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RDCBS' PET BIRD FAIR COMMITTEE:

Chairman: John Marquis Vendor Coordinator: Melody Appleby Hospitality Coordinators: Cindy Chappell and Laura Barwick Raffle Coordinator: Angi Parrish Shows Coordinator: Mendy Edwards Pet Bird Exhibition Coordinator: Terry Perry Registration: Judy Calhoun Handbook Advertising: Judy Calhoun and Laura Marquis Publicity: Carol Wilson Program Booklet Editors: Laura and John Marquis

A MESSAGE FROM THE FAIR CHAIRMAN

Welcome, I hope you enjoy our Twenty-Fourth Annual Pet Bird Fair, Fourteenth Annual Cockatiel Show, Eleventh Annual Lovebird Show, and our Parrot show. I am sure it will be an enjoyable and educational experience for you. This is a wonderful opportunity to appreciate the beauty and intelligence of the birds on exhibit, and learn about the joys of keeping birds and about their care. If you haven't already, please join the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society. The cost of membership is minimal in comparison to what you will learn and the friendships you will make with the fellow bird lovers in our club. I hope to see you at future meetings.

John Marquis, Bird Fair Chairman, RDCBS

Birdie Cupcakes

2 jars sweet potato baby food 2 jars mixed baby food 1 to 1 ½ cups bird pellets 3 eggs Preheat oven to 400. Place eggs (shell and all) and baby food to food processor or blender and blend. Add pellets and blend again until somewhat smooth. Prepare mini muffin tins with paper or olive oil spray. Fill muffins about 2/3rds full. Bake for about 15 minutes. Cool completely before serving.



THE RDCBS 2012 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Welcome, everyone, to the 24th annual Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society Pet Bird Fair! When RDCBS was founded and held the first ever pet bird Fair, its purpose is to help educate the public about birds and their care, as well as providing an opportunity for bird lovers to interact and have fun while shopping and exchanging stories and ideas. Over the years it has grown into a day-long celebration of all things "bird" with plenty of things to see and do for everyone to enjoy.

Please take the time to visit with our terrific group of vendors. Many of their items can't otherwise be found in the stores, so be sure to stock up. Visit our Pet Bird Display and find out what life is really like with that gorgeous macaw. The Bird Shows, running throughout the day, are competitions featuring some of the very finest of show birds from all over the nation and watching the judging is a very educational experience for both pet owners and breeders. Be sure to get your raffle tickets early and enter each of the raffles held during the day for your chance to win some great things for you and your birds. Remember that all of the profits raised during the Bird Fair from the raffles and tables rentals are donated in the form of grants for avian research and conservation.

Our Pet Bird Fair may be 24 years old but it's still faithful to the original plan of promoting good bird ownership and great fellowship among bird lovers of all ages. We hope you have a great time and will consider joining us at our monthly meetings to continue the good times!

Sincerely, April Blazich President, RDCBS

RULES GOVERNING BIRDS FOR SALE

- 1. Every bird must be evaluated by our on-site avian veterinarian before it can enter the building. Any bird judged by our veterinarian to be in ill-health must be removed from the premises. Non-psittacine birds will not be allowed to enter. Button Quail will be allowed for Show only.
- 2. All out of state birds must have a health certificate from a veterinarian from their state and a permit from NC.



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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE RALEIGH-DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY (RDCBS)

The RDCBS membership is comprised of over 100 families or individuals, including pet bird owners, bird breeders, pet store owners and employees, and veterinarians and their assistants and students. A large number of species are represented among members' bird families, with psittacine birds ranging from budgerigars to Hyacinth macaws and non-psittacines from finches to peafowl. The primary purposes of the RDCBS are to educate club members and members of the general public about the care and breeding of caged birds and about larger avicultural concerns such as captive propagation of rare and endangered species and conservation of avian species in their native habitats.

The club meets on the third Sunday of each month at 2:30 P.M. at the Glen Eden Pilot Park Community Building on the west side of Raleigh. Meetings include lectures, hands on activiaties or demonstrations on a variety of avicultural topics and also feature a "bird species of the month". Our meetings also provide a chance to cultivate friendships with other aviculturists and pet bird owners.

A bimonthly newsletter, *The Carolina Parakeet*, is published via e-mail for members and provides useful information on a variety of avicultural topics and current concerns. The RDCBS' educational outreach program includes its annual Pet Bird Fair held on the Saturday of the Memorial Day weekend each year. In addition, the RDCBS provides bird exhibits at the North Carolina State Fair and at special events of institutions such as the North Carolina Museum of Natural Science. Various members also provide educational demonstrations about cage birds for 4-H groups, school classroom projects or field trips, nursing homes, etc. The RDCBS is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization in accordance with IRS tax code section 501(c) (3). Thus, your donations to the RDCBS are tax-deductible. Information about RDCBS and avicultural topics of interest are also accessible online at RDCBS' Web site: http://www.rdcbs.org. This site includes the latest information about upcoming RDCBS events, selected articles from *The Carolina Parakeet*, and links to the Web sites of the aforementioned national societies with which we are affiliated.

2012 ELECTED OFFICERS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President— (Board Position) April Blazich—(919) 851-8079; aprilb@bellsouth.com Immediate Past President Carol Wilson – (919) 552-8856; legswilson@aol.com Vice President—Laura Marquis—919-266-0906; laura@jamcosys.com Secretary— Laetitia Ulick—Ihbernas@gmail.com Treasurer—Mike Kelly; mdtkelly@hughes.net Board ('09-'12) Wendy Edwards—(919) 219-8444; carolinaflight@aol.com Board Chair('10-'13) John Marquis---(919) 266-0906; john@jamcosys.com Board ('11-'14) Angie Parrish; angibird@juno.com Board ('12-15) Terry Perry—919-639-4575; tpandcharlie@embarqmail.com

COMMITTEES/APPOINTEES

Monthly Meetings: Educational Program Director—Carol Wilson - (919) 552-8856; legswilson@aol.com Visitor Orientation/Introduction—Judy Calhoun – (919) 488-7949; jcalhoun5@nc.rr.com Meeting Refreshments— Cindy Chappell—779-1206; c7791206@mindspring.com Raffles—Angi Parrish—336-269-3934 angibird@juno.com Photographer—OPEN "The Carolina Parakeet" Editor— Carol Wilson – (919) 552-8856; legswilson@aol.com Webmaster—John Marquis---266-0906; john@jamcosys.com Renewal notices/New member packets— Laetitia Ulick—Ihbernas@gmail.com RDCBS T-Shirts—www.RDCBS.org RDCBS Nametags-www.RDCBS.org Librarian—OPEN Legislative Issues—Cindy Chappell—779-1206; c7791206@mindspring.com; Laura Barwick - 876-8192 lbirdog@hotmail.com Web Master – John Marguis – 919-266-0906; john@jamcosys.com Educational Outreach: Bird Fair Chairman—John Marguis---266-0906; john@jamcosys.com NC State Fair Coordinator—April Blazich—851-8079; aprilb@bellsouth.net, Grant Requests Coordinator—Sharon Dvorak—266-4935; sldvorak@nc.rr.com AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVES: American Federation of Aviculture (AFA)-April Blazich—(919) 851-8079; aprilb@bellsouth.com Cindy Chappell—779-1206; c7791206@mindspring.com World Parrot Trust (WPT)

GET INVOLVED! FOR THESE AND MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT THE DIRECTORS ABOVE

OR

www.RDCBS.org

RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY PO Box 32291 Raleigh, NC 27622





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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE RDCBS

In the late 1970's, a Raleigh woman, Helen Brock, developed an interest in raising caged birds. By 1985, she had a large flock of cockatiels and other parrots. Over a nine-year period in which she established this flock, one fact had become clear-there was a general lack of knowledge regarding health, nutrition, housing, and other needs of many species of birds. Thus, Helen took it upon herself to organize a club comprised of caged bird enthusiasts, who could share their knowledge and experience for the benefit of all. The first meeting of the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society was held in March of 1986. By the end of the first year, monthly meetings were being attended by about 10 to 15 members. Our first Pet Bird Fair was held in 1989. This fair has become an annual event which has grown with the club. Through the fair, RDCBS has raised thousands of dollars for avian research and conservation, generated national recognition for the club, and attracted many new members. Among members attracted by our first fair were April Blazich, Cindy Chappell and Laura Barwick. Through their efforts and efforts of several others, the RDCBS developed affiliations with several national societies, including the American Federation of Aviculture. By 1991 RDCBS organized and hosted a two-day educational seminar series on avicultural topics for a statewide consortium of bird clubs (Bird Clubs of North Carolina; BCNC). In subsequent years, RDCBS has hosted several lectures and/or lecture series by nationally recognized aviculturists, avian behaviorists, scientists, and avian veterinarians including: Sally Blanchard, Dr. Al Decoteau, Dr. Matthew Vriends, Liz Wilson, Dr. Keven Flammer, Dr. Branson Ritchie, Irene Pepperburg, Layne Dicker, Dr. Rose Marie Asterina Dr. Donald Brightsmith and Barbara Heidenrich. In 1998 the RDCBS Bird Fair/Show introduced the first NCS Affiliated Cockatiel Show, coordinated by Keith Reimer. In 2002 the RDCBS Bird Fair/Show introduced the first ALBS Lovebird Show, coordinated by Wendy Edwards. The RDCBS has depended on the hard work of many past and current directors, officers, and general members who have contributed substantially to the development and success of the RDCBS and its activities. Of course the most intensive effort of the year is our annual Bird Fair, which would not be possible without the hard work of many individuals, most notably the RDCBS Bird Fair/Show Committee Chairman, John Marguis, It is our hope t hat individuals attending this year's fair, perhaps even for the first time, will be writing the future history of the club.

