



Volume 47 Issue 1 Dec. 2020—Jan. 2021 SBBS Newsletter Established 1974

Dr. Amy Hopkins will share her adventures of "The Parrots of Australia"

ZOOM on Mon., Jan. 11th, 2021 at 7 P.M.

SBBS is reaching out to popular speakers from all across our country, due to our monthly presentation meetings being held on ZOOM. Our January presenter, Dr. Amy Hopkins, was recommended to us by Shelly (Sheldon Orloff), the President of the New Jersey Bird Club, "Flapping Feathers." Dr. Amy has started linking-in with us on some of our ZOOM meetings, so you may have already met her.



Dr. Amy Hopkins with Rosie, her Galah, (Rose-Breasted Cockatoo), & friend

We are happy to welcome, Dr. Amy Hopkins, all the way from the east coast, to share stories, photos and videos of her exciting wild bird adventure in Australia.

Dr. Amy is President of "The Parrot Club," Connecticut's oldest companion bird club. She has the good fortune to be owner and parent to three wonderful parrots and an elderly turtle.

Dr. Hopkins is an avid bird-watcher, both locally and around the world, and is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

Dr. Amy traveled to Australia for a month in September 2016 with her friend Chris, for a wild parrot birdwatching tour. She is happy to be able to share some of her photos and videos of this extraordinary parrot paradise.

Plan to be transported to this wild bird adventure through Dr. Amy's presentation!

For the ZOOM Link, RSVP on Meet-up. See page 14 on instructions how to join using Meet-up.

For more information, call Janet Ragonesi at (310) 376-5954 or go to www.sobaybirdsoc.com

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2020 SBBS YEAR IN REVIEW

South Bay Bird Society has adjusted and remained active throughout this past year, and will continue to do so into 2021!



Looking back at this year's [general meetings](#), we've provided a [variety of topics and speakers](#). After our March meeting, we were faced with not being able to meet in person in April and had to cancel that meeting. We re-thought how we could still get together and shifted to [having our meetings on ZOOM!](#) ZOOM gave us the ability to have presentations by out-of-town speakers from across the country!

Jan. Sponsor and Member Appreciation Night

Feb. Randy Harwood
"Trip to Peru and Their Birds"



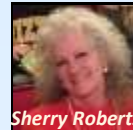
Dr. Randy Harwood

Dr. Walter Rosskopf



March Dr. Walter Rosskopf, Jr., DVM, Diplomate ABVP
"The Basic Principles & Common Problems in Avian Medicine"

April Sherry Roberts
"Raising Monarch Butterflies"

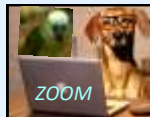


Sherry Roberts

(Canceled Due to Covid-19 Restrictions. We hope to re-schedule when we can return to in-person meetings.)

(We Switched to ZOOM Speaker Meeting Presentations)

May David A. Weeshoff
"The Causes and Consequences of Marine Plastic Debris"



David Weeshoff



(California Lifted Its Quarantine of Newcastle Disease; Birds Can Meet, But People Can't)

June Jamie McLeod "Life at the Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary"



Jamie McLeod

July Josefina Madunich, (Pepe)
"The Galapagos Islands and the Cloud Forest of Ecuador"



Pepe

Aug. Julie Scardina of Sea World
"Positive Training Techniques"



Julie Scardina

Sept. Chris Davis & Dr. Ted Lafeber
"Bird and Other Animals as Loving Friends and Family"



Chris Davis

Dr. Ted Lafeber

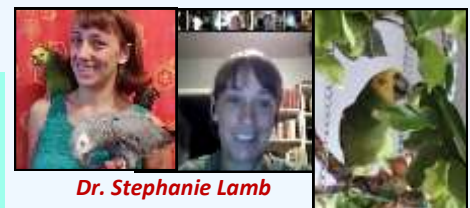
Oct. Dr. Stephanie Lamb, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice)
"Safety First: Bird Dangers and Healthy Plants For Your Bird"

Nov. Dr. Irene Pepperberg
"Life in the Lab Post-Covid 19"

Fundraiser & Auction



Dr. Irene Pepperberg



Dr. Stephanie Lamb

Dec. Online Fundraiser & Silent Auction
December 1-5, 2020

("Year In Review" continued on Page 3)

("Year In Review" continued from page 2)

While many of us were "sheltering-in-place" some of us felt a bit isolated, so we added a monthly **Social ZOOM** on the third Monday of the month. David Benjamin hosts all of our ZOOMS. We chose a general topic to discuss, but each of us had the opportunity to share what was happening in our lives. We didn't know where the chat would go or who might link-in to join us!

