



Volume 49 Issue 7 June-July 2022 SBBS Newsletter Established 1974

★ ★ ★ Happy 4th of July! ★ ★ ★

The South Bay Bird Society will NOT be meeting in July due to Independence Day, but we will meet again in August.



Inside This Issue:

Page

- 1 **HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!** and Bird Tips for the Holiday.
- 2 June 6th ZOOM Meeting Recap, "Aging Parrots"
- 3 President's Notes: Greetings, Avian Meetings, Annual Picnic, Shop Our Sponsors, Inspirational Message
- 4-5 Avian-Related ZOOMS/ Meetings, Walks and Events
- 6-7 The Parrot Lady with "Q & A"
- 8-13 "Why Should We Care About Saving the Spix's Macaws?"
- 14-15 "What are Nutraceuticals?"
- 16-17 Winged News: Ukrainian Bird Charities, "Updates on Sergii & Roxy Trapped"
- 18 Winged News: "Bob Shanman to Retire"
- 19 Winged News: Monarchs Numbers Increase," "Butterfly Count," "Avian Flu," "Saving Our Pollinators"
- 20 SBBS Memberships, SBBS Mission Statement, **Cartoon**
- 21 Newsletter Submissions, Adoptions, **Cartoons**
- 22 Sponsors
- 23 SBBS Officers & Board of Directors, Volunteers
- 24 Membership Form

Jasper wishes everyone a HAPPY



Jasper says, "**Keep music on** for your BIRDS during the fireworks on the **4th of July!**"



She adds, "**You might want to close your curtains too!**"

For more information, contact Janet Ragonesi at (310) 376-5954 or at Ragonesi@att.net or go on: www.sobaybirdsoc.com

Recap on the ZOOM Social on **“OWNING AN AGING PARROT”**
MONDAY, JUNE 6th at 7:00 PM

By Gala Burkholder

As we read about last month, **parrots are subject to many similar types of medical conditions that humans can also suffer from.** It is up to each of us to help maintain the health our companion birds, as well as ourselves. How birds “age” can depend upon their genetics, nutrition and exercise. Even with a diet full of vegetables, fruit and pellets, along with exercise, an older parrot can face health challenges. **Our birds rely on us to look for ways to improve their comfort as they age.**

During this lively interactive social ZOOM, we shared some of the health challenges we have faced with our birds and offered suggestions how we have aided in their comfort and quality of life.



Karen Allen, also known as “The Parrot Lady,” led much of the conversation due to her many years of experience with birds, as well as the owner of a local bird shop, “Birds & More.” Karen always has great stories to tell about various animal encounters she has had. She shared her experience of owning an Orange-Winged Amazon Parrot who lived to be 103 years old. Much to her and avian vets Dr. Roskopf’s and Dr. Woerpel’s surprise, Karen’s Amazon laid her first egg at 93 years old! Go girl. It is amazing what feeding a mixture of vegetables and fruits all those years can do.

One of the modifications Karen has used with birds that begin to wobble on round perches, is to replace them with flat perches. She uses a piece of flat wood about 4 inches wide and covers it with carpeting that does not have any loops that a parrot could get its nail stuck in. This can help aging parrots to be able to keep their balance more easily on the perch. Some people use vet wrap, (a self-adhesive bandage wrap) or a wash cloth to put around the perch to pad the surface for their comfort. (I suppose this is like adding a mattress topper to one’s bed to help minimize one’s aches and pains). The Connecticut Parrot Club has a previous webinar you can view on “Caring for Elderly and Disabled Bird Companions” with Dr. Kristin Sinclair. You can access it by going to : www.theparrotclub.org.



There were nearly a dozen bird owners who joined the ZOOM, linking in from all over North America including from North Carolina, Texas and Canada. Several parrot owners said they had owned their birds since they were babies, but they are now in their twenties and older. They shared some of their nutrition tips including adding organic hemp and ground flax seed to add Omega 3 fatty acid to their diet. Hopefully, we will all be able to enjoy many years ahead of us with our feathered families. (Will someone make us walkers that include padded perches for our birds)?

Recently, pet food producer, Lafeber, held a webinar given by Dr. Stephanie Lamb on “Nutraceuticals.” This is defined as foodstuff that provides health benefits in addition to its basic nutritional value. In light of the topic of “Aging Parrots” you can find **more information on this topic on pages 14 and 15.** Also, you can watch Dr. Stephanie Lamb’s informative webinar on “Nutraceuticals” by going to: <https://Lafeber.com/pet-birds/category/webinar>.

In July, SBBS will NOT be holding a meeting due to the Independence Day holiday. We will meet again in August. In the meantime, there are many options for other ZOOM meetings and webinars to learn about birds, which are listed on pages 4 & 5.



Happy 4th Of July!

The President's Notes

By Janet Ragonesi

Greetings
SBBS MEMBERS,
SPONSORS AND FRIENDS,

Janet



We've just had the first day of summer on June 21. I see the squirrels scurrying around looking for nuts, dog walkers strolling down the sidewalks and hear the mourning doves make their cooing calls at 5:30 am as the sun begins to rise. It is exciting to see so much life greet each day with purpose. Let this be a motivating force for each of us to make our world full of life!



MONDAY, JUNE 6TH SOCIAL ZOOM MEETING

On "OWNING AN AGING PARROT"

We had a fun time sharing questions and tips regarding the challenges of our aging birds. You can read a bit about our discussion on page 2.

All animals, as well as us, potentially face health issues as we age. Our quality of life depends on how we care for ourselves, families and pets. It is good to know there are ways to aid in our comfort, if and when we face the health challenges of aging. I look forward to learning more about this topic through future newsletter articles, ZOOMS and meetings. You can read about some food supplements that are good for our birds, and possibly even for us, on pages 14 and 15. We owe it to ourselves and others to have the best life possible!

NO SBBS MEETING IN JULY-

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN AUGUST



Because Independence Day falls near our scheduled meeting day at the first of the month, we often skip gathering in July. We plan to hold our next meeting in August. Details will be included in the next newsletter.

JOIN OTHER AVIAN ACTIVITIES IN JULY

Join one of the many avian webinars, ZOOMS or other activities during July which are listed on pages 4 and 5. **Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!**



SBBS ANNUAL PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

This year, the picnic will be held at the El Nido Park in Torrance. At this time, Columbia Park, the picnic location where we usually meet, is not available to us. The Torrance Recreation and Parks reservation desk encouraged us to check back with them closer to the date, to see if the gazebo at Columbia Park becomes available. Thank you Karen Allen, for working with Torrance city staff. We will provide more details in the next two newsletters.



PLEASE SHOP OUR SPONSORS

Our sponsors have remained open and made safety accommodations for us during the past two and a half years. They have continued to make donations to SBBS for our raffles and annual auctions. Please give them your business, whether it be for a bird product or service.



BE SURE TO READ ABOUT THE RETURN OF THE SPIX'S MACAWS FROM EXTINCTION IN THE WILD ON PAGES 8 -13!

"Be as a bird perched on a frail branch that she feels bending beneath her, still she sings away all the same, knowing she has wings."

