



Volume 50 Issue 1 Dec. 2022 – Jan. 2023 SBBS Newsletter Established 1974

**The South Bay Bird Society  
wishes You and Your Family  
a Joyful & Healthy  
New Year!**



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For more information, contact Janet Ragonesi at (310)379-5954 or at [ragonesi@att.net](mailto:ragonesi@att.net) or go on: [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com)

# 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

## MONTHLY SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Looking back at this year’s monthly meetings and activities, we’ve provided a variety of topics and speakers

With the addition of ZOOM meetings,

were able to have presentations with out-of-town speakers from across the country.

Also, we joined with other bird clubs and organizations on ZOOM to learn more about our parrots.

David Benjamin hosted the ZOOM meetings, the “Meet-up” Site to RSVP and Streamed Our Meetings Live.

**Bonnie Zimmerman**

**“New Directions in Conservation  
From Tribal to Government in Indonesia”**



**Marie Calleja**

**“Fine Feathered Friends”**



Alethia Shin

Marie & Donna Crossley



Karen Allen & Elaine Dunn

**Interactive Social ZOOM**

**“Owning an Aging Parrot”**



**Annual Picnic Party at Columbia Park**



David Benjamin

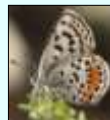
Diane Sivas

Lilu & Dyland

June Baker

**Ann Dalkey**

**“The Ecology of Local Native Habitat”**



David, Yolanda & Marie

Patte Fisher

**Jeff Maxwell & His Parrot, George**

**“My Life with George & Performing in M\*A\*S\*H”**

Ann Dalkey



Jeff Maxwell

**Annual Holiday Fundraiser and Silent Auction**



Jeff & George

M\*A\*S\*H

# THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE SBBS AUCTION THIS YEAR WITH YOUR DONATIONS, PARTICIPATION, VOLUNTEERING AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS!



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

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

- **Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital**

Dr. Walter Rosskopf



- **Birds & More**

Karen Allen



- **Jungle Toys**

Michael Keens



- **Lafeber Company**

Ted Lafeber



- **Leach Grain & Milling Co.**

Bruce Leach



- **Mango Pet Products**

Erik Christopher



- **Magnolia Bird Farm**

Frank Miser



*Magnolia Bird Farm*

- **Parrots Naturally**

Judy Lantz



- **Point Vicente Animal Hospital**

Dr. Teresa Micco  
Dr. Cassie Jones



POINT VICENTE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

- **Wild Bird Unlimited**

Bob Shanman



## MEMBERS:

Karen Allen

June Baker

David Benjamin

Gala Burkholder

Joni Blank-Malukas

Diane Bock Estate

Debbie Folsom

Marie Calleja

Tammy Carreiro

Lisa Cooley

Donna Crossley

Patte Fisher

Linda Jensen

Pat Julien

Yolanda Keh

Phyllis Levine

Lisa Miyake

Janet Ragonesi

Krista Renta

Diane Sivas

Julie Scardina

Sylvia Skidmore

Susan Sullivan

## OTHER AUCTION PARTICIPANTS:

Laura Allen

Amy Brown

Valerie Farrelly

Irene French

Amy Hopkins

Kristina Hsu

Diane Hyde

Dalton Kraatz

Jessica Loyola

Andrew Pacheco

Doreen Seelig

West LA Bird Club

**When we come together, we make a real difference in the lives of birds.  
Thank you for your continued support of**



## SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY CHARITABLE DONATIONS, OUTREACH ACTIVITIES & WEBSITE IN

# 2022

As a non-profit organization 501 (C)(3), the South Bay Bird Society, is required to make charitable donations. Speaker presenters are invited to designate a non-profit of their choice for SBBS to make a donation in appreciation for their contribution to our club. In addition, the SBBS Board considers financial and in-kind donations in times of emergencies to bird and other community organizations. The SBBS board evaluates and votes to approve all donations to be made.

**In 2022, SBBS gave to the following bird and community organizations:**



### AS A RESULT OF THE EMERGENCY SITUATION IN UKRAINE

#### SBBS GAVE TO THE FOLLOWING CHARITIES:

- **NETWORK FOR ANIMALS** - Emergency and evacuation aid for Ukrainian animals and raised money for a veterinary ambulance to evacuate Ukrainian animals.
- **PROJECT AVIAN EDUCATION "PROJEKT PTASIA EDUKA** - Parrot owner and avian nurse, Ola Borwicz, coordinated efforts to reach every Ukrainian parrot parent in need and do everything to help them. He met refugees at the boarder to offer assistance to evacuate them and their birds, provided temporary homes, veterinary assistance and delivered parrots to Polish zoos that were offering shelter.
- **THE POLISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE WELFARE OF EXOTIC BIRDS** - Provided food and other supplies into Ukraine for the parrots and their owners still there.
- **INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE** - Emergency and evacuation aid for Ukrainian animal shelters, zoos, wildlife sanctuaries and aid to those animals that cannot be moved.



