

Aviculture: the Next Generation

by Jack Clinton-Eitniar
Presidential Address
San Diego, California

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth,” Genesis 1, verse 26. It’s ironic that my Bible is kept on a library shelf next to the book “Where Have All the Birds Gone?” by John Terborgh.

We really haven’t been the best of global caretakers. In our hemisphere,

standards of living may change from north to south but some “environmental stress” seems to be a common denominator. Americans use 1.5 billion aluminum cans a week, use 18 billion disposable diapers a year (enough to go to the moon and back 7 times), and throw away 870,000 pounds of food a day. We use enough disposable plates and cups in a year to give the world a picnic six times. Contributing significantly to the dumping of 15 billion pounds of gar-

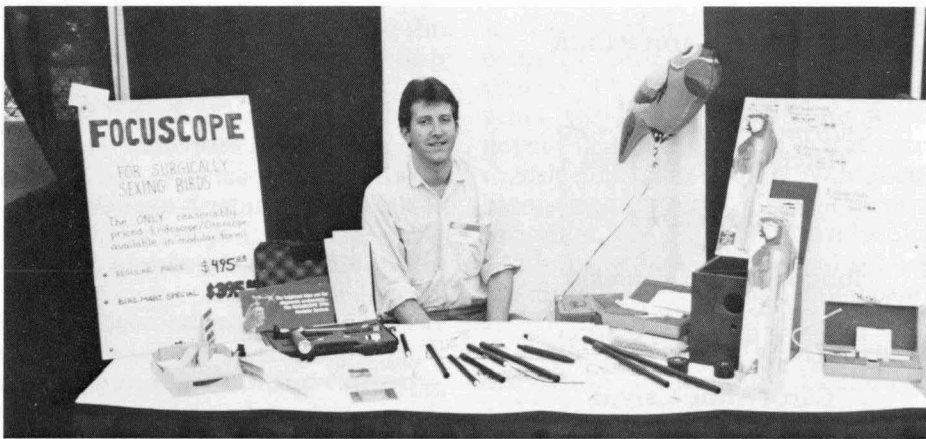
bage a year into the world’s oceans, we have created a situation where 46,000 pieces of plastic can be found per mile of ocean and 100,000 marine mammals have died by being entangled or as a result of eating plastic. On a three mile stretch of the Niagara River, 150 toxic waste dumps have been located.

South of the border, populations are swelling. Take a breath and three more babies were born on earth. 16,000 per hour. Ninety percent in the Third World. The birds we love live in a changing world. Forty to fifty million acres of the earth’s forests are destroyed each year. Eighty acres a minute. 55,000 being rain forest each year, the size of the state of New York. I could go on but you get the message.

It seems obvious that man will decide ultimately what species will share his planet. In many cases, species will be maintained in captivity permanently as there will be no wild to return them to. They may gradually change, adapting to a captive environment, but they will always remind those that view them that our planet is also inhabited by colorful, melodiously singing, bundles of feathers called birds. If they could not be viewed in captivity, they would surely perish as “out of sight, out of mind” few seem inclined to protect things they have not seen. Back in 1978-79, we had 275 avian species on the edge of global extinction. Today we have over 1,000.

Today, with Third World agrarian societies competing for space and resources and high technological economies pumping out toxic waste and ozone pollution, it is even more important that we keep our birds. It isn’t going to be easy though. Many so-called conservation organizations with high rise offices and well paid executive staffs see us a much easier victory than dealing with the real problems. They have even convinced some that we are part of the problem. Of course, they fail to realize that since recorded time man has had his avian companions. Noah was the first aviculturist and what a collection he had!

Let’s look at their case. Extinction. We are causing avian extinction. Of the 1,000 avian species considered in danger of extinction, few, other than the parrots, are even in captivity. Of the psittacines, 75 species are considered endangered of which only five



Commercial display — MDS Incorporated, St. Petersburg, Florida was represented by Leonard Shapiro. They had a number of fine products displayed including the “candling without handling” high intensity flexible shaft lamp.



