A Bird’s Eye View

From the Prez

I really learned a lot from Fran Sturms at the last meeting. I have removed the skirts from my cages and that alone has saved precious time. I think that the best timesaver that I have is my robot vacuum. It doesn’t pick up everything, but it gets most of the debris.

In November Bonnie Kenk is returning for some soul searching from all of us. Please plan to attend this meeting.

This has been a very interesting month. I have had Mari’s Grey, T-Rex, with me after his surgery by Dr. Molnar, to place pins in his broken leg. The break was sustained after a fall from his foraging tree, caused when workers were on Mari’s roof. He would not have been with me except Mari had surgery of her own and wasn’t quite up to T’s needs. This experience has emphasized some things that we need to practice for these unplanned bird emergencies.

1. Do you have your veterinarian’s phone number on speed dial? This is when you need to have a relationship already established with your doctor.

2. Can you give oral meds to your bird? We found that T will take his meds on his French toast. My birds all will take from a syringe. It is a good idea to train all your birds to take treats from a syringe so that meds will be easy to administer.

3. Do you know all of the safety measures for your friend if he/she is in a collar? Can your bird get at his/her food and water? Can you weigh him/her daily to make sure that enough food is consumed? Remember that some medications will upset the stomach and food intake may be less than normal. This is a time to know your bird’s favorites so that he/she can be spoiled and get the proper intake.

4. Do you have a friend who can help if you can’t handle your bird or don’t have the time away from work to nurse your friend? Something happens. T was ready to come home until he found a way to pull one of the pins from his leg. These birds can’t be left unwatched when they are compromised, (wearing a collar, have pins, sutures etc.) You may need a friend to help to clean a wound or change cage papers.

5. Do you have an emergency fund for veterinary care? Our economy is not very good, and you need to keep a little extra for pet emergencies. Many companions are given up when care is too expensive for the owner.

(Continued on page 2)
(Continued from page 1)

Please forward your e-mail address to Ruth (voltrot@aol.com). We need to keep a current file for emergencies like the recent fires. I’m sure we all would like to know that help is just a call or e-mail away.

Remember our Holiday Party on December 19. This is a Potluck, and we will have a fabulous giant Raffle. We will also have a Special Birdie Bazaar so you can shop for your feathered friends.

Linda

Bonnie Kenk, our speaker for this month, is the Founder and Executive Director of one of the most successful parrot rescue organizations in the United States, Parrot Education & Adoption Center (PEAC). Headquartered in San Diego with chapters in Anchorage, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, PEAC began helping parrots in April 1996. Bonnie quickly realized that the reason most parrots lose their homes is because their owners did not take the time to educate themselves about parrots before making the choice to share their lives with one. Because of this, PEAC was one of the first rescue organizations in the United States to begin a monthly educational program for people with companion parrots. And the educational program remains the major emphasis of the organization.

Several years ago, PEAC was awarded a major grant from The Pet Care Trust. The monies from this grant allowed publication of Bonnie’s book "How To Start And Maintain A Successful Parrot Rescue Organization" which has sold close to a thousand copies. Her new book "Giving Parrots A Second Chance" has recently been published and has received rave reviews.

Bonnie will talk about things to think about before bringing another bird into the house. This should be another terrific talk from Bonnie. See you on November 21.
We welcome Bonnie, founder of PEAC, back to WVBS. If you are planning to add a parrot or another parrot to your life, these are the things that you need to take a very honest look at BEFORE bringing the bird into your home. The Number One reason parrots are given up to a new home is change in life style.

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The List Worth Being On!
Stay informed and keep up with all that's happening!
Get on our list.
While chasing prey, this big guy hit someone's glass sliding door so hard he actually cracked the glass! There was an imprint of his face on the glass door. The teenager in the house called a friend of mine to tell her what had happened, and she said her parents told her to let nature take its course - that the bird was dying and that's the way it goes... My friend quickly got in her car and went and picked up the owl and drove him here at 11:00 p.m. He had blood coming from his mouth and nose and was limp. We quickly inserted a catheter and gave him fluids and anti-inflammatory for shock and pain. It has been a bumpy road but here he is a week later! He is standing for the first time, and he even fed himself last night.

It goes to show you...these guys are amazing. Can you imagine if you got into a car crash and your head cracked the windshield?

Brenda Varvarigos, Valley Wildlife Care
www.valleywildlifecare.org
NUNEATON, England, April 8 (UPI) -- The owner of a wildlife sanctuary in Nuneaton, England, says a young parrot has been teaching foul language to its avian brethren.

Geoff Grewcock, owner of the Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary, said 7-year-old Macaw Barney apparently learned his profane vocabulary from a previous owner and has been teaching the naughty words to other talking birds, The Daily Mail reported Tuesday.

"I knew that Barney could swear but what has happened is shocking," Grewcock said. "He's been teaching the other two when we had our backs turned. It sounds like a builders' yard, with all the abuse flying about."

"We have got another African Grey called Sunny who squawks 'shut up' at them when the swearing starts -- but they don't take any notice," he said.

Grewcock said workers at the sanctuary have tried to curb Barney's bad linguistic habits, but to no avail.

"We have tried everything to get Barney to curb his language and now we have got another two to contend with," he said. "These birds can live until they are 70 so there are potentially another 60 years of this to contend with."

---

**Come hear Dr. Irene Pepperberg, author of**

**Alex & Me:** How a Scientist and a Parrot Uncovered a Hidden World of Animal Intelligence -- and Formed a Deep Bond in the Process

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**Alex & Me**

by Irene M. Pepperberg

Collins; On-sale: October 2008;

Hardcover; $24.95;

ISBN 0061672475
ONEONTA, NY - A banana-wielding bird-watcher and a veterinarian recently helped reunite a Macaw with his owner. Wiseguy, a Severe Macaw, owned by Nadine Karns, accompanied her outside on September 20. Her husband, Roger Karns, started a chainsaw nearby, startling the parrot into flight, Karns recounted Wednesday from her Swart Hollow Road home.

"And that was it," Karns said. Wiseguy flew off into the woods of Franklin Mountain. "I found him twice," said Karns, who has had Wiseguy for about 10 years. But she said she couldn't coax him down from where he was perched high in the trees.

With the nights turning colder, Karns said she was worried he wouldn't make it. Severe Macaws are native to the equatorial region of South America. Like many parrots, Severe Macaws can mimic the sounds they hear, including human speech.

On Wednesday, about a mile away from Karns' home, bird-watchers were participating in the annual Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch at the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society Sanctuary. During the Hawkwatch, bird-watchers try to spy and catalogue the many species of birds of prey that migrate through the valley - Cooper's Hawks, Golden Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Bald Eagles, and more. But on that day, the bird-watchers encountered a species not seen before at the sanctuary - a Severe Macaw, said Andy Mason, a member of the society who helps coordinate the Hawkwatch.

One of them, Richard Hendrick of Washington state, was able to coax the bird out of a tree using a banana from his lunch, Mason said. "The bird promptly flew down and landed on his shoulder, where it devoured the fruit and remained the rest of the day," Mason said.