~ Victor Hugo



CHEERS,

**SBBS President,
 Janet Ragonesi & My Flock**

OTHER AVIAN—RELATED ZOOMS/MEETINGS/BIRD WALKS

Palos Verdes/
South Bay
AUDUBON
SOCIETY



ON ZOOM!

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

The Next ZOOM Meeting is



July 19,
2022 with
Silvia
Gutierrez
on

**“How to Nurture Monarch
Caterpillars and Butterflies”**

BIRD EXCURSIONS:

**Birding has returned with
RESERVATIONS, limited capacity,
guidelines & VACCINATIONS.**

**RESERVATION FORMS and Info
available at www.pvsb-audubon.org.**

Sun. July 3rd & Aug. 7, 8-11 A.M.

Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park
with PV/SB Audubon leaders. Starting
point is at the parking lot near the ranger
station. Call (562) 896-3369 for
information and reservations.

Sat. July 23 & Aug. 27, 9 A.M.:
(Bird Walk with Kids & Beginners):

Madrona Marsh with PV/SB Audubon
leader, Jazin Rios. Call (310) 782-3989 for
information.

Butterfly Count
Saturday, July 9



See page 19 for details. Contact:
Stephen-vincentlloyd@gmail.com.

For Info: www.pvsb-audubon.org

West Los Angeles Bird Club

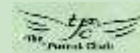


Tentatively Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM

Culver City American Legion Hall, 5209 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City

**For more information and to confirm the meeting, go to:
www.westlabirdclub.com or call Doreen at (310) 488-9749.**

The Connecticut Parrot Club



No ZOOM IN July due to the club picnic
Tuesday, August 12, 7 PM (ET), 4 PM (PT) TBA

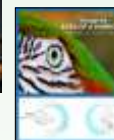
Join The Parrot Club for a presentation

For information on an upcoming ZOOM or to watch



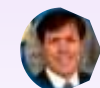
**You Can View YouTube Videos of Previous ZOOMS from
The Connecticut Parrot Club:**

- **Rescuing, Rehabbing & Rehoming Pigeons and Doves, Elizabeth Young**
- **Rewilding the Caribbean, Fabio Tarazona**
- **Avian Flu, Dr. Kristin Sinclair, YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/OfCs14g35cs> (Over 1,000 views)!**
- **The Brooklyn Parrots, Steve Baldwin**
- **A Virtual Tour of The Rhode Island Parrot Rescue**
- **Tables Communication and Play for Parrots, Jennifer Cunha**
- **Journey to Combine Art and Science Through Humor, Rosemary Mosco**
- **Through the Eyes of a Parrot, Dr. Graham Martin**
- **Caring for Elderly & Disabled Bird Companions, Dr. Kristin Sinclair**



Lafeber Webinars are at 12 noon PT unless noted*

- **July 15: “Liver Disease in Pet Birds” with Dr. Stephanie Lamb**
- ***July 22 at 11 AM (PT) (2 hours) : “Avian Bornaviruks? Avian Ganglionneuritis?: One Last Q & A!” with Susan Orosz PH.D., DVM, DABVP (Avian), DECZM (Avian) and Bob Dahlhausen, DVM**
- **July 29: “Ask the Vet: Q & A” (Ask questions about your bird’s health, nutrition, care or behavior problem) with Tom Tully, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice), DECZM (Avian)**



**For more info or to view a prior webinar, go to:
<https://lafeber.com/pet-birds/category/webinar/>**



OTHER AVIAN—RELATED ZOOMS/MEETINGS/NATURE WALKS

In Association with the PV/SB Audubon Chapter: **Motmots' Birding Field Trip Adventures**



For Information and Reservations:
 contact the Eric & Ann Brooks at
 (323) 295-6688 or
 text Ann at (310) 913-2798 or
 email: motmots@aol.com



Hawk spots blue heron named Amelia Grace, hunting for gophers in Redondo Beach



Correction: This is a Blue Heron, not a Grey Heron as listed in the last month's newsletter.

North Redondo Beach residents, Jules and her son named Hawk, spotted this blue heron next to a bike path hunting for and eating gophers. They reported that it sometimes takes her hours to catch one. Jules has evidence of the bird's success on video! Hawk named the heron "Amelia" after Amelia Earhart and "Grace" because she is graceful. *Thanks for the report!*

Phoenix Landing Foundation Webinar



Saturday, July 23
 10 AM-noon (PT) 1-3 PM (ET)

Estate Planning for Pets with Peggy R. Hoyt, J.D., M.B.A., B.C.S.



To Register, go to:
www.phoenixlanding.org/events.html
 (No webinar in June due to an Avian Conference)

ZOOMS are on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7PM

Editor's Note: Every speaker presentation I've seen has been outstanding. It is worth watching a previous presentation!

For information on an upcoming ZOOM meeting or to watch a previous ZOOM presentation, go to www.sfvaudubon.org

Previous ZOOM include topics:

- "A Global Odyssey of Migratory Birds"
- "Nature: Urban Design"
- "Crows and Ravens"
- "We'll Always Have Parrots" (In Los Angeles)
- "Our Need for Birds"



San Fernando Valley Audubon Society

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY



GUIDED NATURE WALK:
Saturday, July, 2, 10:30 AM

WHERE:
George F. Canyon
27305 Palos Verdes Dr. East
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

Naturalists will guide you along a trail through the preserve to discover a unique variety of wildlife in their canyon habitat with amazing views of the LA Basin. Meet on the back patio of the Nature Center and come inside to explore after the hike. Moderate walk. Guides provided by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. RSVP



NATURE WALK:
Saturday, July, 9, 9:00 AM

WHERE:
Portuguese Bend Reserve
 (Park in the lot adjacent to the soccer/baseball field at Rancho Del Mar High School, 38 Crest Road West, Rolling Hills)

Hike the Fire Station Trail to Eagle's Nest. Enjoy ocean views while walking through recently restored wildlife habitat. Strenuous walk. Guides by Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. RSVP



Q & A *By Karen, The Parrot Lady*

The answers to your questions are MY opinion based on nearly 50 years of 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!!!



Breeding season takes us at least through summer, so several questions are related.

Q My parrot is enamored with a cardboard box, and gets really mean if I try to clean or move it, or him. He bites very hard, and I am afraid of him when he gets like that.

A Being afraid of him in that mood is a smart move on your part. He is definitely in nesting mode and can really be dangerous.

- Number ONE: no more cardboard boxes. They are off limits.
- Number TWO: pay attention to the next question & answer.



Q Sometimes my parrot comes at me with his eyes dilated and his tail flared. He is a bit scary, and very nasty. It seems like this is a seasonal reaction. What do I do?

A Avoid the little darling like the plague. He is warning you that he is angry -- most likely because you will not accommodate him in this obnoxious state of mind. "Seasonal" is the key word, and well used. He has no clue that you cannot fulfill his wishes, and is prepared to let you know exactly how he feels. This can continue through the end of summer and longer.



("Q & A" continued on page 7)

("Q & A" continued from page 6)

Q My bird is at the bottom of the cage; her vent area is swollen and she appears to be straining. Do you think she is sick?

