

BUDGERIGAR JOURNAL



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BUDGERIGAR ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Photo: Bob Wilson



Photo: Bob Wilson

**2015 Grand National Best In Show
bred and owned by Julie Willis**

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH
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Chairman's Message

Greetings!

Hi everyone, please join me in taking this opportunity to say "Thank You" to everyone that supported the 2015 BAA Grand National. It was a wonderful time. There was a very informative program from our UK judges, Trevor and Adrian Terheege. Not only did they provide an awesome presentation, their comments to the breeders during judging were tremendous. I'm not sure if they have ever judged by "our style", but they quickly caught on and provided us with helpful, educational comments during judging. Many people were involved in making this event a huge success and special thanks go to the DFW Budgie Club which hosted the show. The support from Houston Budgie Society is appreciated as well. I hope to have the opportunity to thank each one of you individually thought the year. Many thanks also go to all those that attended, and those who were unable to attend that continually supported us from a distance. Speaking of the Grand National; the Houston Budgie Society will be the host this year. Sponsoring a Grand National is a big deal which entails an amazing amount of organization and planning. It requires a little 'give and take' from us all to be successful.

Please help me congratulate Bob Wilson who was elected Judge Administrator. Congratulations also to Rick Spier and John Joyner for passing their judge's test and becoming our newest BAA judges - so get them on your calendar! More congratulations go to those that have reached breeder advancements for 2016. I believe that this is the largest advancement group at any time for BAA. There are too many for me to name individually without leaving someone out, so be on the lookout for advancement information posted on the BAA website and within this journal. I'm anxiously looking forward to the future of BAA as it continually grows. At this time, I would like to thank all the past board members for a job well done and cherish that you are a part of the history that formed BAA as it is today. I hope that I have the knowledge and the wisdom to follow this positive direction as it was laid out by all previous board members. I hope that we remain true to the original ideas of the organization. Many friendships have developed over the years, so don't let a few stupid moments spoil them.

Since we are on the subject of board members, please join me in welcoming our newest board member Debbie Lownsdale (Journal Advertising). Dan Scholtes (Registration Chair), and Robert Marshall (Member Retention) have new assignments. George Hollingsworth has volunteered to be our new journal editor and Sophie and Daniel Floyd

have volunteered to take over the duties of webmaster. Minutes of the board meetings will be available shortly and other updates as well. I would like to encourage everyone to submit articles for the Journal and the website. These positions require support from each of us to be successful.

Again, thanks to each of you for promoting BAA. I look forward in seeing you and hope that everyone has many "Budgies" to bring to shows this year.

Sincerely,

Alan Horton, BAA Chair

From the Pen of the Editor

Hello, I'm George Hollingsworth, the new editor of the Budgerigar Journal. I am excited to be taking on this endeavor. I saw a need for an editor for the Journal and emailed Al Horton that I was willing to take it on. I have exchanged many emails with Al Horton, Julie Willis, Bob Wilson, Debbie Lownsdale, Sophia Floyd And Dewayne Weldon to get the Journal back on track and to let the budgie world know the BAA is still alive and moving forward!

A little about myself. I am a native of Arizona. I began breeding budgies in 1970, soon after being discharged from the Air Force. After 19 years in Alaska I moved back to Arizona. First order of business, after getting settled, was to build aviaries and obtain more birds. In the fall of 1988 I attended the Arizona Budgerigar Societies budgie auction. Nearly every time I bid on a bird, some kid would out bid me! That kid turned out to be Jonny Joyner, he just passed his judges test at the last Grand National. I bred budgies until I started driving over the road. I sold my best birds to my friend Mick McCown. When I retired in 2010 I build new aviaries and started searching for birds. I joined the the Budgerigar Association of America and the Arizona Budgerigar Society and talked Mick into joining also. I entered my first show in April 2012, that same year Mick and I attended the Grand National in Camp Verde Arizona. I am the show secretary for the AZBS and help in any way I can. In August 2015 I ended up in a wheelchair and found it too difficult to care for the birds properly from the wheelchair and sold most.

It has been decided that since show reports are posted on the BAA web site, we will not have them in the Journal, leaving more room for articles, photos and ads. Remember, the Journal is YOURS, feel free to provide articles and photos.

Budgerigar Journal

The Magazine of the Budgerigar
Association of America.

Website: www.budgerigarassociation.org

Webmasters: Sophie and Daniel Floyd

Journal Editor: George Hollingsworth

Board of Directors

Alan Horton – Chairman

1814 S 47th St

Temple, TX 76504

254-493-7066

firstflightaviary@hotmail.com

Rick Spier – Immediate Past
Chairman

525 Greystone Park NE

Atlanta GA 30324

Tel: 954-496-3155

rickspier@aol.com

Website: rarebudgies.com

Henry Timmes - Advancement
Secretary

12080 NW 27th Ct.

Plantation FL 33323-1716

Tel: 954-475-2090

mtimmes@aol.com

Virgil Oliphant - Membership
Secretary

1035 Summerplace Ln

Southlake, TX 76097-5122

Tel: 817-481-4759

Marsha Conley-Treasurer

1692 Gebhardt Rd

Sealy TX

Tel: 979-758-4017

Marsha77434@yahoo.com

Julie Willis – Ranking Secretary

19534 FM 2728

Terrell TX 75161

972-563-0234

Juliebelle57@yahoo.com

Stephen Higgins - Affiliations

3023 County Rd 237

Alvin TX 77511-8688

713-819-8769

Higgins3023@Yahoo.com

Bob Wilson-Judge Administrator
Hazel Ct.

Holt MO 64048-8417

913-908-3202

bw@49W.us

Herb Doucet-Recording Secretary

1019 Granger St

Jennings LA 70546

337-824-0235

doucetherb@yahoo.com

Debbie Lownsdale - Advertising

348 Bells Chapel Rd

Dyer, TN 38330

drown@ycinet.net

Holger Moeller - Administrator

holgerwm@gmail.com

Dewayne Weldon – Awards
Admin.

