



Volume 45 ♦ Issue 7 ♦ December Interim 2018 ♦ Established 1974

SBBS Annual Sponsor & Membership Appreciation Celebration



Monday, January 7th, 2019 * 7:00pm

An evening to celebrate our Sponsors and thank them for continued support. Also, a time to recognize our volunteers, members and Board of Directors. A New Year reminds us that we must all step-up our commitment to keep our beloved organization alive and thriving.

Please bring a Potluck dish that serves 8-10 people. Vegetarian/Vegan, Gluten-free, and Non-Vegetarian Dishes are all welcome. Share your favorite recipes: Main Dishes, sides, and desserts. A donation of \$10.00 is recommended for those who do not bring a dish.

You and your bird(s) are welcome!
In addition to our raffle, we will share our bird stories!

Location: Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach
 2515 Valley Drive * Hermosa Beach, CA
 Cross streets are Gould and Valley Drive
 For more information please visit: sobaybirdsoc.com

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Photos by: Gala Burkholder, Janet Ragonesi and Wild Birds Unlimited

Annual Fundraiser & Silent Auction

December 9, 2018

By Diane Sivas



The SBBS 2018 Silent Auction and Annual Fundraiser took place on a warm Sunday afternoon, December 9th. As in past years, we had a room filled with more than 200 auction items of every shape and size – something for everyone, it seems. This event always gives us an opportunity to knock out some of that last-minute holiday shopping while visiting with friends who we may not have seen for a while – maybe not since last year's auction.

A 30-minute "preview" period was followed by a 30-minute opportunity to "Buy it Now." The buy it now was half an hour whirlwind as folks scurried through the aisles making sure they were getting those "must have" items. General bidding began immediately thereafter, with table closings happening every 10 to 15 minutes. Karen did the final countdown just before tables closed to give everyone a few extra seconds to check on their bid or add a bid.

As always, we have a lot of people to thank for the success of this event. Board members Janet, Kathy, Karen, Gala, Patte, Krista, and June – along with past board member Marie Calleja -- were on board every step of the way – from gathering and tagging donations, to wrapping and storing, to getting everything delivered and set up at the Kiwanis Club early

on auction day. Their tireless efforts are what helped make the afternoon great. Once again, our bid sheet wizard, Ron Ellwood, made sure that everything was tagged and cataloged correctly. David Benjamin helped with IT, and then took on the task of inflating all of the balloons. Gala used a few of those balloons to tie on the signs that she'd made and posted outside the hall, so we could attract more guests. And we had members that showed up early, too, just to help.

Krista Renta stepped up to the plate and handled all the food planning and preparation with help from June Baker. There were just enough cooks in the kitchen that day, and everything ran like a well-oiled machine. Laura Zahn and Angelina helped with food prep, along with kitchen chores and cleanup at the end of the day. Andre was back on board this year to help with set up and tear down of tables and chairs in the room. He also served as "security" for the afternoon, and under his watchful eye, the day came off without a hitch.

Once again, our members and Board members went out of their way searching for the wide variety of donated items that we had out for bidding. There wouldn't even be an



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.

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

All prizes or auction items offered by the SBBS are offered "as is". No guarantee or warranty of any kind is expressed or implied. In no event shall the SBBS, its Board of Directors, or its general membership assume any liability for damages or losses, either direct or consequential, which may arise from the acceptance of any prize or auction item. Acceptance of any prize or auction item constitutes agreement with these terms and conditions.

EDITORIAL POLICY

This is the official newsletter of the South Bay Bird Society. Members are encouraged to submit articles/photographs for publication. SBBS reserves the right to reject, edit, or use only portions of items submitted. All materials submitted become the sole property of the SBBS and are not endorsed by the SBBS, unless otherwise stated. SBBS will not assume responsibility for advertisement claims or quality of any/all products and/or services. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the SBBS Editor, Directors, Officers, or the general membership. With the exception of *All Rights Reserved, copyrighted, and/or Reprinted with Permission articles*, permission is given to avian organizations in our Exchange Program to reprint articles for non-profit use. Reprinted articles must state "Reprinted with permission of the South Bay Bird Society."

auction without great things to sell, and we certainly extend big thanks to everyone who committed time and effort to round up these great gifts.

