



Dr. Rosskopf will be speaking at the Monday, March 6th Meeting



The well-known expert in Avian Medicine. Walter Rosskopf, D.V.M. will be speaking at the next SBBS meeting. He has been an SBBS sponsor for many years. He has extensive experience in treating a wide variety of animals such as dogs, cats and birds in addition to some rather unusual and exotic pet companions like snakes, ferrets, hamsters, tarantulas, fish, and rabbits, just to name a few. If your pet walks, flies, crawls, slithers, hops, swims, or swings in the trees, the good doctor is there to help.

(There are only 100 Board Certified Avian Specialists in the world. We have 5 in the L.A. Area!)

Dr. Rosskopf has been in avian and exotic practice many years and is considered a pioneer in many avian medical and surgical procedures. He helped in the development and publishing of blood normals for pet psittacine birds. Dr. Rosskopf pioneered the cloacapexy operation for treating cloacal prolapse as well as the use of the air sac tube in respiratory emergency therapy.

Dr. Rosskopf has spoken to hundreds of veterinarians and has lectured in Australia and Japan. He set the record for speeches to the Association of Avian Veterinarians (65 times from 1983 to 1993).

Dr. Rosskopf has lectured for many universities and veterinary schools and gives a yearly Pet Bird Medicine and Surgery Class to students of Oregon State University and Washington State University.

Come early and get a good seat so you can thoroughly enjoy the presentation by Dr. Rosskopf on Monday March 6. For more information, see flyer on page 4.

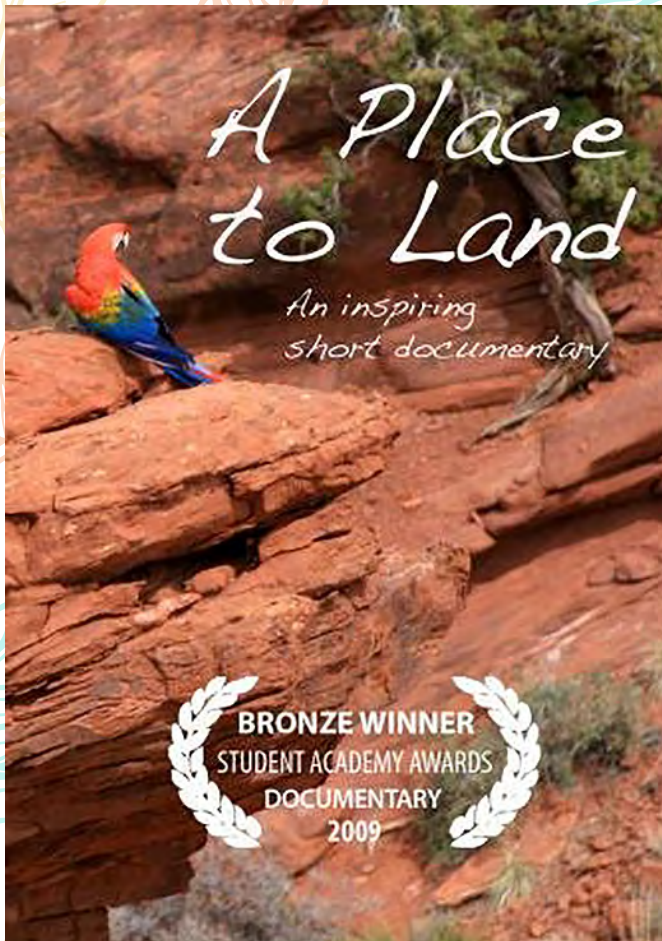
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An Evening with Macaws

December 4, 2016 • By Diane Sivas



Scarlet characteristics and 25% Blue & Gold characteristics. Even though Chester's legs were fused together when he was hatched, he still manages to get around. Donna told me later that Jasper tends to keep a watchful eye on Chester. A protective sister...