#### OTHER CHARITIES SBBS SUPPORTED:

- **FINE FEATHERED FRIENDS FOUNDATION** - The rehoming of birds.
- **INDONESIAN PARROT PROJECT** - Conservation of cockatoos and other parrots though working with the indigenous tribes and the government in Indonesia
- **PALOS VERDES LAND CONSERVANCY** - To assist in the purchase of land in Palos Verdes to benefit local, native plants and animals including the Palos Verdes blue butterfly and the gnatcatcher.
- **SANTA BARBARA BIRD SANCTUARY** - Rescue companion parrots and educate public.
- **WEST L.A. BIRD CLUB** - To promote the wellbeing of birds and their owners.



#### SBBS REACHES OUT TO THE COMMUNITY TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT BIRDS.

#### DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS WE HAVE BEEN LIMITED ON OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH.

- **PICNIC AT COLUMBIA PARK** - To provide a social bird event for SBBS members, friends and the community.
- **CIVIC CLUB & SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS** - Marie Calleja and Janet Ragonesi met with a community civic club to discuss what is involved in owning a parrot. Marie spoke at several schools about responsible pet ownership.

### THE SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY WEBSITE

PROVIDES BASIC INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR OWNING A PARROT AND PROVIDES UPDATES THROUGH THE POSTING OF THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

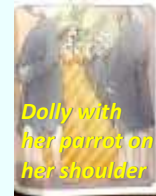
SBBS Members: David Benjamin and Harold Buchman  
maintain our website: [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com)

THE MISSION OF THE SOUTH BAY BIRD SOCIETY IS  
TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF BIRDS

**IN 2022, WE UTILIZED VARIOUS WAYS TO MEET THIS GOAL THROUGH OUR MEETINGS, NEWSLETTERS, E-MAILS, WEBSITE and OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

**HERE ARE A FEW THE ARTICLES IN THE NEWSLETTER THAT RAN DURING THE YEAR:**

- “Ways to Give Your Parrots More Exercise”
- “Presidents and First Ladies and Their Parrots”
- “A Clever Cockatoo Named, Figaro, Plays Golf for a Tasty Reward”
- “Texas’s Newest Master Sculptor is a Parrot Named Hannah”
- “Sergii and Roxy - A Ukrainian Survivor and His Beloved Cockatoo Story”
- “Parrots Just Want to Have Fun”
- “What is a Geriatric Parrot?”
- “The Reintroduction of the Spix’s Macaws to the Wild in Brazil”
- “Queen Elizabeth II Had Budgies”
- “Climate Deal Promises a Safer Future for the Birds”
- “Avian Influenza Updates and Safeguards”
- “Native Plants to Support the El Segundo Blue Butterfly”
- “Age-Defying Fruits, Herbs and Supplements Promote Strength and Longevity for Our Birds”
- “Nourish to Flourish—Nutrition Tips for a Healthy Parrot”
- “Longtime Planned AES Park and Wetland Restoration in Jeopardy”



*El Segundo Blue Butterfly & Native Plants*



*Redondo Artist*



*Margaret Korona*

**FEATURES TO COMPLEMENT OUR INTERESTS IN PARROTS**

- “Notes from the President,” by Janet Ragonesi; Adult’s Artwork of Parrots by Margaret Korona; Cartoons submitted by Marie Calleja, Jan Gardner and June Baker; Meeting Summaries by Diane Sivas and Patte Fisher; Winged Tips and Winged News



**AND THE CONTINUING SECTION OF SOLUTIONS TO OUR PARROT PROBLEMS PROVIDED WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR:**

“Karen Allen and Her Q & A”

**SUBMISSIONS, THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROOFERS BY SBBS MEMBERS ARE INTEGRAL IN PROVIDING OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**



*Avian Treadmill*

- Submissions by: June Baker, Krista Renta, Karen Allen, Amy Hopkins, Dr. Micco and Dr. Roskopf
- Proofers by: Sylvia Skidmore, Marie Calleja, Patte Fisher and June Baker
- Newsletter by: Gala Burkholder

# The President's Notes *By Janet Ragonesi*

Greetings  
SBBS MEMBERS,  
SPONSORS AND FRIENDS,

Janet



The weather is cold and chilly with periods of rain. We mark the end of a year and look forward to a new year. The South Bay Bird Society has continued to meet and connect with each other in different ways through our common love of birds.



