



Volume 47 Issue 5 April-May 2021 SBBS Newsletter Established 1974



MICHAEL TOBIAS TO SPEAK ON

**“The General State of the Planet,
Bio-Diversity and Our Kindred Avifauna”**

ZOOM on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7 P.M. PDT

Michael Tobias is a global ecologist, anthropologist, historian, explorer, author and filmmaker.

Tobias obtained his Ph.D. in the Department of History of Consciousness from the University of California-Santa Cruz. **Tobias has lectured widely.** He was an Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies & Adjunct Assistant Professor of English and the Humanities at Dartmouth College, an Associate Professor of Humanities at CSU, Northridge, the Garrey Carruthers Chair of Honors and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of New Mexico -Albuquerque, and a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Environmental Studies and Regents' Lecturer at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Michael Tobias is the **author of more than 45 books** (both fiction and non-fiction, as well as several edited anthologies). In addition to his numerous books and published research papers, Tobias has written, directed, produced, executive produced or co-executive produced well **over 100 films-TV series, documentaries and dramas, most pertaining to environmental, cultural, social or scientific issues.** Tobias' field research has taken him to some **80 countries where he has specialized in an interdisciplinary approach to environmental history, animal rights, scientific, ethical and philosophical frameworks for policy research, strategies and documentation, demographic analysis, ecological anthropology, biodiversity conservation and non-violence activism.** In 1996, Tobias received the "Courage of Conscience Award" for his commitment to nature and non-violence. In 2004 he was the recipient of the "Parabola Focus Award" for his long-standing body of work aimed at creating a better world.

Join us to hear ways we can improve our communities, as well as our planet, while staying in harmony with nature! (See more photos on page 5).

Go to the “Meet-up” site for the ZOOM link. (See page 22 for info)

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

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Special Penguin Edition!

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JULIE SCARDINA & LINDA HENRY SPOKE ON

“Nurturing Nature to Preserve the Penguins”

Monday, April 12, 2021 Presentation via ZOOM

By Diane Sivas

Our April meeting with Julie Scardina, and penguin handler extraordinaire, Linda Henry, was top notch! Not only were they both fabulous speakers, but the subject of penguins is always a favorite with people. Janet asked Karen to introduce Julie but, as Karen said, Julie really needed no introduction. She has been with us on multiple occasions and, honestly, we all just love her! Julie then introduced Linda, who, as she mentioned, is the most knowledgeable penguin person she knows.

Julie began by describing penguins as various “erect, short legged, aquatic, flightless birds.” It seems like everybody loves penguins and most consider them to be funny and strange. Their biology and the way they live is quite different than the other birds we know. While the classic perception of penguins is that they live in icy, snowy conditions -- and that they are well adapted for this very cold environment -- the truth is that they inhabit many spots in the Southern Hemisphere where the weather isn’t as harsh. There is also the Galapagos penguin who lives in

Julie also talked about her experiences with penguins, including appearances on the “Today Show,” her trip to Antarctica, and different shows at Sea World parks. It was obvious that she’s really over the top for these guys!!



On a more somber note, she told us that 13 of the 18 species of penguin are endangered in various degrees for various reasons. Food availability, oil seepage,



entanglement, disturbance and climate change all present challenges for the penguin.



Julie then introduced Linda Henry, Sea World’s Supervisor of Birds, and Program Leader for King and Emperor Penguins. Penguins are full of “charisma and style” and are obviously extremely popular. While conducting her “behind-the-scenes” tours, she noted that people have cried when she’s brought penguins to interact with them, because it was something they’d always wanted—and finally had the opportunity--to do. Both Julie and Linda encouraged us all to take the “behind the scenes” tour of the penguin encounter at Sea World. When asked, Linda said that the best time to do this is between September and December.



the warmer regions of the Northern Hemisphere. Some species live in areas where they must endure both hot and cold climates. Julie talked about how various species have adapted to the environment in which they live. The warmer weather penguin has a way of expelling excess heat, something that the Emperor Penguin in Antarctica and others who live in much colder climates don’t need.

All species have very dense feathers, torpedo shaped bodies and solid bones—as opposed to flighted birds who have hollow bones. They can camouflage themselves, both from under and above water, to protect themselves from predators.



(“Julie Scardina” continued on page 3)

(“Julie Scardina” continued from page 2)



Emperor Penguins

Linda told us about a 45-year-old male Emperor Penguin living at Sea World. Emperor Penguins form tris consisting of two females and one male. The 45-year-old has had up to five females at a time (very popular fellow!) but it seems that age has caught up with him and he is no longer interested in mating. Nonetheless, one of his many adoring females has managed to outlast the others and is now his constant companion.

When asked about illnesses, Linda told us that like our birds, penguins are particularly good at masking illness. Keepers are trained to observe and look for any abnormalities in their normal behavior.



Keeper feeds penguins fish

Sea world visitors can watch penguins swim under water



Sea World has 400 penguins and a 4,000 square foot facility to house them. Water is cooled to 42 degrees F and air temperatures stays at 26 degrees F. 4,000 pounds of fresh snow is brought in daily, and lights are either dimmed or brightened according to the time of year (to mimic seasons in the wild). Working in this harsh environment is challenging but, Linda told us, extremely rewarding. Clean up is constant. Penguins molt once a year (“catastrophic molt”) which adds a lot of dropped feathers to the general daily clean up. But the goal here is to give the animals a perfect replica of their natural environment. Then, of course, there are the babies. Linda told us she prefers to have the parents do the rearing, but babies are observed and weighed on a regular basis to make sure they are thriving.



Penguin Molting



Penguin hatching



Baby Penguin



Get joy from penguins!

The presentation was great, the pictures were cute and charming, and everyone had a good time. A big SBBS shout out and thanks go to both Julie and Linda. What a wonderful evening!

Learn more about penguins on pages 12-21.



Penguins watch us watching them!



Our next ZOOM presenter will feature,

MICHAEL TOBIAS TO SPEAK ON

**“The General State of the Planet,
Bio-Diversity and Our Kindred Avifauna”**



Monday, May 3rd at 7:00 P.M., PST.

Be there!

Diane Sivas and her Blue & Gold Macaw, Cheeto



The President's Notes

By Janet Ragonesi

Greetings
SBBS MEMBERS,
SPONSORS AND FRIENDS,



SBBS CLUB MEETINGS IN PERSON

They are still not allowing meetings at the Kiwanis Club Building. I am sure there will be requirements for us to follow when the meetings resume in person. We will keep you in the loop! SAFETY FIRST!

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'



April has brought the warmth of the sun's healing rays as I walk at the beach with a sense of well-being! My foot sprain is almost healed - a six-week process of self-care!



THE RAGONESI FLOCK

My 28-year-old female Eclectus "Scarlet" is getting weekly laser treatments for her arthritis, she is a trooper! Plus, I have set up her house so she can "poop" from her shelf to the paper and not into her water or food! Yup a challenge, she needs to be kept clean and cozy!

