

A black and white line drawing of a tropical scene. On the left is a tall palm tree. On the right is a bird perched on a branch with a large circle behind it. In the center is a map of North Carolina with a toucan and a cardinal. The bottom is filled with various tropical leaves and plants.

RALEIGH-DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY

**Guide to the 26th Annual
Pet Bird Fair**

May 24, 2014

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RDCBS' PET BIRD FAIR COMMITTEE:

Chairman: John Marquis

Vendor Coordinator: Melody Appleby, Kathy Elam

Hospitality Coordinators: Cindy Chappell and
Laura Barwick

Raffle Coordinator: Angela Parrish

Pet Bird Exhibition Coordinator: Terry Perry

Registration: Judy Calhoun, Leigh Calhoun and
Laura Marquis

Publicity: Jennifer Baldwin

Program Booklet Editors: Laura and John Mar-
quis, Leigh Calhoun

A MESSAGE FROM THE FAIR CHAIRMAN

Welcome, I hope you enjoy our Twenty-Sixth Annual Pet Bird Fair, I am sure it will be an enjoyable and educational experience for you and your family. 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

2014 PET BIRD FAIR

WORD SCRAMBLE ANSWERS

Hyacinth Macaw
Congo African Grey
Raleigh Durham Caged Bird Society
psittacine
White Bellied Caique
new world parrot
old world parrot
Golden Macaw
Major Mitchells Cockatoo
Cuban Red Macaw



I WANT YOU!
To Join RDCBS

THE RDCBS 2014 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The members of the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society join me in welcoming you to the 26th Annual Pet Bird Fair. Throughout the years our club has remained faithful to our original purpose of education, promoting good bird ownership and fellowship among bird lovers of all ages. Please take the time to visit with our terrific group of vendors, many of whom attend year after year. You will find toys for the birds and collectibles plus many items that can't be found in stores. So be sure to stock up. Visit our Pet Bird Display where you can see pet birds of all kinds and have an opportunity to ask questions and talk to bird owners. Get your tickets for the Giant Raffle and enter each of the Raffles held during the day for your chance to win some great things for you and your birds. As always profits from the Pet Bird Fair go into the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Societies Grant Program for Avian Research and Conservation. We hope you have a great time and we hope to see you at one of our monthly meetings to continue the good times.

Thanks to our vendors, members and volunteers who support the Pet Bird Fair and help make it better with each passing year.

Sincerely,
Bradley Calhoun, RDCBS President

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.
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 activities 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.

2014 ELECTED OFFICERS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

Brad Calhoun 919-763-9236 brad_leigh@nc.rr.com

Past President:

April Blazich 919- 851-8079 aprilb@bellsouth.com

Vice President:

Jennifer Baldwin 919-961-0554 jenbaldwin4@gmail.com

Secretary:

Laetitia Ulick lhbernas@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Mike Kelly mdtkelly@hughes.net

Board ('11-'14)

Angie Parrish; angibird@juno.com

Board ('12-15)

Terry Perry 919-639-4575 tpandcharlie@embarqmail.com

Board ('13-'16)

Leigh Calhoun 919-763-9236 rockyb2@ancak.com

Board ('14-17)

Jennifer Cameron 919-616-6276 mudmom@bellsouth.net

COMMITTEES/APPOINTEES

Monthly Meetings:

Educational Program Director—Judy Calhoun—(919) 488-7949; jcalhoun5@nc.rr.com; Jennifer Cameron (919) 616-6276; mudmom@bellsouth.net

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 CarolinParakeet" Editor— Leigh Calhoun (919) 763-9236; brad_leigh@nc.rr.com—Laura Marquis (919) 266-0906; laura@jamcosys.com

Webmaster—John Marquis---266-0906; john@jamcosys.com

Renewal notices/New member packets— Laetitia Ulick—LHBernas@gmail.com

RDCBS T-Shirts and Gear—www.cafepress.com/RDCBS

RDCBS Nametags—www.RDCBS.org

Librarian—OPEN

Legislative Issues—Cindy Chappell—779-1206; c7791206@mindspring.com; Laura Barwick – 876-8192 lbirdog@hotmail.com

Educational Outreach: OPEN

Bird Fair Chairman—John Marquis---266-0906; john@jamcosys.com

NC State Fair Coordinator—April Blazich—851-8079; aprilb@bellsouth.net,

Grant Requests Coordinator— RDCBS.org

AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVES:

American Federation of Aviculture (AFA)—April Blazich—(919) 851-8079; aprilb@bellsouth.com;

Laura Barwick—(919) 876-8192; lbirdog@hotmail.com

World Parrot Trust (WPT)—

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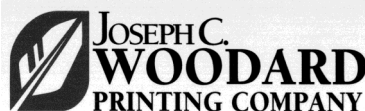
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE RDCBS

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. In 2012 the Board of Directors revised the RDCBS Bi-laws and have added the Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President as Board Members with voting rights. Family members can now be on the Board. 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 Marquis, It is our hope that individuals attending this year's fair, perhaps even for the first time, will be writing the future history of the club.

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A SAMPLING OF RDCBS' EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

In large part, these contributions have come from the proceeds of our 24 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 monetary 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.

For details and applications of the selection process for RDCBS grants and awards, you may submit your request by going to www.RDCBS.org or mail your request to:

Raleigh Durham Caged Bird Society

PO Box 32291

Raleigh, NC 27622

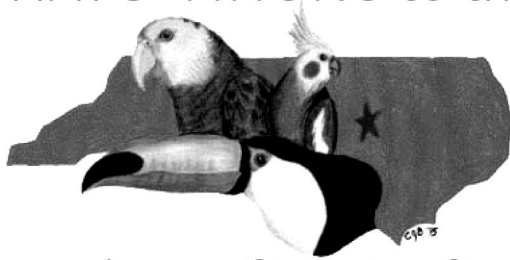
VETERINARY CARE FOR YOUR BIRDS

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 in the Raleigh-Durham area. A larger number of veterinarians, although not certified as 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.

Veterinarians in the Raleigh Durham area who treat birds.

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	608 N. Mail	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* Dr. Degernes, Laurel*	(919) 513-6786
Raleigh	AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CLINIC Nights, Weekends and Holidays	409 Vick Avenue	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

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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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Improving the Dynamic in the Pet Bird Homes

By Kashmir Csaky

Kashmir Csaky is an international speaker, writer and a certified parrot behavioral consultant with the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants. She served on the board of directors of the International Aviculturist Society and Bird Clubs of Virginia.

