



This newsletter devoted to pet bird enthusiasts is published monthly by Rainbow Feathers Bird Club of Michigan A 501(c) (3) club

January 2014
Volume 17 Issue 1

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING DATES :

JANUARY 26th ---- FOURTH SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 23rd – FOURTH SUNDAY
MARCH 23rd ----- FOURTH SUNDAY

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Save molted feathers for craft projects
- Make-it-take-it workshops

And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

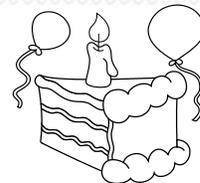
Stan Johnson 248-746-0520

Email – mmisterjay@comcast.net

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email – bigduke@comcast.net

Mary Perva – 734-207-0489



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

From the prez:



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! I hope that 2014 is treating you well so far but I could use a little less snow and some warmer temperatures this below zero stuff is for the Penguins and not all the birds. I will say the Christmas meeting was a blast and the food as always was great and everyone had fun. Once again Mother Nature threw some of us a curve ball with the ice storm we got the day before some lost power for a whole week including Christmas Day but we are tough and we can get through all this winter stuff. We got through winter storms Hercules and Ion and we will be ready for the next one because we are Michigan born and bred. Talking about getting ready for things we have already reserved our space for the 2014 Novi Pet Expo, the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival and there will also be the

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.

Pet Fest, the Guardians for Animals Pet Expo many educational programs and who knows what else and we keep getting invited to many more events. The reason for this is simple our passion shows also that we are friendly, outgoing and we as well as the public have fun at these events. Our group I have been told is one the most visible cage bird rescues anyone has ever seen and we as one person put it really "bring it" it being our knowledge and our dedication to cage birds as well as education of endangered species of parrots and other birds. This is what keeps us growing and make us very popular with the public. I don't see this trend slowing down for 2014 either but that's ok we can do this and in grand fashion. Let's make 2014 another banner years for us I know this will happen because of the great club that backs up all these things we do. I always say this and I truly mean this **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Your Prez
Dave

P.S. It is also election time so if you want to nominate someone for an office you can do it at the next meeting.



Voice of the Veep

The Christmas meeting last month was fabulous from the delicious food to the annual Christmas raffle it was tons of fun. I want to thank everybody in the club for their participation in our Christmas raffle and all the meeting raffles throughout the year. This is the most generous way you can help support our rescue and assist our club in paying vet bills and all of you have succeeded in accomplishing this in a big way. Thank you to everyone for the

support. Another way we generate monies for supporting the rescue is to stage senior programs at nursing homes, assisted living and independent living facilities throughout the year. The year 2013 was the busiest year for shows and events we have ever had; however that being said, this year 2014 could very easily exceed last year. I encourage everyone to join us at a show, even if you don't bring your own bird, they are a lot of fun and we can always use the help. Check the Up-coming Events page on the website or in the newsletter to see the dates and times of the show schedule. If you have any questions about attending an event please feel free to call me (Steve) at 734-513-0030 for more information.

My house is totally out of control; JB, Calvin and Pookie have conspired to prevent me from sitting comfortably and watching television. Taking my eyes off of them rapidly results in attacks on my feet or raids on anything I'm trying to snack upon. If I decide to take a nap I'm generally awakened by Canaries flying around. There was even one incident when I forgot to lock JB up and he released the Canaries when I was out. I managed to recover five of the six Canaries but the last one eluded me for three days. I would see him fly through the family room only to vanish in the living room; it is totally amazing how a tiny brown bird can blend!

This month is when we hold our annual elections; there is a description of all the offices and the duties of each office holder included in this edition of the newsletter. If you're interested in running or wish to nominate someone feel free to do so. Our annual dues are also payable this month; if you joined the club within the last

six months your dues are good for another year. Please check with Tammy if you're not sure what your dues are or if you owe some.

I'll see you at the meeting
Your Veep
Steve

Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

YEEEEEEEEHAAAAAAW!!!!!!

