

# AFA in action...

# NEWS and VIEWS

DECEMBER 1992

## Hurricane Andrew Relief Update A Big THANK YOU!

by Chuck Saffell, First Vice-President  
Palmetto, Florida

As part of the Hurricane Andrew avian relief effort, between September 3rd and October 17th, the following supplies were collected at the Palmetto, Florida warehouse and trucked to the AFA-SOFAR warehouse which is located three blocks from the Miami International Airport:

32,000 lbs. seed and pellets, 250 lbs. millet, 300 lbs. Avi-cake, 200 lbs. hand feeding formula, 40 lbs. vitamins and minerals, 170 lbs. veterinarian supplies, 10 lbs. Lactobacillus, 50 lbs. peanuts, 50 lbs. Honeytreat, 100 lbs. Crazycorn, 700 lbs. Zoo-preem, 80 lbs. "J" clips, 30 lbs. wire cutters, pliers, J clip and other tools, 50 each syringes, 600 feet shade cloth, 2,000 feet cage wire, 80 each premanufactured cages, 40 each stainless steel food bowls, 3 boxes bird toys and dishes, 200 each cage door latches, 1 each very large bird net with extension handle, 12,000 each flashlight batteries, 6 cases juice drinks for the workers.

Between September 2nd and October 31st, 700 manhours were donated at the Miami warehouse by AFA-SOFAR club members. Sixty-eight trips were made out of the warehouse by truck or van and on these trips 220 deliveries were made.

An additional 30 trips were made from the warehouse to West Palm Beach, Lantana and Ft. Lauderdale to pick up donated supplies from other depots.

On the first day that the SOFAR warehouse was opened, the following load went out to drop-off points where people could pick up supplies: 2,000 lbs. parrot mix, 1,000 lbs. canary, 1,000 lbs. finch, 2 boxes of corn and 500 lbs. hookbill mix. On the

same day, four fully loaded vans made additional deliveries directly to breeders and another van delivered special supplies to the Miami Metro Zoo.

One hundred twenty-five cages have been built at the warehouse and cage wire has been cut and delivered to be assembled on site at breeders' locations. Included with cut wire were kits of "J" clips, door latches and pliers. Cages were 3' x 3' x 3' and 3' x 3' x 4' with smaller cages supplied if requested. Almost 80 commercially manufactured cages have also been distributed.

I would like to give special recognition to the following AFA-SOFAR members who have worked especially hard carrying 50 lb. bags, delivering supplies, mixing seed, cutting wire, making cages and donating time, vehicles and fuel to the effort:

Denise Barth, Phil Barth, Gloria Ballaban, Robert Benaim, Len Brower, Stephen (Bear) Brown, Barbara Kennedy, Jim Swain, Vivian Swain, Bob Tame, Jan Jame, Neva Wheeler.

I must give "Bear" a double thank you for service above and beyond the call of duty. He has kept the warehouse open and presentable six days a week for the last two months. Bear operated the forklift, cut wire, made cages, unloaded supplies, loaded the trucks, kept track of receipts, maintained records, scolded, cajoled and even smiled once in a while. He's a great guy.

We also owe a special thank you to Robert Benaim who donated the warehouse, phone, fax and manpower.

It is impossible to adequately express my gratitude and appreciation to all the wonderful people who have responded to our request for avian relief for south Florida. We have not listed amounts by donor in the *Watchbird* as you gave from your hearts and this was not a commercial or competitive effort. But as you can tell from the totals, the generosity was outstanding.

To give you a flavor of what happened:

- A commercial donor called immediately and asked what we needed. When I said we could use two tons of seed, the response was, "In what size bags do you want us to package it?"

- When there was an emergency need for hand-feeding formula, a bird club purchased it and paid \$90 additional to ship overnight air.

- Financial gifts ranged from a \$2,000 check to an envelope with no name but a dollar bill enclosed.

- An individual who is on a limited disability income called and said although she could not afford to send money, could she send some of her food stamps so we could buy rice, beans and other foods for the birds.

- The south Florida people volunteered to help with avian relief in the heat and sun even though their own homes and aviaries had been damaged, needed repair and, in some cases, were without electricity or water.

There were many times when tears came to my eyes. Thank you all! ●

Photo by Chuck Saffell



AFA booth at Suncoast Avian Society bird show in Tampa, FL in October. The backdrop was altered to reflect Hurricane Andrew. Eighty slides of hurricane damage were continuously projected on the screen. Eighteen new members for AFA signed up that day. Louise Auger working behind table.

# Bird Clubs and Commercial Donors Who Have Contributed Supplies Directly to the AFA-SOFAR Relief Program

Due to all of the confusion during the first two weeks of the program, it is possible that we may have missed someone. If so, we beg your forgiveness and ask that you let us know so we can acknowledge your participation.

