

The American Cockatiel Society

by Ken O'Steen
Melbourne, Florida

The American Cockatiel Society (ACS) was formed in 1977. The first 100 members represented 15 states. The desire was for the society to be a true national organization. It was then and remains so with current members from all over the United States. ACS, more recently, has gone international with members from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany and Puerto Rico.

The goals of the ACS are the same now as they were in 1977:

To encourage an interest in and understanding of the cockatiel as a pet, breeder, or exhibition bird.

To encourage improvement of the cockatiel through closed banding, selective breeding and record keeping.

To increase interest in mutations through study pertaining to the genetics of the cockatiel.

To exchange ideas, and inform all members throughout the world, through the medium of the American Cockatiel Society magazine.

To support research pertaining to the nutrition and diseases of cockatiels.

To establish a panel of qualified judges so that judging will be of uniform quality governed by the standard.

To have and support an American Cockatiel Society Specialty Show each year.

Benefits of Membership

New Member Booklet — discusses purchasing a new cockatiel, diet, housing, wing clipping, nail trimming, taming, hand feeding and exhibiting.

Magazine — The American Cockatiel Society publishes a bi-monthly magazine featuring articles on pet care, breeding, management, genetics and many other subjects of educa-

tional value and interest to the pet owner, breeder and exhibitor.

Advisors — when you become a member of the American Cockatiel Society, you have access to a team of experienced and dedicated advisors. Advice is free of charge and you are encouraged to write to advisors covering such facets of the cockatiel as breeding, management, genetics and pet care. Selected responses are published in the magazine for the benefit of other members of the society.

Bands — closed, traceable metal bands coded with ACS and the member's own personal code are available for a small charge. Pedigree cards and breeding records are also available from ACS.

Shows and awards — closed banded cockatiels may earn ACS points to become champions and grand champions. A yearly specialty show is held in addition to shows judged by accredited ACS judges. Location of shows and list of winners are published in the magazine.

In addition to the benefits to members, ACS also furnishes plaques and rosettes to affiliated clubs as awards at their shows. The magazine also publishes the name and location of all affiliated clubs, their show dates, location of show and ACS judge.

We have state representatives around the country available to help members or clubs with any problems. These special people and the board of directors' names and addresses are printed in the magazine.

For further information, you may contact American Cockatiel Society, P.O. Box 111, Marlin, TX 76661. ●

The National Cockatiel Society

by Linda S. Rubin
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Enthusiasm, growth, learning, a commitment to excellence; these are the ideals embodied deep in the soul, and very heart, of the National Cockatiel Society (NCS). Founded in

1983 by a group of dedicated cockatiel breeders and enthusiasts, the organization has continued to prosper with over 5,500 members to date. And, NCS continues to strive forward offering a host of benefits to its membership.

Educational Learning Opportunities

The NCS Magazine: Benefits of membership include the bi-monthly, highly informative *NCS Magazine*, a quality publication displaying full color cover photographs of popular and rare cockatiel mutations. Each issue is packed with an array of information, including feature articles; display and classified advertising; and regular columns from the magazine's staff including: the NCS Breeding Consultant, the NCS Genetics Consultant, the NCS Pet Care Consultant, the NCS Veterinary Consultant and the NCS Nutrition Consultant, all of whom also answer members' written questions. Plus, each issue features the new Coverbird™ column, with the NCS Genetics Consultant's written description of the mutations featured on our full color covers! Features from our January-February 1991 issue included: "The Hatching of a Breeder, Part I," "Video in the Birdroom," "Cockatiels and Other Pets," "Computing for Your Birds," "Veterinarian Questions and Answers," "Giardia Infections in Birds," "Nutritional Programs, Part II," and "First time Handfeeding," among others.

NCS Video Programs: Under its educational committee, NCS has been working on video tape programs for use with its affiliated clubs to be made available in the coming year.

NCS Genetics Booklet: Members are invited to purchase, at small additional cost, the genetics booklet "For The Breeder," to help compute those difficult color-breeding crosses.

NCS Judges' Panel Booklet: 1991 will see the production of a guide to exhibition and all information that pertains to showing and judging cockatiels in a Judges' Panel booklet which will become available, at small additional cost, to all members.

Avian Research: To date, NCS has contributed several thousand dollars to fund research grants to benefit the cockatiel in the areas of disease, nutrition and reproduction. These grants were contributed to fund the work at the University of California at Davis, as well as the AFA Avian Research Committee's grant programs.