Boy oh boy that was certainly some New Years Eve Party Pookie, Sparky and J.B. threw let me tell you. Oh sorry Happy New Year to you all first of all now back to the party. Well it was one for the record books with all the music, dancing and food (wait till their pet human gets his credit card bill the one they took out in his name) it was epic with Pizza, Chinese, Tai, Indian and Mexican the buffet table was out of this world. Also the music by Thicke Robin was great things got a little blurry if you know what I mean then the country side got represented by Tim Macaw. You had to watch out for Taylor Chimney Swift you could end up in one of her songs you know. Mr. Finnegan and Ruby really made a spectacle of themselves, I mean really get a room, and that Charlie what a clown he had us in stitches all night. Cracker kept making

passes at Pookie but I really think she liked it, I think she was just playing hard to get, not like Ruby but I won't mention that again, maybe. Another hot couple on the dance floor was Kiwi and Bo I never realized that Pionus's could Tango like that it raised the heat in the room by 100 degrees. Everyone I could see was having a great time but some of us had a little too much of the Egg Nog and I won't mention names (J.B.) but your impersonation of your pet human Steve was absolutely hysterical and when you told the great pizza roll caper story we all laughed until we cried. Anyway Marley, Willow, Dante, Max, Princess (just in name only she's a baaad girl wink, wink) and the rest of the guests had a New Years Eve to remember what a great party it was and our designated flier Merlin did a great job I know I had a blast and can't wait till next year. So I wish everyone feathered and non-feathered a happy and healthy 2014 and I hope next time you all have a chance to party your tail feathers off!!!

Cheers
Captain Morgan



Out and About with Pookie

It has been an extremely cold and snowy winter here in Michigan causing this to be a very difficult time for companion humans. The cold and snow causes your humans to be confined inside of the house where they tend to become less active and less motivated.

We (companion parrots) as the superior species must strive to motivate and energize our humans. One of the best ways to accomplish this end is to increase stimulation and foraging activities. We have all been striving to motivate Steve on multiple fronts this past month.

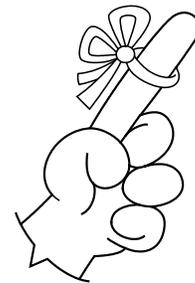
My personal contributions have been to increase my hiding spots around the house so Steve must search more extensively epically when he is in a hurry to leave the house. Another ploy I have been utilizing is when he is stretched out on the couch watching television I clamber up onto him and poop on his shoulder and run away. You must be careful with this move because your human's reaction can be very sudden and you don't want to end up on the floor.

JB and Calvin have been employing the foster Canaries to help Steve with his foraging. Whenever He's not watching them they sneak out into the front room where the Canary cage is and open up all the seed cup doors. They then escape out the doors and start flying around the front room. You may think this is a small thing but it is very effective in causing active movement and exercise for Steve.

Envision this, Steve is stretched out watching TV and a Canary flies past him; he then jumps up and grabs the net to catch the little bird. The Canaries have however, become masters of camouflage and have the ability to vanish by being still in the bottom of another cage. Also remember that there are six of them and Steve only has one net so as Steve is chasing Canaries around the house JB, Calvin and I can scoot back to their cage and re-open the seed doors. One

of the Canaries (nicknamed shifty) managed to elude capture for three days so every time Steve flopped on the couch he would fly through the family room causing him to jump up to try to catch him. Shifty however had become a master of camouflage so by the time Steve was up Shifty had vanished. We know Steve appreciates our efforts because anytime he sees JB head into the kitchen; he is instantly up and following him to prevent any escapes by Canaries. Our plan is working; more foraging and active stimulation leads to a happier and healthier companion human.

See you at the meeting
Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



A REMINDER

Our dues are due by January 31st. Checks should be made out to **RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB**. Please pay them at the January meeting or by mail to Tammy Carol at Rainbow Feathers Bird Club, PO Box 1587, Garden City MI 48135.



Rambling with Rambo

Well friends, first I have to thank all of you for making 2013 the Best Year of My Life. Having such great friends has made my life much better. And friends, Michael said it was the Best Year of His Life also. He is the happiest he's ever been. All the events we shared with you was more fun than I ever thought possible.

