



Volume 47 Issue 6 May-June 2020 SBBS Newsletter Established 1974

**Monday, June 1, 2020, 7 P.M.**

**Jamie McLeod will share on ZOOM**  
**“Life at the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary”**

**Due to COVID-19 the JUNE SBBS MEETING will be on ZOOM!**

They know her and love her. You will often find Jamie McLeod working on her laptop, with a parrot on her shoulder and others perched all around. As she goes into and around the aviaries, you hear loving calling and cooing. For these birds, Jamie has usually been the first kind, healing contact in a new, unknown place, after often traumatic and negligent situations. The parrots know the presence and deft touch of their compassionate savior and dedicated consistent caregiver.



And we know and love her, too. Jamie cheerfully greets and answers questions from Sanctuary visitors. She reaches out to the community and schools, and leads the educational programs and entertaining live shows. She works hands-on with potential and new adoptive owners, Sanctuary staff, volunteers, vendors, donors and Board of Directors. She shares her expertise and is always kind, patient, energetic and inspiring.

Jamie earned a degree in Exotic Animal Training and Management from Moorpark College in 1984, and she is an avian behavioral consultant. She has worked at the Santa Barbara Humane Society, Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens, Bowmanville Zoo in Canada, and at the San Diego and Los Angeles Zoos. Since 1995, she has owned and operated “Menagerie,” a bird grooming and boarding service, and also a store of toys, “parrot-phernalia,” and her own line of nutritious frozen gourmet bird food, McLeod’s Parrot Cuisine.

Jamie McLeod will show a short film and various slides, and describe how life has been at the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary while facing a series of fires, floods and now a pandemic!

**SEE IT ON ZOOM! SEE MORE INFO. ON PAGE 5**

**For more information visit: [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com)**

**Or contact: Janet at (310) 376-5954**

***Inside this issue:***

Page

- 1 June Zoom Flyer, “Jamie McLeod & Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary”,
- 2 Diane’s Report, “Weeshoff, on Marine Plastic Debris.”
- 3 Diane’s Report Continued, May Social ZOOM, Cartoon
- 4-5 President’s Notes, Patte Fisher New Membership Director, ZOOM meetings
- 6-7 President’s Notes Continued, Meet-up RSVP, Support, Programs Planned, Ron Ellwood Crosses the Rainbow Bridge
- 8 Audubon Society, Birding
- 9 July ZOOM Meeting Flyer, “The Galapagos with Pepy”
- 10-11 “Q & A” by Karen Allen, The Parrot Lady, Karen Remembers Ron Ellwood
- 12-13 Avian Article, “Wild Baby & Injured Birds,” Bird Rescue Organizations
- 14 SBBS Memberships, Avian Organizations, Cartoon
- 15 Newsletter Submissions, Adoptions, Funny Photo
- 16 June Social ZOOM
- 17 Remembering Ron
- 18 Sponsors
- 19 SBBS Officers, Board of Directors, Volunteers
- 20 Membership Form

**Cartoons, Funny Photos & Artwork Submitted by:** June Baker, Gala Burkholder & Marie Calleja  
**Photos by:** Gala Burkholder

## ZOOMING with David Weeshoff

### “The Cause and Consequences of Marine Plastic Debris”

Monday, May 4, 2020

By Diane Sivas

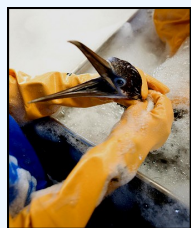


The old expression of “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade” seemed appropriate for our May meeting. Since we are still sheltered in place, and we still wanted to have a meeting, we opted for a ZOOM meeting; and David Weeshoff, our scheduled speaker, was more than happy to oblige and join us for the online meeting. We had hoped that all members had received notification and instructions on how to join the meeting but, unfortunately, we had only a handful present. Since we may need to do this again for June, we are hoping we can get everyone up to speed and we can look forward to having more people at our virtual meeting.

As usual, Janet opened the meeting with some short comments. She thanked David Benjamin for setting up ZOOM and for working with Dave Weeshoff to make sure that everything was ready to go. She asked that anyone who had questions to please hold them until Dave had finished his presentation.



Dave began by telling us that he jumped into the bird world with both feet and has not looked back. He has worked with Heal the Bay and, as we all know, is heavily involved with the International Bird Rescue and Rehabilitation Center in San Pedro. He told us that one of the main reasons for needing a rehabilitation facility is because of pollutants in the ocean that affect sea life. The most daunting pollutant is plastic that escapes from storm drains and flows into our oceans. He had some photos that showed the amount of plastic that piles up on the world’s beaches. Plastic, of course, is an unnatural product that cannot be biodegraded or digested by animals. The plastic never leaves the ocean; it just degrades into smaller pieces that can be easily ingested by sea life. As an example, Dave mentioned baleen whales who scoop up water to get their food—and end up with a lot of plastic in their bodies.



(“David Weeshoff” continued on Page 3)



Diane Sivas kisses her Blue and Gold Macaw, Cheeto



**SBBS MISSION STATEMENT**

The purpose of 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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**THE SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY**

Is a Public Benefit Corporation and a qualified tax-exempt organization under IRS Code Section 501 (C) (3).

("David Weeshoff" continued from page 2)



Sea birds go out hunting for fish to bring back to feed their babies, but many of the fish they catch are filled with plastic which is then passed on to the baby. Pollutants and other chemicals adhere to the plastic that is ingested by the birds and fish. It is estimated that 20,000 to 30,000 chicks a year are lost due to the intake of plastic.

