

# A.F.A. Visits A Member's Aviaries

by Jerry Jennings

## THE AVIARIES OF KAI JUHL



*Kai Juhl at home in his back yard.*

It is always exciting to see the varied ways aviculturists cope with the harsh winter climates of the mid-west and northern states. Those of us fortunate enough to live in the warmer environments of the sunbelt states have the luxury of housing our collections outdoors year round at a minimum cost for facilities.

*Kai has converted his attic into a fantastic aviary, an excellent idea for otherwise unused space.*

Our less fortunate cousins residing in colder climates are generally forced to keep their birds indoors at least part of the year. This requirement tends to limit the size of a collection or drastically inflate the cost of providing adequate facilities.

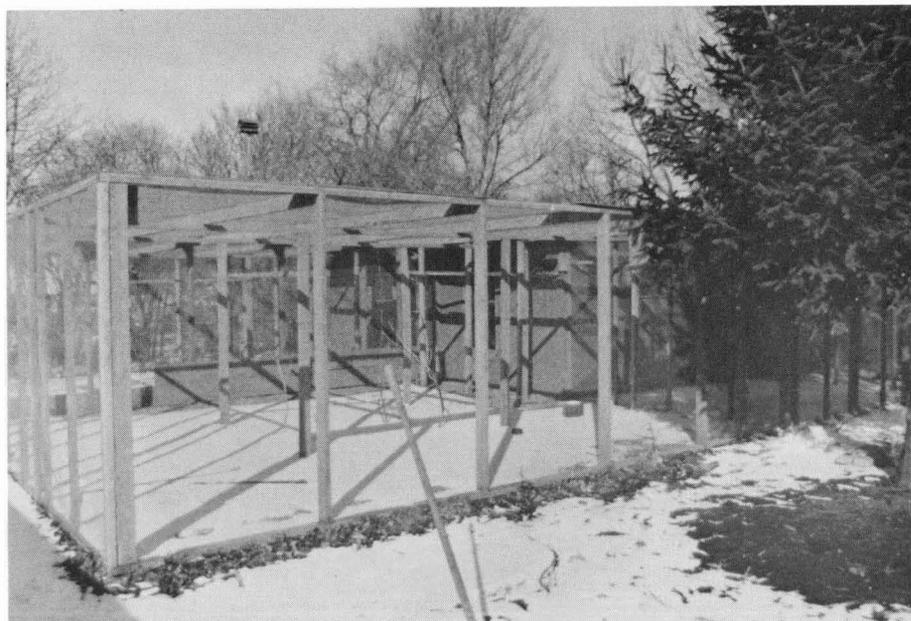
Some aviculturists do quite well under winter conditions, one of whom is Kai Juhl of Glenview, Illinois. Kai is a native of Southern Jutland in Denmark, who moved to the Chicago area at the age of eighteen. Not long thereafter he met and married Jan and they now have

three fine children.

Kai's interest in birds began while he was a young lad in Denmark. By the time he was ten he was successfully breeding Pigeons in a coop that hung from the wall of his apartment house (Europeans are very sympathetic towards aviculturists).

When Kai came to Illinois he brought with him his bird fancier's enthusiasm, which incidentally Jan has also managed to catch. He purchased his present home with the intention of building "a place of my own, where I can do what I want."

*Outside flights of main breeding complex.*



The Juhl collection is surprisingly large and broad ranging. There are pheasants and waterfowl, canaries and parrots, finches and quail. Many of these species are wintered outdoors. It may not seem surprising to see pheasants and geese strolling in the snow, but how about a Princess of Wales frolicking about with obvious delight!

The main breeding complex consists of a combination indoor/outdoor set-up. A rectangular building, whose indoor flights exit off a central aisleway, is climate controlled on cold winter nights, when the birds are shut inside. During the day the birds are given access to adjoining outdoor flights. This facility is devoted to Psittacine birds, which include Princess of Wales, Red-rumps, Bourkes, Scarlet-chested and Turquoise Parrakeets.