Marie Calleja brought along Blue & Gold Macaw Indie (aptly named since he was born on July 4th), and a Scarlet Macaw named Pancho. Young Blue & Golds are sometimes a challenge, but Marie is definitely up for it. I had Blue & Gold Macaw, Cheeto, and Severe Macaw, Minnie (aka "Cooper"). Kathy did a little demo with Coop, showing everyone how they practice Yoga together. Seems that they worked up a little act behind my back. Good job, girls! Karen told us about a baby that she had, a Catalina/Greenwing hybrid, often referred to as a "Flame Macaw." Interesting. That was a new one for me. We learned that Macaws come in many shapes, sizes, colors and

personalities.

We had some great guests on hand that we hope to see again soon. The potluck was plentiful, and I think everyone had fun interacting with these silly macaws.

Thanks to everyone who helped clean up and breakdown after the meeting. Even our guests helped. The participation that we've had at the past two meetings has been outstanding, and is greatly appreciated. And as usual, thanks to those who brought food, which is always tasty and plentiful.

Next month we will be welcoming back Dr. Walter Rosskopf. Dr. Rosskopf spends every March with us, and always has valuable information to share. Put this one down as a "must attend," and plan to join us on Monday, March 6 meeting at 7:00 p.m. See you all next month.

See all the pictures on pages 3, 6, 7 and 8.



The **South Bay Bird Society** is a Public Benefit Corporation and a qualified tax-exempt organization under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3).

SBBS MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the SBBS is to study all avian species (native and foreign) and their habitats; to disseminate among the general public and supporting members, information on all aspects of avian care and breeding and the preservation of endangered species and their habitats through written publications, educational lectures, seminars, activities; and to support and promote the propagation and preservation of species that are threatened with extinction.

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Monday, February 6th was a wild and crazy evening. We had a good showing of members along and a bunch of raucous, rambunctious macaws. Never a dull moment when you have these big guys around.

Janet was not feeling well and was unable to attend, so Karen kicked off the meeting. After a few opening remarks, we got the video "A Place to Land" up and running which served as a backdrop to our evening of sharing.

As Karen moved around the room with microphone in hand, we heard different members talking about their macaws. Donna Crossley had Jasper and Chester with her. Jasper, the Greenwing Macaw, is familiar to most of us – she's the one who often "dresses for the occasion." She's always donning a hat or a cape or whatever the occasion calls for. What a clown! Donna also brought along Chester, a handicapped hybrid macaw. A cross between a Scarlet and a Blue & Gold, Donna explained that the bird seems to exhibit 75%

Notes from Janet

March/April 2017

I would like to thank everyone who stepped up for our "Evening with The Macaws"!

I was unable to attend due to eye surgery. My eyes are now bionic with new lenses and no cataracts and I can now see the world with great joy! And, yikes, my car is actually grey! I am amazed by the intense color and beautiful feathering on my female Eclectus Star! She is absolutely stunning! The eyes do not lie!

The Board welcomes Gala Burkholder as our Technical Assistant.

We are ALL in training with our new system so I am truly amazed by what we DO know! David Benjamin has been assisting us in this learning curve – Thank you, David! We welcome technical support during our meetings and events. Along with setting up the tables and chairs at the meetings and cleaning up afterwards, we always welcome your help!

The wind and rain have definitely played havoc with our California infrastructure (hopefully the drought is over), so we must always remember to be watchful of nature and all of its creatures that we share this planet with.

Whether they be birds, cats, dogs or the wild ones, please remember to be vigilant in helping our neighbors. If you hear of anyone needing assistance with their birds due to the weather or facing the danger of flooding, please let us know.

When the weather persons say "Look out for falling rocks!" they are not kidding!

I look forward to seeing you at our March 6th meeting with Dr. Rosskopf. Check out the flyers!

As always, please support our SBBS sponsors!

Cheers

Janet



Jasper and Chester



Monday, March 6, 2017 • 7 p.m.