## **BIRD CLUBS:**

Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club  
 Arizona Avicultural Society  
 Arizona Seed Crackers  
 ASOP Bird Club  
 Aviary & Cage Bird Society of South Florida  
 Bird Clubs of Delaware  
 Bird Clubs of Virginia  
 Bird Information Network  
 Boston Cockatiel Society  
 Gateway Parrot Club  
 Gold Coast All Bird Club  
 Greater Brandon Avian Society  
 Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society  
 Gulf South Bird Club  
 International Fund for Animal Welfare  
 Kansas Avicultural Society  
 Kansas City Bird Club  
 Kenosha Exotic Bird Club  
 M.A.C.A.W.  
 Madison Area Cage Bird Association  
 Miami Parrot Club  
 Missouri Cage Bird Association  
 National Capitol Cage Bird Club

Parrot Society of South Florida  
 South Alabama Cage Bird Society  
 South Florida Budgie Society  
 Suncoast Avian Society  
 Sunflower Bird Club  
 Town & Country Feathered Friends  
 Tropical Cockatiel & Lovebird Society  
 Wisconsin Cage Bird Club

## **COMMERCIAL DONORS:**

About Birds	Kellogg
Airtite	Lakes Macaw
Animal Care Equip. & Svs.	M. McCormick
Avi-Sci, Inc.	Mr. Gene Morgensen
Avian Specialties	Pittman Moore
Corners Limited	Prettybird
Crazy Corn	R. Benaim Warehouse
Dodge Grain Co.	Sunshine Bird Supplies
Dr. Lafeber	Suplix Bird Supply
Dr. Lori Minter	Topper Bird Ranch
Dr. Ruth Sosis	Tropical Wings
Feed & Seed, Ft. Lauderdale	Upjohn Corp.
Frank D. Torchia	Valentine Supply Co.
General Practice Mktg. Group	Varta Corp.
Hagen Products	Vernon Hills Animal Hospital
J.D. Pet Paradise	W & W Willoughby
Jeffers Vet Supply	Westerby Associates
Kaytee	Zooprem

## AFA says THANKS to the These Supporters in the Following Categories

### Disaster Relief

*Donations received from August through October, 1992*

Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club	Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society	Sudha Sharma	Lehigh Valley Bird Club
Christa Aspittle	Greater Rochester Hookbill Association	South Sound Exotic Bird Society	Loriidae Production Network
Avicultural Society of Tucson	Hookbill Association	Shava Spector	Madison Area Cagebird Association of WI
Avitech	Marcia Hammerl	Sunflower Bird Club	Carolyn & George Mauro
Gwendolen Bailey	Susan Hartman	Scot & Nancy Taylor	Trisha Melrose
Beaks	Donald & Brenda Hayes	The Happy Bird House	Motor City Bird Breeders
William Bennett	Franklin & Joyce Hu	Norma Webb	Mountain Lake Aviary
Bird Info Network	JD's Pet Paradise	West Pasco Exotic Bird Club	Donna Muscarella
Birds of a Feather Avicultural Society	Cheryle Jones	Western Kentucky Cage Bird Club	Terry & Barbara Nixon
Gisele Busby	Kansas Avicultural Society	Dixie White	Oklahoma Avicultural Society
Busy Beak	Randy Karg	Ginger Wolnik	Lynne Page
Doris Lee Carscaddon	Ken & Bouneva Karsten	Anette Woodams	William Palmer
Central Florida Bird Breeders	Royce King	Zoogen, Inc.	Phil & Judith Payne
Mary Colliflower	Davis & Barbara Koffron	Mary Zuidema	Ronald & Donna Petrelli
Contra Costa Avian Society	Dawn Kopf	Theresa Albertson	Sharon Putz
Lu Crow	Lansing Caged Bird Club	American Cockatiel Society	Mary Elaine Radford
William Curry	Dennis & Linda Lehman	Anonymous	Raleigh/Durham Caged Bird Society
Mamie D'Alcorn	Long Beach Bird Breeders	Avian Genetics Company - Terry Dunham	Merlyn Rhea
Dallas Cage Bird Society	Carolyn McCreery	Avis Northwest	Herta & Heinz Richter
Katherine Dawson	Jane McCulloch	Brian & Tamara Billie	Larry & Donna Schulte
Teresa De Brito	Mike & Donna McGinn	Bird Clubs of Virginia	Ruth Sosis
Deloris Dean	Gary & Jean McKibben	Sharon Boatright	South Mississippi Cage Bird Society
Paul & Ruth Dove	Missouri Cage Bird Association		
	Laureen Mitchell		
	Mary Elaine Moix		