A YEAR IN THE RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY

Many people wonder what does the RDCBS do each month. The answer is simple, we have fun. Below is what and who we have offered to our members and the public for the past year.

MAY, 2011 – RDCBS held a Birdie Treat Baking contest where members were asked to bring in their favorite dish they prepare for their birds along with the recipe. Our pet birds along with their human companions tasted the treats and voted for their favorites. We also discussed our last minute preparations for the 2011 Annual Bird Fair.

JUNE, **2011** – The RDCBS welcomed Patricia Sund who is a frequent contributor to the magazine "Bird Talk". Patricia talked to us about how to make "CHOP" for our birds and how to freeze it. She went into great detail telling us time saving tips on how to prepare fruits and veggies for our birds.

JULY, 2011 – The RDCBS welcomed Jim Heffernan who spoke to us about Australian Hookbills and Finches. Several members brought in a large array of Australian birds for the RDCBS members and guests to view and learn about.

AUGUST, 2011 – RDCBS had their annual Indoor Summer Picnic/Potluck Lunch. Each member brought in a dish of delicious food to share and enjoy fellowship. We also discussed our Post Bird Fair comments in preparation for planning our 2012 Bird Fair. Afterwards we had a wonderful raffle and lots of laughs.

SEPTEMBER, 2011 – RDCBS welcomed Dr. Stacey Leonatti from Avian and Exotic Animal Care. Dr. Leonatti talked on the "behind the scenes each day at an avian veterinary practice" and highlighted how important it is to have wellness exams for our Feathered Friends.

OCTOBER, 2011 – RDCBS held its first "CHOP FEST". Each member brought in fresh fruit, vegetables, and grains we would use for our birds. We also had our cutting boards and food processers ready and chopping. Many of our friends from Phoenix Landing joined in on our fun and we all got to work chopping and making chop to take home for our birds. We also had our annual display at the NC State Fair, where many of our members volunteer to bring their pet birds to the site at the State Fair to show and educate the public about parrot ownership and what it's like to live with a parrot.

NOVEMBER, 2011 – RDCBS Welcomed Dr. Lauren Powers – Diplomate ABVP (Avian). Dr. Powers spoke to us about her research project on the "Isolation and Characterization of a Suspected Spiro nucleus Species in Cockatiels". This research will help aviculture to identify and characterize common and clinically important protozoa parasitic infection found in some cockatiels.

DECEMBER, 2011 – RDCBS held their annual Holiday Potluck Lunch and Raffle where we enjoyed fellowship and lots of laughs followed by a raffle to raise funds for our educational programs.

JANUARY, 2012 – RDCBS had an "Afternoon at the Movies" where we gathered together for the movie "Rio" complimented with popcorn, candy and other movie style treats.

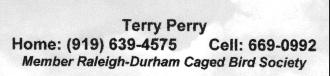
FEBRUARY, 2012 – RDCBS with the guidance and help of Trish Koontz, held a Bird Toy Making Work Shop. Trish and many others provided supplies and tools for us all to get our hands busy and make fascinating and entertaining toys for our Feathered Kids.

MARCH, 2012 – RDCBS Welcomed Iklil Palanduz, RDU Adoption Coordinator for Phoenix Landing. Iklil educated us about fostering and the adoption process of Parrots and the many challenges they encounter.

APRIL, 2012 – RDCBS welcomed Dr. Donald Brightsmith from the Schubot Center at Texas A&M University. Dr. Brightsmith spoke to us about his work at the Tambopata Research Center in Peru and his research on parrot nutrition.

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Scot Chappell



A SAMPLING OF RDCBS' EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

In large part, these contributions have come from the proceeds of our 22 previous pet bird fairs. Perhaps the most important contribution the RDCBS makes to Aviculture is public education through our various educational outreach activities. These activities range from single-member, free-lance volunteer efforts to large organized club events. Many individuals in the club accept invitations to present informal programs including live bird demonstrations for school classroom projects or field trips, nursing home entertainment, etc. If your school or organization would like to host an educational bird program, call April Blazich, (919) 851-8079; aprilb@bellsouth.net Of course, the largest educational program-exhibition sponsored by the RDCBS is our Annual Bird Fair, held on the Saturday of the Memorial Day weekend each May. An additional program/exhibit has become a major annual event for the RDCBS, at the NC State Fair each October.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR:

Our participation at the State Fair developed through contacts of the Fair staff with RDCBS member, April Blazich. Several years ago, the Fair developed a Tropical Garden next to the Flower Show. At this time the Superintendent of Grounds asked April to arrange a small exhibit of some tropical birds which would add to this popular corner of the Fair. What began as the occasional-presence of two people with a bird or two on the grass has evolved into a formal exhibit in a tent, meeting hundreds of people, from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm through out the duration of the NC State Fair.

CALL FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS:

The RDCBS believes that public education is the best way to preserve and promote aviculture (the care and breeding of captive birds), to promote conservation of birds in their native lands, and to ensure that owners of pet birds have adequate knowledge to provide proper nutrition, housing, and socialization for their pets. By becoming involved as an Educational Outreach Volunteer, you can help to fulfill these educational purposes of the RDCBS. SO, ARE YOU READY TO JOIN THE RDCBS TEAM AND VOLUNTEER? HERE'S HOW – Just contact any of the RDCBS Club Board Members or Elected Officers listed in this book and we will be happy to get you started.

ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED BY RDCBS BIRD FAIRS

Since its inception, the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society has contributed yearly monitary donations in support of avian veterinary research, parrot conservation, and/or public education pertaining to same. In large part, these contributions have come from the proceeds of our previous pet bird fairs.

The RDCBS has contributed to organizations such as Veterinary Colleges across the Country, Dr. Donald Brightsmith at Texas A & M, Dr. Branson Ritchie, LSU Foundation, Comparative Medicine Fund, Duke University, NC Zoological Society, RARE Center for Tropical Conservation, Bahama Parrot Conservation Project, American Federation of Aviculture, and World Parrot Trust.

Applications for and details of the selection process for RDCBS grants and awards may be obtained from Sharon Dvorak; (919) 266-4935; sldvorak@nc.rr.com

THE BEST BIRDIE BREAD EVER By: Laura Marquis

2 cups Self Rising Corn Meal/Flour

1 ¼ cup soy milk

1 ripe Banana

1 Egg 1/2 cup No Salt Peanut Butter 1/2 cup chopped Mixed Nuts

1/2 cup Craisins (or dried fruit of your choice, chopped)

Preheat oven to 400 Deg. F. Spray an 8 x 8 pan with olive oil cooking spray. In a small bowl mash banana, peanut butter, and mixed nuts. Set aside. In a large bowl mix corn meal, egg, soy milk. Add Banana mixture. Fold in Craisins or dried fruit of your choice. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Cool completely before serving. Bon- A- Pe-Tweet

VETERINARY CARE FOR YOUR BIRDS

Sick birds may show little sign of illness until critically ill. To be prepared, you should select a veterinarian for your bird **IN ADVANCE**. Note that a veterinary degree does not imply more than cursory training in avian medicine. Moreover, many veterinarians with small animal practices see principally dogs and cats and may have little if any experience with diseases which afflict birds. On the contrary, a veterinarian may achieve certification as an avian specialist through the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. To become a Board-Certified Avian Specialist, a veterinarian must pass a rigorous three-part examination. Moreover, before he/she can even take the exam, a veterinarian must meet eligibility requirements which include either 6 years of experience with birds in a veterinary practice, or completion of a qualified avian residency training program (usually a 2 to 3 year program). At present, there are only four board-certified avian specialists, do accept birds as part or all of their veterinary practice and, in this broad sense, are "avian veterinarians". These veterinarians are listed on the following page. Most are members of the Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV). Note: RDCBS does not endorse any individual veterinarian.

CITY	CLINIC/HOSPITAL	ADDRESS	Doctors	PHONE
Angier	Crepe Myrtle Animal Hospital	149A Logan Ct.	Dr. Barbour	(919) 639-8387
Cary	Mayfair Animal Hospital	1130 SW Maynard Rd.	Dr. Laura Foster	(919) 467-6146
Columbus	Bonnie Brae Veterinary Hospital, PA	155 Shuford Rd	Dr. Angel Mitchel DV	(828) 894-6064
Durham	Birdie Boutique	3039 University Dr	Dr. Burkett, Gregory*	(919) 490-3001
Durham	Cornwallis Animal Hospital	206 W. Cornwallis Rd	Dr. Heagren, D. W.	(919) 489-9194
Fayetteville	Northgate Animal Hospital	Dr. Brown, Jack D. Dr. Brown, Dale	(910) 822-3141	
Raleigh	Avian and Exotic Animal Care	8711 Fidelity Blvd	Dr. Johnson, Dan Dr. Eckermann-Ross, C Dr. Leonatti, Stacey	(919) 844-9166
Raleigh	Bowman Animal Clinic	8308 Creedmoor Rd	Dr. Deresienski, Diane Dr. Hunt, Emily	(919) 847-6216
Raleigh	Dixie Trail Animal Clinic	3044 Medlin Dr	Dr. Brown, Virginia A	(919) 781-5977
Raleigh	Lake Wheeler Animal Hosp	2720 Lake Wheeler Rd	Dr. Grant, Sandra	(919) 829-5511
Raleigh	NCSU Avian Veterinary Hospital	Opening July, 2012	Dr. Flammer, Keven*	(919) 513-6786
Raleigh	AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CLINIC Nights, Weekends and Holi- days	409 Vick Avenue	Dr. Degernes, Laurel* On Call	(919) 781-5145
Asheville	Sweeten Creek Animal & Bird Hospital	3131 Sweeten Creek Rd.	Dr. Bolt, Lee	(828) 684-8875
Rolesville	Rolesville Veterinary Hospital	312 S Main St.	Dr. Jennifer Hummel	(919) 554-2222
Wake Forest	North Wake Animal Hosp.	2160 S. Main	Dr. Darch, Lee	(919) 556-1121
Mobile Vet	Veterinary Express	House Calls Only	Dr. Rogers, Trey	(919) 577-2243

Veterinarians in the Raleigh Durham area who treat birds.