My 50-year-young Severe Macaw "Oliver" has been under the weather; he has been receiving antibiotics! Oliver is a wild caught bird that came into our lives 30 plus years ago. It would have been a tragedy had Leon and I not rescued him from a Thrift Store. He can be a loud old guy; I am sure he a lot to say about his past! He could never fly due to the way his wing was mutilated. He manages very well, especially when he wants to show off to his love "Sammy"! Also, an adoption from a garage sale!

We are all healing together! As mentioned in our March newsletter "Emergency Preparedness" prior to an unexpected challenge is all important. The South Bay recently experienced a 4.0 earthquake which serves as a wake-up call to all of us.

SBBS website has an excellent abundance of information for everyone to research and gather for your own emergency kits!!!!



SBBS PICNIC



We are working on the SBBS picnic -no news from the City of Torrance in reserving Columbia Park. We will keep trying to set up our picnic for **Sunday, Sept.12** with each of us bringing our own picnic while keeping safe distancing!

PREVIOUS SBBS ZOOM MEETING WITH SPEAKERS:

MONDAY, APRIL 12.

Julie Scardina and San Diego Sea World Penguin Specialist, Linda Henry spoke on



"Nurturing Nature to Preserve the Penguins"

They were outstanding! For the members and friends that were on zoom with us, their presentation was informative and quite unique! Linda even demonstrated



how she called- out to the different penguin species. Love those penguins! Thank you. Thank you! (Check out Diane's article, on pages 2-3).

Learn more facts about penguins on pages 7 & 12-21.

LOOKING AT UPCOMING SPEAKERS...

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

(“President’s Notes” continued from page 4)

SBBS ZOOM MEETINGS WITH SPEAKERS:

MONDAY, MAY 3RD AT 7 P.M., PDT

MICHAEL TOBIAS



TO SPEAK ON

“THE GENERAL STATE OF THE PLANET,

BIO-DIVERSITY AND OUR KINDRED AVIFAUNA”

This ZOOM presentation will not disappoint! Michael Tobias Ph.D., the president from the “Dancing Star Foundation,” will be our guest speaker. Michael’s passion takes him around the globe, as an ecologist, film maker, historian/author, and explorer! **Check out the flyer on page 1.**

Some of our planet’s kindred creatures.



A Chance to WIN A \$25.00 Amazon Gift Card



At the May 3rd ZOOM with Michael Tobias!

For **SBBS members** that zoom with us on May 3, will be entered to win a \$25.00 Amazon Gift Card! We will have a number associated with your name.

After the presentation, we will have a random pick of a number out of a basket!

Join us you maybe the winner!

You must attend though the end of the meeting to win!

Renew your membership NOW!

SUNDAY, JUNE 6 AT 2 P.M., PDT

“Macaws, Macaws, Macaws!”

Three of SBBS Members, **Donna Crossley, Karen Allen** and **Marie Calleja**, with an expertise in these feathered giants, will share their perspectives on owning a macaw. *(See more on the flyer on page 9.)*

SUNDAY, JULY 11TH AT 2 P.M., PDT

*(Note: Meeting is **SECOND, SUNDAY, Afternoon**)*

Sheila Blanchette

A Certified Parrot Behaviorist,

TO SPEAK ON



“Anthropomorphism”

(What happens when we treat our birds like humans.)

When we should or should not do that! **More info next month.**

(“President’s Notes” continued on page 6)

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

SBBS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AND AUCTION – Tentively Scheduled for DECEMBER 2-5, 2021



Last year's fundraiser and auction was outstanding! If we had not coordinated with 32 AUCTIONS, there would not have been a fundraiser. This year our goal is to continue with **32 AUCTIONS online. The dates we have in mind are December 2nd thru 5th.** SAVE THE DATES! Our fundraiser planning needed to begin, and we know that in-person auction may not have been possible this year! For now, your donations and your participation is welcomed and appreciated! Contact Janet at: ragonesi@att.net for general information, on how the auction works, or how you can donate and help! More details to follow.

IN MEMORIAM — LAURA LYNN PORTER

SBBS sends out a special thank you to Laura Lynn Porter's family. We celebrate Laura Lynn's life with them. We appreciate all of your heartfelt and generous donations to SBBS in Laura Lynn's name!



REMEMBERING WEST LA BIRD CLUB - PAST PRESIDENT FRAN EZER

Fran Ezer passed away peacefully February 24th. Fran wore many hats at West LA. - President, VP, raffle donation coordinator and she established a bird rescue at her home!

Leon and I fostered and then adopted an African Grey named "Cookie" through Fran. I am sure Cookie met Fran at the Rainbow Bridge and they were reunited!

We send our condolences to the WEST LA members,

SBBS REACHES OUT
 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.



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

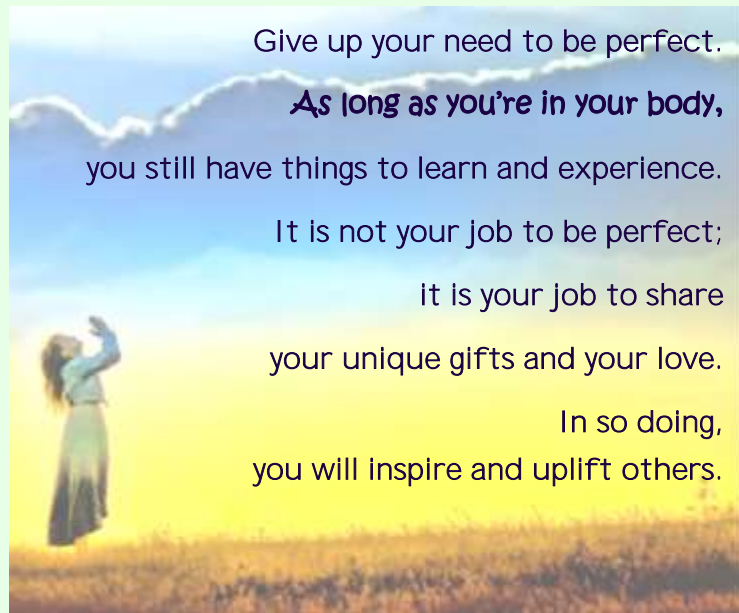
The purpose of SBBS is to study all avian species (native and foreign) and their habitats; to disseminate among the general public and supporting members, information on all aspects of avian care and breeding and the preservation of endangered species and their habitats through written publications,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

Give up your need to be perfect.

As long as you're in your body,
 you still have things to learn and experience.

It is not your job to be perfect;
 it is your job to share
 your unique gifts and your love.

In so doing,
 you will inspire and uplift others.



