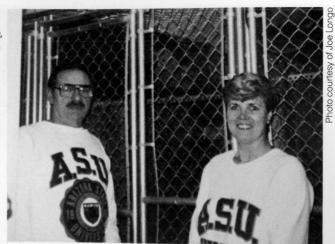
AFA Visits...

Joe and Marge Longo, Kent, Washington

The Aviaries of Joe and Marge Longo

by Jerry Jennings Woodland Hills, California



Nestled in the verdant wooded and fern covered foothills of the Cascades, thirty-eight miles southeast of Seattle, Washington in the village of Kent, are the picturesque aviaries of Joe and Marge Longo. The beautiful surroundings provided by their 3.5 acre farm belie the consistently successful production of a wide range of species from psittacines to softbills in impressive numbers.

While most breeders in colder climes scurry for cover at the first sign of icy weather, the Longos merrily cater to their avian friends in the great outdoors of the Northwest, tromping along snow covered paths in the heart of winter as easily as through fields of wildflowers that intermingle with the mosses and ferns on a pleasant summer's day. And the birds? Well, they do quite nicely in their outdoor pens, offering up a cornucopia of youngsters.

It all began for Joe and Marge twenty-four years ago with a pair of Barbary doves and golden pheasants. The pheasant collection quickly grew to nineteen species, and along with the collection arose an interest in formal avicultural groups, of which there were none in Washington focusing on the Longos' interests. What to do? Why, form a club — so they became some of the founding members of the Washington Ornamental Game Bird Breeders in 1965. Joe served the club as its president, while Marge oversaw the duties of the club bulletin as its editor.

Interest in game birds expanded into other groups as the Longos added doves, grouse, curassows, a pair of cockatiels and Indian ringnecks (their first parrots) to their flock. As the collection multiplied, new quarters were sought, culminating in a move to their present location

in 1976. Since the land was bare, the Longos had the fortunate opportunity to build an attractive and comfortable custom home. Hand in hand with their house construction came their first bird house — a complex for their curassows. Immediately following was the erection of their lory building. The Longos had certainly hit the ground running.

By the time Joe and Marge moved into their new facilities, the cockatiels were but a memory and shortly thereafter the ringnecks escaped into the towering pines, where they were indiscernible amongst the boughs. During the following years the Longos added to their lory collection until they had fifteen species, and over one-hundred-sixty individuals producing over eighty young per year. In fact, so successful were they with lories that they received two AFA Avy Awards — one for "outstanding success with, and perpetuation of, the family Loriidae" and the other for "consistent propagation of Stella's lory.'

Naturally, you wouldn't expect the Longos to sit back and just "raise" lories. They wanted to encourage interest in these colorful birds to ensure their establishment in captivity, so they helped start the Lory Society. Joe served this new group for three years as its president, while Marge wore two hats simultaneously as secretary and treasurer in Joe's administration.

During the lory expansion period, the growing collection witnessed the addition of larger parrots, including macaws, cockatoos, African greys, and eclectus (of course, there are a few smaller, seed eating parrots such as their sun conures). And all are doing well, especially the eclectus. Joe and Marge have set up fourteen

pairs of various eclectus subspecies, such as the Vosmaeri, red sided, and Solomon Islands. In 1988, thirty-seven youngsters were reared from just four pair and, so far this year, two more pair have begun to reproduce.

Parrot production at the Longos is fairly routine. All eggs are removed from the nest for artificial incubation immediately after they are laid, with the exception of conure eggs, which the parents incubate for two weeks, when they are also pulled. The Longos have relied, in the past, on a Marsh Farms Rollex incubator, but have just switched over to the Humidaire Model 21 incubator with which they are extremely satisfied. Once the eggs are hatched, Marge has the privilege of handfeeding the newborn.

It should be mentioned here that the Longo parrot diet consists of their own seed mix (sunflowers, peanuts, plus many others) in which they mix a little wheat germ oil, Vionate vitamins, and tri-calcium phosphate. The oil provides some vitamin E and the medium for the Vionate and tricalcium phosphate to adhere to the seeds. These latter ingredients are added fresh to each day's ration to prevent the mixture from turning rancid. To supplement the seed mix, the Longos offer a good variety of fruits and vegetables.

If the Longos have earned a reputation for success with lories, they have more deservedly earned one for their very important work with the African group of softbills known as touracos. While most aviculturists devote themselves to rearing parrots (most species of which are well established in captivity), Joe and Marge elected to specialize in touracos, with which few others were occupied — surprisingly so, since the twenty-three species of touracos are among the



This postcard scene is the view of the Longos' property looking toward eclectus bird house in the background. One of the Longos' other interests, a sika deer, occupies the foreground.