And finally, SPECIAL thanks to everyone who generously opened their wallets and purchased items. As you know, this is our only fundraiser of the year and the money made will keep your club functioning throughout 2019.

So, here we are at the end of another year. I wish you all a very happy holiday season and extend my best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2019. And please plan to join us for our Annual Sponsor and Membership Appreciation Celebration on January 7, 2019. Mark your calendars now so you won't miss it.

Happy New Year, all, and see you next year!



The Pictures Were Taken Prior to the Start of the Fundraiser.



We Had 236 Auction Donations.

Notes from Janet

Happy New Year!

2018 WAS A BUSY YEAR FOR MANY OF US.

With the onset of the fires and floods, SBBS stepped up to assist individuals with their flocks as well as other rescue organizations.

SBBS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE

have numerous topics and bird related information for our membership and the public to view. Our emergency preparedness information on SBBS web site was very helpful and needed during the fires and floods! I thank everyone who continued to contribute to the site with articles, and pictures, including your suggestions and ideas. SBBS sponsors are also easy to find in SBBS web site! Additional information to follow throughout 2019! Check out the site sobaybirdsoc.org or sobaybirdsoc.com as we have both domains.

SBBS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AND AUCTION

was outstanding and we raised \$3,382.00. We had donated items, gift baskets, certificates and all-around good will; thank you! Our SBBS Elves were hard at work from September on through the auction. Thank you to the board, and member volunteers who arrived early to help set up and break down the festivities. If you have baskets from the auction, we always appreciate them donated back to the club for next year's fundraiser. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the 2019 fundraiser, we certainly would appreciate your positive input.

One suggestion is to increase the "Buy It Now" time line from 30 to 45 minutes. Love that idea!

THANK YOU TO SBBS ANGEL DONORS

who stepped up for SBBS during 2018 and into 2019. Your donations are appreciated and welcomed. We are grateful for your continued support! SBBS is a registered 501©3 public benefit corporation. Sponsors, members, and friends if you are planning to make a monetary donation to SBBS for your 2019 tax year, please send your tax-deductible donation to SBBS P.O. Box 3863 Redondo Beach Ca 90177-3863.

2019 BEGINS WITH OUR ANNUAL SPONSOR AND MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENING,

Monday, January 7th. View the flyer for details. We look forward to seeing our SBBS sponsors, our members, their birds and hearing your stories. I may have a few stories to share myself.

SBBS MEMBERS are encouraged to submit articles, and pictures of their flock for the newsletter. Please contact Janet at ragonesi@att.net or Gala Burkholder at gidgetscal@aol.com, for details. We would love to hear from you! If you have a speaker or topics in mind, please contact a board member or Janet (310) 376-5954. Is there a community outreach event that you know is happening in your community that SBBS could attend, or where we could set up a booth? Please contact Krista Barrett at kbarrett2000@yahoo.com. We are always interested in getting the word out to the public about how to care for their birds. Our membership input is valuable. I wish everyone a safe and prosperous new year.

COMPANSSION WITH ACTION

See you January 7th.

Cheers, Janet





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Wild Birds Unlimited and SBBS Presented Responsible Bird Ownership

On Saturday, November 10th, Marie Calleja, Krista Renta, and myself, along with some of their birds, gathered at Wild Birds Unlimited new location in Redondo Beach.

We discussed the importance of "Responsible Bird Ownership". Several of our handouts, and Marie's "Grab and Go First-Aid Kit" were available for viewing. Armed with our own personal experiences and information gathered from previous speakers and topics at SBBS, including Walter Roskopf DVM, Teresa Micco DVM and SBBS member Donna Crossley's first aid and emergency preparedness information, we were ready! We also provided handouts on bird care which are also available for viewing on the SBBS website.