A She is not likely sick. It sounds like she is trying to lay an egg. If it keeps up for more than a day, get her to your avian veterinarian because she might be egg bound and need help. In case she is ill, do not let more than one day go by without getting her to the vet. Should she lay an egg, allow her to keep it (and any others she might lay) for at least 3 weeks after the last egg is laid. If she has a mate, you might soon have babies. If not, you will prevent her from starting over to lay more. If you remove the eggs, she could deplete her calcium levels by laying more eggs.



Q My bird is straddling his toy, bouncing up and down and making strange sounds. Is he going to be OK? Do I need to take him to a veterinarian?

A This behavior is totally normal; he is just frustrated. Masturbating is his way of releasing the tensions of breeding season, and he certainly does not understand your concern.

Q My bird wants a sip of my beer. Will that hurt him?

A Well, it certainly won't do him any good. With all that is going on as mentioned in the previous questions, he may feel he needs it. Let him have some apple juice. It is the same color and is really good for him. Booze and birds are not a match.



**We will all survive breeding season until next year.
Stay strong, be patient and we will get through it together.**

**Hugs & 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



Why We Should Care About Saving the Spix's Macaw?



Curaçá, Brazil—In 1995, conservationists and scientists embarked on a desperate attempt to save the world's rarest bird, a blue-gray parrot called the Spix's macaw.

The bird had scarcely been spotted since scientists first described it in the early 19th century, and it had taken on an aura of mystery, making it irresistible to parrot lovers—and to poachers. “For well over a century we just had this very, very weak information that there was this kind of mythical, rather beautiful blue bird,” says Nigel Collar, a conservationist at Bird Life International. **By the mid-1990s only a single individual remained alive in the wild**, close to this dusty, small town in northeastern Brazil.

From DNA in molted feathers, researchers in the United Kingdom confirmed that **the last wild bird was a male**. At the time, **fewer than three dozen birds were known to be held in collections and zoos around the world**. **A decision was made to release a single female in hopes the birds would pair and produce offspring**. The female was released close to where the male lived and seemed to quickly adapt to her new life, eating wild food and avoiding an attack by a falcon. She grew stronger by the day, flying farther and farther, and after little more than 2 months had paired with the male. Two weeks later, she mysteriously disappeared.



Years later, a local man said he had **found the bird dead below a power line**. “If that’s really true, then that is just incredibly bad luck,” Collar says. It is almost unheard of for parrots to hit power cables, he says, and in reality, **she might have been taken out by poachers**. **The wild male vanished a few years later, and the Spix's fate seemed sealed—another species lost**. But then, good news...



On June 11 at 9:03 am, the first Spix's macaw left the aviary to return to the wild!

Conservationists are in the middle of changing that fate of the extinction of the Spix's Macaw. **On June 11, more than a quarter-century after the female flew into oblivion, they released eight Spix's macaws from captivity into the wild**. Twelve more are supposed to follow at the end of the year and still more in the years to come. **If everything goes according to plan, these parrots will be the vanguard of a new population of Spix's macaws in their natural habitat**. The project, long hampered by infighting and overshadowed by controversy, had to overcome significant scientific hurdles to even come this far. But the biggest challenge still lies ahead.



“The Spix's project is unique in that they are reintroducing a species back into the wild that is currently extinct for over 2 decades,” says Thomas White, a wildlife biologist at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a technical adviser to the project. “There’s very few reintroduction programs around the world that have done something like that; none with parrots or macaws.”

(“Spix's Macaws” continued on page 9)

("Spix's Macaws" continued from page 8)

Few reintroductions of birds have been successful, and none was as ambitious as this one, says George Amato, a conservation biologist at the American Museum of Natural History. Yet for the Spix's it has to be tried, he says. "I hope it works, because we really have no other alternatives."

The **natural home of the Spix's macaw is in the caatinga, a tropical dry forest in northeastern Brazil** that covers 10% of the country. In the rainy season, which lasts for about 3 months, everything appears lush and green. But the rest of the year plants here compete in shades of gray and white—caatinga means "white forest" in the Indigenous Tupi language. **It is here that the Spix's macaws once nested in the hollows of old caraibeira trees growing along the creeks that cut through the caatinga, feeding on seeds and nuts.**



LOST GROUND *The Spix's macaw's native home is the caatinga, a dry tropical forest that is leafless most of the year. The forest has dwindled because of ranching; which is another obstacle facing the effort to reintroduce the macaw. Trees are being re-planted, but that will take time for them to mature to provide nest cavities to raise their young.*



Johann Baptist von Spix
spotted the parrot in 1819

It is impossible to know how many Spix's macaws existed in the past. By the time Western science discovered the bird, humans had already started to parcel large parts of the caatinga into ranches. **In 1819, German naturalist Johann Baptist von Spix spotted the parrot on an expedition to the interior of Brazil.** Spix noted that the bird appeared to be "very rare"—then shot it and brought it home to Munich, setting the tone for humanity's relationship with this striking bird going forward.

Johann Baptist von Spix first described and painted the macaw that now bears his name in an 1824 publication. *David Tipling Photo Library/Alamy Stock Photo*



As the human footprint increased in the caatinga, the bird became even rarer. Tragically, this fact only made it more coveted by parrot collectors, who were willing to pay tens of thousands of dollars for a single bird. "The rarer it was, the more it became a kind of status symbol," Collar says. "The very wealthy, very passionate collectors really wanted to have one, and they would do almost anything to do so."

By the beginning of 1987, only three Spix's macaws were known to survive in the wild. By the end of that year, poachers had taken two of them. After the plan to pair the last male with a captive bird failed in 1995, the male remained with a female of a different species, an Illiger's macaw, until he, too, disappeared in October 2000. **The International Union for Conservation of Nature officially declared the Spix's macaw extinct in the wild in 2019, exactly 200 years after Spix had described it.**

Even then, the bird retained its hold on the popular imagination. The story of the last lone male inspired songs—including one written from the perspective of the Illiger's female waiting in vain for his return—and two animated movies, "Rio" that together earned \$1 billion.



On a hot morning in February, **Martin Guth**, a bald and burly German businessman and parrot collector, stood in the spot where the Spix's will begin its new life in the wild. The nongovernmental organization (NGO) he founded, **the Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots (ACTP), has taken on the challenge of bringing the bird back to the caatinga.** ACTP, which housed more than 170 Spix's macaws in Tasdorf, near Berlin, built a facility in March 2020, flew 52 macaws to Brazil by private jet to take up residence there.



Brazilian leaders met the arrival of the 52 Spix's Macaws from Germany



The macaws were brought to their new home

("Spix's Macaws" continued on page 10)

("Spix's Macaw" continued from page 9)

In 2021, three chicks hatched at the facility, the first Spix's born in the bird's original home in more than 30 years!



(left) Veterinarian, Francois Le Grange and animal keeper, Sebastian Laurisch, examine a Spix's macaw at the breeding station where these three chicks (right) were born.

The morning that Guth arrived in Brazil with the birds from Germany, he became angry upon seeing an uncompleted aviary that he was told had been finished. Nearby, workers were busy constructing a huge U-shaped aviary where the birds would be able to fly longer distances than they can in their small cages inside the main facility. "Even on the



Later, the U-shaped aviary was completed

drive here, the guy still said everything was finished," Guth grumbled. He was convinced that a rival who was previously involved in the Spix's project had something to do with the delay. The Spix's project may have high-minded goals, but its history is replete with jealousies and backbiting.