David hosts ZOOM



- May "Party Where You Are, While Learning How to Join Together on ZOOM"
- June "How to Survive The Avian Breeding Season"
- July "Tips On How To Make Bird-Care Easier and Not So Stressful For Your Bird"
- Aug. "How You Have Used Your Creativity To Make Your Bird's Life Better"
- Sept. "How to Disinfect Your Home Safely While Keeping Your Pets Well In Light of Covid-19"
- Oct. "Creating A Pet Directive"
- Nov. "SBBS Online Fundraiser & Auction & Items Preview"
- Dec. "Holiday Party & Favorite Ornament Share"
"Bring In The New Year Party!"



Jasper plays with a toy duck



The **monthly newsletter** became even more important than ever by helping us stay connected and provided words of encouragement and a few laughs. It then continued by providing educational articles regarding birds, as well as Karen Allen's Q & As.

- Jan./Feb. "Parrot's Irrational Fear of Anything Unfamiliar" Pt I
- Feb./March "Parrot's Irrational Fear of Anything Unfamiliar" Pt. II
- March/April "Parrot's Irrational Fear of Anything Unfamiliar" Pt. III
- April/May "Get Work Done: Tips To Keep Your Bird Happily Distracted" and Parrot Drawing By Patrick, age 7.
- May/June "Spring is Here and So Are the Wild Baby Birds" *Dr. Pepperberg testing bird's memory*
- June/July "Butterfly Gardening and Count"
- July/Aug. "Human's Verses Parrot's Memory"
- Aug./Sept. "Birds Kept Their Big Brains"
- Sept./Oct. "Natural Bird-Safe Pest Remedies"
- Oct./Nov. "Why Birds Survived, and Dinosaurs Went Extinct, after An Asteroid Hit Earth"
- Nov./Dec. "Keeping Your Bird Warm"
- Dec./Jan. "Christmas Bird Count"



Community Outreach and Donations in 2020

SBBS, along with two of our sponsors and with the assistance with local business, Dive & Surf, provided pet supplies to those affected by the disaster of the Thousand Oaks Fire.

The following are some of the organizations the South Bay Bird Society gave donations to this past year:

South Bay Wildlife Rehab
The Alex Foundation

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
International Bird Rescue and Rehabilitation
Fine Feathered Friends Foundation

Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

SBBS Member Moved and Married

Long time member, Kathy Powell, moved to Arizona, married Jack Rollinger and became Kathy Rollinger. She recently renewed her membership to SBBS and receives our monthly newsletter.



Kathy Rollinger

Lifetime Memorial



Sadly, since the end of November 2019, we lost two of our long-time SBBS members, Diane Bock and Ron Elwood. We remember them and their love of birds and their contributions to our club that impact our club today and will continue in the years to come.



Diane Bock



Ron Elwood



The President's Notes

By Janet Ragonesi

Holiday Greetings SBBS MEMBERS, SPONSORS AND FRIENDS



This successful auction was a result of the time and efforts of many people in addition to the donations from our members and sponsors. To all of you, I give you my sincere gratitude.



December has been a tad cold in the mornings. I hope you all are comfortable and warm in your flannel pajamas, along with a cup of hot cocoa! My birds are listening to Christmas carols and trying to sing along! They know HO, HO, HO! My wish is that everyone is still social distancing and wearing a mask! I hope your Thanksgiving was celebrated safely or within your immediate family bubble.

We have good news! Our first online Holiday Fundraiser and Auction turned out much better than we expected and there were some aspects that turned out to be fantastic! Of course, there were a few small glitches. We experienced a learning curve, as is usually the case, when you hold an activity for the first time. But, we will be better prepared for future online events. I would certainly agree that having in-person events are more fun than those online! For that reason, I deeply missed our September PICNIC!

Our rewards from this fundraiser were numerous! We had 122 auction selections including gift certificates and objects donated from SBBS sponsors, our members and friends. *(See the list of the many members and sponsors who donated to and participated in our auction on page 7).*

I want to start out by thanking Gala Burkholder, gal extraordinaire for putting together the outstanding newsletter and auction catalogue which outlined the auction procedures. Also, for inputting the auction items on the **online 32-auction site!** All the while, she kept our members, friends and sponsors updated with e-mails on the progress of our auction.

Now before all that could happen, we received an assortment of items that were documented, photographed, and categorized. For safe keeping and additional storage, some items were taken to Patte Fisher's home, as my garage and guest bedroom were full of fun items!

I'd like to thank Marie Calleja for using her photographic talent to take pictures of all of the auction items; Patte Fisher for organizing and itemizing the auction selections; June Baker for overseeing local advertising; David Benjamin for coordinating the Meet-up Site, ZOOM trainings and keeping our website updated and thanks to Diane Sivas for finally being able to navigate through the procedures to set up PayPal and STRIPE accounts for us to receive donations and payments on our website! An addition thank-you to Lorie Bell, from the Oasis Sanctuary, who guided us through the "new-to-us online process."