Cheers,
 Janet Ragonesi, SBBS President

HOW PENGUINS ARE PROTECTED

Legal Protection for Penguins

- Currently **all 18 species of penguins are legally protected from hunting and egg collecting.**
- **The Antarctic Treaty** was signed by **12 nations** in 1959 and reauthorized in 1991 to protect Antarctica and preserve its living resources. The Treaty makes it **illegal to harm, or in any way interfere with, a penguin or its eggs.**
- **The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** is an international treaty developed in 1973 to **regulate trade in certain wildlife species**, including penguins. CITES **categorizes** various animals according to their **current status**. Categories include “danger of extinction,” “threatened” or “likely to be endangered.”
- **IUCN/The World Conservation Union** is a **worldwide conservation organization**. This organization links together government agencies, non-government agencies, and independent states to encourage a worldwide approach to conservation.
- **The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA)** is administered by the **U.S. Departments of Interior and Commerce**. It seeks to **stop the extinction of wild animals and plants** in the United States, other nations and at sea.



Wildlife Refuges

- **Protection of habitat** began in the early 1900s

Conservation Management Plan

- **The Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP)** is an **assessment tool to evaluate the status of various animals and to determine conservation priorities.**

Zoological Parks

- Most people do not have the opportunity to observe penguins in the wild. The unique **ability to observe and learn directly from live animals increases public awareness and appreciation of wildlife.**
- Currently the **four SeaWorld parks** maintain emperor, king, Adélie, gentoo, chinstrap, rockhopper, macaroni, Magellanic, and Humboldt penguin species. Each of these species has successfully **reproduced within the parks' comprehensive breeding program.**



How Can You Help Penguins?

If you eat seafood, choose seafood that is certified by the Marine Stewardship Council or Aquaculture Certification Council.

Eating sustainable seafood will reduce the number of accidental deaths due to entanglement in fishing gear and ensure that penguins and other ocean animals can find enough food to eat.

Comparison of 3 Types of Avian Pellets

Several months ago, African Grey parrot owner, Barbara Gonza joined one of our social ZOOMS entitled, “**What You Feed Your Bird.**” Afterwards, Barbara did an analysis of three types of avian pellets to compare their nutritional value. These are the results of her study:

| Analysis | ZuPreem Natural | ZuPreem Smart Selects | Higgin's intune |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Crude Protein | 14.00% | 12.00% | 15.00% |
| Crude Fiber | 5.00% | 9.00% | 5.00% |
| Crude Fat | 4.00% | 8.00 -11.5% | 5.00% |
| Moisture Max | 10.00% | 12.00% | 11.00% |
| Omega 3 Fatty Acids | - | - | 0.40% |
| Omega 6 Fatty Acids | - | - | 1.10% |
| Lysine | 0.80% | 0.60% | - |
| Methionine | 0.40% | 0.30% | - |
| Phosphorus | 0.40% | 0.40% | 0.80% |
| Potassium | 0.50% | - | - |
| Vitamin D | 500 IU/lb | 135 IU/lb | - |
| Vitamin E | 60 IU/kg | 18 IU/lb | 200 IU/kg |
| Sodium | | 0.12 -0.22% | - |
| Calcium | | - | 1.00% |
| Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C) | | - | 25 mg/kg |
| L-Carnitine | | - | 20 mg/kg |
| Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) | | - | 0.03% |
| Total Lactic Acid Bateria | | | 2 x 10 ⁵ cfu/g |

Next month, look for the comparison of the list of ingredients in these avian pellets.

Thanks Barbara for sharing your findings with us!



Who is going to blink first?

Palos Verdes/South Bay



AUDUBON SOCIETY
NOW ON ZOOM!

3rd Tue./mo., 7 P.M.

May 18th Program:

Kim Moore,

*A Naturalist,
Photographer &
Artist to speak on*



**"Those Dashing
Dragons:
An Introduction to
Our Local Dragonflies"**

Kim will share her photographs of local Dragonflies to illustrate her discussion of their lifecycle, anatomy, behaviors, where and when to find them, and how to identify them. ZOOM link to follow.

***As of 4/24 Birding is canceled.
Check the website for Updates***

***BIRD EXCURSIONS:**

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.

2nd 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.***

Lafeber Company: April/May Webinars:

April 30 & May 21 - Ask the Vet with Tom Tully, DVM, (Avian Practice) – 12PM PDT

May 7 – The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill: Where Are They Now? – 12PM PDT

May 14 - The Picky Parrot: Teaching Your Pet Bird to Eat a Healthy Diet – 12PM PDT

Contact: customerservice@Lafeber.com

The Connecticut Parrot Club

**Their ZOOM presentation speaker on
Sunday, May 16 at TBA, PST**

Dr. Graham Martin

over Zoom discussing

"Through the Eyes of a Parrot"

Dr. Martin is Emeritus Professor of Avian Sensory Science in the Centre for Ornithology, School of Biosciences, University of Birmingham in the UK.

An internationally renowned scientist focused particularly on bird vision, he will provide a comprehensive review of how parrots perceive the world through vision and other senses, helping us understand many of their unique and engaging qualities as birds and as companions.

*The ZOOM link
will be e-mailed to SBBS members later.*

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 BIRDING

BIRD WATCHING & HEARING 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](http://PalosVerdesPeninsulaLandConservancy)
RSVP: at pvplc.org, select "Events & Activities"**





Donna Crossley, Karen Allen & Marie Calleja to speak on "Macaws, Macaws, Macaws"

ZOOM on Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 2 P.M., PDT

Three SBBS Members, Donna Crossley, Karen Allen and Marie Calleja, with an expertise in these feathered giants, will share their perspectives on owning a macaw.



Donna Crossley



Karen Allen

Have you ever thought of including a macaw in your family flock? Three of our members with extensive experience in raising, owning and re-homing macaws, will share their perspectives on what it is like to make one of the largest of the parrot species, part of your home.



Marie Calleja



Topics may include: handfeeding, training, feeding and nutrition, grooming, interactions with other birds and people, cages, toys, exercise, flight-training, temperament, intelligence, health issues and more.



All members with macaws are invited to bring their macaws to the ZOOM and share their own experiences with these amazing parrots.

Note: This Zoom is on a SUNDAY, AFTERNOON.



Go to the "Meet-up" site to sign-up for the ZOOM link. (See page 22 for info)

For more information, call Janet Ragonesi 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 Rosskopf 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 I am going on vacation and want my bird to go with me. Is it safe, and what do I need to know?

A It is a good policy to get a Health Certificate from your Avian veterinarian and have it with you, especially if you are going across state borders. Make sure you have it dated no more than 10 days before you leave. It is not likely you will be stopped at the border, but if you are, they can stop you from entering if you do not have that certificate. This is true for any animal you have with you! Be safe and cautious.



Q What is going on with my bird? She is tearing up everything in sight and acting very nasty.

A Spring has sprung, my dear. Both sexes are outrageous and grouchy. Call it what you will: Twitterpated, horny, sexually mature, (I could go on). If the feathery darlings are not getting what they want, when they want it, they will act out by being grumpy, cranky or out of sorts. You name it, you got it! Thank goodness it will be over, we hope, by the end of summer. (A hint is, get rid of mirrors. They see that other charming feathery individual and get turned on).



Q At about 6 pm every day my bird screams. Bloody murder is a good description. How do I fix this behavior?