We enjoy our holiday traditions and spending time with friends and family, including with our birds. Even though right now the days are short, we can look forward to each day bringing more sunshine to each of us. I look forward to increased times we can be together in person during 2023 than we have been able to in the past two years.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR FUNDRAISER!**



It truly took a flock to hold our Annual Holiday Auction and Fundraiser. Members, non-members, other bird clubs and our sponsors all joined together to make this a success. See page 3 for the many people, organizations and sponsors who donated, volunteered, participated and made financial contributions to help us with our financial goals to support next year's activities. Thank you!

**SBBS 2023 UPCOMING MEETINGS**

We already have several exciting guest speakers scheduled for 2023. Some of the local speakers will be in person and others who are out of the area will make presentations to us through ZOOMING. [If you have topics or speakers you are interested in for 2023, please contact one of the board members or me.](#)

**SBBS'S MISSION CONTINUES**

The mission of SBBS is to promote the welfare of birds and their owners. As you know, SBBS has continued to provide speaker programs, a picnic, newsletters, an updated website, community outreach activities and has made charitable donations to bird and animal organizations when in need. [This past year we have been supporting the Ukrainian animals and birds through several different charities, as well as other local charities as listed on page 4.](#)



**DURING THIS TIME OF YEAR...**

Please remember SBBS when you are shopping online, use

**AMAZON SMILE**

and designate SBBS as your charity. Your club can get a percentage of your purchase. It is an easy way to give and it doesn't cost you any extra money.



**The South Bay Bird Society**

is a registered CA 501 (C)(3) Public Benefit Corporation & Non-Profit.

Please remember SBBS when you are deciding which charities to make contributions for **YOUR YEAR-END TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS.**

Tax ID # 33-0690042

You can go online at: [sobaybirdsoc.org](http://sobaybirdsoc.org) and click on the donation button to make a charitable gift or mail a check to:

South Bay Bird Society  
 P.O. Box 3863, Redondo Beach, CA 90277-3863



**THANK YOU**  
**for your support of**  
**the South Bay Bird Society!**



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

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

### **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2023**

Now is the time to start off the new year with renewing your membership. You can renew and pay your membership online at [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com) or use the



application form at the end of this newsletter and mail it to the listed address.



*Let's party safely so we can enjoy 2023!*

### **KEEP YOUR BIRDS SAFE DURING THE CELEBRATIONS**

Remember, cooking in a Teflon®-coated oven at high temperatures and with Teflon® cookware, using candles, fragrances, fire places, candy, festive plants, decorations, Christmas trees and lights can all be hazardous to your bird.

### **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 to our annual auction. Please give them your business, whether it be for a bird product, grooming or veterinarian service.



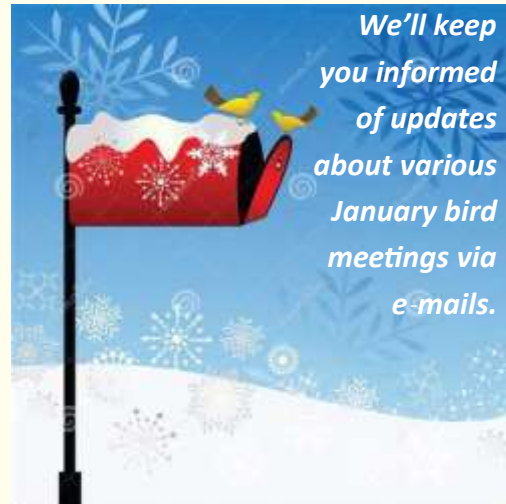
### **AVIAN FLU IS STILL IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

This highly infectious bird influenza continues to be found in Southern California. **More information about Avian Influenza can be found on page 15.** Please follow the precautions listed with your own flock and with the wild birds to help keep them safe.



### **DANGER! BIRDS ARE BEING STOLEN**

The rising costs of these exotic birds are making them a target for thieves. Be sure to keep your birds secure. *When is the last time you priced a greenwing macaw?*



### **JANUARY MEETINGS TBA**

The SBBS January meeting speaker and date have not yet been confirmed. We will keep you informed of updates about this and other avian meetings through e-mails.

During this month, there are other options to join with bird lovers to learn more about our feathered friends.

- **The West LA Bird Club** will be meeting in-person on **Wednesday, January 11 at 7 PM.** At this time, there program is still being confirmed and we will let you know what is planned as soon as we find out.
- **The Connecticut Parrot Club** will be meeting via ZOOM during January. SBBS members will be notified of the date, time and topic when we receive the details.
- **The Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society** will hold a hybrid meeting (held in person and over ZOOM) on **Tuesday, January 17 at 7 PM.** Their President, Ann Dalkey, will be speaking about "Native Food for Wild Birds." The ZOOM link will be sent out a few days before the meeting.