The idea of breeding Spix's macaws in captivity and reintroducing them to the wild began long before Guth's involvement, and even before the lone wild male had disappeared. In 1990, conservationists formed a committee to oversee a reintroduction program. That meant building up an adequate captive population, which proved to be a complicated and controversial process.

At first, conservationists only knew of a few captive birds—and owners were reluctant to come forward, because the export of wildlife had been illegal in Brazil since 1967. But the Brazilian government agreed to grant amnesty to owners if their birds joined the breeding program. "One by one, people came out and admitted they had Spix's macaws," says Wolfgang Kiessling, a businessman who founded and runs Loro Parque, a private zoo on the island of Tenerife in the Canary Islands that held some Spix's macaws for many years.



Spix's macaw at Loro Parque

Still, by 1996 only 39 captive birds were known around the world. Making matters worse, most of them were closely related. Only nine of the birds had come from the wild, and 21 of the remaining 30 were offspring from a single pair in the Philippines, raising concerns about inbreeding. For the Spix's to have any future, birds from different collectors needed to be brought together to breed, but arguments over who would send a bird to whom under what conditions kept derailing the plans.

Meanwhile, the constellation of owners kept changing. Starting in 2000, Sheikh Saoud Bin Mohammed Bin Ali Al-Thani of Qatar bought dozens of Spix's to keep at Al Wabra, his private wildlife preserve. In time, he came to own the vast majority of all known Spix's macaws in the world.

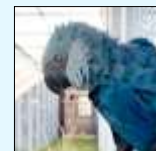


Guth entered the scene in 2005, beating out the sheikh to buy from a private Swiss owner three Spix's macaws that had not previously been part of the breeding program. "Those three birds he had were the most important ones, because they could improve the genetics of the population," says Camile Lugarini, a veterinarian at the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), who leads the Spix's macaw project for the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment.

In May 2012, a meeting in Brazil's capital, Brasília, brought together representatives of all of the important stakeholders. It was testy. One participant argued that Guth should have no part in the project because he had served a prison sentence. This person claimed, Guth had sold endangered birds illegally, in violation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (Guth says that like other breeders and NGOs, ACTP sells some birds legally, but has never sold Spix's or other highly endangered birds. Also, his offenses were committed decades ago and have nothing to do with the current project.) Tim Bouts, a veterinarian who was then the curator at Al Wabra and attended the meeting, says he spoke in defense of Guth, who was not present: "Let's be honest, this table here is full of criminals. Every single Spix's that came into captivity was illegal."

The meeting ended with no agreement.

("Spix's Macaws" continued on page 11)



("Spix's Macaws" continued from page 10)

Guth has pressed ahead, even as some have questioned his motives and methods, pointing to the **lack of transparency around ACTP and its sources of funding**. Guth says **some donors prefer to remain anonymous** and that he is trying to avoid the disputes over funding and financial credit that doomed the project in the past. "Yes, we are doing things differently," he says. "It certainly didn't work the way they tried it before."

Even some people who say they are intimidated by Guth acknowledge the effectiveness of his pushing and bullying. **"He is a bit of a bulldozer," Wirth says. "But he gets things done."** When the **sheikh died suddenly in 2014** and the future of his Spix's macaws was in doubt, **Guth stepped in through his NGO to bring the birds from Qatar to Tasdorf**. In June of 2018, **Guth and Brazil's environment minister signed a memorandum of understanding** in Berlin with plans to **build a facility in Brazil, transfer birds, and reintroduce them to the wild**.



Guth signed an MOU with Brazil for the Reintroduction Plan of the Spix's Macaw.

"I wasn't born as a conservationist," Guth says. But as he became involved in the reintroduction effort, he grew determined to prove his critics wrong. "They said, 'He won't be able to breed the birds.' I did. They said, 'He won't send any birds to Brazil.' I did. They said, 'He won't reintroduce the birds.' We are doing that."

He has put himself in an interesting position, Collar says. "He is the one now who can go down in history as the person who saved the Spix's macaw. Or if he really messes up, then he goes down in history as the person who made it go extinct."



The Christ the Redeemer Statue in Rio welcomes back the Spix's Macaws to the skies of Brazil!

While **owners were fighting over control and credit, conservationists and researchers were fighting to save the species**. When ornithologist Cromwell Purchase went to Al Wabra in 2010 to head its Spix's macaw program, he was told the species was "on the fence." At the time, **54 of 71 birds known worldwide were in Qatar, and the captive population faced twin threats: disease and a low birth rate**.

The major disease threatening captive Spix's was proventricular dilatation disease, which affects the nerves in parrots' gastrointestinal tract and causes them to slowly waste away. A common scourge of pet birds, it had been known since the 1970s, but its cause was completely unclear. Then, in 2008, researchers identified a novel virus in the brains of affected birds: a type of bornavirus, a group known to cause brain disease in horses and sheep.

"We tested all known Spix's in the world for this virus," says Michael Lierz, a veterinarian at the Justus Liebig University Giessen. In Qatar, a traffic light system was implemented, with infected birds deemed "red" and separated from the others. This eventually eliminated the threat of avian bornavirus to the Spix's population.



The **other problem was reproduction**. Only a few pairs were producing chicks. At first a decision was made to keep them reproducing. **"The goal was to produce as many animals as possible to keep the species from going completely extinct,"** Lierz says. Over time the focus shifted to **making better matches, in order to preserve the Spix's genetic diversity** and, therefore, its chances of survival. **But birds with diverse genetics wouldn't necessarily form a pair**. "Parrots are mostly monogamous and very choosy," Lierz says.



("Spix's Macaws" continued on page 12)

("Spix's Macaws" continued from page 11)

So, **veterinarians** considered **artificial insemination**. For many birds, such as with chickens, this is fairly straightforward, Lierz says. But this technique does not work on most large parrots. Around 2010, Lierz and his colleague Neumann developed a new method: inserting a small probe into the cloaca to deliver a weak electric current that stimulates a male bird to release sperm.



With artificial insemination, the researchers could finally pair birds according to their genetics. But the **timing was crucial: Females usually lay two or three eggs and the moment one egg is laid is the right time to inseminate the next one.** Purchase says he and Neumann spent hours watching female Spix's macaws on video monitors. "As soon as we see the egg, we're out and we go from aviary to aviary and we catch the male that we want, male No. 1 on the list. We try and collect semen from him, and if we don't get enough ... then we go to male No. 2," Purchase says. **In May 2013, the first artificially inseminated Spix's macaw chicks hatched. More followed. "That's what got us out of the genetic bottleneck,"** Bouts says.



Veterinarians tested the birds for pathogens that might pose a risk to other animals after the birds are released.

But the team is much **more worried about the dangers these parrots themselves will face in the wild. After generations in captivity, their instincts for navigating and finding food have weakened,** White says. There are **predators**, too, including opossums, snakes, and birds of prey. And, of course, **humans—the species that drove the bird to extinction in the first place.**

Illiger's Macaws, also known as blue winged macaws, play an important role in the plan to bring back the Spix's Macaws



Illiger's Macaws

Illiger's are more common and inhabit a larger area than the Spix's macaws. In the caatinga, **the two birds' lifestyles overlap. Both nest in hollows in carabeira trees and feed on the same fruits and nuts.** When the eight Spix's are released, **eight Illiger's macaws taken from the wild will be released with them.** The team hopes this **mixed flock will join up with wild Illiger's in the caatinga, allowing the Spix's macaws to benefit from their knowledge of how to avoid predators, find food, and navigate.** The team had collected eight Illiger's.