A

It is bed time. My birds are all covered between 6 pm and 7 pm. It is really important that your birds get 12 to 14 hours of sleep per night. They do get that in the wild and for health purposes really need that same timing in their safe and happy homes with us. You do not have to change your life style, just cover them with a dark blanket or cloth so that no light can get through. They usually stay quiet until you uncover them when it is time to get up, eat and tackle the day. Mine do not mind the TV, my talking on the phone or even having company. They really just want their private space and time to get their beauty rest to gear up for the next day of figuring out how to make you a little crazy!



("Q & A" continued from page 10)

Q What snacks are okay for my bird?

A There are fun snacks and healthy snacks.

Fun snacks: popcorn, Ritz or Graham crackers, peanut butter on a Ritz, celery with a dab of peanut butter, vanilla wafers, rice cakes. Use good sense. 1 vanilla wafer not 2 or 3. Get the idea.



Healthy snacks: strawberries, raspberries, orange slice, apple slice, slice of banana. I could really go on for days. Use your head and don't go overboard. You can even, on occasion, give cranberry juice, orange juice, apple juice -- just make it fun, and a super good treat for your feathery kids.



Q My bird loves his bell. He rings it when he wants my attention. Needless to say, it is driving me bonkers. Any ideas?


A Well, my guess is that he has you extremely well trained and should be commended for a job well done! He rings the bell, you respond, and he is very proud of you!

You can remove the bell, replacing it with something less obtrusive, remove the clanger or you could choose to ignore it. Any of the above might work. Notice I said "MIGHT." We will not hold our breath, but will hold a good thought on your behalf.






Have a safe and healthy loving time
with your feathery and furry kids.

Love from,
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. **Contacts: work (310) 370-7550, home (310) 371-9967, text (310) 704-1210.** She counsels & trains new bird owners & 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

Almost Everything You Want to Know About PENGUINS!

Scientists recognize 40 or more species of extinct penguins.

Scientists believe that penguins diverged from flying birds at least 60 to 65 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period. As the ancestors of penguins became adapted to an oceanic environment, structural changes for diving and swimming led to the loss of flying adaptations.

To date, the discovery of all penguin fossil fragments has been limited to the Southern Hemisphere. Records show that prehistoric penguins were found within the range of present-day penguins.

- The earliest penguin fossil fragments were found in New Zealand in the mid-1800s. The oldest penguin fossils date from 61 to 62 million years ago.
- Fossil records show that the largest extinct species of penguins lived in the Miocene Period (11 to 25 million years ago).

The extinct species of penguins began disappearing during the Miocene, about the same time that the number of prehistoric seals and small whales started increasing in the oceans. One hypothesis is that seals, whales, and penguins may have competed for the same food source. Another hypothesis is that penguins could have become prey for some of these other predators. Both factors may have contributed to their extinction.



Discovery of Modern Penguins

The first European explorers to see penguins probably were part of the Portuguese expedition of Bartholomeu Dias de Novaes in 1487-1488. They were the first to travel around what is now known as the Cape of Good Hope in southern Africa.

Distribution

- All 18 species of penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere and are found on every continent in the Southern Hemisphere. They are abundant on many temperate and sub Antarctic islands.

In general, flightless penguins have greater limits on foraging ranges and search capacities compared to birds that can fly. Thus, to be successful, penguins must find predictable food sources within their limited foraging range. The more northerly *Spheniscus* penguin species, for example, are limited in distribution to primarily highly productive areas of the ocean such as upwelling and continental shelves.

About 95% of Galápagos penguins, the most northerly of all penguin species, is found along the western coast of Isabela and around Fernandina Island by the most productive upwelling caused by the Equatorial Undercurrent (also called the Cromwell Current).



Habitat

Penguins generally live on islands and remote continental regions free from land predators, where their inability to fly is not detrimental to their survival.

These highly specialized marine birds are adapted to living at sea — some species spend months at a time at sea. Penguins are usually found near nutrient-rich, cold-water currents that provide an abundant supply of food.

Different species thrive in varying climates, ranging from Galápagos penguins on tropical islands at the equator to emperor penguins restricted to the pack ice and waters of Antarctica.

The seasons of the Southern Hemisphere are opposite those of the Northern Hemisphere. When continents

(“Penguin Facts” continued on page 13)

("Penguin Facts" continued from page 12)

above the equator experience spring and summer, the areas below the equator experience fall and winter.

The **most southerly penguin colony** in the world are a group of **Adélies** that regularly nest near Camp Royds, **Antarctica**.



Migration

Adult penguins of most species, usually disperse from **rookeries (nesting colonies) to feed in coastal waters and migrate as much as 10,036 miles each year.**

Young birds usually disperse when they leave their colonies and may wander thousands of kilometers. They generally return to the colonies where they were hatched to molt and breed.

Population

Population data usually is gathered during the breeding season. Penguins walk with short steps or hops, sometimes using their bills or tails to assist themselves on steep climbs.



- The max. walking speed for Adélie penguins is 2.4 mph.
- Emperor & King penguins walk slowly and do not hop.
- Some species, like the rockhopper penguins, jump from rock to rock.



Gentoo feet



Macaroni feet



Magellanic feet



Rockhopper feet

When traveling on ice, Antarctic penguins often "toboggan" on their bellies. They use their flippers and feet to slide their bodies forward along the ice.



Tail

A penguin's tail is short and wedge-shaped, with 14 to 18 stiff tail feathers. Adélie, gentoo, and chinstrap penguins (collectively known as brush-tailed penguins) have longer tail feathers, which they often use as a prop when on land.

Feathers

Shiny feathers uniformly overlap to cover a penguin's skin.

Penguin feathers are highly specialized. They are short, broad, and closely spaced. This helps keep water away from the skin. Tufts of down on the feather shafts increase the insulative properties of the feathers.



Penguins have more feathers than most other birds, with about 100 feathers per square inch.

Most penguin species go through one complete molt (shed their feathers) each year, usually after the breeding season. The exception is the Galápagos penguin, which usually goes through two molts per year.

- **Molting is essential because feathers wear out during the year.** Feathers become worn when penguins rub against each other, come in contact with the ground and water and are regularly preened (clean, rearrange, and oil their feathers).
- The new feather grows under the old one, pushing it out. The old feather does not fall out until the new one is completely in place. The molt is patchy and can give individual penguins a scruffy look.



The 60's vest-look is out!

("Penguin Facts" continued on page 14)

(“Penguin Facts” continued from page 13)

- During the molt, feathers lose some of their insulating and waterproofing capabilities, and **penguins stay out of the water until their plumage is restored to optimal condition.**
- Depending on the species, the average length of the molt varies from 13 days for the Galápagos penguin to 34 days for the emperor penguin.
- **Penguins fast while molting.** Prior to this, they each build up a thick layer of fat to provide energy until the molt is complete.



A penguin hunches its head into its shoulders to maintain its streamlined shape and reduce drag while swimming. It keeps its feet pressed close to the body against the tail to aid in steering.