I finished reading the December "Bird Droppings". It reminded me of how many things we did last year. It's a good thing Michael takes pictures so we can remember them. I have to agree with Angel, Captain Morgan, and Pookie. We really WOWED them at the Pet Expo in November. That was the most fun I've ever had at one of our events. These events, and our meetings, give Daddy and me something to look forward to. We make it to everything we can. And Mommy is glad we have something we enjoy doing so much. Speaking of the meetings, Michael is always asking people to join us. And we all know how our people have pictures of us to show everyone they meet. Daddy has more pictures of me than anyone else. Well, imagine that. How can any bird lover resist joining us after seeing what wonderful,

lovable, and intelligent creatures we are? Hey Pookie in need a picture of you. When daddy goes anywhere, the first thing people say is, "How's Rambo?" would you expect otherwise?

December was interesting around here. After Thanksgiving, mommy starts making her Christmas cookies. This is very frustrating for me, and Michael. Mommy only lets us have the burnt ones. She lays the good ones out on the cookie sheet in straight lines. This way she knows if daddy takes one for us.

Onto other matters. I'm still having beak problems. For the most part, I have fixed it myself, with some aggressive chewing. Dr Cook is working on it. I still will not let Michael trim my nails. I am being nicer to Mommy. Well, I bit her ear last week. Last week she had the grandkids over to frost the cookies. Little Jacob loves me, but he is nervous around me. I was so good, mommy gave me a small sugar cookies. That was yummy.

Oh yeah, I'm doing better entertaining myself on my play stands. I have 3 of them. I will let Daddy do some things by himself. Michael lets me sit on the one I take to events, while he's in his work shop. He only lets me in there when he's NOT using noisy tools, and NOT using any chemicals. I sit and watch him. While he is playing with wood, or beads, or whatever, we both 'groove' to his music. As usual I could go on, and on, talking about our adventures. The main thing I want to

say is this. This has been a very memorable year, thanks to all of you. I hope we have many more together.

**So as always,
Be Good, Have Fun
Remember
Macaws rule,
Rambo.**



**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
to:**

- | | |
|-----------------|---------|
| BRIAN PERCY | FEB. 3 |
| ALICIA FECKO | FEB. 5 |
| JAMAHL SCOTT | FEB. 10 |
| CINDY BOLTON | FEB. 17 |
| DAN ERNST | FEB. 19 |
| DEBBIE JAMIESON | FEB. 20 |
| CHRISTINA FECKO | FEB. 23 |
| DIANE SILAS | FEB.24 |



Annual elections

The annual elections will be held at our January meeting. We will be voting on a

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Any member in good standing is eligible to fill any one of these offices. To help you decide who you think would best fill these offices, the following is a brief guide to their duties:

PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, see that the bylaws are enforced, call such meetings as are needed, and be responsible for the execution of all motions passed by the members. The President shall also be public relations administrator and liaison between the Club and all other groups.

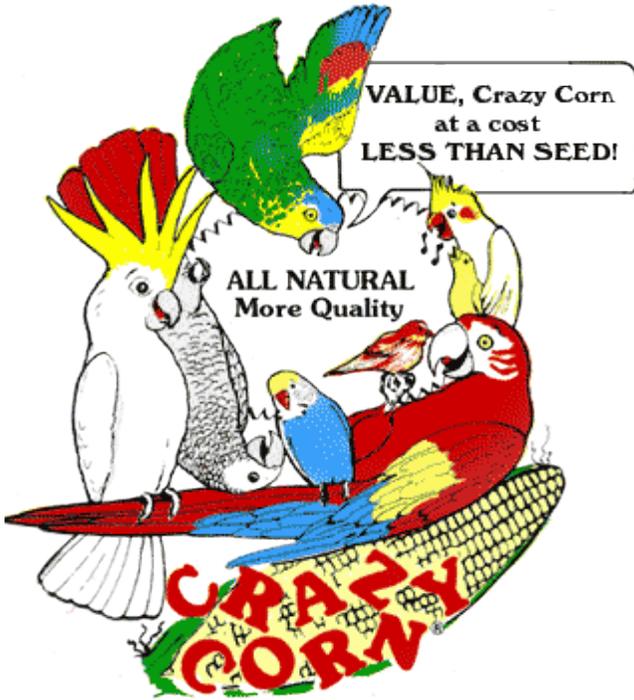
VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall assume the President's responsibilities in the absence or disability of the President, keep constantly informed of Club activities, and shall be responsible for special programs and social events.