So, what can be done? We can pick up plastic from the beach, or retrieve it from the surface of the ocean, if possible. But how do we dispose of it? Recycling, Dave explained, is much more complicated than we think. We throw stuff into the recycle bin and think we have done our part. Plastic needs to be rinsed and cleaned before it goes into recycling bins. And how do we know what is and what isn't acceptable for recycling? It seems that every city has its own policy, so the best thing to do is check with your local authorities. In many cities, the company that picks up the trash is also the company that picks up the recycled items. The eligible recycled items are then cleaned and separated from those items that are not recyclable. The recyclable items are sold to a third party to be stored and later sold, and the unrecyclable items go into the landfill.



The problem of plastics is huge, and there does not seem to be an answer. We are using too much plastic, and there is no definitive way of getting rid of it. The best solution is to find a way to curtail our dependence on plastic.



David was great, as usual, and gave us much to think about. We are sorry for the members who did not join the meeting, but you have another chance in June, when our speaker will be Jamie McLeod from the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary. The meeting will be on June 1<sup>st</sup> and we will be sending out reminders and instructions on how you can join us. In the meantime, stay safe everyone, and we hope to see your smiling faces on ZOOM soon!!



Jamie McLeod from the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary

JUNE 1 ZOOM

**MAY 18 ZOOM SOCIAL UPDATE:** We had a fun time sharing updates about ourselves and our birds. It was great to see some of our members we have not seen in a while. We even had Lifetime SBBS member, Anita Pao link-in from her home in Minnesota! David Benjamin shared with us a cool short video he had made regarding home delivered fresh organic food he receives weekly. He orders from: <http://www.farmfresh toyou.com>. See more on page 16!



Janet



## *The President's Notes By Janet Ragonese*

### GREETINGS:

### SBBS MEMBERS, SPONSORS AND FRIENDS

Summer is approaching with the speed of light. Luckily for us, we live in California! The climate offers us the opportunity to shine even when the sun is hidden behind the fog or clouds. We continue "Sheltering in Place" which is also known as "Safer at Home." These are the guidelines we are following in Los Angeles County. This could continue for us Angelinos for possibly the next three months!



My friend, Barbara, and I have a routine that includes wearing our masks on our walks, or when grocery shopping once a week. Barbara loves to cook, and she tried a variety of Keto recipes.

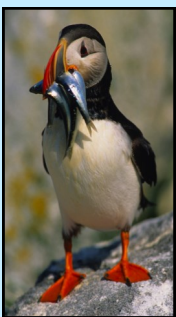


**HAPPY NATIONAL PARROT DAY ON MAY 31!**

### NEED HELP?

If any of our members need assistance with their birds during this time, please contact Janet SBBS President at (310) 376-05954, or Karen, SBBS "The Parrot Lady" at (310) 371-9967. We will do our best to help!

### OUR FIRST ZOOM MEETING WAS HELD ON MAY 4 WITH DAVE WEESHOFF



Please read Diane's report summarizing the meeting on pages 2-3. Dave's entire presentation held on ZOOM was eye-opening! Through slides and his talk, we learned about the many causes and consequences of marine plastics and debris. Not only do fish ingest the plastics, which are laden with harmful chemicals, birds and other animals (including humans) eat the contaminated fish. The plastic in the ocean does not disappear, but breaks down into microscopic pieces and eventually sinks to the bottom of the sea. We have got to look for ways to reduce our reliance on plastic in our everyday lives, and keep plastics out of our oceans.

We would have loved more members to join in. Hopefully, more of you will link-in to our next regular meeting on Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM.

### PATTE FISHER TO ASSIST WITH THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Member Patte Fisher has stepped up to share the membership responsibilities with Gala Burkholder that Ron Ellwood had been overseeing. The plan is for Patte to keep the membership information up-to-date, and Gala to send out the flyers and newsletters! Thank you, Patte and Gala!



*("President's Message" continued on Page 5)*

*("President's Message" continued from page 4)*

**JUNE 1 ZOOM MONTHLY MEETING**  
**WITH JAMIE MCLEOD OF THE SANTA BARBARA BIRD SANCTUARY**

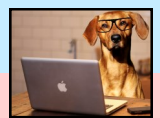


We are happy to announce that our June ZOOM speaker will be Jamie McLeod from the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary! (Yes, the other SBBS.) She has had to face several emergencies during the past few years causing the need to evacuate all of the birds due to the threat of several fires and floods. Now, as with all of us, the Sanctuary is being impacted by the current pandemic. Jamie will discuss how the Sanctuary has handled each of these crises, and what they are currently doing to address this new challenge. Jamie will share a 32-min. film about the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary and will be available to answer your questions.

We are hoping each of you will join us on ZOOM for this meeting. It is a great way to socialize with each other and our birds at the same time. We miss seeing you and your birds! Now we have the opportunity to get together in a safe environment for both you and your flock

**OTHER BIRD CLUBS TO JOIN US AT OUR ZOOM MONTHLY MEETINGS!**

Starting with our June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, several other bird clubs have been invited to participate in our monthly meetings via ZOOM to enjoy the expertise of the speakers. **So far, bird clubs from West L.A., Long Beach and Orange County have been invited to link-up with us during this time.** Marie Calleja has offered to serve as a liaison to these bird clubs. We welcome everyone with our common interest in our love of companion birds to our meetings!



**SBBS STARTS ZOOM SOCIALS ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7 PM**



Our website, ZOOM and meetup coordinator, David Benjamin, has set up ZOOM for our club meetings and socials! We started an online social conversation with each other in April and we have continued into May. We plan to continue this social to help us keep connected with one another, and relieve some of the social isolation many of us are feeling.