Penguin **wings are paddle-like flippers used for swimming.** The motion of the flippers resembles the wing movements of flying birds, giving penguins the appearance of flying through water. The wing and breast muscles are well developed to propel penguins through water - a medium much denser than air. Having **solid, dense bones helps penguins overcome buoyancy.**

Hearing

As in most birds, penguin hearing is probably good, but not as acute as that of marine mammals.

Eyesight

A penguin's eyes are adapted to see clearly both in air and under water. **Penguins have binocular vision.**

Penguins have **color vision** and are sensitive to violet, blue, and green wavelengths of light and possibly to ultraviolet light as well.



Taste

In general, the sense of taste is poorly developed in birds.

Smell

The olfactory lobe of a penguin's brain is large. Studies indicate that at least some species can **smell prey-related odors, which may help them locate productive foraging areas at sea.** Humboldt penguins also use their sense of smell to **discriminate related and non-related individuals and detect nest mates.**



Swimming

Penguins may spend **several months at a time at sea**, only coming ashore for breeding and molting. The Fiordland crested penguins occasionally grow barnacles on their tails — an indication that they are at sea for long periods.

Not only do they "fly" underwater, these Adélie penguins appear to "fly" out of the water easily jumping 6 ft. into the air. This behavior is commonly seen when penguins come ashore onto rough or high terrain such as ice floes and rocky shorelines.



Although it is more energy efficient for penguins to swim under water than at the water's surface, they **must come to the surface to breathe.** Many species of penguin porpoise-leap in and out of the water, like dolphins or porpoises.

- **When porpoising, penguins can continue breathing without interrupting forward momentum.** They maintain a steady speed forward and breathe about once a minute.
- **Porpoising also may confuse underwater predators.**



(“Penguin Facts” continued on page 15)

(“Penguin Facts” continued from page 14)

Diving

Most prey of penguins inhabit the upper water layers, so penguins generally do not dive to great depths or for long periods. Most species stay submerged less than a minute.

- Adélie penguins have been recorded staying under water for nearly six minutes, although most dives are much shorter.

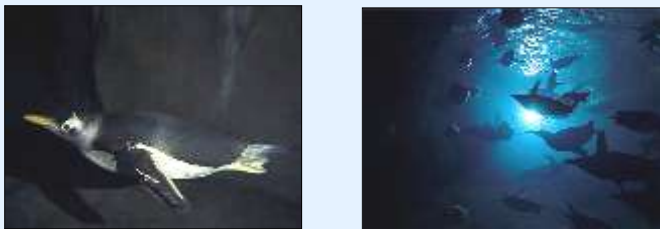


- Emperors hunt fast midwater squids and fishes and therefore, tend to dive more deeply and remain submerged longer than other penguins. The deepest dive recorded for an emperor penguin was 1,854 ft. The longest recorded dive for an emperor penguin was 27.6 minutes. Most dives are between 70 to 31 ft. from the surface and last 2 to 8 minutes.



Penguins **mainly hunt prey in pelagic (open ocean) waters**, however sparse evidence suggests that gentoo, yellow-eyed, and emperor penguins dive and **feed at the benthic (ocean floor) level, likely targeting crustaceans resting on the sea floor during the day.**

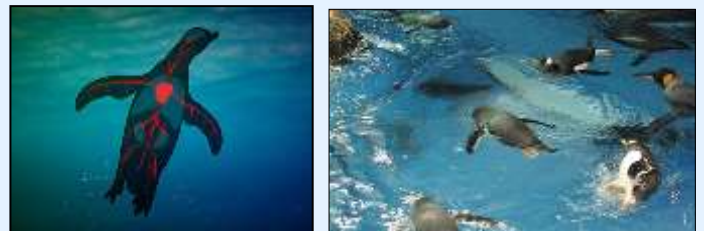
- Likely this behavior is rarely duplicated elsewhere since most penguin breeding areas features a shallow oceanic shelf where penguins can feed.



Synchronized diving has been seen for northern rockhopper and Adélie penguins.

- Seals are known to feed upon Adélie penguins. It is therefore believed that **synchronously diving into the water at the surface**, is a behavior used to **reduce the chances of predation.**
- **During deep dives, the penguin heart rate slows.**
- However, the during the **surface intervals between very deep and long dives**, an emperor penguin's heart rate can increase which likely aids in **eliminating carbon dioxide and replenishing and reloading the penguin's oxygen stores in its tissues.**

The temperatures of a penguin's peripheral areas (limbs and skin) drop during a dive, while those of the core regions (heart, deep veins, and pectoral muscle) are maintained at the normal temperature.



Respiration

When swimming, penguins inhale and exhale rapidly at the surface. Just before a dive, penguins inhale and then dive on a breath of air. Unlike diving marine mammals, penguins slightly inhale just before a dive.

- This **increases oxygen stores**, but makes the penguins more positively **buoyant during a shallow dive.**
- Penguins **can regulate their air intake before a dive, vigorously flap their flippers during the initial descent to overcome positive buoyancy, and then passively ascend from a dive using the expanding air volume in their body to conserve energy.**

(“Penguin Facts” continued on page 16)

(“Penguin Facts” continued from page 15)

- Scientists believe that the **deeper diving penguins, take in less air** before diving, while the other species make shorter, **shallow dives and take in more air before a dive.**

Salt Secretion

Penguins have glands under the eyes that help rid the body of excess salt. The secretion of salt and fluid, often collect as droplets on the bill and are shaken off. These glands are so effective, that penguins can drink sea water without ill effects.



A Salt Sneeze!

Sleep

A penguin typically **sleeps with its bill tucked behind a flipper**, which some scientists believe serves no known purpose in penguins, but is a remnant of ancestral relations to flighted birds. Other researchers believe the behavior **may reduce the amount of heat lost through the face, particularly the nostrils.**

To **conserve energy while fasting, penguins may increase the time they spend sleeping.** During the Antarctic winter,

Snooze. for 20+ hours



when the period of darkness may last more than 20 hours, huddling emperor penguins that are incubating eggs, may sleep for most of a 24-hour period.

Thermoregulation

The internal temperature range of penguins is 100°F to 102°F.

Overlapping feathers create a surface nearly impenetrable to wind or water. Feathers provide waterproofing critical to penguins' survival in water that may be as cold as 28°F. in the Antarctic. Tufts of down on feather shafts trap air. This layer of air provides 80% to 84% of the **thermal insulation** for penguins. To conserve heat, penguins may tuck in their flippers close to their bodies. They also may shiver to generate additional heat.

A well-defined **fat layer improves insulation** in cold water, but probably is not enough to keep body temperature stable at sea for long. Penguins must remain active while in water to generate body heat.

Species in colder climates, tend to have longer feathers and a thicker fat layer than those in warmer climates.

Penguins warm up by turning their dark colored backs to the sun. The dark plumage of a penguin's dorsal surface absorbs heat from the sun, which increases body temperature.



Toes UP!

On land, king and emperor penguins tip up their feet, and rest their entire weight on their heels and tail, reducing contact with the icy surface.