SECRETARY: The Secretary is responsible for minutes at all general membership and board meetings, reads minutes of previous meetings when requested, keeps a file of all minutes, shall provide copies of minutes for each board member upon request, is responsible for all member notices, and is responsible for all correspondence, both incoming and outgoing.

TREASURER: The Treasurer collects all dues and records all moneys belonging to the Club, disburses same under the direction of the President, deposits the funds of the Club in the name of the Club in such bank or banks as may be designated by the Executive Committee, and submits a statement of

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SPECIAL BREEDER PRICING



Upcoming Events As of Jan 5th 2014

- Jan 27th Senior Educational Program
American House Taylor
25250 Eureka Rd.
Taylor, MI 48180
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show
- Feb 22nd Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event****
- Feb 25th Senior Educational Program
University Assisted Living
2865 South Main St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

April 22nd Library Educational Show
Novi Public Library
45255 W. 10 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
6:00 PM set-up
7:00PM Show

May 3rd Motor City Bird Breeders
Bird Fair
\$4.00 Adm. 10AM to 5PM
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071

June 22nd Rainbow Feathers Bird Club
17th Annual Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM
VFW Post 345
27345 Schoolcraft Rd.
Redford, MI 48239
10:00AM to 4:00PM

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event****

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE****

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event**** following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE****

***CANCELTION CONFUSION ***

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.



Rescue Update

Our rangers have been working overtime on rescue runs. Foster homes have also been doing extra duty with fostering and adoptions. In short it has been a busy, busy month!

Here is a brief recap of our latest adoptions:

- Bella an Indian Ringneck
- Sarah an Umbrella Cockatoo
- Sugar a Lesser Sulphur Crested Cockatoo
- One Canary (no name)
- 3 Cockatiels (Smokey is one of their names)
- 2 Quaker Parrots 1 blue, 1 green

All of these adopted birds went to their new homes with cages, food and toys. We are able to do this because of all of you, our members. It is your generosity and participation in our monthly raffles that has allowed us to be so successful. Thank you, thank you! Every one of you should be proud of the great job you've done. We couldn't do it without your support.

Both the feathered and non-feathered members had a good time with friendship and food also with the good news that the people at the Novi Pet Expo already invited us back for 2014. Our Club made a great showing there this year, thanks to all of our members.

See you all at the January meeting,

God Bless.

Your friend Baby,



Odds and ends



Bits from Baby

HAPPY 2014
EVERYONE!!

Well I'm back to start off the New Year 2014.

January is starting off slow, but

I'm sure it's just the lull before the storm. We only have one program set for January so far. Get you track shoes ready to go for another record breaking year!

The December Christmas party was great even though the weather was not the best. There were sixty-five people that showed up. Fifty-two non feathered members were there and thirteen guests, with four who joined our flock. Forty-one feathered members were there, seven African Grays, ten Cockatoos, nine Macaws and fifteen other type parrots.

!!!!!!!!!! NEWSLETTER DELIVERY CHANGES!!!!!!!!!!

Due to our increased costs in printing and delivery of our monthly newsletters we are looking to institute some changes. What we want to do is start sending our monthly newsletter to all of our members via their e-mail. The newsletter will be in a Microsoft Word® format (Tammy says she can make it available as a PDF also) and will be an attachment to an e-mail; it will also be accessible on our web site. From either of these sources you would be able to print the newsletter or just read it. This change will enable our rescue to save about \$300.00 per month in printing and mailing costs.

Our target for effecting this change is going to be March or April in 2014: however there is a problem, more than half of our members do not have a valid e-mail address on file with Tammy. We need to have everybody send Tammy or Steve your name and e-mail address so we can update our list of e-mail address prior to instituting this change. Send your e-mail address to sweettweeters@comcast.net and splafchan@twmi.rr.com please remember to keep it updated if you change it.

We know there are some members that don't have a computer or don't have an e-mail address; we will continue to send all of you your monthly newsletter via snail mail (US Postal Service) but we need to know who you are. Please make an effort to notify Tammy that you have to have postal delivery of your monthly newsletter. If you don't tell us you have to have postal delivery of the newsletter we will assume e-mail is ok.

