

# THE REAL MACAW

PARROT CLUB

May 2008



The Real Macaw Parrot Club  
7-32 Richard Street  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410



The Real Macaw Parrot Club meets the second Thursday of each month.

Place: VFW Hall - No. 6699  
6 Winslow Place  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
Time: 7:15 PM Social Time  
8:00 PM Meeting Starts

All birds are welcome with club members only.  
Visitors must join on their 2nd visit.

### Incident Weather

Call one of the Board members on day of meeting or check the web site for cancellation notice.

### Membership

Membership dues are \$45.00 per year for one family at the same address. Outside NJ and NY, it is \$25.

For membership information:  
Call Art Zimmermann 201-489-1879

See our website for an application:  
[www.realmacaw.com/pages/app.html](http://www.realmacaw.com/pages/app.html)

### RULES OF ORDER

1. BIRDS AT MEETINGS: Only club members are allowed to bring birds. Birds brought to the meetings should have clipped wings or should remain in their cage or carrier. Do not bring your bird if you have it for less than a month and it has not been vet-checked, or if your bird may have been exposed to a sick bird.  
**Disclaimer: Applies to all birds and their owners.**

The Real Macaw Parrot Club is not responsible or liable for you, your bird, or anything that happens to you or your bird.

2. NO ANIMALS OTHER THAN HEALTHY EXOTIC BIRDS (except for guide dogs or programmed entertainment) are allowed. This is for the safety of the birds that share our meetings. Only members may bring birds.

3. NO SMOKING in the meeting room.

4. QUIET must be maintained during meetings. There is ample social time before and after meetings for talking.

5. CHILDREN must be seated with their parents during the meeting. Children who run freely are a distraction, and may also be responsible for a startled bird injuring itself.

6. Vendors must set up and remove all sale tables.

### EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Shelly Orloff  
7-32 Richard St.  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410  
Phone: 201-791-0245  
Email: [sheldono@sprynet.com](mailto:sheldono@sprynet.com)

### 2008 Officers

Art Zimmermann, President  
201-489-1879  
[art9zim@aol.com](mailto:art9zim@aol.com)

Angela Cupo, 1st Vice President  
973-340-2157  
[bexotic@aol.com](mailto:bexotic@aol.com)

Shelly Orloff, 2nd Vice President  
201-791-0245  
[sheldono@sprynet.com](mailto:sheldono@sprynet.com)

Dorothy Andrusko, Secretary  
973-773-9391  
[dorothy.r.andrusko@pfizer.com](mailto:dorothy.r.andrusko@pfizer.com)

Art Zimmermann, Acting Treasurer  
201-489-1879  
[art9zim@aol.com](mailto:art9zim@aol.com)

### Committees

#### Newsletter Editor—

Shelly Orloff 201-791-0245  
[sheldono@sprynet.com](mailto:sheldono@sprynet.com)

Newsletter Assistant— Art Zimmermann

#### Grievance—

Linda Austin 201-435-5689  
Jim Wright 908-654-8750  
[jdub1256@comcast.net](mailto:jdub1256@comcast.net)

#### Membership—

For prospective new membership info:  
Art Zimmermann 201-489-1879

For current membership info:  
Shelly Orloff 201-791-0245  
[sheldono@sprynet.com](mailto:sheldono@sprynet.com)

#### Programs—

Dorothy Andrusko 973-773-9391  
[dorothy.r.andrusko@pfizer.com](mailto:dorothy.r.andrusko@pfizer.com)

#### Photographer—

Shelly Orloff 201-791-0245

#### Hospitality—

Anita Lind 201-945-0522

#### Raffle—

Diane Weiner 201-529-3439

#### Website—

Shelly Orloff 201-791-0245  
[sheldono@sprynet.com](mailto:sheldono@sprynet.com)

### THE NATIONAL ANIMAL POISON CONTROL CENTER

800-548-2423

ALTERNATE  
900-680-0000

\*\*Contributors to the newsletter needed each month.\*\*

Articles may be reprinted, provided that the author and The Real Macaw Parrot Club are credited. All submissions become the property of The Real Macaw Parrot Club. See "Disclaimer" on this page. Mail, email or hand type-written submissions to the Editor at meetings. Please be sure that you have obtained permission in writing before submitting articles for reprinting.

Call Shelly at 201-791-0245  
Email - [sheldono@sprynet.com](mailto:sheldono@sprynet.com)

### BIRD PERMITS

If you own a parrot, you must, by NJ law, obtain a permit to legally keep the bird. For more information, write or call:

Dept. of Environmental Protection  
NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife  
Office of Permit Management  
CN400  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0400  
609-292-9591

### DISCLAIMER

The Editor of The Real Macaw Parrot Club reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted for publication, and in the event of an error, assumes no responsibility. Opinions and experiences expressed in this publication are those of the individuals who submitted them and are not necessarily those of The Real Macaw Parrot Club. Advertisements are accepted in good faith, however, The Real Macaw Parrot Club does not necessarily endorse them and accepts no responsibility.