Illiger's Macaws and Spix's Macaws lifestyles are similar



One clear lesson from previous reintroductions is that **releasing more animals is better.** That's because a **bigger group can work together to spot dangers and find food. Finding a suitable mate is easier, too.** For highly social species like macaws, numbers are especially important. "Let's say you release 20 individuals and they all go 20 different directions, well then you haven't reestablished a population," White says. **"They need to live in a group."** **Combining captive Spix's and wild Illiger's thus solves two problems, White says. "We can actually increase the flock size without extra Spix's, while using a native species which knows the habitat, knows the area, that can function as mentors."**



Releasing birds of the right age can help keep them from scattering. Spix's macaws start to reproduce around age 4 and then **tend to return to the same nesting site year after year.** "The sooner that those released macaws start reproducing, the sooner they become anchored to that site," White says. **"So, you want to have birds that are entering or at reproductive age."** Providing supplementary food and nest boxes may also encourage the birds to remain close to the release site.



("Spix's Macaws" continued on page 13)

("Spix's Macaws" continued from page 12)

When White and other researchers reviewed 47 previous releases of captive parrots into the wild, they found that the single **biggest threat to success was predation**. To reduce this risk, Purchase **put metal bands around trees with nest hollows or nest boxes to keep predators like opossums from climbing the trees**. To avoid tipping off would-be poachers, he put decoy bands around trees without nests, as well. The **birds will also wear tracking collars to monitor their movement**.



Caatinga area of Brazil

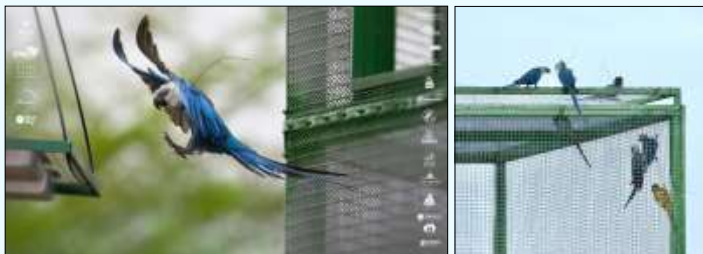
The Spix's natural habitat barely exists anymore. A restoration project is ongoing, but has been hampered by the lack of knowledge of this little-studied area. Also, the local population's herds of goats have devoured much of the natural vegetation. It will take

time for the trees being planted to be mature enough to support the Spix's Macaws and will be an ongoing project.

On the afternoon of June 11, there was a ceremony honoring the morning release of the Spix's Macaws. One resident, Fernando Ferreira, had written a song about the lovesick Illiger's macaw. Ferreira played his guitar and sang different song he had written about the Spix's macaw, known here as *ararinha azul*, or *little blue macaw*: **"My wish is to see you fly, my wish is to see you come back,"** he sang.



In front of a small group of people, the door of the aviary was opened at 9:03 am on June 11 to begin the release of the birds. At first, one Spix's macaw left the aviary. Five others followed just 30 minutes later.



Some of the them may have already flown into the wild. The moment was a breathtaking experience for everyone involved!

For those who have worked toward this for years, **it is a moment of joy and apprehension**. "It will feel like a weight off my shoulders, probably," Purchase says. But then comes the next weight—**worrying about their survival**. There is an **element of guilt**, Miyaki says, **because humans drove the Spix's to extinction**. **"We owe it to the species, for it to go back to the wild."**



The project estimates that between **one-third and two-thirds of the macaws will be lost in the first year**. If the losses are higher than that, the birds may be taken back in. **Not all of the Spix Macaws have been released**. Keeping some of them in reserve is **to guarantee for the survival of the species**.

"You try to make sure that you have covered all of the bases and thought about as many possible options and outcomes as possible," White says. **"But the day you release those birds, the day they leave that cage, a lot of things are no longer within your control."**



Pleasant Updates - 24 hours after the release, all eight Spix's Macaws are doing very well. We have seen them near the facility for the most part. On the first night, six slept in the release aviary, one beside it and one nearby. All of them were back at the aviary for the morning feed and continued to return for the feeding times. The soft release enables the parrots to fly in and out freely. We are pleased about this promising development and will keep you informed over the next few days.

[Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots e.V.](http://www.associationfortheconservationofthreatenedparrots.org)

Here are some sites to watch videos of the Spix's Macaws' journey to return back to the wild:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1230910530644163>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=967863493822286>

<https://youtu.be/SY5Ps51qSGY>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1094876880846799>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=5526958363990802>

What is a “NUTRACEUTICAL?” (nu-tra-ceu-ti-cal)

It is defined as: a foodstuff (such as a fortified food or dietary supplement that provides) health benefits in addition to its basic nutritional value.

Some say nutraceuticals are: age-defying fruits, herbs and supplements that promote strength & longevity. One issue is quality control since purchasing them prepared, it is up to the manufacturer to maintain standards.

They can be beneficial for the health our birds. Here are a list of some of them:



Omega 3 Fatty acids, also known as Linolenic Acid, are found in **Walnuts**, **Fish Oil** and **Flaxseed Oil or Ground Flaxseed**. It **reduces inflammation** and **lowers fat levels**. It reduces triglycerides and cholesterol. (Keep the levels of Omega 3 higher than Omega 6 fatty acids because Omega 6 promotes inflammation. Sources of Omega 6 includes eggs and sesame seeds). When using a capsule of fish oil, poke a hole in the capsule and squirt it on the bird's food. The dosage should be determined by your avian vet.



Coenzyme Q helps the liver, heart and kidneys increasing the production of energy found in all cells. Good sources include **spinach** and **soybeans**. You can **supplement by using a powder** found in such stores as Whole Foods and Sprouts.



L-Carnitine helps with cell metabolism and treats obesity. It reduces the size of fatty lumps. This supplement is found in powder form at GNC and other health food stores.



Echinacea is considered an herb. You can use its flowers, leaves and roots. It is helpful for **immune support** and **skin disorders**

Milk Thistle is known for its **anti-inflammatory** and **anti-arthritis** benefits, as well as its potent **antioxidant** properties. This flowering plant is an herb that uses mostly its seed. It promotes **wound healing** and has **protective effects in avian patients with liver disease, fatty liver syndrome and/or fibroids**. **The liquid form without alcohol is best.**



Dandelion Its roots and leaves are rich in **vitamins A, K, C, and calcium**. Not only does it maintains **bone health**, it also improves **liver function** and can act as a **diuretic**. It is most effective when paired with Milk Thistle. You can purchase it in the leaf powder form. It **decrease cholesterol** and is an **antioxidant**.

Ginger is a powerful **anti-inflammatory** herb that eases **tendinitis, lowers cholesterol and blood pressure**, and it **aids in preventing blood clots**. There has been much interest in its use for **joint and arthritis problems**. Also, it can lower some bad bacteria.