Commercial display — Lyon Electric/Marsh Incubators, San Diego had a few moments’ chat with well known pheasant and waterfowl breeder/judge Don Tucker.

being directly due to trade. The Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) has placed all five on Appendix 1. None are legally traded except under certain situations that benefit the species. The next argument is that the process is inhumane. This is due to both a concern over the deaths in transit (parrots don't die in the wild, the hawks just chase them for the fun of it) and a belief that just keeping them in a cage is inhumane. Again, let's put things into perspective. From October 1979 to June 1980 we imported 201,696 parrots. To round out the year, let's say another 100,000 came into the United States. That's 300,000 birds in one year into our country which is high. In that same year, 120 million birds were killed by hunters in the United States (waterfowl alone). When it comes to the long term survival and humane treatment of birds, it would seem that being shot out of the air and greeted by a gasping Golden Retriever only to be served with a sherried juniper berry sauce has got to be a worse case scenario than being imported and kept in captivity.

Why aren't these people trying to stop the hunters from their inhumane act? Could it be because there are 400 million hunters and a good fight ratio of 6 to 1? Could it be because we are an easy target? A simple victory? Look at New York, New Jersey. Aviculturists can keep their birds this round but what about round two?

I grew up with birds. I obtained my first in 1967 and have shared my world with them ever since. As long as people like us are fortunate enough to be able to share our world with the birds, there will be birds. When they take that away, so, too, will they take away the birds' only hope.

As long as birds have a value, whether it's a hunter's dollar, derived from ecotourism, or harvesting for the pet trade, they will share our planet. When that value stops, so will their chances for survival. We need to breed birds and fight for our right to keep them. We need to keep a few young back so that valuable genetic lines are not lost but are bred with new lines so that the next generation of aviculturists can continue to show the world the beauty of birds and convince them that they should continue to share our planet with us. ●

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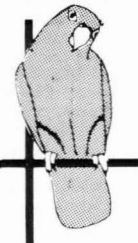
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1991 Convention Drawing — Prizes, Donors, Winners

