

35th Annual

As friends from near and far converged on Houston for the 35th annual conference of the American Federation of Aviculture, we were enthusiastic about another great convention. Many first time attendees and veteran registrants mingled with speakers from as far away as the Canary Islands and Australia. Topics of discussion were as varied as the speakers themselves.

This year's event did not disappoint as there were several surprises throughout the week including a Grand Raffle Prize worth nearly \$5,000 donated by Mr. David Hughes. The Honda Four Trax Rancher ATV was the center of attention as it stood in the Atrium tempting each of us, wishing that we could be the lucky winner.

Another one of the highlights was Chris Biro's demonstration during the Bird Endowment's Reception. All in attendance were in awe as the Blue-throated Macaws flew freely through the 25,000 sq ft atrium, high above the ficus trees.

The fun didn't end at the close of the daily program, as old friends gathered welcoming new faces and telling stories of days gone by well into the early hours of the morning.

But, most amazing was the camaraderie and generosity expressed by certain individuals at the final banquet. Nora Schmidt won the one-of-a-kind quilt on the silent auction; made from previous years' artwork done by Wanye E. Smyth, she then presented it as a gift to Mark Moore in a very emotional moment. Then Dr. Benny Gallaway won the grand prize Honda Four Trax and much to his wife's pleasure, in an amazing gesture, he gave it to Fred Smith.

The evening ended with the live auction of the Blue-headed Pionus artwork by Wayne E. Smyth. Brent W. Gattis won the reception artwork in a bidding frenzy that was hard to keep up with, only to donate it to Laney Rickman and the Bird Endowment. Mr. Gattis also won the third and final piece of artwork as well, with the adult pair of Blue-headed Pionus, only to present it as a gift, too.

All in all, the time went too quickly. Old and new friends parted ways in anticipation of next year in St. Petersburg, FL. For some of us, the annual AFA convention is a short vacation. To many of us, it is a great deal more. The following is an account by one of our first timers.

My First AFA Convention

By Denise LaCazette

BEING A RELATIVELY NEW MEMBER of the American Federation of Aviculture, this was my first time at a convention. I've been involved with birds for over a decade and have sat on the fringe, listening, and learning over the years. I'd heard a great deal about AFA before I joined and became a member because I truly believe in AFA's mission.

While things might seem basic to those

that have attended previous conventions, they're not so easily mastered by those who have never attended before. There are so many activities to do, for example: attending educational lectures, buying raffle tickets, filling out your passport with stickers, putting raffle tickets in baskets and visiting with vendors. The Presidential Gala in the vendor hall the first night allowed attendees to socialize and plan their next few days. Some of us are almost recluses with our birds and have rusty social skills. Rocky Mooney, a convention veteran, helped to make everyone

feel welcome. Sometimes I felt overwhelmed when meeting others who are "BIG" names in the world of aviculture. (I never did go through the whole rock star groupie thing, but there are definitely some aviculturists I follow quite closely. Which leads me to a question I didn't ask—is it okay to fawn over them?) I felt incredibly lucky to have found a trio of wonderful ladies earlier in the day at the zoo that didn't mind me attaching myself. They helped me navigate as a newcomer and were extremely gracious.

All the volunteers did a wonderful job,

Convention



CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES MARTIN / From left, Mark Moore, Brent W. Gattis, Rick Jordan and artist Wayne E. Smyth.



From left, David Hughes, Fred Smith and Dr. Benny Gallaway with the four-wheeler Gallaway won and then gifted to Smith.

too. I thought some of them were clones because I would see the same person in three different spots doing three different things all within a few minutes of each other! They are deserving of respect—I believe they probably work harder at what they do for AFA than many people do at their daily jobs. What they accomplish enables the rest of us to enjoy the experience and attend the lectures and socialize without a single worry.

I was a little surprised, but also dismayed to see that there weren't more younger attendees. I'm a few heartbeats away from midlife myself and I worry about the next generation of aviculturists. Regrettably, I was unable to make Adrienne Mock's presentation on Branching Out because I really believe that will be the fastest inroad into the next generation. I might have to think up a creative challenge to somehow encourage younger people to become members, get involved and attend the conventions.