**More details about these and other January avian-related meetings are listed on pages 10 and 11.**

*("President's Notes" continued on page 8)*

*(“President’s Notes” continued from page 7)*

### FLOCK DEDICATION

I am looking back over the past year with SBBS, and how we managed to continue our activities with the challenges in the world that we have faced since the beginning of the pandemic in March of 2019. The efforts of our board of directors and volunteers, as well as our sponsors have kept the South Bay Bird Society able to continue its mission to promote the well-being of birds. I call this “DEDICATION!”

I personally want to thank each of you for stepping up for our club including: CFO and providing monthly meeting summaries, Diane Sivas; Vice-President and Q & A “Parrot Lady,” Karen Allen; Membership Chair and “Jill of all Trades”, Patte Fisher; ZOOM and meet-up host, David Benjamin. Both David and Harold Buchman keep the web site up, maintained and updated. Our newsletter written, edited and maintained by Gala Burkholder, has been informative and significant in the world of birds both locally and world-wide. Each month, the proofers of our monthly communication tool included the keen eyes of Sylvia Skidmore, Marie Calleja and Patte Fisher. Behind the scenes of coordinating and facilitating the Annual Holiday Auction and Fundraiser were Marie Calleja, Patte Fisher, June Baker and Gala Burkholder. Marie Calleja excellently provided outreach in the community this year by giving presentations about birds to schools and civic groups.

On pages 2-5, you read the names and how we came together as a flock to reach forward for SBBS and were supported by our sponsors. Everyone’s contributions to our club are greatly appreciated.

We continued to find ways to meet throughout the year through our ZOOMING and with in-person meetings and our annual picnic party. My hope is that you will continue to attend and participate in meetings, zooms and outreach activities with SBBS. Also, continue your involvement with our local sister bird clubs - West LA Bird Club, Long Beach, Orange County Bird Breeders and the Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society. Show your support for SBBS by paying your annual dues and donating your time and/or financial contributions to assist in promoting the well-being of our feathered friends. Thank you!

### REMEMBERING OUR

### PET COMPANIONS

In next month’s newsletter, we plan to have a special section to remember our pets that have crossed (or flew over) the Rainbow Bridge in 2022.



If you have lost your pet this past year, you are invited to briefly share about your pet and what he or she meant to you.

***Please send your memories of your pet to our newsletter editor, Gala Burkholder at: [gidgetscal@aol.com](mailto:gidgetscal@aol.com) by January 10th.***

May the  
beauty of  
nature and our  
love of birds  
nurture us all  
year long!



**I Wish Each of You A  
Wonderful 2023!**

From my flock to yours,

Janet Ragonesi,  
SBBS President

# Remembering Those in the Bird and Animal World Who Crossed the Rainbow Bridge between December 2021 and December 2022



*Diane Racey - SBBS Member*



*Sally, with her caique, Spikey LeBec*

*Sally Blanchard -  
Pioneering Icon of  
the Parrot World,  
Avid Bird Lover,  
Author & Artist*



*Betty White - Animal Activist & Actress*



*Martine Collette -  
Founder of the  
Now Closed Wild-  
life Way Station*



*Martha Miser -  
the Wife of Frank Miser, who is  
the owner of Magnolia Bird Farm*



*Steven Allen Golden -  
West LA Bird Club Member and  
Former Worker of Animal Lovers*



*December 24, 2021 - Jan Julien -  
West L.A. Bird Club Board  
Member and SBBS Member*



*Jan Julien & Fran Ezer -  
Members of  
West LA Bird Club*

OTHER AVIAN—RELATED ZOOMS/MEETINGS/BIRD WALKS

Palos Verdes/  
South Bay

AUDUBON  
SOCIETY



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

The Next ZOOM/Hybrid/  
In Person Meeting is:

January 17, 2022:

“Native Food For Wild  
Birds”



Presented by:  
Ann Dalky,  
PVSBAudubon  
President

BIRD EXCURSIONS:

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

RESERVATION FORMS and info are  
available at: [www.pvsb-audubon.org](http://www.pvsb-audubon.org).

Sat. Jan. 28, 9 A.M.

Birding for Kids at  
Madrona Marsh with  
PV/SB leader, Jazmín  
Ríos.



Sun. Jan. 1, 8 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 info and reservations.

Motmots' Birding Field Trip  
Adventures

See information on the top  
of pg. 11.



For Information, go to:  
[www.pvsb-audubon.org](http://www.pvsb-audubon.org)

West Los Angeles Bird Club

Wed., Jan. 11 at 7:00 PM

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



For more information, go to:

[www.westlabirdclub.com](http://www.westlabirdclub.com) or call Doreen at (310) 488-9749.

