Several centuries ago John Donne sought to, "find what wind serves to advance an honest minde." Today, in the same spirit, I feel that most of the A.F.A. members are honest, intelligent, and have inquiring minds—particularly regarding birds and aviculture. They actively seek out "what wind," so to speak, serves to advance a better understanding of their favorite subject.

In these happy days of enlightenment there are, fortunately, many ways one can gain knowledge. One of the best and easiest ways is to read. The A.F.A.'s Watchbird is, of course, devoted specifically to aviculture but there are other periodicals that embrace rather different but very important areas of avian interest. One such magazine is The Living Bird Quarterly. It is a new publication out of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

You should know something of the Cornell Lab. It is a world center for the study and cultural appreciation of birds. The Lab is situated on the 180 acre Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary about three miles from the main Cornell campus at Ithaca in the heart of the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York State. The sanctuary is an especially enticing place for ornithological studies because of its rich natural woodland features that serve as home or a stopping-over place for many native birds. There is a ten acre pond with a variety of wild waterfowl, and the rich flora and fauna is left undisturbed in a natural state of boreal beauty. For the visitors there are four miles of trails winding through the sanctuary from which many birds can be observed.

Low key, blending into the natural setting, are buildings housing offices, photographic rooms, a sound laboratory, a reference library, and an auditorium. There are bird feeding stations just outside the windows and the bird sounds are brought into the building by means of a public address system with microphones located near the feeders. The walls of the rooms are hung with many of the world's finest bird paintings. In a separate facility a short distance off is the peregrine falcon breeding operation pioneered and run so successfully by Dr. Tom Cade. It is not open to the public.

But one of the most important aspects of the Laboratory of Ornithology is the philosophy of its directors and staff. Unlike many organizations, the Lab at Cornell recognizes, enhances even, the soul satisfying interaction between birds
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