Family Dynamics in the Pet Bird Home

Once a parrot becomes a member of a family, the family dynamics are forever changed. Not only are there new responsibilities, the family must also learn to deal with the behaviors and the demands of a new family member that they do not fully understand. In a search for knowledge they will come across many myths that seem all too logical and probable based on their bird's behavior. These myths are deeply rooted in the past and they perpetuate many of the concepts that we hold to be true. When the myths are loosely based on science they become even more strongly rooted and are hard to dispel. Parrots seem almost human; making it easy for people to anthropomorphize parrot behavior. When we accept animals into our lives that are as intelligent as a parrot it is easy for us to attribute emotions to their behaviors such as jealousy and anger. Since anger and jealousy are covert we cannot know if they are emotions that a bird actually feels, we can only guess.

The One Person Bird

One of the most hurtful behaviors that parrots exhibit is bonding strongly to one person and lunging, biting and chasing off other family members. The people being bitten feel ostracized. Frequently they feel that both the bird and the "favorite" human family member have shunned them. Resentment builds and any effort to pave the way to a better relationship is abandoned. This is further complicated by the myth that, "Parrots bond to one mate in the wild for life." This belief is partially correct. Some species of parrots bond others do not and if a mate dies, the survivor will eventually search for another mate. Our perception of how deeply parrots bond leads to a harmful acceptance that parrots automatically and naturally become one person birds. We are told, "They will not love any other human, once they have bonded." This myth may remain constant within a family even if the bird switches his favorite person for a different favorite person. Upon further examination it becomes obvious that this notion is not reflected in the behavior of wild parrots. Bonded pairs of parrots may isolate themselves from most of their flock during breeding season. However, Quaker parakeets build large community nests and must have some interaction with their neighbors even during breeding season. Bonded pairs of parrots do not terminate relationships with other flock members. They interact with each other. They are social animals and they flock with others of their kind. They have families and they interact with family members and friends even if they have a mate. In captivity it is possible to co-parent with well adapted pairs of birds. In a few cases the interaction between the humans and a breeding pair is very close, trusting and affectionate. The human is a flock member that is trusted to be around eggs and babies and is even allowed to handle the eggs and babies. While individual birds may become defensive of a chosen mate during breeding season, this behavior should not last the entire year and it is controllable with proper training so that no one has to suffer painful bites and terribly hurt feelings. In the wild parrots travel in family groups. To show your parrot that you are a family, go out together. Go for rides in the car or to any bird friendly and safe place. The person who is getting bitten the most should also take the bird out for some one on one time outside of the home. The human will be familiar and the bird will feel safer when that person is close by. Once at a safe place the bird can be given a treat or two inside the crate. It is not a good idea to remove the bird from the carrier and create a situation where the person may be bitten or the parrot may escape. When the relationship improves the bird can be removed from the crate on these outings. Within the home the favorite person should praise and reinforce any desired and friendly behavior that the parrot shows for other people. If the bird can be handled by more than one person, the favorite person should avoid taking the parrot out of the cage. The bird will have to go to people who are not his favorite person to spend time out of the cage. He is then taken to the favorite person as reinforcement. If the bird has a tendency to bite the person he is with when he sees the favorite person, the parrot should be taken to a gym where he is set down and the favorite person is called to come and play with the bird.

The bird should see that the people he had been trying to chase away have some control over his favorite person and can make that person come and play with him. These methods reinforce desired, friendly behavior by using the presence of the favorite person as the reinforcer. The preferred person should also stop giving the bird his favorite treat. The person who is chased away the most should be the only one to give the bird his favorite food. Once the bird is responding well to everyone reliably, then everyone can give the bird his favorite food again.

My birds don't get along

There is the belief that is popular in Europe and is spreading to the United States that birds should always have an avian companion. A conscientious parrot owner may decide that their parrot is lonely and find him a companion, only to discover that the two birds do not get along or perhaps they just don't interact. The birds may have minor squabbles or they may engage in bloody battles and one or both birds can get badly hurt. If your birds ignore each other or have minor spats then you can begin working with them on separate T-stands or gyms. Place the stands or gyms as close together as you can and still have both birds looking calm and comfortable. If you see that either bird is the least bit excited, agitated or uncomfortable move them further apart until both birds seem tranquil. Now that Mr. Hatfield and Mr. McCoy are out on their stands. Ask Hatfield to do one of his tricks, when he does give him a treat and give one to McCoy too. McCoy does not have to do anything. He gets a treat every time Hatfield gets a treat. Then ask McCoy to do one of his tricks when he does give him a treat and give one to Hatfield too. Hatfield also get a treat each time that McCoy gets a treat. It is important that the tricks are ones that the birds know well and will do with little or no hesitation. Continue to alternate between the two birds asking each bird to do a trick and giving both birds a treat. After two minutes. Separate the two birds to the opposite sides of the room. They should still be able to see and hear each other. Work with Hatfield alone. You can work on new behaviors at this time, if you would like. Do not provide McCoy with any additional stimulation at this time. He should watch you from a distance and get no treats whatsoever. No one else in the home should play with him. After working with Hatfield for about two minutes move to the other side of the room and work with McCoy. At this time Hatfield should be the one who receives no treats or additional stimulation. Once you have worked with McCoy for two minutes, place the stands or gyms back to their original locations, so that Hatfield and McCoy are close together again. Work with both birds again, asking them to do easy tricks that they know well and give both Hatfield and McCoy a treat when either one does something successfully. They learn that the other bird can control something that is pleasant for them and that good things happen to them when the other bird is around. In this way you can create a pleasurable association. Keep these training sessions short, not more than three minutes and then end on a positive note. You can have another training session in about 10 minutes if you would like. The more frequently you have training sessions the better. Try to have at least two a day. At the next training session see if you can move the stands closer together and still have both birds comfortable. At each session test the distance and keep trying to move the stands as close the each other as possible. Work with the birds in the same way as described above. Ultimately the stands will be so close together that one bird will step on the stand that the other bird is perched. If there is no tension then they can remain together, but if there is so much as a prolonged gaze then separate the two birds. One of them is not ready to be that close to the other. If they both appear happy and content, then continue working with them on the same stand. If they decide to share a stand for the next five training session, then you can begin using one stand for the two birds. When trying to create an agreeable relationship between two birds with a history of repeated but not serious fighting you will have to work with the birds while they are inside their cages. Place the cages close together so that the birds are uncomfortable and observe their behavior. What do they do? Do they snap at the air towards each other? Do they move to the opposite sides of their cages? Do they beat up on a toy? Do you see any displacement behaviors, such as leg or foot biting or shoulder preening while glaring at the other bird? These are indications that the distance between the two birds is too close. Move them further apart until the behaviors vanish. Once the birds are comfortable with the cages next to each other and you have worked with them in this position for a few days and you are satisfied that there will be no violence you can begin working with them outside of their cages.