Updated as of 5/2012

*Denotes Board Certified Avian Specialist

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Will Rogers

I never married because there was no need. I have three pets at home which answer the same purpose as a husband. I have a dog which growls every morning, a parrot which swears all afternoon, and a cat that comes home late at night.

Marie Corelli

My cockatoo and I always argue over who owns whom. She usually wins.

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LETTER TO MASTER

Author Unknown To: Master of the house From: Dog.

Subject: That Parrot.

Master: That Parrot is despicable. She doesn't do any tricks and never comes when you call. And I've been there --- I know she can hear you. We need to face facts: It's time to get rid of that Parrot! Before the Parrot's arrival, meals were very festive times. I would sit and stare attentively at your lips, trembling slightly and drooling. You would play the game of pretending to be cross and demand that I leave the area; but, whenever you cooked dinner, your children would slip me food under the table.

Now, though, the Parrot is allowed to jump on the table - actually physically walk on the table AND eat from your plate! You don't yell at the Parrot, you just pick her up and put her back on the cage. Or worse yet, you giggle and give her more! And I know you don't see it, but she always gives me a haughty look as she walks past me. When your are not in the room, she blows raspberries at me and laughs! And speaking of meals, I have always been satisfied to eat the gritty pellets of meat byproducts you bring home in the giant bags, right? Have I ever once, ever, failed to finish a meal? But now I find out that the Parrot is being served fresh veggies and fruit - and she never consumes all of it! In fact, she throws over half of it on the floor! This means there are always little bits of delectable snacks lying all around. How can I be blamed for making sure they get eat-en? Why do you get so mad? As long as the pet food is going to the pets, isn't that what's important?

Then there's play time. I think we can clearly see that I am a big dog, descended from a noble line of hunters accustomed to chasing prey and attacking it. Haven't I nearly managed to take down a few cars as they've driven past the house? The Parrot is about the size of a squirrel and in my view should behave like one, but when I walk near. Instead, she opens that big beak and nips at me! You'd have a fit if I tried that.

Do you realize that the Parrot goes to the bathroom in the house? She poops anywhere she pleases! Not in the drinking basins like you do – nothing is off limits when she's out or her cage! This can't be sanitary. I'm very concerned about the potential for damage to the furniture and carpeting. What are we going to say if visitors come over and want to sit on the couch and the Parrot has been using it as a toilet? I used to police the thing for you, but you put it up out of my reach for some reason. I'm not even allowed to sleep on it when no is around. I'm not the only one who believes the Parrot is an evil person.

Here's a note from the hamster:

To: Master of the house From: Hamster. Subject: Parrot. Please tell Parrot to stop staring at me while I work. Signed, Hamster, Department of Rodent Wheels

I also tried to get a note from the fish, but apparently they believe that everything happening outside their tank is some kind of reality-TV show. They feel all smug since they have a fitted sun roof over their heads.

I don't understand why the Parrot is allowed up on your shoulder and I'm not even allowed on your lap. I am far cuddlier than any stupid Parrot. I think her noises are unhealthy and may be a sign of tourettes syndrome. And why does she get so many

baths? She never does anything that remotely raises a sweat or gets her dirty or smelly. Yet you take her in the shower with you all the time and



even sing to her! All I ever get is a cold hosing out in the yard - in front of the neighbors even!

And speaking of sleeping, sometimes I'll be taking a nap and she'll land beside me and start screeching like a fire alarm. Usually I'm too tired to do anything about it, but then later the other dogs smell her on me or spot a feather on my back and crack a lot of jokes at my expense. It's just not fair.

So you see dear master, I am not exaggerating. The Parrot has brought the family to complete ruin. I'm sorry I have to be the one to bring it to your attention, but now that I have, I think we can all agree that we should go back to the way it was, when I was the No. 1 pet in this house. Yours truly, The Dog

GROOMING YOUR BIRD

By: Dr. Greg Burkett, Board Certified Avian Veterinarian

Grooming your bird includes trimming its wings and nails, filing its beak, preening your bird and bathing your bird. Grooming your bird gives you a chance to spend quality time with your bird and helps you to form a stronger bond with your pet. Clipping your bird's wings serves several purposes. The taming process is much easier and faster with their wings clipped and you have better control over your bird while taming it. Wing trimming will also prevent your bird from flying into objects such as windows or mirrors and injuring itself.

Although wing clipping is necessary for all pet birds, it does remove one of the exercise modalities that birds depend on. Therefore, it is important for you as a responsible bird owner to offer your bird an alternative exercise method. We recommend a cage large enough for your bird to climb around in, with several different toys to encourage play. We also feel it is important that you have your bird out of its cage as often as possible. A good place for the bird to play when it is out of its cage is on a playpen. There are several different varieties on the market now. Some companies will even custom build them to your specifications. Avian Treasures custom builds great playpens and offers several types for birds of all sizes. A playpen provides your bird with a place of his own where he can exercise and play without being confined to his cage. Birds with clipped wings will almost always stay on their playpens, especially if the playpen offers a lot to keep them occupied.

Several different methods of wing clipping are in print and everyone has their own opinion on the correct method. The method we have found that works the best is to clip the outer primaries of BOTH wings, below the level of the primary coverts. The number to remove on each side varies with species as well as individually. The primaries must be cut because they are the feathers that give lift when the bird flaps its wings. The secondary flight feathers should be left intact to give some air resistance in case the bird falls. It is important to trim both wings so the bird is able to maintain its balance. We do not recommend plucking the feathers because they will grow back out in six weeks and it is a very uncomfortable experience for the bird. It is important to remember that clipped feathers will molt out and new ones will replace them within a few months. When the new feathers grow in they contain a pulp consisting of blood vessels and nerves. You should not clip the blood feathers because they will bleed profusely and cause the bird a lot of pain, stress, and blood loss. It is best to wait until the feathers are fully mature before clipping the wings again.

Some birds are very strong fliers and may still be able to fly even after being clipped. So, do not risk taking the bird outside, trusting the wing clip, only to have something suddenly scare your bird, and cause it to fly off into the wild blue yonder. You will be left standing there with your mouth open, thinking --"But,But,...s/he was clipped!" I have seen it happen, with no matter as to the tameness of the bird. Just as a side thought, please do not put those nasty leg chains on your bird. They will invariably lead to a broken leg.

Trimming your birds' nails also serves several purposes. When their nails become too long perching is uncomfortable and it may

lead to more serious foot problems. Long sharp nails are also uncomfortable to you when your bird perches on your bare skin. Long nails may also become snagged in toys, clothing or on a cage and can result in serious leg or foot injuries.

When trimming your bird's nails it is important to remember that each nail has a blood and a nerve supply called the quick. Remember that the quick grows with the nail and an overgrown nail will have a longer quick. If you trim the nail too far back and cut the quick, it will bleed and will be painful to the bird. Any amount of blood loss, however small, is significant and should be stopped immediately with pressure and a styptic compound.

The beak also has a quick like the nails and the same precautions should be considered when correcting the beak length. If your bird has plenty of toys to chew on, a Polly Perfect or lava rock perch to rub its beak on, and its beak is growing normally, it should not be necessary to trim the beak. It may be necessary, however, to file the tip with an emery board or nail file to dull the point or shorten its length slightly. If the beak is growing too fast or growing abnormally, you should see your avian veterinarian to determine the cause and cure. Wing, nail and beak trimming are simple procedures. If you are inexperienced with how to perform them, then have your avian veterinarian show you the proper instruments needed and the correct method of trimming. Once you have done it a few times it becomes easier. I recommend, however, that owners let others do the grooming so their bird does not become distrustful to the owner.





"When should I bring my bird to the vet?"

By: Dr. Carol Bradford M.S., D.V.M.

Is a question we hear often from concerned bird owners confused about the medical needs of their pet. Many people have heard conflicting thoughts from different sources. In most cases, we recommend routine twice yearly physical exams, to identify and treat problems early. You may have heard that dogs "age" seven years for every one human year. Most birds also "age" more quickly than humans, making twice yearly complete physical exams a vital part of their health care plan. Fecal gram stains are typically done at each of these visits. The fecal gram stain is a test for intestinal parasites and a screening of the number and type of gastrointestinal bacteria. New pets should be seen as soon as possible, preferably before bringing it into a home with other birds.

You may have also heard that early detection is vitally important in human medicine. Well, the same is true for avian medicine. Birds tend to hide signs of illness until very late in the course of disease. In the wild, this is a defense mechanism to prevent predators or other members of the flock from identifying the sick bird as "easy prey". Coming in for a thorough physical twice yearly allows the opportunity for us to identify a potential problem before it becomes very serious or life-threatening. Yearly blood work and polyoma vaccination is usually recommended. Even if you are very familiar with your bird and skilled at identifying serious illness, having a veterinarian check your bird every six months will help him to live a longer, healthier life.