Veterinary offices and other special recipients will also continue to receive a printed copy of our monthly newsletter.

DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE!



RESCUE RANGERS



Now the Rescuer Rangers have rescued a true plethora of cage birds ranging from the tiniest of Finches to the largest of Parrots but this time they it would be a first for them. They were called to Dearborn Heights to pick up a truly fancy fellow. Now ordinarily they do not rescue Pigeons for they are usually outdoor birds but this case was the exception. This exceptions name was Marvin and when they got a good look at him they were astounded by what they saw. The bird itself was beautiful mark with honey brown splashes on a white body but its most interesting characteristic was its feet, also the fact he lived indoors and not outside cemented the reason they took him. His look was unique for a Pigeon the

feathers came down his legs and continued to grow on his feet and toes giving him the look of wearing big fuzzy slippers. This was something you noticed right away and it made him look like no other Pigeon they had ever seen. Plus he was more like a Parrot than a Pigeon happy to perch on your shoulder or finger. They took Marvin to a club member's house that also did Fancy Pigeons and he knew right away what kind it was. So he would foster this rather dapper looking fellow and because of his gentle demeanor would probably fail. Well that was certainly a unique rescue and the Rangers got an education on Pigeons in the process. So with that they were off to rescue another day for there were birds that needed them for they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!**

Ranger fans you will want to stay tuned for our next exciting adventure you could almost call it a religious experience presenting Moses of Ferndale!!

How do you know if your bird is getting the nutrition he needs for a long and healthy life?



By ZuPreem Staff

What's the best diet for your bird?

The best diet for your bird is one that provides a reliable consistent source of balanced nutrition. It's also a diet that your bird likes to eat and gives him an enjoyable eating experience, while preventing obesity and other nutritionally related diseases.

Feeding a variety of foods does not guarantee good nutrition

Bird owners feed their birds a wide variety of foods ranging from seeds to home-prepared foods to commercial diets. Unfortunately, feeding a variety of foods does not always prevent nutritional imbalances. Many of these diets lack important nutrients birds need to maintain their health. Often they are not balanced, providing too much of this vitamin or nutrient, or not enough of another.

Seed diets can lead to obesity

Seeds are high in fat and deficient in important nutrients. Even if you supplement a seed diet with a nutritionally complete extruded diet or with fruits and vegetables, your bird will often choose the seeds, leaving behind the more nutritious foods. The simple fact is your bird likes seeds, just as you might like high-calorie, high-fat snacks. Okay for an occasional treat, but a steady diet over time can lead to vitamin deficiencies, obesity-related diseases and possible early death.

Home prepared diets are not necessarily healthy

As a labor of love, some bird owners chop, cook and mix special foods for their birds. Not only is this time-consuming, it is impossible to make sure your bird is getting the correct balance of nutrients. Too much iron, too little calcium, improper levels of Vitamins A, D, E and K. How do you know?

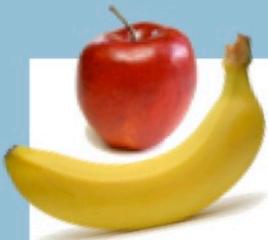
Supplement sparingly with fruits and vegetables

If your bird enjoys fruits and vegetables, go ahead and serve them, but they should not make up more than 15% of your bird's daily diet. Fruits and vegetables do not offer all the nutrients your bird needs, and some are high in sugar and fiber, curbing your bird's appetite for a more nutritious food.