328 Luce Rd

Huntington TX 75949-9745

Tel: 936-422-9092

Wel-doneaviary@valornet.com

Maureen Broderick –
Patronage Secretary

70 E. Broad St.

Newnan GA 30263

404-918-7162

elfshotaviary@yahoo.com

Chuck Romano-Band Secretary

22 Innerhill LN

Matawan NJ 07747

Tel: 732-583-1591

Chuck83r@aol.com

Dan Scholtes-Registration Chair

617 N. 7th St.

Grimes IA 50266

Tel: 515-508-1115

glc50111@yahoo.com

Robert Marshall Jr. -Membership
Retention

4206 Wooded Way

Louisville KY 40219-1538

Tel: 502-968-4874

JUDGES ASSOCIATION

(*) Mike Blair
4832 South Slauson
Avenue
Culver City CA 90230
(805) 857-5570

(*) Fred DiBernardo
440 West 39th Street, #3
San Pedro CA 90731-
7004
(310) 832-7200
yousguys@cox.net

(*) David Collier
524 Windsor Gate Road
Virginia Beach VA 23452-
2929
(757) 454-2507
chez31@verizon.net

John Joyner
3240 W Lion Barger
Show Low, AZ 85901
(480) 329-4575
john.joyner@sfelc.org

(*) Robert Marshall
4206 Wooded Way
Louisville KY 40219-1538
(502)968-4874

(*) Roy Millican
445 Country Road 2440
Decatur TX 76234
(940) 627-4220
rjmillican@ymail.com

(*) Bill Mitton
1285 Rio Verde Lane
Camp Verde AZ 86322
(928) 567-8797
bcmitton@gmail.com

Holger Moeller
AP 00601-00046
Chitré, Herrera
Panama
In USA - (408) 498-1635
holgerwm@gmail.com

(*) Carroll Myers
25821 State Highway 6
South
Navasota TX 77868-8225
(936) 825-6544
cdmyerscl@gmail.com

(*) Bill Novickas
713 Underwood Court
Bakersfield CA 93301
(661) 321-0231
bnia@hotmail.com

Virgil Oliphant
1035 Summerplace Lane
Southlake TX 76092-5122
(817) 481-4759
vlo@verizon.net

Pablo Ortiz
5861 NW Leghorn Avenue
Port St Lucie FL 34986-
3819
fatboy98@comcast.net

Richard Schmidt
10610 Balm Riverview
Road
Riverview FL 33569
(813) 677-2545
tampahorse@aol.com

(*) Dan Scholtes
617 North 7th Street
Grimes IA 50266
(515) 508-1115
legendaviary@cs.com

Rodney Silva
17931 Delores Lane
Sonora CA 95370-9741
(209) 533-3496
parrots@sonnet.com

Rick Spier
525 Greystone Park NE
Atlanta GA 30324
(954) 496-3155
rickspier@aol.com

(*) Henry Timmes
12080 NW 27th Court
Plantation FL 33323-1716
(954) 475-2090
mtimmes@aol.com

(*) Dewayne Weldon
328 Luce Road
Huntington TX 75949-
9745
(936) 422-9092
Well-doneaviary@valornet.com

Julie Willis
19534 FM 2728
Terrell TX 75161
(972) 563-0234 or (469)
524-9700
juliebelle57@yahoo.com

(*) Bob Wilson
Administrator BAA Judges
Association
205 Hazel Court,
Holt MO 64048-8417
(913) 908-3202
bw@49w.us
(*) – Indicates WBO Panel
Judge

Inactive:
Fred Wagner
Louis Smaldino

Club Affiliation

Arizona Budgerigar Society

1777 E. Fishermans Rd
Camp Verde AZ 86322-5093
Contact: Linda Fowler
Tel: 623-465-9711
Linda@lkfcpa.com

Budgerigar Association of CA

440 W. 39th St. Suite 100
San Pedro CA 90731-7004
Contact: Albert Demers
Tel: 310-832-7200
yousguys@cox.net

Budgerigar Society of Iowa

300 W. 1st St.
Grimes IA 50111
Contact: Dan Scholtes
Tel: 515-508-1115

Dallas Fort Worth Exhibition Budgerigar Association

1035 Summerplace Ln.
Southlake TX 76092
Contact: Virgil Oliphant
Tel: 817-481-4759
vlo@verizon.net

Fort Worth Bird Club

PO Box 1712
Keller TX 76244
Contact Cheryl Burns
Fwbc@fortworthbirdclub.com

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society

205 Hazel Ct.
Holt MO 64048
Contact: Bob Wilson
Tel: 913-908-3202
bw@49w.us

Houston Budgerigar Society

3023 County Rd. 237
Alvin TX 77511
Contact: Steve Higgins
Tel: 713-819-8769
Higgins3023@Yahoo.com

New Orleans Budgerigar Society

32293 St. John Dr.
Lacombe LA 70045
Contact: Robert Jensen
Tel: 504-254-0809-504-481-0403
Nstbob@yahoo.com

Maryland Budgerigar Society

708 Houston Ave
Hampton VA 23669-1305
Contact: Pauline Domenge
Tel: 757-806-5891
pdomenge@cox.net

Mid America Cage Bird Society

8209 Twana Dr
Urbandale IA 50322-1522
Contact: John Thielking
Tel: 239-851-8132
thielking@comcast.net

Mid Southern Budgerigar Society

6321 Hwy 19W
Ripley TN 38053-5009
Tel: 731-635-7125
H62-65@att.net

Midwest Exhibition Budgerigar Society

Contact: Bob Wilson
bw@49w.us

Sequoia Budgerigar Society

17931 Delores Ln
Sonora CA 95370
Contact: Rodney Silva
Tel: 559-909-2050
parrots@sonnet.com

Southwest Honorary Budgerigar Society

S. 47th St
Tempe TX 76504
Contact: Alan Horton
firstflightaviary@hotmail.com

Carolina United Budgerigar Assoc.

7143 Storey Point Rd.
Fayetteville NC 28306
Kevin Miller 814-221-5716
carolinabudgies@gmail.com

Treasure Coast Budgie Club

5861 NW Leghorn Ave.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986-3819
Contact: Pablo Ortiz
Tel 277-2245
Fatboy-98@comcast.com

Tri-State Budgerigar Society

22 Innerill Ln
Matawan NJ 07747
Contact: Chuck Romano
Tel: 732-583-1591
Chuck 83@aol.com

Utah Budgie Society

15205 S. 1800 W.
Bluffdale UT 84065
Contact: Ken Ashworth
Tel: 801-254-1238/801-635-6079
kea@skadrywall.com

Texas Bird Breeders & Fanciers Association

4211 Kelly Elliott Rd
Arlington TX 76016-4607
Contact: Barbara Irwin
Tel: 827-572-6262
Roycleanbarbirwin19732@netzer.o.com

Great Southern Budgie Club

70 E. Broad St.
Newnan GA 30263
Contact: Maureen Broderick
Text to phone: 404-918-7162

Illinois Budgerigar Society

1410 Harlem Rd
Machesney Park, IL 61115
Contact: Ken Simons
815-218-0253
ILLBudgerigarSoc@gmail.com

Ranking and Advancement

Julie Willis

Greetings everyone! This is the final report from the 2015 show season. There was some spirited competition in several divisions. That's one of the things that makes exhibiting fun. Of course all of the competitions are within the Divisions. There is no overall top ten. There was a lot of strategizing over how to maintain the number one spot, trying to move up into number one, moving up within the top ten, and moving into the top ten in several divisions; especially Novice and Intermediate. The race for the CC Exhibitor of the Year came down to the last two sections at the last show! That was a close one!