Cinnamon increases digestibility, inhibits bacteria and reduces inflammation.

Plums are high in **vitamins C, A, and K**, and the **minerals potassium and iron**, as well as **beta-carotene**. They provide dietary **fiber** and are known to help regulate the functioning of the digestive system. The fruit also offers a good source of health-promoting **poly phenolic antioxidants**, such as lutein, cryptoxanthin and zeaxanthin. These compounds act as scavengers against oxygen-derived free radicals and reactive oxygen species (ROS) that play a role in aging and various processes.



Cranberries are full of **antioxidants** that flush out harmful toxins, strengthen the **immune system** and help **internal-organ performance**. The citric acid and other nutrients in cranberries help **prevent kidney and bladder problems**. Cranberries also aid in **lowering bad-cholesterol levels** and help **prevent plaque from forming** in the arterial walls.

("Nutraceuticals" continued from page 14)

Dates are an iron-rich fruit that contain **flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants** known as tannins, which possess **anti-infective, anti-inflammatory and anti-hemorrhagic** properties. This fruit is rich in dietary **fiber**, which **prevents LDL cholesterol absorption** of the gut. Dates also have adequate levels of **B-complex** group of vitamins, as well as **vitamin K**, which is essential for many **coagulant factors in the blood** and in **bone metabolism**. It contains very good amounts of pyridoxine (**vitamin B-6**), **niacin, pantothenic acid and riboflavin**. These vitamins act as cofactors to help the body **metabolize carbohydrates, protein and fats**.



Bentonite Clay (like the kind in clay licks) is a mineral source and absorbs toxins, provides G.I. protection by moderating the pH level in the gut. You can buy food-grade powder bentonite clay.

Glucosamine is a joint-health supplement believed to **help slow cartilage deterioration, relieve arthritis joint pain** and **improve joint mobility**. Its **anti-inflammatory** effects help **prevent osteoarthritis** in joints of the body.



Chondroitin also helps **reduce joint pain and inflammation** and improve joint function, as well as slow the progression of **osteoarthritis**. Like glucosamine, this supplement is thought to **help cartilage retain water, keep joints lubricated, and possibly even reverse cartilage loss**.

The above Nutraceuticals can be found at many of your health food or grocery stores.

It is advisable that you consult your avian veterinarian for dosage recommendations before adding these supplements into your bird's diet.

Some bird food products include a variety of these "Nutraceuticals" in their formulas and can be purchased at your local bird stores.

One such bird food product with "Nutraceuticals" is made by one of SBBS's sponsors, Lafeber and is called **Senior Bird Nutri-Berries**. There are several different kinds of the senior bird nutria-berries according to the species of one's bird. This bird food product was scientifically designed by avian veterinarians and nutritionists to create the balanced combination of herbs, supplements, and nutrients that could be fed daily as a complete diet for many years. They are packed with herbs like milk thistle, dandelion, and ginger, and fruits like plums, cranberries, and dates.

Lafeber has added milk thistle for its anti-inflammatory and anti-arthritis effect, as well as dandelion to support bone health and improve liver function. They included ginger — a powerful anti-inflammatory herb — to help ease tendonitis, lower cholesterol and blood pressure, and to help prevent blood clots. They also combined the joint-health supplements glucosamine to combat osteoarthritis and chondroitin to ease joint pain and swelling.

Senior Bird Nutri-Berries have real pieces of fruits. Plums provide dietary fiber and are high in Vitamins A, C, K, potassium, and beta-carotene. Cranberries are full of antioxidants that strengthen the immune system by flushing out harmful toxins. Dates are iron-rich fruits that contain flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants known as tannins, which possess anti-infective, anti-inflammatory, and anti-hemorrhagic properties.

For your information, Senior Bird Nutri-Berries are made with 61% pellets, 26% grains, and 13% fruits and herbs. They also contain the necessary amino acids, vitamins, minerals, and balanced Omega 3 & 6 fatty acids critical to maintaining a healthy immune system, strong beak and bones, and gorgeous feathers.

Like people, age-related conditions like arthritis can happen at different ages for different birds. In general, a bird may be considered a senior once he or she reaches half of their expected life span.

See avian vet, Dr. Stephanie Lamb's webinar on Nutraceuticals at:
<https://Lafeber.com/pet-birds/category/webinar>.

WINGED NEWS & MORE



Here is information on groups helping the BIRDS in Ukraine



Projekt Ptasia Edukacja: For Ukrainian Birds & Their Parents

(SBBS donated to this charity)

Parrot owner and avian nurse, Ola Borwies, has set up this fundraising site with "Projekt Ptasia Edukacja" (Project Avian Education) to try to reach every **Ukrainian parrot parent** in need and do everything to help them. He meets refugees at the border to offer assistance to evacuate them and their birds and provides avian and other pet supplies to be taken into Ukraine. Click on the link to see what he and his volunteers are doing and to donate:

<https://zrzutka.pl/en/tu6s7z>

You can help the birds & their owners in Ukraine

The Polish Association for the Welfare of Exotic Birds

(SBBS donated towards this charity)

They are getting food and other supplies into Ukraine for the parrots that are still there. You can pay with Google Pay or credit card. Learn more and donate here:

<https://zrzutka.pl/en/jaewep>

Learn More & donate to:



<https://zrzutka.pl/en/jaewep>

The Polish Association for the Welfare of Exotic Birds

As we have all seen, the devastation in Ukraine is unimaginable. Because of the war, millions of people have become refugees while many more have stayed behind to continue the fight. In the midst of this tragedy, many Ukrainian people and their companion animals, some of them parrots, have sought safety. Finding food and shelter have proven to be an immense challenge in this war-torn land.

Getting support to these compassionate caregivers has become critical, and that's where the **Polish Association for the Welfare of Exotic Birds** comes in. Their amazing volunteers have been hard at work getting help to the most vulnerable victims of this conflict by providing food and supplies to those sheltering with their birds in Ukraine, as well support to refugees who have fled to Poland. These dedicated people from Poland help with logistics—including pickup and transport-of getting birds and their people across the border. Their non-profit organization pays for everything out of its own pocket. They need help if they are to continue their incredible and sometimes dangerous work. SBBS has made financial donations to this and other humanitarian and animal aid.

Please donate to help Ukraine's Parrots by going to <https://zrzutka.pl/en/jaewep>.



WINGED NEWS & MORE

Sergii and Roxy

A Ukrainian Survivor and His Beloved Cockatoo's Story

Sergii and Roxy, his Moluccan cockatoo, are in Kyiv trying to survive the invasion of Ukraine.

They are suffering the horrors of war and just trying to survive day to day...

trapped like so many of Ukraine's beautiful people.

This is their story...



NEW updates on a Ukrainian bird and her owner are **STILL** trapped in Kyiv

Since February 24, we heard about a Moluccan Cockatoo named Roxy and her owner, Sergii, who have been trapped in the Ukrainian city of Kyiv. Reports of the suffering and damage by the Russian invasion feel all the more shocking from reading first-hand reports of what it is like to be there with one's beloved parrot. At the time of writing this article for the newsletter, Sergii and his exotic bird, Princess Roxy, are still in Kyiv providing frequent reports on what they have encountered. You can read his updates by going on his website: <https://sergiandroxy.wixsite.com/home>.