The Connecticut Parrot Club



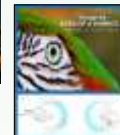
January Meeting: TBA

For information on an upcoming ZOOM or to watch  
a previous ZOOM presentation, go to: [www.theparrotclub.org](http://www.theparrotclub.org)



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/OfCsl4g35cs> (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 on break until February

You can see a previous webinar by going to:

<https://lafeber.com/pet-birds/category/webinar/>

Some previous webinars include:

- “Ask the Vet: Q & A” (Ask questions about your bird’s health, nutrition, care or behavior problems) with Tom Tully, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice), DECZM (Avian)
- “Respiratory Disease in Pet Birds” with Dr. Stephanie Lamb, DVM, DABVP (Avian Practice)
- “The Grey Way” with Lisa Bono, CPBC



**OTHER AVIAN—RELATED ZOOMS/MEETINGS/NATURE WALKS**

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

Full COVID vaccinations are required for PV/SB Audubon field trips, masks are recommended and the group is limited to 12. Call our home number before each field trip to check for updates & to let us know you are joining us.



**For Information and Reservations:**  
**Contact Eric & Ann Brooks at (323) 295-6688**  
**or text Ann at (310) 913-2798**  
**or email: [motmots@aol.com](mailto:motmots@aol.com)**



**Sunday, January 1, 7:30 am: Join LA Audubon for a Bird Count at Kenneth Hahn Park.** Meet at upper parking lot (at the end of the paved road) [https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=612](https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=612)



WINTER

RESTORATION PROJECTS

**ESPLANADE BLUFF REDONDO BEACH Jan. 14 & 28**

Nature Walk at Wilderness Park TBA

**For information go to:**

**[www.southbayparks.org](http://www.southbayparks.org)**

*Planting Natives on the Bluff*



**Phoenix Landing Foundation Webinar**



**Saturday, January 14**  
**10 AM-noon (PT) 1-3 PM (ET)**



**"Avian Behavior Training" with Debbie Foster, CPBT-KA and CPBC**

Hear about the science of behavior and learn how we can apply those concepts to our birds. Debbie will talk about how and what to train, and help us understand the connection between what we do and our bird's behavior. **To Register or see a previous webinar, go to: [www.phoenixlanding.org/events.html](http://www.phoenixlanding.org/events.html)**

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

**Thursday, January 26, 2023, 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**Speaker: Jacki Kuena, Assoc. of Nature and Forest Therapy, "Journey Into the Forest"**

For information on an upcoming ZOOM meeting or to watch an previous ZOOM presentation, go to [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org)

**Previous ZOOM include topics:**

- "The How and Why of Colorful Feathers of Tanagers"
- "A Global Odyssey of Migratory Birds"
- "Crows and Ravens"
- "We'll Always Have Parrots" (In LA)
- "Our Need for Birds"



**San Fernando Valley Audubon Society**

**PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY**



**GUIDED NATURE WALK:**  
**Sat., Jan 7, 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



**GUIDED NATURE WALK:**  
**Sat., Jan 14, 9:00 AM**

**WHERE:**

**Agua Amarga Reserve**  
**Lunada Canyon, 29200 Rock Park Dr.**  
**Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275**

Walk the trail, enjoy the view and appreciate the results of the many volunteers' trail and habitat restoration efforts done in December in this quiet neighborhood canyon. Moderate walk. Guides by Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. RSVP



**GUIDED NATURE WALK:**  
**Sat., Jan 21, 10:30 AM**

**WHERE:**

**White Point Nature Preserve**  
**1600 W. Paseo Del Mar**  
**San Pedro, CA 90731**

Naturalists will guide you along a trail to discover a variety of wildlife in their coastal sage scrub habitat with amazing views across to the ocean. Meet in front of the Nature Center and come inside to explore after the hike. *Park in the lot via Western Avenue only.* Guides by P.V.P. 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. Be sure to check with your avian vet for their evaluation of your bird's particular circumstance. Here we go!!!



**Q What is the point of having a grate at the bottom of the cage?**

**A** There are good reasons, starting with keeping your bird's feet out of the poop! Stepping in poop, then picking up food or putting a foot in the water causes bacteria to grow quickly, which is not healthy. When your bird cannot reach the food they have dropped or thrown to the bottom that may just have gotten contaminated. Guess what we have; health and safety first.



**Q My bird is picking his feathers. How can I stop this behavior?**

This is a perplexing question. Sometimes you can and sometimes not. First, I would see my Avian Veterinarian for a well bird check and get cleared of any health problems. Birds pick because they are bored, angry or frustrated. If they have over-picked and destroyed the feather follicles, there is no chance the feathers will ever grow back. Your Vet can tell you if that is the case.