The point system was introduced in 2004 for Juniors, Novices, and Intermediates. It was hoped that the friendly rivalries would encourage exhibitors to enter more birds and attend more shows. It was so successful the Champion division was included the following year. I'll never forget going head to head with the late, great Dennis Sang from Florida my Novice year. He won in the end, but he had to come to Texas to do it. He edged me out at the TBBFA show by the placing of one bird.

Even though competing is good fun, it's important to remember that over showing your birds increases their stress level and may impact their future breeding. Unless a bird is a proven non-producer, I limit mine to a certain number of days away from home during a show season. One day local shows, when we leave home in the morning and get home before dark, are not as difficult for them as two day shows with a day or more of travel required. Figuring out which of my birds get to go to what shows is one of my more difficult tasks of the year.

2015 Point and CC Standings

Champion

1	Julie Willis	7191
2	Stuart Sacks	6117
3	Francom/Rodabough	3849
4	David Eberst	3058
5	Bill Mitton	2791
6	Bob Rees	2472
7	Mick McCown	1829
8	Pam & Dave Collier	1732
9	Henry Timmes	1552
10	Capi/Spier	1410

Intermediate

1	Pauline Domenge	1864
2	S & M Aviary	1800
3	Dan Roth	1241
4	George Hollingsworth	934
5	David Elrod	463
6	Robert Hofsetter	822
7	James Owens	648
8	Debbie Lynch	571
9	Mike Romano	467
10	David Elrod	463

Novice

1	Joshua Anthony	2053
2	Rich Werner	1949
3	AJ & Susan McCord	1106
4	April Bird-Stieglitz	1082
5	Charlie & Debbie Cole	1068
6	Sophie Floyd	774
7	Bernice O'Steen	652
8	Gary Olsen	526
9	Stan Jankowski	417
10	Eduardo Rodes	334

2014 Point and CC Standings

Junior

1	Haley Brock	1171
2	Alec Joiner	449
3	Cade Neumann	286
4	Alecia Joiner	273
5	Nathan Floyd	271
6	Abbey Coker	213
7	Skylar Neumann	104
8	Jillian Johnson	80
9	Christopher Neumann	67
10	Michelle Hughes	62

Rare

1	Capi/Spier	1836
2	Maureen Broderick	1182
3	Geo. Hollingsworth	510
4	Al Horton	412
5	David Eberst	208
6	Mark Gray	372
7	Del O'Connell	315
8	Jaguar Aviaries	273
9	Dewayne Weldon	234
10	Haley Brock	213

CCs

1	Julie Willis	60
2	Maureen Broderick	58
3	Francom/Rodabough	49
4	David Eberst	34
5	Capi/Spier	31
6	Stuart Sacks	29
7	Al Horton	27
8	Dewayne Weldon	21
8	Mick McCown	21
10	Bill Mitton	17

As I mentioned earlier, one of the more interesting rivalries took place in the Novice division between Rich Werner and Joshua Anthony. Both of these guys seemed to want it bad! I was able to observe their birds at many of the shows. Interestingly enough, though the exhibitors come from different parts of the country, Pennsylvania and Texas, many of their entries share a similar background. In my opinion, the quality of their birds was similar. Both exhibitors have had problems with their birds being out of condition on occasion. The Grand National seemed to be a turning point for Josh, and he pulled ahead. Not to be outdone, Richard attended the Illinois shows and did well, going back on top. That forced Josh to attend the last show of the year, TBBFA. Showing up wouldn't be enough, he'd have to place several birds. As you can see in the standings, he did!

As most of you know it's getting more and more difficult to travel distances with birds. The airlines have gotten really expensive. Back before my time, people who couldn't travel with their birds would ship them to a show. There was a person designated that would pick the birds up, enter them, and ship them back to the exhibitor. This can still work if you have a friend willing to help you, but many of us prefer not to ship our show birds. Another option is to work out a deal with someone living in a part of the country that you're not able to travel to. You can take a few of their birds to shows that you attend, and they can take some of your birds to the shows they attend. That makes it more fun and it boosts the number of entries at the shows. Just be careful if you're really competitive. You might end up bringing birds that belong to one of your main rivals. They could beat you everywhere you go! Right Maureen? We've both been there and done that....and I wouldn't change a thing!

Advancements

It's official!!! Many exhibitors have received enough wins to move up next year! There had been some confusion about advancement requirements for Juniors moving up to Novice. (See the Ranking and Advancement article in the last Journal.) Now that we've clarified the rules, several Juniors will be moving up. Also remember that if you have moved up in ABS you need to move up in BAA.

Contact me for additions or corrections on either advancements or points at juliebelle57@yahoo.com.

Junior Moving Up to Novice

Haley Brock	Jazmine Gallardo
Alecia Joiner	Alec Joiner
Cade Neumann	Skylar Neumann

Getting Close

Victoria Halbert – One more win
Nathan Floyd – Best Junior

Novice Moving Up to Intermediate

Joshua Anthony	Rod Bales
C & D Cole	Sophie Floyd
Steven Fowler	AJ & Susan McCord
Gary Olsen	Bernice O'Steen
Andrew Thompson	Rich Werner

Getting Close (BN is Best Novice)

Debbie Grant – BN	Benito Ortiz –BN
John Cave – one win	Aldo Covello – one win
Eduardo Rodes – one win	Shawn Romano – one win
April Bird-Stieglitz – one win	

Intermediate Moving Up to Champion

Pauline Domenge

Getting Close

James Owens – Needs either BIS' BOS, BY, or BYOS
George Hollingsworth – Two CCs

FYI

When filling out entry forms electronically prior to sending them to the show secretary, here are several things to remember to make their job easier:

1. Always use all caps
2. Write the full year (2016)
3. H and C for hen and cock

Blast from the Past 2007

Champion

1	Julie Willis	3872
2	Stuart Sacks	3323
3	Swell Budgies	3077
4	Mitton/Jenner	2848
5	Francom/Rodabough	2634
6	Rose & Joe Lastella	2411
7	Henry Timmes	1888
8	Roy Millican	1162
9	Ray Heltzel	1093
10	Mike Rankin	1045

Intermediate

1	Bill Lumb	1481
2	Ken Saxion	1159
3	Dee Cadwell	1090
4	Tony League	987
5	Ben Barron	588
6	Sharon Husky	470
7	Sally O'Dwyer	357
8	Ivy Gampapa	354
9	SandyOelschlegel	350
10	DorisZimmerman	336

Feeding

Over the years I have tried plenty of seed diets, additives and supplements for the birds... and have come to one conclusion. It's best to stick as close as possible to nature with a little help to supply extra nutrients needed by the exhibition budgerigar of today.

BASIC FEED MIX:

I buy my seed in bulk (50 lb bags) from a local farmers feed store and mix inhouse.