### Newsletter Ad rates

#### Business Card Ad - 3 1/2 x 2

\*3 mo. \$15  
\*6 mo. \$25  
\*1 yr. \$40

#### Quarter Page - 4 3/4 x 3 1/2

\*3 mo. \$30  
\*6 mo. \$55  
\*1 yr. \$100

#### Half Page - 7 x 4 1/2

\*3 mo. \$50  
\*6 mo. \$95  
\*1 yr. \$150

#### Full Page

\*3 mo. \$100  
\*6 mo. \$150  
\*1 yr. \$200

\*Payment must be received before ad is published

# The Real Macaw Parrot Club

## An All Species Educational Club



### May Meeting

Thursday, May 8, 2008  
 VFW Hall  
 6 Winslow Place  
 Paramus, NJ 07652  
 7:15 PM - Social Time  
 8:00 PM - Meeting Starts

### May Speaker

Our May speaker is unconfirmed at press time.

If you have web access, you can always check our Current Speaker web page for last minute speaker updates at:

[www.realmacaw.com/cs.html](http://www.realmacaw.com/cs.html)

### Future Meetings

June 12, 2008

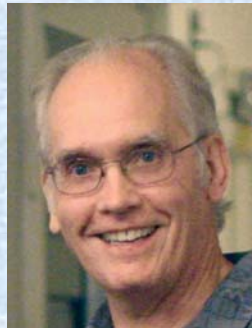
July 10, 2008

August 14, 2008

September 11, 2008

Please mark these dates on your calendar today. Speakers are subject to change.

### Presidential Message



Hello, I want to thank Susan for the informative talk about the bird-things that need to be considered before going on vacation. It is always a pleasure to have Susan speak at our club.

As of this writing we do not have a speaker for our May meeting. In the event that we do not have a speaker, I would like the members planning to attend to think of the out - of - the - ordinary things that you feed your birds, unusual toys that they play with, and things that you have taught your birds to do. Let's share with each other these things and stories about our birds.

I hope to see you at the meeting.

Art

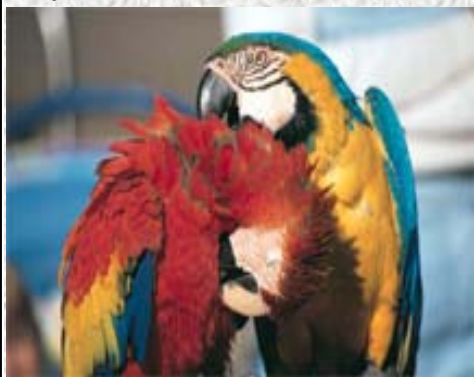


### Inside this issue:

Rules of Order, Officers, Committee Members, Membership Info, etc.	2
Presidential Message, Speaker Announcement	3
Speaker Bio and Lecture Description	4
Minutes From Last Meeting	4
Executive Board Meeting Minutes and Financial Report	5
Quarantining Your New Bird by Dr. Todd Wolf	6
On The Wings of The Great White Bird by Angela Cupo	7
Announcements	7
...Certifying Your Back-yard by Donna Sleight	8
Another Single Baby to Raise by EB Cravens	9
Summer Fun & Safety by Linda Costello	10
Upcoming Events, Advertisements, Classifieds, Credits	11
AFA in Brief	12
Pictures From Previous Meetings	13
Advertisements	14

## May Meeting

At press time we have not booked a speaker for our May meeting. We may have a discussion as mentioned in the Presidential Message, or we may have a speaker or a special activity. Everybody on our RealMacaw and ParrotGroup mailing lists will be notified as soon as we know what our plans will be. You can also check our current speaker web page at: [www.realmacaw.com/cs.html](http://www.realmacaw.com/cs.html)



## The Real Macaw General Membership Meeting #235 Minutes April 10, 2008

The 235<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Real Macaw Club was called to order by President Art Zimmermann. Board Meeting Minutes and Financial Reports will now appear in the newsletter. A decision needs to be made whether the next newsletter will have last month's Board Minutes or the present month's Board Minutes. If the present month's Board minutes appear, the Board will need to meet two weeks before the club meeting.

The first Real Macaw Newsletter with email distribution went fine. Most are pleased and enjoy the more colorful edition which you can get on email. The newsletters that are snail mailed will only be 10 pages and in black and white for postage and printing cost reasons.

Advised members that the club's gaming license will not be renewed for 2008 unless we need it. Some members were in disagreement with this.

We were going to meet in the small room (room with bar) but the VFW manager agreed to let us meet where we are and the rent was reduced to \$50 per month.