**The Next SOCIAL ZOOM Will Be Held On JUNE 15 at 7 PM.** The subject for each social serves as a framework to begin our conversations. But there will always be time for each of us to share or ask questions about what is on our minds, and what we have been doing while spending so much time at home. **Click on the link just before 7 PM on 6/15.** Each month, SBBS will send out to the link a few days ahead of time to each of our members as a reminder. I do believe you, and your birds, will enjoy the interaction! **[See page 16 for more information.](#)**



*("President's Message" continued on Page 6)*

*("President's Message" continued from page 5)*

### **OPTIONAL MEET-UP RSVP FOR SBBS MEETINGS**

In an attempt to reach out to the community, SBBS is listed as an pet/animal activity on the "Meet-up" website that is available to the public. Our meetings and activities, including our socials and meetings via ZOOM, are listed. Each of you who plan to participate in any one of these activities may consider an RSVP on this site. *(This is not necessary to participate, but is optional)*. The more members who say they are participating, the more attractive our group looks to the public and hopefully will draw new members to our club. Each month, David Benjamin will send out a RSVP under Meet-up. The following is the link to access this site:

<https://www.meetup.com/Redondo-Beach-Birds-Meetup/events/270170298/>

Thank you for your help in spreading the word about SBBS to other companion bird owners.

### **WHEN WILL WE RETURN TO THE HERMOSA BEACH KIWANIS CLUB BUILDING?**

We cannot give anyone a date when we might return to our meetings at the Kiwanis Club building, since the "Safer-at-Home" has been extended another 3 months. Our health and safety are in the forefront of us considering getting back together in person. We will keep you informed when we can meet in person together again.

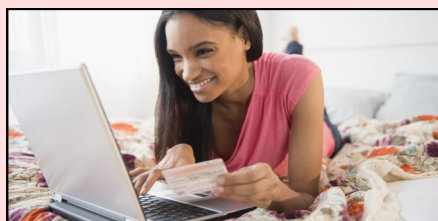
So far ZOOM has been working out for SBBS to socialize and to have our monthly meetings complete with speaker presentations. Join in, please. We miss seeing everyone and it is great to see a friendly face (and your bird) during these times of isolation. **We will continue to send you links before each ZOOM meeting as a reminder and to make it easy for you to join us.**

### **CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER**

Compassion and kindness are the gifts that keeps on giving! If you are interested in helping with any aspect of the South Bay Bird Society, let me know.



### **SHOP OUR SPONSORS**



Also, please **remember our SBBS Sponsors** by utilizing their services and shopping with them! Many of them have made special accommodations for curbside pick-up, delivery or shipping. See our sponsor page for more details or contact them directly to find out more.

*("President's Message" continued to page 7)*

(“President’s Message” continued from page 6)

**LISTED BELOW ARE SOME OF OUR UPCOMING SPEAKERS PLANNED FOR 2020**

**(Members will receive updates on meeting changes, ZOOM meetings or cancellations through e-mails)**

**Monday, June 1, 7 PM Jamie McLeod of The Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary ZOOM**  
 “Life at the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary”



**Monday, July, 6, 7 PM Josefina Madunich, 17-Year Galapagos Naturalist ZOOM**  
 “The Galapagos Islands & the Rain Cloud Forest of Ecuador”



**Monday, August 3, 7PM Julie Scardina of Sea World ZOOM**  
 “Animals, Travels and Conservation Stories”



**Sunday, September 13, 12 Noon-3 PM, Annual Picnic (Tentative)**  
 Columbia Park. This year’s theme: Mardi Gras!



**Monday, October 5, 7 PM TBA**

**Sunday, November 8, 2 PM TBA**

**Sunday, December 6, 1-3:30 PM Annual Fundraiser and Silent Auction**

The board will monitor the current health situation in our community and we will keep you informed of any updates via e-mails and the monthly newsletter. The health of you and your family is our top priority.

**RON ELLWOOD, OUR DEAR FRIEND AND SBBS ROCK,  
 SADLY CROSSED THE RAINBOW BRIDGE**

Words just cannot express the grief we are feeling with Ron’s passing! Our hearts go out to Perry, his husband. Remembrances continue throughout this newsletter. SBBS member, Donna Crossley, remembers him, by saying “Ron had an infectious laugh! You always knew Ron was in the room, by his laugh!” Another member, Gala Burkholder, remembers him as the club’s “Rock” because of his long-time commitment to SBBS, serving in many capacities throughout the years, and his quiet, yet wise, demeanor.

Ron was a multi-dimensional person with a heart of gold. He also had a green thumb. Ron loved growing flowers and plants of all kinds. Many times, he would bring one for the raffle table, or the auction. If you were lucky, he would sometimes gift you a plant he had grown. Check out the pictures of several plants he donated to the club and gave to me. The fern has tripled in size since the 2019 SBBS fundraiser! The amaryllis that we received from Ron a few weeks ago, is in full bloom. GORGEOUS!

We will greatly miss him.

*Janet Ragoneri*



**Palos Verdes/South Bay**

**AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**NOW ON ZOOM!**

**3rd Tue./mo. (6/16) , 7 PM,**

Jennifer Boyce will speak on the Bald Eagles of the Channel Islands

At this time, BIRD WALKS are CANCELED due to Covid-19

(Check the website to confirm cancellations and re-start dates)

**\*BIRD WALKS:**



**4th Sat. each mo., 8:30-10:30 am:**  
Madrona Marsh with Audubon leaders

**1st & 3rd Sun., 8-11 am:**  
Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park with Audubon leaders. 1st Sun. meet in the parking lot, 3rd Sun meet in the parking lot closest to Anaheim & Vermont for Regional Park 2.



**3rd Sun., 8-11 am:**  
South Coast Botanic Garden with Audubon leader David Quadhamer

For Info: [www.pvsb-audubon.org](http://www.pvsb-audubon.org)  
or call David at (310) 833-3095.