Improving the Dynamic in the Pet Bird Homes (continued)

If the birds can fly it is vital that they have been taught to target and are very good at going to the target when asked. Pick target locations for each bird and if one takes off and flies in any direction. Target that bird to the predetermined location. Return him to the stand and if either bird seems nervous or excited move the stands further apart. If they still look uncomfortable, return them to their cages. If they appear to be at ease then proceed with the training. Birds that have had serious fights should not be out together. If the birds are flighted, do not even allow one bird out of his cage while the other one is caged in the same room. A cage cannot adequately protect either bird. They can reach through the bars; bite each other's toes, legs, or face. This can result in serious mutilation or even death. Birds that have engaged in severe physical altercations where one or both birds were injured may never be buddies. They may learn to tolerate each other. However, they should never be left alone and unsupervised with each other. There are many reports of male cockatoos suddenly and without warning killing or maiming other birds that this possibility cannot be dismissed. If a male cockatoo has shown any evidence of physical violence and has inflicted deep bloody bites on another bird or a human, he should not be left alone with other birds or people inexperienced with birds. Most cockatoos are highly animated and easy to read. However, some male cockatoos appear to suddenly become violent towards other birds. They may also bite us unexpectedly and repeatedly in quick succession or they will not release their bite digging deeper in to our flesh. These birds can be very hard to read. The signs of distress are there but they are extremely subtle or easy to mistake. Sometimes the only noticeable indication is that a bird tightens his grip on an arm or hand.

These unwanted and unexpected behaviors start at sexual maturity. It does not happen with all male cockatoos, which is important to understand. There is some evidence that flocking these birds with other male cockatoos when they are recently weaned reduces incidences of biting and maiming. Training desirable behaviors from an early age and maintaining that training throughout life is another way of reducing any unwanted behaviors.

Birds and other pets

People who enjoy parrots are true animal lovers and they often have other pets. The interaction between their parrots and their other pets can be cute and heartwarming. It is a pleasure to see animals that are distinctly different becoming friends and enjoying each other's company. Their loving relationships make us feel that there is hope for an ailing society of humans and that our differences can be overcome. We can live in a peaceable kingdom.

When we see that our pets get along we may become complacent and forget that there are dangers even in the most affectionate of interspecies relationships. Most people are vigilant when cats are around their birds, they know that cats kill and eat birds. However, more dogs harm birds than cats. Very few people expect that their dogs will hurt their birds. A nip from a parrot is painful. A dog that is nipped may react quickly and harm or kill a parrot. The same behavior towards another dog may not cause any harm at all. Parrots that shared their homes with dogs for years have been found dead next to the dogs' food bowls. Odds are good that the parrots were eating from the bowls and were confronted by the dogs. A dog can even break through barricades, open a parrot's cage pull the bird out and kill him, even if the owners are at home. A dog may try to play with a parrot and play may escalate to violence. Sometimes the parrot is not physically injured, but dies from fear. There are dangers in taking your bird outdoors, yet it is both emotional enriching for your parrot and gratifying for you. Birds are startled easily by loud sounds and quick movements. When your bird is outdoors on a walk, someone's unleashed or uncontrolled dog may try to harm your bird. A bird should never be allowed to free fly in a park where people are playing with their dogs. A dog may react to a flying bird the same way dogs react to a Frisbee being tossed through the air. Ferrets and birds are a dangerous mix. Ferrets are much more dangerous to have around birds than a dog or a cat. They kill birds quickly before the owner can do anything to stop them. Reptiles carry salmonella and should not be allowed direct contact with parrots. Anyone with parrots and reptiles needs to keep the parrot's environment meticulously clean. They should diligently wash their hands before handling their parrot.

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Conflicted Behaviors in Parrots

Birds may exhibit conflicted behaviors when they are not ready to do as requested. You ask your bird to step onto your hand and he may reach out and then withdraw repeatedly. If this should happen make the decision easier for your bird and remove your hand. If you don't remove your hand odds go up that you will get bitten. As the conflict grows the bird will appear more frustrated and that increases the odds of a bite. Some birds may want to step onto your hand yet they are not ready to come out of a cage or have not developed enough trust to feel totally comfortable with stepping onto your hand. These birds may grab hold of part of the cage and hang on. Should this happen, hold your hand still and wait until the bird is ready to let go of the cage. As soon as the bird releases his grip, praise to mark and reinforce the behavior. Then hold your hand still, tell your bird what you intend on doing next like, "We're going to your gym." "Would you like to go see Daddy?" "Want to play outside?" Then slowly move away from the cage. Look for indications that your bird may not be comfortable. If he begins looking around, tries to grab the cage, grabs hold of your clothing, bites his own foot or leg or begins nervous preening, stop and return him to his cage. Your bird is not at ease so wait a little while and try at a later time. When you attempt to take him out of his cage again, you may want to use a lure. Do not mistake a courageous effort to accomplish a scary behavior with being conflicted. Birds may have a strong desire to do what you ask, but are fearful. If your bird's movements are slow, but continuous he has made the decision to do whatever was asked of him. Remain patient and allow him to finish at his own pace, so that he learns there is nothing to fear. When he accomplishes the behavior reinforce abundantly and give him the opportunity to retreat.