A handsome pair of the Longos' Solomon Island eclectus.

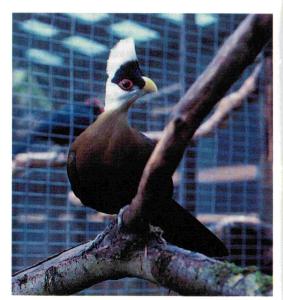


Fourteen pairs of eclectus are housed in this well designed structure providing yearround shelter from and access to the elements.



most colorful and entertaining of all softbills. Their relatively large size and extreme hardiness make them an ideal aviary bird.

The tryst with touracos began like many an avicultural pursuit — love at first sight. It was the picture of a



White crested touraco — the species that started the Longos on a touraco breeding binge.

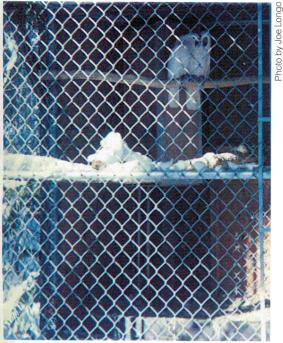
Longo aviaries are nestled among the tall trees and hardy greenery of a Washington landscape.

Like all of the Longo bird houses, the conure building was designed for the birds' comfort, choice of environment, fresh air, sunshine, etc. and human convenience for feeding and cleaning.

white crested touraco on the cover of the AFA Watchbird, April/May 1979 issue that set Joe's heart a-pounding. He just had to have a pair (we all know the feeling). And, so he did several pairs, not only of the white crested, but of fourteen different species. In 1988 the Longos reared seventy-one offspring, all of which were incubator hatched and handfed.

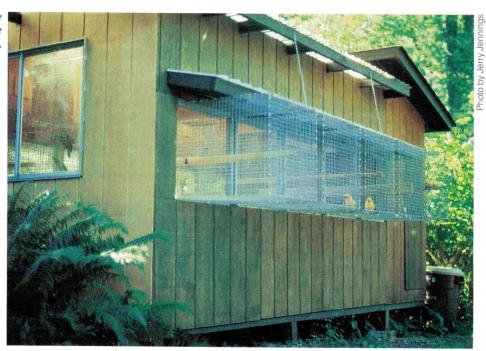
Joe and Marge's accomplishments with touracos place them in a class all their own, for they produced so many young over the past few years, they could be justifiably credited with establishing several species in captivity single-handed. Few aviculturists can lay claim to such a feat. Remarkably, their accomplishments occurred in a short five years since they acquired their first pairs, a pair of white crested and a pair of red crested.

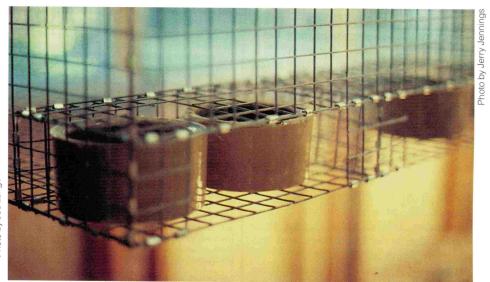
The care of the touracos is fairly simple. They are fruit eaters, so they receive fresh fruit; usually diced apples, grapes, bananas, papaya, or whatever else is seasonally available. Protein is provided via Purina Hi-Pro



A pair of Moluccan cockatoos pay little attention to the cold white stuff piled high around their comfortable living quarters.

Bare faced curassows (crax fascialata) do well in their spacious enclosure.





Inside view of a service isle of the conure building. Feed bowls are easily removed from open ended wire shelf. Debris falls through to aisle floor for quick clean-up.



dog kibble, which is served dry right out of the bag. Fresh water is routinely available.

While tourages have been the mainstay of Ioe's and Marge's interest in softbills, we must take note of their flirtation with toucans. Though they no longer keep toucans, they successfully reared tocos for several years, keeping five pair of them at one time, along with several other species including red bills, citron throated, and some emerald toucanettes. These, like all the other birds, were housed outdoors all year in flights that allowed them to enter a shelter in the harshest of winter weather, but at their own free will. They would still have the toucans, and some of the others too, but they needed to retreat some from the many different diets they were feeding, to a more reasonable consolidation of their energies.

The Longos now devote full time to their bird collection, since Joe's retirement from the insurance business in January 1986. "Retirement" is used here loosely, since the birds were really just more interesting than selling policies.