There were so many presentations I

enjoyed—Allergic Alveolitis with Dr. Hoppes (definitely some take home things to do), U.S. Regulations Fish & Wildlife with Robert Gabel, Psittacine Nutrition with Dr. Brightsmith (did he mention what type of bark?), Hyacinth Macaws with Kashmir Csaky (spectacular), Avian Reproduction with Dr. Antinoff (a level of detail in egg development I did not know), Passive Speech with Michael Dalton (absolutely amazing), and Conures with Rick Jordan (I wish I could have more Conures). There were so many great presentations to attend and often two that interested me were at the same time. It was difficult at times to make a choice. I'm really glad they were able to tape some of the presentations this year and I've already been touting them to non-AFA members.

Dr. Tizard and Dr. Hoppes brought tears to my eyes with their presentations on disease and PDD. As someone with PDD active in her avian companions those were the presentations which made the convention worth every penny

for me. It was a sad irony that at the time I was attending their lectures one of my flock was at the vet in decline. The upside was being able to call right after the presentation and share the new information while she was being treated. As I watched the presentations, I often wondered if any of those numbers represented some of the birds I've lost since I've sent many samples to Shubot's over the last few years. To be able to sit there and really understand what they do and feel a part of it was very moving for me.

One of the obvious highlights was Chris Biro's freeflying birds. The macaws stole the show at the Bird Endowment gathering and the Sun Conures gathered more than a few of my dollars at the banquet. One sweet little miss even landed on my sunglasses and wouldn't leave until I extended a dollar—what a smart girl! Although I made the decision years ago not to clip wings and mine are all free flight in the house, I still get goose bumps and my heart goes pitter-pat when I see

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Georgia Hayes won the opal-diamond ring.



Nora Schmidt, Gamini Ratnavira and Pat Chinnici



Above left, young aspiring aviculturist, Gieselle Uselton-Romero. Above right, the Bird Endowment Reception beckons visitors.



birds in flight. I only wish my training skills and confidence were at a higher level to be able to share the outdoors with them as Chris does. I hope in years to come his presentations will include some training techniques.

There were so many other highlights, I can't list them all—You'll have to come next year and join us to hear those stories

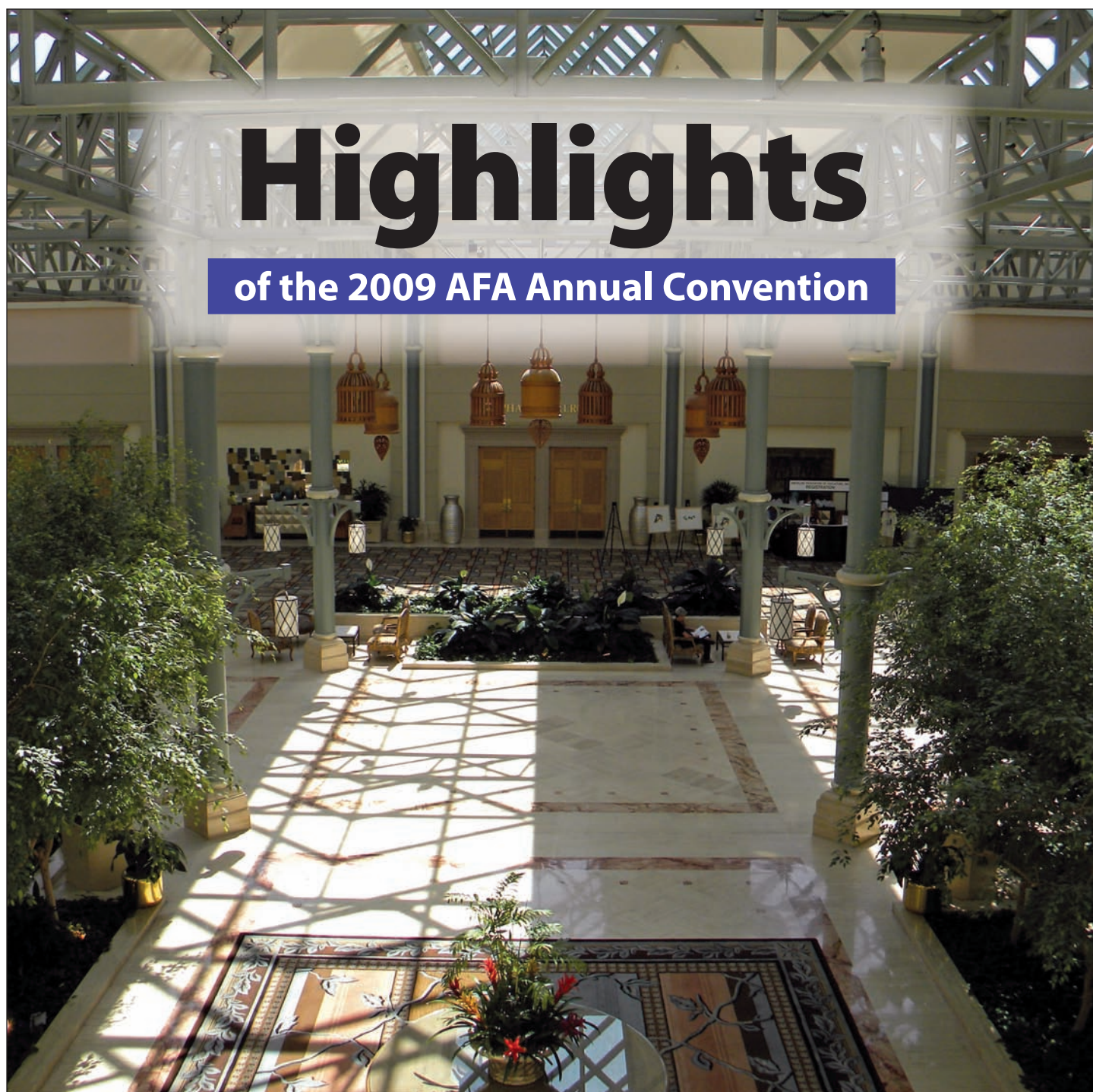
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and to help make new ones.