**A** Look for distractions like engaging toys, foraging toys, or things to tear up and destroy. One of my favorites is a t-shirt, torn or cut in one and a half inch strips, about 8-10 inches long, laid out, tied in the middle and hung from the side of the cage. Healthy food, distractions and loving attention create a content bird. NO MIRRORS where they see that beautiful bird looking back at them, or you could acquire FRUSTRATION PERSONIFIED!



**Q I goofed and named my bird a boy's name, and it turned out to be a girl. Will that psychologically damage her?**

**A** PLEASE. I know you're kidding me. Your bird will be happy with anything you lovingly name her and never know that in our world it is an incorrect gender name. I have seen a name changed to a sweeter name do wonders. One nasty little African Grey was dropped off at our store. It had been called TURKEY, (try to say Turkey sweetly). The new owners changed the name, at our suggestion, and the bird became Chiquita, and a perfect love. In the same respect, if a bird comes to you with a name, changing it can be a bad idea unless there is a birdie reason, as before. Consider yourself: if your name is George, you would not want to be called Jane, boy or girl!



("Q & A" continued from page 12)

**Q My bird's feet have been deformed from birth. How do I set up a perch for him?**

**A Use a flat board with a soft cloth or Vet Wrap (the kind of bandage tape that sticks to itself) and wrap totally around the flat board. Place horizontally along the side of the cage, so he can hang on to the wire for support, if needed. Birds are so resilient that you will be amazed at how well he adapts.**



**Q Do birds sleep with their eyes open or closed? My bird's eyes are always open.**

**A Birds sleep with their eyes closed. If your bird's eyes are open all the time, you are probably driving him wacko by watching him like a hawk. How would you feel if you were trying to sleep and there was always someone looking at you? I personally would become a blithering idiot (if I were a bird) and possibly use you as a poop target so you would get lost.**



The HOLIDAYS will soon be over.

You are safe and well-fed.

Your feathery kids are happy

-- old and new!

Keep up the good work and have a prosperous and healthy New Year!

Hugs from your "Parrot Lady,"

Karen



**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](mailto:Birdsnmor@aol.com)

## WINGED NEWS & MORE



[Western Monarch Butterflies Thanksgiving Count has great news!](#)

**Reported by Scott Brown of "Monarch Mornings on Dufour" in Redondo Beach, CA**

Great news again this year - 300,000 and counting! The Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count monitoring period ended earlier last month. So far, volunteers for the Xerces Society's Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count have reported more than 300,000 monarch butterflies across 183 overwintering sites in California! Surpassing 300,000 overwintering western monarchs is a meaningful benchmark. In fact, it's something that hasn't occurred since the fall of 2000. A second year of increasing numbers - up from a low of 2,000 in 2020 - gives hope for the struggling western monarch population. However, it's imperative that this positive news is also met with the understanding that the monarch population has declined significantly since the 1980s, when western monarchs numbered in the low millions. There continues to be very little meaningful protection for monarchs or their habitat; overwintering sites in particular continue to be destroyed and damaged each year. Continued advocacy, action and support for monarch butterflies are needed now and well into the future. The Xerces Society will continue our research, advocacy and habitat restoration to protect monarch butterflies.

The New Year's follow-up count began on 12/24/22. Learn More at [WesternMonarchCount.org](https://www.westernmonarchcount.org).

*Photo: This is H0961, a tagged female Monarch was seen at Bolinas, located just north of San Francisco, three and a half months after her release in Talent, Oregon.*



# WINGED NEWS & MORE



Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots e.V. is 🙏 feeling thankful in [Caatinga, Bahia, Brazil](#).

[December 10, 2022](#)

! Extinct in the wild! The Return - Updates 🌍

## [Release of More Spix's Macaws Back to the Wild](#)

The time has come! The second soft release started

this morning. This time, twelve Spix's macaws and nine Illiger's macaws are involved. The ACTP team in Brazil, the ICMBio team, and Wildlife Biologist, Tom White, have been preparing for this event for weeks. In the morning, a group of interested people gathered in anticipation of Dr. Cromwell Purchase, ACTP Director Brazil and Manager of Spix's Macaw Release Center, feeding the parrots in the release aviary and shortly after that opening the aviary doors. After four Illiger's macaws, which accompany the Spix's macaws as a teaching species during the release, left the aviary immediately afterward, the first Spix's macaw and others followed at a distance of a few minutes at around 7:00 am.

With this release and today, there are more Spix's macaws flying in the skies of Brazil than were ever seen in the wild before they became extinct in the wild! This is sensational and a sign of the success of this project. The ACTP team is also working on the next milestone in Germany. The next 40 Spix's macaws will be moved from Germany to Brazil early next year to increase the population there and prepare for release in their homeland.

We are overwhelmed and happy about the course of this eventful day. The birds are already making short, curious flights and always return to the aviary. We will keep you up updated.