Over the years the Longos have given greatly of their time to avicultural organizations. In addition to their service to the Lory Society and the local game bird group, Joe has been a member of the American Game Bird Breeders Cooperative Federation, of which he was a vice-president. He became a game bird show judge in the late sixties, and was active in shows for many years.

Joe and Marge have been long standing members of the AFA, almost from the beginning. In fact, Joe was, for several years, the state coordinator for the state of Washington.

Devoted aviculturists, the Longos see their passion as not only a fun thing, but as a noble and worthy endeavor, from which they derive great personal satisfaction knowing they are making a contribution to the conservation of the species with which they work. Their guiding light is the oft-quoted William Beebe, former Curator of Birds at the Bronx Zoo, who said, "The beauty and genius of a work of art may be reconceived, though its first material expression be destroyed; the harmony of a vanished melody may yet again inspire a composer. But when the last individual of a race of living things breathes no more, another heaven and another earth must pass before such a one can be again."

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED RATES \$7.50 minimum charge for 4 lines of type (average 7 words per line). Additional charge of 15¢ per word for ad running over 28 words. (28 words to include name, address and phone.) All copy to be RECEIVED BY 15th day 6 weeks preceding publication. One inch boxed ad — 58 word maximum — \$17.00.

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HATCHING NOW: African grey babies, dusky pionus, blue headed pionus, plumheaded parakeets, Meyer's parrots. All handfed, super tame. Call to reserve your bird. Lynn Rasoletti, Illinois. Call (312) 784-4018. 1(X1)

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ROSY BOURKE'S — rosy cock and normal hen, \$400. Wanted, female red headed Andean barbet, male green honey creeper. Reg Riedel, call (914) 225-8387. New York.

ECLECTUS — Specializing in these beautiful, unusual parrots. They make wonderful pets. Sweet, hand-fed babies and unrelated pairs available. Red sided, wosmaeri. Call Laurella Desborough, (415) 372-6174, California.

SEXED PAIRS PLUS. Derbyans, Alexandrines, pileated (red caps), young northern rosellas (browns), sun conure male, sun babies. All domestic raised. Call Linda or Bill, (805) 684-0883, Santa Barbara, California.

BONDED, MATURE PAIR HYACINTH MACAWS. Also pairs of scarlet, blue & gold, greenwing, severa, red bellied, yellow collared macaws. Egg laying Catalina hen, blue & gold hen, greenwing male. Call Mary McDonald, (512) 885-4889, Texas.

FESTIVE AMAZON pair \$1500, extra male \$600. Proven pair Tucumans \$600, extra male \$200. Domestic, mature blue crowned male \$600. Pair double yellow head and pair yellow napes. Pair grey cheeked parakeets. Call Mary McDonaid, (512) 885-4889, Texas. 1(x1)

LORIES & LORIES LUNCHEON dry formula. Blacks, reds, blue streaks, duskies, rainbows, chattering. \$125 to \$550. Martin's Bird House, phone (602) 853-0015.

RARE LEADBEATER'S and citron hybrid cockatoo. Perfect feathered 10 year old male. Excellent breeder or pet (loves women). \$4000 or trade. Call (602) 990-2189, Arizona.

WANTED: MATURE MACAWS, African greys, and other breeders. Need male B&G, male green wing and female scarlet. Tom Lesser, 136 North Grand Ave., West Covina, CA 91791. Call (818) 915-2075.

SCARLET MACAW FEMALE, South American, 3 years old, \$2000 firm. Call Voren's Aviaries, Florida, (407) 793-5528.

WANTED: female domestic raised Patagonian conures, female domestic raised red-throated conures, Female OR TRADE: white-bellied caiques (green-thighed only). FOR SALE: red-collared lorikeets, Madagascar lovebirds, male toco toucan, spotbilled toucanettes (fertile eggs), green aracari. Phone (312) 428-8218, Scarlet Feathers Aviary, Barrington, Illinois.

S/S BIRDS FOR SALE. Call FEATHER FARM, Napa, California for prices, (707) 255-8833. BABIES: Harlequins, hyacinth, Catalinas, umbrellas, mili-golds, white capped pionus, severes, "elbrellas", "tribellas", moluccans, napes, Derbyans, blue & gold, eclectus, calicos, Hahn's, green cheeked conures, jendays. PAIRS: Gold mantled rosellas, mealy rosellas, Stanley rosellas, Congo greys, lilac crowned Amazons, yellow naped Amazons, citron cockatoos, Eleonora cockatoos, Goffin's cockatoos, Hahn's, umbrella cockatoos, moustache parakeets, great billed parrots, moluccans. SINGLES: male double yellow Amazon, male blue & gold macaw, male green winged macaw, male lilac crowned Amazon, male Hahn's, female military macaw, female Princess of Wales, female blue & gold macaw.