Running amok

"I am told I should not punish my bird, that I should use positive reinforcement only. When my bird acts up he needs discipline, are you telling me that I should allow my bird to run amok and dominate me?" If you are already trying to use punishment to control your bird's behavior, is it working for you? Are the behaviors changing for the better, staying the same or getting worse? Is there room for improvement in your relationship? Before you get into a power struggle with your parrot ask yourself, "How important is it that my bird does what is asked of him?" If there is an emergency or the situation is urgent, then you might be put into a position where you must use force. If it is simply an inconvenience or it is just that you want your parrot to behave differently, it is not worth the aggravation that will be the end result. In a power struggle you will never win. You may get what you want, but everyone has lost. Parrots should never be allowed to run amok. They should be given choices and you can set the parameters for the choices. You decide what the choices will be. "Would you like to stay in your cage? You have been there all afternoon, or would you like to come out on my hand? I will take you to your outdoor aviary to play." "Would you like to stay on your gym or would you like to go to your cage and eat your dinner? You have muffins and almonds tonight!" These are not earth shattering decisions. If your bird chooses the behavior that was not the option that you hoped he would pick, there is no harm done. You walk away; you wait and ask again a little later. He may become bored and ultimately realizes that he did not know what he really wanted. He may have only understood come out or go back. However, if the outcome of doing what was asked of him was enjoyable, he learns that your idea was better than his initial choice. The lesson he learns is to trust your judgment and your relationship improves on all levels.

Arranging antecedents

The most difficult behaviors to change may require that you change the environment in which they happen. Changing the antecedents that cause the behavior is more effective than most other methods. Imagine that your mother-in-law comes over for a rare visit and she is convinced that your bird hates her. He chases her around the house nipping at her feet. Rather than trying to target and station him during the visit, exercise him before she comes over, so that he is tired when she arrives. Then give him a new toy to play with in his cage. Behaviors themselves are neither good nor bad; they simply serve a purpose for the animal. It is the environment that is conducive for wanted or unwanted behaviors. When a situation seems particularly hopeless then it is time to become creative about changes that can be made to the environment. Make desired behaviors easier for your bird to accomplish and make unwanted behaviors harder to do.

Bringing Your Bird to an Avian Veterinarian

Dr. Laurie Degernes, Diplomate ABVP (Avian)
Associate Professor of Avian Medicine
Exotic Animal Medicine Service
College of Veterinary Medicine, NC State University, Raleigh, NC
(919) 513-6999 or vhcexoticmedicine@ncsu.edu

If you own a companion bird (such as a parrot or a pet chicken or duck) and have never brought your bird to a veterinarian, you may wonder why veterinary care is needed. Just like for other animals such as dogs and cats, pet birds can develop health problems that are best evaluated by an experienced avian veterinarian. It is also a great idea to establish a relationship with a veterinarian with whom you feel comfortable by bringing your bird in for a routine wellness exam when you are not in a crisis situation, and everything is going okay with your bird. In addition to establishing baseline information (for example, body weight and other parameters as part of a physical examination), routine blood tests or other tests can be done to assess for underlying health issues, or simply to establish a baseline for future reference, in case your bird ever gets sick. In addition, the veterinarian will ask a series of questions about your bird's medical or behavioral concerns, nutrition, environment, cage and accessories, and possible exposure to toxins and sources of infectious diseases. The avian history is a critical part of a pet bird assessment, particularly for the initial examination, as well as for any visits that are associated with a health concern.

What is the difference between a veterinarian who “sees birds”, and a veterinarian who “specializes in birds”? Any veterinarian can state that they see birds (or any other species of animal for that matter). The level of avian experience for these veterinarians can range from relatively inexperienced to very highly experienced. However, in order for a veterinarian to state that they specialize in birds, they must be board certified, which requires advanced training/experience and qualification and passing a board examination. Board certified veterinarians also must go through a recertification process every 10 years. Currently, there are two routes for board certification for veterinarians seeking to become specialists in avian medicine and surgery, the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in Avian Practice (this is the most common) and the American College of Zoological Medicine. There are over 150 ABVP-Avian diplomats in North American, including seven in North Carolina (<http://www.abvp.com/diplomate>).

What are the options for having your bird seen at the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine? The Exotic Animal Medicine Service (EAMS) will see all pet birds including parrots, finches/canaries, pet chickens and waterfowl, and raptors used for falconry (we do not see native wildlife). In addition, EAMS will also see all of the typical exotic small mammals (guinea pigs, ferrets, rabbits, chinchillas, rats, etc. but not non-human primates), reptiles (non-venomous), amphibians, and fishes. We are available for everything from a routine wellness appointment that does not require a veterinary referral, to complicated referrals, or second opinion cases (no referral is required), and day time and after-hours emergencies. Our veterinary staff includes four highly skilled veterinarians (including two board certified avian veterinarians [ABVP, Avian] and a board certified zoo veterinarian [with expertise in fish and reptile medicine]) and a veterinary intern.

Depending on the species, age and sex of your bird, presenting health problems, information gathered from the history questions, and any problems found on physical examination, we may discuss different options for a diagnostic evaluation and/or treatments. These diagnostic tests are designed to help diagnose your bird's problem, as well to screen your bird for illnesses that may be detrimental to your bird, you, or other birds in the home. Prior to doing anything with your bird, we will always discuss the diagnostic and/or treatment options, the cost, the risks and benefits, and answer any questions from the client before we proceed with a plan. Also, we make sure that we have all of the supplies needed for the diagnostic tests and treatments before we start in order to keep the handling time and stress to a minimum.

Here are some tests that we offer for your bird's health and how they help us assess your bird's health:

- Fecal Exam** (fecal Gram stain or fecal floatation): We look for the types and proportions of bacteria and yeast that are in the gastrointestinal tract, as well as for certain types of gastrointestinal parasites. Both tests are non-invasive and relatively inexpensive.
- Blood work:** Routine blood work usually consists of a complete blood count (CBC) and a biochemistry panel. These tests provide a great deal of information about possible infection, inflammation, and anemia, as well as help us to evaluate kidney and liver function, protein, glucose, and electrolyte levels, and muscle damage.
- Radiographs:** We often recommend taking radiographs ("x-rays") of our bird patients. This allows us to assess bones, respiratory system, heart, liver, gastrointestinal tract, spleen, kidneys, and reproductive tract. We can gather a lot of information about these body systems by examining a radiograph, such as whether or not there are any changes in size and position of organs, and the presence of ingested metal fragments or a retained egg.
- Infectious disease testing:** Birds can be exposed to diseases in many different ways. Birds from pet stores or flea markets, and birds that regularly contact other birds may be more likely to acquire infectious diseases, such as certain bacterial, fungal, and viral diseases, including Gram negative bacterial infections, yeast, Chlamydophila ("Psittacosis"), Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease, Herpes virus ("Pachecos" disease), Polyomavirus, and avian Bornavirus infections. We can discuss the various diagnostic options for these diseases if we are concerned that your bird may be infected or exposed.
- Heavy metal testing:** Often, birds are exposed to heavy metals that the owner is unaware of in their homes, such as lead or zinc. We can collect a blood sample to test for exposure to these toxic metals to help diagnose your bird's illness.
- Cultures:** We can get samples from your bird for culture, such as cloacal culture (usually for gastrointestinal tract infections) or choanal culture (usually for upper respiratory tract infections) to help diagnose specific types of bacterial infections, and which types of antibiotics should be most effective.
- Other diagnostic tests** – depending upon the presenting problems and results of other diagnostic tests, we have other options at the vet school to try to diagnose the underlying problem(s), including
- Ultrasound examination** – this non-invasive imaging option is especially helpful for liver problems in restrained, awake birds
 - CT ("Cat") scan** – this imaging option can provide a 3-D view of the bird's body that gives more information about internal organ size, shape or displacement, compared to regular radiographs (birds are usually under general anesthesia for this procedure)
 - Contrast radiographs** - a liquid contrast agent is administered into the bird's crop that helps outline the gastrointestinal tract from crop to cloaca, and provides information about organ size (inside and outside of the GI tract), presence of ingested foreign bodies (such as pieces of chewed toys), etc.
 - Contrast fluoroscopy** – similar to contrast radiographs, but we get a video of the bird's GI motility instead of a "snap shot" image. This approach is also beneficial in that once the liquid contrast agent is given, the bird is placed in a narrow cardboard box, and the images are taken while the bird is totally awake and unrestrained.
 - Biopsy** – a surgical or needle-aspirated biopsy of abnormal tissue can help us make a more specific diagnosis. Sometimes we will include a sample for culture too (example, chronic skin infection); birds are under general anesthesia for this procedure.
 - Endoscopic examination** – this procedure is done while the bird is under general anesthesia, and allows us to non-invasively look inside the bird (abdomen/airsacs, trachea, cloaca, sinuses, etc.) to visualize abnormal tissues and collect samples for biopsy, cultures, etc.



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Photo by Jason Raitz

JACKIE

A very inquisitive, charming, nine year old female Congo African Grey. She came to Phoenix Landing in 2011 and was adopted once but, due to a change in life circumstances, is now looking for her next home.

STEP-UP Schedule

SKILLS TO EMPOWER PEOPLE to UNDERSTAND PARROTS ("STEP-UP") in Asheville, NC.

An intensive workshop designed to give people an abundance of information about parrot care, from behavior and health, to nutrition and enrichment. In addition to lectures, there will be hands-on training sessions, cooking classes, and time to discuss issues of specific importance to you. For more information, go to phoenixlanding.org/stepup

June 20-22 • August 22-24 • November 7-9 (Advanced Class)

Event Schedule: Cary, NC

June 1 • A Parrot's Point of View
August 3 • Toy-Making
October 5 • Behavior Workshop
December 7 • Things I Wish I'd Known

Classes are 1-3pm at AniMall
 1105 Walnut St., Cary, NC 27511
 Complete event listings at
<http://www.phoenixlanding.org/events.html>

The Phoenix Landing Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit all-volunteer organization. It was established to promote and protect the welfare of parrots, especially those with an extensive lifespan.

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 lbirdog@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 sldvo-

rak@nc.rr.com Non-Club AFA, NGC, ASC, UTB

Edwards, Wendy Raleigh, NC 919-850-2180 Caro-

linaFlight@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

If you would like to search for more information on your bird through its leg band id log onto www.LegBandNumbers@yahoogroups.com
www.NCbirdlegband.info

To report a lost or found bird log onto <http://www.911parrotalert.com>

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

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 Cultures
 Discipline
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 Flock
 Knowledge
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 Reinforce
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 wellness

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 o,r,r,p,d,l,r,w,l,a,c,M,n,d,l,o,t,k,c,C,s,l,l,h,c,i,M,w,c,M,d,R,n,b

A YEAR IN THE RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY 2013/2014

<u>April, 2013</u>	Welcomed Guest Speaker Dr. Vanessa Grunkemeyer from NCSU Vet School.
<u>May, 2013</u>	RDCBS Members April Blazich and Leigh Calhoun presented "Wonderful Weeds and Edibles for your Birds" RDCBS Members attended and showed their birds at "Got To Be NC" Fair RDCBS Members attended and showed their birds at the Coco Booth Amphitheater in Cary, NC for the Family Movie Night of Rio. RDCBS 25 th Anniversary Bird Fair.
<u>June, 2013</u>	RDCBS Members Terry Perry and Laura Marquis presented "Getting Started with Baby Birds"
<u>July, 2013</u>	Avian Idol Show, club members brought their birds and showed off their amazing tricks. Final preparations for AFA Convention
<u>August, 2013</u>	RDCBS Annual Summer Pot Luck Picnic and Raffle. RDCBS Hosted the American Federation of Aviculture at the North Raleigh Hilton, with Field trips to the Museum of Natural Science behind the scenes and The Sylvan Heights Water Fowl Park.
<u>September, 2013</u>	Dr. Gregory Burkett, ABVP Avian Guest Speaker "Ask The Vet".
<u>October, 2013</u>	Dr. Gregory Burkett, ABVP Avian – Nutrition RDCBS Members Presented their birds and information at the NC State Fair.
<u>November, 2013</u>	DVD Movie – PBS Series "Life of Birds" Elections. Grant Recipients voted on. Winners Sylvan Heights Water Fowl Park, NCSU Veterinary School, Dr. Degernes – Lower Level Laser Therapy for Birds, Dr. Donald Brightsmith – Tambopata Macaw project.
<u>December, 2013</u>	Christmas Pot Luck Fellowship Lunch and raffle.
<u>January, 2014</u>	Toy Making Workshop.
<u>February, 2014</u>	RDCBS Field Trip to the NC Museum of Natural Sciences to see the "Birds of Paradise" exhibit.
<u>March, 2014</u>	Presentation on Lost Birds and How to Find Them by Jennifer Cameron followed by group discussion. Pre-Bird Fair Meeting Pot Luck at RDCBS Club Members home.
<u>April, 2014</u>	DVD Video by Dr. M. Scott Echols "Captive Foraging" with group discussion following video