Monthly Drawing • Outstanding Food

Dr. Walter J. Roskopf Jr DVM, Diplomate ABVP will be speaking to us about

“Basic Avian Medicine”

Dr. Walter J. Roskopf Jr., DVM, an innovator in avian care and medicine, has earned local, national, and international recognition for his accomplishments and contributions regarding the veterinary care of caged birds and other companion exotic pets.

Dr. Roskopf will be presenting us with a refreshing course in what is necessary to keep our feathery friends happy and healthy.

He will share with us, through slides and lecture, his experience regarding basic avian medical care at his practice, the Avian and Exotic Animal Hospital, located at 4871 W. Rosecrans Ave. in Hawthorne, California.



Location: Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach

2515 Valley Drive • Hermosa Beach • www.sobaybirdsoc.com

Cross streets are Gould and Valley Drive • For more info, phone 310-376-5954



Monday, April 3, 2017 • 7 p.m.

Monthly Drawing • Outstanding Food

Presenting
Donna Crossley and Sylvia Skidmore

Donna and Sylvia will be speaking on
**Responsible Pet Ownership and
America's Family Pet Expo**

The Expo is being held at the Orange County Fairgrounds from April 28th-30th
Sylvia will be bringing some of her handicapped birds to the SBBS meeting
that will also be present at the Expo.



Location: Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach

2515 Valley Drive • Hermosa Beach • www.sobaybirdsoc.com

Cross streets are Gould and Valley Drive • For more info, phone 310-376-5954

Indie and Yolanda



Indie



Donna, Jasper and Chester



Minnie





Cheeto



Jake and friend



Jasper and Chester



Pancho



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Kona



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Advancing & Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship

January 2017 AAV Bird Club News Release

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Prior Investment in Training Significantly Reduces Stress for Treatment of Unexpected Illness

*By: Barbara Heidenreich, Barbara's Force Free Animal Training, Austin, Texas, USA
Reprinted from ExoticsCon 2016 Conference Proceedings, AAV Session #060*

Abstract: A 44-year-old lesser sulphur-crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea*) presented with an obstructive pergillosis granuloma at the base of the trachea. Prior to this the bird had been trained for behaviors such as accepting oral medications, accepting intra-muscular injections, allowing towel restraint, and standing on a scale. This paper will demonstrate how an investment in training significantly reduced stress and allowed voluntary participation in various aspects of treatment for an unexpected serious illness.

Introduction

In 2010 a then 38-year-old male lesser sulphur-crested cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea*) was integrated into a training program that was being established at a zoological park. Prior to that time the bird's primary routine consisted of stepping onto a dowel in the morning for transport from an off display holding area to perch in a public area. This was repeated in the evening for return travel to the off display enclosure. Prior to residing in the zoological park the bird had lived as a companion animal in a home. Methodologies utilized for handling in the home were unknown and the bird arrived with various behavior problems including aggressive behavior and lack of compliance or cooperation for stepping up, entering transport containers or voluntarily participating in any preventative healthcare procedures. Due to the behavior problems exhibited, handling at the zoo was complicated using a dowel and the bird was not permitted to step onto hands of staff members.

The Training Program

The behavior and training program established at the zoo in 2010 was based in positive reinforcement and other force-free methodologies. The cockatoo and other animals were incorporated into the program and began learning behaviors to facilitate day-to-day handling and husbandry procedures.

This program included target training. Target training involves teaching an animal to orient a body part towards a specific object or person. This can then be used to direct an animal where to go.¹ The cockatoo was trained to touch its foot against the finger of a staff member resting on the dowel. This was used to train the cockatoo to voluntarily step up to and move up and down the dowel rod. The cockatoo also learned to orient its beak towards a closed fist as a target. This allowed staff members to direct the cockatoo's head upright or direct the animal where to walk.

Positioning was then used to train simple behaviors such as moving from point A to B, turning around, and holding position. While the bird held position staff members could work on teaching the bird to allow wings to be pulled out from the body and also palpate pectoral muscles and legs.

