



IFFCA *Newsletter*



Raquel King With Friends

I to r: Keith Ferry, Raquel King,
Jeremy Faria, and Adam Raine

INSIDE

- ▶ **Club News**
- ▶ **Thank You**
Raquel King and William Jones
- ▶ **NBS Show Photos**
- ▶ **Affiliated Clubs' Show Photos**
- ▶ **Selecting Fife to Keep**
- ▶ **Report on Continued
IFFCA Work**

Editor's Note

Thank you to all members who sent in photos of the shows they attended. The website continues to have new photos and content added. ***The Members' Area is password protected, with 'canola' as the new password, effective December 18th.***

Please read the 2024 Report on the Continued Work of IFFCA, page 8 of this newsletter, and on our Club History page of our website.

We are working to provide useful service to the Fife Fancy and the Bird Community at large. Feel free to call or email any Board member if you have questions or suggestions.

-- Looking forward to good things in 2025,
Your Editor

NEWS

► **Our Annual Membership Meeting** will be held online in February. The Board is working during the holiday months of December and January upon several projects. We are excited about these ideas and the opportunities that IFFCA will be offering to the Hobby.

► **Photos from our Affiliated Clubs' Shows** will be uploaded to the IFFCA website:

internationalfifefancyclubofamerica.com/affiliated-clubs-shows

► Membership renewals are due no later than February 28th. **Mail in a printed membership form OR use our new online membership form** and opportunity to pay by Zelle.

internationalfifefancyclubofamerica.com/membership-form-online

Note you may use either a printed form sent by mail, or the online form.

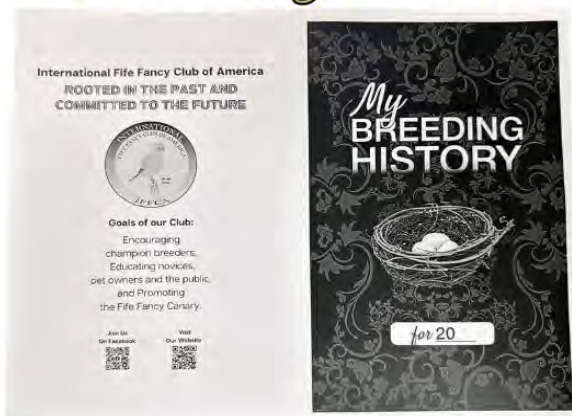
Payments for either may be by Zelle or check.

Fife Chat on Sunday 1/19/2025

6:30 p. m. Eastern

We will be using **ZOOM**, with two ways to join the chat. You may call in by dialing a phone number, with audio only. You may also use the app for video options. Zoom has become a very familiar format. Members will receive an email with dial in/log in details the weekend before the Chat. Contact IFFCA Secretary if you have questions.

Breeding Book



pages for 24 pairs

Available upon request
for IFFCA members ordering
leg bands by mail
while supplies last

Please take the

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

<https://forms.gle/JnC3DnjfGZvaF1i6A>

to help our club
better serve our members.

THANK YOU!



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iffca.net

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Thank you Raquel King and William Jones for your contributions to IFFCA – past and present!

IFFCA has been promoting and building the presence of the Fife Fancy Canary in the United States and Canada for decades.

We thank **Raquel King**, who has provided invaluable help establishing the history of IFFCA, submitting details of the early years, as well as several documents of memorabilia.

William Jones and Clarence King were the first to initiate the club. Jones, with Clarence and Raquel King were among the first to import Fife from England in 1982. Raquel included a letter from the IFFCA in England acknowledging the Exchange of Fife Fancy rosettes from America in 1983, *see below*.

At the 1983 National show held in Denver, Colorado, Bill Jones name was listed in the Booster sponsor in show catalog. Clarence & Raquel won 2nd and 3rd place in the Fife Section, which was among the Division 2 Type Canaries.

Robert and Pattye Roberts served as president and secretary during 1990's when IFFCA members earned a separate Division for the Fife Fancy Canary. *See IFFCA ad in that year's NBS show catalog on page 8 of this newsletter.*

INTERNATIONAL FIFE FANCY CANARY ASSOCIATION

Chairman	President	Hon. Secretary
F. Jacobs Esq.,	T. Wyatt Esq.	CLIFF HARRIS
		32 Bernwood Road
		Headington, Oxford OX3 9LF
		Telephone 62505



Dear Mr King,

Very many thanks indeed for the very nice Rosettes received from you on behalf of the Fife Fancy Club of America.

