

AFA in action...

NEWS and VIEWS

DECEMBER 1990

Board of Directors Meet in Salt Lake City, Utah

Photo by Jack Clinton-Eitnhear



Salt Lake City is blessed with a unique feature in one of its large city parks — the Tracy Aviary. Early arriving board members were lucky enough to squeeze in a few hours to play tourist and visit this facility. L to R: Sue Jordan, Chuck Saffell, Vicki Fletcher, Gary Clifton, Aletta M. Long, Davis Koffron, Bob Smith, Jean Hessler. The focus of attention (other than the cold weather) was a beautiful, young, snowy owl on the arm of its handler. This owl was hatched and raised at the Tracy Aviary. The adult pair was on exhibit in a very attractive, large, natural habitat-type aviary.

The fall meeting of the AFA Board was recently held November 2nd through 4th in Salt Lake City, Utah. Our host, the Avicultural Society of Utah, provided a bit of a break from the endless meeting by conducting their monthly meeting on Saturday night and inviting the Board to attend. While a complete summary of the meeting requires over 12 typed pages, a few of the actions taken included:

1. Approval of the 1991 budget
 2. Approval of the following Committee Chairs:
- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Conservation..... | Kevin Gorman, Chair |
| | Gail Worth, Vice-Chair |
| Publications | M. Jean Hessler |
| Education | Kayla Snyder |
| Ethics | Trudi Dam |
| Avy Awards | Dale Thompson |
| Ways and Means..... | Al McNabney |
| Speakers..... | Nancy Vigran |

Membership Promotion Richard Bewley
 1991 Convention..... Jeri Wright
 Finance..... Vicki Fletcher
 Nominations and Elections Diana McNabb/Debbie Clifton
 Cooperative Working Group on Bird Trade Gary Lilienthal
 Public Relations Pamela Barnak

3. Establishment of two new committees with chairs:
 Anti-smuggling Committee Danny Gonzalez
 Professional Standards..... Laurella Desborough

4. Davis Koffron was re-appointed as Business Office Director.

5. Agreement of a new contract with the editors of *Watchbird*.

6. Replacement of convention recordings with the publication of a proceedings. Note: proceedings were planned in 1990 but not budgeted, therefore not produced.

7. Appointment of seven new state coordinators:

Cheryl Adams.....	Maine
Gene Broussard	Louisiana
Jami Kennedy.....	southern California
JoLynn Chappell.....	Colorado
Stephen McNabb	Arizona
Robert Gibson	Nevada
Stephen Schwartz.....	New Mexico

8. Approval of the new monthly classified ad service "Fast Ads."

9. Kayla Snyder, chair of the Education Committee, was given approval for the production of three new slide tape programs.

10. The Board decided to return to the policy of having the House of Delegates decide on the site of future conventions.

11. Establishment of the following minimum enclosure requirements for birds in AFA exhibition halls:

Perch space	three birds wide each
Cage height.....	1-1/2 times the height of the tallest bird
Cage width	in excess of the wingspan of the largest bird

These specifications will be reviewed by an Ad Hoc committee chaired by Chuck Saffell.

12. Approval was given for a special meeting of the Cooperative Working Group Committee in Los Angeles.

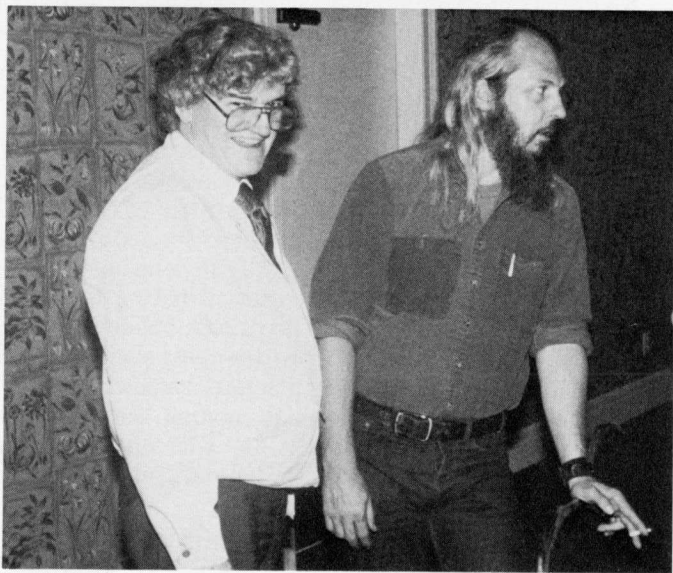
The Board would like to thank Ann Clevenger, co-chair of the local 1991 convention committee, for sitting through a day and a half of Board matters before she could address the upcoming convention and its organization. We would additionally like to thank Grenville Roles (Tracy Aviary) and Kay Snow and Rex Kennedy (Avicultural Society of Utah) for all their assistance. While the ASU speaker (the AFA president) was no newcomer to the Board, the warm hospitality (and food) provided by the ASU membership made for a most enjoyable evening.