The Ukrainian people have inspired the world, not just with their patriotism, resolve and fight, but with their humanity. This includes many other attributes, like kindness and devotion to their pets and other animals living there. Reading these reports makes one thankful that we are able to live in a country with our freedoms.

June 6-12, 2022, Kyiv

FIRST RESULTS

So, the movement has begun. How long have we been waiting for changes? Here are the first results of 2 months of waiting. My father received a passport to travel abroad. I was able to conclude a rental agreement for a house in a safe place in Western Ukraine, where we will live for some time.

It was very difficult to find a house, as there are a lot of migrants in Western Ukraine now. It's also hard to rent a house when you have two loud and destructive birds. The house needs a bit of repair, and I will need to buy some household appliances. However, the place is very nice and quiet. Roxy and Corrie will be able to go outside.

Roxy's cage has not yet been delivered. Also, I did not receive my travel documents. Unfortunately, there are so few results, but I do not despair. It's so hard to look for something positive when the world is collapsing around us.

On Roxy's condition:

The fluffy princess has become calmer, possibly due to the extreme heat. Roxy began to sleep more and scream less. She now needs to take a nap during the day. This is very convenient for me. Now I have an extra two hours of peace.

About the situation in Kyiv:

It's very hot here. Ukrainian weather forecasters say that this year there will be abnormal heat in Ukraine. An amazing coincidence, when Nazi Germany attacked the Soviet Union in 1941, it was also a very hot summer.

We do not have access to water shores in Ukraine this year. All of the beaches are closed. Not only in Kyiv, but even on the sea coast near Odessa and other resorts in Ukraine. By the way, you need to be very careful when around the water. There are a lot of hidden mines. This week a man was blown up by a mine in Odessa.

I thank everyone for their support, especially those who pray for us. Write messages to me in the messenger, and also continue to make donations to our Go Fund Me. We send love and happiness to everyone. XOXO

Best wishes,

Sergii and Roxy

Roxy, my fluffy princess...



WINGED NEWS & MORE

Bob Shanman, of Redondo Beach Wild Birds Unlimited, to Retire

It's Time to Retire!

Dear loyal friends and family (you all are so much more than "customers"),

After 27 years, I have made the difficult decision to retire. But first, I need to find the next great Wild Birds Unlimited store owner!

I want all of my wonderful and faithful customers and friends to know these four things:

- I am NOT going out of business.
- I will be here for you and continue to operate my shop until I find the right buyer for it.
- I am going to find the best buyer I can, who will love you and the birds and the business as I have over the past 27 years.
- Only after that will I retire, even if it takes a little while!

How you can help?

You can help me by sharing this email and telling friends, family, or acquaintances who might be looking to own their own business, and who would love sharing a passion for the birds and nature. My store is an established, successful, and profitable business that has a great staff and vendors in place, in a brand with an excellent track record, and with a large and loyal customer base. I am often asked if I would do this all over again. My answer is always the same--In a heartbeat!

I have LOVED owning this store and getting the chance to meet all of you while sharing my love of the birds. But we all reach new phases in our lives and I want to get the wheels turning to start my retirement years. It's time to travel, to spend time with our son and his family (especially our new granddaughter), and to enjoy the birds wherever we go!

If you know anyone who is looking for a career change and would like to:

- Turn a hobby into a business
- Feel pride in running a local business which is engaged in the community and employs local people
- Gain satisfaction from providing creative and educational opportunities for faithful customers
- Experience joy from bringing people and nature together
- Work for themselves with flexible hours and have fun at the same time

Please share this information with them! Then tell them to contact me at the store at 310-543-BIRD (2473) or at [wburedondo@gmail.com](mailto:wbuiredondo@gmail.com). More information is available at franchise.wbu.com.

Thank you again for all your support and participation in such a wonderful hobby. Happy Birding!

**Bob Shanman,
Owner, Wild Birds Unlimited of Redondo Beach**



Bob Shanman of WBU is a long-time sponsor of SBBS.



WINGED NEWS & MORE

Seeking Butterflies - Monarchs Numbers Increase

Each July, the **North American Butterfly Association**, a non-profit based in New Jersey, gathers thousands of volunteers to look for monarchs in 15-mile-diameter circles, a methodology that mirrors the Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Counts.

This massive effort ensures data is collected from more than 450 sites across the U.S. and Canada, providing an unparalleled annual snapshot of monarch, as well as other butterfly numbers for scientific research.

Over the past 25 years, the relative abundance of North American monarchs has grown by 1.36 percent per year. What's more, the authors note, of all the places monitored by NABA, **monarchs are seen at more sites than any other butterfly species.**

"I like to say that we had the best statisticians in the business working on this project, and they used the most sophisticated, up-to-date analyses possible," Davis says.

He adds that data at this scale would not be possible based on university or government efforts alone.

"This project is kind of a success story, because we used their data to answer a long-standing question about one of the butterfly species they've been tracking."

Join the 2022 Butterfly Count on Saturday, July 9

The 42th annual Palos Verdes/South Bay Butterfly Count is on Saturday, July 9th. The aim is to count ALL of the butterflies that are seen on this day within the South Bay. This count is one of about 450 "Fourth of July" Butterfly Counts in North America. Volunteers are needed to survey butterflies in parks, or in your yard. **If you would like to participate in this year's count, contact Vincent Lloyd at Stephen-vincentlloyd@gmail.com.** Madrona Marsh has a **guide** to identify their butterflies and Amazon has Butterflies of So. Cal. for purchase. on Amazon.



SAVING OUR POLLINATORS

Recently, the Court released its decision holding unlawful the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) re-approval of the toxic pesticide glyphosate, the main ingredient in Roundup®, for all uses. And it went so far as to rebuke the EPA for ignoring real-world evidence of cancer risks from using glyphosate, and for **failing to even consider impacts to endangered species!**

This will force EPA to **redo its human health and ecological risk assessments**, the main underpinnings of its safety decision. The EPA has until October 1, 2022 to finish these and its **endangered species consultation**. If EPA decides to keep glyphosate products on the market, it will have to **ensure that users have sufficient protections and that it will not cause further harm to wildlife, especially endangered species.**

This victory couldn't have come at a more important time. Glyphosate is everywhere. It not only causes cancer, but contaminates our water and soil, and **has forced Monarch butterflies to the brink of extinction**. And a new study just confirmed something we've long feared – that **glyphosate damages wild bee colonies, making it harder for them to reproduce**. Through this court action, environmentalist took a vital step in **protecting public health and saving our pollinators**.



SBBS Welcomes New & Returning Members



RETURNING MEMBERS: **Phyllis Levine**

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, Diane Racey

Number of Current Members: **63**

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 the Membership Director, Patte Fisher at pattfisher@verizon.net or you can call her at: (310) 316-9843 (home) or at (310) 418-9096 (cell).



Patte

THE SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY IS OUR LOCAL FLOCK.



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.

L
A
U
G
H



K
O
O
K
A
b
U
R
r
A

Ask Elon Musk

STAY SAFE & PROTECTED FROM GERMS! Karen Allen Reminds Us To Continue To:

- Wash your 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 N95, KN95 or KF94 mask indoors and when in close proximity to others. Respect people's choice on wearing a mask, even when it is not legally required.
- Keep a distance of at least 6 feet between people.
- Consider getting vaccinated and boosted...and boosted again.