Hendrick and another bird-watcher, Steve Hall, contacted the Community Veterinary Center in Oneonta, and someone was sent to retrieve the Macaw, Mason said. "The veterinarians at the clinic checked the bird out and it was found to be healthy," Mason said.

"A bird's words find its owners." Over the next few days, the clinic attempted to find the owner via advertisements and phone calls. But it was Wiseguy himself that provided the clue. "After a few days, the bird began talking," Mason said. Wiseguy repeated the same names over and over, he said.

The Macaw's story has another twist. It turns out that one of the veterinarians at the clinic, Trevor Ostrander, is Nadine and Roger Karns' tenant. He was able to deduce the bird might be theirs because of the names and asked the couple about it, Mason said. The names Wiseguy repeated over and over again were "Roger" and "Adam," which is the name of the couple's son. The Macaw and the Karns were reunited nearly a week after his disappearance.

"This is unbelievable," said Nadine Karns, as Wiseguy perched on her shoulder. She said she had given up on her bright-red pet and was hoping his death came quickly at the claws and beak of a migrating hawk instead of exposure or starvation.

"This thing has got nine lives," she said. About five years ago, Wiseguy disappeared in a similar manner but was eventually found and returned, Karns said.

"We used to own Roger Karns Ford and we took him to work," she said. The parrot can be annoying sometimes, Karns said, but he was a hit with the customers.

http://www.thedailystar.com

NEONTA, NY

Nadine Karns holds her Severe Macaw, Wiseguy, outside her home in Oneonta on Wednesday. (Star photo by Brit Worgan)
Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 7:30 p.m.

Culver City American Legion Hall
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Thanks to everyone who helped set up the room at our October meeting: Jennifer Kain, Sandra Bueno, Dj Blanchette, Linda Buesching, Vaughan Rider, Andrew Pacheco, and David Barrett. Thanks also to everyone who donated to the Clean Up Bucket. Jennifer took it around the room and collected $30! Remember, we have to pay the facility to clean up. Please bring poop papers for your bird and do not put them on the backs of chairs.

Remember—please send photos of your bird to the editor at voltrot@aol.com. Do you have a nice story about your bird? Please send those in also.

The club collects old magazines which we sell at the Bird Mart. Please bring anything you are done with to the next meeting. Just give them to a Board Member.

This is your newsletter. If you have any articles to share, please send them to me at voltrot@aol.com. Why not just write a little something about one of your birds - something cute it does, etc.
Josh Keen just won $500 and a year's supply of duct tape. He's pretty excited about the tape. After all, it will feed his hobby of making hats, wallets, flowers, knickknacks, flags and other items from countless rolls of tape.

His most recent project, a parrot costume, won him first place in the Henkel Corp.'s Duck Brand Duct Tape Stick or Treat Halloween Costume Contest.

"I've always liked duct tape," said Josh, 17. The Rampart High School senior plans to attend Colorado State University and major in English, with an emphasis on creative writing.

For most of his life, duct tape was a practical thing. He used it to make book covers and repair things. Then, early this year, he was browsing online and saw a duct tape rose. He was hooked. He made flowers and little animals, such as a penguin and a parrot. He joined the online Duck Tape Club and got more creative.

The club sent a notice about the costume contest, and he decided to enter. Because use of color was one of the judging criteria, he went with a parrot. He didn't make a pattern or draw a design - after all, he'd already made a miniature one. "I just decided I was going to make a parrot and started putting tape together and made a bird," he said. "The beak was pretty hard."

He worked on it about two months, on and off. He doesn't know how much tape he used or how much it cost; he'd just run out for more tape when he needed it. He used Duck brand, though the contest doesn't require it. "They have the most colors," he said. Twenty colors, to be precise.

He was notified last week that he'd won first place. The top three finishers will be posted today on the Web at www.ducktape.com.

Josh wasn't sure about his Halloween plans, but said he'd likely wear the parrot costume to school Friday. He also hasn't decided on his next project, but said that because it's his "obsession," there will be something. "I have to do something with that case of Duck tape," he said. And how many rolls are in there? "I don't know," he shrugged. "They said $50 worth. It doesn't matter. If it's duct tape, I'm happy."

http://www.gazette.com/Colorado Springs
The Confused Crow That Thinks It's a Dog

With his sleek black feathers, sharp beak and wings there would seem to be little disputing the facts: this is a crow. It’s just a shame no one has got round to explaining that to Jack – the bird that thinks he’s a dog. When the Notaro-Livingstone family first discovered their confused pet, he was too small to fend for himself and so they took him in and cared for him.

But after just ten weeks of living with the family, the crow has some serious identity issues. Joe, 11 said: "I found Jack when I went fishing - he was so tiny and he couldn't even lift his own head. "I brought him home and we looked after him. And now he thinks he's a dog and he tries to protect us - he even jumps on the postman's head." The family, from Huntsworth, Somerset, already has five other dogs.

Jack will often disappear for the day but returns home to hop around the worktops and drink from the kitchen sink. Joe's sister, 12-year-old Cheryl, said: "Whenever we get in the car, he jumps in too because he wants to come with us. "And when mum comes back, he jumps on her lap like an excitable puppy. "He is stubborn but really thinks he is part of the family."
Hanky Panky While Mom and Dad on Vacation
Results in Unplanned Parronthood

The two little angels pictured to the left are Noreen’s darling Parrotlets. Boy Bird is the handsome bird on the left and Sky is the sexy lady on the right. These two have lived together with Noreen and Gary for 7 years with no thoughts of starting a family. They were both content to just be the kids. But, then Noreen and Gary went on vacation and while they were gone . . .

The biggest baby is Hubba Bubba and the smallest is Bug. There is another who will be called Princess because her mother is the Queen of the household. Congratulations to Noreen who is a new member of West Valley Bird Society!
According to Pliny’s “Natural History,” a raven who hailed the emperor Tiberius every morning became such a local hero that he was granted a funeral procession through the streets of Rome. In September 2007, an African gray parrot named Alex went out in even grander style. Obituaries and articles about the bird appeared in publications around the world, including The New York Times. But even before Alex was found dead in his cage at Brandeis University in Massachusetts, he had made his literary mark with a walk-on part in a novel, “Oryx and Crake,” by Margaret Atwood. Alex thereby joined the venerable, bizarre and surprisingly large club of talking parrots in literature.

The antics of parrots have long been deemed newsworthy, especially in Britain, where the BBC has covered dozens of supposedly true stories about them in the past decade. Almost every such report has been prefigured in a folk tale, novel or poem — even the life and achievements of Alex. “With ladies I learn, and go with them to school”: thus declaims a parrot in one of the oddest poems in English, “Speke Parrot,” which was written in the early 1520s by Henry VIII’s poet laureate, John Skelton. Alex would have sympathized. He spent three decades being taught by Irene M. Pepperberg and her research assistants, as Pepperberg recounts in her memoir, “Alex and Me,” which will be published later this month.