Salt Lake City, November 2-4, 1990

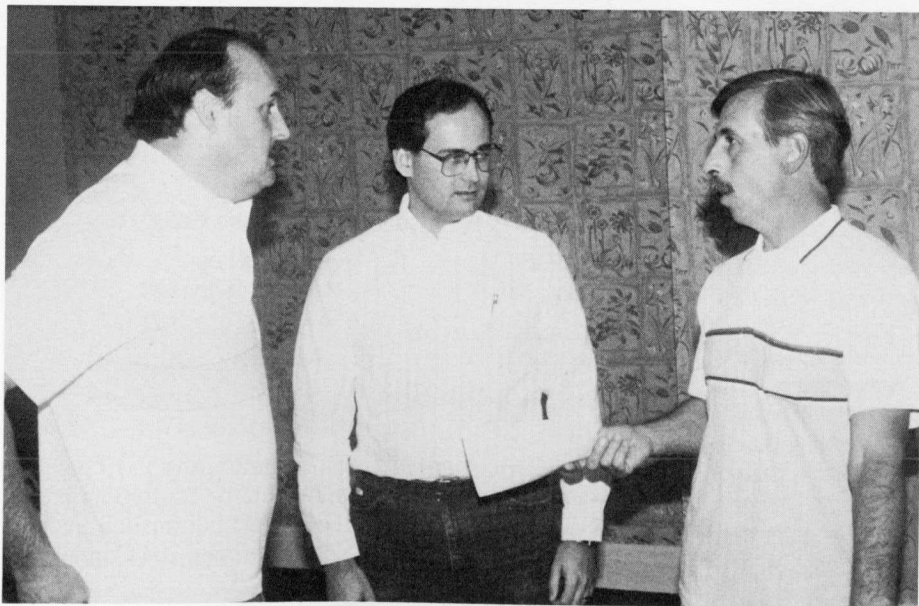
Board members take a break from the long hours of sitting and concentrating on AFA business.



L to R: Jean Hessler (Watchbird Art Director), Bob Smith (Mid-Eastern Regional Vice-Pres.).



L to R: Dick Ivy (Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice-Pres.), Gary Clifton (Western Regional Vice-Pres.).

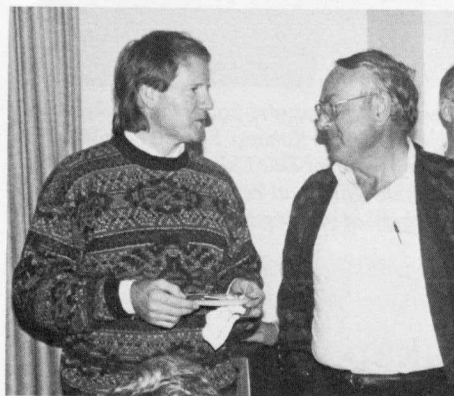


L to R: Ron Sweere (Western Regional Vice-Pres.), James McCabe (North-Central Regional Vice-Pres.), and Davis Koffron (Business Office Director).



Rex Kennedy, AFA's Utah State Coordinator and member of ASU, regularly sets out a table of "Watchbird"s and other AFA publications.

On a very chilly Saturday evening, November 3, 1990, the Avicultural Society of Utah invited the entire AFA Board to their meeting. Since none of the Board had time to eat an evening meal, these generous, ambitious folks put on a splendid pot luck dinner. As an additional remembrance, each Board member was given a pretty little ceramic bird, glazed, fired and signed by ASU member Karen Long. Many, many thanks to the ASU members for a fine evening.