Hope they will meet with your approval also hope they will be on time for your shows.

Yes as you say the controversy is over played on the new show cage, but the show season will speak for its self when we the I.F.F.C.A. put them on the bench, however will keep you in touch to let you know how they will go.

Very please to hear you are having a good breeding season I have had a good season with some very good ones but the show bench will tell.

I shall be sending a report to Cages Birds so will put the exchange Rosettes from America with our club show specials Hope these rosettes meet with your approval, and hope we can do the exchange every year.

A list of Club Show specials for November enclosed.

Hope all of your family and birds are in good health will close wishing you a very successful 1983 show season.

Yours in the Pancy.

Cliff Harris
Cliff Harris.

Gen Sec; International Fife Fancy Canary Association.

The Fife show cage was designed by Bill Gibson and accepted as the North American show cage in Feb 1983. Jones, King with the members of IFFCA wanted a shorter distance between perches and to have the bird display higher in the cage. Perches in the Gibson Fife cage have the cut edges facing up as it raises the bird higher into the center of the cage for better viewing.

The [Club History](#) web page can be found under the Membership Tab.

**William Jones
remains a member
of IFFCA!
Thank you, Bill!**



Back row R to L: Adam Raine, Brian and Brilee Cabral, Daniel Antonio and Jeremy Faria

Front row R to L: Arthur Medeiros, Elias Antonio, Keith Ferry, and Luis Belchior



Top Ten of the Fife Fancy Division at the 2024 National Bird Show, under judge Adam Raine (UK):

- 1 - Niall Hyde
- 2 - Daniel & Elias Antonio
- 3 - David & Edith Benites
- 4 - Arthur Medeiros
- 5 - Jason Gutierrez
- 6 - Jason Gutierrez
- 7 - Daniel & Elias Antonio
- 8 - Daniel & Elias Antonio
- 9 - Daniel & Elias Antonio
- 10 - Elias Antonio



Deb Whidden meets
the judges before
their connecting
flight into Knoxville.





Affiliated Clubs Shows



New York Colorbred Club October 2024

Fife Winners

- 1st -- Jason Gutierrez
2nd -- Arthur Medeiros
3rd -- Winfield Checkley



South Eastern Mass Canary Club November 2024

Fife Winners

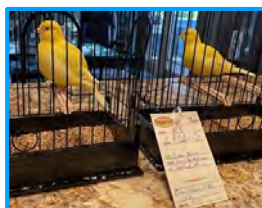
- 1st -- Luis Belchior
2nd -- Arthur Medeiros
3rd -- Arthur Medeiros



Columbia Canary Club October 2024

Fife Winners

- 1st -- D. White
2nd -- D. White
3rd -- Dan Pitney

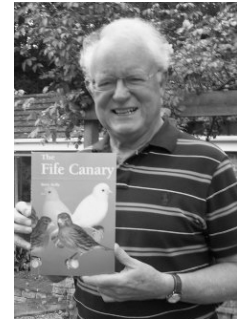


Selecting Fife Canaries to Keep

-- By Terry Kelly

The words here have been greatly condensed from the author's article on Mr. Kelly's website. Please read the complete article to gain Mr. Kelly's original intent.

<https://www.fifecanaries.com/selection1.htm>



Rule Number One

When sorting out canaries to retain: keep the flighted birds which have produced the best youngsters. Although with good line breeding management these should be your best birds anyway.

Having done that, I place all my clear yellow cocks in training cages and choose the best two or three for retaining, remembering always to check on their parentage. If in doubt choose ones from the flighted birds you are to retain because they will probably produce the best youngsters, just as their parents have already done so.

With the Fife the starting point for its "type" is the small overall round shape which is required. Wherever you look at a Fife from any angle think in circles. Think round footballs and not rugby balls (soccer balls, not footballs for our transatlantic fanciers!). Rugby ball shaped canaries were fine years ago, but not today.

The first thing I do is place all the training cages on the floor. This is the easiest way of picking out the overall round birds. Discard any flat sided ones – they're of no use to you in the breeding room or on the show bench. Although, from sideways on in a show cage this fault is not as easily identified. Fifes are exhibited in all wire cages so judges can (or should!) look at the bird front-ways on, instead of putting them on the floor to see this roundness, which at a show is rather unrealistic.

Rule Number Two

Pick out for further scrutiny the Fifes whose width across the shoulder is two fifths their overall length.

This is easier to achieve in the hens, particularly the yellows, but it's something to aim for in order to achieve that lovely round shape we desire in all our birds.