I want to thank Jamie Whittaker for convincing me to go and introducing me to as many people as she could when she had a moment of free time, Jean Jordan for always being a familiar and friendly face, and Nancy Speed for holding my basket. (Did I mention I won one of the 3-day raffle prizes?) And I especially want to thank

the three ladies who took me under their wing when I was absolutely lost in the crowd—Ginny Heptig, Julie Corwin, and Kathy Privett. You shared the experience with me and I'm grateful to have made such wonderful, new friends.

I'm saving my pennies and already looking for a bird sitter for next August... I hope to see you in St. Petersburg.



Highlights

of the 2009 AFA Annual Convention

*By Linda S. Rubin,
Specialty Vice President*

*(Permission to Reprint Granted to AFA
Affiliated Organizations and Clubs)*

Houston, Texas—energy capital of the world and largest city in the Lone Star State—home of the Houston Astrodome, Johnson's Space Center, and blues

capital where some of the greatest recordings in the history of American music were cut—could not have been a more perfect venue, if you were lucky enough to attend the AFA's 35th national convention in August. Furthering its educational commitment to its members and the public, the AFA has run annual conventions each year packed with a cornucopia of

avicultural activities ever since the Federation's founding in 1974.

According to AFA President Jim Hawley, the convention theme—branching out—aptly signifies “aviculturists branching out in an effort to expand aviculture. We are encouraging young people. We are working with novice aviculturists. We are defending the privilege to participate in

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every aspect of aviculture. We are branching out!”

And branching out we did—across the tapestry of aviculture—thanks to the hospitality of the Lone Star State!

In addition to the traditional superb lineup of national and international speakers on a plethora of topics, there was a genuine appreciation for the wide diversity offered, insightful viewpoints shared, and well, just plain fun! Whether you signed up for one full day of seminars or the entire action-packed three days of talks, there was no shortage of activities, events, and festivities from which to choose.

What made the convention so novel—and so very unique from any other—were the variety of special meetings and events throughout the week. Pre-convention activities included the AFA House of Delegates Meeting for the voting delegates representing the AFA affiliated local clubs and specialty organizations. Those in attendance at the meeting included AFA delegates, state coordinators, committee chairs and officers prior to the start of the main program. This year’s concise, well-planned lineup started out with an update on the budget by CFO Brent Andrus, followed by presentations on AFA conservation grants and avian research from Dr. Janice Boyd; an update on avicultural legislation and the Endangered Species Act by AFA Legislative Vice President Genny Wall; the eagerly awaited Fundamentals of Aviculture II course, becoming available in early 2010, presented on behalf of Education Chair Dr. Benny Gallaway by President Jim Hawley; and the by-law amendments for the official vote by the AFA House of Delegates presented by Second Vice President Mary Ellen LePage.

Immediately following the meeting we loaded up the buses for a special trip to the Houston Zoo with a behind-the-scenes tour for those who purchased tickets in advance.