We would not have the many treasures to choose from if it were not for the members and sponsors that made arrangements for pick-ups and delivery of the items to my home. We accomplished all of these preparations while social distancing and wearing our masks. As I have always said,



"IT TAKES A FLOCK!!!"

I'm sure you are wondering about our auction grand total of proceeds, after our expenses. We were able to be quite successful in our funding for next year's SBBS activities due to many wonderful donated items. **SBBS would like to especially thank the Diane Bock Estate for their generosity with such a variety of unique and exquisite items.** The auction item total, minus expenses, was \$4,561 which nearly reached out goal. Also, end-of-the-year financial contributions are still coming in.

("President's Notes" continued on Page 5)

We Had 122 Items to Choose From!



("President's Notes" continued from page 4)

The revenue from our annual fundraiser and auction and all of the donations are vital to allow our club to continue the many planned activities and to cover our basic operating expenses.

We want to continue to bring a variety of interesting and thoughtful speakers to provide enrichment and inspiration to us all. At times, we give a nominal donation to the speaker's charity, which is our way of giving thanks for their time and efforts and meeting our legal obligation as a part of our non-profit status.

Because we have been unable to hold our monthly meeting raffles since March 2019, our revenue has been reduced, so the amount generated in December greatly helps us accomplish our goals for 2020!

As you know, we are non-profit and a registered 501(C)3 organization. In making your year-end, tax-deductible contributions, please consider including The South Bay Bird Society. You can donate on our website, www.sobaybirdsoc.com using the donation button or send a check to the South Bay Bird Society to our post office box at: P.O. Box 3863, Redondo Beach, CA 90277-3863.

You can also **renew your annual membership** at that same time.

Another way to financially contribute to SBBS is to use "Amazon Smile" when ordering anything on Amazon. When you designate "The South Bay Bird Society" as your charity, your club will receive a small percentage of your purchase.

Thank you for your generous support of the South Bay Bird Society!



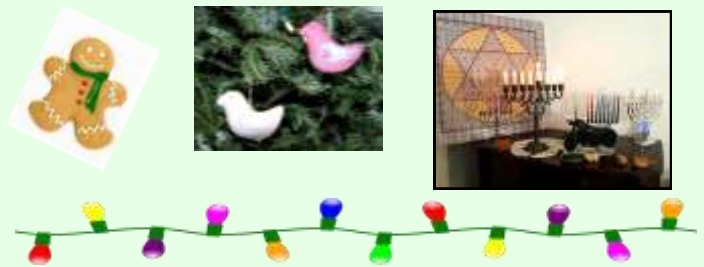
Are these dolphins doing the "Amazon Smile?"

Upcoming SBBS December Holiday SOCIAL ZOOM PARTIES!

This year, many of us may not be with family or friends during the holidays. SBBS is reaching out to make it a bit easier by providing a safe option to be with someone during this time. We want everyone to keep themselves, their family and friends safe. Join us for our December Holiday ZOOMS!

HOLIDAY PARTY & Favorite Holiday Tree Ornaments, Cookies, Decorations & Memories Share!
Monday, December 21, 7 P.M.

See the flyer on page 16 to hear how we are going to celebrate & share our family holiday traditions!



Bring In The New Year Party!
Thursday, December 31, 7 P.M.

We will toast each other and make BIRDIE resolutions for 2021!

We are starting early enough so you can still watch the virtual celebrations and ball-drop in New York City at 9 P.M., CA time.

(See the flyer on page 17 for more information about this fun party!)

("President's Notes" continued on Pg. 6)

("President's Notes" continued from page 5)

SBBS ZOOM MEETINGS:

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11 AT 7 P.M.
DR. AMY HOPKINS TO SPEAK ON THE
PARROTS OF AUSTRALIA



We are happy to welcome, Dr. Amy Hopkins, all the way from the east coast, to share stories, photos and videos of her exciting wild parrot bird adventures in Australia. See the flyer on page 1 for more information about her exciting presentation. RSVP ON Meet-up for the ZOOM link. See page 14 for instructions about sign-up on the Meet-up site.

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 18 AT 7 P.M., *SOCIAL ZOOM*
"WHAT BIRD SPECIES IS YOUR FAVORITE COMPANION
BIRD & WHY?" Share with others about the personality, care
and other aspects about your favorite type of pet bird. RSVP
ON MEET-UP for the ZOOM link. See page 14 for instructions.
JOIN US!

