




December 2017 ♦ Interim Newsletter ♦ Established 1974

*Join Us For
SBBS Annual Fundraiser and Auction
Sunday December 10th, 2017 • 1 pm - 3:30 pm*

 ***AUCTION
TIMES:**
PREVIEW TIMES:
1:00 - 1:30 pm
BUY IT NOW:
1:30 - 2:00 pm
GENERAL BIDDING:
2:00 - 3:30 pm 

Join Us



Location: Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach

2515 Valley Drive • Hermosa Beach

Cross streets are Gould and Valley Drive • For more information www.sobaybirdsoc.com

Janet: 310-376-5954 • Kathy: winebird1@msn.com

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Photos courtesy Gayla Burkholder and Janet Ragonesi

Notes from Janet

Greetings SBBS Members, Sponsors and Friends:

As SBBS president, I look forward to seeing you at our "ANNUAL Fundraiser/ Auction" December 10th. With the help of our member volunteers, sponsors, friends and Board of Directors' participation prior this auction, this fundraiser will be our best yet! I would like to thank each of you for stepping up for SBBS!

WE HAVE OVER 240 ITEMS FOR YOUR SHOPPING PLEASURE! HAVE SOME FUN AND SUPPORT SBBS!

HELP NEEDED - Our setting up the tables begins at 9:30am. If you can help at 9:30, assistance is welcomed. The tables are the most critical stage before any items can be placed upon them.

The setup continues from 9:30 - 12:00 noon. At the closing of the auction at 4:00pm, we will need help to break down tables and chairs. **WE NEED HELP!**

FOR THEIR SAFETY, PLEASE LEAVE YOUR BIRDS AT HOME!

PLEASE READ THE AUCTION GUIDELINES which will be helpful to the success of the fundraiser!

This is your club and the success of the auction depends on all of us attending, participating and purchasing a variety items for our shopping pleasure!

See you Sunday.

Cheers,

Janet



Macaws

by Diane sivas

Our November 5th meeting was all about Macaws. And because the meeting was held on a Sunday afternoon, it had a casual, easy breezy feeling. Macaws, and a lazy Sunday afternoon turned out to be a winning combination.

We had several guests on hand; Pam and Scott, who rode their bikes down from Palos Verdes, and past member, Oliver Dean. It's always great to have visitors - and we hope to see them again soon.

After the opening announcements and the early bird drawing, we handed the mic over to Karen Allen to get us started on the main event - introductions of members and their birds, along with what it's like to share our lives with Macaws. Challenging, but funny and endlessly entertaining, these guys are not for the faint of heart (or first timer bird owners). But those of us who really know them know that there is nothing better than getting a sweet, gentle kiss from that big beak. And because of their longevity, they truly can be lifelong companions.

Karen, who has been raising Macaws for years, began with a few comments about parrots in general. Enough sleep is essential - cranky, feather plucking birds are sometimes not getting sufficient sleep, which should be 12 to 14



hours per day. Just think how we feel when we're not getting enough sleep - it's not a lot different for them. And remember about avocados - poison to our birds and, as it turns out, the fumes from frying avocados can also be lethal. Karen's advice? Just don't take a chance....

Marie Calleja was first up with introductions of two of her flock; Pancho the Scarlet Macaw, and Indie, the young Blue and Gold. A couple of beauties! Donna Crossley's Greenwing Macaw, Jasper, hardly needed an introduction, since she is well known around SBBS, and has attended many of our events, often in holiday appropriate costumes. Donna hatched

Jasper from an egg, and they've been together ever since. Apparently, Jasper has had a major molt going on, and was feeling a little bit out of sorts. I had to laugh when I saw her get down on the floor and make a beeline for the door, with Donna in hot pursuit. They never stop making us laugh!