That evening’s agenda included a President’s Gala to meet and greet the



Above, Mark Sargent shows off his Wayne Smyth tie. Sargent, sponsored by the Pionus Breeders Association, presented a discussion of “Blue-headed Pionus Parrots—An Avicultural Perspective.” At right, the Greenspoint Hilton, in Houston, Texas.



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convention speakers and commercial vendors in the Exhibit Hall, which included an inviting spread of refreshments and an opportunity to network, while renewing old friendships as attendees strolled among the many enticing bird products, art, jewelry, books, feed, and other fascinating items on display. To AFA President Jim Hawley's surprise, a mouth-watering chocolate birthday cake appeared, accompanied by a rousing chorus of Happy Birthday to celebrate his special day.

The Exhibit Hall remained open throughout the convention talks from Thursday through Saturday with many opportunities for attendees to visit. Inside the exhibit hall—and next to the AFA Store filled with AFA memorabilia including convention T-shirts, mugs, logo pins and an array of other avicultural “must have” items—the AFA Daily Raffle Tables, Specialty and State Baskets, and top Super-8 Drawing Prizes were set up.

The convention art of this year's theme bird, the Blue-headed Parrot, painted by international artist Wayne E. Smyth was on prominent display. Both the artists proofs of a pair of Blue-headed Parrots, and five Blue-headed Parrots in flight, were generously donated by Wayne E. Smyth for the closing banquet auction.

The talks and presentations covered a wide variety of subjects. Whether you were interested in avian medicine, avian reproduction, social interaction of aviary and pet birds, or working with challenging species, there was an abundance of information for everyone at all levels of interest. With 30 convention speakers presenting over 35 topics to choose from, how could you lose!

Beginning with James C. Hawley, Jr.'s “President's Welcome,” highlights from the first full day of speakers included keynote address by internationally renowned Dr. Ian Tizard, on “Disease, Death and Extinction: The Significance of Infectious Diseases in the Life of Wild and Captive Birds”; the director of Loro Parque



At top, David Hughes and Jean Jordan staffed the AFA store.

Above, AFA President James C. Hawley, Jr., and his wife, Marilyn Hawley, greet Convention attendees at the banquet hall.



At left, Dr. Janice Boyd presents Dr. David Waugh with a check from the AFA Avian Grants & Research Program. Waugh, sponsored by Loro Parque Fundación, gave two presentations at the Convention.

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Above, President James C. Hawley, Jr., shares in this birthday celebration. Above right, artist Gamini Ratnavira, of Hidden Forest



Art Gallery and Nature Center, tends to his booth during the Convention.

Fundación in Tenerife, Spain, Dr. David Waugh, on "Nest Boxes in the Wild: Conservation of the Cuban Parakeet"; and avian veterinarian, Dr. Darrel Styles, on "Physics of Feather Color Generation in Parrots and Basic Avian Genetics of Psittacine Color Mutations." Other topics included Dr. Jean Dubach on "Who's My Daddy? How Genetic Analysis Can Answer Basic Questions"; Roger G. Sweeney on "Considering Avian Social Systems in Aviculture"; Tony Pittman on "The Slender-billed Conure in the Wild and in the Aviary"; and Cheryl Burns on "Bird Folk Basics: Web sites."

An immensely popular, well-attended talk was presented by the U.S. Management Authority for CITES, Robert Gabel, who offered an update on federal wildlife regulations pertaining to the import, export and interstate commerce of birds, and the upcoming meeting of CITES next year. The unending questions brought about a continued session scheduled later the same afternoon.

Second day convention highlights included such notables as Australian aviculturist Matt Baird on Rose-breasted Cockatoos titled, "The Galah in Australian Aviculture," (including an array of color mutations at the end), who also spoke previously on "Yellow-tailed Black

Cockatoos"; Donald Brightsmith on "Psittacine Nutrition Research: Tambopata to Texas and Beyond"; Bonnie Zimmerman with Dr. Stewart Metz on "Project Abbott: Conserving the World's Rarest Cockatoo"; and Roger G. Sweeney on "Behavioral Solutions in Avicultural Management." Additional talks included the president of the Pionus Breeders Association, Mark Sargent, on "The Blue-headed Pionus Parrot: An Avicultural Perspective"; Bill Van Pattern on "Walkabout with Mike Fidler: The Gouldian Finch"; Dick Schroeder on "The Hornbills"; and Francine Andersen, on "Lineolated Parakeets."