A fun part of our discussion was the introduction of our flock. Each bird is unique and, if they have been rescued and/or adopted, they may bring along a variety of habits, which you may discover when getting to know them. Hopefully, prior to adopting/rescuing or purchasing a pet bird, you have done your research. Always consider the costs, what type(s) of birds would fit into your family's life style, the time you are able to spend each day with them, food, toys, their cage size and cleaning, grooming, and cost of veterinary care. Some knowledge of toxic plants and household cleaning supplies, home construction, as well as the expense of boarding your bird should also be taken into consideration. SBBS has a variety of topics on bird care and safety on our web site. www.sobaybirdsoc.com

Emergency preparedness is important as well - learning to towel your bird (s) or have them step up into a towel, onto your hand or a stick, are important skills to teach your bird BEFORE an emergency happens! We have so much to learn each day, long before an emergency! Being able to safely place your bird(s) into a travel carrier to visit the groomer, avian veterinarian or bird specialist is a great learning experience for you and your bird(s). It is also very important to know what species of birds are in your flock, and whether they are male or female! Get to know your bird(s) and their body language - they are not "all green" or about "that big" and not all of them talk English - they all talk bird! Can you? Join a local bird club - a great place to meet other bird people! The internet is a helpful tool, along with hands on and personal interaction with club members and local veterinarians who have a wealth of resource information to share.

Marie, Krista and myself and our birds had a wonderful morning with the people that attended our presentation. We thank Bob Shanman from Wild Birds Unlimited for inviting us!

Please shop SBBS sponsors - they are the best!

Cheers!

Janet

Have a happy and safe holiday season!



Support
Our
Sponsors!



Karen has been involved with birds 35+ years, has been an SBBS member 35+ years, and has become an honorary lifetime member of SBBS. She has her own bird shop, she counsels and trains new bird owners, and is a published writer.

Send your questions to
 Karen Allen, P.O. Box 3863
 Redondo Beach CA 90277-3863
 Email: Birdsnmor@aol.com



Q & A by Karen the Parrot Lady

The answers to your questions are MY opinion based on nearly 50 year's experience. I donated my time to Avian and Exotic Animal Hospital, working with Doctors Roskopf and Woerpel. Hands-on experience owning my own exotic bird shops, raising and breeding, grooming and caring for parrots of all kinds.

Ask me your questions and I will answer to the best of my knowledge, if I don't have an answer I will make every effort to find one for you and tell you my source!

Q. Can my bird eat an avocado if I remove the peel?

A. NO! Not raw, not cooked, NO WAY AT ALL!!! Avocado is deadly to your birds. Next to the skin is toxic, next to the seed is toxic There is so much oil in the meat that it is indigestible, and cooking an avocado gives off a vapor that is pure death! Don't try it!

Q. My bird seems to understand what I say to him. How is that possible?

A. Your bird has the mentality of a three to five year old child (and sometimes they are smarter than some of the adult people we know, don't tell anyone I said that}. Just like our human kids, they can listen, comprehend, and follow directions - but sometimes they don't! You teach them with repetition and kindness and they will honor you with intelligence and charm. However, like all children, they can be stubborn and ornery, You can say "I love you" a hundred times and they refuse to say it, but say a bad word once and they have it down pat.

Q. I want to buy a baby parrot and hand feed it but cannot seem to find anyone who will help me learn.

A. In California it is against the law to sell an unweaned baby bird to anyone that is not qualified to feed it. A baby must be weaned and eating ON ITS OWN for two weeks before it is legal to sell it and for you to take it home. It is so easy to hurt a baby, and worse. If the formula is too cold it will cause crop rot. If too hot it will burn the crop and a fistula (scab) will form and drop off leaving a hole in the crop making surgery necessary. If you put the food into the opening to the lungs, which is right next to the crop where the food is supposed to go, you have killed the baby. SOOOOO let a professional feed the baby and you can visit it during the process, bond nicely and take home a happy healthy bird.