In 2006, newspapers revealed in the tale of Ziggy, an 8-year-old parrot in Britain who exposed the secret affair that his owner’s girlfriend was conducting with a man called Gary. Ziggy made kissing sounds when the name Gary was spoken on TV and said, “Hiya, Gary,” when the girlfriend’s cellphone rang. She broke down and confessed after Ziggy said, “I love you, Gary,” in an imitation of her voice. The revelation of female infidelity is in fact an ancient staple of parrot literature. In a 13th-century Spanish folk tale, which derives from an earlier Arabic one, a suspicious husband buys a parrot in order to keep an eye on his wife while he is away. Upon returning from his travels, he questions the bird, who reports that the wife was indeed visited by a lover. But she triumphs by tricking the husband into believing that the parrot is a liar, and he has it killed.

In a medieval French version of the tale, there are three parrot-spies, only one of which survives, by prudently assuring the wife that he has the wisdom to know when to remain silent. A modern variation on this theme — in a story by Robert Olen Butler, published in The New Yorker in 1995 — has a husband climb a tree to observe his wife in an act of infidelity. He falls to his death and is reincarnated as a parrot, which the wife then purchases from a pet store.

Both in literature and in life, parrots have been employed to bear false witness. In his memoirs, Casanova recounts how he bought one in London’s Smithfield market and trained it to say, “Miss Charpillon is more of a whore than her mother,” in order to exact his revenge on a pair of women who had attempted to swindle him. It was perhaps because of this incident that in 1939, Erle Stanley Gardner gave the name Casanova to the eponymous hero of one of his Perry Mason mysteries, “The Case of the Perjured Parrot.”

Gardner’s plot is spectacularly convoluted, though perhaps less strange than the tale of Apsethos the Libyan, which was apparently believed by several historians in classical times. Apsethos taught a flock of caged parrots to say, “Apsethos is a god,” and then released them all over the country in the hope that gullible folk would believe them. This ruse was allegedly foiled by a wily Greek who recaptured some of them and taught them to recite instead, “Apsethos compelled us to say that he is a god.”

The most celebrated parrot in 19th-century literature was itself apparently mistaken for God. This is Loulou, in Flaubert’s story “A Simple Heart” — which was partly inspired by a newspaper report of a man driven mad by unrequited love, who lived alone with a parrot that he came to regard as holy. Loulou’s owner, Félicité, is a pious and very unfortunate servant whose only consolation is her adored bird, which she somehow connects with the Holy Spirit. Flaubert describes how, on her deathbed, Félicité seems to see the heavens open to reveal a gigantic Loulou welcoming her up to paradise.

At least since the early Middle Ages, fictional parrots have been credited with unnatural wisdom and sometimes even foresight. An anecdote from the 13th century has the future emperor Charlemagne greeted by prophetic parrots similar to the witches in “Macbeth.” In later medieval European art and literature, parrots are often associated with the Virgin Mary or the Trinity, so it is perhaps not surprising that they seem to be popular with nuns. In a French mock-heroic poem from 1734, a pious parrot named Ver-Vert is the prize possession of a convent in Nevers. On a journey to another convent which wants to borrow him, he is mocked for his prayers and undergoes a personality change, opting for the coarse and ribald persona that is later found in the parrots of Mark Twain, Robert Louis Stevenson, Washington Irving and many other writers, not to mention endless reports from the BBC of embarrassingly obscene birds.

Sent home in disgrace, Ver-Vert emerges spiritually reborn after months of penance, whereupon the overjoyed nuns of Nevers shower him with candies, and he dies of indigestion. Plus ça change. In “Alex and Me,” Pepperberg quotes a condolence e-mail message sent to her from a priory of Benedictine nuns in Connecticut who have their own beloved parrot. The

(Continued on page 19)
Bring “poop paper” for your bird’s use.
Clean up after your parrot (poop and food).
Do not allow your bird to roam around at will (on chairs, etc.) or get close to other birds.
Clip those wings! Meeting hall doors may be open.

Bio-security may be in place at the meeting entrance.
Use antiseptic hand wipes before touching other birds—respect other parrots’ health.
Birds brought to meeting must be healthy and not have been treated for illness for 30 days.

Calendar of Events
WBS 2008-2009

- November 21 - Club Meeting - Bonnie Kenk
- November 30 - Everybody’s Bird Mart, Pomona
- December 19 - Club Meeting - Christmas Potluck, Giant Raffle, Birdie Bazaar
- January 16 - Club Meeting - Madeleine Franco
- February 20 - Club Meeting - Susan Hill
- March 20 - Club Meeting - Dave Weeshoff, IBRRC
- April 17 - Club Meeting - TBA
- April 17-19 America’s Family Pet Expo, Orange County
- May 22 - Club Meeting - Jordan Karubian, UCLA

Please take an active role with the club. It’s great fun. If you would like to help at any of the events, contact Linda at 661-803-1416.
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This year we are going to have our Annual Potluck and Giant Raffle. We are also going to have a Birdie Toy Bazaar! You will be able to buy lots of gifts for your birdie friends!

The $3675 which the Indonesian Parrot Project received from the showing of HOTSPOTS this past July was enough to pay for a large cage at Kembali Bebas. We do not have a picture of one of the large cages, but we are all glad we could help to make it that much easier to save the Cockatoos of Indonesia. You can read more about Kembali Bebas at http://www.indonesian-parrot-project.org/kembali.html. If you were at the club meeting in May, you will remember Bonnie Zimmermann showed us a movie of a recent Cockatoo release.
Seaside Garden Party

On Saturday afternoon, October 18th, the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary held its annual fundraiser. The Caribbean themed party was set in the lush grounds of Seaside Gardens, a nursery owned by Fred and Linda Wudl ten miles south of Santa Barbara in Carpinteria.

Chefs John O’Neill and Cory Clark created a tropical menu including exotic kabobs, spicy shrimp treats, amazing sweet & spicy meatballs, and other island favorites! Starbucks coffee was served along with luscious desserts from Jeannine’s Bakery and the Cheesepie Guys. The Tiki Bar was a major hotspot serving Parrot Punch & margaritas. Unkle Monkey and his band, in the island style of Jimmy Buffett, played well into the evening keeping everyone, including the birds, hip hopping along to the music.

Special appearances by some of the Sanctuary’s flock included Buddha the Black Palm Cockatoo, Junior the Hyacinth Macaw, Rosebud the Green-winged Macaw, Babu the African Grey, Bobby Houdini the Sulpher-crested Cockatoo, Diva Doodle the Moluccan Cockatoo, and many other feathered friends! To the audiences’ delight a few of the Sanctuary’s resident flock members performed with Director, Jamie McLeod: Houdini was hopping, Babu was bopping, and a cappella opera was sung by the infamous Yellow-naped Amazon, Kona.

A very special guest appearance was made by bird lover Maurice Benard aka “Sony Corinthos” of ABC’s daytime Soap Opera “General Hospital.” He was featured last year in Bird Talk magazine by Editor Laura Doering. We all loved meeting Laura and were thrilled to have her as our guest….Be sure to check out next month’s Bird Talk!