Tips and Tricks to maintain your aviary

By: Laura Marquis

- To avoid corrosion of the bottom cage tray, try lining the tray with wax paper before placing new paper on to the tray; this will help to keep moisture off the tray.
- For an inexpensive air filter/circulator, purchase a 20" x 20" box fan, replace the side screws with longer screws, and then place an inexpensive 20" x 20" house air filter between the screws on the side where air is drawn in. The filter will catch dust, small feathers and small seed hulls.
- Purchase washable house air exchange filters, while this is a little more expensive initially, you will save in the long run. For even more ease, purchase two filters for each air exchange in your house that way you will have one in place while the other is being washed and drying out. Some of these filters also capture bacteria and large virus cells.
- Before changing your bird papers, mist your bird with a water bottle before changing the cage, the mist will fall on the news paper and keep the dust and feathers from floating into the air when changing the papers and give Polly a welcomed shower.
- When wiping down your birdies cage, give him/her a chemical free paper towel, let him watch you wipe down the cage while he/she has the paper towel, he/she may surprise you and start wiping the cage as well.
- In the winter months, use a humidifier to keep down the dust and help ad moister for your birds skin and sinuses.
- Check your house hold air filter once a week; this will help you determine how often you should change it. With pets, frequent changes will help cut down on dust, hair and save on your electric bill.
- Toys???? Check out the local Dollar Store, the baby section has all kinds of wonderful, brightly colored toys your feathered kid would love to play with.
- Looking for a way for Polly to spend family TV time? How about looking at the PVC Section in the local hardware store. Be creative, and build a play station for Polly to play on while the family is together watching TV. Measure your own creation to fit inside a cage tray/pan to catch the poop. PVC washes easily. Use Medic wrap on the horizontal areas your bird will be on to prevent slipping off. Attach toys by screwing Non toxic metal eye screws into the PVC and attach toys. For larger play stations that sit on the floor try using a pan that fits under a washing machine.

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THE BEST BIRDIE BREAD EVER

By: Laura Marquis

2 cups Self Rising Corn Meal/Flour

1 Egg

1 ¼ cup soy milk

½ cup No Salt Peanut Butter

1 ripe Banana

½ cup chopped Mixed Nuts

½ 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

Pet Emergency check list

Have a travel carrier/cage (cat and dog carriers work great) put together and stored under or near your birds cage for quick easy access along with your veterinarian's contact information taped to the carrier.

Have a towel and/or gloves stored in the carrier.

Make a plan ahead of time. Designate a person in your family to retrieve your bird if it becomes necessary.

Pack an emergency kit for our birds and other pets.

Fresh water (enough for 7 days)

Food (pellet/seed) (enough for 7 days)

Paper Towels

Toys to distract birds

Plastic zip top baggies

Hand Feeding Formula and Syringe in case hand feeding is necessary.

Bleach to disinfect surfaces if needed

Athletic Hot Packs to keep your bird warm if it becomes sick injured or the temperature is cold.

A Critter Keeper with a hand towel in the bottom in case you need to make a temporary hospital bed for your bird.

Your Veterinarian's phone number

Your First Aide Kit

Extra News Paper to change their carriers.

To create a first aide kit you need the following.

- A tackle box or other water proof container to keep supplies in
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Antibacterial Soap
- Antibiotic cream
- Dawn [™] Dish Soap (gentle and removes grease and oil)
- Paper Towels
- Cornstarch, Septic Powder such as Quik Stop [™]
- Athletic Gel Heat Packs (have several, incase you can not get to help right away)
- Hand Feeding Formula
- Syringes
- Pedialyte [™] (this has electrolytes to help avoid dehydration)
- Tweezers
- Hemostats
- Scissors
- Cotton Balls and swabs
- Gauze
- Veterinary tape (does not stick), medic wrap works well too.
- Telephone number of Animal Poison Control
- Emergency Avian Veterinary Service telephone number
- Primary Avian Veterinarian telephone number
- Note Pad and Pen to take notes

A handbook on basic stabilization of injury (not to be used as a replacement for veterinary care).

While we all hope that we will not need to use any of this information, it is better to be prepared, just in case, rather than have to try and gather the necessary items during an emergency.

PARROTS, THE PAMPERED PET

By: Leigh Calhoun

Webster defines a pet as, "a domesticated animal kept for pleasure rather than utility."

That fits but . . .

He also says a pet is, "a pampered and usually spoiled child." Now that is what a parrot should be, pampered and spoiled, loved for its antics and feathered beauty. It's easy to look through rosy glasses when we contemplate getting a parrot. A talking pet with bright colored feathers is very alluring.

Cats, independent aloof and regal; Dogs, devoted, subordinate and drooling; Parrots now that's a bird of a different feather. By and large parrots are none of that, they look upon you as their flock and on themselves as an equal to you. Quite a different concept.

When you bring a parrot, or any bird, into your life remember that your new feathered friend will need you every day, he needs fresh water, food, clean paper and your attention. He wants you to stand in front of his cage and talk to him and make funny faces at him and whistle and make silly noises to entertain him. That's right, entertain him. Oh, you thought he was going to be entertaining you, well, that too. It can be a mutual thing and the more the better. More than that this intelligent creature needs lifestyle enrichment, things to occupy his time and mind when you are busy doing other things. Toys to play with and chew on, a play stand, foraging toys you make up to conceal his foods. Anything you can think of to simulate what he would find in the wild and what he is missing by living in his cage.

If you are getting a feathered pet for a child remember that the bird will absolutely need attention every day and your child must have your interaction and supervision. Pets are a wonderful learning experience but choose carefully. A cockatoo isn't a good choice for a first bird but his little cousin the cockatiel would be a better choice.

Before bringing home a pretty feathered creature you will need to get an appropriate cage, the largest you can afford, this will be his house and he will spend a great deal of his time in it. He will need food, bowls, toys, things to consider and read up on, there are many choices. Each species of birds will have different dietary needs so read up, ask questions so that you will know what they need by the time you get home with your new friend.

We are so very fortunate in this area to have so many Avian Vets to help us keep our feathered kids healthy. As well joining a pet bird club would be ideal for support and education. Finding like-minded people who you can talk to about your bird and who you can learn from is invaluable. People who say, "Cool, wherever did you get that awesome (code word for gaudy) T-shirt with those crazy colored macaws on it?"