The screenshot shows the Amazon Smile homepage. At the top left is the Amazon logo and navigation links: 'Your Amazon.com', 'Today's Deals', 'Gift Cards', and 'Help'. The main heading is 'Welcome to amazon smile'. Below it, the slogan reads 'You shop. Amazon gives.' followed by three bullet points: 'Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.', 'AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.', and 'Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.' There are also links for 'Questions? Learn more about AmazonSmile', 'Not interested? Shop at www.amazon.com instead', and 'Represent a charitable organization? Visit org.amazon.com'. On the right, the 'Select a charity' section is active, showing 'Choose one of our spotlight charities' with 'The Nature Conservancy' selected. Below this is a 'Select and start shopping' button. At the bottom of the carousel, it says '1 of 5'. Below the carousel, there is a section 'Or pick your own charitable organization:' with a text input field containing 'South Bay Bird Society' and a 'Search' button. At the very bottom, there are social media sharing icons and a copyright notice: '© 1996-2016, Amazon.com, Inc. or its affiliates. Conditions of Use | Privacy Notice'.

SBBS and Smile Amazon.Com Charity Donations

SBBS is now signed up and participating with Amazon Charity Donations. For SBBS to receive a percentage of your online purchases from Amazon, please follow the directions. It is easy and you will be supporting SBBS

1. Log into Smile.Amazon.Com (your account and password are all the SAME, in fact the site looks the same). Be sure to log into Smile.Amazon.Com each time you shop. This way, SBBS receives the benefits every time you make a purchase.
2. Under "Select a charity", input South Bay Bird Society under where you see "Or pick your own charitable organization".
3. When you log into this site, you will see "Supporting South Bay Bird Society" at the top.
4. Tell you friends and family – everyone can participate as long as they are in SMILE.AMAZON.COM. We'll receive .05% of each purchase made from AMAZON from everyone that buys anything off this page.
5. Each quarter we will either receive a check or a direct deposit from AMAZON.
6. Any questions? You can contact Tammy Carreiro - tammy_carreiro@yahoo.com.
7. Please spread the word: "SMILE.AMAZON.COM". A little money is good, bigger money is better!



Just Ask Krista

We'll see you in January!



Note From Patte Fisher:

SBBS Raffle and Sponsor Director Announces:

SBBS WANTS YOUR OPINION ON THE MONTHLY RAFFLE!!

What would you like to see more of? Less of? What items would you like to see that are not presently offered?

Contact your Raffle Coordinator, Patte Fisher, email; pattefisher@verizon.net, phone 310-316-9843, text 310-418-9096 with your suggestions. All ideas welcome!



Association of
Avian Veterinarians

December 2018 AAV Bird Club News Release

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Avian Behavior and Implementing Natural Positive Reinforcement Techniques at Home

By: Liz Vetrano, BS, CVT

Reprinted from ExoticsCon 2018 Proceedings, Session #2016

Where to Start

Considering the standard education process with a client, the best place to begin is setting clients and their companions up for success. Doing this will prevent future behavioral issues and preventing is always the most effective and easiest route when it comes to behavior. What exactly does “set up for success” mean? It means getting off on the right foot and providing the patient with the proper care and environment before attempting behavioral transformations. It is essential for clients to understand that these birds are still considered wild animals. Allowing them to utilize their innate instincts and expend that energy towards useful actions in our homes will allow for easier behavioral modifications.

What does a wild bird’s day consist of? Many studies have been done, but it’s been noted that these wild animals can be quite elusive and difficult to study in detail. What we do know is that their standard day is made up of these common behaviors: foraging for food, socializing, preening, flying, and vocalizing. Shaping the bird’s environment to mimic some of these actions can prevent that energy from being used towards unwanted behaviors. Making sure your owner understands how to accomplish this is a whole other challenge. Initially setting the bird up for the success is a crucial part of the training process, as it will prevent most unwanted behaviors. The following tips are all part of the training process and setting the animal up for success by starting with the proper husbandry, activities, and socializations.

