

Eleanor Cooley was presented the AFA Gold Avy Award in August 1988 by Dale R. Thompson, AFA Avy Awards chairman.

Eleanor Cooley 1911 - March 3, 1989

The avicultural world has recently lost one of its pioneers of handfeeding with the passing of Eleanor Cooley. She came to California from Pennsylvania as a young lady. She and her husband Fred became interested in birds with the purchase of a pet parakeet in 1952. The single pet soon had a mate, a few more pairs were purchased and aviaries started to spring up in the back yard.

By the mid-1950s, Eleanor and Fred joined the Avicultural Society of America and served as active members in many ways. Eleanor started hand feeding cockatiels because she was unable to accept the unnecessary death of abandoned chicks. During the 50s, very few people even dared consider hand feeding a newly hatched chick. Very little information was available for the curious and dedicated. Eleanor's interest was primarily hookbills. She entered new territory with sensitive, probing intelligence and courage that led her to accomplishments respected by zoos, private institutions and large breeders with considerable investment in rare stock. It was not unusual for her to hatch eggs in her incubator and feed the new chicks from their first day to fledglings finally able to feed themselves. Many well-known bird breeders brought their chicks to Eleanor when trouble would strike.

The Avicultural Society of America, Los Angeles, California, recognized Eleanor's accomplishments in 1975 by granting her honorary lifetime status.

The West Valley Bird Society, San Fernando Valley, California, nominated Eleanor for the AFA Gold Avy Award in 1988. The nomination was accepted. The Gold Avy is a once-in-a-lifetime, highest award an aviculturist can receive from the American Federation of Aviculture.

Now, in the late 1980s, hand feeding is fairly routine and a great many people do it successfully. But that's because people like Eleanor Cooley have marched 30 years ahead of us and blazed a bright and documented trail for us to follow. ●

1989 Avy Awards Nominations

by Dale R. Thompson Canyon Country, California

To AFA members, aviculturists, and all bird enthusiasts: the following avian species have been nominated for a possible U.S. First Breeding Avy Award. Any knowledge of prior breedings should be submitted to the AFA Home Office in care of Dale R. Thompson, chairman, Avy Awards Committee.

- 1. Yellow-faced Amazon, Amazona xanthops, hatch date: April 25, 1985
- 2. Salvin's Amazon, Amazona autumnalis salvini, hatch date: May 8, 1983
- Lilacine Amazon, Amazona autumnalis lilacina, hatch date: April 23, 1986

- 4. Ruby blue-headed pionus, *Pionus menstruus rubrigularis*, hatch date: June 26, 1985
- 5. White-eared brown fruit dove, *Phapitreron leucotis*, hatch date: June 13, 1988
- 6. Timor sparrow, *Padda fuscata*, hatch date: May 15, 1988
- Yellow-hooded black bird, Agelaius icterocephalus, hatch date: June 8, 1986
- 8. Red-faced liocichla, *Liocichla phoenica*, hatch date: June 2, 1988
- 9. Pondicherry vulture, Sarcogyps calvus, hatch date: spring 1983.

1988 Avy Awards Presented at 15th Annual AFA Convention, Tampa

The following is a list of AFA's Avy Award winners presented at the national AFA convention in Tampa, Florida, August 5, 1988.

- Gold Avy Award to Eleanor Cooley. Nominated by the West Valley Bird Society.
- Silver Avy Award (Category IV show category) to Carolyn Goodman for her work with cockatiels. Nominated by the American Cockatiel Society.
- Avy Appreciation Award to Dick Ivy. Nominated by the Peninsula Caged Bird Society.
- 4. Special Avy Service Award given to Kathy Lyons, Nancy Vigran, Beryl Moss, Dick Schroeder, and Barry Wold, for their service through the Los Angeles Avian Council resulting in one of the first pro-avian ordinances approved in the nation. Nominated by the West Valley Bird Society.

The following U.S. First Breeding Avy

Awards were also presented:

- Red-crowned Amazon, Amazona dufresniana rhodocorytha, hatched June 12, 1984 by Life Fellowship, Ramon Noegel and Greg Moss.
- Yellow-lored Amazon, Amazona xantholora, hatched June 15, 1984, by Life Fellowship, Ramon Noegel and Greg Moss.
- Parvipes yellow-naped Amazon, *Amazona ochrocephala parvipes*, hatched March 30, 1984, by Life Fellowship, Ramon Noegel and Greg Moss.
- Diademed Amazon, Amazona autumnalis diadema, hatched April 30, 1987, by Life Fellowship, Ramon Noegel and Greg Moss.
- 5. Pied barbet, Tricholaema leuco-

- meian, hatched July 1, 1987, by North Carolina Zoological park, Ronald E. Morris, Curator of Birds.
- Siberian crane, Grus leucogeranus, hatched 1981, by International Crane Foundation.
- 7. Red-breasted musk parrot, *Prospeia tabuensis tabuensis*, hatched April 14, 1987, by Aviculture Breeding and Research Center, Richard Schubot.
- 8. Red-wattled lapwing, *Vanellus indicus*, hatched April 19, 1987, by Miami Metro Zoo, Ron Johnson, Curator of Birds.
- Orange-bellied leafbird, Chloropsis bardwickii, hatched June 9, 1987, by Miami Metro Zoo, Ron Johnson, Curator of Birds.
- Red-rumped green woodpecker, Picus erythropygius, hatched May 18, 1987, by Miami Metro Zoo, Ron Johnson, Curator of Birds.
- 11. Pleasing or red-flanked lorikeet, *Charmosyna p. placentis,* hatched June 26, 1987, by Brook and Sharon Thorber
- 12. Channel-billed toucan, *Ramphastos v. vitellinus*, hatched June 29, 1987, by Rod Barth.
- 13. Chestnut-eared aracari, *Pteroglossus* castanotis, hatched May 27, 1983, by Rod Barth.
- Black-necked aracari, Pteroglossus a. aracari, hatched June 4, 1987, by Periwinkle Park Aviaries, Dick Muench.

We welcome Avy Award nominations for all categories. An article suitable for the *Watchbird* should accompany all U.S. First Breeding Avy Award nominations. Direct all nominations to Dale R. Thompson, Avy Award Committee, through the AFA office. ●

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