During **storms, emperor penguins huddle together to conserve heat.** As many as 6,000 males will cluster while incubating eggs during the middle of the Antarctic winter. The **penguins on the boundaries of the huddle, continually move into the more sheltered interior, giving each penguin in the huddle equal access to warmth and benefit from huddling.**



Huddle Equity For All!

On land, overheating may sometimes be a problem.

- Penguins may prevent overheating by moving into shaded areas and by panting.
- Penguins can ruffle their feathers to break up the insulating layer of air next to the skin and release heat.
- If a penguin is too warm, it holds its flippers away from its body, so both surfaces of the flippers are exposed to air, releasing heat.
- Temperate species lack feathers on their legs and have bare patches on their faces. Excess heat can dissipate through these unfeathered areas.

Penguins that live in **warmer climates** - like the Magellanic - have **bare patches of skin around the bill and eyes to help release excess body heat.**

(“Penguin Facts” continued on page 17)

("Penguin Facts" continued from page 16)

Penguins that live in **cold climates** - like the Adélie - **have feathers covering most of their bills to help conserve body heat.**



Vocalization

Penguin calls (vocalizations) are individually identifiable, allowing mates to recognize each other and also their chick. This is important because members of a large colony of **penguins are nearly indistinguishable by sight.**

Research has identified differences in the calls of male and female emperor penguins. These differences probably function in courtship and mate selection.

There are three main kinds of penguin calls.

- The **contact call** assists in recognition of colony members.
- The **display call** is the most complex of all the calls and is used between partners in a colony.
- The **threat call** is used to defend a territory and warn other colony members of predators.

Displays

Penguins communicate by vocalizing and performing physical behaviors called displays. They use many vocal and visual displays to communicate nesting territories, mating information, nest relief rituals, partner and chick recognition and defense against intruders.

Social Behavior

Penguins are among the most social of all birds.



All penguins form colonies. During the breeding season penguins come ashore and **nest in huge colonies called rookeries.** Some rookeries include hundreds of thousands of penguins and cover hundreds of square kilometers.

Penguins exhibit intricate courting and mate-recognition behavior. Elaborate visual and vocal displays help establish and maintain nesting territories.



While on land, some penguins gather in the thousands, like the Adélie penguin colony on Paulet Island off the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula. "Hey, this is MY spot!"

Individual Behavior

Navigation

Studies of Adélie penguins indicate that **they use the sun to navigate from land to sea.** They adjust for the sun's changing position in the sky throughout the day.

Preening

- **Penguins preen their feathers frequently. Feathers must be maintained in prime condition to ensure waterproofing and insulation.**
- Penguins preen with their bills. A gland near the base of the tail secretes oil that the penguin distributes throughout its feathers.
- Penguins preen for several minutes in the water by rubbing their bodies with their flippers while twisting and turning.
- Penguins preen to keep their feathers in top condition and waterproof. On a well-groomed penguin, water rarely touches the skin.



("Penguin Facts" continued on page 18.)

(“Penguin Facts” continued from page 17)

Food Preferences and Resources

Penguins eat krill (a shrimp-like crustacean in the family Euphausiidae), squids and fishes. Various species of penguins have slightly different food preferences, which reduce competition among species.

The smaller penguin species of the Antarctic and the sub-Antarctic primarily feed on krill and squids. Species found farther north tend to eat fish.

Food Intake

Intake varies with the quantity and variety of food available from different areas at different times of the year.

Method of Collecting and Eating Food

Penguins feed at sea. Most feeding occurs within 50-60 ft. of the surface. The location of prey can vary seasonally & daily.

Penguins primarily rely on their vision while hunting. Some scientists hypothesize that penguins are helped to locate prey in depth in the darkness by the bioluminescence (light producing) capabilities of many oceanic squids, crustaceans and fishes.

Penguins catch prey with their bills and swallow it whole while swimming. A penguin has a spiny tongue and powerful jaws to grip slippery prey.



Galápagos penguins have been observed participating in multispecies feedings with numerous types of seabirds

Different species travel various distances between 9 miles to nearly 559 miles from the colony in search of food.

- Antarctic penguins swim, walk and toboggan from feeding grounds to rookeries. When fishing grounds are far away, penguins will feed in **seal holes and other openings in the ice.**

Stone Swallowing

Penguins have been clearly observed swallowing stones on purpose, sometimes in great numbers.



It's theorized that **stones are swallowed to reduce buoyancy while diving or to alleviate the sensation of hunger.** It's also believed that **rockhopper and macaroni chicks swallow stones to aid in the digestion of tough exoskeletons of the crustaceans that play an important part of their diets.**

Fasting

- **Penguins go through annual fasting periods. Prior to fasting, penguins build up a fat layer, which provides energy.** The length of fasting depends on penguin species, sex, and type of fasting.
- Penguins fast for prolonged periods during breeding seasons; **they do not leave nesting areas to feed.** Some penguins fast throughout the entire courtship, nesting, and incubation periods.
- Penguins also **fast during annual molting periods.** The temporary reduction in insulation and waterproofing caused by the loss of feathers during a molt, prohibits penguins from entering the water to feed. Their fat layer provides energy until the molt is over.
- **Chicks fast near the time they are ready to shed juvenile feathers for adult plumage.** Usually by this time, the parents no longer are feeding the chick. Growth stops during this fasting period, but resumes once the molt is complete.



Sexual Maturity

- Like most seabirds, penguins tend to be long-lived. They may take three to eight years to reach sexual maturity.
- With some of the smaller species, breeding may begin at three to four years, but most larger species are not accomplished breeders until much later. On average, breeding does not begin until the fifth year, and a few males do not breed until the eighth year.

(“Penguin Facts” continued on page 19)

(Penguin Facts" continued from page 18)

Mating Activity

Breeding seasons differ from species to species. Most species have an annual breeding season - spring through summer.

- The King penguin has the longest breeding cycle of all the penguin species, lasting 14 to 16 months. A female king penguin may produce a chick during alternate breeding seasons.
- Emperor penguins breed annually during the Antarctic winter, June through August. During the emperor breeding season, air temperature may drop to -76°F and winds may reach speeds up to 124 mph. For most of the winter, Antarctic penguins live in an environment of darkness or half-light.
- The little penguin breeds throughout the year and has the shortest breeding cycle, which lasts about 50 days.
- Some of the temperate penguins, like the Humboldt and the African, tend to nest throughout the year.

Courtship.

Courtship varies among species. It generally begins with both visual and auditory displays. In many species, males display first to establish a nest site and then to attract a mate. **Not all species exhibit all displays, but in general there are 3 distinct types of displays:**

- **Ecstatic.** Also called trumpeting, head swinging or advertisement, this display establishes possession of a nest site, attracts females and warns other males to stay away. The male may dip its head low and then stretch its head and neck upward with flippers held outstretched and squawk or "bray".
- **Mutual ecstatic.** Once paired, male and female penguins perform the mutual ecstatic display together. This display seems to strengthen the pair bond, coordinate nesting behavior and advertise a nesting territory. Mutual displays continue throughout the breeding season, often taking place at the nest when parents switch places for egg incubation and chick feeding.
- **Bowing.** Bowing displays may lessen the likelihood of aggression and strengthen recognition between partners. One or both of the penguins dips its head and points its bill at the nest or at the other bird's bill. The call is a low hiss or growl.