*(list continues on next page)*

DRB Bird Ranch	Monterey Bay Cage Bird Club	Barbara Broderick	Nancy Storey
Leslie & Joyce Egys	National Capitol Bird Club	Cage Bird Club of	Patricia Swift
Employees of the Rose Hill Office	North Oakland Cage Bird Club	Northeast Tennessee Commonwealth	Nora Taketa
Featherwood Farms	James & Carol Osborn Parrot Breeders Association	Avicultural Society	Tennessee Valley Exotic Bird Club
Front Range Avian Society	Yvonne Patterson	Carole Crate	Frank Torchia
Sharon Garsee	Nelson Pellegrom	Laurel Croft	Treasure Coast Exotic Bird Club
General Practice Management Group	Plano Exotic Birds Association	Elizabeth Danner	Ernest & Diane Urfer
Jacqueline Gerue	Bob & Virginia Queen	Knowlton	Ventura County Bird Club
Lorraine Godwin	Redwood Empire Cage Bird Club	Lynne Deuschle	Dave & Patricia Weber
La Vonne Goldsbery	Karleen & Gary Rhubright	Elizabeth Douglas	Bill & Sandy White
Bob & Doris Graham	Lilian Saul	Gateway Parrot Club	James Wicklund
Cathleen Graham	Darryl Schafer	Genesee County Avian Society	Walter & Wilma Willoughby
Timothee Graze	Chris & Karen Schlieter	Jack Graves	Barry Wold
Great Lakes Avicultural Society	Zelma Schofield	Patricia Greene	Paul & Diane Wolff
Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.		Dolores Howell	Doug & Linda York
		Nancy Kelly	Yuma Imperial Exotic Bird Club
		Connie & Gerard Labadie	
		Lansing Caged Bird Club	

---

## H.R. 5013 Legislation Donations

David & Theresa Albertson	For the Birds and More	Kenneth Leach	Ken & Paula Rhodes
Aviary Association of Kern	Charles Fourong	F. Ray McCormick	S.C. Bird Buddies
Sharon Casmier	Gainesville Bird Fanciers	Susan McMullan	Ronnie & Glenda Smith
Central California Avian Society	Lindley Ginn	Shelley Millard	Wings of Paradise
Mary Colliflower	Greater Brandon Avian Society, Inc.	Margaret Mullan-Wilson	Avis Northwest
Charlene de Haven	Byron Kim	Northwest Ohio Exotic Bird Club	David Eskelund
Ann & Larry Engleman		Mary Ragain	New Mexico Bird Club, Inc.
			Marlene Oblom

## Conservation and Research Donations

Bryan & Barbara Batulis	Russell Harvey	Sandra Jarmuth	South Mississippi Cage Bird Society
Yvonne Blanchard	Bob & Joann Holman	Lorraine Kellogg	William Vanbeginne
Catherine Bourne	John Linnert	Phillip Mastres	Barbara Wells
Jacquelyn Hartley	Gloria Suarez	North Oakland Cage Bird Club	
	Sheryl Zavion		

## Reintroduction of Whooping Cranes to Florida

In a joint effort between the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the endangered whooping crane has been proposed for reintroduction into the State of Florida.

The proposal calls for the release of from 9 to 12 juvenile whooping cranes within the state's Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area in south-central Florida north of Vero Beach. The reintroduction site is part of the nearly 260,000-acre Kissimmee Prairie region of Florida, more than half of which is in public ownership. The Kissimmee Prairie was chosen as the site for reintroduction because of the suitability of its habitat. The area currently sustains one of the largest and most productive populations of Florida sandhill cranes, a relative of the whooper, as well as numerous federally listed endangered and threatened species.

The stately 5-foot whooping cranes are the tallest birds in North America. Florida is part of the crane's historic range, having been reported from the state in the early 1900s, but has not been seen since 1927 or 1928. The whooping crane was

named to the federal list of endangered species in 1967. Today, about 145 birds comprise the only remaining self-sustaining natural wild population of whoopers in existence. The birds winter at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and adjacent areas on the Texas Gulf Coast and nest in Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada's Northwest Territories. The flock rebounded from a population low of 16 birds in the winter of 1941-42.

Due to the bird's limited wintering distribution along the intracoastal waterway of the Texas Coast, the population is vulnerable to destruction from natural catastrophe, such as a hurricane, red tide outbreak, or contaminant spill. The Florida flock will be made up of captive-reared birds from the Service's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, Maryland, and the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin. The birds to be used in the reintroduction have been conditioned for release into the wild by being reared in isolation from humans. The flock will be nonmigratory and will remain in the Kissimmee Prairie region year-round, since studies have shown migration is a learned rather than innate behavior.