L to R: Grenville Roles, curator of Tracy Aviary, with Mr. Anderson, director of Hogle Zoo.



L to R: Mr. Anderson (Hogle Zoo Director), Kay Snow (President of Avicultural Society of Utah). The ASU holds its meeting in a building on the grounds of Salt Lake City's Hogle Zoo.



Rebecca Dennett, a member of the Avicultural Society of Utah, with a painting of the very rare New Zealand Kakapo. She was the winning bidder on this superb painting by local Salt Lake City wildlife artist Carel Pieter Brest Van Kempen. This fund-raising auction was held during ASU's monthly November 3rd meeting at the Salt Lake City Zoo.

Rare Kakapo Parrot is Focus of Rebecca Dennett and Avicultural Society of Utah

by Dick Ivy
Yorktown, Virginia

Rebecca Dennett of Salt Lake City is planning to leave there January 26th for Little Barrier Island, New Zealand, to work as a volunteer, perhaps find a job there or even become a citizen, to help preserve a little known bird that has been her attention for several years. However, she has never seen her obsession, the Kakapo Parrot (*Strigops habroptilus*), which is greatly endangered in the wild unless ornithologists can help the 45 remaining males keep half that number of hens producing offspring.

She'll be taking about \$1,500 collected through her club activities for direct support of the project and will work two weeks "on anything" relative to the Kakapo Parrot endangered species project, she says, with Ralph Powlesland of the New Zealand Wildlife Service Department of Conservation with whom she has corresponded.

The small colony of the extremely rare and nocturnal ground-bound bird, a bird looking more like a green owl than a parrot, was relocated from Stewart Island in Southern New Zealand to a predator-free environment in the mountains of the northern island of New Zealand.

Dennett's trip coincides with the beginning of the nesting

season. Eggs are laid on a scrape or shallow of the ground, and despite some successes in breeding in recent years, the number of Kakapos are still decreasing. The females have the total responsibility of breeding and rearing chicks, and while they were away from the nest looking for food, predators had raided the eggs and chicks.

Dennett has studied ornithology in school and has been co-chair with Cindy Smiley of the endangered species committee of the Avicultural Society of Utah at Salt Lake for three years. She has also served on the club's board of directors several times since becoming a member in 1979. She has studied pictures and texts about the Kakapo for years.

Editor of the club's newsletter for three years B.K. (before Kakapos), she created pen and ink drawings of endangered species and made 8-1/2 x 11 prints for sale, picture coasters, and mugs for purchase of a pair of Vasa Parrots for the city-operated Tracy Aviary.

Some of that art was a series of four on the Kakapo: a hen feeding her baby, another eating flax, one doing a mating dance, and another sitting in front of his burrow, all numbered ingold. Profits went for the purchase of the Vasas. She also did pen and ink drawings of Bahamian Amazons to support a club project for Rosemary Gnam.

Now 40, Dennett is closing out her work in wild bird rehabilitation activities in preparation for the trip and to concentrate on raising more money for her project. She went through hip surgery recently to correct a lifelong dislocated hip in order to be more effective when she arrives in New Zealand.

At October's meeting, the club auctioned a large acrylic work depicting three Kakapos in a rocky setting painted by local wildlife artist Carel Pieter Brest Van Kempen. Informed by Dennett's friends of the Kakapo project, Kempen had decided to help. The painting, destined for duplication and sale in as many as 600 prints, was bought for \$750, Dennett herself making the final bid that night as ASU met at Hogel Zoo's park building.

She works as a dot etcher for four-color separations for Intersep in Salt Lake City using a Scitex computer.

Though she bought the most unique portrait, she has an auto license plate proclaiming "KAKAPO," which notoriety even the Amazon-sized, whiskered, iridescent green bird might appreciate.

