

The Chapmans

by Nancy Vigran
Studio City, California

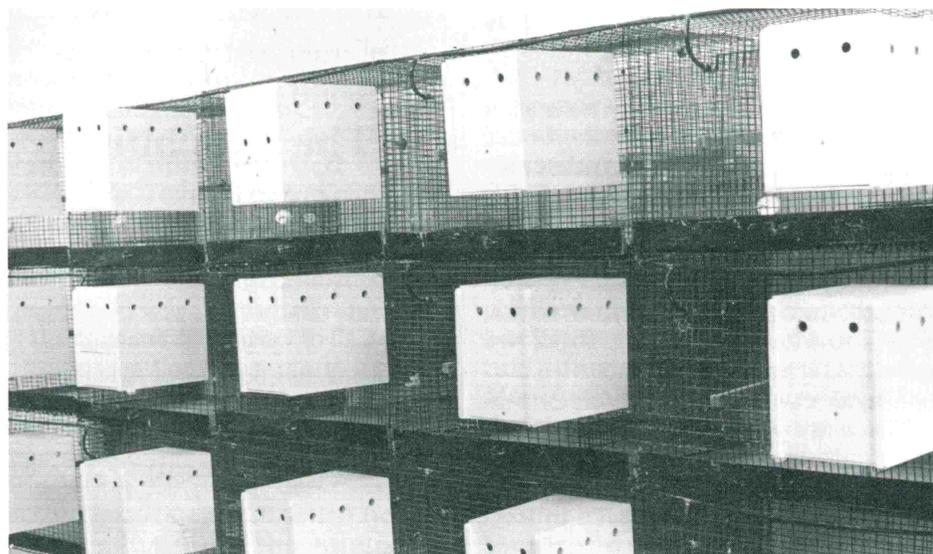
Photos by Nancy Vigran



Jack and Betty Chapman stand in front of their budgie house in Ojai, California.



Some of the statues and ribbons won by the Chapmans' budgies, displayed in their living room.



Chapmans' breeding cage set-up has easy to clean nest boxes and a tube watering system for ease of maintenance.

Coming inland from the foggy coastline of Ventura County, California the sun glows on the peaceful valley of Ojai. It is here that Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chapman have found their retirement home and here they have built a haven for their Budgerigars.

Jack Chapman, a retired school teacher, has been breeding show budgies since 1953 and is an American Budgerigar Society licensed judge. He has spent years developing a genetic lineage that produces some of the best show stock in the country, as proven by the trophy and ribbon display in the Chapman's living room.

The budgerigar house was designed and built by Jack with help from some friends. Flights were built along the southern wall of the building, and measure 12' long x 4' wide x 8 1/2' sloping down to 6 1/2' high in the back. Each flight comfortably houses 35 budgies (either young or off-season breeding stock). The south wall is lined with 3' wire windows and left open to light and air. In the winter, Chapman covers this area half of the way down. Natural light is supplemented with ceiling lights which are left on the same timer year round and go off at approximately 9:00 p.m. The lights do not alter day-break in the morning.

On the north end of the building, 30 breeding cages are arranged, each measuring 24" x 18" x 18". Nest boxes are 10" deep, 6 3/4" wide and 9" high and are painted with white gloss which makes them easy to clean. Ventilation holes on the sides help to keep the boxes dry. There are reversible trays in the bottom of the boxes to make for easy cleaning with minimal disturbance in between clutches. Each cage has a wire shelf placed a couple of inches off the floor, which have a dual purpose; offering a place for the seed jars to sit with hulls falling below and providing protection for fledglings if and when their parents start to become aggressive (especially the father) when going back to nest.

The floor of the budgie house is cement with a 2" slope to the back of the flights which allows complete hosing out. Twice a year the birds are removed from their flights and all of the flights are completely scrubbed and hosed out.

The Chapman budgies are offered a diet of canary seed, white proso millet and small red and white millet. The seeds are kept in separate feed-



A Grey clear-wing cock in show cage.

ers (except for the red and white millet which are mixed). Breeding birds and young (until about four to five months of age) are fed sprouted oats with a pinch of Petamine and a pinch of raw, grated carrots. Swiss chard, grown in the Chapman garden, is also offered. No store bought greens are fed because, even though washed, Chapman feels that insecticides may still remain in the food. Grit is offered at all times to all birds.

Chapman has set up a tube watering system. The dark tubing helps minimize bacteria and there is a drain at the end to allow flushing. The system is completely cleaned once a year and each nozzle thoroughly cleaned with a Q-tip and alcohol. The tubing itself is soaked in bleach water.