ON MON., FEBRUARY 1 AT 7 P.M., SPEAKER ZOOM TBA

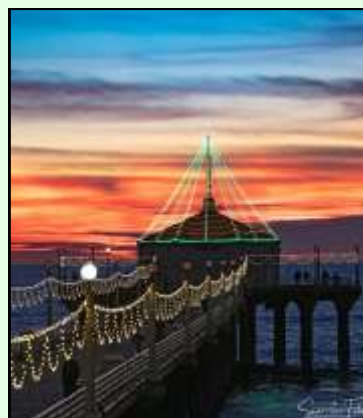
At this time, the board is finalizing some exciting speakers for the February and April meetings. We will let you know when they are confirmed. RSVP on Meet-up for this meeting. See instructions about the Meet-up site on page 14.

ON MONDAY, MARCH 1 AT 7 P.M.
DR. WALTER J. ROSSKOPF, Jr., DVM,
Diplomate ABVP TO SPEAK ON AVIAN MEDICAL
ISSUES

Dr. Walter J. Roskopf, Jr., DVM, an innovator in avian care and medicine, has earned local, national and international recognition for his accomplishments and contributions regarding the veterinary care of caged birds and other companion exotic pets. He will speak on various issues in avian medicine based on his vast experience regarding avian medical care at his practice at the Avian and Exotic Animal Hospital. RSVP on the Meet-up site. See page 14 for information.



Karen Allen & Dr. Roskopf at our March 2020 meeting



SUPPORT FOOD BANKS & OTHER CHARITIES

Due to our current economic crisis, SBBS has made additional monetary donations in November and December to the L.A. Food Bank. Most of us know someone who has been financially hurt by this pandemic and is having trouble putting food on the table. It is going to be a while before we overcome this world-wide crisis. Please consider donating to your local food bank or other charity to assist our neighbors. Some charities include the Salvation Army, the L.A. Food Bank, the Union Mission and other church canned-good drives. If you are able, help our local families during this holiday time and be a light in our community.



I want to remind everyone to support our SBBS sponsors. Most of the sponsors have stayed open during the pandemic, so you and your feathery children will have the things and services you need. Food, grooming, boarding, consultations, veterinarian care and supplies are available to all of you. Many of the sponsors, have shortened their operating hours, so check their operating hours before visiting them. Know that they sanitize often. They all wear their masks and ask you to do the same. This is a trying time for everyone, and as long as we stick together and do what's right, we will come out ahead. Thank you.

("President's Notes" continued on page 7)

("President's Notes" continued from page 6)

SBBS REACHES OUT

While the current environment and challenges that face our country continue to evolve, SBBS wants to be there to assist our members, sponsors and friends.

If you, or anyone you know, need assistance with their birds, please let us know. We will do our best to help. Contact myself at (310) 376-5954 or Karen Allen, the SBBS "Parrot Lady" at (310) 371-9967.

IT TAKES A FLOCK TO CONTINUE TO MAKE SBBS VITAL!



I continue to appreciate the work and support of the many of us who make the South Bay Bird Society vital in promoting the care of companion birds and support for our members.

Without our volunteers, we would not have the fun, meaningful and vibrant bird club that SBBS is. There are so many of you who contribute your time and donations to SBBS. This includes the various members, sponsors and local businesses who have pulled together to keep our "lover of birds" club alive.

Thank you to those who have supported SBBS this year with their auction donations & Participation & for their financial contributions.

Here are just a few of you. (I apologize if I left someone off of these lists).

MEMBERS:

Krista Renta
 Karen Allen
 June Baker
 Carolyn Buckman
 Gala Burkholder
 Joni Blank-Malukas
 Diane Bock Estate
 Patte Fisher
 Marie Calleja
 Lisa Cooley
 Donna Crossley
 Linda Jensen
 Arianna Kozak
 Lisa Miyake
 Janet Ragonesi

Krista Renta
 Diane Sivas
 Sylvia Skidmore
 And a few Pets

OTHER AUCTION PARTICIPANTS:

Lori Bell
 David Benjamin
 Scott Byington
 Barbara Crouse
 Perry Ellwood
 Debbi Folsom
 Laurie Gravatt
 Janet Julien
 Nadine Katibloo
 Phyllis Levine

Patricia Martin
 Dr. Teresa Micco
 Anita Pao

SPONSORS

Animal Lovers Pet Shop
 Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital
 Birds & More
 Jungle Toys
 Lafeber Company
 Leach Grain & Milling
 Mango Pet Products
 Magnolia Bird Farm
 Parrots Naturally
 Point Vicente Animal Hospital
 Wild Birds Unlimited



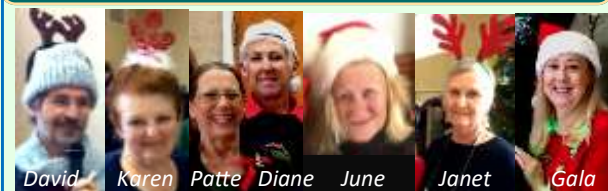
THE SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY

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

SBBS MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of 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.