Foraging, Foraging, and More Foraging

When we have our birds’ food so readily available in their bowls, we are actually doing them a disservice. Birds’ innate instincts include working for food (Fig 1), yet we provide it for them, so what can they do with that extra time? Screaming? Self-mutilation? Working towards 100% foraging techniques for feeding has proven to be beneficial for the bird and occupy a majority of his/her time alone. There is a plethora of foraging toys available, but owners can also make their own (eg, tissue boxes, shoe boxes, wrapped in newspaper balls). Begin by having the bird search for something really high in value (eg, nut, fruit) and then they can graduate little by little with their pellets.

Appropriate Interactions and Relationships

One of the biggest challenges is advising an owner that their beloved companion shouldn’t be cuddled, stroked, or touched in certain places. Understanding what this means is one of the hardest obstacles considering most bird stores tend to advertise by saying, “She loves to cuddle!” Undeniably the bird does because it’s stimulating, but not in the way



Figure 1. Innate instincts include working for food.

most owners are perceiving it, unfortunately. Stimulating the bird to perform masturbatory behaviors can not only lead to physical ailments such as chronic egg-laying and heart disease, but is usually the number one offender for unwanted hormonal behaviors. These can be the most difficult to manage despite the advancements of hormonal therapies such as leuprolide acetate and deslorelin implants (which can also be very costly for the owner).

Developing customized training exercises for the owner, can motivate them to appropriately interact with their companion and solidify that relationship. For example, training the bird to fly “A to B” exercises, move toys, talk, etc. can eliminate the cuddling and improper behaviors on both ends of the bond between bird and human. This is where teaching your client how to utilize positive reinforcement techniques (ie, reinforce the good, ignore the bad). They can also learn how to shape behaviors and give bonuses when they want to capture a certain behavior. It can be confusing for the average bird owner at first, but developing a customized protocol just for them and providing them with handouts containing step-by-step instructions prove to be advantageous.

Positive Reinforcement: Tell Them What to Do, Not What Not to Do

This saying goes for both the clients and their birds. As mentioned above, these birds have innate instincts that allow them to expend their energy towards activities including foraging, socialization, flying, etc. Whether they are given these opportunities or not in the home, they will find a way to expend this energy. Normally, this produces unwanted behaviors that we typically see such as plucking, screaming, biting, self-mutilating, and/or masturbating. By directing the clients and tell them what to do, we make the instructions clear and easy for them to follow. A simple way to do this could be customizing training protocols. Instructing them when to reinforce their bird, how, and when not to. This goes for the training, as well. Telling a bird what to do by implementing positive reinforcement techniques, is more likely to lead the bird to success then using negative reinforcement or punishment.

You cannot force a bird to do anything. All you can do is ask. Try not to push them past their threshold (ie, stop training session if they start to exhibit unwanted behaviors such as excitement, screaming, or biting).

Behavior examples

- A bird performs a behavior you like, which results in reinforcement (eg, the bird says hello or whistles instead of screams).
- The bird steps up nicely after being asked.
- Clients can also shape behaviors. Owner catches bird singing or twirling in a circle. Reinforce that behavior.

Reinforcement examples

- Break up pieces of nuts (eg, almonds, peanuts, brazil nuts); use smaller pieces so birds do not get a full crop in a short period of time.
- Attention
- Toys
- Bonus reinforcements: If the bird does something for the first time, or something the owner really likes, reinforce with a larger bonus treat such as a whole nut.