Gala Burkholder, Sylvia Skidmore, Phyllis Levine, and Krista Renta all shared funny, sweet stories about their parrot sidekicks. Gala had Kahlia, who chatters her way through most meetings, Sylvia had Winkie, the handicapped bird ambassador, and Krista told us about how a Blue & Gold Macaw first introduced her to the world of birds. Janet spoke of her two Severe Macaws, who both came from poor beginnings, but are now happy and content living with Janet--and each other--in her home. Those smaller macaws are strong-willed little critters, but they are just the cutest of the cute! (As I often tell mine, "There's nothing cuter than a green bird!") Kathy Powell told us about her Sun Conure, Roxie, who suddenly stopped swearing when Kathy left her husband. (Interesting!) And I shared the story of my Blue and Gold buddy, Cheeto. It was love at first sight for us, and he has been my *Continued on next page.*



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“puppy-dog-like” companion for the past 17 years. There’s nothing better than true love from a Macaw.

Macaws are a challenge, but if you have the experience and the

patience (and no fear of that giant beak), they can be magnificent friends. To everyone who participated, brought birds, shared stories, helped with set up and tear down, and provided good eats, thank you. Next month, it is all about the annual fundraiser/auc-

tion. This is the only fundraiser of the year, so get your shopping done and support your club at the same time. Sunday, December 10, 1:00 until 3:30. See you there!





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SBBS Annual Fundraiser and Auction
Sunday December 10th, 2017 • 1 pm - 3:30 pm*



Join Us ❄️

***AUCTION TIMES:**

PREVIEW TIMES:
1:00 – 1:30 pm

BUY IT NOW:
1:30 – 2:00 pm

GENERAL BIDDING:
2:00 – 3:30 pm

- *Holiday shopping with something for everyone - family, friends, pets and you!*
- *Catered complimentary food and beverages*
- *Cash, Check, Debit, Credit Cards are Accepted.*

Location: Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach
2515 Valley Drive • Hermosa Beach • Cross streets are Gould and Valley Drive
 • For more information www.sobaybirdsoc.com
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SBBS AUCTION GUIDELINES 2017

1. SILENT AUCTION PREVIEW begins at 1:00pm
2. "BUY IT NOW" BIDDING is open from 1:30 - 2:00 only.
3. All "Buy It Now" bids are final at the "Buy it Now" price

Please proceed to cashier with winning "BUY IT NOW" ITEMS AND BID SHEETS by 2:00 to purchase Items.

CASH, CHECK, DEBIT OR CREDIT ACCEPTED

4. General Bidding is open from 2:00 - 3:30. Tables will close every 12 – 15 minutes in number sequence as indicated on balloons on each table.
5. CHANGE YOUR MIND? - If you place a bid and change your mind, you must cross your name off the bid sheet before the table closes for final winner.
6. When table is closed remove, your winning item and bid sheets (the bid sheet attached to the item plus the one taped to the table) and proceed to the cashier).
7. In the event of a "bidding war", a Board Member will call a Live Auction to settle the winning bid.
8. All guests at the fundraiser are entitled to place bids for any items. Please do not block guests from bid sheets at any time.
9. Entry into the Kiwanis Club and exit will be from the front door facing Valley Drive only. Your paid receipt and bid sheet is important at the time you leave the Kiwanis Club. SBBS assistants wearing Santa hats will be available to assist you during the fundraiser, check out and entry/exit.

Thank you!

SBBS Board of Directors



Association of
Avian Veterinarians
Advancing & Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship

August 2016 AAV Bird Club News Release

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organization not currently enrolled in the AAV Bird Club News Release Program, is strictly prohibited.

For longer articles, it is permissible for clubs to run as a 2-part article.

Behavior: Normal and Abnormal

Adapted from AAV's Client Education Brochure Series

Juvenile Feeding Behavior and Defensive Behavior

Baby altricial (hatched naked and fed by the parents) birds have normal behaviors designed to either obtain food or protect themselves from danger. The first is the begging/chirping that prompts the parents to regurgitate food. When the parents begin to feed, the young bird begins head-bobbing to keep the flow of food coming from the parent. Another normal behavior of baby psittacines is "swaying and growling" when the nest is disturbed. This behavior is self defense designed to frighten away predators and gradually ceases as the bird weans.

Sleeping Habits

In the wild, psittacines are active during daylight hours and sleep during the evening and nighttime hours. Caging for sleeping should be provided to attempt to mimic these patterns as close as possible. It may be best to have a sleeping cage in a dark, quiet place – away from evening and nighttime family activity – in order for the bird to get adequate sleeping time.