**The Orange County Bird Breeders  
May Meeting Is Canceled Due to Covid-19**

Balearic Center, 1975 Balearic Center Ave, Costa Mesa  
[www.ocbirdbreeders.org](http://www.ocbirdbreeders.org)



When disposing of your masks, CUT the EAR STRAPS so animals don't get tangled up in them!

**YOU KNOW YOU ARE A BIRD OWNER IF:**

1. Moths are flying in front of your T.V. during the summer months.
2. Your friends and family members find feathers enclosed in their greeting cards.
3. You only purchase unsalted nuts.
4. You don't turn on your oven over 350 degrees.

**STAY SAFE!**

**Karen Allen reminds us:**

- To wash our hands often and vigorously for 20 seconds. Singing the "Happy Bird Day" song TWICE is perfect timing.
- Avoid people that are sneezing and coughing.
- Wear a mask in public.
- Keep a distance of at least 6 feet away from other people.



BIRDING coordinated with the PV Ballona Wetlands and more led by Bob Shanman from Peninsula Land Conservancy, Madrona Marsh, the Wild Birds Unlimited

**CHECK WEBSITE TO CONFIRM CANCELED BOB BIRD WALKS**

**BIRD WATCHING WITH BOB SHANMAN**

When: (4th Wednesday), 8:30 am

Where: **GEORGE F. CANYON**  
27305 Palos Verdes Dr. East, Rolling Hills Estates, CA

When: (2nd Wednesday), 8:00 am

Where: **MADRONA MARSH**

When: (3rd Sunday), 8:00 am

Where: **BALLONA WETLANDS**

When: (3rd Wednesday), 8:30 am

Where: **WHITE POINT NATURE PRESERVE**  
1600 Paseo Del Mar, San Pedro, CA

**Other BIRDING Locations:**

Where: BALLONA WETLANDS, KEN MALLOY HARBOR REGIONAL PARK (see PV/SB Audubon Society in the top, left, yellow box), BIXBY MARSH

(See "Events" on Wild Birds Unlimited web site:  
[redondobeach.wbu.com](http://redondobeach.wbu.com) or call (310) 543-2473 to know more)

**Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy**  
RSVP: at [pvplc.org](http://pvplc.org), select "Events & Activities"



Do seagulls have to wear masks while at the beach? If this is a seagull design mask, where can I buy one?



**ZOOM PRESENTATION!** Check Newsletters & e-mails for Zoom link.

**Monday, July 6, 2020, 7 P.M.**

**Josefina (Pepy) Madunich** will share her experience of "The Galapagos and the Rain Cloud Forest of Ecuador"



Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the Galapagos Islands from Josefina (Pepy) Madunich, a naturalist guide, who lived and worked there for 17 years!

The Galapagos is a group of 13 main islands and some smaller islets, located 600 miles west of Ecuador. This unique geographical situation allowed for the establishment of some remarkable species, giving the Galapagos its reputation as a laboratory of evolution. Her talk will address isolation, endemic species and gigantism on the islands. The Galapagos is also a Natural Park and Patrimony of Humanity. As one of the smallest countries in South America, Ecuador is notable for its diversity of climates and vegetation zones, which also makes it a paradise for birding.

Though Josefina now lives in California, she maintains strong connections with the islands, and the people who live and work there. She regularly brings groups of visitors to see this amazing place. Join us for an intimate and personal view of one of the world's great wildlife destinations.

**THE ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT TO MEMBERS VIA E-MAILS AND IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER**



For information about Josefina's next private charter, contact her via email at: [pepygalapagos@gmail.com](mailto:pepygalapagos@gmail.com) or call at (909) 532-0850. See her website at: <https://hellogalapagos.com>

**ZOOM!** During this period of "SHELTER IN PLACE," SBBS WILL NOT be meeting in person. **ZOOM!**

**For more information visit: [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com)**

**Or contact: Janet at (310) 376-5954**



## Q & A By Karen, The Parrot Lady



The answers to your questions are MY opinion based on nearly 50 years experience. I donated my time to Avian and Exotic Animal Hospital, working with Doctors Roskopf and Woerpel. I have 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.

Here we go!!!!

### Q My bird split/broke a nail and it won't stop bleeding. What can I do?

**A** You should always have QuikStop® (or other styptic powder) on hand, or at least flour or corn starch. Apply some to the nail (or the beak, if it were bleeding), pinch the area, putting pressure for about 60 seconds, then check to see if the bleeding stopped. It is possible that you may have to do this several times. Generally any area that's bleeding will stop with pressure, unless it's a deep cut or gash. If that occurs, get to an avian veterinarian ASAP.



### Q My bird's nose is running and he is sneezing. Do I need to see a vet?

**A**



That is usually my first choice, for safety sake. It could be an allergy or a sinus reaction, or the start of a rip-roaring upper respiratory problem. You really do not want to wait until it is out of control before you do anything. Remember that birds are so good at masking their symptoms that by the time they are showing you there is a problem, you are both in trouble!

### Q What do I do to stop my Cockatoo from screaming every time I leave the room?

**A** Cockatoos are control freaks and love bugs. Their modus operandi (MO) is: "Surgically attach me to your chest for life, and I will be a happy camper." Do not encourage this behavior! If you come in the room when he yells, and respond with the charming reply, "SHUT UP!" you are encouraging his behavior because you are *responding*, and that is exactly what he wants. SPEND "Quality Time" with him, and he will learn that you have no contract to spend your life kowtowing (being excessively subservient) to this feathery loud-mouth. THEY DO LEARN! Just don't screw up the quality time, or you will hear about it loudly.



Come & get me...NOW!