## [Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza](#)



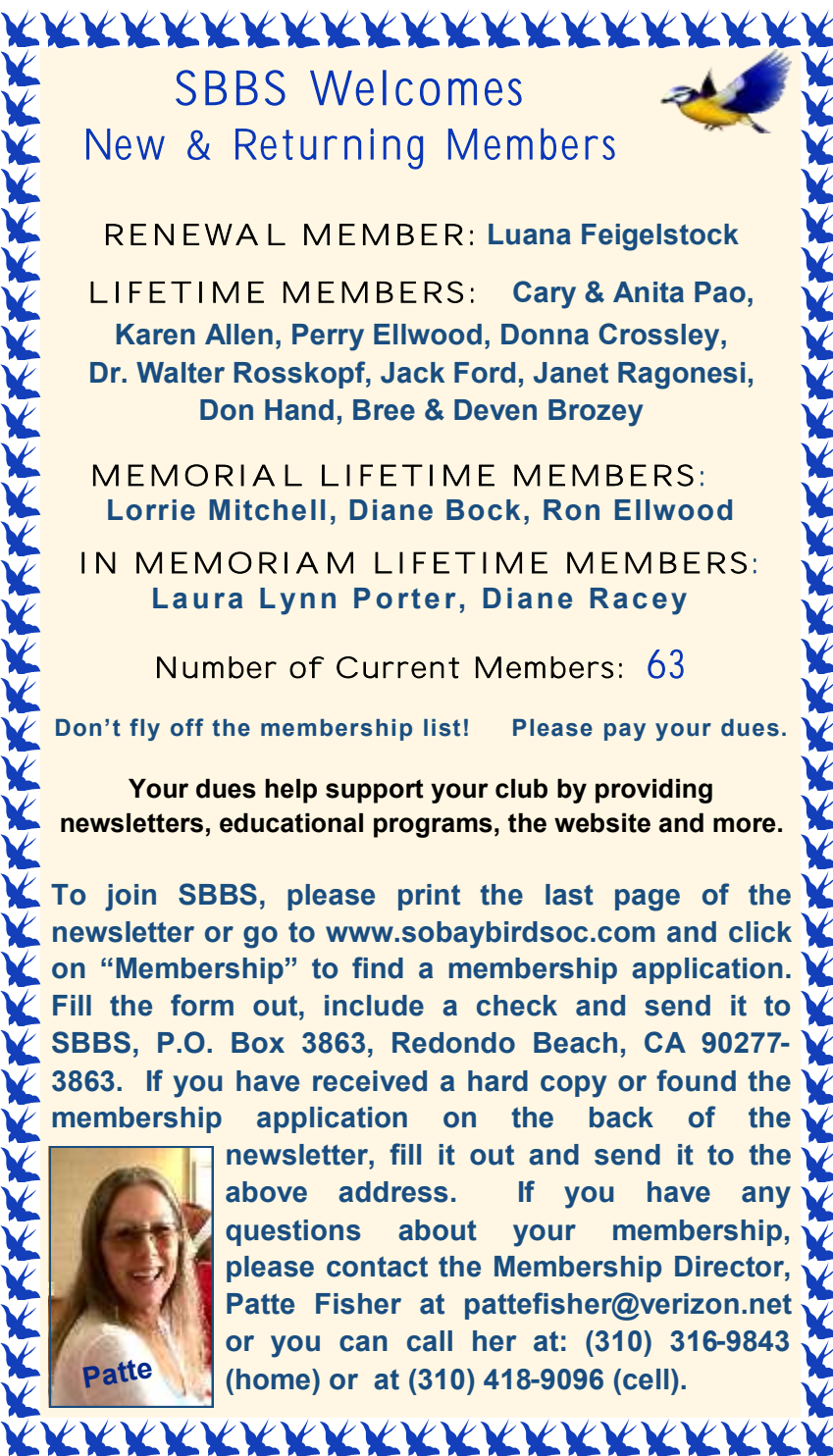
Currently, our wildlife in Southern California, and across the nation is subject to getting the **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)**. This subtype of H5N1 has been **devastating to a wide variety of avian species and has proven to be highly infectious.** Although **most infected birds do not survive this disease, there are some that can carry and spread it through their feces without showing any symptoms at all.** **Poultry** are at **high risk** from HPAI. The wild birds we commonly see that are **most severely at risk include raptors, geese, ducks, other water birds, crows, and ravens.** **Smaller birds, like songbirds and doves can get HPAI but are less Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza susceptible and less likely to become ill.** **HPAI can be carried indirectly by people, animals, clothing or other objects that have come in contact with a sick animal.** People who are outdoors around groups of water birds, or find sick wildlife, should carefully **wash their hands** plus any **clothing** that was exposed. **Disinfect shoes and contaminated equipment.**