Once the training cages have been placed back on the training bench look for the Fifes who have a lovely round back. Look for an excess of back if necessary, because on the show bench a lack of back will disappear when "worked" by a judge. Conversely, you don't want too much curve on the front, and the line from the beak to the under-carriage should be a continuous line downwards – not a boat shape! That grand old fancier, the late Jim Feather, used to say to me "look for as much on the back as you have on the front". Today you want more emphasis.

The head too should be as round as possible although in such a small bird this is easier to achieve in the buffs. The final area and possibly most important in this overall assessment of roundness is that positive break between the back of the head and the start of the curve on the back.

SIZE

A lot has been written and spoken about regarding the size of the Fife. Much of which would have been better unsaid. In theory, the aim of the Fife breeder is to have show birds no longer than four and a quarter inches long.

Many of the top fanciers prefer larger cocks (particularly buffs) when it comes to breeding provided they have the type and quality. Big typey buff cock birds produce quality small yellow hens. So if in doubt, choose a



slightly larger cock bird for breeding providing it excels in all other areas

When I'm selecting my Fifes to retain I'm conscious of some of the inflexible attitudes to size, especially in Fifes. We all want small birds, as no-one will go far with big birds, but type must be the top criteria when choosing for showing and/or breeding. Occasionally they can be mutually exclusive.

WINGS AND TAIL

Poor wings ruin a good bird whatever the breed.

What you want to see is as little as possible of the wings, because they don't fit in with the overall roundness concept. They also complement the round arching back – if Fifes only have a round back, which doesn't reach the rump, then the wings will be prominent and show too much; if the rounded back is complete and full then the wings should only show their tips. We'll then have the overall round shape we're looking for.

Similarly a poor tail ruins a good Fife.

A broad tail detracts from the width of the shoulders and makes them look narrow. It also makes the fork in the tail far too large. Like any other fault, birds with this fault should be discarded - although it is possible to work on a bad tail if the bird has other exhibition qualities.

Occasionally a bird will pop up with one bad wing, and I had such a case a couple of years ago. The wing was dropped but it was otherwise a first class Fife bred from good parents. Its siblings showed no such fault. As a consequence I retained it, as without this fault it would have been a good show bird. All its youngsters had perfect wings. As with all faults, if they are minor they can be bred out. So always look at the breeding potential of any bird before making a decision, particularly if the bird's siblings don't have the fault.

COLOUR

By this I mean the depth and quality of colour, particularly in the clear line.

In clears you should be looking for that beautiful deep buttercup yellow, particularly in the yellow cocks but even the buff hens should have a background of buttercup yellow. Once a line has been established of clear and lightly variegated Fifes then it should be easy to tell the cocks from the hens in both yellows and buffs. This is because the cocks will have the deeper colour, as well as being slightly longer and not quite as round. You cannot apply this rule when judging at a show, as different fanciers have different quality of colour. It's not easy to spot the cocks in hen classes, although a poor coloured Fife in a clear cock class will either be a hen, or should be marked down for colour in any case.

STEADINESS

This can still be a problem with Fifes.

They are more active than most other breeds of canaries and are more likely to fluster when worked by a judge. The active nature of the Fife is one reason why a good show bird needs some extra roundness on the back as the back will soon go if worked by a judge.

Some Fifes have a calmer temperament and I find the hens to be that little bit steadier.

A few Fifes don't take to a show cage, but these are getting fewer, so treat any wildness as a fault when considering which Fifes to retain.

QUALITY

Some Fifes, or other breed of canary, have an overall quality which goes beyond the other strengths I've listed. It could be the feather quality, the sheen on the plumage, the movement, or more likely the position of the legs when on the perch. Whatever it is, it's obvious in some canaries and should be considered when making your final selection of birds, particularly if it's siblings have the same strengths. ■

International Fife Fancy Club of America NBS 2024

Report on the Continued Work of IFFCA

1995 -- The First Fife Fancy Division at NBS was a result of the work of IFFCA members to meet the requirements for a separate division by maintaining a high level of Fife exhibits.

2022 -- An Executive Board began work on a new **Logo, Website, By-Laws**, and newsletters.

2023 -- Work continued to provide service to ALL members. We added an online Annual Membership Meeting and a Nomination/Election process enabling participation by all members.

2024 -- Membership is increasing with a 2024 membership of 49.