(“Q & A” Continued from page 10)

**Q** My bird went haywire when a moth flew in her cage. She was so scared, and I was at a loss as to what to do.



**A** Moths and flying things can be a scary problem. Moths hatch in heat and tend to grow in the peanuts. The larva is protein and good food for the bird (DID I JUST HEAR YOU SAY, "YUCK?") -- just not our favorite thing! A pest strip, away from the birds, works well. I use them all the time.

**Q** My bird is a food hound and eats almost everything. Is that OK?

**A** This is a good thing! Be grateful because people have been trying to get their birds to do that for years. The more good-quality people food your bird eats, the longer he will live (along with pellets, and a good seed mix with no sunflower seeds). Seed junkies tend to be more susceptible to problems. Think of your diet. If you eat fast food every day, you are going to suffer for it in the long run. If you are a vegetarian and don't get the right amount of protein, same problem. A good-sense diet for both of you should work well. It may take a bit of work to convert a seed junkie to veggies, but share! When you have a good, rounded meal, make a plate for your bird. You might be surprised at how readily he is willing to taste what you are eating.



Soybeans are a good source of protein



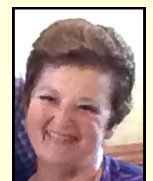
Ron & Karen are listening intently at the SBBS picnic, September 2019

On a side note, my heart is hurting with the loss of our sweet friend, Ron Elwood. Those of you that knew him, knew what a gift to life he was. He and Perry (his spouse) were a team that were inseparable, and I am so grateful that half of that team is still with us on earth, while the other half of the team is watching over us.

Ron will never be forgotten, and Perry will always be loved by all of us!

Keep all of your feathery and furry animals safe and loved!

HUGS FROM,  
**Karen, Your Parrot Lady**



**Karen Allen** has been involved with birds and a SBBS member for over 35 years. She is a lifetime member of SBBS. Karen owns her own bird shop, “Birds & More” located at 4301 Redondo Beach Blvd., Lawndale, CA. The phone number is: (310) 370-7550. She counsels and trains new bird owners and is a published writer.

Send your questions for “The Parrot Lady” to:

Karen Allen, P. O. Box 3863 Redondo Beach, CA 90277-3863

Email: [Birdsnmor@aol.com](mailto:Birdsnmor@aol.com)





## SPRING IS HERE AND SO ARE THE WILD BABY BIRDS

Left photo by Cambria Wells,  
right photo by Heather Patrice Brown



*(A report from the California Wildlife Center)*

### Baby Ash-Throated Flycatchers

On July 10, a construction crew in Fillmore, California took down a telephone pole. Unbeknownst to them, Ash-Throated Flycatchers were nesting in an old Woodpecker cavity in the pole. The site biologist had checked for external birds nests prior to construction but the Fly-Catcher nest was so well hidden, she didn't see it. The construction crew first noticed the nest when they heard chirping coming from the downed pole.

The biologist brought the nestlings to California Wildlife Center, but unfortunately one of the three birds didn't survive. The remaining two Fly-Catchers were cold when they arrived, so they were placed in an incubator right away to help them regulate their temperatures. The birds have been staying in our Orphan Care Unit and are being hand-fed mealworms, waxworms, and crickets. They have just learned to fly and will be moved to an outdoor aviary in one to two weeks when they can eat on their own. Once outside, they will be fed flying insects for two weeks while they gain strength and skill and then they will return to the wild.

Ash-Throated Flycatchers spend breeding season (spring and summer) in the Southwestern US and Northern Mexico. During the non-breeding season (fall and winter), they live in Eastern and Western Mexico. There is also a population of Fly-Catchers who live around the Gulf of California year-round.

Ash-Throated Flycatchers prefer open or loosely-forested areas like deserts, scrub, or chaparral. They eat mostly insects and spiders, usually catching them mid-flight, but will occasionally add small fruit to their diet. As evidenced by the location of our Fly-Catcher patients' nest, they are cavity nesters, but with loss of habitat have adapted to nesting in man-made objects like nest boxes, fence posts, and, in this case, telephone poles. They are aggressive nesters and will eject other species from the desired nest cavity for their own use.

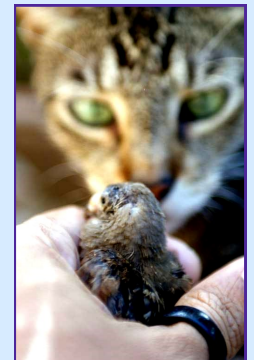


### I FOUND A BABY BIRD! WHAT SHOULD I DO?

If you find a baby bird during the spring or summer months that is fully feathered, able to perch and grasp with its feet, and able to hop around, then it has likely fledged and will be fed by its parents on the ground. Fledgling birds are learning to fly from the ground up and will flutter around and hide under bushes, while the parents watch and gather food. Leave the fledgling on the ground near where you found it originally. It does not belong in a nest (nor will it stay in one) as it is their instinct to be on the ground.

### TOP TIPS FOR FINDING A BABY BIRD:

- If the bird is a "fledgling"... it is best to leave it alone, even if it looks awkward and cute and can't fly properly. Unless, in the very rare cases that:
- The bird is bleeding or visibly injured by a cat/car/window... **call** your local wildlife rehabilitator or veterinarian (**not** a conservation organization).
- It is in immediate danger... (e.g. from a road, cat about to pounce) move it a few feet to somewhere safe (e.g. into a bush off the ground) where parent birds can still hear/see it.
- Hand-rearing a bird... is only ever the **very last resort** – it must be done by an expert, and often is not successful.
- Wild birds are not pets... taking them to rear is often **illegal**.
- Only 30% of songbirds survive their first year... but this is a **natural** strategy so the strongest survive.