1991 Photo Contest Winners

Item	Donated by	Won by
Metal nestbox	Feather Farm	Jean C. Turley-Sinclair
Metal nestbox	Feather Farm	P. Virgin
Metal feeder	Feather Farm	Jami Kennedy
Metal feeder	Feather Farm	Mirrorlake Exotics
25# Bird Life Breeder Growth Crumbles	Birdworks	Katie Peckham
25# Tropicana Cockatiel Granules	Hagen Avicultural Research Institute	Kurt Norton
25# Tropicana Parrot Granules	Hagen Avicultural Research Institute	Dennis Carson
5# Honey Gold Spray Millet	CSS Inc./Carlson Spray Millet	Sandra Snyder
30# American Spray Millet	Walter Carlson	Nataline Frumin
24" x 36" poster frame	Baker Zoo / Virginia Baker	Sue Johnson
11# Tropicana Handfeeding Formula	Hagen Avicultural Research Institute	Linda Heaney
1 gal. Wavicide 01	Birdworks	Lynne Page
5# Lake's Avian Maintenance Diet Pellets	Lakes Minnesota Macaws	Catherine Wright
5# Lake's Avian Maintenance Diet Crumbles	Lakes Minnesota Macaws	Brian Mandarich
5# Lake's Avian Maintenance Diet Fibrous Powder	Lakes Minnesota Macaws	Jean C. Turley-Sinclair
32 oz. Kaytee Exact Daily Feeding Formula for Parrots	Kaytee	D. Ferris
32 oz. Kaytee Exact Daily Feeding Formula for Parrots	Kaytee	Dr. Fraser MacDonald
32 oz. Kaytee Exact Daily Feeding Formula for Parrots	Kaytee	Cheryle L. Jones
23 oz. Exact Daily Feeding Formula for Mynahs/Softbills	Kaytee	Lilian Saul
3 x 16 oz. Exact for Cockatiels	Kaytee	Ann Collins
2 x 16 oz. Exact for Finch/Canaries	Kaytee	Joan Schlegel
2 x 16 oz. Exact for Parakeets	Kaytee	L. & J. Eyles
3 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Roselene Johnson
2 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Steve Garvin
2 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Larry & Ann Novak
2 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Martin Jordaan
2 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Chris King
2 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Fred Goes
2 x 22 oz. Exact for Baby Birds	Kaytee	Natalie Frumin
35 oz. Nekton Tonic K	Nekton	Ken Kalenak
26 oz. Nekton S	Nekton	Dinah Allshouse
26 oz. Nekton MSA	Nekton	Carole Travis
26 oz. Nekton E	Nekton	Willine Riley
Book — Lorics & Lorikeets in Aviculture	John Vanderhoof	M. Lee Hughey
Book — The Birds of Israel	Michael Dee Natural History Books	Richard Slozak
1# Prime Supplement	Hagen Avicultural Research Institute	Carol Flint
1# Prime Supplement	Hagen Avicultural Research Institute	Richard Slozak
2# Small Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Ned McGuire
2# Small Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Ed Luben
2# Small Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Patricia A. Murray
2# Large Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Sharon Garsce
2# Large Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Derek Cowie
2# Large Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Mary Lannom
2# Hand Rearing Formula	Pretty Bird	Larry Turner
2# Hand Rearing Formula	Pretty Bird	L. & J. Eyles
2# Hand Rearing Formula	Pretty Bird	Nataline Frumin
3 x 12 oz. Small Bird Food	Pretty Bird	Marsieux Arpin
3 x 6 oz. Finch Food	Pretty Bird	Ray Varela
3 x 6 oz. Parakeet Food	Pretty Bird	Jennifer Holdercroft
Pest Chaser — ultrasonic sound repeller	Sonic Tech Products	Maacama Crossing Ranch
2 x Parakeet Fruit'n Seed Tropical Mix	8 in 1	Jack Devine
2 x Parakeet Fruit'n Seed Tropical Mix	8 in 1	Helen Ringus
2 x Parakeet Fruit'n Seed Tropical Mix	8 in 1	Natalie Frumin
425 gms Fertility Formula	Lakeside Seed & Supply	Mary Lee
90 gms Feather Formula	Lakeside Seed & Supply	Jeri Wright
100 gms Spirulina	Algae Feast Co.	Cathy Knight
2 x Vita-Sol Multivitamins, 2 x Bird Protector	8 in 1	Marsieux Arpin
2 x Vita-Sol Multivitamins, 2 x Bird Protector	8 in 1	Bill Austin
2 x Vita-Sol Multivitamins, 2 x Bird Protector	8 in 1	Bradley's Exotic Birds
Lovebird blouse	Barbara & Davis Koffron	Andrew Simmons
Eclectus T-shirt	Inflight Aviaries / John Goss	Joan Schlegel
Bird T-shirt	Monterey Bay Cage Bird Club	E.P. McCabe, Jr.
So. American needlework shirt	AV Tech Systems	Mollie Groendyke
Kangaroo cookie making kit	Absolutely Aussie	Barbi Levine
Stained-glass bird	Dr. D'erdra Smothers	James Brown
Sterling silver parrot pin	Eurocraft Jewelry	Edna Bresnahan
14K cockatiel pendant	DiVinci Ltd.	Sunny Clarkson
Focuscope pen light	MDS, Inc.	Nataline Scott
4 x original bird drawings	Denise Cabral	Lou & Mary Barnes
Man's AFA watch	Val Clear	D. Ferris
Lady's AFA watch	Val Clear	Terry Poninski
Countertop water filter	JWR Exotic Bird Environmental Products	C. & R. Johnson
Countertop water filter	JWR Exotic Bird Environmental Products	Chris Christman
Treatcones / feeding system / toy	Showbird Pet Products	Kathleen Baker
Treatcones / feeding system / toy	Showbird Pet Products	Jean C. Turley-Sinclair
Small bird toys	Caveman	Renee S. Merrick
Medium bird toys	Caveman	Ken Kalenak
Large bird toys	Caveman	Lee Phillips
Large bird toys	The Birdie Bordello	Cheryle L. Jones
Large bird toys	The Birdie Bordello	West Valley Bird Society
Medium bird toys	The Birdie Bordello	Linda S. Rubin
Medium bird toys	The Birdie Bordello	Lorraine LaBoyne
Small bird swing	The Birdie Bordello	R. & J. Vollmoth
Small bird swing	The Birdie Bordello	Jane Kennedy
Book — Guide to Asiatic Parrots of Australia	S.A. Imports	Glen & Wanda Hildebrandt
Medium cage	Swelland's	Mr. & Mrs. William E. Hill
Weaning cage	California Cageworks	Carmela Siboldi-Moose
Metal U nestbox	Hysell Bros. Cage Co.	Robert D. Queen, Sr.
2 x poster from RARE	Hysell Bros. Cage Co.	Sandra Volez
Hummingbird print	Gamini/Kathy Ratnavira	Jean C. Turley-Sinclair
Toucan print	Gamini/Kathy Ratnavira	Dottie Schira
Environmental air system	Hysell Bros. Cage Co.	Knox/McNabb
Cockatoo afghan	Ilene Van Wormer	Sunny Clarkson
TX7 Turn-X incubator	Lyon Electric	Martin Muschinske
Framed Moluccan Cockatoo print	Eric Peake	Joan Medvigy
Macaw cage	AFA / Animal Environments	Janice Pritchard
Grumbach S84 incubator	AFA / Swan Creek Supplies	