So remember, if your lifestyle allows, meaning if you have time for interacting and caring for a bird, then a bird may be for you. Expect some noise with a bird, some can get loud, some are louder. Even a small bird can live as long some of the longest lived dogs or cats. Some of the parrots can live as long as a human so it's a commitment you have to take seriously if you are going to do right by your bird.

With all of that said, birds are a lot of fun, they can be great pets. Join us at our monthly meetings, of the Raleigh-Durham Caged Bird Society to learn all about taking care of pet birds and join in the fellowship that you will find with other people who share a love of these unique creatures.

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RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY MEMBERS—MAY 2014

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.

Name	Abbr	Name	Abbr	Name	Abbr	Name	Abbr
African Grey, Congo	CAG	Cockatoo	TOO	Conure, Nanday	NC	Macaw, Military	MM
African Grey, Timneh	TAG	Cockatoo, Citron	C2	Conure, Sun	SC	Macaw, Red Front	RFM
Amazon	AM	Cockatoo, Eleanora	E2	Dove, Diamond	DD	Macaw, Scarlet	SM
Amazon, Blue Crown	BCMA	Cockatoo, Goffins	G2	Eclectus, Grand	GE	Macaw, Severe	SVM
Mealy		Cockatoo, Lesser Sulphur-Crested	LSC	Eclectus, Red Sided	RSE	Macaw, Yellow Collared	YCM
Amazon, Blue Front	BFA	Cockatoo, Major Mitchell (Leadbeater)	MM2	Eclectus, Soloman Island	SIE	Parakeet	KEET
Amazon, Double Yellow Head	DYH	Cockatoo, Red Vent	RVC	Eclectus, Vosmaeri's	VE	Parakeet, Alexindrine	AP
Amazon, Lilac Crowned	LCA	Cockatoo, Rose Breasted	RB2	English Budgies	EB	Parakeet, Grey Cheeked	GCP
Amazon, Mealy	MA	Cockatoo, Umbrella	U2	Finch	FN	Parakeet, Indian Ring Neck	IRN
Amazon, Mexican Red Head	MRHA	Conure, Blue Crown	BC	Finch, Zebra	ZFN	Parakeet, Lineolated	LP
Amazon, Orange Winged		Conure, Brown Throated	BTC	Lorry, Rainbow	RL	Parakeet, Red Rump	RRP
Amazon, Red Lored	RLA	Conure, Cherry Head	CHC	Lovebird	LVB	Parrot, Hawkheaded	HH
Amazon, Yellow Naped	YNA	Conure, Gold Capped	GCC	Lovebird, Fischers	FLB	Parrot, Jardine	JP
Bourke, Blue	BB	Conure, Green Cheeked	GC	Lovebird, Peach Faced	PLB	Parrot, Meyers	MP
Bourke, Normal	BN	Conure, Half Moon	HMC	Lovebirds, Masked	MLM	Parrot, Quaker	QP
Bourke, Rosie	RB	Conure, Jenday	JC	Macaw, Blue and Gold	B&G	Parrot, Senegal	SP
Caique	CQ	Conure, Maroon Bellied	MBC	Macaw, Blue Throated	BTM	Parrotlet	PAR
Caique, White Bellied	WCQ			Macaw, Buffons	BM	Parrotlet, Green Rump	GPL
Canary	CAN			Macaw, Catalina	CM	Parrotlet, Pacific	PPAR
Cockatiel	TIEL			Macaw, Green Wing	GW	Pionus, Blue Head	BP
				Macaw, Hahns	HM	Pionus, Maximilian	MMP
				Macaw, Hyacinth	HYM		

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RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY MEMBERS—MAY 2014

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RALEIGH DURHAM CAGED BIRD SOCIETY MEMBERS—MAY 2014

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Nancy Zwerin		919-782-5421	Arkangels@bellsouth.net	Ark Angels Pet Care www.arkangelspetcare. com CAG

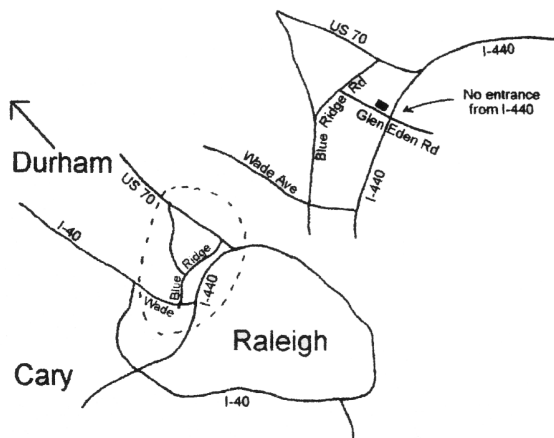
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Applications may be obtained at our monthly meetings or other functions, may be printed from our Web Page (www.rdcbs.org), or may be requested by phone from the Membership Committee or by written request sent to the **RDCBS, P.O.BOX 32291, Raleigh, NC 27622**. Completed applications and dues payment may be returned to the RDCBS at the same address.



MY PASSION AND PLEASURE

By: Jennifer Cameron

Sometimes in your life you don't choose a path one is made for you. That is how I feel about my past 7 years with my parrots. It only takes one to make you realize either you love them or not, and that was no exception with me. Pickles my baby Quaker Parrot was a gift to us and was loved and spoiled, however, it didn't take long for someone to find out I loved parrots and called me about working with theirs.....along came M&M, a yellow collard mini macaw. he was 17 and bites.....I didn't feel like I could handle 2 birds so Pickles was re-homed for M&M. Pickles was a very nice but needed to be in a one bird house. M&M was a real mess....all plucked and starting to bleed although he was in a huge cage with tons of toys what he really needed was human contact and it didn't take long before he was sleeping in my shirt and growing feathers back. Now he is a fully feathered loving parrot.

Next, I was given the most important gift of all, Lada my female red-sided Ectlectus, she was just hatched and I was able to watch her grow into the most beautiful and loving parrot I have ever had. I knew she was given to me for a reason to educate people about parrots and I know early on she was special so she has become a therapy parrot for autistic children and disabled, going to nursing homes and sitting with people makes her life complete. Lada will let kids hold, poke and feel her feathers without the first blink of disapproval and 4 years later still putting a smile on all those who come in contact with her.