- Emperor and king penguins are the only known marine birds to reflect ultraviolet (UV) light from their bills, and a male king penguin's bill may be used as a cue in finding and selecting a mate.



"Your beak is warmer than mine."

- The bills of sexually immature king juveniles do not reflect UV light, adding to the hypothesis that UV reflection in adult males is used to attract mates.

Most penguin species are monogamous (one male breeds with one female during a mating season); however, research has shown that some females may have one to three partners in one season and some males may have one or two partners.

- Mate selection is up to the female, and it is the females that compete for the males.
- In some penguin species, a female selects the same male from the preceding season to mate with
- When a female selects a different mate, it is usually because her mate from the previous season failed to return to the nesting area. Another reason may be mistiming in returning to the nesting area. If they arrive at different times and miss each other, one or both penguins may obtain new mates.

Nesting

Nest site fidelity.

- Studies have shown that most penguin species tend to be faithful to the same rookeries and return each year. Most penguins return to the same territory within the rookery.
- Males arrive first to the rookeries to establish and defend their nesting sites. Females arrive one to 5 days after the males, depending upon the species.
- When it is time to breed, mature birds return to the rookery where they hatched. This results in large numbers of penguins at a single rookery, rather than penguins colonizing new areas. Some penguin rookeries number millions of birds.
- Various penguin species may share a particular rookery site, but nesting areas within the rookery are kept segregated by each species.

Nesting habitats vary among species.

Their nesting locations range from icy to ice-free landscapes, flat to sloping terrains, beaches to cracks in rocks and caves, underground burrows and under bushes in wet, coastal rain forests.

South African
Penguins



("Penguin Facts" continued on page 20)

("Penguin Facts" continued from page 19)

Nesting materials vary from species to species and from location to location.

- Some penguin species build nests of small stones that they use to line depressions in the ground. The stones help keep the eggs above the surface when the rookery floods from melting snow and prevent the eggs from rolling away. Adélie, gentoo, and chinstrap penguins are known to take stones from other nests.



Emperor and king penguins build no nests. They stand upright while incubating a single egg on the tops of their feet under a loose fold of abdominal. Under this loose fold is a featherless patch of skin called a brood patch, which occurs in all incubating birds. The brood patch contains numerous blood vessels that, when engorged with blood, transfer body heat to the eggs.

Eggs

Eggs may be white to bluish or greenish. The shape varies among species. In Humboldt and Adélie penguins the egg is more or less round. In emperor and king penguins the egg is rather pear-shaped, with one end tapering almost to a point. With this elliptical shape, if an egg falls off of the feet of a parent bird, the egg will roll in a circle instead of away from the parent. Each egg size and weight varies with species.

A nest of eggs is called a clutch, and with the exception of the emperor and king penguin who lay only one egg, clutches usually contain two eggs. A clutch with more than one egg presents a better chance of at least one chick surviving.

Incubation

Incubation is the time spent warming the egg before it hatches. With the exception of emperor penguins, partners take turns incubating eggs, allowing each mate to leave to feed for several days at a time.

A female emperor penguin transfers a single egg to the top of her mate's feet. The female goes to sea to feed while the male incubates the egg. She returns several weeks later, usually just before the egg is ready to hatch, to relieve her mate so that he may feed. The male fasts throughout the courtship, nesting, and incubation periods. He lives off reserves of body fat and loses up to 45% of his body weight. The incubation period varies with each species ranging from one month and 66 days.

Hatching

Chicks first "pip" by poking a small hole in the egg. They then chip at the shell until they can push off the top. Chicks take up to three days to chip their way out. Fine down feathers cover most newly hatched chicks. (King penguin chicks grow their feathers in a few weeks.)

- Down feathers are not waterproof, and chicks must remain out of the water until they acquire their juvenile plumage.
- Adult plumage is acquired at about one year.



Penguin Chicks

In all species, the coloration and markings of chicks separate them from adults. Scientists believe that the chicks' coloration elicits parental behavior from the adults, and that adult penguins do not perceive the young birds as competitors for mates or nesting sites.

Care of the Chicks

Chicks require attentive parents for survival. Both parents feed the chick regurgitated food. Adults recognize and feed only their own chick. Parents are able to identify their chick by its distinctive call.



Penguins feed their chicks regurgitated food.



Parents brood chicks (keep them warm) by covering them with their brood patch.



In some species, partially grown chicks gather in groups called crèches. (Crèche is a French word for crib.) Crèches provide some protection from predators.

Chick Development

A chick depends on its parents for survival between hatching and the growth of its waterproof feathers before it can fledge (leave the colony to go forage at sea.)

- This period may range from seven to nine weeks for Adélie chicks to 13 months for king penguin chicks.



("Penguin Facts" continued on page 21)

(“Penguin Facts” continued from page 20)

- For most penguin species, once a chick has replaced its juvenile down with waterproof feathers, it is able to enter the water and becomes independent of its parents.
- Some juvenile gentoo penguins that have undergone a complete molt, leave the colony to forage at sea during the day but return to the colony with some still receiving food from their parents for an average of 12 days following their first foraging trip at sea. Following this period of extended parental care, the gentoo fledglings disperse from the colony.



Longevity

The average life expectancy of penguins is probably 15 to 20 years. Some individuals live considerably longer.

High mortality occurs among the young.

- Winter starvation may claim the lives of 50% of king penguin chicks. Emperor chicks may experience a 90% mortality within the first year of life.
- When mortality affects one chick, in a penguin species producing two offspring of moderate size differences, it is usually the smaller chick that does not survive.



- When in the **water**, penguins may be eaten by seals, sea lions, sharks or killer whales. On **land**, foxes, snakes, and introduced predators such as feral dogs and cats, prey on eggs and chicks of some penguin species.

- Penguin **eggs** and **chicks** are susceptible to predatory birds. These predators may prey on chicks that have strayed from the protection of the crèche or are sickly and too weak to defend themselves.
- Little penguins rely on **burrows** and a **nocturnal** lifestyle to avoid predators such as peregrines, gulls, snakes, rats, and lizards.



HUMAN IMPACTS



Hunting

Mass exploitation occurred when early explorers, sealers, whalers, and fishermen turned to penguin colonies as sources of **fresh meat** and **eggs**. Penguins were easy prey because of their inability to fly and their seeming lack of fear of humans. **Penguin skins** were used to make caps, slippers and purses. **Feathers** were used for clothing decorations and as mattress stuffing. The extraction of **oil from penguins' fat layers** was used for lighting, tanning leather and fuel.

Overfishing

Human competition for food sources can affect penguin populations. **Overfishing** of **anchovetta** (a small fish) and **krill**, have contributed to penguin population declines.