WANTED: FEMALE MALABAR PARAKEET. Please no look-alike hybrids, let's keep this species pure! Phone (407) 798-3534 evenings, Rick, southern Florida.

1988 HATCH GOLDEN MANTLED ROSEL-LAS, red rumps, turquoisines, some hand fed. One pair Stanley breeders. Parakeets, zebra finches, cockatiels, and lovebirds usually available. BURKE'S BIRDS, P.O. Box 2609, San Bernardino, CA 92406-0617. Phone (714) 887-8722, leave message, or (213) 569-1913. 2(x2)

DOMESTIC PLUMHEAD PARAKEETS. One year old, surgically sexed males. Were handfed but somewhat wild now. Could tame easily. \$125 each. Call Lynn, (312) 784-4018. Chicago, Ill.

FOR SALE OR TRADE, young, hand fed and very lovable blue & gold macaws. Need older macaws for breeding. Good health a must. No recent imports. Call (305) 872-2377, Kevin White, Box 359, Big Pine Key, FL 33043.

BABY BLUE AND GOLD, military x Buffon's, greenwing, red fronted, scarlet, hyacinth macaws. Hand fed, excellent dispositions, CLOSED BANDED. Available reasonably. Barb's Birds, (602) 585-4701. Reservations suggested.

QUALITY BREEDER COCKATIELS for sale, 200 pair, virgins to 4 yrs. old, all related equipment. 1-1/2+ acres along state highway, 5' chain link fence. Three enclosed aviaries: 24 x 48, 24 x 98 with 11 x 36 addition, 11 x 92. 24 x 24 new enclosure for cages. Almost new home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, landscaped. \$89,900 for real estate only. Owner retiring. R. Burns, (602) 573-0308, Tucson, Arizona.

NOW YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN SHOW PROPS. They are inexpensive and easy to make. Each booklet contains illustrated directions for construction, and complete training instructions. Now available: Bank, basketball, rings on peg, colored cups, puzzle, cup pull. Each booklet \$3.95. Basic trick training kit contains instructions on teaching your bird his first basic tricks, plus clicker, \$4.95. For brochure send SASE. ARC, P.O. Box 10706, Brooksville, Florida 34601.

SCENIC BIRD FOODS -- The most advanced formulas for birds available. Now in corn, cheese, and red apple flavors. Light and crunchy, your birds will love it! Send SASE for free information or \$3 for generous samples. Greeson's Baby Parrots, 4201 S.W. 25th Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312.

RINGNECKS: whites, blues, split to blues. Lutinos split to blues. Blues split to lutinos. Pair bare eyes, \$1400 pair. Umbrellas \$1500. Call Rod, (415) 654-1977, central California.

VICTORIA AND GOURA CROWNED PIGEONS. New imports from Philippines, all s/s. Bartlett bleeding hearts \$700 pair, Luzon bleeding hearts \$450 pair, slender billed cuckoo doves \$750 pair, spotted imperial fruit pigeons \$750 pair, yellow breasted fruit pigeons \$950 pair, black chinned fruit pigeons \$850 pair, pink necked fruit doves \$750 pair. Don Hanover, southern California, phone (818) 784-7781, evenings P.S.T.

OAK NEST BARRELS - 50 gal, solid oak wine barrels ideal for macaws, reinforced entrance, \$125, PALM LOG NESTS - ideal for toucans, parrots, and other cavity nesting softbills, logs hollowed out and ready for use, available in diameters: 8" to 10" (small), good for toucanettes, aracaries, small parrots, \$100. 11" to 12" (medium), \$125. 13" to 16" (large), good for large tou-cans, cockatoos, Amazons, etc., \$140. Call or write Jerry Jennings, P.O. Box 6393, Woodland Hills, CA 91365. Phone (818) 884-5476.

PAINTED FINCHES (Emblema picta), rare, beautiful, excellent breeders. Herschel Frey, 1170 Firwood Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15243. Call (412) 561-7194.

SHOULDER SHIELD! Protect your clothing from bird droppings. No-slip end straps prevent SHOULDER SHIELD from slipping or falling off when bending or stooping. The SHOULDER SHIELD prevents spots and stains, is sturdy, washable, and reversible, \$3,49 per SHOUL-DER SHIELD, plus \$1 P&H. Send check or money order to: SHOULDER SHIELD, P.O. Box 4208, Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

WANTED - OUTSIDE BLOODLINES. Severe, blue & gold, and red fronted macaws. Hen Derbyans for sale. Trades? Central California. Call (408) 623-4446.