ZuPreem® Avian Diets take the guesswork out of your bird's nutrition

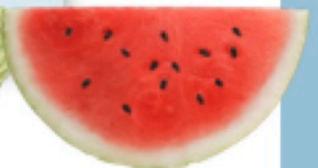
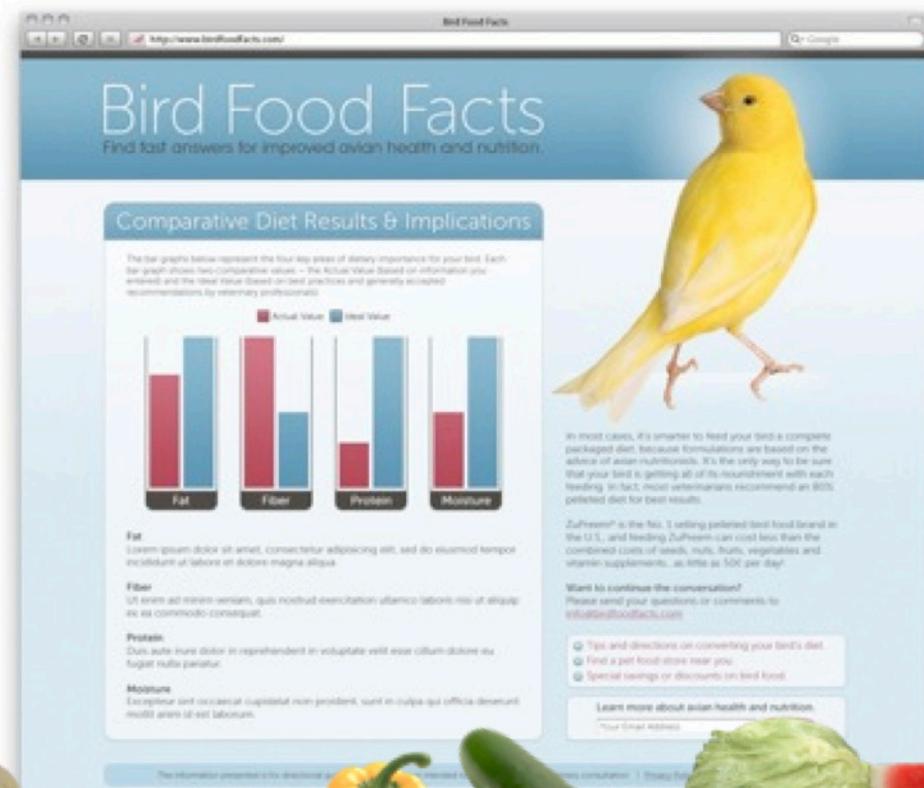
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What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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248-557-7773

OAKLAND VETERINARY EMERGENCY GROUP
1400 Telegraph Rd * Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
248-334-6877

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734-284-9122

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586-751-3350

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248-651-1788
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7 Days a Week
www.theanimalemergencycenter.com

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MURALS AND OTHER CREATIONS

BY **MARY KAY PERVA**

734-207-0489



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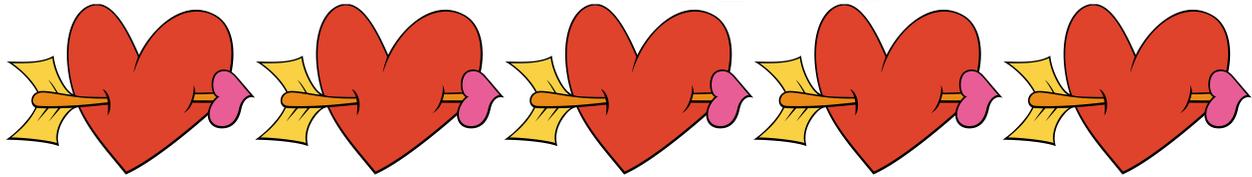
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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

February 2014
Volume 17 Issue2

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

FEBRUARY 23rd – FOURTH SUNDAY

MARCH 23rd – FOURTH SUNDAY

APRIL 27th – FOURTH SUNDAY

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
 - Support scholarships for avian vet students
 - Yearly Bird Fair
 - Club Library for members
 - Grooming available
 - Avian rescue/relocation programs
 - Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
 - Monthly newsletter
 - Periodic Service projects
 - Field Trips
 - Educational Programs upon request
 - Make-it-take-it workshops
- And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Mary Perva 517-618-7008

Stan Johnson 248-746-1520

Email- mmisterjay@Comcast.net

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- bigduke@comcast.net

ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to Steve at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

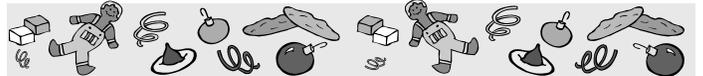
Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



Annual elections

The annual elections will be held at our February meeting. The elections were postponed because of the snow and cold in January which resulted in a low turnout at the meeting.