Patricia Volger, photographer extraordinaire, commemorated the event for both Bird Talk magazine and the Sanctuary’s guests by being everywhere, all night, with a smile and her camera. The happy faces of the guests smile back from her portraits as the Sanctuary parrots perch on their arms and shoulders. Dr Attila Molnar and family came to support the event as the Sanctuary’s attending veterinarian.

The Silent Auction tables offered many spectacular items. Bidding was hot and heavy on several “Wild Encounters.” Two very special items were a tour of Tippi Hedren’s animal park Shambala and the rare bird collection at the exclusive Webb Estate in Santa Barbara. Tickets to Dancing with the Stars went to one happy bidder. Other special items were jewels for the ladies, treatments to make you beautiful, romantic dinners, bountiful gift baskets for your birds, and much, much, more!

As the day turned to evening guests were treated to a beautiful Santa Barbara sunset accompanied by Unkle Monkey and the delighted squawks of the parrots……or maybe it was the guests!

Jamie McLeod
Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary, www.sbbird.org

All the photos are by Patricia Volger. Starting at the top the area: Seaside Gardens; Silent Auction; Attila Molnar, Maurice Benard & Jamie; Tiki Bar with Hyacinth, Junior, performing antics, to laughing faces of SBBS board members Chris Donnelly, Jamie McLeod, Tammy Channell, and volunteer Vaughn.
A Bird’s Eye View

(Continued from page 14)
priores writes of “these wondrous creatures who have shown us something more of God than we could have ever believed possible.” Perhaps go easy on the candies, ladies.

For some reason, death is a leading motif in 20th--century parrot fiction. Monty Python’s dead-parrot sketch is perhaps the most famous instance, but it is far from unique in its absurdity. As Bruce Boehrer notes in his literary study “Parrot Culture” (2004), the novels of Gabriel García Márquez provide a striking brace of examples. In “One Hundred Years of Solitude,” a man kills a parrot and places it in a pot of stew; and in “Love in the Time of Cholera,” a parrot emerges from a pot of stew in order to kill a man. Evelyn Waugh’s “Loved One” memorably records the death of Sambo, a parrot who belonged to the mother of the head undertaker at the Whispering Glades funeral home. And in “Wide Sargasso Sea,” Jean Rhys’s prequel to “Jane Eyre,” the life of Rochester’s first wife is saved by the death of her parrot.

Literary theorists have spun some complex tales of their own about the roles, symbolism and significance of talking parrots in prose and verse. It has been said that the parrots in French literature are always identified with language itself, that they subvert the notion of absolute truth and that they point the way to challenges to the status quo. At least one parrot, though, seemed to tire of the game of literary analysis and turned the tables on his interpreters. In “Zazie in the Metro” (1959), a novel by the playful French philosopher-writer Raymond Queneau, a young girl is accompanied on her adventures through Paris by a parrot called Laverdure. Laverdure responds to all occasions with the same — dare one say parroted? — remark: “Talk talk, that’s all you can do.”

Anthony Gottlieb

www.nytimes.com
Anthony Gottlieb is the author of “The Dream of Philosophy: A History of Philosophy From the Greeks to the Renaissance.”

Special Parrot Can Offer Humans Some Lessons

I recently bought a parrot, a mindless animal with an uncanny ability to vocally imitate the precise sounds of what it hears. It has no cognitive appreciation of what it utters, but by golly, it can enunciate words correctly and even string them together occasionally.

The parrot seems especially fond of the political pundits on the "fair and balanced" (wink, wink, nudge, nudge) Fox News Network. She becomes extremely excited, almost frenzied, when Sean Hannity or Bill O'Reilly pontificates.

But these gentlemen can't hold a candle to her favorite radio personality, broadcaster Rush Limbaugh. I don't mean to be indecent, but the fact is that she has soiled herself on more than one occasion while listening to Rush. Now, I know there are a number of people who feel the urge to throw up when listening to Rush, but her reaction is a bit over the top, don't you think? Oh, well, we all have our peccadilloes.

One day, I took my parrot to a parrot psychologist who told me my parrot is a typical parrot. I asked the parrot psychologist why my parrot incessantly repeated the same mindless, outlandish things over and over. He said because she had been listening to Hannity, O'Reilly, and Limbaugh, but then he said that she has an idea fixe, which is, I guess, psychological jargon for obsession.

He then emphasized that she is incapable of rational thought, can merely imitate what she has repeatedly heard, derives pleasure from it, and has no idea of what she is "talking" about.

"But why does she scream these things?" I asked. (I explained that I had heard other parrots squawk in a normal, non-agitated squawk.) "Because she has intense feelings," he replied. "She's got an attitude." Great. I've got a mindless parrot with an obsession and an attitude. Nevertheless, I have to admit that I do get a kick out of that colorful little birdbrain. She says the cutest things, although they are occasionally a bit embarrassing. Of course, she herself is not embarrassed because she doesn't really understand what she is saying — kind of like Sarah Palin.

I don't know if you've noticed how easy it is for a parrot to squawk "Barack, Barack" and then whistle. It's natural with them. My parrot has picked up "domestic terrorist," "socialist," "ACORN," (which she can't seem to say often enough) "spread the wealth," "not the truth," "raise taxes," "Chicago machine," and "hate America," among several others words and phrases.

For some time now, I have been lining her cage with the opinion pages of the Wall Street Journal and the American Spectator. I know this is freaky, but she has started squawking "William Kristol," "Bobby Tyrrell," "Fred Barnes," "right-wing wackos," "spread the slime," and "dangerous ideologues."

I'm getting a new parrot psychologist because the first one didn't see the potential in this bird. Not only can this parrot read, but she has also begun to think for herself. Would that all humans could.

Robert Reid,
Wisconsin Dells

http://www.wiscnews.com/bnr/
Baraboo News Republic
Wisconsin
 Introduced a year ago to the Mexican Senate, a bill that bans the capture and export of Mexican wild parrots was signed into law Oct. 14, 2008, giving environmentalists hope that endangered Mexican parrot species populations will recover from years of illegal trade.

After the Defenders of Wildlife and Teyeliz, A.C., presented a report in 2007 that discussed the damaging extent of the illegal parrot trade in Mexico, Congress took note. Titled "The Illegal Parrot Trade in Mexico: A Comprehensive Assessment," the report shared statistics that startled the Mexican government and inspired the Senate to pass the new bill unanimously. It declared that an estimated 65,000 to 78,500 wild parrots and macaws are captured illegally each year, with more than 75 percent of the birds dying before reaching a purchaser.

Juan Carlos Cantu Guzman, director of Mexican programs for Defenders of Wildlife, said he estimates that at least 50 to 60 percent of all illegal parrot trading will stop immediately once the bill takes effect. Over time, he expects the illegal activity to decline even further.