*("Baby Birds" Continued on page 13)*

*("Baby Birds" Continued from page 12)*

### Myth buster:

- Birds do not abandon their chicks because of how they smell, so if you do have to handle a chick, it is ok!
- A bird is better in nature than in your care!



### I FOUND A SICK OR INJURED BIRD! WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Place it in a small box with air holes and line it with paper towels.
- Cover the box and place it where the bird will be warm, dark and quiet, like a closet.
- If you have a heating pad, turn it on to low and set the box on top of it. Two other ways to provide warmth are to fill a Ziploc bag with warm water (warm to the touch of your wrist) and place it in the box with the bird, or, fill a sock with salt, heat it in the microwave and place it in the box.
- Do not feed or give water to the bird!
- Call the appropriate organization and leave a brief message with your name, telephone number, the **type of bird**, if known, and the nature of the **injury**. Be brief. The organizations are staffed mostly by volunteers, so be patient until you are called. All calls are triaged, so it may take a while for them to get back to you. **Please leave a donation to help cover the cost of treating the bird.**

### Also, the bird needs help and should be brought to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator if:

- The parents are known to be dead
- The bird is newly hatched and the nest and nest mates are out of reach
- A pet or a child has brought it in from places unknown



### SOME OF THE LOCAL WILD BIRD RESCUES TO CONTACT:

For **Wild Bird Rescue** in the South Bay call: 310.378.9921 ([South Bay Wildlife Rehab](#))

*(Please listen to the entire message as it should answer any questions you have. )*

For **songbirds** (finches, sparrows), call the [Songbird Care & Education Center](#) at 714.964.0666

For **water & shore birds** (gulls, pelicans, etc.), call [International Bird Rescue](#) at 310.514.2573 or 2574

For **hummingbirds** contact [Los Angeles Hummingbird Rescue](#) at 310.804.3715

For **doves, pigeons and baby birds** contact Bruce Caron at 310.218.6548.

If you are in the Valley, or along the coast from Santa Monica west and north, or have a **crow or raven**, contact [The California Wildlife Center](#) at 818.222.2658

*(Some of the Information is from the Redondo Beach Wild Bird Store Website)*





SBBS Welcomes  
New & Returning Members

RENEWALS: Jon & Irene Templeton

LIFETIME MEMBERS: Cary & Anita Pao,

Karen Allen, Perry Ellwood, Donna Crossley,

Dr. Roskopf, Jack Ford, Janet Ragonesi, Don Hand,

Bree & Deven Brozey

MEMORIAL LIFETIME MEMBERS:

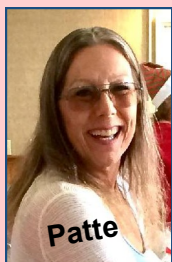
Lorrie Mitchell, Diane Bock, Ron Ellwood

Number of Current Members: 64

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

Your dues help support your club by providing newsletters, educational programs, the website, beverages and more.

To join SBBS, please print page 18 of the newsletter or go to [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com) and click on "Membership" to find a membership application. Fill the form out, include a check and send it to SBBS, P.O. Box 3863, Redondo Beach, CA 90277-3863. If you 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 Membership Director, Patte Fisher at [pattefisher@verizon.net](mailto:pattefisher@verizon.net).

The West L.A. Bird Club

\*The May meeting is

**CANCELED due COVID-19**

We will post updates when the club can resume their monthly meetings

**At the American Legion Hall**

5309 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City

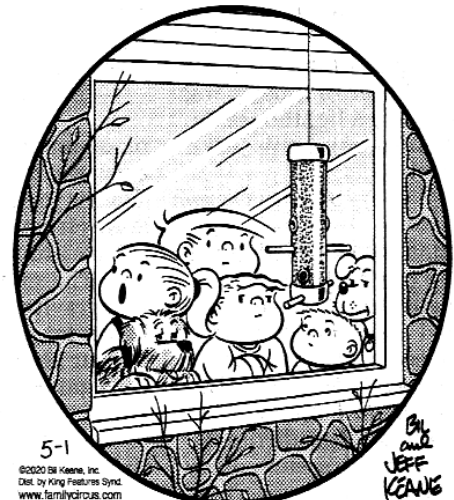
[www.westlabirdclub.com](http://www.westlabirdclub.com)

For info. Contact  
President, Doreen at  
[djseelig@aol.com](mailto:djseelig@aol.com)  
or (310) 488-9749



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FAMILY CIRCUS: By Bill Keane



5-1

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Bill  
and  
JEFF  
KEANE

"How come the birds aren't eating at our feeder? Do they hafta stay home, too?"

We are all in this together!

Long Beach Bird Breeders

**ALL MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19** Meetings are normally held on the 4th

Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American

Legion Hall, 5938 Parkcrest Avenue, Long Beach, CA

90808 (S. of Carson, E. of Woodruff Ave.)



For info call: (562) 881-9847  
[Longbeachbirdbreeders.com](http://Longbeachbirdbreeders.com)

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](mailto:parroted@cox.net) or visit their website [www.peac.org](http://www.peac.org) for information.

All members are invited to submit bird-related items for a future SBBS newsletter in any of the following segments:



Gala & Kahlia

In "Wing Tips," share a tip that could improve the lives of both you and your bird(s).



In "Laugh Kookaburra," send a bird-related cartoon, joke or humorous photo.



In "Creative Corner" send photos of your bird-related drawings, ceramic



pieces, needle point,

paintings, etc. or texts of poems or photos with a unique point of view.



E-mail your ideas of what you would like to see, along with your SUBMISSIONS to: [gidgetscal@aol.com](mailto:gidgetscal@aol.com).

