Alamo Exhibition Bird Club Holds 22nd Annual All Bird Show

by Jack Clinton-Eitniear
San Antonio, Texas

Unlike the northern states, those of us living in the south have to rely upon more subtle signs of seasonal change. The bird migrations give us hummingbirds at the feeder, waterfowl flocks “honking” in the evening hours and American Robins in our yards. After surviving the heat of the summer, it’s time for that last clutch of eggs or the laborious task of getting your birds ready for winter. I’m forgetting another sign of the impending winter . . . the annual bird show sale.

On Saturday, September 10th, the Alamo Exhibition Bird Club of San Antonio, Texas, held its 22nd Annual All Bird Show. By the time I had the AFA booth put together, a flurry of activity had enveloped the exhibit hall. Danny Krueger got all my questions answered and Jeannine Wangler found a good home for my raffle table donation. While the vendors hope everyone visiting the hall has purchasing birds and bird related items on their minds, the fact is that many people venture out just to “network” and see who is breeding what and if the prices are within expectations. After the AFA booth was on its own, I spent some time strolling through the hall, chatting with people and seeing myself what birds were being offered, etc. Right off the bat, I ran into Phil Ashmore selling his homemade line of parrot toys and bird cages. I had just seen Phil at the West Wings of Austin bird show a couple of weeks previously. Seems Phil gets around to many of the Texas bird shows and would be interested in selling AFA Watchbird magazine. Thanks, Phil! After completing my self-tour, I headed to the raffle table where Jean Wangler and Bertha Robles “twisted my arm” into purchasing some tickets. After lunch, Club President and the new AFA South Texas State Coordinator Ray Wangler drew the winning tickets.

These bird shows with exhibit rooms don’t just happen. They require a staff of hard working volunteers.

Danny Krueger, Show Chairman, seemed to always be in a dead run. I failed to get a photograph of him but doubt my shutter speed was fast enough, anyway! Ray Wangler was first seen at his own booth, then drawing the winning raffle tickets, and finally resurfaced at the loading dock stacking the show benches on a truck! I had a very pleasant conversation with one of the club directors, Jim Tipton, and treasurer Nan Burns. A final “tip of the hat” should go to Doris Uhl, the Club’s
secretary and head of the Catalog Committee, as well as Brenda Krueger and Denise Crisp, both show secretaries. Jeannine and Bertha were working with Hazel Hall and Jo Nell Scruto on the door prizes and drawing. The sales room was under the more than capable direction of Donna Rich and Jean Wood. Of course, you can't have a show without judges and this event had more than its share of outstanding individuals judging the birds entered. Judges included Max Kennedy, Robert Cruce, Clarence Culwell and Laura Kelsey. While I have attended more than my share of national and international
conventions, I've visited relatively few local bird marts and/or shows. If the few I visited during this past fall are any indication as to the quality of events being organized, we can all rest assured that truly dedicated hard-working aviculturists are not endangered species but alive and well, working on local events with the same dedication and vigor that typify those involved in higher profile national conventions. If you aren't already a regular participant of your local club's annual event, you owe it to yourself to attend a local show/mart. Who knows, in addition to a good deal, you may get that one tip that solves the one problem yet unsolved in your aviary.

AFA Board Meets in Phoenix

The second meetings of the newly elected Board of Directors met in Phoenix, Arizona November 13th and 14th, 1993. A number of motions were approved that should be brought to the attention of the membership. For additional details regarding any of the motions, you should contact your respective Regional Vice President.

Motions approved:
• An Ethics Committee was approved by the Board. It consists of the following members; Larry Ring (Chair), Brian Speer, Joanne Abramson.
• The 1994 operating budget was approved.
• New chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee will be Jeri Wright (Chair) and Dwight Greenberg (Co-chair).
• Marty Muschinske will chair the Illegal Bird Trade Committee.
• Sharon Garsee will chair the Cooperative Breeding Programs Committee.
• The following State Coordinators were approved:
  Jim Prichard, northern California
  Michelle Keener, Alaska
  Dave Bowman, Michigan
  Alexis Seifert, West Virginia
  Joanne Edwards, Nevada
  Steve Long, Utah
  Ray Wangler, south Texas
  Pati Hazell, Kansas
• The winter board meeting will be held in New Orleans from February 4th through 6th, 1994.

A more complete copy of the meeting's minutes has been mailed to club delegates.

David Smith, AFA Chief Financial Officer, has got a firm grip on budgets and finances. He is present at all board meetings.
Aiken Bird Club
Nat Cheney


Phoenix Board Meeting - November 12-14, 1993. President Laurella Desborough and Richard Hazell study a proposal. Other board members present but not in photo were Linda S. Rubin, Jack C. Etniear, Gary Clifton, Jean Hessler, Jami Kennedy, Marty Muschinske, Janet and Gary Littenhal.

AFA says THANKS to These Supporters in the Following Categories:

**Conservation Fund**

Donations received from November 1 through December 29, 1993

- Aiken Bird Club
- Nat Cheney
- Debora Freeland
- Gold Country Avicultural
- Wade & Jody Horwood
- Redwood Empire Cage Bird Club
- Nancy Stengel
- David & Susan Stumpf

**Research Fund**

Donations received from November 1 through December 29, 1993

- Central California Avian Society
- Robert De Francesco
- Deborah Freeland
- Wade & Jody Horwood
- David Morris
- Charles & Evelyn Sawyer

**General Fund**

Donations received from November 1 through December 29, 1993

- Erie Cage Bird Club
- The Alaska Bird Club