ONE PAIR BLUE & GOLDS (bonded) \$2,500. One pair proven severes \$3,000. One pair umbrellas (hen proven) \$1,500. One pair domestic Alexandrines (hen has laid) \$900. One extra male severe (proven) \$450. John Gallagher, call (504) 523-1807 or 524-9669. Louisiana.

GREAT BIRDS, GREAT PRICES! African grey Congos, s/s pair \$725. '88 hatch s/s Indian ringnecks, female lutino \$265, male lutino \$345, split to blue \$350. Please contact R.W. at (602) 835-5320. Shipping is available. Arizona.

KING PARROTS, hand fed, surgically sexed, tattooed pairs. Amboina kings (extra hens), green wing kings, Australian kings. Call after 6 p.m. weekdays. Bill Rattray, Garden Grove, California. Phone (714) 894-

ABYSSINIAN AND MADAGASCAR lovebirds. Closebanded, domestically bred, unrelated birds. Lutino and creamino peach faced lovebirds. Dr. R. E. Baer. Call (614) 836-5832, Ohio.

WANTED: BABIES TO FINISH HAND FEEDING. Grays, Amazons, macaws, etc. Reasonable. James Deighan, 54 Ruth St., Pittsburgh, PA 15211. Call (412) 481-8284.

NEW! PROFESSIONAL HATCH CERTIFI-CATE. Choose red, green or blue border with gold in the background. Looks engraved. 25 for \$7.95. SAVE WITH INSTANT CERTIFIKIT. Custom typeset master with name and address with 50 blanks for production on YOUR photocopier, \$32. Refills, 50 for \$14, 100 for \$24. Unlimited supply for pennies. Add \$2.00 for shipping. INSTANT, P.O. Box 3395-WBC, Federal Way, Washington 98063-3395.

FINCHES: Red headed parrot finches, owl finches, cuban melodious. Gouldians - mutations: yellow, dilute, blue & regular. Excellent breeders, variety bloodlines. Exotic American Aviaries, Dayton, CA. Phone (916) 343-2729.

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DOMESTIC BABIES all handfed. Beautiful baby scarlets, blue and golds, Moluccans, umbrellas, blue fronts, red loreds, greys. Will ship. Atkinson Aviaries, Joe Atkinson, (209) 759-3787, California.

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DOMESTIC HAND FED BABIES outdoorraised from healthy stock. Available now: suns, jendays, gold caps, green cheeks, duskys, patagonias, ringnecks, Quaker's, Congo Áfrican greys. U-feed 4 to 5 weeks. \$50 up. Silverton Bird Ranch, call (503) 873-8447, Oregon. 5(x6)

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RAINTREE MACAWS. Baby greenwings, scarlets, hyacinths, blue and gold, Buffon's, redfronts and militarys. Lovingly hatched and handfed at our breeding farm. All birds are closed banded and veterinarian checked. Unrelated pairs of feather sexed birds available for your breeding program. We will ship birds. Joanne Abramson, call (707) 964-4380. Northern California.

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HAND-FED BABIES. Large and healthy macaws, mini-macaws, umbrellas, rose breasteds, Congo greys, Amazons, conures and blue mountain lories. SASE for price list and availability: Lynn MacGregor, 5402 E. Grant, #E, Tucson, AZ 85749. Some shipping. Reasonable prices. Message phone (602) 749-0002. I will return your call. 1(X3)

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SELLING OUT: scarlet macaws, greenwings, blue & golds, Brazilian and buff crown hawkheads. Eclectus. Amazons and ringnecks. Babies and breeders. Beautiful long-term captive pairs. Excellent health and feather. many producing. Call John, (503) 825-3230, Oregon.

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Deadline Schedule

Apr / May '89

Feb. 1 — editorial copy Feb. 15 — ADS, classified & display

June / July '89

April 1 — editorial copy April 15 - ADS, classified & display

Aug / Sept '89

June 1 — editorial copy June 15 — ADS, classified & display

Oct / Nov '89

Aug. 1 — editorial copy Aug. 15 - ADS, classified & display

Dec / Jan '90

Oct. 1 — editorial copy ADS, classified & display Oct. 15

Feb / Mar '90

Dec. 1 — editorial copy Dec. 15 - ADS, classified & display