A copy of the proposal to reintroduce the whooping cranes can be obtained by contacting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 3100 University Boulevard South, Suite 120, Jacksonville, Florida 32216-2737. ●

## AFA AVY Service and President's Award Recipients

Last month we listed winners of the following AVY Awards: Gold, Silver, Appreciation, Watchbird, and First Breeding. In this issue, we would like to congratulate the following President's and Service Award winners that were announced in conjunction with the annual AFA Convention in Miami Beach:

### AFA President's Award

*Award of Appreciation for Outstanding Service, Support, and Contributions Toward the Achievement of AFA Goals*  
GARY LILIENTHAL

### AFA Service Awards

*Awards of Appreciation for Outstanding Contributions and Continuous Support of AFA*

GARY CLIFTON  
SUSAN DALY  
ALAN LADD  
ALETTA M. LONG  
BIRD TALK MAGAZINE

*Award of Appreciation for Contributions as Volunteer Business Office Director*  
DAVIS KOFFRON

*Award of Appreciation for Outstanding Contributions and Continuous Support as Legal Counsel in California*  
HAL KOONTZ

---

## Data on Longevity of Birds Requested

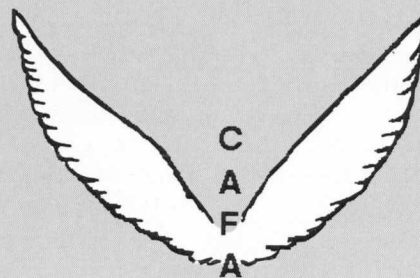
Dr. Herbert Schifter (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien), Marvin Jones (San Diego Zoological Society) and the undersigned are currently preparing a series of papers on longevity in birds. We would be very interested in receiving any data available on this subject from the readers of this magazine. Information on longevity of both captive and wild birds is welcome.

Please include exact dates of arrival, birth and death if these are available. Post mortem reports would also be appreciated. Please also include data on the last age of reproduction if this is known.

Acknowledgements will include names of individuals and institutions that provided us with data.

An article on longevity and reproduction of storks has been accepted for publication in the International Zoo Yearbook and will be the first in a comprehensive series. Papers on longevity in ibises, spoonbills and hornbills are currently in preparation.

Drs. Koen Brouwer  
National Foundation for Research in Zoological Gardens  
EEP Executive Office  
c/o Amsterdam Zoo  
P.O. Box 20164  
1000 HD Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel: + 31 20 620 74 76  
Fax: + 31 20 625 39 31 ●



## The Club Connection

Connecticut Association for Aviculture, Inc.

by Nancy L. Vigran

**Meeting Location:** Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, 100 Sunset Ridge Road, East Hartford, CT

**Meeting Date:** Second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

**Contact for more information:** Robert Sunday, 1992 president, (203) 525-8338

**Club Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 8041, East Hartford, CT 06108

**General Information:** Formed in 1976, the Connecticut Association for Aviculture is an all bird club. As stated in the purpose of CAFA, it "was founded . . . by a group of people interested in spreading the fun and enjoyment of exotic birds." This remains the focus of CAFA which is in excess of 250 members interested in a wide variety of birds. Following a brief business meeting, monthly meetings provide a wide variety of speakers from all over the country discussing such topics as nutrition, disease-related problems, and specific families of birds. CAFA has a large monthly bulletin (38 pages in October) full of informative topics, club-related info and local advertising of birds and bird-related items.

**Activities and Special Events:** Birds can find new, appropriate homes through the CAFA adoption program. Members fill out an adoption request form for the opportunity to adopt wayward birds, which are advertised through CAFA. A committee sifts through the desired owners, to provide the best possible home for these birds, whether in pet or breeding situations. This program is designed solely for the benefit of our feathered friends. If the adoptive parent can no longer care for a bird, it must be returned to the club for re-adoption.

In October, CAFA participates in the Greater New England Cagebird Show which is an all bird show with approximately 150 to 200 entries. They also have other extra curricular activities such as summer picnics, trips to the zoo and non-bird related activities such as whale-watching trips.

CAFA, long affiliated with AFA, jumped in to provide hurricane relief. Not only did they ask members to make contributions through the AFA-Avian Emergency Relief Fund, but they also held a collection drive of seed dishes, cages and toys. In October, they held a plant and bake sale, proceeds from which are to go towards rebuilding Florida and Louisiana aviaries. In the past, CAFA has held other fund-raising drives for scholarships and in the past two years for avian research programs.

**Editorial Note:** The Club Connection is designed to let members of A.F.A. know what regional clubs are available to them, and to give clubs ideas and a chance to learn from what other clubs do. If your club is a member club of A.F.A. and would like to be highlighted in the Club Connection, please send information with a contact person's name and phone number to: Nancy Vigran, c/o A.F.A., P.O. Box 56218, Phoenix, AZ 85017. ●