Biting

Birds bite, some more than others. This can be a complex problem and one that can be discussed in detail with your avian veterinarian. Birds also bite to hold on to lift themselves up, like using a third hand. This is "grasping" rather than aggression biting.

Birds bite in self-defense. Until a bird is accustomed to handling by humans, it may try to bite. Avoidance of the bite until the bird is conditioned to handling through positive reinforcement is the best response. If biting becomes a problem, consult your veterinarian for the name of a reputable trainer.

Social Noise

In the wild, many species of birds congregate in the morning and at dusk for social interaction. These activities include vocalizing, eating, and grooming. A common complaint in the pet home is that pet psittacines "scream" morning and evening. This is normal vocalizing behavior of the bird and it may be unrealistic to expect it to change. The bird will consider the humans in its home as its social contact, and want to maintain the "communication" it would normally have with other birds. Try using this time to interact with the bird. Social activity is an important part of the bird's day, and may help build a proper social flock relationship between you and the bird. The best attitude is to let the bird have its social noise and accept it as part of keeping a bird as a pet. If the bird(s) are outdoors, try to prevent neighbor complaints; create a sound buffer between the birds and neighbors.

Inappropriate Copulating Behavior

Birds that are not paired with suitable mates or that are bonded with their owners may attempt unnatural copulation. The targets of this misplaced behavior are often cage fixtures, toys, human hands, or cage mates. Such behavior should not be encouraged. Removing the inappropriate objects of the bird's affection, is the most common response to this problem. Sexual behaviors can be curbed by a number of measures including

controlling caloric intake, encouraging foraging, cessation of inappropriate petting behavior, removing real or perceived nesting sites, light cycle control, and certain medications. If reproduction is desired, birds ideally should be paired with a mate of the same species. If two species are paired that may produce hybrid offspring, it is best they be separated and properly paired. If the birds are compatible cage mates and where reproduction cannot possibly occur, such as a cockatiel and a budgie, the birds are of similar size, and one is not injuring the other or exhibiting mating behavior, no harm is done by permitting them to remain together.

Stereotypical Behavior

If the bird develops a pattern of behavior that is nonsensical, incessant, or habitual, such as pacing, head bobbing, rocking, swinging the head or body, or spinning, it should be examined by a veterinarian. Causes could range from disease to boredom. Disease should first be ruled out as a cause, but boredom is a frequent cause of obsessive behavior. Every attempt should be made to provide the bird with environmental enhancements such as toys or interesting foods. Nontoxic, non-injurious items that the bird can destroy or take apart are one choice.

Talking Birds

Some parrots and softbills talk, most do not. If you want to teach the bird a few words, it is best to separate them from other birds as early as possible, and teach them by repetition. The model-rival method has been shown to be the best method of teaching birds to talk, and even use language appropriately. Investigate which species are likely to talk before purchase if talking ability is important in your choice of a pet bird.

Feather/Skin Picking

Birds that have underlying disease problems or psychological problems may pull feathers or tear at their own or another bird's skin. The bird should be seen by an avian veterinarian at the first sign of feather picking in order to rule out a potentially serious medical problem. Watch for an unusual number of feathers or pieces of feathers on the bottom of the cage.