Art welcomed all members to attend the monthly Board meeting.

The Real Macaw Club bylaws need to be redone.

The club welcomed back a previous member, Jan Bradick and her friend Steve. It looks like they will renew their membership! Good news!

Susan Chamberlain, President of the Long Island Parrot Society was our speaker. She gave a talk on taking a vacation when you own birds. Yes, Susan showed it can be done. Her enthusiastic talk was informative and interesting. We always enjoy having Susan with us. She also brought along bird paraphernalia for sale.

Susan also spoke about her TV show that is on Long Island's local cable station every week. Great way to get access to people about birds and bird clubs. Cablevision has free public access. They train you to use their studio; it takes about 5-6 members to do the show. We are looking into it.

Also looking into advertising on Pet Stop Channel 12 NJ and Cable Channel for Women.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy Andrusko

# Real Macaw Parrot Club Executive Board Meeting Minutes

## Thursday, April 3, 2008

Susan Chamberlain will speak at Real Macaw Club Meeting Thursday, April 10, 2008. Discussed particulars of this meeting.

The Club's \$100 gaming license expired December 2007. License was not renewed for 2008 to cut costs. It was not used in 2007 and probably won't be in 2008. It can always be renewed if we need it. A club / Board member will need to travel to Trenton to renew. The license is needed to do a raffle at our proposed 2009 Expo and with so few club members volunteering we probably cannot do a raffle; therefore we save money by not renewing.

The Board voted to add the club Financial Report and Board Minutes to the newsletter. The Financial Reports will be read at club meetings.

The newsletter is mailed one week before the club meetings, so the Board meetings are being changed to the Thursday two weeks before the club meetings so that the current Board meeting minutes can be included in the next newsletter.

Voted to again tip Rich, VFW Manager, for his services - \$15. a meeting if he does the job required. If not we will stop the tip and do a written complaint to the VFW.

Former members will be emailed, as a reminder, to come to the club meeting. Non-members will be charged \$3.00 to see the monthly speaker, no charge if they rejoin the club.

By-laws need to be rewritten.

Voted to put only one newsletter on the club web site.

Voted to eliminate the "Member Views" column in the newsletter due to lack of participation.

## Financial Report

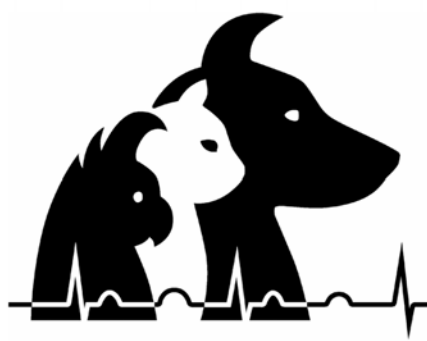


<b>Starting balance-</b>	<b>\$2143.95</b>
Expenses	
Rent	- 75.00
Dinner	- 60.00
Income	
Membership	+ 45.00
Donation	+100.00
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$2153.95</b>



# Quarantining Your New Bird

By: Todd Wolf, DVM, ABVP



Quarantine is a very simple and important procedure which is done to protect the birds in your home from diseases that can be carried by new birds that you buy, find, or adopt. Many pet owners do not realize or understand the extreme importance of this simple procedure, and consequently find themselves at my office with very sick pets because they did not realize how easy it is to carry unwanted diseases into their home with their new pet birds.

The procedure for bringing a new bird into your home should always be the same. First the new bird should be examined by your Avian Veterinarian as soon as possible. During that exam, the veterinarian should go over the bird's records and past health history. Then the veterinarian should fully examine the bird, and test it for several contagious diseases (if it has not already been tested). The diseases that all new pet birds should be tested for are: Psittacosis (Chlamydiosis), Polyoma Virus, Beak and Feather Virus, and Pacheco's Virus. Other things that the bird should be examined and tested for are external parasites, internal parasites and any evidence of existing illness. Once the bird has checked out healthy and free of these diseases, it should be kept isolated in your home in a separate, closed room, as far away from your existing birds as possible for 30 days. During that time you should be sure that the new bird's food,

Companion Animal Hospital &  
Avian/Exotic Clinic

460 Rt 46, Parsippany  
973-227-7500

water, dishes, toys, etc. do not get mixed in with or contact your other bird's items. You should also be sure that you clean and disinfect yourself between handling the different birds. Many of the contagious diseases that can seriously affect your birds can easily be transmitted on your hands, your clothes, and even your shoes. Others are airborne and can be spread right across a room with a sneeze, or on feather dust.