Janet Ragonesi, SBBS President & The Board



When we come together, we make a real difference in the lives of companion parrots. Thank you for your continued support of SBBS!

WE WISH EVERYONE A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!



Palos Verdes/South Bay



AUDUBON SOCIETY
NOW ON ZOOM!

3rd Tue./mo., 7 P.M.,
NO DECEMBER MEETING

JANUARY 19TH Program:

JIM COX, from the Western
Rivers' Conservancy on,
"Sometimes To Save A River,
You Have To Buy It."

At this time, BIRD WALKS are CANCELED

*BIRD WALKS:

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

1st & 3rd Sun., 8-11 A.M.: 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 A.M.:
South Coast Botanic Garden with
Audubon leader David Quaadhamer

**For Info: www.pvsb-audubon.org
or call David at (310) 833-3095.**



The Christmas Bird Count
is being done in your own
neighborhood due to
Covid-19 on Dec. 27th.

For more information, see pages
12-13 and contact Vincent Lloyd at:
stephenvincentlloyd@gmail.com.

The Connecticut Parrot Club
invites you to see a recorded ZOOM
of Nikki Buxton, the founder of
the Belize Bird Rescue

You can view a
recently
recorded Zoom
of a tour of the
bird aviaries
located at the



Parrot Rescue in Belize by clicking on:
<https://youtu.be/sPbgYgLtxgU>

The Orange County Bird Breeders
Meetings Are Canceled Due to Covid-19

Balearic Center, 1975 Balearic Center Ave, Costa Mesa
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. All of your indoor poinsettias are artificial.
2. Half of your tree ornaments are bird-shaped.
3. Your New Year's Resolution is not to lose weight,
but to take better care of your bird.
4. The wooden toys under your tree are not for
yourself, or your children.
5. Saving the sales portion of the "After Christmas
Sales" are not for you to use to shop. *By: G.B.*

STAY SAFE!

Karen Allen Reminds Us
To Continue To:

- **Wash our hands often**
and vigorously for 20
seconds. Singing the
"Happy Bird Day" song
TWICE for 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, Wild Birds Unlimited

CHECK WEBSITE TO CONFIRM CANCELED BOB BIRD WALKS

BIRD WATCHING WITH BOB SHANMAN

When: **(4th Wednesday), 8:30 A.M.**

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

When: **(2nd Wednesday), 8:00 A.M.**

Where: **MADRONA MARSH**

When: **(3rd Sunday), 8:00 A.M.**

Where: **BALLONA WETLANDS**

When: **(3rd Wednesday), 8:30 A.M.**

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 or call (310) 543-2473 to know more)

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
RSVP: at pvplc.org, select "Events & Activities"





Dr. Walter Rosskopf, Jr., DVM, Diplomate ABVP will speak on Various Avian Issues

Z O O M on Monday, March 1st, 2021 at 7 P.M.

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

He will share with us basic principles and various issues in avian medicine based on his vast experience regarding avian medical care at his practice at the Avian and Exotic Animal Hospital located at 4871 W. Rosecrans Avenue in Hawthorne, California.

Bring your avian questions and see what the good doctor has to share.



RSVP on the MEET-UP Site for the ZOOM link. See page 14 for instructions.

*For more information, call Janet Ragonesi at (310) 376-5954
or go on: www.sobaybirdsoc.com*



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!!!!

Christmas is upon us and 'Tis the Season to be cautious!

Q



My bird knows how to open his cage. Is there a way to prevent this?

A

Of course there is. **USE A PADLOCK!** Our birds are smart, but not lock pickers!



Q

Can I use pine shavings or cat litter on the cage bottom?

A

I personally use "Sheeted News Print," which is newspaper without print. Newspaper is fine, but you have to deal with the ink. The ink is safe now, but rubs off and makes the feathery kids really dirty.



Pine shavings can grow bacteria when it gets wet. If you change it daily, it is probably OK, but a pain in the neck.



Cat litter is a definite NO because the powder is not healthy for our birds. Walnut shells are a better choice, if cleaned daily. Even paper towels work well, if you can find any in this day and age.



Q

Why can't my birds have avocado?

A



The meat of the avocado is so full of oil that is indigestible for most birds. The area next to the skin and the seed are toxic. If you are silly enough to cook avocado, it gives off a gas-like fume that will do your birds in in short order! Love avocado for you, and let your birds live a happy life without it!