In one session the bird was also trained to accept water from a syringe. This was done by slowly introducing a syringe using systematic desensitization and pairing it with desired food items. Once the cockatoo was comfortable accepting water from the syringe, juice was offered from the syringe. This was then generalized to any other types of fluids including those that were not palatable. This behavior was trained in anticipation of

Because of the excellent success keepers were having training this once non-compliant cockatoo they were inspired to attempt the goal of training for an intramuscular injection. At the time this facility was preparing to vaccinate for the West Nile virus and the goal was to train the bird to accept this vaccination without restraint. Because the team had not trained this behavior before, they were uncertain if the bird might attempt to bite when an injection was administered. Therefore, they included training the bird to allow a clear plastic cup to be placed on its head as a barrier between the beak and injection site at the pectoral muscle. However, this proved unnecessary for the procedure as the bird never showed an inclination to respond with aggressive behavior due to the training process being performed in such a manner as to never cause the bird to be pushed beyond its level of comfort. However, the cup training later proved useful for nebulization treatments.

Injection training included applying pressure to the chest using a dulled needle, snapping the chest with a rubber band to simulate stinging medications or higher volume of fluids, and piercing the skin with small gauge needles. Each approximation was always followed with the delivery of high value reinforcers and only attempted if the bird showed body language indicative of comfort. Once these steps were mastered injection of a small amount of saline was attempted. Upon successful completion of this step, the vaccination was successfully administered. The behavior was then maintained with occasional injections of saline or lesser approximations such as touching the chest with the dulled needle.²

Additional behavior goals included training for restraint in a towel and scale training. Both of these behaviors were trained in the veterinary hospital of the zoo. Training for restraint made it possible for the veterinary staff members to successfully collect blood samples with little to no stress. Scale training proved to be somewhat challenging due to the location of the immovable scale. The arrangement of the scale created a small cavity like area that was attractive as a nest site. However, this was overcome by strategic thinking of the bird's trainer. Essentially the nest-like area was covered during training and the area was slowly uncovered overtime as the bird mastered the behavior.

The following list summarizes the behaviors the cockatoo was trained to present:

- Targeting;
- Step onto a dowel rod for transport;
- Lift each foot;
- Turn around;
- Allow tactile on chest, legs, head, feet, under wings, on back;
- Allow wings to be pulled out;
- Allow cup to be placed on head;
- Accept various fluids from a syringe;
- Allow intramuscular injection in pectoral muscle;
- Allow restraint in a towel; and
- Stand on a scale.

Illness Detected and Treatment

The scale behavior is what led to the discovery of the cockatoo's symptoms. In November 2015 a staff member had retrieved the bird to bring to the veterinary hospital to demonstrate the scale training when an audible change in the bird's breathing was noticed. After collecting the bird's weight, the veterinary team and keeping staff members that had trained the bird worked together to immediately begin diagnostics and treatment. Veterinary staff members were able to successfully bring a stethoscope to its chest and back without restraining the bird. When restraint was required for blood collection, the bird sat calmly while a towel was draped over its body. Although restraint did require pressure to be applied to the bird, due to prior training the bird coped well with restraint and when released was relatively calm, responsive and was willing to accept food.

Later in that same day the bird accepted four injections without restraint as well as subcutaneous fluids without restraint. The bird also sat comfortably with its head in a cone shaped mask for nebulization. The cone was quite similar to the cup that had been used in injection training, which may have contributed to the bird's comfort with this procedure.

It took surgery to diagnose an aspergillosis granuloma on the syrinx. A cannula was placed in an air sac to assist with breathing and the bird continued to voluntarily participate in accepting oral and inhaled medications with little to no stress, according to the veterinary team and staff members who treated the bird over the course of several weeks after initial observation of symptoms. Unfortunately, the bird did not survive the obstructive fungal lesion. It returned and the bird passed under anesthesia during a procedure to recheck the trachea.