Then another call...Mr Peabody a lilac Amazon, another "mean one" He was so beautiful and in great feather but if you go up to him he would growl, come to find out he came out of a crack house. He was the sweetest bird and very loving so he was adopted by a good friend whose mother stayed with him on the weekends due to the fact she had had a stroke and could not be left alone and needed a caretaker 24/7. Mr Peabody now named "Bear" due to the growl became her caretaker, they would sit for hours and love and talk and share food and she would rub and pet him all day, so needless to say he was no longer "mean". Unfortunately my friend became deathly allergic to Bear and had to bring him back, and he now resides in Baltimore with another loving and wonderful lady.

I never know what temperament a bird will have because when people relinquish them over to me, I really take what they tell me as "what has happened in the past" not what the bird will be like in the future". What I have learned is most people don't want to take the time or energy it takes to work with birds and trust me it takes a lot of both. Most of the birds I have taken in only want human contact and attention, some take longer to trust than others, and some are basically misunderstood in their body language and noises. Bear, the lilac Amazon for instance would growl like a dog, OK, maybe there was a big dog around when he was younger and that is what he learned, other birds will scream "MAMMA, MA MA" when I leave the room, does it sound like a kid? You bet, it is like having a 5 year old child for 60 years.....and some people are just not cut out to handle it.

That is where my path started. I enjoy getting to know each bird and its likes and dislikes then turning them over to the perfect home. The stories I could tell would write a book but the bottom line is I love teaching people about birds. I don't buy nor sell my birds they will come with a nice cage and unlimited help if needed.

A few of my other babies have included.....

Lily a sun conure that was adopted by an older couple and they love and adore her.

Milo....a "broken" Quaker (who doesn't do the typical Quaker scream) Her new family paired him with another male Quaker and they are so happy

Miko the Umbrella cockatoo who was adopted by wonderful RDCBS members who originally came to the club to rehome a bird now own two because they realized they needed to learn what their bird was asking for and the club gave them the knowledge and support they needed. Now they love being bird parents

the last bird I picked up to rehabilitate was Lola a female ectlectus. Lola is a real sweet bird. Her new family after a few days realized she didn't see very well and took her to their avian vet where they were told she is blind....they are making her a cage to adapt to her disability and are teaching her voice commands. The family is thrilled to have her in their lives.

....Thank you for allowing me to share my crazy bird life with you.

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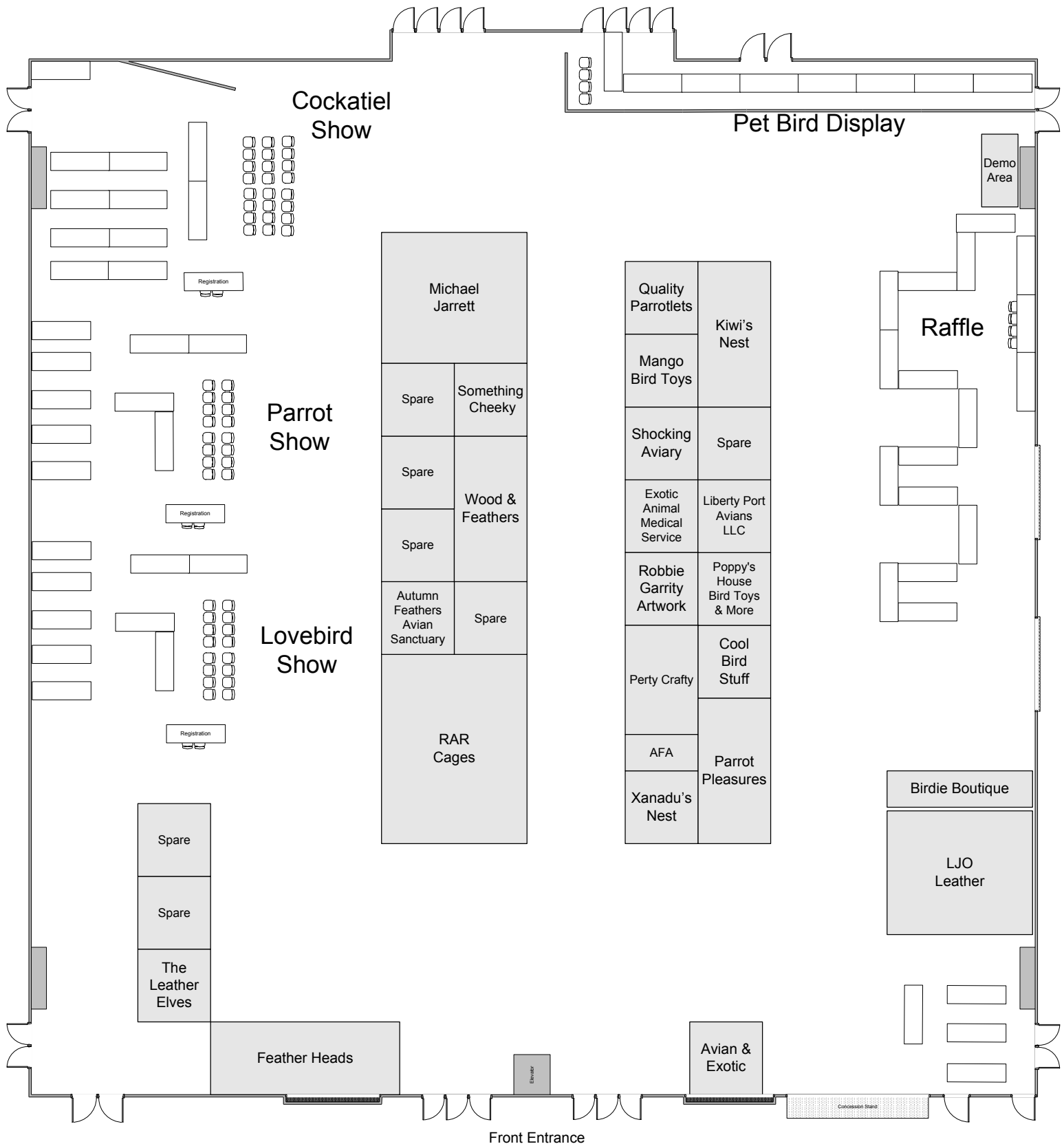
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