Highlights on the third day included Dr. Donald Brightsmith who spoke on this year's convention theme bird, titled, "Ecology and Conservation of the Blue-headed Pionus Parrot." Dr. David Waugh spoke on "Avicultural Challenges and Successes: Highlights of the Loro Parque Fundación Psittacine Collection," and Rick Jordan presented the well-attended talk, "Conures: World's Greatest Pet Bird and Breeder Bird." Additional avicultural talks featured Kashmir Csaky on "A Comparative Observation of Hyacinth Macaws in Captivity and in the Wild"; Jason Crean spoke on "Whitebacked Mousebirds"; Ron Mazzoni on "A Practical Guide to



Longtime friend and supporter of AFA, Kathleen Szabo, shares in the banquet festivities.

Feeding Softbills"; and Juan Cornejo presented "Captive Breeding and Husbandry of the Horned Guan."

Several veterinary talks included Sharman Hoppes, DVM, Ph.D. on "Allergic Alveolitis," and "Update on Proventricular Dilatation Disease," and Natalie Antinoff, DVM, Avian Diplomate ABVP on "Avian Reproduction: Breeding and Egg Development." Plus, Caroline Efstathion

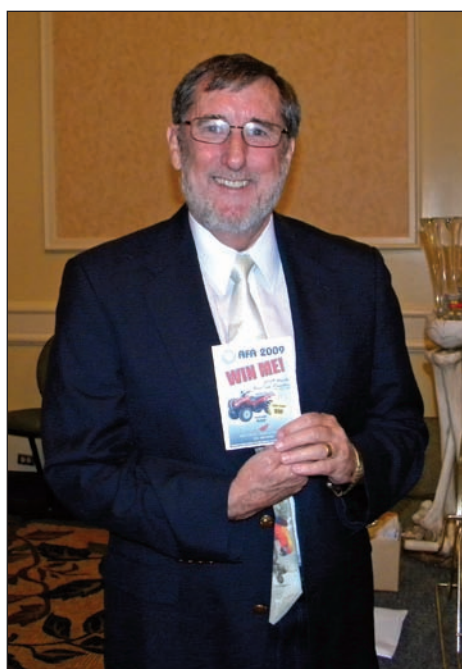
Aviculture—Branching Out!



Above left, Karen Justice, Laney Rickman and Roger Sweeney enjoy the Bird Endowment Reception. At right, Lisa and Gamini



Ratnavira, facing camera, flank Kashmir Csaky. Csaky displays her one-of-a-kind hand-painted evening wrap.



Dr. Benny Gallaway was the proud winner of the Honda ATV. He donated the vehicle to Fred Smith.

spoke on “Structure and Function of the Avian Respiratory System,” Marshall Liger on “Practicing Safe Avian Restraint and Basic Grooming,” and Michael Dalton presented “Passive Speech Research, Language and the Animal Mind.”

Numerous pet bird and avicultural behavior talks were included throughout the program, featuring Robin Shewokis (sponsored by Bird Endowment) on “Do

Breeder Birds Benefit from Enrichment?,” Kashmir Csaky on “Easing the Transitions in the Life of Captive Birds,” Adrienne Mock on “Branching Out: Birds in the Classroom, at the Fair and at the Park,” and Laurie E. Baker on “No Bad Birds: Bird Instincts vs. Human Interpretation.” Chris Biro (sponsored by the International Conure Association), spoke on “The Importance of Flight and the Freeflying Lifestyle,” and gave several demonstrations during the Specialty Organization meetings of the International Conure Society, the Bird Endowment Friday evening reception, and during the Saturday night gala banquet.

The convention offered a meeting opportunity for officers and committees to further brainstorm. Board of Directors meetings were held by AFA before and following the convention, as well as during the convention by some of the Affiliated Specialty Organizations.

One of the more unique meetings that has been occurring the past several conventions is led by North Central Regional Director Lisa McManus, who organized an annual meeting with the State Coordinators and members of her region. Discussion includes the region’s events, exchange of information, the email newsletter and what the participants would like, and

support issues. In attendance at the 2009 meeting were Lisa McManus (chair, Colorado), Lisa Sladyk (Utah), Audrey Hol-laar (Utah), Cindy Ryder (Wyoming), Carol Drennan (Nevada), Madeleine Franco (Nevada), and Nancy Steinke (Nevada). Lisa McManus states, “I started the regional meetings in 2005, because we need to communicate in order to unify the Region.”

