

Commemorative San Diego '91 T-shirts for Sale

To raise funds for the 17th annual convention of the American Federation of Aviculture, the San Diego convention committee is offering T-shirts with a design by world-famous wildlife artist Gamini Ratnavira.

The shirts are pre-shrunk, white, 100% cotton with a full-color illustration of five endangered birds: the Red Siskin, Bali Mynah, Swinhoe's Pheasant, Golden Conure, and Spix Macaw. The message on the T-shirt, and a point for all to remember: Aviculture Eliminates Extinction.

T-shirts are available in sizes from small to extra-extra large. The cost is \$12 per shirt plus \$2 shipping and handling. Specify size(s) and send your check made payable to S.D. Avi Convention Committee. Mail check and ordering information to 1265 Avocado Blvd., Suite 104-121, El Cajon, CA 92020. ●

17th Annual AFA Convention Red Lion Hotel, San Diego, CA — August 7-11, 1991 Speaker Highlights

Dr. Robert Peters has been surrounded by birds as long as he can remember. His father was a veterinarian in a small Bavarian town and was anxious to introduce young Robert to the hobby of keeping and breeding birds. Though exotic birds were difficult to get in the post World War II years in Germany, Robert was soon introduced to lovebirds and later to Australian parakeets.

Dr. Peters' years at the university briefly interrupted his devotion to birds, but when he opened his own dental practice in 1974, his hobby expanded to every corner of his property. In fact, he even keeps birds in his office, behind glass windows, for the sole purpose of bringing enjoyment to his clients.

Over the years, Robert Peters has raised many species of parrots, from grass parakeets to lories, cockatoos to macaws. He has traveled widely in Europe to learn from other breeders and he has spent much of his vacation time observing parrots in their natural habitats in Australia, Asia and the Pacific Islands. Though he still maintains a diverse collection of psittacines, Dr. Peters eventually has specialized in a few rare species and has achieved notable success. Undoubtedly his finest hour was realized with a "First Breeding Award" of the Palm Cockatoo. Other successes include repeated breedings of Keas, Golden-shouldered Parakeets and Crimson-bellied Pyrrhura.

Dr. Peters is as enthusiastic today as he was 20 years ago and his eagerness to share makes him a wonderful choice as one of our guest foreign speakers. He will bring with him an abundance of knowledge to aid in our hobby.

Claus Nielsen is a noted aviculturist from Denmark, residing just outside the city of Copenhagen. Besides maintaining a large collection of Australian parakeets, he also keeps and breeds many common and unusual South American and Asian parrots. These include cockatoos, macaws, Amazons, Pionus, Caiques, Hawkheads and conures. Being from a very cold climate, the Nielsens have a self-sufficient indoor bird facility. Even so, some of his birds are kept outdoors during the warmer months.

Mr. Nielsen is a highly sought-after speaker and has spoken extensively in Europe. He is also a highly accomplished wildlife photographer and has made several extensive trips to Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, South America and the United States. His field photography of parrots in the wild is superb. While on these trips, Claus has visited many local aviaries as well.

AFA is proud to announce this aviculturist/photographer to speak at the 1991 National Convention in San Diego, California. He will be speaking on the care and breeding of Australian parakeets and will have a pictorial program on many Australian birds including rosellas, parakeets and cockatoos in the wild. Another unique program will be on the parrots of South America in the field and aviary.

Don't miss these two fine speakers along with numerous speakers on avian topics: cage breeding finches, practical aspects of raising softbills, breeding African parrots, disease problems in the nursery, aviary management, waterfowl, psittacine conservation practices, breeding birds for the pet trade, and much, much more.

Treat Yourself to a Carnival of Good Times

The 1991 convention of the American Federation of Aviculture (AFA) will be held in San Diego, California at the Red Lion Inn, August 7 - 11.

Three full days of seminars and workshops will feature talks by renowned aviculturists, avian veterinarians and researchers. Free public seminars are also offered on selecting and breeding birds, avian nutrition, health, and other aspects of bird care.

In addition to its educational programs, the annual convention features an exhibit hall with over 70 cage and feed manufacturers, publishers, and breeders. All

will have their latest and best merchandise for sale, plus plenty of information that is free for the asking.

A raffle table, carnival night, evening dinner cruise on San Diego Bay, meetings of specialty organizations, and a host of speakers, books, and old-fashioned hospitality promise to keep the magic of birds alive for many years. The first registrants will also receive tickets to the Saturday night banquet and awards ceremony. Seating is limited, so don't delay.

Call the AFA business office at (602) 484-0931 to reserve your perch in the sun, by the sea, in San Diego. ●