We also receive a lot of calls about avian medical questions and whether or not it requires a trip in to see one of the veterinarians. Anytime a bird is lethargic, fluffed, weak, not eating, or not perching well is an emergency. Waiting to see if he "comes out of it" is risking your bird's life. As stated above, a bird that is acting sick is usually very ill. A change of color or consistency of the droppings also should mean a trip to the vet, unless you know of a particular food item fed earlier could have caused this. In which case, closely monitoring the dropping for the next few hours-days is reasonable. Any bleeding that does not stop within about 1 minute needs to be addressed by a veterinarian. If you are not sure where bleeding is coming from, it is best to bring the bird in. Limping or a wing held out or drooping should be addressed as the bird may be in pain. Any burn or constriction type injury should be seen immediately, as these wounds can be more serious than they initially appear.

Many people also bring their birds in for grooming, instead of trying to accomplish wing and nail trims themselves. Grooming appointments (except beak trims) may be handled by our technicians. It is vitally important that the person who trims your bird's wings and nails is well-trained to do so. Improper grooming can lead to itchiness and feather picking or severe falls. We can also track the weight of your bird at the time of a grooming appointment. Wing and nail trims are usually requested every 2-6 months. Carol Bradford, M.S., D.V.M. Avian and Exotic Animal Care



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PARROT PROFILES

MACAWS, LARGE – Scarlett, Green Wing, Blue and Gold, Military, Hyacinth...

Life Span is approximately 40 to 80 years, with a healthy diet and exercise.

Size is approximately 20 to 42 inches from head to tip of tail; average weight is approximately 2 to 3 lbs when fully grown. Housing: Macaws need a large cage approximately 36" x 48" x 60". The cage needs to be very strong as Macaws love to take things apart. Macaws also require a lot of toys such as untreated wood blocks for chewing.

Nutrition: Fresh, organic fruits, vegetables, grains should make up the main diet supplemented with Pellets making 25 to 50% of their diet and seed making up no more than 10% of their diet. Nuts should be given as a treat.

Vocalization abilities: Macaws can be very loud when they yell; however, they do have excellent ability to mimic speech. Macaws love to be social, they are very inquisitive and love to play and learn.

MINI MACAWS – Hahns, Yellow Collar, Severe, Noble.....

Life Span is approximately 25 to 35 years, sometimes longer with a healthy diet and exercise.

Size ranges from 10 to 20 inches from head to tip of tail and weigh from 125 grams to 235 grams depending on the species. Housing: Mini Macaws like their larger counter parts require strong cages approximately 24" x 36" x 48". Mini macaws love to take things apart and require a lot of toys such as untreated wood blocks for chewing.

Nutrition: Fresh, organic fruits, vegetables, grains should make up the main diet supplemented with Pellets making 25 to 50% of their diet and seed making up no more than 10% of their diet. Nuts should be given as a treat.

Vocalization abilities. Mini Macaws can be very loud when they yell; however, they do have excellent ability to mimic speech. Macaws love to be social, they are very inquisitive and love to play and learn. Macaws do require a lot of time and attention. The mini macaws tend to be a bit more active than the larger macaws.

<u>AMAZONS</u>- Common species of amazons include double yellow headed amazons, yellow naped amazons, blue front Amazon, orange winged amazons, lilac crowned amazons. There is a large variety of amazons.

Average Life Span of an Amazon is approximately 30 to 50 years with good nutrition and exercise.

Average Size of an Amazon is approximately 10 to 20 inches in length, and approximately 300 grams on average.

Housing: Minimum cage size should be 24" x 36" x 48" with strong bars. Most Amazons love to play with foot toys that they can manipulate, though they need untreated wood toys as well.

Nutrition should be fresh, organic fruits, vegetables; grains should make up the main diet supplemented with Pellets making 25 to 50% of their diet and seed making up no more than 10% of their diet as Amazons are prone to fatty liver disease. Nuts should be given as a treat.

Vocalization abilities are very good; some species are more prone to mimic speech than others. Like Macaws, amazons can be very loud and boisterous.

Amazons love to be the center of attention and are very social birds, however, it is important to learn to read their body language to know when they've had enough and need to return to their perch for rest time.

<u>COCKATOO</u> - There is a large variety of species of cockatoos, some of the most common in the pet world are Umbrella, Goffin's, Sulfur crested, and Moluccan.

Average Life Span is approximately 40 to 80 years; the smaller species have a shorter life span with good nutrition and exercise. Average Size ranges from 12 inches to 27 inches

Housing: Cockatoos need a large cage approximately 36" x 48" x 60". And approximately 24" x 36" x 48" for the smaller species. The cage needs to be very strong as Cockatoos love to take things apart and manipulate their items with their feet. Cockatoos also require a lot of toys such as untreated wood blocks for chewing and puzzle type of toys to occupy them. Cockatoos do love to shred their toys, paper etc... it is important to keep them well supplied with items to shred to help prevent feather picking.

Nutrition: Cockatoos should have a 50% pelleted diet with 50% fresh vegetable/fruit/grain diet. Seeds and nuts should only be given as a treat as Cockatoos are prone to fatty liver disease.

Cockatoos require a lot of attention both to their environment and to them. Cockatoos are very dusty and love to chew things apart. Frequent showers and an air cleaner are highly recommended to keep the dust down. Cockatoos love to be held and cuddle with their owners and they require a lot of attention.

Vocalization abilities are fair to good, cockatoos are not as well known for their mimicking speech as other species. Cockatoos are extremely loud when they yell and typically will call out at sunset.

AFRICAN GREY

There are two types of African Grey, the Congo African Grey which is slightly larger than the Timneh African Grey. The Congo Grey has a bright red tail while the Timneh has a Maroon Tail.

Life Span is approximately 50 years or longer with a healthy diet and exercise.

Size ranges from 12 to 15 inches

Housing: The minimum size cage should be an area of 3 feet by 2 feet by 4 feet tall, larger is always better. Greys love to shred things, so along with appropriate wood, rolled newspaper, other shredding toys, and puzzle style toys to keep them busy are important.

Nutrition: Greys should have a 50% pelleted diet with 50% fresh vegetable/fruit/grain diet. Seeds and nuts should only be given as a treat as Greys are prone to fatty liver disease. African Greys are also prone to Calcium deficiencies and it is important to have this checked regularly with their veterinary well checks.

Vocalization abilities: Greys are excellent mimics and talkers with the capacity of hundreds of words, phrases, songs etc.... African Greys require a lot of interaction and attention. Greys tend to bond to one person in the household and it is very important to socialize them well with other family members and friends in your community and maintain their socialization skills. Greys can become feather pickers for reasons unknown. If you have a grey that begins feather picking it is important to have a vet check the bird for medical problems. African Grey's tend to be calm and laid back birds.

<u>CONURES</u> -- There is a large variety of conure species, the most common are the Sun Conure, Jenday Conure, Bluecrowned, Green Cheek.

Life Span is approximately 15 to 30 years.

Size: approximately 8 inches up to 12 inches depending on the species. Average weight is 80 to 120 grahams depending on the species.

Housing: should be in a cage approximately 24" x 36" x 48".

Nutrition should be 40% pellets, 10% seed and 50% fresh fruits, vegetables and grains.

Personality: Conures are loud, clamorous, playful clowns. They love to be in the center of the action. Conures also love to cuddle with their family members as well. Conures have a varied speech mimic ability depending on the species, while the Sun Conures are not well known for their speech ability, Green cheek conures are known for their mimicking speech. It is important to socialize conures as they do go through nippy stages.

COCKATIELS

There are a wide variety of different color cockatiels such as the Normal (gray cockatiel you would find in the wild), pearl, pied, cinnamon, white face, Lutino.

Life Span: The average life span of a cockatiel well cared for is approximately 15 to 20 years.

Size: The average size of a cockatiel is approximately 10 to 12 inches from head to tip of tail. Average weight is 80 to 110 grams.

Nutrition: Cockatiels should have a variety of pellet, seed and fresh vegetables, fruits and grains.

Vocalization: Cockatiels are generally better at imitating whistles than speech; however, some do learn to repeat short phrases. Males are better at mimicking speech, however, some females can also learn to mimic.

Housing: in a cage approximately 22" x 22" x 32".

Cockatiels make wonderful pets. Hand fed, well socialized tiels can form very strong bonds with their owners, though they are not cuddly birds they do enjoy sitting with their owners on their shoulder, preening their owner's hair and are very interested in what their owners are doing. Tiels have a very calm temperament and make wonderful companions for older children and adults alike.



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The RDCBS Leg-band Directory:

In order to encourage the use of closed leg-bands by RDCBS members who breed birds for sale, and to facilitate the tracking of lost-and-found birds which have originated from its members, the RDCBS has compiled the accompanying Directory of members who raise closed-banded birds, and the leg band breeder-codes used by these members. **How to Decipher the Information on a Leg-band**: Whatever its source, a leg-band is embossed with the following three items of information: 1) the year of issue, 2) the breeder's assigned code, and 3) the individual number of the band issued in a given year. In addition, bands issued by a society will contain the initials of that society. Bands issued commercially, for example by the L&M Company, will not contain society initials but may contain the initials of the State, e.g. NC, in which

the breeder resides. The abbreviations for various societies issuing bands are as follows:

ABS—American Budgerigar Society

ACS—American Cockatiel Society

AFA—American Federation of Aviculture

ALBS—African Love Bird Society

NAPS—North American Parrot Society

NCS—National Cockatiel Society

SPBE—Society of Parrot Breeders and Exhibitors

The L & M Bird Leg Band Company sells bands showing the initials of the breeder's state, e.g. "NC" For additional help in tracing breeders' codes which are not in our directory, check with the editor.

Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society Members Who Band their Birds Name City/State Phone Email Band Codes

Barwick, Laura Raleigh, NC 919-876-8192 Ibirdog@hotmail.com NFSS- LTB, SPBE- LTB Blazich, April & Family Raleigh, NC 919-851-8079 aprilb@bellsouth.net SPBE- APR; NCS Chappell, Scot, Cindy Raleigh, NC 919-779-1206 C7791206@mindspring.com SPBE- STE Creedle, Barbara R. South Hill, VA 804-447-3915 ABS-BRC, NCS-01C Dvorak, Sharon, Jim Knightdale, NC 919-266-4935 sldvorak@nc.rr.com Non-Club AFA, NGC, ASC, UTB Edwards, Wendy Raleigh, NC 919-850-2180 CarolinaFlight@aol.com ALBS-TWP, NCS-02P Parrish, Angela, Burlington, NC Angibird@JUNO.COM AFA, DBK Fortin, Toni Wilson, NC 252-291-5669 feathers@bbnp.com Non Club-TFF Huegerich, Leslie Fuquay-Varina, NC 919-552-6312 klaviary@showtiels.com NCS-70L, IPS-KLH Jarrell, Randall Pittsboro, NC 919-210-2500 RCJ NC Marquis, John, Laura Raleigh, NC 919-266-0906 info@riverbankaviary.com Non Club-RBA Perry, Terry Fuquay-Varina, NC 919-639-4575, tpandcharlie@embarqmail.com RW NC Rau, Bill, Nancy Bunn, NC 919-496-2649 brau@ipass.net NCS-54R Engle, Gary & Karen Ann, NC 919-454-9705; xanadusnest@aol.com Non-Club-BNB, XNNC Whitney, Gay, David New Bern, NC 252-637-4238 gaywhitney@aol.com ACS-26W

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To report a lost or found bird log onto www.911ParrotAlert@yahoogroups.com

***To Add your name to this list, please contact the Show Program Editor. Laura Marquis laura@jamcosys.com

Pellet Biscuits

• 1 cup pellet mash or pulverized pellets.

• Add 1 small (4oz) jar babyfood (we prefer squash or sweet potatoes).

• Optional: Add one to two teaspoons of Goldenfeast Gardenflora Blend to add some greens to the mix.

• Mix well. Spread into a microwave-safe glass loaf pan, cut out

about an half-inch-wide rectangle in the middle (so it cooks evenly), and microwave on 50-percent power for about 2-1/2 minutes, depending on the microwave.

Cooking times will vary depending on your microwave and how well cooked you want the biscuits. IMPORTANT: Cool before serving! Microwaves can leave "hot" spots, so be extra careful and check to see if they are cool.

Source: http://www.birdsafe.com/food.htm

The battle for Amor -Nest site battles in the Peruvian Amazon

By Justin Wilson and Dr. Don Brightsmith

Amor is the Spanish word for love, but what a misnomer that turned out to be. There was a battle being waged at Amor and lives were at stake. Amor is a wooden nest box inhabited by a pair of wild Scarlet Macaws, deep in the heart of the Peruvian Amazon. The research team had been talking about it for four days already, and I needed to go see the spectacle for myself. I planned to observe and climb the nest to check the status of the two chicks but the morning was not looking too promising due to the lead-gray sky and heavy tropical rain.

The nest at Amor is one of many that are part of an ongoing project at the Tambopata Research Center in the Tambopata National Reserve at the border of the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park in southeastern Peru. The project aims to learn more about the nesting habits of the three large macaw species (Ara ararauna - Blue and Gold; Ara chloroptera - Green-winged and; Ara macao - Scarlet Macaw). At the same time, new techniques for artificial nests are being studied that can be applied to other sites with small or decreasing populations of these beautiful birds. The presence of the successfully nesting Scarlets at Amor is a testament to the success of the project. The pair was first seen inhabiting the nest November 4th of 2001. Within four days the first egg was laid, and on the 25th a total of five eggs were noted. The first hungry, hairless, closed-eyed chick hatched December 5th. It was quickly followed by another mouth to feed on the 7th, and a third was added after only a few more days. By then the load on the parents to feed and preen their young was significant. On the 30th of December the researchers made a sad but expected discovery, the third chick was dead. This seems to be typical of the large macaws here, regardless of how many hatch, parental choices and sibling competition mean that only one or occasionally two chicks survive. The two older chicks were apparently the lucky ones, but how lucky were they?

In a tall emergent tree not too far from Amor, a pair of Green-winged Macaws (Ara chloroptera) was beginning their own family; but this pair was different. The male, named Ascensio, was born in late December of 1992. He was an unfortunate younger chick that would have died, but instead he became one of 25 macaw chicks that were saved and hand raised by researchers at Tambopata Research Center. From 1992 to 1994 researchers rescued chicks in an effort to develop techniques to increase the survival rates of the younger nestlings. What resulted were 'chicos', semi-tame macaws that frequently returned to the lodge (Tambopata Research Center) to snatch a pancake from someone's plate, steal the soap from the sink, or visit unsuspecting guests in their rooms. Despite retaining this interest in humans, all thirteen of the chicos that remain alive today have taken wild mates and get nearly all of their food from the wild.

At first all was fine. Ascensio was living in a wooden nest box named Cabezón, which incidentally is a wooden box that looks exactly like Amor. He and his wild partner laid their first egg on November 15. By the 25th two more eggs had arrived; but sadly when we returned to the nest on the 28th of the same month with hopes of seeing a new chick or two, all three eggs were broken. Our only guess was predation. Observations continued. Ascensio was seen on December 18th defending a natural tree cavity, another potential nest site, just 5 meters away from Cabezon in the same tree. Ascensio stayed in the area switching between the natural nest and the nest box for weeks. Finally the pair left the tree entirely on January 28th, and within 3 days things started to happen, things we never would have predicted.

Battles at nests between large macaw species have been noted in the past, but not with any great frequency. In Manu national park two Blue-and-Gold Macaws were seen attacking a single Scarlet parent with two chicks. At one point the parent left the nest, giving free range to the attackers who kicked out the larger chick. The chick fell to its death 17 meters below, and the second was 'forced to fledge prematurely' (Munn, National Geographic Jan. 1994). Strangely the new occupants of the nest only stayed for a few days then left.

Another battle occurred at the Tambopata Research Center sometime before November 1999. All we know of this event is that a pair of Scarlets was made to leave their nest by a pair of Green-wings. Whether or not there were chicks present is unknown. What is known is that Green-wings are much larger than Scarlets, making a nest battle rather unfair. The Scarlets weigh about 1 kilogram (2.2 lbs) while the Green-wings may weigh as much as half again as much (1.5 kg or 3 lbs). The battle at Amor is documented to have begun the 31st of January when project assistants Hans and Daphne went to the nest to take measurements of the two Scarlet chicks. When they arrived, Ascensio was perched on top of the nest and the parents were loudly squawking from a nearby branch. From another branch, Ascensio's wild partner was quietly watching. The parents, with the help of another scarlet, possibly a chick of a past year, began to fight with the fearless chico for their home and more importantly for the little ones peacefully waiting inside. Soon two more Scarlets arrived and instead of helping their species relatives, began to attack the parents. Twice, the Scarlets were seen fighting with each other in the air - their feet apparently locked together in a spin of red wings resembling a crashing helicopter. Ascensio, still perched on top of the nest, watched quietly, that is until Hans began to climb the rope to retrieve the chicks. The chicks were lowered and all necessary data was taken. Daphne then raised the chicks back to Hans and they were gently returned to the nest. At this time Ascensio returned with a fruit in his mouth and entered the nest. Hans rappelled to the forest floor and the parents returned to resume fighting.

On February 2nd Hans and Daphne again went to the nest to examine the chicks. Ascensio was seen inside the nest with the chicks who appeared to be unscathed. At one point while Ascensio was outside the nest, the parents began to fight with him. One got the attention of the aggressive chico, while the other entered the nest; but this victory was short-lived.

The next day in the morning Ascensio was again seen on top of the nest. He did eventually leave and a Scarlet stuck its head out of the nest hole. Later in the afternoon when a photographer returned to take pictures of the fighting macaws, all was quiet. Upon his return, he informed the research team that 'it looks like the Scarlets have given up.

The battle for Amor—(continued)

By the time I arrived on the 4th, I assumed I would find two dead Scarlet chicks and two new nest owners. The latter appeared likely and the former was an unfortunate inevitability. When we approached, Ascencio, as always, was perched on top of the nest. As I began to climb I noticed there were a total of 5 Scarlets and 4 Green Wings in the area. Upon opening the bottom door of the nest, I was overcome with sadness. The two chicks were clearly afraid, which is not usually the case, and very thin as they had not been fed in days; but they still lacked any cuts or wounds. While I was hanging at the nest, Ascencio was close by in a neighboring tree and twice fought off the parents.

As I watched moments later from below, two Scarlets returned to the nest without any objection from Ascensio. In fact, at one point while Ascensio was perched at his usual spot, a Scarlet entered the nest and another sat quietly with Ascensio. Was there hope for the chicks? Apparently not, as these were not the parents, but presumably the two Scarlets that had joined Ascencio in ousting the original parents. He was quick to object when the real parents returned. As to why Ascensio permitted the others to enter, I have no idea; but clearly the battle for Amor has been lost by its original owners. As for the chicks...

we can easily assume what would have happened to them. Three days before the documented start of the battle, the weight of both chicks was around 900g. By the 3rd of February, six days later, their weight had dropped to a mere 650g. A continued decrease was an obvious trend; but one that maybe could have been altered if the project decided to intervene.