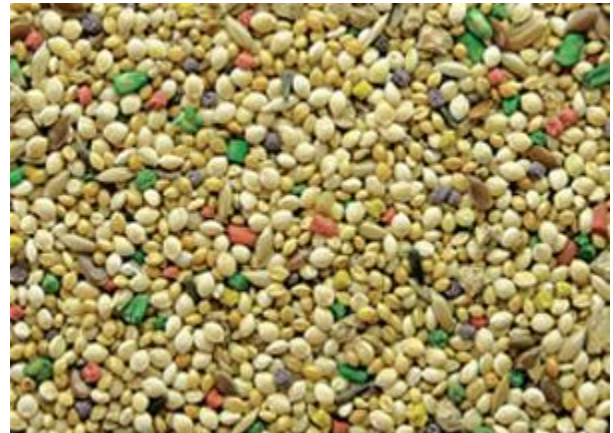
The basic seed mix consists of 4 parts Plain Canary, 2 parts White Millet, 1 part Oat Groats, and one part Finch Mix (a tonic seed comprised of several Millets, Vegetable and Grass Seeds).

This mix is fed year round. Leading up to breeding season the percentage of Oat Groats is increased.

TONIC SEEDS:



Finch Mix is offered in a separate dish twice a week... Additional grass, herb and vegetable seeds are added to the tonic seed as available.



Sunflower, Safflower, and Niger is also offered during the times of heavy moult.

Seed Nutritional Values: Since the nutritional value of the same seed type varies based on growing conditions, fertility of the soil, amount of rainfall etc, I always attempt to use seed grown in different regions. The more variety the better. I have found an excellent source of herb and vegetable seeds are health food stores and ethnic supermarkets

HERBS, VEGETABLES & FRUIT:



Excellent sources of natural vitamins, minerals, vegetable protein... the birds get a variety of vegetables, herbs and fruit each morning.

Spinach, cilantro, parsley, swiss chard, red chard, broccoli, red beet, golden beet, striped beet, carrot, apple (minus core), wheat grass, barley grass, celery, garlic (cloves & leaves), chicory, endive, turnip greens, fennel, basil, mint, tarragon, oregano, thyme, apple, pear, grapes.. whatever is available at the stores, or leftover after preparing meals... all cut into strips or large pieces so the birds gnaw it down like they would in the wild.

Any uneaten fruit or veges are removed after 3-4 hours.

SPROUTED SEED:



My birds get sprouted oats 3-4 days a week, year round. Care must be taken to ensure the oats do not sour or go mouldy, otherwise the birds will become ill.

I initially soak the oats overnight and then thoroughly wash them, allow to drain, and repeat the process twice each day until the small shoots start to appear. They are then ready for the birds.

Before feeding wash and drain the seed an additional time, then add any softfood or supplements. Allow to sit for 15 minutes so any moisture is absorbed. Add any chopped vegetables, fruit, and freeze-dried mealworms, and they are ready to feed to the birds.

My breeding pairs get a scoop (a couple of tablespoons) twice a day, and the balance is

fed in a dish in the flight. Any leftovers are removed after a couple of hours.

How I do it..

ANIMAL PROTEIN SOURCES:



Budgies need both plant and animal protein. The plant protein comes from seed, grasses, and vegetables you feed.

I load up on animal protein when the birds are in a heavy moult and when young are in the nest. I find the youngsters that have animal protein in their diet are much more robust and put on weight faster.

Many of the "starter crumbles" used for chickens and game birds are high in protein content. The birds will take to them fast if moistened and fed with soaked seed.

"Game Bird / Pheasant / Turkey Pick Blocks" are a favorite in my flights and are offered year round. The blocks I buy from a local farmers feed store are approximately 18"x18"x18" and are 26% protein. The birds make short work of them.. Gnawing holes and tunnels, especially in the weeks leading up to breeding season. This activity sends the hens into a breeding frenzy and they are ready to go to nest as soon as they are paired up. I am not sure how much of the block they actually eat but seed consumption is certainly less than when the blocks are not available.

Chicken Carcasses don't last long in the flights either. After removing all the meat for a meal I boil the carcass for 30 minutes to make sure everything is thoroughly cooked, then baked in the oven for an additional half hour. After cooling it goes in a dish in the flight. Within 15-20 minutes it is totally stripped and everything eaten except the larger bones.



Mealworms are a big hit, and again fed year round, 2-3 times each week. Despite what others may say budgies love them and take to them fast. It is not unusual for outcrosses, that have not had them in the past, line up as soon as they see how the other birds enjoy them.

The breeding pairs get freeze-dried mealworms so they will not wriggle away..these are soaked in warm water to plump them up and thoroughly rinsed before feeding. Live mealworms are fed in a steep-sided dish in the flight. They don't last long .. a feeding frenzy as soon as the dish goes in.

Mealworms are easy to breed if you buy a few hundred to start. Mine breed in plastic tubs in the birdroom that are loaded with bran flakes. Vegetable scraps are all they need for food and moisture. Eventually the mature worms turn into beetles that lay eggs for the next generation. Just be careful not to empty out the "fine sand" material at the bottom of the tub during the dormant phase of the life cycle. It is loaded with eggs that will hatch in the coming weeks.

GRIT & EXTRA CALCIUM:



Cuttle bone is always available in the flight and breeding cages. I usually buy cuttlebone pieces. They may not "look as nice" but the birds don't know the difference and the cost is way lower.

Like with seed, I try to obtain grit from as many sources as possible.

Chick (fine poultry) grit, usually crushed granite, is the base. Fine crushed oyster shell, crushed egg shells, crushed cuttlebone, mineralized pigeon grit, and sea sand are mixed together along with a little powdered kelp (seaweed) and coarse sea salt. Interesting to observe that the small shells in the sea sand are the first things to go.

Over the year the "Grit or No Grit" has always been a debateable topic... Only thing I know is that when birds come home after 2-3 days off at a show, the first thing they go to is the grit pot. They must be looking for something.

Extra Calcium - Calcium is used in the formation of bones and eggs, and is needed for normal nerve and muscle functions. I do not rely solely on the "grit pot" to supply this essential mineral in the necessary quantities. To avoid problems like soft shell and chalky eggs, egg binding, rickets, splayed legs and feather plucking, a liquid calcium supplement with vitamin D is added to the drinking water on a regular basis. **More about Calcium Deficiency.**

Dry Food Mix - A dry food supplement called "Birds Choice" is available in a separate dish year round.



It is surprising how much time certain birds spend picking around in this dish. The mix contains Canary Grass Seed, Whole Oat Groats, Ground Corn, Dried Brewer's Yeast, Rape Seed, Niger, Flax Seed, Lettuce Seed, Sesame Seed, Soybean Meal, Cod Liver Oil, Powdered Eggs, Wheat Bran, Anise Oil, Calcium Carbonate.