Of special interest were some of the birds at the convention, including Lisa McManus’ 9-year-old phenomenally tame Greater Vasa Parrot that Lisa had won in the Los Angeles AFA Convention Super 8 Raffle in the year 2000.

The Specialty Organizations met each evening and the Bird Endowment held its generous, annual reception on Friday night, where all were invited to attend, with Chris Biro free-flying his macaws in the atrium venue where the “Blues” Party—complete with blues music—was held.

The festivities came to their conclusion at the Saturday evening gala banquet, where aviculturists dressed in their finest, or avicultural attire, and enjoyed the good fellowship of one another, no doubt due in large part to the success of the week’s schedule of lectures, meetings, exhibit hall offerings and other festivities throughout the week.

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Banquet highlights included the President's service awards presented to those who performed outstanding contributions to AFA, special drawings and Super 8 Raffle winners, and the fundraising art auction, with major pieces shown throughout the banquet hall by sturdy Australian aviculturist and speaker, Matt Baird.

New Life Member, the youthful (and beautiful!) aviculturist Alex Culp, was introduced, and the announcement of the winner of the 2009 Honda Four Trax Rancher, won by past president Dr. Benny Gallaway who immediately gifted it to a delighted, Florida and Puerto Rico Regional Director Fred Smith.

Following dinner, Chris Biro and Susan Hilliard "worked the room" with their adorable and entertaining free-flying sun conures, collecting single dollars, and some larger bills, from those in the audience who enthusiastically contributed again to a worthy cause.

Sunday morning closed with the AFA Board of Directors meeting and most attendees flying back to their return destinations. Some of us had a last meal together in the hotel atrium and pondered last thoughts of the convention. Former president Dr. Benny Gallaway concluded, "I continue to be impressed by the loyalty and dedication of Wayne E. Smyth. I enjoyed the talks and the venue. I looked out on a sea of faces and missed those I did not see—but enjoyed those I saw again and hope to see everyone in St. Petersburg next year!"

This was my 27th AFA convention since the one I first attended in 1979 (I only missed three since 1979). Each time I attend, I learn a great deal and I highly recommend the AFA convention to all bird owners. It is an enjoyable and educational event and one I look forward to every year. I would certainly feel something was missing had I not attended.

According to 2010 Convention Chair Jamie Whittaker, "The Board of

Directors has pledged to make this a more fun convention with even more entertaining events in St. Petersburg, Florida, next year." One hint I wangled, "The President's Gala—which is still under wraps—promises to be the best one yet!" And no amount of coaxing would yield more—but I'm working on it!

Specialty Organization Meetings

One of the unique features of the American Federation of Aviculture convention are the Specialty Organization meetings and Houston was no exception.

Beginning Thursday evening, the Pionus Breeders Association gathered together for a chance to meet, lasting several hours. There was much enthusiasm among these keen specialists and according to PBA President, Mark Sargent, "The Pionus meeting is experiencing increased attendance and had several new members join at the meeting." It is no doubt PBA is on an upswing and exposure at the convention helped in that effort.

I slipped out of the meeting, which ran overtime, to attend the International Conure Association, which met in a slightly larger hall to accommodate their increased attendance and later talks. The conures have enjoyed great popularity in recent years as evidenced by this burgeoning group.

The highlight of the evening included Chris Biro and Susan Hilliard with their amazing, entertaining sun conures. A blaze of yellow and orange could be seen streaming around the room as "the green" collected ended back up front in the glass vase. Another worthy cause that got its money's worth!

Friday evening hosted the specialty meeting of the newer, growing Lineolated Parakeet Society, which shared informal discussion and imparted lots of species information. Although I'm not a "linnie owner" I did stay and join in the later

discussion on genetics. It was evident to me this group had a lot to offer.

The extravagant Bird Endowment Reception, run by Executive Director Laney Rickman, followed in the hotel atrium, replete with eye-catching decorations and party novelties to honor the "Saving the Blues" theme. Many attendees, speakers, and exhibitors gathered to enjoy the party and blues music, with an open cash bar.

Chris Biro and Susan Hilliard entertained the crowd with their free-flying Blue-throated Macaws that catapulted into the upper rafters before returning in broad, winding sweeps. Much to the interest of all, a fun-filled auction of impressive items, including artwork, followed into the late night hours.