Sometimes people ask me "well if my new bird's tests come back negative, why do I still need to keep it in quarantine?" The answer is simple. First of all, although today's testing methods are very accurate, they are not 100%, and even though it is very rare, they can sometimes be wrong. Second of all, even though we recommend testing for the most common, and severe diseases, we do not, and can not, test for every possible disease that may affect your birds. For example when I order tests from my laboratory, I collect the appropriate samples (blood, body cavity swabs, feces, etc.) and then I check off the tests that I want the lab to perform on an order form. Well, on that form are about 65 different things that I can check off for them to test for, and for every one that I check off it will cost the bird's owner an aver-

age of \$55-\$105 per test (sometimes much more). Most pet owners would find that testing for every disease under the sun would be cost prohibitive. Instead we select the diseases that are the most serious and the most prevalent, and test for them. We also choose the diseases that are most likely to be carried by a bird with absolutely no symptoms, even though that bird may be highly contagious to others.

Another question people often ask is "why do I have to isolate my new bird for so long?" The answer is that the duration of the quarantine must be longer than the incubation period for most diseases.

In other words there are many diseases that a bird will not show signs of for 2-3 weeks. Some are serious, some are not. Quarantining them for just a bit longer than this (2-3 wks) is usually enough time for most hidden conditions to show themselves.

Properly quarantining your new bird (or any new pet) is a practice that may save you, and your existing birds, from unwanted illnesses. It also may save them from a lethal illness, and could save you from unexpected veterinary bills and possibly severe heartache. So please follow these simple, but very important procedures before bringing new birds into your home, no matter where they come from, and no matter how small they are.

## "ON THE WINGS OF THE GREAT WHITE BIRD"

### PART II----I HATE MY WATER BOWL.

Honestly, I thought it was all over when finally my human took the bowl and hardware out and placed a new, even sturdier one in. It stopped for two days, and she kept saying, "OH BOB, THIS IS MY BOY, I LOVE YOU"

Of course I love hearing that, but this bowl thing was still on my mind, and so I started watching her every move with the new bowl. In a few days I DID FIGURE OUT JUST HOW TO DISMANTLE IT, AND HERE IS WHAT HAPPENED THAT PARTICULAR DAY THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET.

I would only work on this when she isn't in the room, or this would upset her, and then I can't concentrate, and we cockatoos have a one track mind, if we want it broke, out of the cage, or just gone we will work our hardest and longest to do just that.

So, the story goes pretty much like this. Our human was downstairs with the younger birds. I managed to dismantle the bowl, and I picked it up and started throwing it hard which must have sounded like a large toy banging against a cage. I kept doing it waiting for her reaction. She held out as long as she could I am sure, and all of a sudden I hear, FRANK, STOP BANGING THE TOYS ON THE CAGE---HAHAHAHAHAHA, I THOUGHT, OH BOY, THIS IS TOO FUNNY. FRANK, OUR HYACINTH WAS JUST SITTING ON HIS PERCH LOOKING BEWILDERED THAT SHE WAS SAYING THAT AND HE WASN'T DOING ANYTHING WRONG.

I stopped for a few minutes, and then with more power and strength I started banging hard enough so that it hurt my ears. Again, I hear: FRANK, I TOLD YOU TO STOP BANGING THE TOYS, THAT'S BAD FRANK.

YEP, THAT'S BAD FRANK, HAHAHAHAHAHA.

Well, those that don't know, Frank lives in the next room with Angela, our SCARLET MACAW, who actually talks so well it is unbelievable, and I like her because she always says she loves me, and often says, "BOB IS THE KING", I ESPECIALLY LOVE THAT.

Knowing she loved me so well the next thing that hap-

pened devastated me, and I don't think I will ever get over it.

I know Angela is very close with Frank, but I think she may have temporarily had a severe case of amnesia. As our human was determined to get Frank to stop banging

toys, she yelled one more time, STOP FRANK, OR I AM COMING UPSTAIRS. AT THAT VERY MOMENT IN A LOUD FEMALE VOICE I HEARD ANGELA, OUR SCARLET SAY, "MAMA, IT'S BOB!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

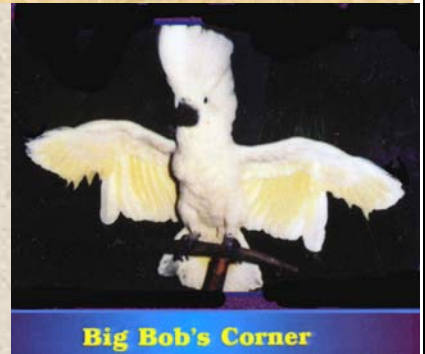
BETRAYAL, TOTAL BETRAYAL BY A FLOCK MEMBER, I HAVE NOT SPOKEN TO OUR SCARLET FOR ALMOST THREE WEEKS NOW.

Our human comes upstairs and is apologizing to Frank over and over, giving me the evil eye, but saying nothing. I heard her say, "Angela, thanks for telling me who was doing that". She should have said, OH THANKS ANGELA FOR SQUEALING YOUR HEAD OFF!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I just can't tell you how I feel, that has never happened before, and I am not a happy cockatoo here.

