. The first show of its kind sponsored by Kaytee Products Inc. Chairman Harvey Smith reported over 2,200 entries and several thousand of the general public in attendance. This event was labeled a big success! The crew manning the booth was Lee Phillips, Vicky Fletcher, Dallas Johnson, Tom Marshall, Ann Bickham, Jerry Jennings.

Results — raised over \$1,000 in sales of AFA materials and gained thirty-seven new members.

October 11-12, '86 — Capitol City Bird Club Annual Show, Sacramento, CA. Laurella Desborough, Marc Withey and Sybil Gundersen set up and manned the AFA display booth for this two-day show.

Results — raised \$500 to \$600, gained 21 new memberships and sold promotional material. Fresno Finch and Canary Society asked for an AFA booth at their show. November 1-2, '86 in Madera, CA.

November 1-2, '86 — WWPSA (Western World Pet Supply Association), Oakland Convention Center, Oakland, CA. AFA membership and promotional materials were sold and contacts with future advertisers made. The show booth was manned by Wayne Arthur, Frank Carrison, Judy Meyer, Lew Meyer, Larry Camarena, Sybil Gundersen, Marc Withey, Laurella Desborough, Jim Coffman, Joe Bahrs, Carolyn Bill, Debbie Clark, Mark Clark, Patty Adkins, Dick Dickinson, Ruth Mitchell, Chris Christman.

The sale of tickets started for the umbrella cockatoo to be raffled off on November 15, '86, the date set for AFA's 3rd Pet Bird Care and Training Seminar to be held in Concord, CA.

Results — raised approximately \$400 in memberships and promotional materials. AFA's exposure at this show netted a request for assistance in setting up a new bird club in the Monterey, CA area. No current club exists. Initial membership is projected to be over 100.

The overall benefits are difficult to assess. Counting the cash box contents at the end of a show day is one thing but the value of exposure to the public, future memberships, advertising prospects, etc. are the intangibles. The shows are hard work but fun, and absolutely necessary for the future health of AFA. What can your club do for AFA? ●