The morning of February 6th had an air of urgency when Dr. Donald Brightsmith, the project's coordinator, discussed the plans for the chicks' rescue and the means of their possible safe return to their parents. One team quickly headed to Amor to save the dying chicks, while another went to retrieve an unused PVC nest box from a distant tree.

The chicks were very dehydrated and full of parasites. They were cold and would not eat, and their weights had dropped to 570g. Researchers began the slow, often frustrating process of trying to bring the chicks back to health.

The PVC nest box was to become part of an experiment. In order for the chicks to return to their parents, something would have to be done with Ascensio. Give him the nest he had been successfully dominating, and place a different style nest, one of PVC, in the same tree for the parents to find. Could it work? Would the chicks even survive long enough to be returned to their parents? So many questions were asked, but all we could do was wait.

On February 8th chick 1, given the name, Sinbad, died. He never ate well and never recovered. Chick 2, Lola, was doing better. She was eating well and her weight was increasing. She was responding to macaws flying close to the lodge and eventually she perched on her box. Her return to the wild was soon to come and it appeared that it would be a successful one.

Brief observations at the battle sight after the chicks' removal showed only silence and a general absence of Ascensio. So on February 9th the new PVC nest was hung on a branch in the same tree about 20 ft from Amor and Lola was placed inside. The goal was twofold, one to save the chick that everyone had fallen in love with, and two to see if this technique could be used to move a Scarlet Macaw chick to a new nest and have the parents follow it. If successful, this experiment could give researchers another tool to use to help save macaws throughout the tropics.

The researchers climbed twice a day to feed Lola in the hopes that her presence and audible begging would attract her parents back to feed her, but the parents were defeated. Although they were seen in the area they were unable, or unwilling to approach the nest and save their bedraggled chick. Ascencio had not given up and remained in the area jealously guarding Amor. Mean-while the other pair of Scarlets moved in and took possession of the new PVC box with Lola inside. Then on Feb 13th Daphne discovered a key piece of the mystery of why the other Scarlet pair was tolerated by Ascencio. As she climbed to the box she exclaimed "the Scarlet has a band; it's a chico!!" This was the first time the researchers were close enough to see the shiny steel band around the right leg of the bird. But which one was it? Daphne tried to see the small number stamped in to the band but to no avail. As a last ditch effort Don sent her up the digital camera and asked her to take photos to see if this would give any indication of the identity of the mystery bird.

Back in the office Don fired up his laptop and downloaded the photos. As he looked at the head and beak for characteristic marks Daphne chimed in and said, "look you can see the band." And could you ever. Zooming in on the band showed that the number side was visible, one more zoom and there it was. Clear as day, "004." This was the chico known as Macario. This chico had not been seen since before 1998 and was presumed dead. Also the researchers quickly realized that this chick was born on almost the exact same day as Ascencio and the were raised together as part of the group of 17 birds at Tambopata Research Center in 1993. These two birds obviously had a long history.

For the chick, the history meant nothing. The reality was that the combination of Macario, Ascencio and their mates were too much for the parents to overcome. The fate of the chick was sealed it was just a matter of waiting. Fortunately the wait was not a long one: on February 15th, the rain started and wouldn't stop. For two days it rained. When the researchers finally climbed to the box on the 17th they found Lola cold, wet and dead on the bottom of the box. It was a sad day for all of us at Tambopata Research Center.

What is even sadder is that we have no explanation as to why this strange battle took place. Macaw egg laying typically ends in December or early January with chicks fledging sometime during February and March. Why did Ascensio want to take over an occupied nest in late January? If he was so eager to take over the nest why did he and his mate abandon the nest by late February without ever laying eggs? Why were two chicks lost at the battle for Amor? Simple questions with very elusive answers.

Biographies

Justin Wilson has a B.S. in Zoology from the University of Idaho. He first arrived to Peru in early 1998 to do work as a guide at the Tambopata Research Center. Later he became part of the Macaw Project, as well as projects focusing on frogs and nocturnal primates. He greatly enjoys writing and traveling. Dr. Don Brightsmith is a Research Associate in the Duke University Department of Biology and runs the Tambopata Macaw Project in southeastern Peru. His research has focused on wild Brotogeris parakeets in Miami and Peru; natural history and conservation of Scarlet, Green-winged and Blue-and-gold Macaws in Peru and macaw reintroduction. He is also the Scientific Director for Rainforest Expeditions, the owner and operator of Posada Amazonas Lodge and the famed Tambopata Research Center. For more information on wild parrots or how to visit Peru feel free to contact him at Parrots@rainforest.com.pe

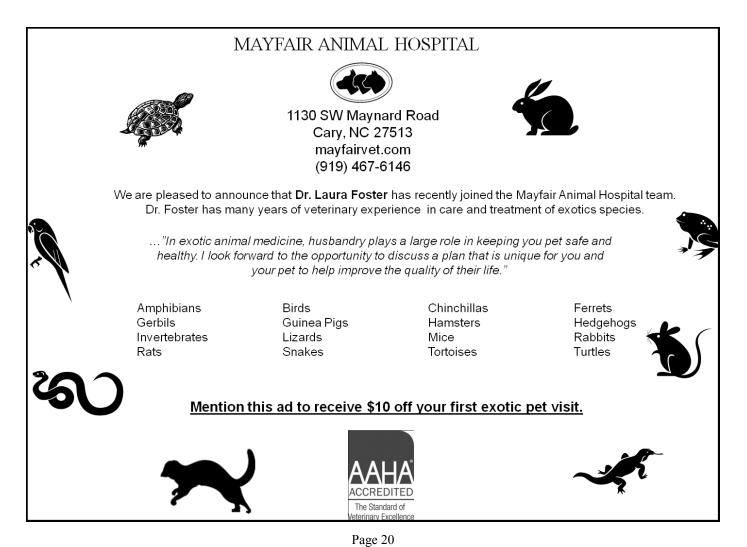


BIRDS BY GAY WHITNEY New Bern, NC (252) 637-4238 www.parrotmom.net

I have been raising birds in my home since 1991 and probably will continue doing so until I fall off my perch. I prefer to place my babies directly into private homes and do not ship. Contact me thru my web-site or call for availability.

Greenwing, Blue Throat, Blue and Gold, Military and Scarlet Macaws **Congo African Greys Umbrella and Goffin Cockatoos** Green Cheek Conures (normal and mutations) Quakers, Amazons, Cockatiels and Lovebirds **Red Rumped and Bourke Keets Pacific Parrotlets**





Foraging is a big part of a birds' daily routine in the wild. This is how they find their food. Kept as pets birds still have the instinct to forage, yet their food and water is located in the same place each and every day. Here are a few toys you can make to help your birds fulfill their natural instinct to forage and help to occupy their time. Foraging also helps to detour feather picking and at times self mutilization.

What's In the Box?

Save Card board boxes left over from food such as Macaroni & Cheese boxes, Stick butter boxes, and other similar size boxes. Stuff the box with paper towels or tissue paper, in the center of the box place a treat such as a small sprig of millet, a nut, and some dried fruit. Close the box and either place it on the floor of the cage or attach a piece of sisal rope or string and hand the box on the cage.

Roll Popper

Similar to the Box toy, use a paper towel roll or an empty toilet paper roll, stuff one end with tissue paper, place a small toy or treat in the center and stuff the other end of the roll with tissue. Place in cage.

Shredder

Take several sections of news paper and roll into a tight log. With a pair of scissors cut vertically up the roll in several sections. With fingers grab the inside center of the log and pull down revealing a fringe like pole for your birds to preen and shred.

Popcycle Stick Chews

1	18" Heavy Jute String, cotton rope or shoe lace
1	Aluminum or Copper Bell

30 Pony Beads Fastener

1

10 Popsicle Sticks

Stack pop cycle sticks. Tightly, with masking tape, wrap around both ends of pop cycle sticks to hold firmly and secure. Mark center of top stick. With a 1/16" drill bit drill through all pop cycle sticks making sure you drill straight down.

Tie bell to one end of string. Wrap small piece of tape around opposite end of string as to form the end of a shoe lace. Thread 3 Pony beads, one stick, 3 beads etc... Until all sticks are used and you have three beads on top. Tie off and attach fastener. To add color try soaking sticks in a mixture of food coloring and water. Soak overnight. Place sticks on wax paper. Place in 200 deg. F. oven until dry. The more food coloring you adds to the water, the stronger the color will be.

More

Spoon treats – Spread a thin layer of peanut butter in the bowl of a wooden kitchen spoon. Spoons can be bought in pack of three or more at a grocery or dollar store. Press in some granola, pellets, crunchy cereal, dried fruit, etc. It's great fun to eat the treat and then destroy the spoon!

Tissue Flower – Stack six or more pieces of tissue paper or facial tissue on top of each other. Put a bead, nut, large button or similar object in center. Draw up the tissue and tie snugly around the bead with a small piece of yarn or leather. Attach the flower to side of cage bars near a perch. Its loads of fun to shred

Raffia Knot – Tie several strands of raffia or ribbon about 8 in. long in a knot around a cage bar. The strands can be used for preening.