Our human is now buying these bowls by the box, and I am not kidding, because now I am even more upset and want to destroy my bowls and our scarlet's, but our human says she did the right thing because Frank was getting blamed for doing something he wasn't doing. Oh well, excuse me, so he has taken his stainless steel cage and killed it numerous times, so i get squealed on by what I thought was a devoted flock member. I have to keep my eyes open, if our scarlet even attempts something bad, I am yelling my head off and telling on her, she won't like it, but, I must show her how betrayal feels, so she knows never to do it again. Don't you agree, fellow feathered friends?

Till next time,

Big Bob, Real Macaw member Angela Cupo, and the Flock



## Announcements

- The Board meetings will now be held 2 weeks before the general membership meetings to allow enough time to place the current Board meeting minutes in the following month's newsletter. In addition to the Board meeting minutes, the club financial reports will also now appear in each newsletter. All members are invited to attend the monthly Board meetings.
- The Member Views section has been removed from the newsletter because nobody (with maybe one exception) has ever submitted any "Views".
- The full color electronic newsletter has received great reviews. This month the Table of Contents has become Clickable. Just move your mouse pointer over any article title and click it to jump directly to that article.
- The Club is happy to welcome back former member Jan Bradick.

# SO, ARE YOU GIVING SOME THOUGHT ABOUT CERTIFYING YOUR BACKYARD?

By Real Macaw Member Donna Sleight

I recently found out how easy it is to get your own backyard certified as a wildlife habitat. It doesn't matter how large or small your property is; all you really need to qualify are four basic habitat requirements that are needed for wildlife to survive: food, water, cover, and places to raise young. So, I thought, "I have all these things". I just happen to live in the forest (which helps), but this is not necessary.

I originally thought that I couldn't possibly have enough "stuff" in my yard to warrant certification, but apparently, I did. I think most people who are conservation conscious already have naturally succumbed to the required qualifications.

Surely, since you are all "bird" people, you also have been inspired to do something for your outside friends. If you have already practiced some birdscaping, you should

follow through and have all your efforts officially certified. This can be done right on the Internet at: [www.nwf.org/backyard](http://www.nwf.org/backyard) It is offered by the National Wildlife Federation and can be obtained for a minimal fee that includes a subscription to their magazine. All you have to do is answer their questions (please be truthful) and your backyard will be approved or disapproved right away. I also purchased a medal plaque for

Some of the critters from our own backyard...taken last year.....



Meet *Higbee the praying mantis*, a frequent visitor who adored a Baby's Breath plant. Claimed it as his own, he did. Until one day, he took up with a beautiful green lady who was ultimately his un-doing.



I finally got a photo of that elusive Guinea hen (yes, I did). She tried her very best to shy away from my camera, but in the end, I got the picture... along with a real piece of her mind. I never knew a lady could say such naughty words!



This red-bellied woodpecker is a frequent all-year visitor to our suet feeder. Sharing this goody does not really thrill the Nuthatches.



We call this the begonias and the begone-ya. Well, I did say "critters".



## "Oh, No! Another Single Baby to Raise"

April and I allowed our cape parrots, Huka and Ali, to lay eggs and have a family this spring. A good prospective owner in Seattle who gets to frequently visit with one of Ali's sons from a couple of years back, wants to have a sibling, so we arranged with our friends at Denise's Parrot Place to receive a clutch this season and pass one fledgling on to this conscientious man. The trouble is, our capes were in a new walk-in aviary for the first time, and after many weeks delay, when they were finally settled in, they raised only one baby.

Now, anyone who is familiar with *Poicephalus* parrots knows that birds in this genus can be very shy and sensitive when it comes to growing up in the world of humans. Cape Parrots in particular are slow to develop, timid when faced with continuous change, and prone to regress socially when not kept totally secure and confident. One of the essential factors in maintaining such self-assurance is to always house chicks in groups of two or more. In this case, since we had no other babies in the house, it was impossible.

The hard fact was that little Ginger Blossom, as we named the obvious female chick, after five weeks in the nestbox with her natal parents, was going to end up raised by herself—a daunting task for any cape infant, even more intimidating for the less adventurous baby hens! What the result might be in regard to future pet parrot dysfunctions and insecurities, we would not know for many weeks.

Ginger was a model baby as far as handfeeding and relating to human caretakers. But she spent all her hours in her dark basket with her teddy bears and was not interested in anything beyond that environment. Even now at age thirteen weeks, when dusk arrives, she heads for the corner of the couch where her sleeping basket sits, and dives in for the night. This is not unusual with some capes as we do not push them to make the move to sleeping out until

they so choose. With a full clutch of chicks, when one decides to sleep on a rope perch in the bathroom where their basket stays at night, the other babies soon follow. But Ginger has no one to sleep with and hence remains where she is most comfortable.