The deadline for the next newsletter is Tuesday, June 16th

## 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

Parrots First

### Phone

(866) 248-7670, ext. 5937

### Contact

[www.parrotsfirst.org](http://www.parrotsfirst.org)

Parrot Rehabilitation Society

(619) 224-6712

[www.parrotsociety.org](http://www.parrotsociety.org)

Southern Nevada Parrot Education, Rescue & Rehoming

[www.southernnevadaparrotrescue.org](http://www.southernnevadaparrotrescue.org)

Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary

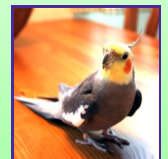
(805) 565-1807

[www.sbbird.org](http://www.sbbird.org)

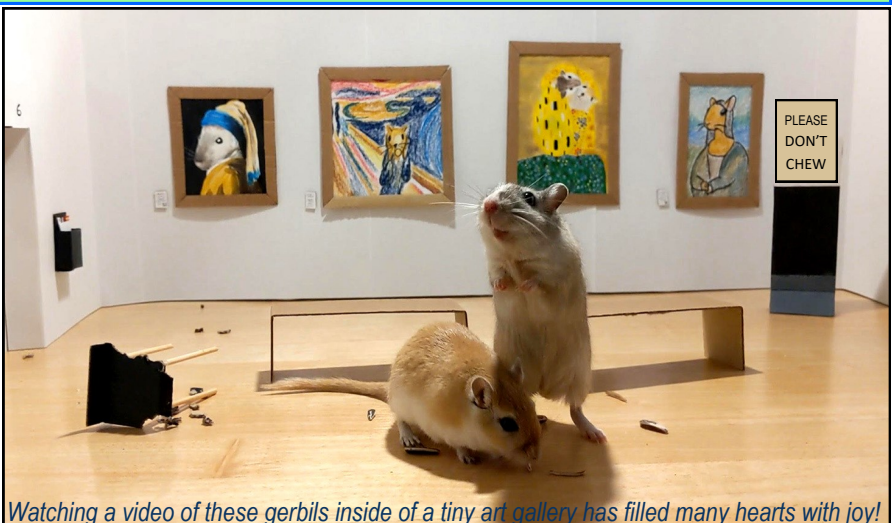
Fine Feathered Friends Foundation

(310) 613-9549

[curtismyrna@verizon.net](mailto:curtismyrna@verizon.net)



In April, a couple of art lovers have filled many hearts with joy after creating a doll-house-sized art gallery for their two, 9-month-old pet gerbils. The gallery was complete with re-makes of famous paintings such as "The Mona Lisa" and "The Scream" with a rodent slant. They video-taped the furry brothers scurrying inside the miniature art gallery. The cultured, yet illiterate rodents, ignored the signs, "Please Don't Chew" and chomped on the cardboard and wooden props. You can google "Gerbils" and "Art Gallery" to see their video. It is more fun to watch than a 1940's "Tom & Jerry" cartoon which featured a scheming cat and a very clever mouse! This is the creative energy we need right now!



Watching a video of these gerbils inside of a tiny art gallery has filled many hearts with joy!



## **Social ZOOM on Monday, June 15th at 7PM**

Our first two SBBS Social ZOOMS, in April and May, **were so much fun**, we have decided to make it a regular event that we will hold on the **3rd Monday of each month for an hour or so beginning at 7 PM!** With many of us spending so much time at home, it is great to see each other, along with our feathered and furry friends.

For each SBBS member who logs on to this social ZOOM, SBBS will donate \$5.00 (up to \$200) to the **Los Angeles Food Bank** to help our neighbors who need food assistance during this time. **So, help others while having fun together!**



*Baby  
Rose Breasted  
Cockatoo, also  
known as a Galah*

*Photo by  
Karen Allen*

In June, with the daylight lasting longer, we will be discussing **"How To Survive The Avian Breeding Season."** Share and learn about ways to address this common behavioral problem of the hormonal surge in your birds. There will be time to socialize with each other, and see how everyone is doing. You never know where the conversation will go.

*In May, we sang "Happy Hatch Day" to Bree and Deven's 7-year-old African Grey, named Aero. We watched the birthday-boy tear into a small piñata to find the bird toys hidden inside! Carol Olsen's Yellow Nape Amazon Parrot, Roscoe, kept saying, "I don't know!" Marie Calleja's Hyacinth Macaw, Howie, was sweetly sitting on Marie's lap the entire time.*

If you are new to ZOOM, don't worry; it is easy! ZOOM works on most smart devices: PC, Mac, iPad, Android or iPhone. Please be aware of background images and activity that will be in view and might be recorded.

**We look forward to seeing you on Monday, June 15th at 7 PM!**

**For more information, call Janet Ragonesi at (310) 376-5954**

With our hearts in hand, we announce the sudden passing of our friend and SBBS member

**Ron Ellwood on May 6, 2020.**

Words cannot express our profound sadness in this moment.

To Ron's husband, Perry, we send light and love!

There's so much to say about our dear friend:  
 Ron's legacy was one of a "gentle man" of heart, soul, and spirit,  
 not to say he would not speak when he thought necessary.

Ron was president of SBBS several times, and both Ron and Perry  
 have served on our board of directors in almost every position.

Ron was currently our director of membership.

He also played a key role in our annual fundraiser and auction.

He created our bid sheets, donated items, and attended most of the meetings.

On a personal note, I met Ron over 20 years ago and found him to be a man of his word.  
 His love for animals, especially birds and dogs, made them his companions of choice.

Perry and Ron met in 1980 and they married several years ago.

They shared a lifetime of humor, love and compassion.

Ron was the best of the best in human kindness!

Missing him does not even compare to how happy and proud I was to be his friend.