Slide Category

- 1st — Red-tailed Laughing Thrush
Colleen Summerfield, Monterey Park, CA
- 2nd — Hummingbird group
Sid Milne, Fallbrook, CA
- 3rd — Peacock
Jim Dollins, Merritt Island, FL
- Honorable Mention —
Blue-crowned Motmot
Ernesto Enkerlin, College Station, TX

- Honorable Mention —
Caninde Macaws
Wayne Davis, Tampa, FL

Black and White Category

- 1st — Young Citron Cockatoo
Mary Watkins, Merritt Island, FL
- 2nd — Double Yellow-headed Amazon
Bonnie Zimmerman, Sunland, CA

Color Prints Category

- 1st — Hyacinth Macaw in the wild
Dr. William D. Clark, Las Cruces, NM
- 2nd — Red-crested Pochard
Ernesto C. Enkerlin, College Station, TX
- 3rd (tie) —
African Grey
Bonnie Zimmerman, Sunland, CA
- 3rd (tie) —
Caninde Macaws
Wayne Davis, Tampa, FL
- Honorable Mention —
Double Yellow-headed Amazon
Bonnie Zimmerman, Sunland, CA

- Honorable Mention —
Hyacinth Macaws free flying
Dr. William D. Clark, Las Cruces, NM

- Honorable Mention —
Scarlet Macaws in the wild
Dr. William D. Clark, Las Cruces, NM

- Honorable Mention —
Blue-fronted Amazon
Sean Cook, Huntington Beach, CA

- Honorable Mention —
Blue-fronted Amazon
Tom Marshall, Reston, VA

- Honorable Mention —
Peacock - side view
Jacquie A. Sassone, Rochester, NY

- Honorable Mention —
Gustave L. Seehorst, Enfield, CT

Photo Contest Judges - 1991

- Dale R. Thompson
M. Jean Hessler
Sheldon Dingle
Gamini Ratnavira
Deanne Harriman



Photo contest judges, L to R: Gamini Ratnavira, Mary Jean Hessler, Deanne Harriman, Dale R. Thompson and Sheldon Dingle (behind camera). Judges took several hours weighing virtues and flaws of the many fine entries.

First place winner in the black and white category is Mary Watkins, Merritt Island, FL. The subject is a young Citron Cockatoo.



Disclaimer for Red Siskin Raffle

To all members of AFA-Red Siskin Project:

This letter is to help you better understand the macaw raffle which will be held in December of 1991.

Michelle Rietz and I have jointly decided on how we could personally donate money to the Siskin Project. Because this Siskin Project is terribly important to both of us, we have decided a raffle could possibly be the answer.

With that thought, Michelle had the tickets printed and I donated the largest hand-fed baby, born to Kidd's Kradle this year.

It must be remembered that our only thought here is to help the project raise funds. When selling these raffle tickets, you must remember that neither the AFA nor the AFA Red Siskin Project are in any way related to this raffle. We are holding this raffle as independent individuals and will donate all profits to the AFA Red Siskin Project.

Please do not misrepresent AFA in any way by using that title to sell these tickets. The sole sponsors of this raffle are Michelle and me. Hopefully this will clear up any unforeseen problems that may arise should you misrepresent AFA in any way.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact either me or Michelle Rietz (602) 433-9940. Remember, the Siskin Project is in need of the donations from this raffle, but not to the point as to cause any problems with any organization misrepresentation.

Sincerely

Malinda Fitzgerald Kidd
Kidds Kradle
2644 Red Pine Court
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