This little girl fledged about three weeks ago. Her flights with the exception of one crash into a screen door, have been short, calculated, and precise. Her speed and acrobatics did not pick up for about two weeks and only now is she beginning to explore new odd landing sites other than her three fledging baskets, her favorite lampshade and her garden window perches.

It has been fun to watch her expand her "territory" to include the enclosed deck, the bathroom window basket, and various pieces of furniture around the house. But when indecisive, Ginger always hovers and then returns to one of her "safe" spots. Without siblings to instigate flights, she has no one to follow and is left to spend lots of time just sitting and watching things until her wings crave exercise and she goes into one of her "outta' the way, I've got to fly now" modes. When humans are in the room, she lands on heads or shoulders.

In fact, April and I are the obvious most interesting things in her life much of the time. Ginger Blossom has no other playmates, a real shame by our standards, so all those parrot learning games and social interactions which we at The Perfect Parrot consider so critical to fledgling behavioral development are lacking. Humans are the poor substitute, though we do what we can.

Out of nowhere sometimes, Ginger will fly over to one of us and try to start a wrestling, sparring match, just as baby capes do with one another. She will grab an ear and pinch, or



"bop" our glasses with her beak and squeal and flap and jump down in a lap and try to "mock fight" with fingers and then stop to preen the hair on an arm before turning her own head down to be preened in turn. It is all very sweet, and we oblige 100%, of course, but the signs are there that this is not the perfect way to raise a baby pet parrot...

For example, Ginger is "testing" with her beak just how hard she can apply pressure when grabbing a bit of skin or a fingernail. But we as humans do not have the proper vocabulary to vocalize the, "Ow, that is too hard" squawks which would be used in a real cape parrot family. Whatever we say is a replacement sound, and just removes her even more from natural psittacine language.

In so many ways, what we do to interact with such a single baby bird becomes *the only input* the pet receives, and so while such training may work in the short term, in the long term it inhibits natural instincts and real "parrotness."

In no realm is this clearer to us than in the way Ginger relates to other birds. At 12 weeks we thought she would be ready to venture into the outside Australian flight for a short while. But the moment this little girl experienced the budgies, princess parakeet, cockatiels, canaries, etc. flying by her in the planted aviary, she became nervous and only

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Summer Fun & Safety

By Real Macaw Member Linda Costello

I am on several Internet bird lists and message boards where there have already been far too many posts about birds that have gotten out of an opened door or...after being clipped have gotten caught up in a breeze and to their owner's dismay have STILL flown away. I would never trust a wing clip alone to keep a bird grounded and safe. A gust of wind could give him just enough lift to get into the trees where he could go from tree to tree till you finally lose sight of him.

Some are lucky and get their bird back. Sad to say others are not so lucky.

Summer is not even officially here yet, but still, with the nice days we have had so far there has been much heartache endured by people whose birds have flown the coop (so to speak).

Don't be one of the statistics. Now is the time to teach your bird to wear a harness or a Flightsuit. If you can't get your bird to accept wearing a harness or Flightsuit then the safest way to take him outside would be in a secure cage or carrier.


With my birds...some like the harness like Blue & Gold Macaw JJ. My Greenwing, McMurphy took right to wearing a Flightsuit. But some birds like my Blue & Gold macaw, Morgan, won't cooperate so for her safety a cage is a must!

Hope everyone, along with their birds, has a fun summer.



## Upcoming Area Events

- May 17 - Connecticut Association of Aviculture Open House - Veterans Memorial Clubhouse, 100 Sunset Ridge Drive, E. Hartford, CT - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm - 860-523-9252 - [www.cafabirdclub.org/openhouse.htm](http://www.cafabirdclub.org/openhouse.htm)
- Jun 8 - Hudson Valley Caged Bird Society Bird Mart - Holiday Inn, Route 9, Fishkill, NY - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm - Bruizer@aol.com - [www.hvcbirdsociety.freesevers.com/catalog.html](http://www.hvcbirdsociety.freesevers.com/catalog.html)
- Jul 19 - LIPS South American Parrot Conference - American Legion Post #94, 22 Grove Place, Babylon, NY - 9:00 am - 5:00 pm - 631-957-1100 - info@liparrots.org - [www.liparrotsociety.org/SA-ParrotConference.htm](http://www.liparrotsociety.org/SA-ParrotConference.htm)



**COMPANION  
ANIMAL  
HOSPITAL  
&  
AVIAN/EXOTIC CLINIC**

Todd Wolf, DVM, ABVP    K. Jaja Tsai, DVM, CVA

Phone: 973-227-7500 • Fax: 973-227-7560  
460 Rt. 46 West • Parsippany • New Jersey 07054  
e-mail: [CreatrDoc@AOL.com](mailto:CreatrDoc@AOL.com) • [www.MyVetOnline.com/CompanionVet](http://www.MyVetOnline.com/CompanionVet)