Introduction of Animals as Prey and Habitat Destruction

The introduction of **predators**, such as: rats, cats, dogs, pigs and ferrets have been known to prey on chicks, eggs, and even adult penguins. Introduced **herbivores**, such as sheep and rabbits, cause serious **deterioration of habitat**.

Climate Change

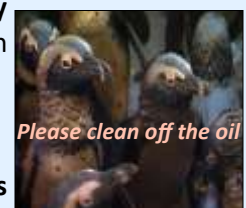
Warmer temperatures from climate change, are producing **thinner sea ice** which can break up too early and cause the **chicks to be swept into the sea** before they can survive on their own. The **warmer air** in the Antarctic Peninsula holds more moisture and results in **more frequent and stronger snowstorms** which can make those areas poor for nesting. **Krill populations have declined** by 80% in the ocean around Antarctica due to reductions in sea ice, since the ice provides a refuge for krill.



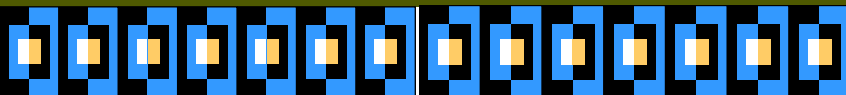
Some penguin species have to **travel further to forage** due to **shifting prey populations**, due to climate change. These longer foraging trips make it more likely that **fasting parents tending their nests, will abandon their nests before their partners' return**. There are **shifts in nesting seasons** and **increases in rainfall** can lead to, **younger chicks** than normal, **coping with the rainy season**. An **increase in rain can collapse burrows and flood nests**.

Oil pollution and Other Contaminates

Oil fouls penguin **feathers**, **reducing the waterproofing** and **insulating** properties of their plumage. The birds become susceptible to hypothermia (chilling). Penguins also **ingest the oil** while trying to preen, which **poisons** them and causes internal **organ damage**. In the 1980's and 1990's, **oil tankers were illegally dumped their ballast water**, which was contaminated with petroleum. Also, there have been **oil spills** from ships and drilling. Fortunately, since 2000, there has been a **high success rate in the cleaning, rehabilitating and return of oiled penguins to the wild**. **Contaminants**, such as DDT and flame retardants, have been found in glacier meltwater that can travel in the air, water and migrating animals. These can **accumulate in an penguin's tissues** as they travel up the food chain, which can lead to a **decrease in immune response, reproductive problems, skin conditions and cancer**.



So, what is being done now to help the remaining penguin species be protected?
See page 7 to find out.



SBBS Welcomes New & Returning Members



RENEWALS: Irene & John Templeton

LIFETIME MEMBERS: Cary & Anita Pao,
Karen Allen, Perry Ellwood, Donna Crossley,
Dr. Walter Rosskopf, Jack Ford, Janet Ragonesi,
Don Hand, Bree & Deven Brozey

MEMORIAL LIFETIME MEMBERS:
Lorrie Mitchell, Diane Bock, Ron Ellwood

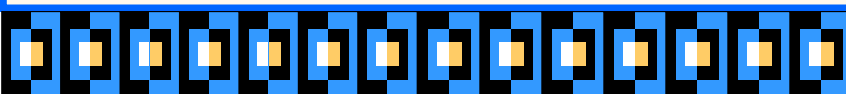
IN MEMORIAM LIFETIME MEMBER:
Laura Lynn Porter

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 the last page 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 pattefisher@verizon.net.



San Fernando Valley
Audubon Society

ZOOM: [Thur. May 27, 7 PM, PDT](#)

[Alan Breslauer](#)

To Speak On

"ALL ABOUT CATIOS"

(Cat Enclosures)



Cats— feral and tame outdoor cats — kill billions of birds and small animals annually.. However, the outdoors are also perilous for your pet cats. Alan presents the case for Catio—cat patios or enclosures—as a way to protect birds while simultaneously allowing feline family members to experience the outdoors, safely. The link will be e-mailed to SBBS members later.

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.



RSVP NOW

David Pereksta

Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Wednesday, April 28th at 7:30 PM, PDT

"THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST: BIRDING IN A SEA OF SORROW"

With David Pereksta, Avian Biologist with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

The Sea of Okhotsk in the Russian Far East, dominates the Northwest Pacific, but is little known outside of Russia and is seldom visited by westerners. Despite historical exploitation, wildlife still thrives there including seabird numbers that can only be described as spectacular. However, this region has a dark human history and perhaps no other sea in the world has witnessed as much human suffering and misery.



Crested Auklet



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



Gala & Kahla

- ☀ 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, May 12th.



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 |

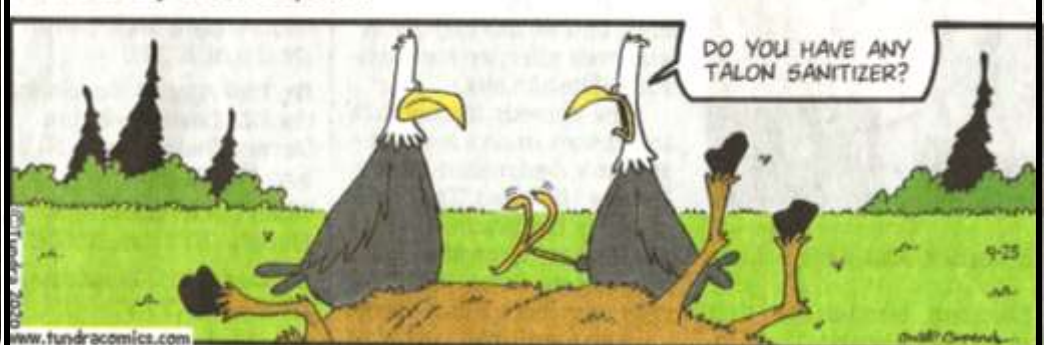
LAUGH KOOKaBURrA



ZIGGY: By Tom Wilson



TUNDRA By Chad Carpenter





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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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E-mail: birdsnmor@aol.com
Website: birdsandmore.com

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Torrance, CA 90505
310 378-3052
Website: www.animalloverspetshop.com

Jungle Toys

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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Walter J. Rosskopf, Jr., DVM
Board Certified

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(310) 679-0693

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Teresa E. Micco, DVM
Cassie L. Jones, DVM

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Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
www.pointvicentevet.com
Phone (310) 265-9500
Fax (310) 265-9521
Cats, Dogs & Exotic Animals Welcome

Webinars Listed on page 8!

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www.ParrotsNaturally.com

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)
or call: [310 543 2473](tel:3105432473)

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(NW corner of PCH & Prospect
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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 membership, go to: www.sobaybirdsoc.com.

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/ZOOM Coordinator | ACTING—David Benjamin (Davidsbbsr@dbenjamin.com) |
| "Meet-up" Site | David Benjamin |
| 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 Roskopf, Don Hand, Bree & Deven Brozey |
| Memorial Lifetime Members | Lorrie Mitchell, Diane Bock, Ron Ellwood |
| In Memoriam Members | Laura Lynn Porter |



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: _____