("Q & A" Continued from page 10)

Q

My bird likes to take a bath and sometimes it is really cold. Should I let him bathe anyway?

A



Good sense should play a part in anything you do. You can take him in the shower -- they make great shower perches for the birds (not for you!). You can use the kitchen sink, a spray bottle, a bowl of water in the cage, or just let him choose his bath time and bathe in his water bowl, then change to fresh water for drinking.

If it seems cool, you can always use a blow dryer on low. **MOST BIRDS REALLY LOVE IT.** You have now conquered BBO...Birdie Body Odor!

Q

Is there anything I need to watch out for at Christmas?

A



Mistletoe, pine cones that are painted, the needles of a Christmas tree that you buy, are sprayed with fire retardant for our safety (NOT THE BIRD'S), poinsettias (or any plant that has a milky substance), tinsel, fake tree snow... E-gads again; use common sense -- that will help a lot!



One last thought: if you leave cookies out for Santa, make sure they are either birdie safe or unreachable, in case your feathery child gets the urge to swipe one! And be prepared to really tick Santa off -- if his cookies are missing, it might turn out that all you get for Christmas is a piece of coal!!!!



HAVE A MERRY, HAPPY EVERYTHING!

May 2021 bring us joy, health and peace!

We certainly deserve after this COCKAMAMIE year!

With bundles of love, Karen the 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



How one man changed a Christmas tradition forever to save birds

[How did a continent go from shooting birds every Christmas to counting them?](#)

[Discover the Audubon Christmas Bird Count – a holiday tradition that has transformed bird science.](#)

By Jessica Law



North Redondo Rare Woodpecker...only when it snows! Ha!

This year, between December 14 and January 5, tens of thousands of bird-loving volunteers will venture outdoors into the wintry weather, braving deep snow, lashing rain or gale force winds to count as many birds as they can. With whole families breaking away from the excesses of Christmas to take a welcome and refreshing walk in nature, **the Audubon Christmas Bird Count has become a firm family tradition across the Americas and beyond**, making it one of the longest-running wildlife censuses in the world.

But when it started 120 years ago, the scene was far from idyllic. Back in 1900, the fashionable holiday tradition of the time was the Christmas ‘Side Hunt’, where groups of hunters would choose sides and venture outside to shoot every wild animal they set eyes on. The team who brought in the largest pile of quarry won. So much for the Christmas spirit.

Thankfully, around this time, **scientists were beginning to become concerned about falling bird populations. And so, on Christmas day 1900, Dr Frank M. Chapman,**

founder of Bird-Lore – which evolved into Audubon magazine – proposed a new holiday tradition. His idea was to go out and count birds, rather than hunting them. That day, with the support of 27 dedicated birders across the Americas, 25 Christmas Bird Counts were held from Toronto to California.



Fast forward to Christmas 2018, and this stalwart group of hard-core birders had ballooned to 79,425 ordinary citizens across the Americas and the Western hemisphere. Last year, citizens spotted over 48 million birds, representing 2600 different species—more than one-quarter of the world’s known avifauna.

It sounds like the perfect Christmas fairy story – a tale of redemption and compassion triumphing over destruction that even Ebenezer Scrooge would be proud of. But it’s not just a heart-warming fable – the **Audubon Christmas Bird Count is also an important practical tool to study and protect birds.**

“The Christmas Bird Count is a great tradition and opportunity for everyone to be a part of 120 years of ongoing community science,” said Geoff LeBaron, Audubon’s Christmas Bird Count director, who first started leading the community science effort in 1987. “Adding your observations to twelve decades of data helps scientists and conservationists discover trends that make our work more impactful.”

When combined with data from other initiatives such as the **North American Breeding Bird Survey, the bird count provides important information about how – and where – America’s bird populations have changed over the past century, and what we can do to help them.**



Photo Taken by Paul Blieden of a Hummingbird at the South Coast Botanic Gardens

To date, Christmas Bird Count data has been used in more than 300 scientific articles, and this year informed an important report in *Science* showing that **North American bird populations have plummeted by 3 billion since 1970.** Every participant makes a difference to our understanding of the situation.

So, how does the Christmas Bird Count work, and how can you get involved?

(“Christmas Bird Count” Continued on page 13)

("Christmas Bird Count" Continued from page 12)

Each individual count takes place in a 15-mile-wide circle and is led by a compiler responsible for organizing volunteers and submitting observations directly to Audubon. Within each circle, participants tally all birds seen or heard that day—not just the species, but total numbers, to provide a clear idea of the health of that particular population.



Grey Heron

To sign up for a Christmas Bird Count in the South Bay/Palos Verdes area see the information in the box below.



The South Bay/Palos Verdes Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, December 27.