The AFA arranges Specialty Organization meetings in advance of the convention. If you are an affiliated Specialty, or would like to be, please contact Specialty Vice President Linda S. Rubin at LSR@CockatielsPlusParrots.com or (617) 469-0557. Your Specialty will receive further information on how to arrange meetings, speakers, and a booth for the upcoming convention, plus a complimentary listing in the *Watchbird*, and among the Specialties with your Web site link on the AFA Web site.

The American Federation of Aviculture, Inc. was established in 1974 as a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the advancement of aviculture. This is accomplished through AFA's dedication to the conservation of bird wildlife through the encouragement of captive breeding programs, scientific research and the education of the general public. AFA funds grants to avian research and conservation for the betterment of avian species and aviculture. Individual membership is \$40 and includes its world-class publication, the AFA *Watchbird*, among many other benefits. For further information, visit www.afabirds.org.



Aviculture—Branching Out!

Behind the scenes

A tour of the Houston Zoo

A Saddle-billed Stork at the Houston Zoo.

*By Linda S. Rubin,
Specialty Vice President*

The Houston Zoo trip followed the AFA House of Delegates meeting during the pre-convention activities before the main convention was underway. With no time to spare, and a

quick change in our rooms, those with prepaid tickets mounted the comfortable, air-conditioned buses to head to the Zoo. Each year, we have an excellent zoo tour and this year was no exception, including a “behind-the-scenes” excursion of Bird World and its inhabitants.

From pairs of rare St. Vincent Amazons,

to meeting a friendly White-bellied Go-a-Way bird held by keeper Megan Neal, there was a wide variety of birds to suit most every interest, both on display and behind the scenes.

At our leisure, we were separated into smaller groups for the behind-the-scenes tour of the bird flights housing psittacines,

AFA Watchbird 45

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Baetluer Eagle at the Houston Zoo.

softbills, ground birds, and many others. At the end of the tour, each group was led in to inspect the incubation room where selected eggs were hatched, to view the kitchen where the fresh produce and protein diets were prepared, and see the working facilities where the staff conducted daily activities. A group of high school students involved in a program for credit were currently busy at one table working on their observations and studies.

What made the visit special for me was the extraordinary opportunity to view a Double-wattled Cassowary again at close range. These birds can be deadly, but this juvenile the zoo recently acquired was well contained and even somewhat friendly. Known for being capable of disemboweling a human if provoked, a special pen with a trap door to protect keepers enabled daily maintenance. I like to describe this species as a bird that most

resembles an emu—with florescent blue skin on its neck and face, with a red wattle, a triangular projecting horn topping its crown, displaying thick feet, toes, and spiking nails—simulating a cross between a space alien and a dinosaur. (I certainly don't know what a space alien looks like, but that is what I could imagine one to be).

I saw the exhibit with AFA First-timer, Brenda Horn, an enthusiastic AFA

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A Blue-winged Kookaburra from Australia at the Houston Zoo.

member who first learned about the convention at the AFA booth at the Parrot Festival in Houston. Brenda then attended a rummage sale at ABC Pets and South Central Regional Director Jamie Whitaker suggested she go online at www.afabirds.org to join. Brenda registered for the full convention and her husband joined her for the banquet.

The time just flew by and with a brief stop for refreshments at the air-

conditioned Parrot Cafe restaurant, and another quick stop at the zoo's gift shop, we were finally ushered back onto the buses to return to the hotel, delightfully satisfied with the day's adventure.

If you haven't joined us for a zoo trip yet, you may wish to give it serious consideration next time. It's well worth attending and seeing a number of species you might never come across otherwise, as we all naturally tend to acquire "tunnel vision" for

only those species we keep. I have always greatly valued learning about and enjoying the many other fascinating species of birds out there, even if I am unable to keep them myself.

For further information on next year's trip and convention, read the upcoming *Watchbird* and be sure to check out the AFA Web site at www.afabirds.org, which publishes up-to-the-minute news on the convention and all activities.

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Weekend Winners

Super 8

Framed Amazon Print

donated by Gamini Ratnavira

Tiffany Latino

Belize Retreat at Banana Bank

donated by Carolyn & John Carr

Bill Christian

San Francisco Getaway

donated by Mary Ellen LePage

Julia Stacy

Parrot Bed Quilt

donated by Ardith Raine & Pat Chinnici

Jan Cheney

Opal and Diamond Ring

donated by Pat Chinnici

Georgia Hayes

\$1,000 Cash Card

donated by Christopher Chinnici

Peter Rizzo

Pediatric Supply Intensive Care Unit

donated by Joe Freed

Daina Mahone

Small Bow-front Cage

donated by Super Pet

Ed Singh

Laptop Drawing

Lisa McManus won the laptop for the membership drive.