Other outdoor flights are separated from the main complex and house pheasants, quail, and waterfowl. There are several finch flights, which are occupied during the warmer months.

During the day the waterfowl are frequently allowed to roam free in the yard.

Obviously some birds cannot be suitably housed outdoors during winter. It is no surprise, then, that the Juhl's large

canary collection is maintained in a room of their home. Since space is always at a premium, even the attic has been pressed into service, with several flights housing finches and some Rosellas.

Kai has demonstrated that aviculturists can adapt to any situation if necessary. Not only that, Kai has proven that birds can be housed adequately and attractively without the financial backing of the Fed-



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Vitamin B-12	3,580 mcg	71.6 mcg
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Calcium	8,000 mg	160.0 mg
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Iron	0.79 %	1,980 mg
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Methionine	4,400 mg	88.0 mg
Phenylalanine	6,800 mg	136.0 mg
Proline	13,550 mg	271.0 mg
Serine	8,000 mg	160.0 mg
Threonine	6,750 mg	135.0 mg
Tryptophane	7,700 mg	154.0 mg
Tyrosine	8,100 mg	162.0 mg
Valine	2,950 mg	59.0 mg

**DIRECTIONS:** One-tenth of bird's daily food intake. For example, for a bird weighing 1 lb., place ¼ teaspoonful (approx. 1 ½ grams) in the bird's feed. Smaller or larger birds, use proportionately. Beautiful results will be noticed in 30 days!

**INGREDIENTS:** Vitamin A acetate, vitamin D-3, thiamine, riboflavin, pyridoxine, vitamin B12, vitamin E, vitamin K, niacin, choline, inositol, calcium pantothenate, calcium lactate, folic acid, rutin, biotin, calcium phosphate, ferrous sulfate, potassium chloride, magnesium oxide, zinc gluconate, copper oxide, manganese gluconate, sodium chloride, desiccated liver, hesperidin complex, yeast, glutamic acid, apple extract, dates, date seed kernels, yucca, alfalfa, chia, comfrey, dandelion, rolled oats, whole egg solids, milk solids, soya beans, kelp. Product stable for at least two years if kept in dark, dry, cool place. No refrigeration required.

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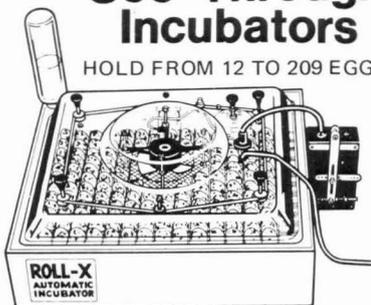


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Kai has been very active in organized avicultural activities for some years. He has served the Illinois Game and Pet Breeders Society — a group of over 700 breeders in Illinois and neighboring states — as Vice President and President. He is now the Society's AFA Delegate. Kai also is a member of the American Pheasant and Waterfowl Society, American Game Bird Breeders Federation, the Avicultural Society of America and the AFA. He has served AFA as the Illinois State Coordinator for over three years, sat on several committees, and has attended all three AFA conventions.

Kai is a dedicated aviculturist who has a goal — to establish reliable breeding stocks of birds in the United States and strongly encourages the rearing of endangered species. "We would never have lost the Passenger Pigeon and the Carolina

Parrakeet if aviculture had been at large in America one hundred years ago," says Kai. He further comments, "We need to breed everything to insure their survival until these birds' native countries adopt new attitudes toward preserving wildlife. In some countries local inhabitants routinely make soup out of birds worth several cows in value." Kai sees many regulations in the U.S. as working against the preservation of the very species they were intended to protect.

Kai does not cater to the pet fancier. The offspring produced in his aviaries are for breeders only. Breeding is the primary goal of aviculture.

The Juhls, Kai and Jan, work well as a team. They have not only served their birds well, but the fancy in general. Their determination and enthusiasm are refreshing. We shall certainly see them shine in the avicultural spotlight.

### Waterfowl



Photos by Jerry Jennings