Benefits of Bird Club Membership

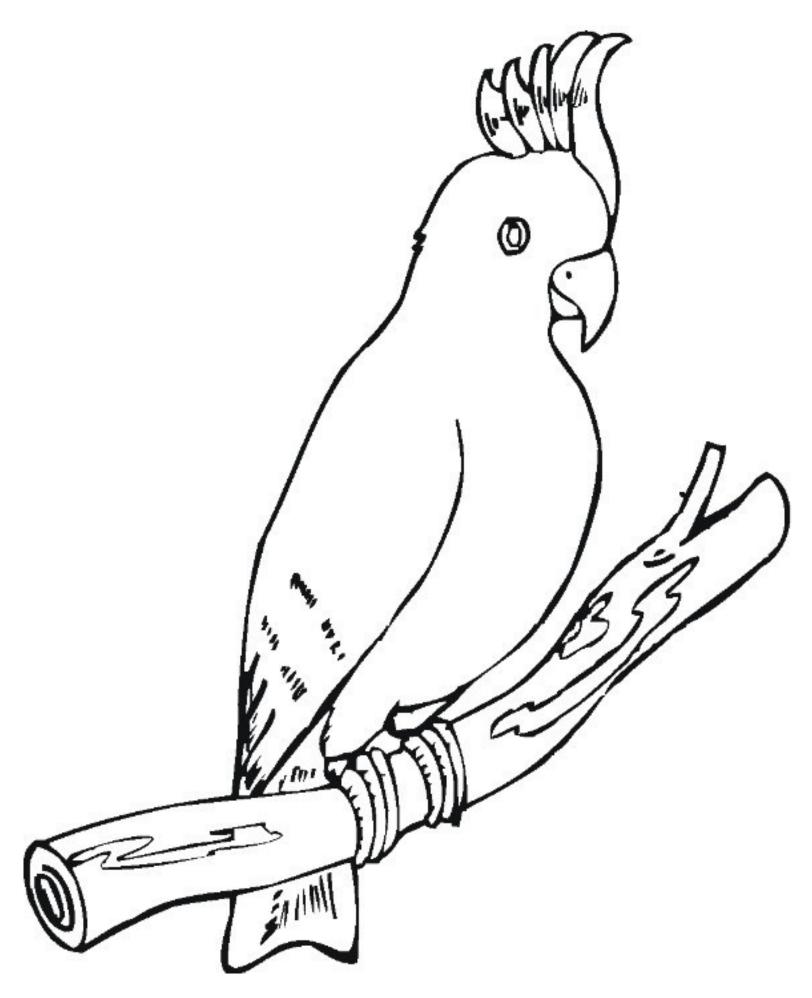
by Carol Wilson

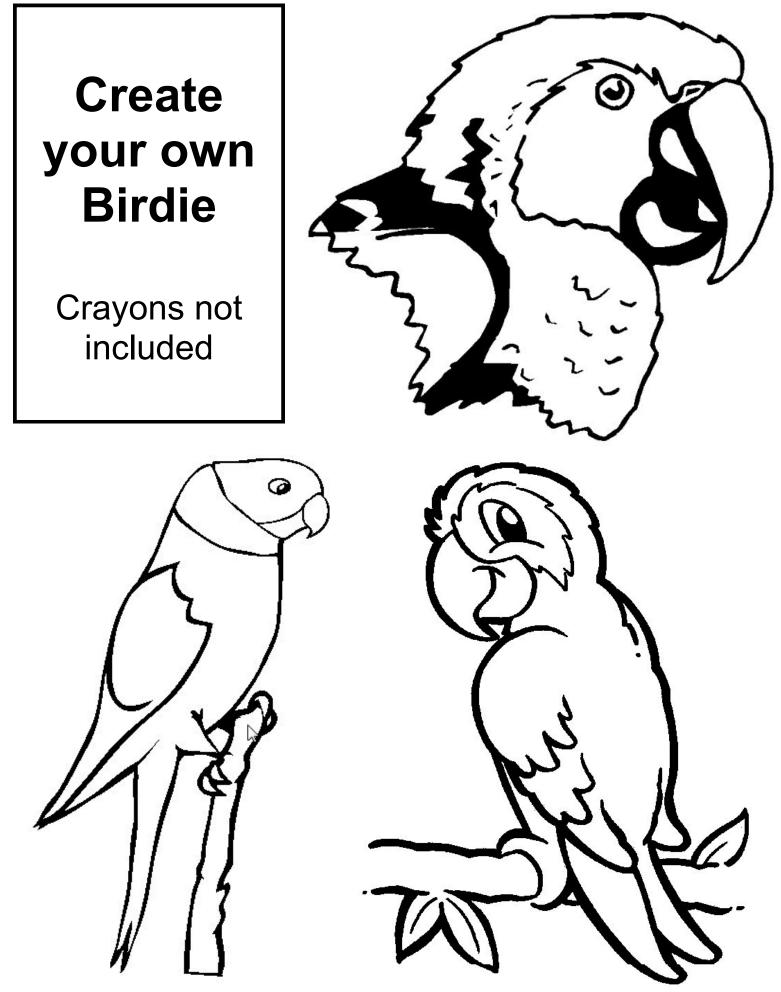
Maybe you have thought of joining a bird club but just can't decide if it's for you. Let me share some of the benefits of club membership so that you can stop missing out on the fun.

When you're owned by a bird, you cannot stop talking about your feathered friend. If you pull out the photos of your fids in the presence of another bird club member, you will get gooh's and ahhh's over the feathered baby. Other bird club members think you're perfectly normal. Coworkers and non-bird owners look at you as if you've gone nuts and might sprout feathers any minute. Other bird club members will join you in discussions of birdie behavior and will eagerly share their stories with you. Who else could possibly get as excited as you over having potty trained your bird but another bird owner?

After joining a bird club and attending for a while, you will develop friendships with people who adore anything covered in feathers or down and you will realize that you are among people who get just as excited as you about the little things that birds say and do on a daily basis. After all, parrots are very intelligent creatures and their beauty is rivaled by very few things in this world. Becoming a member of a bird club will enable you to attend regularly scheduled meetings to learn about behavior and how to solve problems you might experience along the way. You will also hear from experts on nutrition, avian medicine and the research that is ongoing to help find cures for avian diseases that strike without warning in our birds.

It's so nice to be able to pick up the phone or e-mail another member of the club who has experience with a problem you might be having and gaining valuable information very quickly. Often times, they can give you good advice and help to ease your worries with a little friendly advice. You can compare notes on your birds and find out that your bird is completely normal after all. Over time, you will become more knowledgeable about birds and will be able to offer advice to others who are new to bird ownership. You have access to other members of the avian community and events that are both fun and educational. Whether or not you have thought about joining a bird club, please consider doing it for the well-being of your bird so that your relationship will flourish and the bond you share will last a lifetime.





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RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY MEMBERS—MAY 2012

How to read the notes section of the member listing

The notes for each member contain abbreviations of the types of birds that members own or breed. A "(b)" after the abbreviation indicates the member breeds that bird.

Nome	Abbr	Name			Abbr	Name		Abbr		A la la u			
Name African Grey, Congo	Abbr CAG	Cockatoo			_	Eclectus, Vosi	maeri's	VE	Name	Abbr			
African Grey, Timneh	TAG	Cockatoo, (Citron		C2	English Budgies		EB	Macaw, Severe	SVM			
Amazon	AM	Cockatoo, I			E2	Finch		FN	Macaw, Yellow Collared	YCM			
Amazon, Blue Front	BFA	Cockatoo,			G2	Finch, Zebra		ZFN	Parakeet	KEET			
Amazon, Double Yellow Head			_esser Sulpher-C	rested	LSC	Lorry, Rainboy	N	RL	Parakeet, Alexindrine	AP			
Amazon, Lilac Crowned	LCA	Cockatoo, I	Major Mitchell (Le	eadbeater)	MM2	Lovebird		LVB	Parakeet, Indian Ring Neck	IRN			
Amazon, Mealy	MA	Cockatoo, I				Lovebird, Fisc		FLB	Parakeet, Lineolated	LP			
Amazon, Mexican Red Head	MRHA		Rose Breasted			Lovebird, Pea		PLB	Parakeet, Red Rump	RRP			
Amazon, Orange Winged	OWA	Cockatoo, I			U2	Lovebirds, Ma		MLM	Parrot, Hawkheaded	HH			
Amazon, Red Lored Amazon, White Fronted	RLA WFA		own Throated			Macaw, Blue a Macaw, Blue		B&G	Parrot, Jardine	JP			
Amazon, Yellow Naped	YNA	Conure, Ch	een Cheeked		GC	Macaw, Blue		BTM BM	Parrot, Meyers	MP			
Bourke, Blue	BB	Conure, Je			JC	Macaw, Dahoi		CM	Parrot, Quaker	QP			
Bourke, Normal	BN		aroon Bellied			Macaw, Greer		GW	Parrot, Senegal	SP			
Bourke, Rosie	RB	Conure, Na			NC	Macaw, Hahns		HM	Parrotlet	PAR			
Caique	CQ	Conure, Su	n		SC	Macaw, Hyaci	nth	HYM	Parrotlet, Green Rump	GPL			
Caique, White Bellied	WCQ	Dove, Diam	nond		DD	Macaw, Militar	ry	MM	Parrotlet, Pacific	PPAF			
Canary	CAN	Eclectus, R				Macaw, Red F		RFM	Pionus, Blue Head	BP			
Cockatiel	TIEL	Eclectus, S	oloman Island		SIE	Macaw, Scarle	et	SM	Pionus, Maximilian	MMF			
Name	Ac	ddress	Phone		Ema	ail			Notes				
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Jan Bishop				jantiels@a	iol.com	ı							
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Jennifer Cameron	Apex, N	IC		mudmom(@bells	outh.net							
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Kittie Deemer	Wake F	orest, NC	919-819-1562	vanscapes	s@mad	c.com	K.Deemer	, Fine A	Art www.KDeemer.com SVM				
Joe DeLuca				noemail@		•							
Neville Devlaliwalla	Raleigh		919-730-0910	nevla17@			CAG						
Roland Dubuc	Fallbroc	ж, CA		LBINTER			CA.C						
Stephanie Duke				Stephanie	uuken	c@aol.com	CAG CAG CAN	I-b TIEL	. LSC RVC FN-b B&G BTM BM C	M GW			
Sharon Dvorak	Knightd		919-266-4935				HYM RFM	ISM S	VM YCM RRP MMP				
Christine Eckermann-Ross	Raleigh		919-844-9166	dre@avianandexotic.com									
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Kathy Elam	Clayton		919-550-9446	tomelam@	•		CAG AM	ГОО					
Linda & Joel Ellentuck	Cary, N	С	919-267-5817	Lindaeve3									
Phil Feret						gmail.com							
Laura Foster				Lfoster74(-		TIEL						
Dena Fowler	Raleigh		919-662-0291	spenconho	@nc.rr		AM B&G						
Kaye & Mike Francis	Clayton	, NC	919-553-4710										

RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY MEMBERS-MAY 2012

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Amanda Parrish		010 07 1 0200	mandabird2@juno.com	
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				YNA
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Michelle C. & T. Reed Un-				
derhill	Raleigh, NC	919-710-9918	michellelcz@gmail.com	SP BP MMP
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				CAG-b DYH-b RLA-b WFA-b YNA-b RB-b TIEL-b G2 -b U2 -b
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Social Skills for Parrots

By: Gena Everhart

Many people believe that parrots spend all of their time in a cage. Let me assure you that they definitely should not. If your parrot spends his life locked inside a cage, you're missing the best part of parrot hood (parenthood of a parrot). Your parrot should be spending as much time outside of the cage as possible each day. Parrots are extremely intelligent. They need interesting activities, a change of scenery and interactive play to be at their best. A bored parrot is a behavior problem waiting to happen. Boredom can cause screaming, feather plucking, self-mutilation and even aggressive attacks on humans. Reversing these problem behaviors is difficult. A bird that screams incessantly is not a pleasure to have around. Do yourself and your bird a favor – begin to offer your parrot a stimulating environment. Here are some suggestions:

- Keep your bird's wings clipped properly so it's safe for him to spend time out of the cage.
- Take your bird with you whenever possible. Of course, you can't carry your bird into a restaurant but you can take him with you to the pet store when you buy supplies. Other pet lovers will stop and talk to him and offer him a "step-up" with your permission. This gives your bird a chance to see that other people exist besides you and that they can be trusted. You can also take him to friends' homes for visits as long as they're willing to allow it. One word of caution don't force your bird to interact if he has a severe reaction to someone or something but encourage him to be friendly to others. Your goal is to offer him an opportunity to learn and to teach him good manners. Introduce him to new places and people slowly. Always watch out for signs that he has had enough. At first, you may only get him into the carrier but if you persist slowly, he will learn that an outing is fun.
- Consider placing play gyms and perches in rooms other than his cage room. If his cage is in the living room, let him spend supervised time on a perch in the den. Switch the locations around the house. This teaches him to be a well-behaved bird anywhere he is placed. This doesn't mean that you must stop everything you are doing in order to supervise the bird. Allow him to be near you while you fold the laundry or other tasks that permit you to keep an eye on him. In fact, one on one time is nice, but let's face it how many of us have a huge chunk of time? You can still talk to the bird and he can watch whatever you're doing. This beats being in the cage anytime!
- Play games. You can invent all types of games. Birds sometimes invent their own and ask you to follow along. A five minute session of "Peek-A-Boo" or step-up training followed by "Good Bird" in a silly voice, will completely delight your bird. Birds love drama. An exaggerated expression like "Way to go" or "Good Job" fascinates them. Birds also love to throw things. They can grab a small plastic golf ball and give it a toss. You can catch it and return it for the bird to throw again. Sometimes, birds just love hanging out to watch TV with you. Just be careful not to expose them to programs that contain undesirable language!

All of these exercises have a purpose other than merely providing your bird and yourself with entertainment. The bottom line is that parrots live a very long time, sometimes 50-80 years. It is entirely possible that a parrot may outlive you or life circumstances may change and require that a parrot be re-homed. If you truly love your pet, you want to prepare him for that possibility so that he can make the smoothest transition into a new situation. Keeping that in mind, introducing him to other people and places outside the home gives him confidence in new surroundings and with other humans, teaches him good behavior thereby giving him the best chance of fitting into a new family should the need occur and builds trust in humans. Teaching play gives him a chance to make voluntary choices to entertain himself when he's alone. (For example, leaving the plastic ball in the cage with him while you're at work, he can throw the ball around the cage in play.) This avoids problem behaviors that would put him at risk when trying to find a new home.

Gena Everhart is a resident of Alamance County. She lives in Mebane with her human family and her flock of seven parrots.

	HOW TO FIND OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS
45.70 1.440	
	Glen Eden Pilot Park Community Building
No entrance from I-440	2:30 P.M., Third Sunday of Every Month
es ren Eden Ra	(In June, we will meet the Second Sunday)
Durham 🔪 🛛 🦓 👘 🎾	
3 D	Membership dues are:
	INDIVIDUAL: 1 Year - \$20; 3 Year - \$50
, caute	FAMILY (TWO ADULTS OR ADULTS PLUS CHILDREN AT SAME AD-
	DRESS): 1 Year - \$25; 3 Year - \$60
Cary	Applications may be obtained at our monthly meetings or other functions, may be
Cary 1.40	printed from our Web Page (www.rdcbs.org), or may be requested by phone from the
	Membership Committee or by written request sent to the RDCBS , P.O.BOX 32291 ,
1	Raleigh, NC 27622. Completed applications and dues payment may be returned to
	the RDCBS at the same address.

Crosswing Puzzle and Word Search

The answers for the two puzzles come from the articles in this program. This year we have two puzzles with the same answers. You can do the crosswing puzzle and then find the answers in the word search, or do the word search and use what you find to complete the crosswing puzzle, your choice.

Across 3.A bird should be seen by a vet immediately if it appears this. 7.A variety of chopped fruits, vegetables and grains developed by Patricia Sund.	2		3							1			4		
9.Number of times recommended to bring your bird in for a well check each year.															
10.When nails grow too long <u>becomes un-</u> comfortable.						5		6			7			8	
12.A type of parrot research performed by Dr. Donald Brightsmith at Texas A&M.									H						
14.In the month of October, RDCBS has a dis- play at the(3 words). 16.A type of Cockatoo.	9									10		11			
18.A type of Large Macaw. 19.The temporary placement of a bird in need of	12														
a new home.	112 			_											
Down 1.The blood and nerve supply found in the beak															
and nails of a bird is call the. 2.A good place for a bird to play when it is out of							13								
its cage(two words).			14												15
3.A type of Amazon(two words).4.A movie viewed at the January, 2012 meeting.															
5.An annual event that occurs at the RDCBS meeting in August.										16					
6.A type of Cockatiel. 8.The best feathers to clip on a wing clipping		17													
are thefeathers on both wings. 11.Conures are known to be quite birds.		Π					\square								
13.A fecal gram stain test is to check forand gastrointestinal bacteria.		18													
15.A type of Conure. 17.A type of Mini Macaw.															
					19							- 3			



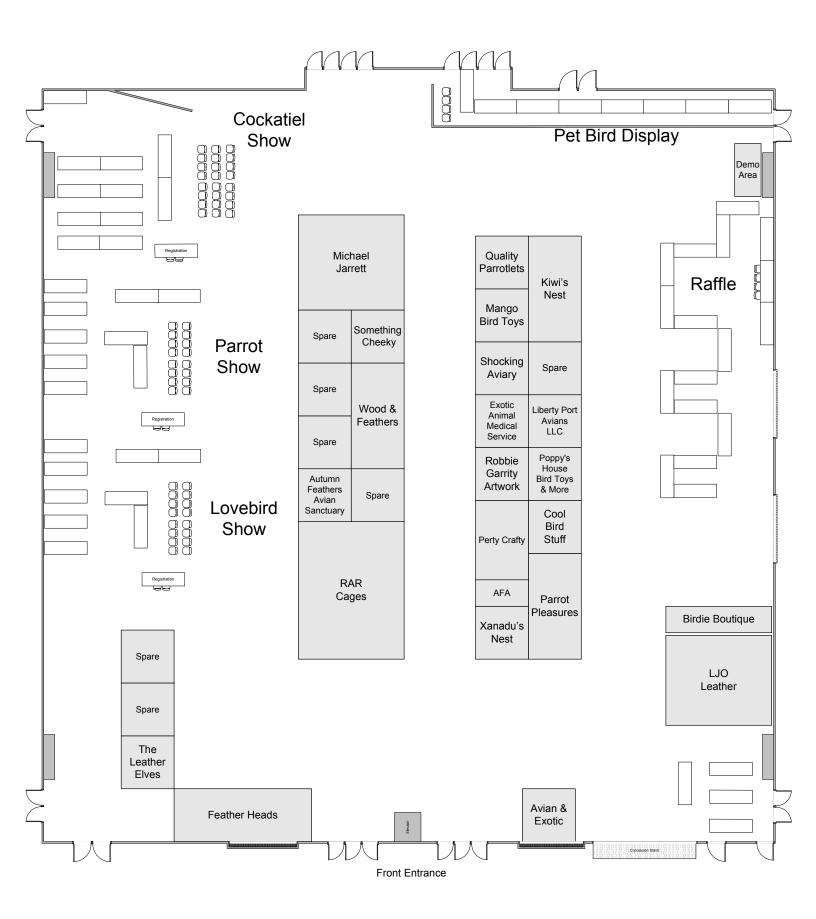
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