Newcomers to the hobby are always searching for a **Magic Supplement** that will turn pet quality birds into show winners...

Mineral Blocks are offered year around. Large blocks in the flights and mini-blocks in the breeding and stock cages. These are easy to make.

Of course your birds should always have access to **Good Clean Drinking Water**.. The drinking water, and the supplements I add, have a major impact on the health of my birds.

Editors note: This article was written by Bob Wilson, BAA Judge and is re-printed here by permission.



Deweyne Weldon's Grey Green Cock

Did You Know?

Budgies have 2000-3000 feathers on their little body?

Wild budgies average 7 in long and 1.1-1.4 ounces.

The most talkative budgie was Puck. Puck holds the world record for the largest vocabulary of any bird, at 1,728 work!

Budgies have a third eyelid that is not usually visible, but that is important for lubricating the eyes and keeping them clear of dirt and debris.

Budgies have a very high resting respiration rate, ranging between 65-85 breaths per minute.

The heart rate of the budgie is also extremely fast and cannot be monitored by listening in the normal way, as it beats over 300 times per minute!

Budgies grind their beaks when they are happy and relaxed, similar to cats and purring!



Deweyne Weldon's Grey Cock

WBO Rosette Winners - 2015 Show Season

* indicates Best in Show

Country	Best Any Age	Best Any Age Opp. Sex	Best Young Bird	Best Young Bird Opp. Sex
Argentina	Results Not Supplied	Results Not Supplied	Results Not Supplied	Results Not Supplied
Australia (ANBC)	Cec & Brenda Gearing	Cec & Brenda Gearing	Cec & Brenda Gearing	Cec & Brenda Gearing
Austria (OWV)	Hubert Joham	ZG Winklhofer & Marone	ZG Winklhofer & Marone*	Harald Lindtner
Belgium (BGC)	Alain Morris*	Heylen & Waerzeggers	Johny Van Bever	Van Genechten & Dieltjens
Brazil (FOB)	Alessandro C Corrêa*	Nova Gales	André Braga de Miranda Ramos	Nova Gales
Canada (WCBA)	Jim Bertrand*	Ray Watson	Ray Watson	Archie Graham
Canada (HDBS)	Mervyn and Myola Sequeira*	Jeff Coles	Mervyn and Myola Sequeira	Jeff Coles
Czech Rep. (KCHA)	Juraj Vrancik*	Pechar & Slavik	Pechar & Slavik	Ladislav Groda
Denmark (DUK)	Vibeke Kjeldsen, Frede Sørensen and Peter Sørensen*	Erik Olesen and Svend Erik Korgaard	Jens Otto Sørensen	Søren Christensen
France (AFO)	Günter Hettiger	Regis Boufflet	Guillaume Froger*	Regis Boufflet
France (CDE/CFO)	Bertrand Duprey	Bertrand Duprey	Jean Pierre Debray*	Guillaume Froger

France (UOF)	Fannie Dubrulle	Raphaël Terra	Jean-Marie Lagrange*	Bernard Gassmann
Germany (DSV)	ZG Müller*	Frank Nietgen	ZG Müller	Richard Kuhr
Germany (VZE)	Matthias Pajung	Wolfgang Fühle	Werner Rump*	Lothar Tasche
Holland (NGC-DBS)	Heylen-Effertz-Nettekoven	Willie Dokter	Willie Dokter*	Heylen-Effertz-Nettekoven
Hungary (MDPOSZ)	Tibor Gyerkő*	Tibor Gyerkő	Zita Gyerkő	Tibor Gyerkő
Replic of Ireland EBS(Ireland)	Mark & Tony Rodgers*	Mark & Tony Rodgers	Joe Nevin	David Boyd
Italy (CADO)	Roberto Bugli*	Giuseppe Santangelo	Giuseppe Santangelo	John Sicat
Japan (JSB)	Katsumi Takahashi*	Yoshiteru Ito	Kei-ichi Yamazaki	Kei-ichi Yamazaki
New Zealand (BSNZ)	Terry and Linda Patten*	Robyn and Tony Grinter	John Rosser	Garol Hughes and Ian Silk
Norway (NUK)	Lasse Ekanger*	Geir Hovland	Lasse Ekanger	Kjell Olsen
Pakistan (BSP)	Muhammad Awais & Imran Champ	Mobassir Sattar Khan	Ahmad & Ali Raza Sahi*	Umer Dilshad
Pakistan (ABO)	Imran Shafiq & Muhammad Awais	Waseem Anwar, Hannad Shakir & Amir Malik	Imran Shafiq & Muhammad Awais*	Imran Shafiq & Muhammad Awais
Pakistan (BAP)	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled
Philippines (BIRDS)	Eric Prudente	Arnold Sunga	Arnold Sunga*	Arnold Sunga
Portugal (SPO)	Rui Teixeira*	Rui Teixeira	Rui Teixeira	Rui Teixeira
Romania	Catalin Josan	Calin Florin	Catalin	Calin Florin

			Josan*	
Russia (HOMB)	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled
Slovensko (SZCH)	Groda Ladislav*	Vrančik Juraj	Vrančik Juraj	Vrančik Juraj
South Africa (BSSA)	Pierre Swart	jNj Show Stud	Bleasdale, Taylor & Wright*	Pierre Swart
Spain (ACEP)	Alberto Ciscar*	Alberto Ciscar	Salva Rimbau	Fernando Moreno
Sweden (SUH)	Kent-Mikael Edoff	Björn Johansson	Björn Johansson*	Ali Bozkurt
Sweden (SUK)	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled
Switzerland (SWV)	Daniel Lütolf*	Daniel Lütolf	Daniel Lütolf	Daniel Lütolf
Turkey (TKKKF)	Bariş Çolak	Umut Kiliç	Hakan Gür	Ömer Özgün
Ukraine (AUOPD)	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled
Ukraine (ZOOSVIT)	Nataliia Kompanichenko*	Vitalii Pyshniak	Viktoriia Bohatova	Viktoriia Bohatova
United Kingdom (BS)	S & J Gillan*	Fisher & Shepherdson	G Corser	R & M Miller
United Kingdom (NIB, ZF&FBS)	N. Anderson	McAuley & Ross	H. McCullough*	McAuley & Ross
United States (ABS)	Jeff Hall*	Larry & Dina Moore	Jeff Hall	Larry Allen
United States (BAA)	Julie Willis*	Jim Fleeker	Jim Fleeker	Julie Willis
Venezuela (CCC)	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled	Show Cancelled