## My House of Wings

My House of Wings Rescue/Adoption

Pat Pipan

28 Vista Drive, Nanticoke, PA

(570)735-4316

\*We pick up in tri-state area

*(Continued from page 9)*

wanted to crouch on our shoulder and beg. Ten minutes and she wanted nothing to do with the rope perches or greenery out there, but was exceedingly needy. We brought her back inside. And of course, inside is where April's four-year-old pet cape, Makana, sleeps at night and hangs out early in the morning. Once again, Ginger is basically afraid of him and wants nothing to do with him. She is totally impressed upon people. *That* is the major reason we shudder whenever we contemplate being forced to raise a single chick! Such dysfunctions are easily tolerated in most pet birds when they are still young and pre-puberty; but once a psittacine reaches sexual maturity and begins

feeling hormonal surges that compel it towards nesting behavior, then an individual that has no concepts of other birds, no avian "family life" to relate to, no social skills with those of its own kind, only quandary can arise. It is really too bad...

For now, we are taking each day one at a time and reveling in the progress Ginger Blossom is making. A week after her first visit outside, she again had a chance to "meet" the small parakeets, and she did much better. With "Mom and Dad" looking on, Ginger explored a little bit and experienced a misty rain drizzle and even flew inside the 20-foot enclosure. She is growing up slowly. And that is the lesson here for all pet parrot people. While it is not at all ideal to raise a single chick in an environ-

ment totally "human," sometimes it is unavoidable. So keepers need to be extremely patient and let the chick grow and learn and acquire confidence in new situations over a longer period of time. Certainly we are in no hurry to send Ginger Blossom to her new home, even though her age and weaning would suggest she is old enough. This is not about age. It is more important that our little cape hen has a stable childhood foundation with her original hand feeders up until the time she becomes curious enough and bold enough to be transferred to a willing new owner. It's a touchy proposition raising a single baby bird. The risks are higher and the time frame is certainly longer.

Aloha nui loa, EB

## Classifieds

- For Sale - Small Parrots - Blue Crowned Conure, 7 years old - \$300  
Gold Capped Conure, 9 years old - \$200

Call Linda - 201-435-5689

**Credits:** The front cover, page 3, and back cover pictures are courtesy of Linda Costello.

## AFA IN BRIEF

### April 2008

Editor - Carol Lee

34th Annual Convention of the American Federation of Aviculture July 30 – August 2, 2008. Mark your Calendars for "The Celebration of Birds". Join us in St. Louis, MO as we gather to learn, meet new friends and renew old friendships at the St. Louis Renaissance Hotel. This year's off-site event is a special trip to the St. Louis Zoo. Online registration is now available at [www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org). Rate: \$99 Single/Double - this rate is good from July 25 through August 5, 2008

Speaker Lineup for American Federation of Aviculture 2008 Convention (this partial list of speakers will be updated in the AIB and on the AFA website at [www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org)):

Ian Tizard, BVMS, Ph.D., DACVM, Texas A & M University. Status of the Schubot Exotic Bird Health Center and Its Role in Aviculture.  
Sharman Hoppes, DVM, Diplomate ABVP-avian, Texas A & M University.  
Update on Proventricular Dilatation Disease.  
Ricardo Valentin  
--History of the Puerto Rican Parrot Captive Propagation Program based on Experience at Rio Abaja Aviary.  
--Successful Breeding of the Puerto Rican Parrot at the Rio Abajo Aviary.  
Bennett Hennessey (sponsored by the Bird Endowment)  
--Conservations Actions with Local Communities to Protect the Bolivian Red-fronted Macaw.  
--Protecting a Subspecies before it becomes an Extinct Species: The Palkachupa Cotinga in Bolivia.

--Conservation Actions for the Wattled Curassow and the Peruvian Southern Horned-Curassow  
--Saving the Critically Endangered Bolivian Endemic Blue-throated Macaw.  
Linda S. Rubin  
Linebreeding Practices in Psittacine Husbandry.  
Genny Wall  
Introduction to the Politics of Animal Legislation.  
Carol Frischmann (sponsored by International Conure Association)  
Preparing Companion Bird Owners for a Lifetime Commitment.  
Jean Pattison  
Dos and Don'ts of Breeding and Raising Greys and other African Parrots.  
Darrel Styles, D.V.M.

AFA Convention Super 8 Raffle Prizes, 3 Day Raffles and Silent Auction Items- Look for More Items As They Are Updated.