We added an Affiliated Clubs program which we are happy to say has been a success with six exceptional clubs joining us. A monthly Fife Chat has begun. A Breeder List has been added to our website. We have listed our club goals as:

- Encouraging champion breeders,
- Educating novices, pet owners and the public, and
- Promoting the Fife Fancy Canary.


2025 -- There are plans for increasing service to members and Fife owners. “Stay Tuned” by joining our Facebook Group or signing up for news from our website!

**International
Fife Fancy Club
of America**

**1994 ROSETTE WINNERS
BEST FIFE IN SHOW**

NATIONAL
 Bob & Pattye Roberts (Kellogg Trophy)
 2nd - Jodi Jaffari - (MD)
 3rd - Javier Alcaraz - (CANADA)
 4th - Hannibal Shahbaz - (TX)

LOCAL
 Frank Avoledo
 Fred & Gaila Barke
 Bob Campbell
 Ron & Carol Casper**
 Curt & JoAnn Chettinger
 Ella Galik
 Bill Gates
 Michael Gerth**
 Jackie Hite
 Jodi Jaffari
 Clarence & Raquel King
 John Kowalczyk
 Shirley Landkamer**
 Glenn & Lois Maher***
 George McGinnes
 Scotty McNiff
 Bob Monnahan
 Terry Poche
 C. Scotty Rattray
 Ron Rattray**
 James T. Rosshirt, DVM
 Mac & Karen Saedi
 Gliserio Santiago
 Lew & Ellen Sheldon**
 Stan Singleton
 Steve Slates
 Raymon Williamson
 Darrell Wilson
*more than one show



**1995
NBS Ad**

SECRETARY
 Pattye Roberts
 11614 January Drive
 Austin, TX 78753-2922
 (512) 836-7116

DUES
 \$10.00 - Single
 \$15.00 - Dual

NEWSLETTERS
 IFFCA LEG BANDS
 FIFE SHOW CAGES --
 SCORED PERCHES
 FIFE PINS - BOOKS
 IFFCA ROSETTE
 (available upon
 request)



GET INVOLVED!

Photos and VIDEOS of the 2024 National Bird Show
Fife Division are on our public Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553162886119>

We have TWO Facebook accounts.



We have a PRIVATE group AND
We have a PUBLIC page.

JOIN our group, and FOLLOW our page



Photos, Articles and Information on All Topics
Membership Surveys, Affiliated Clubs, and more.

Visit Our Website.

Sign up
to be notified
when we add
new INFO!

Articles and Information

News and Announcements

Members' Area Password is canola.

internationalfifefancyclubofamerica.com OR iffca.net



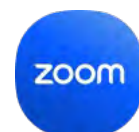
IFFCA Newsletters

arrive in your email or by mail!

(Catch up with the newsletter archive on our website!)

Fife Chat

dates announced each newsletter!





Supply Order Form

Bands (25 for \$15)
_____ Multiples of 25 \$ _____

IFFCA Club Pin (\$15 each)
_____ each \$ _____

Show Cage Drinkers (\$1.25 each)
_____ each \$ _____

Show Cage Perches (contact for price)
_____ each \$ _____

Band Cutters (AvianID, UK)
(\$38, shipping included)
_____ each \$ _____

SHIPPING:
Bands only (\$3) \$ _____
Drinkers, perches and pins (\$6) \$ _____

Membership (from right) \$ _____

Breeder Listing (right) \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

☐ Check ☐ CASH ☐ Zelle

Fill in Name & Contact Info on right
if ordering bands/supplies separately
from membership.

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Band Numbers _____

Form and Payment Received:

_____/_____/_____

IFFCA Membership Application

Date _____

I apply for membership in the International Fife Fancy Club of America and agree to the Bylaws of the Club.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Will you grant us permission to print your contact information in the IFFCA Newsletter? **Yes** **No**

Do you prefer delivery of newsletter by email or by postal mail USPS? **Email** **USPS mail**

Digital pdf versions will include additional material, not included in the print newsletter, and will be available on our website, in addition to being sent as emails.

One Year Membership - \$30

Check one: ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Membership is Jan 1 – Dec 31.

Memberships submitted on/after November 1st shall be paid up for the remaining two months of the current year and the next year. Renewing memberships are payable by February 28th.

BREEDER LISTING on the website, in our newsletter, and in various publications available to the public, to run concurrently with membership: **\$10**

Make check or money order payable to: **IFFCA**

Please mail this form with your payment to:



Susan Bergel
IFFCA Treasurer

286 Hite Road
Kearneysville, WV 25430

*By-Laws, Officers, News, Show Details,
Member Resources and Information may be found on our website.*