Consistency can be another hurdle to overcome. A house full of family members can prove to be beneficial yet also cumbersome when it comes to training protocols. Making sure that everyone is on

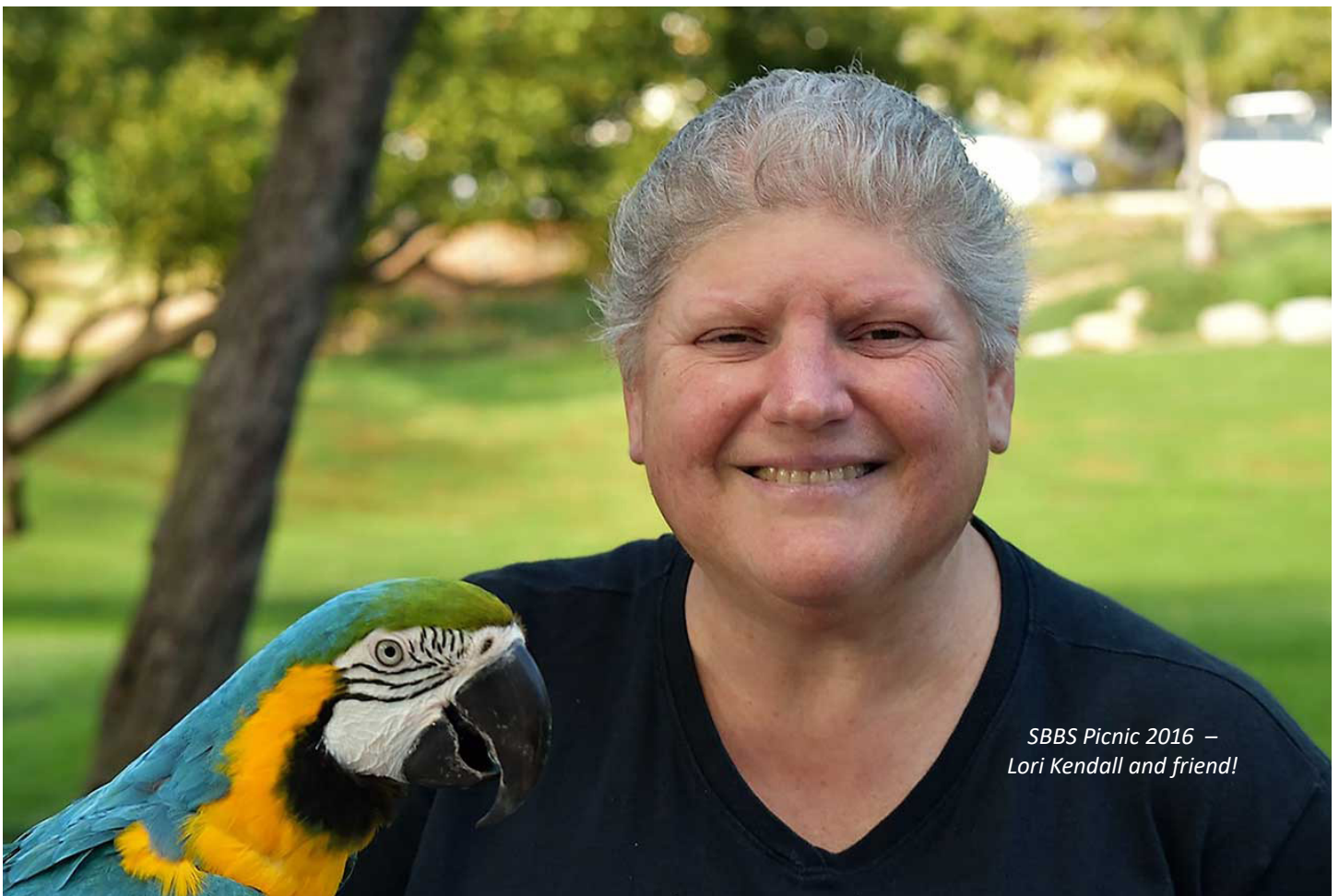
the same page and has the same interactions with the bird, is crucial for any behavioral modifications. It only takes one person and one action to break down a behavior that took months to develop.