Super 8 Raffle:  
Bird Bed Quilt donated by Sharon Garsee.  
Brinsea Incubator  
AICU Brooder donated by Lyon Technologies.  
Tanzanite & Diamond Ring donated by Pat Chinnici  
Belize Jungle Jaunt donated by John & Carolyn Carr.  
EZ Care Bow Front cage for medium parrots donated by Super Pet.  
Palm Desert Getaway donated by Wayne Andrews and Michael Bonacich.  
Framed print of Blue & Gold Macaws donated by Gamini and Lisa Ratnavira.  
Items on raffle/silent auction/3 day raffle:

Blown glass hummingbird feeders by Parasol  
Toys by Prodigy Pet Supplies  
Toys and calcium perches from The Avian Group  
Macaw mirrors by Bobbo Inc,  
Roudybush products donated by

Roudybush Inc.  
Zupreem products donated by Premium Nutritional Products  
Macaw paper sculpture pictures donated by The Bird Shop  
Jewelry donated by Dawn Lucero of Bird Jewelry by Dawn  
Sexing kits donated by Zoogen  
Toys and playpens by JW Products  
Hand beaded purse donated by Marion Packer  
Parakeet/cockatiel cages and toys donated by Penn Plax  
Air purifier donated by Bill & Wanda Elder of Ideal Purifications Systems  
Framed Amazon prints  
16 glass decorative bird plates handmade by Sharon Garsee, Tiffany Latino and Linda Nichelmann  
Hand-made bird pillows donated by Nancy Speed  
Embroidered bird T-Shirts donated by Sharon Garsee

AFA in Brief will be regularly updated to include details about speakers, schedules, and events, as they become available. Check back soon.

For more Convention information, please contact the AFA:  
Convention Central  
P.O. Box 159  
Rossville, TN 38066  
E-mail: [ConventionCentral@idealbirds.com](mailto:ConventionCentral@idealbirds.com)  
Phone: (901) 853-6079 • Fax: (901) 853-8452



**American Federation of Aviculture, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 91717  
Austin, Texas 78709-1717  
Phone: (512) 585-9800  
Fax: (512) 858-7029  
[www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org)  
Join Today!!!

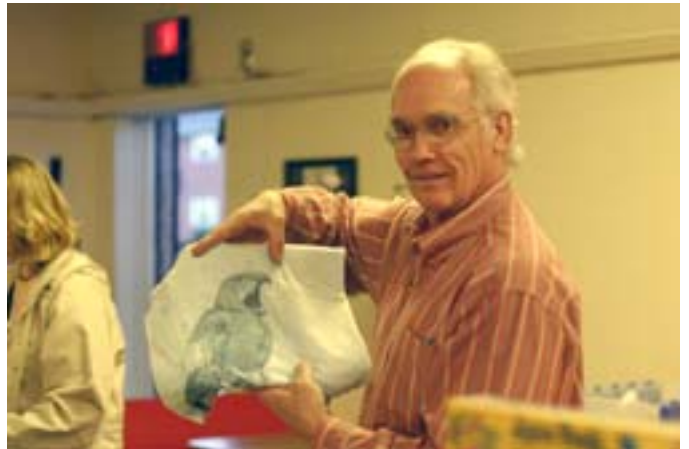
Pictures from the April 2008 Meeting



April Speaker Susan Chamberlain



New Board members Angela and Dot

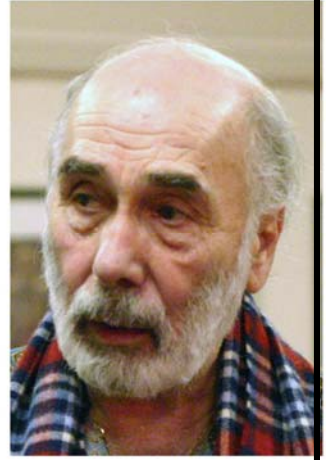


Returning member Jan





# Paterson Bird Store



13 Furler Street  
Totowa, NJ 07512  
Behind Blockbuster Video  
(973) 785-0096  
www.PatersonBird.com

## **Expert Consultation \* Boarding on Premises**

Wings \* Nails \* Beak Clipping \* Bulk Food without preservatives  
Medications \* Books & Toys \* Breeding Supplies \* Bird Cages

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

**“There’s Just No Place Like It”**

4,000 sq. ft. devoted exclusively to birds & all birds’ needs

**TWO FULL FLOORS**

10% Discount to Real Macaw Members



**HAND-FED & TAME BABY BIRDS  
HEALTH GUARANTEED**

**ALL NATURAL & ORGANIC BIRD FOODS,  
TOYS, CAGES, PLAYSTANDS, BOOKS,  
BREEDER SUPPLIES, SUPPLEMENTS,  
& MUCH MORE!!**

**We also carry dog/cat food & supplies**

**BULK ORDERS WELCOME**

**WE DELIVER !!!**

**(973) 338 - 0795**

**www.paradisepet.net**

**10% DISCOUNT FOR BIRD CLUB MEMBERS**

