

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE

The Mission of the AFA is to Promote the Advancement of Aviculture.

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 Hookbill Hobbyists of So. California
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 Aloha Parrot Association

* Position open: contact regional vice president if interested.

** indicates 2 year term has been fulfilled. If no interested party comes forward and indicates a desire to serve, incumbent remains in position.

For information about contacting any of these member clubs, please call that club's state coordinator.

statement for it summarizes features which make this species extremely popular with aviculturists worldwide. At times I am asked to recommend species that would be suitable for bird-keepers wishing to progress from breeding canaries, Budgerigars *Melopsittacus undulatus* or Zebra Finches *Taeniopygia guttata*, and I nominate the Scarlet-chested Parrot as ideal for bird-keepers planning to change from domesticated birds.

These charming parrots breed freely in small aviaries or large cages, and can be housed in a mixed collection with finches, doves or softbills, but should not be kept with other small parrots, for males can become aggressive when breeding. Feeding requirements are simple, Though I have found that supplementing the basic seed mix with greenfood and seeding grasses is essential for successful breeding. Pairs often rear two or more broods in a season so should be provided with two or more nestboxes or hollow logs, and young birds should be removed from the aviary as soon as they are independent.

Scarlet-chested Parrots nearly always have been included in my collection, but I keep only pure normal birds and must confess to being totally unenthusiastic about the numerous color mutations that have been developed. In my opinion, all have lost the exceptional beauty of normally-plumaged birds, and I do fear that emphasis on the breeding of mutations poses a risk to the longterm viability of pure strains of normal birds in aviaries.