Red Siskin Consortium Update

The following individuals were recently approved by the AFA Red Siskin Management Committee to receive consortium siskins:

Paddy Lambert
St. Louis, MO

Joan Callum Kinser
Bent Mt., VA

Malinda Kidd
Green Bay, WI

Tony Menendez
Dearing, GA

Gail Gatewood-Colwell
Las Cruces, NM

Ruth Meyer
Aurora, IN

Lynn Page
Thousand Oaks, OR

Ken Hylton
Oregon City, OR

Theresa Brown
Mt. Juliet, TN

Maurice Boryzocoski
New York, NY

The consortium currently has 17 participants in 13 states. The number of siskins currently being held by consortium breeders and associate breeders is 103. For further information on the Red Siskin Consortium, contact Kevin Gorman, 204 Conrad Drive, Rochester, New York, NY 14616.

Regulatory Update — Texas Interstate Shipments

The Texas Animal Health Commission recently adopted an administrative ruling pertaining to entry requirements for "exotic livestock" and "exotic fowl." "Exotic livestock" are defined as "grass-eating, single hooved or cloven hooved mammals that are not indigenous to this state and are known as ungulates, including animals from the swine, horse, tapir, rhinoceros, elephant, deer and antelope families." "Exotic fowl" are defined as "any avian species that is not indigenous to this state. The term includes ostriches."

The new regulation requires all "exotic fowl" entering the state of Texas to have both an entry permit from the Commission and be accompanied by a signed Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. An accredited veterinarian must sign that he has inspected the "exotic fowl" and found it free of external parasites and evidence of contagious or communicable disease.

In addition to commercial shipments, this includes personal pets, birds brought into Texas for bird shows, and birds returning to Texas from out of state shows. Among the affected species of "exotic fowl" that now require this permit and certificate are finches, canaries, budgies, cockatiels, lovebirds, conures, parrots, and so on. Affected persons in or out of Texas should voice their concerns over this unnecessary regulation of personal pets and show birds. Written comments should be sent before the Commission meets in December, to: John W. Holcombe, executive director, Animal Health Commission, P.O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966, and to: John Cargile, chairman, Animal Health Commission, P.O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966.

For information, questions, complaints or permits, call (512) 479-6841.

AFA Service Awards Presented at August '90 Convention Honored Outstanding Achievers

People making valuable contributions to AFA were awarded Bronze Avy Service awards at the Washington, D.C. August 1990 convention. These people included:

Dallas Johnson. Award of Appreciation for six years of continuous dedicated service and outstanding performance as AFA's Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President.

Opal and Tal Crosser. Award of Appreciation for their outstanding accomplishments in generating over \$80,000 profit for AFA's 1989 convention.

Arizona Avicultural Society. Award of Appreciation to the members of AAS for their generous contributions of time, talent and monies to the 1989 AFA convention.

Chuck Saffell. Award of Appreciation for his outstanding contributions and support of AFA for his educational programs to clubs, legislative work and membership promotion.

Purina Mills, Inc. Award of Appreciation for their continuous financial support and sponsorship of AFA's avian veterinarian programs 1988 - 1990.

Kellogg, Inc. Seed & Supplies. Award of Appreciation for their continuous financial support and sponsorship of AFA's avian veterinarian programs 1988 - 1990.

Catherine Allen, World Wildlife Fund. Award of Appreciation for her time and efforts in reaching AFA members endorsing captive breeding programs in the U.S.

Jerry and Wilford Pace. Award of Appreciation for their dedication, support and generous contributions of time and monies to AFA.

Paddy Lambert. Award of Appreciation for her generous donation of time and talent in publishing the AFA State Coordinator Newsletter.

Barbara Heck. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's New York state coordinator.

Bonnie Doane. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's Illinois state coordinator.

Royce King. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's South Dakota state coordinator.

Randy Karg. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's Iowa state coordinator.

John Wathen. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's Ohio state coordinator.

David Bluma. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's Wisconsin state coordinator.

Phyllis Martin. Membership Promotion Award for outstanding recruitment of new members to AFA.

Joanne Abramson. Award of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duties as AFA's No. California state coordinator.

Mrs. Wilford (Jerry) Pace. President's Award for her outstanding service, support and contributions toward the achievement of AFA's goals.



A highlight and lighter moment after 2-1/2 days of Board meeting was a \$2,000 check presented to AFA president Jack Clinton-Eitniew for the Conservation Program. Aletta M. Long was the bearer of the good tidings on behalf of the Long Beach Bird Breeders of California. The club made an unprecedented decision to nearly empty its bank account in favor of the AFA conservation program.