Conclusion

Although ultimately the bird did not survive, its final weeks of receiving treatment were relatively stress free thanks to an investment in training prior to onset of illness. Over the course of six years the cockatoo only needed to learn approximately seven behaviors to make medical care relatively stress free, some of which were trained in one twenty-minute session. Once the behaviors were trained, maintaining them required a small investment of time. The result was a significant reduction in stress for the treatment of a serious medical condition.

Animal training is often considered a luxury or extra activity to include in animal's life as a means to add enrichment and entertainment. However, more and more examples demonstrate that training significantly contributes to high standards in animal welfare. Training and training programs should be as essential as daily feeding, cleaning and veterinary care. When professionals begin to embrace training as a part of well-rounded approach to providing best practices in animal care we can set a precedent for the future and reduce or eliminate stress for many animals in regard to medical care.

References

1. Heidenreich B. An introduction to the application of science based training technology. *Vet Clin North Am Exot Anim Pract.* 2012;371-385.
2. Heidenreich B. Training animals to accept oral medications and injections without restraint. *Proc ExoticsCon.* 2015;619-624.

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West L.A. Bird Club Meeting

Wednesday, March 8th, 2017
7:00 pm

At the time of printing this newsletter, we have no speaker information.

Please contact President Doreen Seelig for further information (310) 488-9749 or refer to their website listed below.

American Legion Hall
5309 Sepulveda Boulevard
Culver City, California
www.westlabirdclub.com/



Welcome SBBS New & Returning Members

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Phyllis Levine, Sondra Luther

Lifetime Members

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Jimi K. Anderson

Don't fly off the membership list. Please pay your dues!

SBBS is currently upgrading our membership files. To help us, please go to www.sobaybirdsoc.com and click on Memberships to find the new membership application. Please fill it out and include your check and send it to SBBS, P.O. Box 3863, Redondo Beach 90277-3863.

If you want to join and have received a hard copy or found the membership application on the back of the newsletter, fill it out and send it to the above address. If you have any questions about your membership, please contact Elaine Dunn at (714) 306-5513. Other names will follow in upcoming months.

West Valley Bird Society Meeting

At time of printing
no speakers were announced.



7:30 PM the 3rd Friday of each month
Granada Pavilion, Auxiliary Hall
11128 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA 91344
For more information call: 310 980-3635
www.thewestvalleybirdsociety.com

FRIEND OR FOE?






Next meeting is Saturday, March 11th, 7:00 pm.
 Speaker is David Benites
 Topic is "How to Breed Canaries on Your Schedule".
www.davidssingingcanaries.com
 Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Long Beach Bird Breeders Club

Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month
 7 p.m. at the
 American Legion Hall
 5938 Parkcrest Street
 (S. of Carson, E. ast of Woodruff Ave.)
 Long Beach, CA For Information call
 562-881-9847




PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER



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

Please contact PEAC at parroted@cox.net or visit their website www.peac.org for more information.



Adoptions



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

Organization	Phone	Contact
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The Lily Sanctuary	(714) 442-9474	www.lilysanctuary.org
Parrot Rehabilitation Society	(619) 224-6712	www.parrotsociety.org
Southern Nevada Parrot Education, Rescue & Rehoming Society		www.southernnevadaparrotrescue.org
Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary	(805)-565-1807	www.sbbird.org
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PLEASE JOIN US

Meetings are held at the Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach, 2515 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach 90254 on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Parking lot and street parking.

Birds are Welcome at Meetings

South Bay Bird Society - Officers and Board of Directors 2017

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SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

P.O. Box 3863 • Redondo Beach, CA 90277 - 3863

New Renewal Former Member Family \$40 Individual \$32 Senior (60+) \$25 Lifetime \$350

Name(s): _____

E-Mail Address for Newsletter Delivery: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

How did you hear about us? _____

To help plan programs and activities, please tell us what kind of birds do you own? _____

How long have you been keeping birds? _____

Do you keep birds primarily as Pets Breeders Both Renewal Month: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