BREEDERS DIRECTORY

\$30.00 ANNUALLY - CONTACT DEBBIE LOWNSDALE



Bob Wilson
Champion Exhibitor - BAA & WBO
Judge

205 Hazel Court
Holt MO 64048

(913) 908-3202
bw@49w.us
<http://www.49w.us>



Chuck Romano

22 Innerhill Lane
Matawan, NJ 07747

Phone 732-583-1591

Email: Chuck83R@AOL.com

Champion Breeder & Exhibitor

JEFF HALL

SHOW QUALITY BUDGERIGARS

Berlin Heights, Ohio

(440) 653-0091

Email: jefbonn2003@yahoo.com



JULIE WILLIS

Champion Breeder

Exhibition Quality Birds

19534 FM 2728 Terrell, TX 75161

972-563-0234 469 5249700

juliebelle57@yahoo.com

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myerscl@worldnet.att.net

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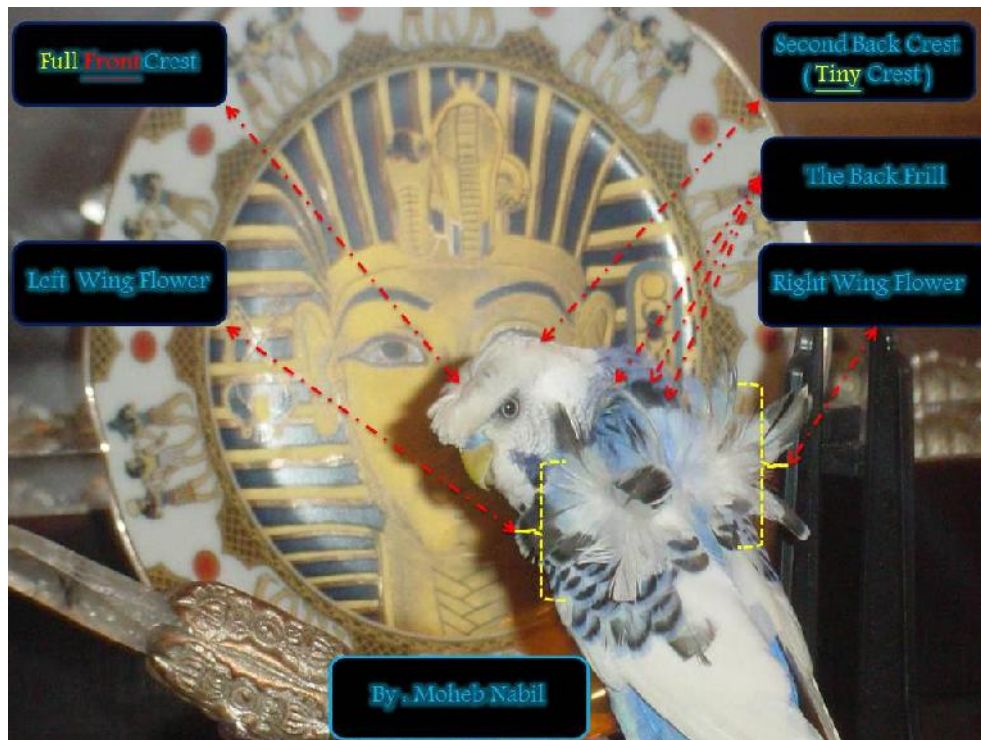
DEWAYNE WELDON

(BAA & WBO Judge)

HUNTINGTON, TEXAS 95949

(936) 422-9092

well-doneaviary@valornet.com



Crested and Crested Backfilled Budgies

By Moheb Nabil – Cairo Egypt

Breeding Crests in Egypt began 12 or 15 years ago, if not more.

Numbers initially were small and their quality was all of pet type size. Interested breeders started to breed these pet sized crested budgies in large numbers helped by the warm climate here that is similar to what the wild budgies in Australia have and proves ideal for budgie breeding except in the heat of Summer.

Many breeders worked on producing crested in various colors, Respectively the variety of the crested backfilled started to trigger and pop up from the continues breeding of crested to crested. Based upon that it did not take long for crested back frills and crested to reach large numbers in Egypt and many birds were exported abroad.

While some people claim the Crest Gene is lethal and deadly, we found quite the opposite. Breeders mated crested together over many generations and the crested siblings produced had no health problems.

By crossing Full Crested x Full Crested , double crested budgies were produced... (also some messy crested budgies... those were characterized with shaggy untidy crests) These Double Crested and Double Crested Back frills have very concentrated percentage of the crest gene.

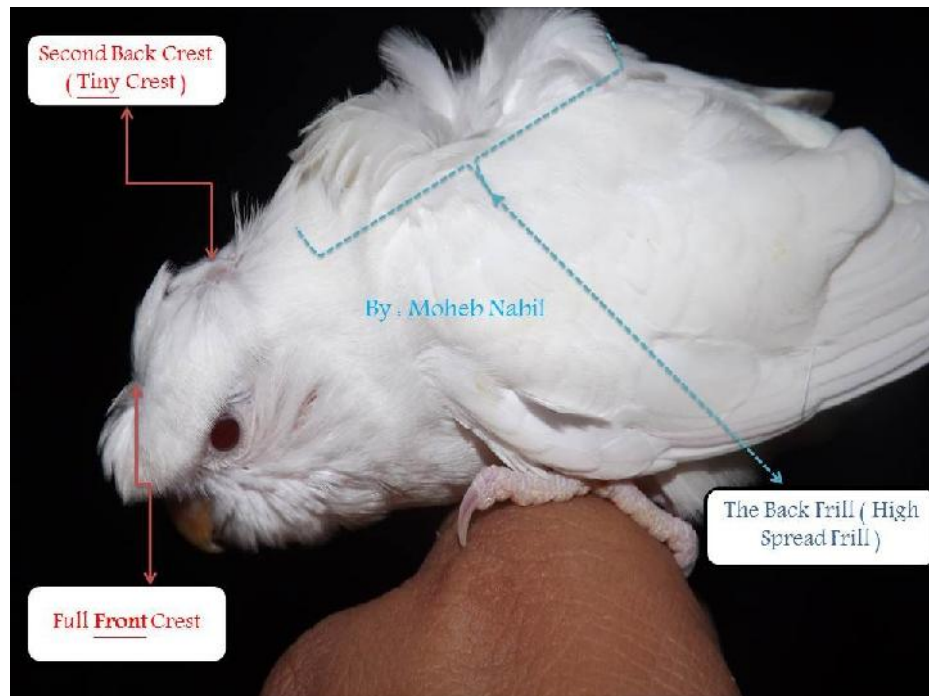
A new era started when experienced breeders decided to cross their exhibition bloodlines with the Pet sized Crested and Crested backfilled. These matings produced better size crested with longer cap feather that showed the crests to maximum benefit.

Breeding techniques that were used were:

- Double Crested x Exhibitions.
- Double Crested backfills x Exhibitions.
- Messy Crested x Exhibitions.
- Messy Crested backfills x Exhibitions.
- Crest Bred x Full crest
- Crest Bred x Tufts
- Messy shaggy crested x Full, Half , Tuft or Crest bred.
- Crest Bred x half crested
- Tufts x double crested
- Full crest x double crested.