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.



Kahlia & Gala

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 Thursday, July 7th.



Adoptions



There are so many birds needing homes.

If you are considering getting another bird, please think about adopting one. Call one of these rescue/adoption groups.

They all have many wonderful birds just waiting for someone to come and take them home.

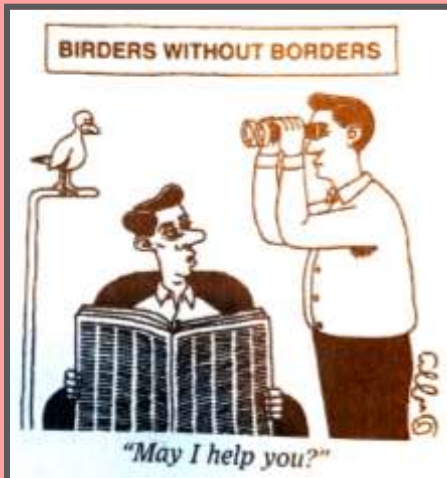
Many of these groups have websites - take a look!

Organization

Phone

Contact


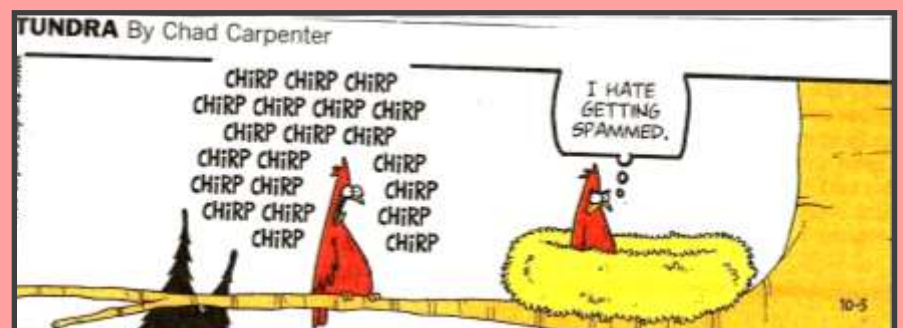
Fine Feathered Friends Foundation	(310) 334-9062	www.finefeatheredfriendsfoundation.org
Parrot Rehabilitation Society	(619) 224-6712	www.parrotsociety.org
Parrots First	(866) 248-7670, ext. 5937	www.parrotsfirst.org
Santa Barbara Bird Sanctuary	(805) 565-1807	www.sbbird.org
Southern Nevada Parrot Education,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



Time to change the channel...



LAUGH
KOOKABURRA

And you thought you were the only one to get a spam call...

SHOP our Sponsors



Contact: "Birds & More" for curbside service & "Wild Bird's Unlimited" for items to be shipped or for curbside service.

Birds & More
Hand-fed baby birds
Birds supplies & accessories
Grooming • Day Care
Karen Lee Allen

Available "Curbside" Service

4301 Redondo Beach Blvd.
Lawndale, CA 90260
(310) 370-7550
E-mail: birdsnmor@aol.com
Website: birdsandmore.com

Happy 4th of July!

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!

Exotic Birds by Fran, Inc.
9215 Valley View Street
Cypress, CA 90630
p: (714) 761-0868
f: (714) 827-8471
facebook.com/birdsandsuppliesbyfran

- Open 7 days: Monday-Friday 9-6, Saturday & Sunday 9-5
- Boarding & Grooming services
- Home Grooming & Training

MANGO Pet Products Inc.

HOME IS WHERE THE BIRD IS

mangopet.com
Erik (516) 263-4551

AVIAN and EXOTIC ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Walter J. Rosskopf, Jr., DVM
Board Certified

4871 W. Rosecrans Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250
(310) 679-0693

Special "Curbside" Service

POINT VICENTE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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

31270 Palos Verdes Drive West
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!

Lateber COMPANY
Nutri-Meals • Avi-Cakes
Nutri-Berries • Pellets • and Available at your favorite pet shop.

Magnolia Bird Farm

We Buy Birds • We Sell Birds
Complete Bird Supplies

8990 Cerritos Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92804
(714) 527-3387
(Closed first 2 weeks in July)

12200 Magnolia Ave.
Riverside, CA 92503
(951) 278-0878
(Closed first 2 weeks in August)

Open 9-5 daily - Closed Sun., Mon., & Holidays.

PARROTS Naturally

LA's Premier Bird Store

We ship anywhere (except birds & fresh prepared foods)
Happy, socialized babies
Natural & healthy food
Harrison's Bird Foods
Fresh sprouts, breads.

Experience Wall of Toys!
Breeders' supplies
Sundays are always Samples Days

19224 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356
818.708.7277 Toll Free 866.727.7687
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.org](http://www.MyWBU.org) or call:

Wild Birds Unlimited
Your Backyard Birdfeeding Specialist®
1886 Pacific Coast Hwy
Redondo Beach 90277
(NW corner of PCH & Prospect
310.543.2473 (new)

Contact for delivery options during Covid-19

Feed a Hummingbird



Contact for reduced access during Covid-19.

Leach Grain & Milling
562.869.4451

since 1934

South Bay Bird Society members receive a 10% discount at 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 SBBS sponsors are listed above.

LET'S GIVE THEM OUR SUPPORT!



PLEASE JOIN US



Some of our meetings are held on ZOOM & some are held OUTDOORS at the Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach

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

Verify on our website of status of meetings. MOST MEETINGS are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 P.M.

* 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. 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
Vice President, CFO	Diane Sivas, (310) 937-9925
Vice President	Karen Allen, birdsnmor@aol.com
DIRECTORS:	
Communications	Gala Burkholder (gidgetscal@aol.com)
Community Outreach	OPEN
Education	Karen Allen, birdsnmor@aol.com
Meeting Tech Support	OPEN
Membership	Patte Fisher, pattefisher@verizon.net, (310) 316-9843 or cell: (310) 418-9096
Newsletter & Flyers	Gala Burkholder (text (310) 345-0278)
Press/Media	Gala Burkholder (gidgetscal@aol.com)
Programs	OPEN
Raffle & Sponsors	Janet Ragonesi, Patte Fisher
Secretary	Diane Sivas, (310) 937-9925

SUPPORT POSITIONS:

Adoptions & Foster Care	Janet Ragonesi, (310) 376-5954 Marie Calleja, (310) 529-1408
Cartoons	Marie Calleja, Jan Gardner
"Meet-up" Site	David Benjamin
Photography	Gala Burkholder, Marie Calleja
Proofreaders	Sylvia Skidmore, Marie Calleja, Patte Fisher
Website Coordinator	ACTING—David Benjamin (davidsbbsnews@dbenjamin.com)
Website Maintenance	Harold Buchman
Youth Ambassador	OPEN
ZOOM Coordinator	David Benjamin (davidsbbsnews@dbenjamin.com)
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	<p> Lorrie Mitchell, Diane Bock, Ron Ellwood </p> <p> In Memoriam Members Laura Lynn Porter, Diane Racey </p>



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.



P.O. Box 3863
Redondo Beach, CA 90277-1719
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: _____