

AFA IN BRIEF
March 2006
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NEW! LEGISLATIVE ISSUES SECTION ON THE WEBSITE

A new legislative issues section has been added to the AFA website! This section contains a list of links to help you find virtually any information that you need to find out about avian legislative or regulatory issues. It also contains valuable information about current pending legislation affecting aviculture in various states. This section will be updated with new legislative issues as they arise. Special thanks to Sandee L. Molenda for compiling this important information.

AFA AWARD AT 2005 NATIONAL CAGE BIRD SHOW IN DALLAS

The American Federation of Aviculture proudly presented its 2005 National Show Award to AFA Life Member Sally Huntington for the "Best Bird Bred and Banded by an AFA Member" ranking highest overall in the show. AFA Show Awards Chair Linda S. Rubin presented NFSS President Sally Huntington with the prestigious award during the Saturday evening banquet at the National Cage Bird Show in Dallas, Texas. Mrs. Huntington's superb Black Grey Society Finch earned both the AFA special show award, as well as Best Finch in Division, the top award presented by the National Finch & Softbill Society, an affiliate organization of AFA.

The prestigious AFA Show Award is highly coveted by bird show exhibitors because it demonstrates the combined tally of votes from eighteen certified national and international panel judges representing all eighteen divisions of the National Cage Bird Show. The 57th NCBS held during November 16-20, 2005, had hundreds of exhibitors in attendance showing several thousand canaries, finches & softbills, lovebirds, cockatiels and parrots. Sally and Vince Huntington, long time members and supporters of the American Federation of Aviculture are also Life Members of AFA. Sally Huntington has been raising finches for over twenty years and is a certified panel judge and president of the National Finch & Softbill Society, Inc.

Look for the next issue of *AFA Watchbird*, which will have an article and photos of Sally Huntington's capture of the AFA Show Award. Additionally, a press release with photos is currently on the AFA website at www.afabirds.org. The complete story, scheduled as the cover feature in the June 2006 issue of *BIRD TIMES* magazine (www.birdtimes.com), will display the winning bird on the magazine's cover. Additional releases and photos will appear as posted on the NFSS website, the NCBS website and in their journal publications.

Plans include presenting the AFA Show Award at both the National Cage Bird Show and the Great American Bird Show in 2006. Future PR releases and updates on the 2006 AFA National Show Awards will appear on the AFA website and in forthcoming issues of AFA In Brief. If you would like to help with the work of the AFA Show Awards Committee, please contact the Chair, Linda S. Rubin @ LSRafa@aol.com.

WHAT'S NEW FOR THE CONVENTION?

We have a terrific speaker lineup this year! Speakers include well known aviculturists Bob Nelson, Dick Schroeder and Josef Lindholm III, as well as avian behaviorists Susan Friedman and Barbara Heidenreich.

In addition to the speaker lineup, the off site tour this year will be a special "behind the scenes" look at the Dallas Zoo Bird Department!

Early bird registration rates are in effect until June 26, 2006. After that date, normal registration rates will apply. Take advantage of online registration - it has never been easier.

The website, *AFA Watchbird* and AFA in Brief will have a detailed list of speakers, schedules, and events, as they become available.

For more Convention information, please contact the AFA:
Convention Central
P.O. Box 159
Rossville, TN 38066
E-mail: ConventionCentral@idealbirds.com
Phone: (901) 853-6079 • Fax: (901) 853-8452

WANTED - STATE COORDINATORS

The AFA is looking for hardworking, enthusiastic AFA members in good standing, living in the states listed below to be State Coordinators. Responsibilities include recruiting new members, representing AFA at bird fairs/shows, recruiting bird clubs to affiliate with AFA, and reviewing state legislation and regulations as they arise.

For the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Iowa, please email the acting North Central Regional Director at pipersparrots@comcast.net

For the states of New York (east), Vermont, and Massachusetts, please contact the Northeastern Regional Director at LSRafa@aol.com

For the state of Utah, please contact the Western Regional Director at conurecare@comcast.net