Madeline Franco won the laptop in the registration drawing.

Live Auction

Reception Artwork by Wayne E. Smyth

Brent W. Gattis, who donated the artwork to the Bird Endowment

Blue-headed Pionus in Flight

Laney Rickman

Blue-headed Pionus Pair on Branch

Brent W. Gattis

3 Day Raffle

Hand Painted Ostrich Egg—Blue & Gold Macaw

Andy Sanford

Wingdow Window Perch

Ron Castaner

Flamingo Tray and Dip Bowl

Marilyn Hawley

Full Registration to Parrot Festival

Adrianne Mock

King's Travel Cage

Shirley Davis

Red Brinkmann Smoker

Daina Mahone

White Parrot Sweater, Macaw Purse

Julia Stacy

Swan Stained Glass

Andy Sanford

PVC Parrot Perch & Atom Toy

Julia Stacy

Giant Parrot Pez Bank

Alex Culp

Flamingo Vase

Marilyn Hawley

Hand-painted Big Cats on Leather

Marshall Liger

Vision Cage, Nestbox & Cage Cover

Justin Castaneda

Fan with Hand-painted Macaws

Andrew Colazzi

Garmin GPS NUVI 260W

Nick Mooney

Swan Plant Stand

Marilyn Hawley

Species Basket

Macaw Basket

Bill Christian

Flamingo/Zebra Basket

Verleen Hopper

Backyard Birds Basket

Rocky Mooney

Birds of Prey Basket

Kathy Hodges

Rooster Basket

Georgia Hayes

Dallas Bird Society

Denise LaCazette

Winner of the Honda 4X4 ATV

Dr. Benny Gallaway,

who then presented **Fred Smith** with the prize

Many thanks to our generous donors for the raffle and auction items!

And a big thanks to our Convention sponsors

Alamo Exhibition Bird Club, Dr. Christopher Chinnici, Hagen, Higgins, ZuPreem

2010 Call for Papers

**American Federation of Aviculture, Inc.
36th Annual Convention
Aug. 4–7, 2010
The Magic of Birds
Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront
333 First St. S., St. Petersburg, FL**

The American Federation of Aviculture, Inc. (AFA) is a national, nonprofit, educational organization established in 1974 whose purpose is to represent all aspects of aviculture and to educate the public about keeping and breeding birds in captivity.

We invite you to submit a proposal to present a paper at our annual AFA convention. Proposals should be submitted in the form of an abstract, accompanied by a brief biographical sketch identifying the author's experience with the topic to be presented and other relevant information. Please consider submitting multiple abstracts as you may have the opportunity to give more than one presentation.

- Abstracts will be accepted through February 15, 2010. Receipt of abstracts will be acknowledged and applicants will receive timely updates from the Speaker Committee.
- If the abstract is accepted, you will be required to sign a speaker's contract and return the contract promptly. A short bio and a current, high resolution photograph is also required. Speakers will not be officially confirmed without receipt of a signed contract. Speakers are required to submit a paper to be published in the convention proceedings and in Watchbird, the official journal of AFA. Final Papers for the proceedings must be received no later than April 15, 2010, to be included in the convention proceedings.
- AFA will provide a complimentary

convention registration package and one banquet ticket to each confirmed speaker. All other arrangements, including guests, transportation and hotel accommodations are the responsibility of the speaker or the speaker's sponsor.

Abstracts are short summaries of the paper you wish to present and should be no more than 250 words. They must include the name of the author(s), mailing address(es), email and all phone contact information for the author(s). Please include the name of your company, organization, aviary or other affiliations. If there is more than one author, please indicate if one or both will present.

Presentations will be allotted 50 minutes and may include a brief question and answer period. Audiovisual equipment will be made available and will be specified in each contract.

Abstracts, biographies and final papers may be submitted by mail, as an email, or as an MS Word email attachment to the Speaker Chair, or faxed to the AFA office. Please identify it as "AFA 2010 Convention Abstract."

AFA requires exclusive publication rights to accepted papers to be included in the Convention Proceedings and Watchbird, the official journal of AFA.

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