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31st National Cage-Bird Exhibit, in Los Angeles

The 31st National Cage-Bird Exhibition will be held in Los Angeles, California, on November 15-18, 1979.

For your convenience it will be held at the Hacienda Hotel, 525 North Sepulveda Blvd., El Segundo — just 1½ miles from the airport. There will be a 24-hour limo service to take you to and from the airport.

The rooms will start at \$32.00 a single. Deposits recommended for the rooms with three weeks notice. You can call toll free or write the hotel. All sight seeing tours will be available from the hotel.

Birds can be entered 10 to 10 Thursday and until 9 A.M. Friday. Birds can be checked out Sunday morning. Cages can be shipped directly to the hotel or you can bring them as luggage on the plane. All shipped-in birds will be picked up personally at the airport if you notify me.

Standard Show Cages will be required for all Type Birds. For the Red Factor and Non Red Factor (Hartz) birds we will accept the black all-wire Show Cages plus the box Show Cages which are standard back East. For the California Show the

Red Factor and the Non Red Factor (Hartz) birds will be judged 50-50; no point system will be used.

Friday night will be hospitality night with a Western Dance Band. Saturday night will feature a \$9.50 buffet dinner — presentation of awards — dance band — special acts.

You must be a member of the National to compete for the Kellogg Trophies. All other awards are open. The membership is \$5.00 a year and entitles you to the bulletins and the catalog. I am membership chairman.

We are planning on 3,000 birds; so don't miss the Show of Shows. All of us will do our best to make this the finest and most exciting Show you have ever attended. Please come and share it with us.

I will be happy to answer all questions or help you in any way that I can.

Sincerely,

Margie McGee, Show Secretary:
25 West Janss Rd.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360



photo by Steve Clause

Joe DeAguiar, AFA International Representative, on left, and Ray Johnson, President of National Cage-Bird Show Club, Inc. discussing future plans.