Those who continue dealing with the illegal bird trade and are caught with birds that inhabit natural protected areas of Mexico will face a jail sentence of up to 12 years. Already, the threat of government intervention has stopped some illegal. After word of the bill was first distributed to the Mexican public in newspapers, television and radio, Guzman noted a visible decline in wild parrots sold on the streets. Now that the bill is officially published, he hopes the effect will become even greater.

But while deterring the practice of illegal parrot trade is the primary goal of the bill, educating the public on the significance of the ban is also essential.

Parrots have been part of Mexican culture as far back as the Aztecs and Mayans; initially as a food source to use of parrot feathers in art. Keeping an exotic, wild parrot as a pet in the household is not uncommon among Mexican families, and trying to turn this culture around will be no simple task. Guzman said that although keeping captive-bred and legally imported parrot species will remain legal for Mexican citizens, owning a wild native parrot will no longer be an option.

"It's something that is going to take a long time for people to realize," he said. "Most of the species are threatened with extinction. If they keep demanding more Mexican parrots, illegal trade is going to continue, and most of the species will no longer be in the wild." Such species include Orange -fronted Parakeets, White-fronted parrots, Yellow-cheeked parrots and the Military Macaw, which are the most often trapped species.

To keep citizens informed and persuaded of the new ban, a bi-national public education campaign is set to begin soon to coincide with the passing of the new law and to help discourage the purchasing of illegal parrots on the streets. The campaign will be vast, said Peter Jenkins, director of international programs for Defenders of Wildlife. Hundreds of bus shelter ads will be placed at bus stops in major Mexican cities, and thousands of posters will also be distributed, along with comic books designed to educate children and resource guides for teachers. Videos will also be prepared for bus companies and taxis, and Guzman will also speak on the topic on his radio show. Based on a past outreach project led by Guzman that dealt with educating the public about sea turtles, the campaign has a good model to build on, Jenkins said. "We think that the law in combination with our major outreach in public education campaign will have a good effect," he said.
Safety and Avoidance

The first steps in treating an aggressive bird are to ensure the safety of everyone involved and avoid situations that trigger aggression. If a bird becomes aggressive in response to an action by the owner, then that action needs to be avoided. Aggression is rarely unpredictable—if a bird bites every time you stick your finger in the cage, don't stick your finger in the cage.

When asked, owners can often pinpoint predictable situations in which aggression occurs. Avoidance prohibits the bird from acting upon that aggression. Communication is a two-way street. If they want their birds to be less aggressive they must show the bird that they understand their actions.

The next step is to make interactions between bird and owner both positive and predictable. This involves teaching a cue, such as step up or step down, then using this as a means of initiating interaction with the bird. Only positive reinforcement should be used to teach these cues. Food is the easiest lure in teaching. This involves the owner luring the bird into doing a desired behavior for a desired treat. The bird must not be forced into behaviors.

The sequence is: The owner requests a behavior, bird responds appropriately, bird gets treat. Using visual cues makes this easier than trying to make the bird understand spoken words.

Training the bird not to be aggressive is a long process. Systematic desensitization and counter-conditioning are used. Repeating a situation that normally triggers aggression, and rewarding each small increment that the bird permits without aggression, usually works. If the owner triggers aggression during this process, then it may be necessary to backtrack several steps and work up to that point again. Reward calmness and halt the session before that point is reached again.

Another method is substitution. If a bird lunges when the owner goes to open the cage, teach the bird to go to the back of the cage for a treat while the door is opened. The bird cannot lunge at the door AND receive a treat at the back of the cage. In this instance, the reward is for the bird making the right decision.

Lori Gaskins, DVM, Dipl ACVB

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I must admit, I like sunflower seeds. I munch them raw and tamari roasted, in salads and on granola, as sunflower butter, even ground up and added to baked goods. It may come as a bit of a surprise to nutrition-oriented birdkeepers that I also like feeding sunflower seeds to my parrot flock. Most of the larger psittacines, especially the oil-loving Macaws and Africans, get some every day. I have spent more than 25 years studying various aspects of captive avian diet, and I have never encountered even one valid reason not to feed this nutritious item to birds. They all like them, the seeds are very good for parrots, and the shell cracking experience is a form of foraging.

Why is it then that I keep having conversations with birdkeepers who are quite terrified to offer this wholesome addition to their pets? Evidently the bad “rap” given to sunflower seeds by veterinarians and extruded diet manufacturers in the 1980s and 90s lingers in the minds of many aviculturists. Of course sunflower seeds have fat in them. And of course an obese bird should not be given too many fatty foods—or too much food for that matter. But then, I offer sunflower the last thing in most feeding days just before dusk, after sprouts and veggies and cooked beans, rice, lentils, etc. have been given in the mornings. Yes, a measured amount of sunflower seeds per each bird is a greatly appreciated and healthy treat for all my birds.

Let’s take a brief look at a nutritional analysis of sunflower. The fats in sunflower are more than 85% good fats, that is, the kinds that lower total cholesterol levels. They are a source of plant protein, very high in the antioxidant vitamin E, high in vitamin B-1, manganese, and good providers of B-6, B-5, copper, selenium, and folate. They also have fiber, iron and zinc; and are a supplier of plant phytosterols.

It seems to me no mere coincidence that in the historical past there were documented parrots living well into their forties and fifties eating a diet very concentrated in sunflower seeds. We now know that avian nutrition should not be so skewed towards an all-seed diet of course, but the point is, the seeds themselves did not shorten the parrots’ lives.

Dale R. Thompson, the noted aviculturist from Southern California once told me about a study completed 20 years ago that tested Cockatiels placed on specific seed-only diets. Safflower seed was the only seed that resulted in mortalities to the birds, Dale said, which is why he never fed safflower to his breeder aviaries, preferring sunflower. Even today, we limit any mixes with safflower seeds and find that many of our birds do not like them at all. This debunks the myth that persons who fear sunflower seeds should switch to safflower based mixes when offering seeds. In fact safflower is listed as 59% fat while sunflower is only 47% fat!

If you take the time to germinate such fat rich seeds 24 to 48 hours, you end up with a “greener” and more nutritious product—starches and carbohydrates are changed by enzymes to become more digestible vitamin, protein, essential fatty acid, and amino acid constituents. Safflower is one of our staple sprout seeds.

We do offer sunflower whenever we have a baby parrot to raise. At about age five weeks when we start feeding a chick taken from its parents, our commercial baby formula is mixed half-half with grains and nuts and adult pellets and other ingredients which we pulverize to powder in the blender. Raw hulled sunflower seeds from the health food store make up a goodly amount of these grains. They are great for putting on weight before fledging; they have a nutty taste that picky neonates beginning to reject typical commercial gruels take to quickly; and they help keep the droppings of the nursery chicks green and white and solid like the parent birds. When fledglings reach an age where they are getting more chunks in their formula fed with a plastic cup, shelled sunflower seeds are included whole. They stay with a baby longer especially overnight and are always totally digested.