Perry, we love and stand with you, and may faith and peace be your guiding light!

Currently, there are no plans for a celebration of life.

We will fill in the details going forward.

Respectfully,

Janet & Ron's Many SBBS Friends



*Perry & Ron Ellwood at last year's SBBS picnic*



*Ron and his dog, Lilly*



*Perry & Ron at the SBBS Silent Auction*



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our  
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**Contact:** "Birds & More" for curbside service  
"Animal Lovers" for home delivery information  
"Wild Bird's Unlimited" for items to be shipped and curbside service.

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Torrance, CA 90505  
310 378-3052  
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**Mike Keens**  
(818) 993-9777  
E-mail: mkeens@sbcglobal.net

The South Bay is fortunate to have great avian veterinarians for our feathered friends.

Get your bird "wellness check" now!

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(310) 679-0693

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Riverside, CA 92503  
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Please thank our Sponsors for supporting the South Bay Bird Society by giving them your business.

Shop on-line at: [www. MyWBU](http://www.MyWBU.com)  
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Redondo Beach 90277  
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310 543 2473 (new)

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Enjoy a nature walk!

Contact for reduced access during Covid-19.

since 1934

**Leach Grain & Milling**  
562.869.4451

South Bay Bird Society members receive a 10% discount at Animal Lovers and Birds & More on selected merchandise. You must show your membership card or mention South Bay Bird Society when shopping on-line.

If you need to renew your card, e-mail Patte Fisher at [pattefisher@verizon.net](mailto:pattefisher@verizon.net)

**NEED A HOME for Your Ad?**

Please Contact **SBBS President, Janet Ragonesi at (310) 376-5954**

**SPONSORS**

Upon review and acceptance by the board of directors, any business that donates \$25 or more per month in either goods, gift certificates or money to SBBS will be known as a SBBS Sponsor. For each month, a sponsor donates to SBBS, the sponsor will be listed in the newsletter for that month depending upon the timing for publication. These sponsors are listed above. **LET'S GIVE THEM OUR SUPPORT.**



# PLEASE JOIN US



**Currently, in-person meetings are canceled.** Meetings are held at the Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach

2515 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90245 (near the corner of Gould and Valley Drive)

**Some meetings are now being held via ZOOM.** Most meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 pm.

\* Sometimes, special meetings are held on Sunday afternoons, but verify the meeting date by checking the website at [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com).

You don't have to own a bird to participate.

Members are invited to participate Board Meetings which are usually the 2nd Monday of the month. Call Janet for details.

## South Bay Bird Society — Officers and Board of Directors

### VOTING POSITIONS:



### NON-VOTING POSITIONS:

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS:

- President** Janet Ragonesi, (310) 376-5954
- V.P. CFO & Secretary** Diane Sivas, (310) 937-9925
- V.P. Education** Karen Allen, birdsnmor@aol.com

#### DIRECTORS:

- Program Director** **OPEN**
- Membership Director** Patte Fisher, pattefisher@verizon.net
- Raffle & Sponsors** **OPEN**
- Newsletter & Flyers** Gala Burkholder (gidgetscal@aol.com)
- Press/Media** June Baker (junespetcare@hotmail.com)
- Community Outreach** **OPEN**
- Technical Support** **OPEN**  
ACTING—Gala Burkholder (310) 345-0278

#### SUPPORT POSITIONS:

- Adoptions & Foster Care** Janet Ragonesi, (310) 376-5954  
Marie Calleja, (310) 529-1408
- Proofreaders** Sylvia Skidmore, Marie Calleja, Patte Fisher
- Web Master** **OPEN**
- Zoom Coordinator** ACTING—David Benjamin (Davidsbbsr@dbenjamin.com)
- "Meet-up" Site** David Benjamin
- Refreshments** **OPEN**
- Photography** Gala Burkholder, Marie Calleja
- Lifetime Members** Anita & Cary Pao, Karen Allen, Perry Ellwood, Jack Ford, Donna Crossley, Janet Ragonesi, Dr. Walter Roskopf, Don Hand, Bree & Deven Brozey
- Memorial Lifetime Members** Lorrie Mitchell, Diane Bock, Ron Ellwood

**Do you want to volunteer in ANY way for SBBS?**

**If so, contact the President Janet Ragonesi at (310) 376-5954 or [ragonesi@att.net](mailto:ragonesi@att.net)**

*The people listed above have chosen to "Step-up" to help with our club.*

*They have listed their contact information for your reference in SBBS business.*





P.O. Box 3863  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277-3863  
www.sobaybirdsoc.com

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:**

Due to the rising costs, members that require the US Postal Service for delivery, please add \$15 to your membership. Thank-you.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:**

When a new or renewing member pays for a 2-year membership in advance, the member receives \$5.00 off of the 2nd year, excluding lifetime members.

**South Bay Bird Society Membership Application**

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

*We appreciate your support. Your donations are tax deductible. SBBS is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation*

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: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

To help us plan programs and activities, please tell us what kind of birds you own: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ How long have you been keeping birds? \_\_\_\_\_

During the meetings when you are invited to bring your bird, we sometimes take pictures of the birds for our newsletter. We like to identify them by name. If you want, please list your bird species and the names of those you might be bringing so we can label the photos: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark ways you will volunteer: Hold a Board Office \_\_\_ Help with Pot Lucks \_\_\_ Help with Community Outreach Events \_\_\_ Help with the Silent Auction/Fundraiser \_\_\_ Take Photos of Meetings \_\_\_ Foster Birds \_\_\_ List Other ways \_\_\_\_\_

Do you keep birds primarily as: Companions \_\_\_ Breeders \_\_\_ Both \_\_\_ Renewal Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_