Ideally, Chapman likes to have 65 to 70 hens and 40 to 45 males to choose from for breeding. Pairs are set up during the weekend of Thanksgiving. Square perches (1/2" x 1/2") are used in the breeding cages. Chapman uses a colored dot method to mark his nestboxes for immediate record keeping. Green dots indicate that a hen is laying eggs; red signifies that the pair is sitting on fertile eggs; and blue dots show that the babies are hatching. Breeding season ends when the heat comes with summer.

When babies are weaned, they are all placed in a 4' cage with a show box attached. Spray millet and oats are placed inside the box to lure the babies in. The babies remain in this environment for three to four weeks before being turned into a flight. This way all of the budgies are introduced and grow accustomed to a show box early on.

Southern California is one of the most competitive areas in the country for showing budgies, so Chapman chooses his show stock very care-

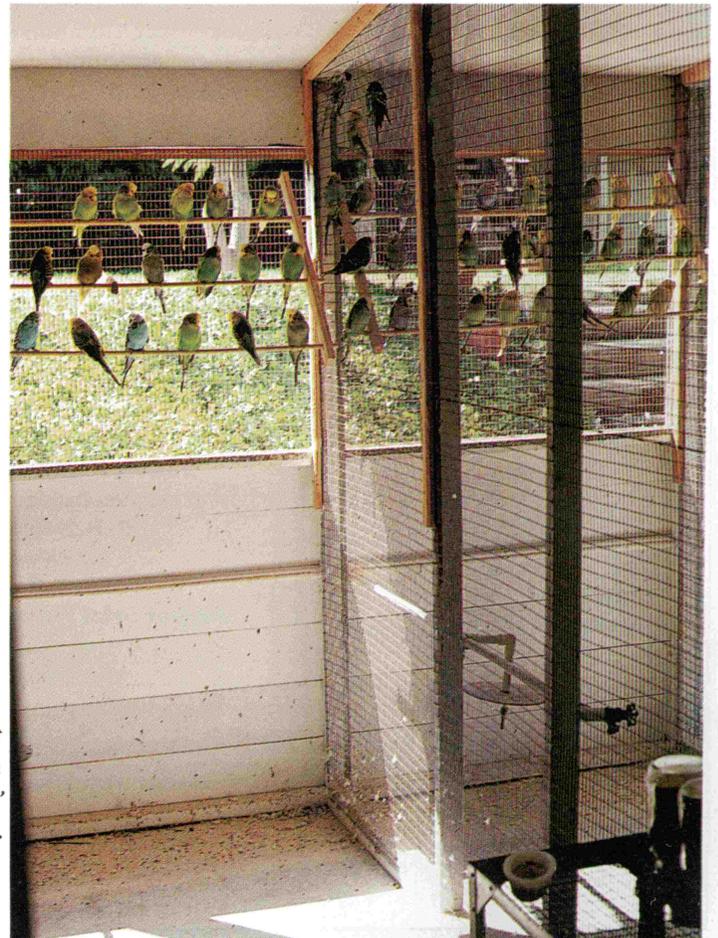
fully. Birds are placed in show boxes, trained to take proper stance on the perch and then watched as if being judged in a show. The birds are lightly misted to encourage preening and enhance the sheen on their feathers prior to a show.

Chapman's latest "pet" project is a crossing of the clear-winged and spangle mutations. For this, he is

working with blue budgies and resulting in a deep blue or cobalt-bodied bird with white wings. Although these birds are not yet developed to show standards, the colors are striking and Chapman is very happy with the result. He hopes to have a good quality show bird, both with color and in body-type within the next two to three years. ●



Jack Chapman at the 1992 San Gabriel Valley Budgie Show. Chapman's bird, a normal green hen, won Third Best Hen in Show.



Budgie flight cages in Chapman's budgie house.

Photos by Nancy Vigran



Kaytee

Great American Bird Show
October 3 - 4, 1992
Landmark Hotel, Metairie, LA
Contact: Claudia M. Leistikow
1 (800) 669-9580

New Hampshire
Avicultural Society
17th Annual Bird Show
October 10, 1992

Hudson Memorial School
Hudson, N.H.
For more information contact:
Bill Sager, D.V.M.
P.O. Box 575
Littleton, MA 01460
Phone (508) 486-3101

Greater Kansas City
Avicultural Society's
Annual Bird Show
October 17, 1992

Location:
Ramada Inn South
5701 Longview Road
Kansas City, MO 64137
Show manager:
Steven Shaw

Capitol City Bird Society
16th Annual Show
October 24 - 25, 1992

Placer County Fairgrounds
All American City Blvd.
Roseville, CA 95678
For information:
Carol Roberts (916) 622-1073

Northwest Bird Club
All Exotic Birds
October 31 - November 1, 1992

Jackson County Expo Hall
For information:
Show Manager Margaret Young
(503) 535-1869
Show Secretary Rita Boget
(503) 846-7702

The Watchbird offers free publicity for member club bird shows by announcing the dates and locations of the shows. To have your show listed it is necessary to get the data to the Watchbird four to five months before the show date. For example, if your show takes place the first week of October, it should be listed in the August/September issue. The deadline for that issue is June 1st. (Copy/article deadline is two months preceding publication date.)