In fact, all our large sunflower comes from the health food store in food grade 25-pound bags. It is much cleaner than the farm and pet store variety, has better developed kernels, and happens to be organic. This is all the black-stripe type; the whitish grey striped ones sold in many pet outlets are not preferred by our birds and we consider them inferior.

We also keep on hand the small black oil sunflower seeds which are salted into our small hookbill mixes that the Australian Paraakeets, small Conures, Lovebirds etc. eat at dinnertime. Smaller birds will crack the oil sunflower but will often avoid the larger kinds. It is no mere coincidence that Cornell University bird experts claim “In most areas, black-oil sunflower seed attracts the greatest variety of birds. It has a high meat-to-shell ratio and a high fat content. It is small and thin-shelled, making it easy for small birds, [such as the Tufted

(Continued on page 28)
Forgoing layovers and snack stops, a bird known as the bar-tailed godwit has broken the record established for the world's longest known nonstop bird flight, according to a new study. The honor goes to a female named "E7" that continuously flew 7,257 miles across the Pacific Ocean, breaking the previous record set by a Far-Eastern curlew, who flew 4,038 miles nonstop.

She didn't even glide. "Bar-tailed godwits use forward flapping flight and seldom ever glide," lead author Robert Gill, Jr., told Discovery News.

Gill, project leader of the shorebird research program at the U.S. Geological Survey, explained that climbing midair while gliding is costly in terms of energy for birds, so continuous wing-flapping surprisingly saves on "fuel." He and his team tracked multiple bar-tailed godwits as they flew from their summer breeding grounds in the western Alaska tundra to New Zealand, where they spend the rest of the year. Females were surgically implanted with transmitters, while males, which in this species are smaller and lighter, were affixed with external transmitters. The migrating birds' flights lasted between five and 9.4 days.

The findings, published in the latest issue of Proceedings of The Royal Society B, suggest that oceans, mountain ranges, deserts, ice fields and other vast, open spaces may not always be barriers to migration, as had previously been thought. Instead, like a fast lane on a low-traffic highway, they might provide some animals with optimal, near hassle-free travel routes.

So long as weather events follow fairly predictable patterns, the Pacific Ocean appears to provide such a preferable route for the bar-tailed godwit, which must load itself with fuel in preparation for the long journey. Before leaving Alaska in the early fall, the birds use their thin beaks to gorge themselves on food, such as tiny clams. "Their bodies can consist of 55 percent fat at this time," said Gill, who added that the birds still have a streamlined, airplane-like shape despite their "boxy appearance" in the midsection just before take off.

Both this study and prior work conducted by the team determined that the birds take advantage of low-pressure systems. "Tailwinds give them a nice, free ride for several thousand kilometers," he said. In flight, the birds also encounter few, if any, predators and avoid parasite infestations that can occur on land. Flapping for over nine days, though, does take a toll.

Rob Schuckard, who helped document E7's flight last year and is a team leader at the Ornithological Society of New Zealand, said it's "like running for a week," with the human equivalent being a super-athlete who could somehow sprint without resting at 43.5 mph throughout a week-long haul.

The birds may even burn protein tissue in addition to stored body fat during the flight, which adults make yearly throughout their 15- to 20-year lifespan, Gill said.

Both he and Schuckard are concerned for the godwit's future, however. In the mid 1990s, around 155,000 birds were recorded as having made the north to south trip, but those numbers have dropped to around 70,000 in recent years.

Gill said habitat loss has hurt the birds. Climate change remains an unknown factor. If storm patterns shift, the godwits "could get a better tailwinds push off," but there's also a chance the changes could lead to greater headwinds, delaying the migration.

"A La Niña event in 2007 did just that by short-stopping the flight of some birds in Alaska," said Gill, who hopes future studies will reveal more about the possible impacts of climate change on bird migrations, as well as how this species' efficient metabolism works.

"Physiologists couldn't help but be interested in the extreme abilities of this bird," he said.

Discovery Channel from msnbc.com
http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27322698/
There can be nothing more joyful than bringing your new baby parrot home and beginning a life together. Conversely there can be nothing more deeply inconsolable than to face the inevitable issue of death and dying with our animal family members. We love them and we have to let them go when it’s time for them to transition into the next reality, the next stage of the wheel of life.

People have a deep-seated fear of death, something that is completely foreign to animals as they view life and death as one continuous process. They really have no attachment to their bodies and examples of animals missing limbs and then carrying on within a few minutes as if nothing was different with their bodies mystifies human beings. How do they move past difficulties such as pain and suffering without holding onto trauma? How are they able to forgive someone who has wronged them? Why are we not? The answers to these questions lie in the difference in how animals view the world.

Animals do not have an ego or the part of the mind that gets attached to outcomes, needs to be right, has to control, fights for attention and gets in the way of loving others and experiencing connection with life. Animals experience the world as being connected and being able to live in the NOW. They understand it as it is without having to make it different or better. It is this lack of having an ego that makes us want to be around animals, to be experienced as we truly are and feel accepted with all our faults and weaknesses, bad hair days and empty bank accounts. Animals make us feel loved and appreciated in a way we seldom experience with our own kind. Animals, in this way, give us a gift of love.

When we are faced with a very sick bird and we know that what we can do might not save her life we must surrender to the fact that we must give up control. We feel helpless. This is a sobering moment. We must face the Creator. Knowing that animals view death often as a welcoming moment especially if they have suffered greatly in their bodies can be a great relief for humans. Allowing our animals to die is the greatest gift we can give them. A human who is terrified of the dying process will interfere with an animal’s wishes to leave his body.

Facing the death of our parrots is a difficult role for most people. Knowing your animal's specific wishes surrounding their death can bring incredible comfort to you at a time that is full of confusion and grief. Animal communication can help you to fully understand your animal’s wishes and give you a sense of closure by preventing negative assumptions that generate long lasting guilt.

Susan Hill is an Animal Communication expert. She has appeared on Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan and has been interviewed by the Pet Trend’s column on Animal Planet’s website. Susan can help you understand your parrot’s unique point of view as well as provide you with practical tips based on parrot behavior. To read more about Susan's experience of animal death you may visit: http://www.channelanimal.com/susan_hill; or call Susan Hill at: 949-309-0808.

Susan will be the speaker at our club meeting on February 20, 2009.
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In a country renowned for its safety, it is a shock to find there is a rogue killer parrot on the loose in the high country of New Zealand. New Zealand is known globally for its breath-taking scenery and safety in the bush. A place where you can wander happily without the fear of some dangerous species lurking in the shadows. Now however, there’s a deadly killer lurking in the shadow of the majestic Southern Alps.

The owner of a 20,000 ha of high-country sheep station, next to the Mt. Cook National Park, Ross Ivey, looks over his shoulder in fear, as he rides across his property. A rogue Killer Parrot is on the loose. A killer who prefers its food live. Several days ago Ross found one of his sheep had died from blood poisoning. The Kea had pecked through the skin of the sheep and eaten a kidney.

Only one of the few alpine parrots in the world, the Kea was granted protection in 1986, as only 1000 - 5000 still live in the high-country Alps, of the South Island of New Zealand. Federated Farmers high country spokesman, Donald Aubrey, said, "Kea attacks have long been a hazard for high-country farmers”.