This year, the bird count is being **done in your own neighborhood** due to Covid-19. This count area is a circle, 15 miles in diameter, centered roughly on the Palos Verdes Reservoir, in an area that extends from the L.A. River to the Santa Monica Bay and from Alondra Park to the Catalina Channel.

It is one of over 2,500 CBC's in North America, South America, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. **Last year, our 62 local observers tallied 166 species and 18,301 individual birds!**

Whether you are an experienced birder or a beginner, we can use your help. In light of the ongoing epidemic, participants are asked to wear masks and observe social distancing.

If you are interested in helping with the count, please contact Vincent Lloyd at: stephenvincentlloyd@gmail.com to participate.

Cherry-Headed Conure in Redondo Beach



This year, a brand new feature will be CBC Live, a crowd-sourced 'story-map' that will ask users to upload a photo taken during their outing, as well as a short anecdote, to paint a global picture of the Christmas Bird Count in real time.

Christmas is all about creating your own traditions. So if you fancy a break from scoffing and quaffing over the holidays, **consider becoming part of this 120-year old institution** – or checking out similar citizen science projects going on across the world, all year round. **If a single person can make such a big difference to bird conservation, then so can you!** Bird watching is a fun, outdoor activity you can do by yourself or with others while experiencing the healing joy of nature.

One way to help you identify the birds you see is to download on your phone, **"The Cornell Lab Merlin."**

Below, is a **pocket guide** provided by Bob Shanman of "Wild Birds Unlimited" located in Redondo Beach who leads bird walks in the area.

Have Fun & Happy Birding!

LOCAL BACKYARD BIRDS

 House Finch	 Lesser Goldfinch	 House Sparrow
 California Towhee	 Spotted Towhee	 Mourning Dove
 Western Scrub-Jay	 Dark-eyed Junco	 Black Phoebe
 Allen's Hummingbird	 Anna's Hummingbird	 Northern Mockingbird

KEY

- ↑ Eats seed
- 🍌 Eats fruit
- 🐛 Eats insects
- 🍯 Drinks nectar

Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop
1886 Pacific Coast Hwy
Redondo Beach 90277
(310) 543-2473 www.MyWBU



SBBS Welcomes New & Returning Members

RENEWALS: **Gala Burkholder & Kathy Rollinger**

LIFETIME MEMBERS: **Cary & Anita Pao, Karen Allen, Perry Ellwood, Donna Crossley, Dr. Walter 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 and more.

To join SBBS, please print page 20 of the newsletter or go to 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 pattfisher@verizon.net.



Patte

The West L.A. Bird Club

All Meetings are currently

CANCELED due to 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

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



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

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.)



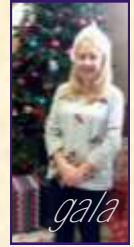
For info call: (562) 881-9847
Longbeachbirdbreeders.com

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 information.**

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

- ☀ 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.

The deadline for the next newsletter is *Wednesday, January 13th*.

Adoptions



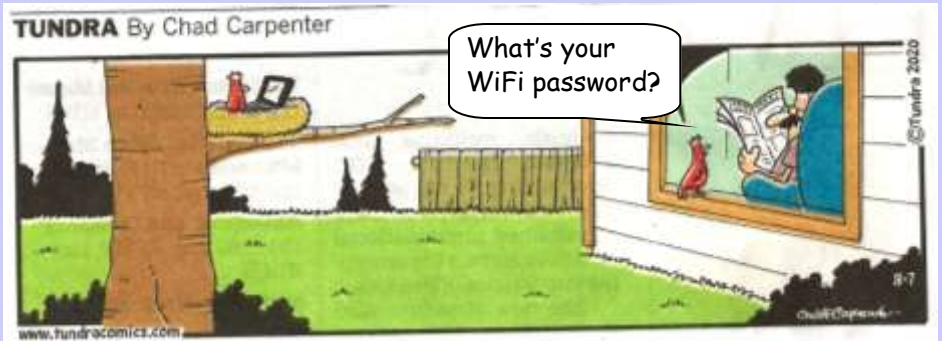
*There are so many birds needing homes out there.
If you are considering another bird, please think about adopting one.
Call one of these rescue/adoption groups.*

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!

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Fine Feathered Friends Foundation	(310) 334-9062 (Note: New #)	www.finefeatheredfriendsfoundation.org
Parrot Rehabilitation Society	(619) 224-6712	www.parrotsociety.org
Parrots First	(866) 248-7670, ext. 5937	www.parrotsfirst.org
Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary	(805) 565-1807	www.sbbird.org
Southern Nevada Parrot Education, Rescue & Rehoming		www.southernnevadaparrotrescue.org

Laugh



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Some Redondo Beach residents spread holiday cheer while having fun!