The Greater Pittsburgh
Cage Bird Society's
17th Annual All-Bird Show
November 7, 1992

Judges:
Sig Larson - Type Canaries
Otto Mahnke - Colorbred Canaries
Brenda Geesey - Finches/Softbills
Jon Hoffman - Parrot types
Ray Johnson - Cockatiels
Dan Land - Lovebirds/Am. Budgies
Joe Sabella - English Budgies
Coleen Sullivan-Baier - Talking/
Trained/Pet Birds
Show secretary:
Marge Jonnet
434 Northview Drive,
Verona, PA 15147
Phone (412) 795-1904

Philadelphia Avicultural Society
2nd Annual Exotic Bird Show

Pequea Intermediate School
166 S. New Holland Rd.
Intercourse, PA
For information:
Jack or Sybil Francis (717) 442-4495

Portland's
Rose City Exotic Bird Club
presents its
5th Annual All Bird Show
and Bird Expo
November 7 & 8, 1992

Washington County Fairgrounds
Hillsboro, Oregon
25 minutes from Portland

Budgerigar Exhibitors:
two shows one weekend
Saturday, Nov. 7, 1992
Rose City Exotic Bird Club
Judge Gary Hicken

Sunday, Nov. 8, 1992
Cascade Budgerigar Club
Judge Dennis Lalevee

Both shows ABS points,
ABS show standards

Fly-in entries accepted,
for details please call
(503) 641-4457

For show entries or
vendor space information:
Ron or June Marks,
Show & Expo Managers
19235 SW Pilkington Road
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
Phone (503) 684-3799

San Diego Bird Show
27th Annual Show
November 7 - 8, 1992

For info, call Deborah Morrison
(619) 534-0869 (business)
or (619) 466-4999 (home)

Santa Clara Valley Canary &
Exotic Bird Club Bird Show
November 27 - 29, 1992

Wilcox High School
3250 Monroe, Santa Clara, CA
For information:
Delilah Quieto (408) 748-1152

Cascade Canary Breeders
Association

24th Annual Canary Show
November 28 - 29, 1992

Day's Inn
6802 Tacoma Mall Blvd.
Tacoma, WA 98409
For information:
Bruce Breniman (206) 486-8673
Terry Albertson (206) 839-6533

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THE RESULTS

Brilliant intense coloration. Luxurious plumage, promotes dramatic growth and health effects. Aids the immune system, enhances the bodies cleansing, detoxifying and healing properties. Promotes better skin color. Enhances vitality and fertility.

THE ANALYSIS

Compare this typical analysis (based on 3 rounded teaspoons) to any other product you have ever seen. Whether one pet parrot or an entire collection your birds are going to sparkle and shine and here is the reason why!

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Crude Fiber	1716 mg	Iodine	20 mcg	Glycine	117 mg	Vitamin A	5005 I/U
Calories	29	Copper	06 mg	Alanine	137 mg	Vitamin K	801 mcg
Chlorophyll	53 mg	Cobalt	5 mcg	Valine	126 mg	Vitamin C	32 mg
Carbohydrates	4 gm	Sulphur	20 mg	Isoleucine	89 mg	Vitamin E	3 mg
Minerals		Other trace		Leucine	163 mg	Thiamine	29 mcg
Calcium	52 mg	minerals	369 mg	Tyrosine	52 mg	Choline	3 mg
Phosphorus	52 mg	Amino Acids		Phenylalanine	109 mg	Riboflavin	203 mcg
Potassium	320 mg	Lysine	83 mg	Methionine	43 mg	Pyridoxine	129 mcg
Magnesium	10 mg	Histidine	46 mg	Cystine	23 mg	Vitamin B12	3 mcg
Iron	6 mg	Arginine	112 mg	Tryptophan	11 mg	Niacin	752 mcg
Manganese	1 mg	Aspartic Acid	223 mg	Amide	29 mg	Pantothenic Acid	240 mcg
Selenium	10 mcg	Threonine	106 mg	Purines	6 mg	Biotin	11 mcg
Sodium	3 mg	Glutamic Acid	243 mg	Serine	243 mg	Folic Acid	109 mcg

HOW TO USE

Sprinkle over fruits or vegetables, mix with soft foods, seed mixtures, grains. Mix into baby formulas. Remember a little bit goes a long way! Absolutely no risk to your birds regardless of amount given!!!

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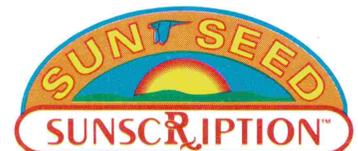


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