Keas are extremely mischievous and inquisitive birds by nature. They have are proven to be able to solve logical puzzles, such as pulling or pushing objects, so as to be able to get to food. They have been also known to work in teams, so as to arrive at a particular objective. Keas frequently pick the rubber seal from around windshields on parked cars. They are counted as being the most intelligent of the bird species.

Farmers can no longer protect their flocks of sheep, by shooting rogue Keas. Understanding this, the Killer Parrot squawks in loud raucous delight. It now has its own private pantry. Acres and acres of wonderful live-meals-on-the-hoof.

Some suggestions are that the only solution to the feathered quandary, is to grab the Killer Parrot and move it elsewhere. "With the intelligence of the Killer Parrot and the ruggedness of the terrain, it is more than possible the Kea will find its way back to its living stock of food, no matter how far away it is transferred", says Ross Ivey.

Ross and the other farmers are fated to having to live with the problem and keep a watchful eye on their flocks, until the situation can be sorted out.

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**Fundamentals of Aviculture Level I** - By Rick Jordan & Barbara Heidenreich with illustrations by Lyrae Perry. This online course provides a foundation for the emerging science of aviculture. It is presented in nine chapters ranging from anatomy and physiology to avian behavior; from laws and regulations affecting aviculture to how to provide proper housing and prevent illness of birds in our care; and much, much more. It’s an online course, therefore no travel time, no dress code, no books! You can take the course at your own pace and, upon successful completion, you will be recognized on the AFA website and will receive a personalized certificate acknowledging your rank as AFA Certified Aviculturist, Level I. Go to http://www.afaeducation.com/ to enroll.
When weaning time arrives for a psittacine fledgling, it is given an assortment of nutmeats, veggies, greens, pellets, cooked rice, and the like which includes hulled sunflower. It is eaten in varying amounts along with other things and helps the birds ingest nourishment without having to shell anything larger than spray millets at a time when soft foods are best. Later we will begin to offer in-shell sunflower seeds in a mix to teach chicks dexterity in husking; though some babies will pretty much ignore it for the first several months, opting for easier items to feed upon.

Certain bird persons insist that sunflower seeds are “addictive” and that parrots brought up with them in the diet will avoid eating anything else. I find this totally false. I have never had a parrot ignore wholesome cooked, sprouted, and green foods in preference for dry seeds of any kind, except perhaps in the winter months or on very rainy days.

Some of our parrots actually prefer other seeds rather than sunflower. And on those occasions (mostly Sundays!) where we feed a totally dry treat and nut and seed and pellet diet with sandwich or waffles and selected fruit pips, it is not unusual to see sunflower seeds left over in a dish at the end of the day. I have adopted elderly pet parrots from other persons over the years—birds that were on a total seed diet to the detriment of their health. Certain species prone to overeating were obese and did tend to eat every sunflower seed placed in front of them. But I suspect this was due more to boredom in their former life than addiction of any sort, since when presented with a green raw and varied cooked diet here at The Perfect Parrot, every one of those psittacines adjusted well and gave up the former overeating habits.

Personally I find more birds unstimulated by the sameness of pelleted diets than by certain seeds in the diet. Incidentally, if you have a feather plucking parrot such as a grey or a blue and gold, and you are not offering the experience and nutrition of in-shell sunflower seeds, I would recommend them. They are a great oil supplement and beak-time occupier for most any pet!

Aloha, EB
If you missed the HOTSPOTS event in July, the film is being shown on PBS in November. It will be shown on two nights on the following schedule:

**HOTSPOTS**
“Rescuing Earth’s Most Threatened Species and Habitats”

Wednesday, November 12 at 10:00 pm KCET - Hotspots Part 1
Wednesday, November 19 at 10:00 pm KCET - Hotspots Part 2

The following businesses and people have supported the showing of the film, HOTSPOTS. Their generosity helped make the event a tremendous success.

A and L Painting (Armando Leon)
Animal Lovers Pet Shop
Jenny C Au, DDS & D. Jack Hsieh, DDS
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(Walter J. Rosskopf, Jr. DVM, Dipl., AVP-Avian)
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Frey Vineyards
Fran’s Hallmark Shop
The G2 Gallery
Giordino Dela Vita “Garden of Life” (Lisa Fimiani)
Go Earth (Paula Kassoul)
Here, There and Everywhere (Mira Tweti)
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Innisfree Irish Band (Terry Fleming)
Jungle Toys (Mike Keens)
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Dr. & Mrs. Attila Molnar
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Nails Etc. (Laurie Myhre)
Robert Newburgh
Omar’s Exotic Birds
J.P. Patalano (Scott Robinson Honda)
A Parrot for Life (Rebecca K. O’Connor)
Parrots Naturally
The Pet Care Company
Pets of Wilshire
Pawspice (Dr. Alice Villalobos)
Planet Earth Eco Café
Premium Pine Cones Ltd. (Madeleine Franco)
Dr. Leon & Janet Ragonesi
Shirley’s Grooming
N.L. & N.C. Simmons
Diane Sivas
Mike & Kathy Spencer
Dunham Stewart & Family (Shorewood Realtors)
Suzan Sullivan
Dr. Mona K. Tamboli
Nina Taylor
3 Phases Renewables
Title Wright (Diane Wright)
VCA Wilshire Animal Hospital
(Frank Lavac, DVM, Dipl. AVPB Avian)
Verna’s Toys
Voice 4 Hire (Chas Dowell)
Whole Foods Market – Redondo Beach
Whole Life Times
Wildbirds Unlimited (Mr. & Mrs. Bob Shanman)
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November Membership

New Members

No New Members

By sponsoring a NEW MEMBER, you get a chance to draw a Prize Card from our WVBS Glitter Board.

Membership up for Renewal?
Check date on mailing label!

Membership questions, changes, corrections?
Contact Fred Lucas via e-mail at lucast@socal.com.

“Attending Members Only” Drawing Winners
Jennifer Kain • Mari Johnson • Debbie Treadway

Sponsor a New Member & Win!

WVBS Membership / Renewal Application

Please print clearly

Today’s Date: ___________________________ □ New Member □ Renewal

I am applying for the following Membership (check one). □ Individual – annual dues $25
ütten. □ Senior Individual (65 +) – annual dues $15
□ Family – annual dues $30
□ Gold Supporter – annual dues $250
□ Silver Supporter – annual dues $125
□ Bronze Supporter – annual dues $75

Or, please consider one of the following if you would like to do a little more for West Valley Bird Society:

□ Platinum – Lifetime Membership – $350
□ Silver Supporter – annual dues $125
□ Gold Supporter – annual dues $250
□ Bronze Supporter – annual dues $75

All membership dues & donations are tax-deductible!