Social Holiday ZOOM On Mon., Dec. 21 at 7 P.M.



HOLIDAY PARTY & FAVORITE
HOLIDAY TREE ORNAMENTS, COOKIES,
DECORATIONS & MEMORIES SHARE!



The holidays are celebrated throughout our lives in many ways. We each have participated in different traditions. Your holiday memories may have started by making a holiday card or leaving note for Santa and a carrot for Rudolf. Or maybe you made a tree ornament to adorn your Christmas Tree or Hanukkah Display. Perhaps your family made a gingerbread house and baked Christmas cookies. You might have made a colorful arrangement of decorations for the center of your holiday table, Menorah candle table or window display. As an adult, whether you spend it with others or by yourself, keep the magic of what each holiday means to you. Live it through the eyes of wonderment and joy as an adult by continuing or making new traditions to celebrate these life events. **Maybe this year, design and decorate a gingerbread birdhouse or make bird-shaped ornaments or scrumptious holiday cookies.**

On Monday, December 21 at 7 P.M., you and others have the opportunity to share the sparkle of the holidays. Since we are on ZOOM, you can display holiday items or share memories or recipes that are special to you and explain why.

- Share your favorite tree ornaments, holiday cards, Christmas cookies or other holiday decorations.
- Share a holiday memory with your bird. Perhaps we will sing carols or a festive song with your birds while having a fun time!



Please be aware of background images and activities that will be in view. Meetings may be recorded and used for promotional purposes. Opinions voiced by the speaker or others do not necessarily represent the views of SBBS, its board or its sponsors. You can RSVP on the Meet-up Site.



If you are new to ZOOM, don't worry; it is easy!
 ZOOM works on most smart devices: PC, Mac, iPad, Android or iPhone.
[RSVP on the Meet-up site to join the live Social ZOOM](#)
[See page 14 for instructions about the Meet-up Site.](#)



We look forward to seeing you on Monday, December 21 at 7 P.M.!

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



Social Holiday ZOOM on Thurs., Dec. 31 at 7 PM

BRING IN THE NEW YEAR PARTY!

We will toast each other and make BIRDIE resolutions for 2021!
(Pick one or make your own promise to your bird)

- *I will make sure my bird gets 12-14 hours of sleep a night.*
- *I will remember that I must set an example for this feathery child of mine and mind my tongue.*
- *I will rotate the toys in my bird's domain at least every other week.*
- *When my bird does something brilliant, I will let her know she takes after me!!!*

We are starting early enough so you can still watch the virtual celebrations and ball-drop in New York City at 9 P.M., CA time.



Please be aware of background images and activities that will be in view. Meetings may be recorded and used for promotional purposes. Opinions voiced by the speaker or others do not necessarily represent the views of SBBS, its board or its sponsors. You can RSVP on the Meet-up Site and it will send you a reminder. See how on page 14.

If you are new to ZOOM, don't worry; it is easy! ZOOM works on most smart devices: PC, Mac, iPad, Android or iPhone.

[RSVP ON THE Meet-up site to join the live Social ZOOM:](#)
[See page 14 for instructions about the Meet-up Site.](#)

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, December 31 at 7 P.M.!

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



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Shop on-line at: [www.MyWBU](http://www.MyWBU.com)
or call: [310 543 2473](tel:3105432473)

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(NW corner of PCH & Prospect
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since 1934



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 membership, e-mail Patte Fisher at 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)

Our meetings are NOW being held via ZOOM. MOST MEETINGS are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 pm., with an added ZOOM SOCIAL on the 3rd Monday of the month AT 7 PM. *Join in the fun and lively conversations!*

* Sometimes, special meetings are held on Sunday afternoons, but verify the meeting date by checking the website at: 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 via ZOOM. 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) 318-2662
Communications Gala Burkholder (gidgetscal@aol.com)

SUPPORT POSITIONS:

Adoptions & Foster Care Janet Ragonesi, (310) 376-5954
 Marie Calleja, (310) 529-1408
Proofreaders Sylvia Skidmore, Marie Calleja, June Baker, 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
Cartoons June Baker, Marie Calleja
Lifetime Members Anita & Cary Pao, Karen Allen, Perry Ellwood, Jack Ford, Donna Crossley, Janet Ragonesi, Dr. Walter Rosskopf, 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

The people listed above have chosen to “Step-up” to help with our club.

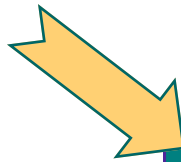
They have listed their contact information for your reference in SBBS business.



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

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

Members that require the US Postal Service for their 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.

South Bay Bird Society Membership Application

Return your application to: 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: _____