Our practice offers customized training protocols along with mobile home visits for behavioral consultations. This way, we can visualize the birds' environment and daily activities to be able to accurately assess the situation. We can then evaluate the options and develop an appropriate protocol for that specific bird.

Finally, Allow the Bird to Be a Bird

Some of the most successfully kept birds in captivity belong to free-flight bird shows. Considering the facts that they get to act like real birds and fly, work for their food, and interact with other birds, this shouldn't come as a surprise. Consider keeping the bird flighted and completing a very minimal wing trim. Not only does this help expend energy, but it also has physical benefits (ie, decreasing chances of heart disease, increasing cardio health). Increasing the likelihood of a healthy patient is also a huge contributor to desirable behaviors (which also includes diet).

Educating the client on the origins of bird behavior, in the beginning stages of their relationship is absolutely crucial to their success with any behavioral modifications. Our practice has developed a plethora of handouts for bird owners to take home and have on hand as a resource. This includes specific instructions on behavior and training methods. Without providing the above changes: foraging, flying, and appropriate interactions, behavioral changes will ultimately become very difficult with the development of undesirable actions. Customized training protocols in conjunction with setting the bird and owner up for success, can allow for a healthy relationship and patient long term.



*SBBS Picnic 2016 –
Lori Kendall and friend!*

West L.A. Bird Club Meeting

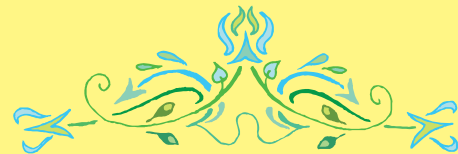
Next meeting January 9th

Speaker and Topic TBA

Same time and location



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



Welcome SBBS New & Returning Members

New and Returning

Hedda Dubois, Renewals, Debbi Folsom
Gala Burkholder, Barbara Goodfellow

Renewals

Linda Jensen, Luana Feigelstock, Norma Schrader,
Irene Templeton, Jan Stevens, Jackey Harkey, Chris & April House

Lifetime Members

Diane Bock, Cary & Anita Pao, Jimi K. Anderson,
Bree and Deven Brozey

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 Ron Ellwood (310) 850-0594. Other names will follow in upcoming months.



Chan Quach-Behaviorist
Chanthebirdmansf@gmail.com
Chanthebirdman.com 415/312-9973

For more information see Long Beach Bird Breeders Club page 14.



Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month.

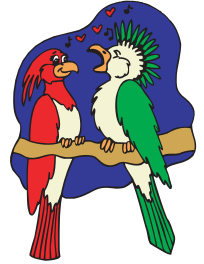
USDA Veterinarian/Spokesperson to discuss Virulent Newcastle's Disease

Long Beach Bird Breeders Club

Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month 7 p.m.

Chan Quach, Biologist and Bird Behaviorist, will discuss the challenges of living in a 400 sq. ft. apartment in San Francisco with his four large macaws, before relocating here to the LA area six months ago. Chan works at the LA Zoo and trains their birds for the free flight show. He is currently owned by five macaws that he free flies as often as possible. five macaws that he free flies as often as possible.

American Legion Hall, 5938 Parkcrest Street



PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER



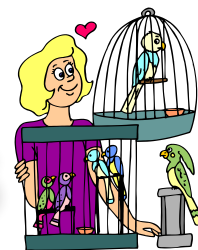
PEAC is not taking in any parrots right now, but they do have a lot of nice birds ready to be adopted. There are classes going throughout the month. The San Diego location has classes the last weekend of the month. Classes in Orange County are on the third Saturday of the month. There is a new class 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.

Adopt When You Can



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
Parrots First	(866) 248-7670, ext. 5937	www.parrotsfirst.org
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
Fine Feathered Friends Foundation	(310) 541-2468	curtismyrna@verizon.net