By using these matings and introducing exhibition type birds, the quality and size of our Crests were improved enormously.





“Hagoromo” Japanese Crested Budgerigars

From the continuous breeding of the Crested back frilled budgies , some complete and incomplete forms of Japanese Crested were produced but they were lacking the strength of bloodlines that can enhance the common features we see today.

Later, some merchants managed to get some shipments from Japan, The first Japanese Crested Budgies that arrived Egypt were very small in size or in the flowery plumages on their wings, or both.

While Japanese Crested Budgies originated in Japan it appears the variety was on the verge of extinction as many breeders quit the hobby or lost interest in improving them.

Breeders in Egypt were enthusiastic about this unusual variety and were soon producing them in large numbers,

During these early years, many of our locally produced birds were shipped to Middle East & Gulf countries. Turkish breeders and traders also came here and arranged many shipments of the variety.

A new challenge we faced was to improve the overall quality and features of this variety, so experienced breeders started crossing the better sized Crested & Crested Backfilled budgies that had resulted from using exhibition quality stock.

In a very short time, the size of this variety improved and we started to see complete forms of Japanese Crested Budgies.

I would say and stress on the fact: The original origin of Japanese Crested Budgies was Japan but the retriggering and improving this variety rests for sure in Egypt.

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The latest challenge:

The last challenge was promoting interest on these varieties which are not popular in Europe, England, or other countries, where classes are not provided in Shows.

I became friends with Bob Wilson in America through Facebook and for many years we talked a lot and discussed many issues concerning this nice hobby .

Luck knocked my door when I knew Dr. Mohamed Hegab (A very well-known Cairo Vet) who introduced me to Ahmad El Aggan who publishes Egypt's only pet magazine and also sponsors The Annual Aleef Pet Expo, the only Pet Expo in Egypt & Middle East

I was commissioned by Ahmad El Aggan to handle a new challenge concerning birds I raised the issue of sponsoring Egypt's First Budgies International show and to invite a professional well known judge like Bob Wilson.

Show took place on 21th of February 2015 as part of the Pet Expo and was very well attended. Bob Wilson was fascinated of the quality of Crested and Japanese Crested budgies we have in Egypt.

There were three "shows or divisions" within the main show. Regular Exhibition Varieties, Crests and Japanese (Hagoromo) Crests. As it was our first national show all breeders showed in the same division.

We have applied a new technique in Show cages , all of them were wire cages similar in shape and size to the box-style show cages used in other countries. When the Judge evaluates each bird it can be viewed from all angles which is ideal to see if the "flowers" on each wing are uniform on the Japanese crested budgies.

We were lucky to have Bob Wilson as the first foreign judge who traveled to Egypt and Middle East, He is also probably the first to judge the Japanese Crested variety.

He gained much experience/education concerning the Japanese crested from the coverage through the internet and during several meetings with our committee before the show.

When judging Bob stuck to the pictorial standard of the common agreed Crested and rest was easy (Judging the two flowery plumages on wings)

Last but not least, I would like to summarize the various Eras which those two varieties has gone through :

- 1- Crested Pet Size Era.
- 2- Crested Back frilled Era.
- 3- Improving sizes for the above by crossing with Exhibitions.
- 4- Very Good sized Crested & Crested back frilled Era.
- 5- Pet Size Japanese Crested.
- 6- Very Good sized Japanese Crested due to crossing with point 4 above.
- 7- Promotion of both varieties and organizing our first national show headed by an international Judge.

We encourage all breeders to give thought to working with these varieties when they become available in your country. Maybe together we can help build numbers in our hobby with these unusual budgies.



Moheb Nabil (r) with BAA Judge, Bob Wilson (l)

Egypt First Budgerigars Show, 21 February 2015 Link
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIWdGblr_jc

Editors note: Moheb Nabil's article, Crested and Crest BackFrilled, is reprinted here with permission of the author.

Show Preparation

By Bob Wilson

Photo: Bob Wilson

Let's not forget the impact of heredity on steadiness in a show cage. Steady parents tend to breed steady chicks that naturally show well. Flighty parents that will not perch and throw a fit in a show cage tend to produce youngsters that behave in a similar way.

Training begins in the nest box. The more you handle youngsters the calmer they become and this becomes very evident in the show cage.

When chicks leave the nest I introduce them to the show cage even before they are completely weaned, and use a think judging stick to help them to the perch. I find this helps them later on to accept a judging stick as a natural accessory in the show cage and eliminates the possibility of a frenzy when the judge uses one.

When they are feeding themselves the chicks are transferred to small flight cages, 48"x24"x24", with others of similar age and a couple of older docile cocks to lead them to food, water etc. They are fed the normal seed & greens/veges during this period and are loaded up with protein from as many sources as possible.

During this time they are still caught and handled frequently to keep them calm and comfortable, and spend short periods in a show cage while I am feeding or cleaning the bird room. Around the time they start their first moult the time in a show cage increases. Some will be placed in a show cage after they eat in the morning. I live a 5-6 minute drive from the company where I work so I can come at lunch and move another group to the show cages for 3-4 hours in the afternoon.

I do like to have some in the show cage when I am sweeping or vacuuming so they are not unsettled by sudden noise or clattering they will also experience at shows.

After the first moult they go into a flight to develop and muscle up.

Approximately 8 weeks before the first show the better birds are transferred back to the small flights and checked for broken or damaged feathers that need to be removed so they can regrow by show day. These birds are reintroduced to the show cage and judging stick and each spends 2-3 hours at a time getting reaccustomed to the smaller space



It always helps when you have someone experienced in charge of show preparation and spraying the birds.

A month before show day the spraying starts 3-4 mornings a week. Heavy drenching to start. I use a mix of water with a little Listerine and Witch Hazel added.. This will encourage natural preening so the birds eventually coat feathers with natural oils. As this happens you will notice when you spray that the water will tend to bead up and roll off rather than soak deep into the feathers. Spray a little less each day so that a week before the show they are basically getting a misting rather than a bath. I stop spraying the Tuesday before a show.

Also a month out check that any feathers you pulled are re-growing naturally.

A couple of weeks out I start cycling the birds through the show cages for longer hours... approx. 6-8 hours at a time, a couple of times a week, making sure a judging stick is used every time I am in the room so they know when to show and move from one perch to the other.

This is also the time I start using the toothbrush with a little dishwashing liquid to clean up any areas in the cap or mask that are soiled.

Then 4-5 days out I start de-spotting the birds. This is done in 2 or 3 sessions so there is no rush that results in wrong spots being removed. I leave large shadow spots under the main spots until the night before the show.... Just as insurance in case a main spot drops at the last minute.

