

Letters to the editors should be directed to:

Watchbird editors,
P.O. Box 56218
Phoenix, AZ
85079-6218

From The Editor's Desk

Dear editor:

Your special CITES issue was and has been desperately needed. My husband and I have supported pro-environmental issues for years. About three years ago we became aviculturists. We did this with the thought we could contribute to the saving of one type of wildlife. Since then, we have been faced with multiple medical problems, design problems for lighting, cages, and misting. We even moved from a neighborhood we lived in for 18 years, just so we can accommodate "this noise." We have some success and some failures, and deaths which break our hearts.

My husband and I, as we've grown to love birds and become more knowledgeable, have nightmares about whether we might be contributing to the destruction of a species. So, we've made our compromises. We only buy birds already here and we are only going to buy U.S. raised, or mistreated birds.

Your articles have articulated the concept of why and what we thought we could do to help.

Thank you! We needed our doubts calmed and placated. But, we also need reasons to go on with the heartache and the joys of aviculture and defend it before those who care about wildlife, but only see one side.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Taylor
Apache Junction, Arizona

LORIES & LORIKEETS

In Aviculture

JOHN
VANDERHOOF

Illustrations by
GAMINI
RATNAVIRA

This is the most comprehensive work on Lories and Lorikeets to date. It is written by John Vanderhoof, one of the most renowned and respected authorities on the subject. Each species (available in the U.S.) is described in detail and accompanied by a 9" x 12" full color illustration. Other topics covered include: Natural History, Classification, Accommodations, Feeding/Hand Feeding, Breeding, Health Care and Conservation.

The book is beautifully illustrated by Gamini Ratnavira, who has traveled extensively throughout the world. Firsthand observation in their natural habitat has enabled Gamini to render these birds in uncompromised detail.

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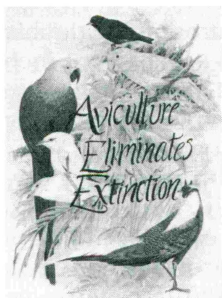
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The 1991 Annual Convention will be held in San Diego, August 7 - 11. Now is the time to start planning to make "The Magic of Birds" (this year's convention theme) a part of your vacation this year. In addition to the convention, San Diego boasts an ideal climate and several attractions for tourists, including the world famous San Diego Zoo, excellent beaches and shopping in nearby Tijuana. Local tours are planned in conjunction with the convention. For more information, see center insert, this issue, or contact 1991 On-site Convention Chairman Ann Clevenger at (619) 758-0924. ●