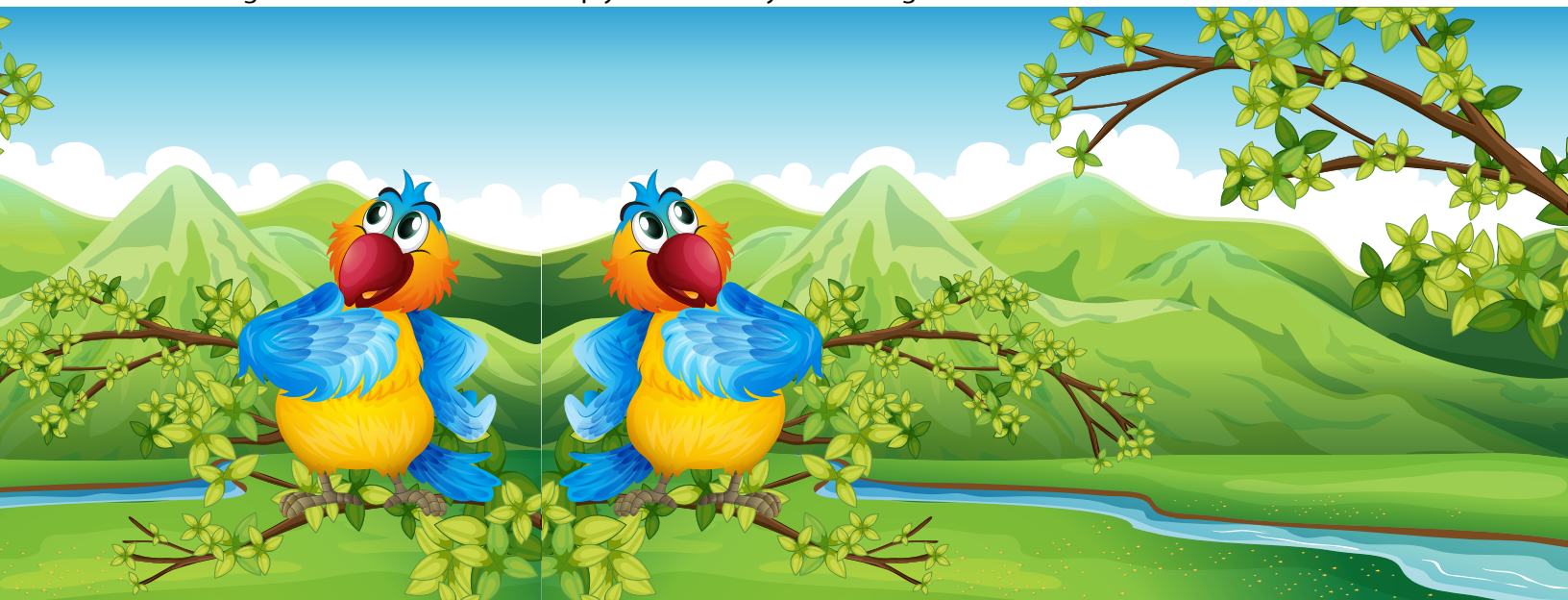
Some feather destructive behaviors, especially those that involve simply cutting or shredding feathers may be linked to boredom, poor socialization or anxiety. Proper housing, provision of toys and teaching to "forage" for food is important for any bird. A consultation with a qualified avian behaviorist may be beneficial.

Actual feather plucking may have behavioral origins as well. However, as pulling feathers out is actually painful to birds, this represents a serious behavioral abnormality. All attempts must be made to rule out underlying medical disorders before diagnosing any bird with a strictly "behavioral" feather disorder.

If one bird is pulling feathers from a cage mate, the birds should be separated as this behavior can sometimes lead to injury if the feather pulling becomes too aggressive. Normal molt is a semiannual event not related to behavior but does not usually expose the underlying down or bare skin.

Observation

Observation is the best tool for helping your veterinarian with a diagnosis. If the bird exhibits behavior problems, make a video or take notes about what is happening before, during, and after the behavior occurs to take to your avian veterinarian for evaluation. Birds will often continue to eat and drink when they are sick. This common behavior helps sick birds avoid attracting the attention of predators. Ask your veterinarian for the AAV brochure "Signs of Illness in Birds" to help you evaluate your bird's general health.





The West LA Bird Club invites you to its annual fundraiser

HOLIDAY PARTY

Bring your family, your friends, and your healthy birds!

DELICIOUSLY CATERED DINNER BY SORRENTOS & LOCAL DELIES.
We welcome food donations for appetizers, desserts, side dishes, salads.

WIN ONE OR MULTIPLE FABULOUS GIFT BASKETS WITH TOYS, FOOD,
ACCESSORIES FOR PARROTS AND UNIQUE, EXCEPTIONAL GIFTS FOR
PEOPLE. DONATIONS OF GIFT BASKETS ARE APPRECIATED.

DATE:

Wednesday,
Dec 13th at 7PM

PLACE:

Culver City Legion Hall
5309 S. Sepulveda

\$15 PER PERSON
\$8 CHILDREN UNDER 12
BIRDS EAT FREE

RSVP by DECEMBER 10th

Contact WLABC President, Doreen Seelig, at djseelig@aol.com or 310.488.9749.
Please RSVP so we know how much food to order. Payment in advance is appreciated!