Editors note: This article is reprinted here with permission.

What did you enjoy about the Grand National?

"Everything about the 2015 Grand National was fantastic! There was a sense of camaraderie and coming together for the good of the hobby that prevailed at both Judges and Board of directors meetings and it carried on through the show. The hospitality room was a blast, and the sweets provided by Calvin Pape were amazing. The Friday night party at Southfork Ranch, which was generously donated by, again, Calvin, was over the top. Who would have thought that all of us would be singing along with the cowboy to old country tunes? The show itself was conducted without a hitch. The raffle table was beyond compare. The competition for the auction birds and items following the banquet was extremely entertaining. All in all, this one will be hard to top! – Julie Willis

"The 2015 Grand National was a return to the days of great times with good people. The Texas folks define hospitality. Once again, the BAA Grand National has become a "don't miss" event!" – Rick Spiers

"I attended the 2015 Grand National show as both a member of the BAA Board of Directors, I am the current Treasurer, and also as an Intermediate exhibitor. The show, held at the South Fork Hotel, had a great turn out and appeared to be a great success! The hotel, and the entertainment provided by the Dallas Fort Worth budgie Club were both fantastic. and best of all, it was a relaxing, enjoyable show all the way

from the check in, to the awesome show judges, to the banquet. To the checking out!! Everyone I spoke with seemed to have the same feeling. All in all... it was a great time." – Marsha Conley

"I hope I'm not too late with this. maybe I'm starting to get short term memory loss, but I have been having a hard time pulling up individual memories - except for my Slate hen humiliating me by chewing her tail to shreds and getting me a lecture from the judge on hot water being able to fix that☐ I swear it was not like that when I put her in a cage. my strongest memory is how everyone seem so happy strong and together. it seems like everyone was just having a wonderful time, it was like a show from years ago everybody happy to see each other and enjoying themselves. The dinner at South Fork is a lovely example... The whole room was singing along with the singing cowboy The dinner the next evening was more of the same with people laughing and joking and bidding large on all the auction items. all in all, it was a great reminder to what first drew me to BAA - the wonderful camaraderie.I can't wait to see everybody when the show season starts!" -- Maureen Broderick

"I would like to introduce myself, my name is Rich Werner from the Pocono Mountains in PA. This past show season was my first year breeding and showing exhibition budgies. I went to quite a few shows in NJ,Georgia,North Carolina,New Orleans, Illinois, Virginia and the National in Texas . I believe in

supporting the clubs and traveling to the shows. I have been a pigeon man my whole life and got my first budgie when I was a young boy.

The one HUGE difference I have found over this past year is even though you go to a show to compete, in the BAA its also about the fellowship. From my own experience the BAA is not on the down slide the shows were well represented and the people are great. I took my father to a lot of the shows with me. He had a blast. He just loves to talk about animals or birds it doesn't really matter to him. And to our surprise there are quite a few people who have had pigeons over the years so that is a nice ice breaker. It didn't matter what show we went to or what state it was in we were treated like we have been in the hobby for years.

I have held many offices within multiple pigeon clubs and without hesitation I can say the BAA budgie people are a class act. Always having fun at the shows even though its still a competition with the birds. I really enjoy the group meals and the hospitality rooms that the clubs have at the show. The National show in Texas was no exception. This show was a first rate show they did a great job from start to finish an awesome room for the show a great raffle and wonderful banquet. Everyone was nice and helpful at the show. I look forward to more shows and making great friendships within the Hobby.

I would like to close this short letter by thanking everyone again for the help within the Hobby. My mentors Pam and Dave Collier along with Pauline Domenge have made my first year a great one and without these three it would not have been possible. They started me out with great birds and were

always there to help. These three are what mentors should be and if everyone would follow their lead the BAA will thrive and grow." -- Rich Werner

.....

I don't have any photos there but my favorite part was the Chuck Wagon dinner and tour of Southfork Ranch on Friday night. That was awesome. – Sophie Floyd

Sping and Budgies

By: Marcia Halbert

It is that time of year when we venture outside in the warming weather amidst the blooming crocuses, daffodils, hyacinths, and what will soon be tulips, in bloom. We drag out the rakes, shovels, leaf bags, trash cans, and pruning shears. The spring cleanup of our yards and the disposal of all the "rubbish", as the English are likely to say, takes place. Those pesky leaves - that somehow always manage to blow their way onto our property from the guy's yard on the street that never cleans up his yard - have to be gathered one last time. Twigs and other tree parts have to be picked up. Remaining dead flower stalks and mounds of dried daylily leaves all have to go, making way for the attractive yard you know is coming.

It is also the time of year budgie breeders start to think and act like budgie exhibitors. Some of you will be breaking down pairs and maybe repaint those show cages or replace hardware on them. Perhaps a new outdoor aviary will be constructed. The thought of when the first shows are scheduled and which ones you will be traveling to, will also be on your minds. Just as outdoors there is an evaluation, assessment, and

discard of what is not up to par, there will also be a similar undertaking in the bird room. As the 2012 youngsters develop, they will be compared to each other and to the old birds. If they are outstanding they get to stay and blossom and bloom, becoming part of the show landscape. If they are "rubbish", they will be culled and discarded.

Judges of budgerigars seem to have different ways or opinions on how they base their selections for the winning final bench birds. Breeders have their own criteria. A great bird to one breeder that they would gladly pay a good price for may be a cull bird to someone else. I have often wondered how views can vary so intensely. Is it that one person has not had the amount of training as to what to really look for in a good bird and the other person has? Could it just be that we each have our own opinion as to what features are appealing to us? Is there disagreement with the standard that others have decided should be the show bird specimen of today? Do some of us demand that the winning birds have huge round spots and not care that the masks are short and the heads somewhat narrow? Would you keep and breed birds that are massive in body and head but display head flecking and bad wing carriage?

Editors note: This article is reprinted here with permission.

2016 SHOW CALENDER

Ariz Budgerigar Society Futurity Show
Mesa, AZ **March 26, 2016**

Ariz Budgerigar Society Chandler Shows
Chandler, AZ **April 23, 2016**

Ariz Budgerigar Society Chandler Shows
Chandler, AZ **April 24, 2016**

Houston Budgerigar Society Early Bird Show
Houston, TX **May 16, 2016**

Ariz Budgerigar Society Mesa Show
Mesa, AZ **June 25, 2016**

New Orleans Budgerigar Socciety
Pearl River, LA **July 9, 2016**

New Orleans Budgerigar Socciety
Pearl River, LA **July 10, 2016**

Southwest Budgie Club
Southwest Honorary Memorial Club Show
Terrell, TX **August 6, 2016**

Greater Kansas City Avicultural Society
Grandview, MO **October 15, 2016**



***Some 2015 Budgies bred by George
Hollingsworth, Phoenix, AZ
Photo: George Hollingsworth***