### [Prevention Measures to Stop the Spread of Avian Influenza:](#)

- In general, **bird feeders & bird baths should be cleaned and disinfected** at least once a week. **Once HPAI is in your area, these should be taken down until the crisis has passed.**
- Keep **pet birds indoors** and **away from other domestic or wild birds.**
- If you might be **handling sick birds** or other wildlife, **wear appropriate protection.**
- **Disinfect surfaces that have come in contact with birds or sick wildlife.**
- Practice **bio-security by removing your shoes after walking outside and before entering your home with companion parrots. (Have inside shoes available to put on by the door).**
- **Depopulation is NOT required for exhibit flocks with HPAI-infected birds. However, if HPAI is suspected in your birds, you will need to follow quarantine requirements and use proper biosecurity to prevent the disease from spreading.**

### [Report sick or dead birds to:](#)

**The L.A. County of Veterinary Public Health, Animal Disease (VPH)** by calling: 213-288-7060 or by using the short report form at: <https://admin.publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/adss/aossadshortform.csm?>



## SBBS Welcomes New & Returning Members



RENEWAL MEMBER: **Luana Feigelstock**

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

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

IN MEMORIAM LIFETIME MEMBERS:  
**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](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com) and click on "Membership" to find a membership application. Fill the form out, include a check and send it to SBBS, P.O. Box 3863, Redondo Beach, CA 90277-3863. If you have received a hard copy or found the membership application on the back of the newsletter, fill it out and send it to the above address. If you have any questions about your membership, please contact the Membership Director, Patte Fisher at [pattefisher@verizon.net](mailto:pattefisher@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.

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### 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. (You may want to turn off the water while you are scrubbing.)
- 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 (COVID & Flu before the winter season) 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:



*Kahlia & Gala*

- ☀ In "Wing Tips," share a tip that could improve the lives of both you and your bird(s).
- ☀ In "Laugh Kookaburra," send a bird-related cartoon, joke or humorous photo.
- ☀ In "Creative Corner," send photos of your bird-related drawings, ceramic pieces, needle point, paintings, etc. or texts of poems or photos with a unique point of view.

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

The deadline for the next newsletter is *Wednesday, January 7th.*

## Adoptions



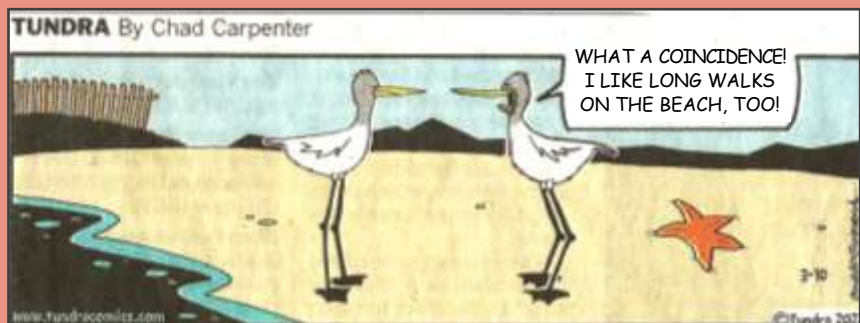
*There are so many birds needing homes.*

*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!*

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



LAUGH  
KOOKABURRA



SHOP our Sponsors



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

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

**HAPPY NATIONAL BIRD DAY**  
January 5th

**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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Cats, Dogs & Exotic Animals Welcome

Webinars Listed on page 8!  
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310 543 2473 (new)  
Contact for delivery options during Covid-19

Feed a Hummingbird

**Penguin Awareness Day**  
January 20th

[Purchase Leach products at your local bird store.](#)  
since 1934  
**Leach Grain & Milling**  
562.869.4451

**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](http://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 at the Kiwanis Club of Hermosa Beach

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

**MEETINGS** are usually held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 P.M. **OR** are held on Sunday afternoons.

Verify the meeting date by checking the website at: [www.sobaybirdsoc.com](http://www.sobaybirdsoc.com).

**You don't have to own a bird to participate!**

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

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



### VOTING POSITIONS:

#### 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

### NON-VOTING POSITIONS:

#### SUPPORT POSITIONS:

- Adoptions & Foster Care** Janet Ragonesi, (310) 376-5954  
Marie Calleja, (310) 529-1408
- Cartoons** Marie Calleja
- "Meet-up" Site** David Benjamin
- Photography** Gala Burkholder
- 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**  
Lorrie Mitchell, Diane Bock,  
Ron Ellwood
- In Memoriam Members** Laura Lynn Porter, Diane Racey



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

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

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



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: \_\_\_\_\_