Last Name: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________ Birth Month: _____________

Complete this section only if you have checked “Family”, “Senior Family”, “Gold”, “Silver” or “Bronze” Membership:

Spouse’s / Significant Other’s Name: ___________________________ Birth Month: _____________

Children’s Name(s): ____________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ______ Zip: ___________

Home Phone: (_____ ) ___________________________ Work / Other Phone: (_____ )

Email # 1: ________________ Email # 2: ___________________________

(Optional) Sponsored by: _______________________________________

In the future, we may offer the club newsletter, A Bird’s Eye View, by email. In that event, would you like to receive the newsletter by email? □ Yes □ No

Would you like to participate in WVBS volunteer activities? □ Yes □ No □ Possibly

Note: the success of the Club depends on the volunteer efforts of members / bird lovers!

I am enclosing a check in the amount of $__________ for the Membership selected at the top.

Please make check payable to: West Valley Bird Society
Mail to: P.O. Box 8221
Northridge, CA 91327-8221

Members are asked to donate to our raffle at least twice a year.

We greatly appreciate your interest in the West Valley Bird Society, and hope to see you at the meetings!
November Meeting

Frank Miser, Jr.
Magnolia Bird Farm
“Australiian Adventure”

Information: 818-244-2230 or 626-335-2964

Meeting:
Sunday - 2 p.m.
November 16, 2008

No charge for guests.
Please join us!

Meeting location:
159 N. Cullen Avenue
(Between Foothill & Bennett)
Glendora, CA

5-Table Stuffed Raffle!

Long Beach Bird Breeders Club

Meets Fourth Tuesday of each month
7 p.m.
American Legion Hall
5938 Parkcrest Street
(South of Carson & East of Woodruff Ave.)
Long Beach
For Information call: 562-881-9847

Parrot Education & Adoption Center

PEAC is not taking in any parrots right now, but they do have a lot of nice birds ready to be adopted. There are classes going throughout the month. The San Diego location has classes the last weekend of the month. Classes in Orange County are on the third Saturday of the month. There is a new class now being offered in Hemet on the first Sunday of the month. Please check the website for topics, times, and directions.

Please contact PEAC at parroted@cox.net or go to the website www.peac.org for more information.
Buy, Sell, Trade

Do you have something you would like to “Buy, Sell, or Trade”? See page 27 for information on placing your own ad. Ads are free to WVBS members.

Adoptions

There are so many birds needing homes out there. If you are considering another bird, please think about adopting one. Call one of these rescue/adoption groups. They all have many wonderful birds just waiting for someone to come and take them home. Many of these groups have websites - take a look!


November Babies

Hal Bodner  Teresa Rees
Susan Botta  Delora Jean Stalnaker
Karima Diaz  Eugene Stalnaker
Grace Elliott  Carla St. Romain
Ronald Green  Sharrell Treat
Shelly Huggins  Barbara Vallaire
Michael Keens  Dann Weinoe
Diane Linger  Ingrid Windsor
Carlos Mella  Steve Windsor
Dr. Atilla Molnar

Wishing you happiness and good health on your Birthday and all the days after.

 Everybody’s Bird Mart  
Sunday, November 30 2008  
9:30 a.m.—4 p.m.  
Fairplex 4 at LA County Fairgrounds, Pomona  
General Admission $5  
Parking at Blue Gate 9 on White Avenue  
Preferred Parking at Sheraton Suites

SHOP at these stores, PRESENT your current MEMBERSHIP CARD, and receive a DISCOUNT!

Disclaimer: Discounts vary from store to store. Some products may not qualify for this discount program. Stores above not honoring current Membership Cards need to be reported to a board Member immediately. WVBS has no control over the percentage of discount or product exclusions. No discounts on live animals!
West Valley Bird Society offers education about birds and bird related topics and provides a forum for networking with people having similar avian interests.

2008 Officers and Directors

President  Linda Buesching  661-803-1416  
E-mail: lbuesching@thevine.net
Treasurer  Dawn Camacho  818-676-1333
Secretary  Debbie Treadway  818-988-5879
Director  Linda Lindsay  818-992-1811
Director  Hazel Lampe  818-761-9025
Director/  Dorothy Blanchette  818-993-9420
Parliamentarian

Appointed Positions & Committee Heads

Webmistress  Ruth Kain  310-377-0393
AFA Rep  Linda Buesching/Ruth Kain  661-803-1416
Hospitality  Hazel Lampe  818-761-9025
Membership  Fred Lucas  818-887-6416
Refreshments  Linda Lindsay  818-992-1811
Outreach  Linda Buesching  661-803-1416
Bulletin Editor  Ruth Kain  310-377-0393
Raffle Chick  Jennifer Kain
Raffle Chairman  Club Effort
Newsletter Proofer  Mary Crocker, Lorrie Mitchell, Sylvia Skidmore

Honorary Lifetime Members

Carol Haley  Charlotte Nierenberg
Dale Thompson  Nancy Vigran

Platinum Lifetime Members

Diane Bock  Kristin & Mark Moon
Laureen Mitchell  Delora & Eugene Stalnaker
Rose Blume  Patricia & Karl Volger
Audra & Steve Silon  Dj & Bert Blanchette
Linda Buesching  Dianna & Richard Stokotelny

Mission Statement

West Valley Bird Society Inc. is a qualified tax-exempt corporation under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3).

Paid Advertising Sizes and Rates

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<th>Size</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Business Card</td>
<td>$5/month or $25/year</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4 Page</td>
<td>$20/month or $200/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Page</td>
<td>$35/month or $300/year</td>
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Set-up charges for NON-COPY READY ads: $30

Rates are subject to change without notice.
Ads must be camera ready or .pdf, .psd, .jpeg, or .tiff format.
Contact the Editor at 310-377-0393 or e-mail to voltrot@aol.com

Buy, Sell, Trade ads are free to WVBS members. The fee to non-members is $5.00 per issue. Bulletins are mailed to all WVBS members and various clubs and businesses. Ads run for one month only and need to be resubmitted each month.

How to contact the Editor:
Phone: 310-377-0393  •  E-mail: voltrot@aol.com

WVBS membership runs for a period of 12 months starting from the month that you join. The date listed above your name on the mailing label is the month and year your membership expires.

Disclaimer and Editorial Policy

The West Valley Bird Society and its Editor assume no responsibility for omission of advertising or article material. Letters, articles, and editorials do not necessarily represent the official views of the club. They are presented for your information. We believe a wide variety of viewpoints are thought provoking and educational. WVBS assumes no responsibility with respect to quality or health of advertisers claims, birds, merchandise, or services whether sold, raffled, traded, or auctioned by this club or its members. With the exception of All Rights Reserved, copyrighted, and/or Reprinted with Permission articles, permission is given to avian organizations in our Exchange Program to reprint articles for non-profit use. Reprinted articles must state “Reprinted with permission of the West Valley Bird Society.”
November Meeting
Friday, November 21, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Bonnie Kenk
"Lifestyles of Successful Parrot Caregivers"

If your name starts with A-H
please bring something for the refreshment table.

Membership Up For Renewal?
Check Date on Mailing Label Below!

First Class Mail to: ______________________