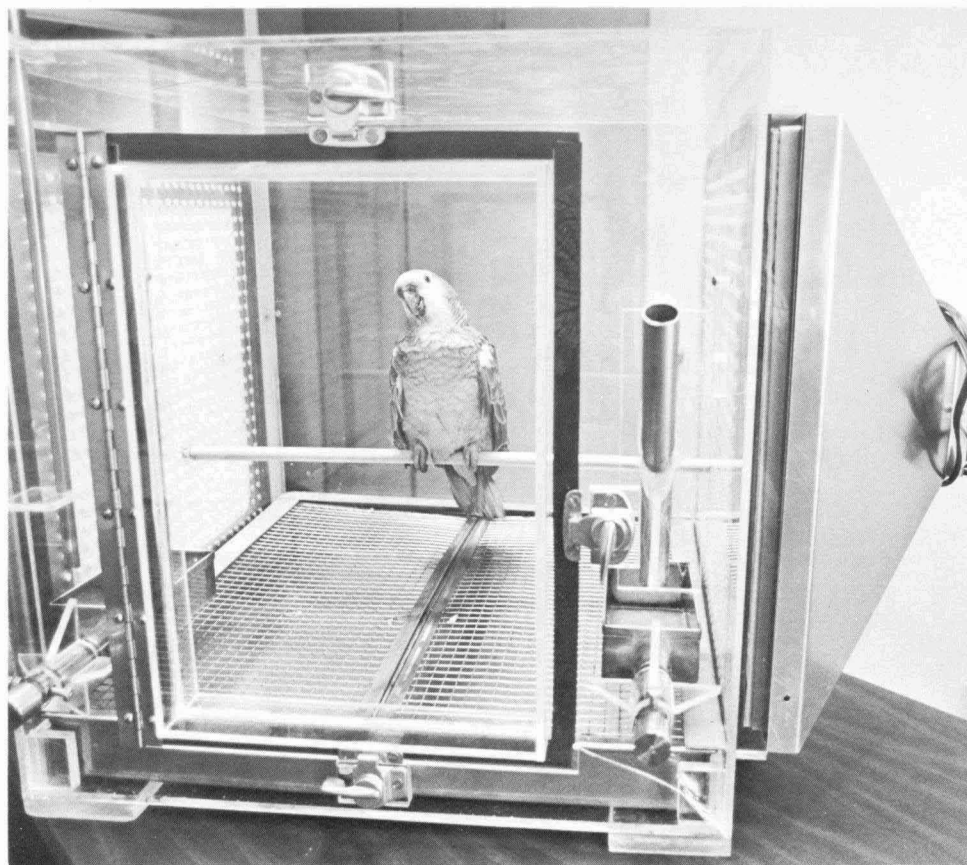
Future NCBS Plans

The 1980 National Cage Bird Show will be held in Jacksonville, FL. Plans are being made to combine events with an American Federation of Aviculture's mini-convention. This should generate tremendous interest. A "two for the price of one" event! Exhibitors can attend the

Nat'l Show plus have the opportunity to hear top national aviculturists speak on their specialties in seminars organized by the A.F.A.

Projected NCBS plans for 1981 are for Kansas City, and Toledo in 1982.

USDA's New Bird Cage is a Lifesaver



USDA Photo

NO RUFFLED FEATHERS — how could a bird be perturbed in a cage like this? USDA's new "isolation unit" for personally owned pet birds is equipped with the latest devices to keep them well fed and protected from disease while they are under quarantine.

WASHINGTON — A temporary loss of freedom for a longer lease on life? Not a bad trade-off, and one that thousands of exotic birds may get each year thanks to a quarantine cage unveiled recently at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Beginning January 15, 1980, the plexi-glass unit will be used to isolate and test all personally owned pet birds brought into the United States. That's when tighter regulations for such birds go into effect to give increased protection against exotic Newcastle disease. The new rules include a mandatory 30-day quarantine administered by the Department's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Also, any traveler bringing a bird into the country will have to write ahead for quarantine space reservations and obtain a health certificate for the bird from a national government veterinarian in the country of origin.

Under an APHIS proposal, the new cage would also save the lives of smuggled birds confiscated by the U.S. Customs Service. They would no longer be refused entry, but would be quarantined in the cages and tested twice for exotic Newcastle disease. Previously, if the owners of

illegal birds refused to transport them out of the country, the only legal alternative was to have them destroyed. In the past, smuggled birds have been implicated in outbreaks of this costly viral infection of pet birds and poultry. If found free of the disease, contraband birds would be sold to reimburse the agency for quarantine costs.

Patterned after isolation units used in research laboratories, the quarantine cage comes equipped with an exhaust fan and an elaborate filter system that keeps the air inside the cage clean and biologically secure.

On top of the unit is a plastic container for easy manual refilling of a feed trough. In a few models, a similar unit will supply water, but most will have water piped directly into a watering trough. Special diets can be fed through airlocks in a hinged door that can be easily attached to any cage.

Most of the units are two feet square, but to accommodate long-tailed birds like the macaw, a few will have a depth and height of four feet. Some 600 are expected to be installed at nine ports of entry: New York, N.Y.; Miami, Fla.; Brownsville, Laredo and El Paso, Texas; Nogales,

Ariz.; San Ysidro and Los Angeles, Calif; and Honolulu, Hawaii.

When this isolation cage was displayed at the AFA meeting in Alexandria, Va., last April, several aviary owners and veterinarians asked about its use as a private quarantine facility for new birds or as a sick cage. To meet the needs of a sick cage, heat lamps and vapor can be added with readily available commercial equipment.

The box can be built of any sturdy material. However, the door should be glass or plastic for observation purposes. The USDA isolettes have a continuous hinge on the front door and three window latches to insure complete closure.

The large number of holes in the side allow for free air movement through the filters without any drafts. A small fan, such as those found in hair dryers, is used to provide air movement. This fan is set to blow away from the cage to provide negative air pressure — the air is drawn through a filter into the box.

This unit has no heat or humidity controls. The building or room used to house similar units at each port-of-entry will be cooled or heated to meet these requirements. ●