We will be voting on a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Any member in good standing is eligible to fill any one of these offices. To help you decide who you think would best fill these offices, the following is a brief guide to their duties:

PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, see that the bylaws are enforced, call such meetings as are needed, and be responsible for the execution of all motions passed by the members. The President shall also be public relations administrator and liaison between the Club and all other groups.

VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall assume the President's responsibilities in the absence or disability of the President, keep constantly informed of Club activities, and shall be responsible for special programs and social events.

SECRETARY: The Secretary is responsible for minutes at all general membership and board meetings, reads minutes of previous meetings when requested, keeps a file of all minutes, shall provide copies of minutes for each board member upon request, is responsible for all member notices, and is responsible for all correspondence, both incoming and outgoing.

TREASURER: The Treasurer collects all dues and records all moneys belonging to the Club, disburses same under the direction of the President, deposits the funds of the Club in the name of the Club in such bank or banks as may be designated by the Executive Committee, and submits a statement of accounts at each meeting. The books and accounts shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any member. The Treasurer shall be responsible for disbursement of moneys for bird bands.

TRUSTEE: One Trustee is elected each year to serve a three year term. A person serving as Trustee is ineligible for other elected office. Duties shall be to serve as coordinators of the Club, assuring a meeting place, acting as assistants to the President, and serve as a grievance committee. They shall conduct an annual audit of all Club records, Treasurer's and Secretary's books, etc. The Trustees whose terms of office have not expired shall serve as the election committee and shall conduct the annual elections. The Trustees shall review all absences of officers and shall fill any vacant office by either appointment or special election with the membership.



From the prez:

I guess this has been a winter to remember and it's not over yet! Record snowfall for any month in history in January combined with bitter cold made it rough going for many of us. It even snowed on our January meeting cutting the attendance way down so we postponed the elections until this month's meeting hopefully the weather will cooperate; I am keeping my fingers crossed! 2014 looks like it is going to be a very busy year the activity directors of many senior living facilities are already calling for programs plus our already scheduled events I'm thinking we might need to get our running shoes on because we never know what is coming up next. The one thing I do know is that I would going stir crazy without my dogs or my birds they

seem to make this exceptionally harsh winter a little brighter and keep me sane (well as sane as I can be). The club also makes this winter a little bit easier to bear our meetings are a blast and we are always welcoming new members to our flock. I've said this before and I will say it again the club works so well because the members work so well together, your ideas and your willingness to help out with anything we do not only makes anything we do a success it also makes a big impression on the people who see us. They always say that we are the happiest group they have ever seen and a visit to our fair or to our booths at the events we do always leaves them smiling and happy. That is because of you the members who in your own way support everything we do as a club, you have never let me or the club down. So as we charge headlong into the busy event season I would like to thank you for all you guys do you really make it not only great but also a lot of fun. So please stay warm be safe and we hope to see you at the meeting, providing Old Man Winter gives us a break! As always **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez
Dave



**Voice of
the Veep**

If you haven't heard the annual elections normally held in January were postponed until this month. The weather on our meeting day in January was cold and snowy which I'm sure was the reason for the low turnout, so plan on participating with the elections at the meeting.

I don't know about anyone else but I've had enough of winter for this season to suit me; personally I'm ready for spring and warm weather. We even had to cancel a senior program that was scheduled for January 27th not because of the snow but because it was too blooming cold.

Speaking of shows Tammy is receiving requests and is now starting to schedule them at an increasing rate. I will do my best to keep the Upcoming Events page on our website with each and every show that is scheduled the day that the booking is confirmed. If you are ever interested knowing when the next event or show is go to <http://www.rfbirdclub.com> then click on the upcoming events tab. A second option would be to call me at home 734-513-0030 if I'm not home leave a message and I will answer you as soon as I can. The shows and events are a lot of fun so you should consider joining us. You don't have to bring your bird if you don't want to please consider joining us just to see the delight on the people's faces. We can always use help with our birds while the show is being presented.

Well, try to stay warm and dry and I hope the weather cooperates for our meeting this month.

Your Veep
Steve



Out and About With Pookie

Every year around this time I am asked the same question and I believe it is even more prevalent this year than in years past. The question is about baths and showers more specifically; should we shower or bathe our birds in this cold weather, is it safe to shower our birds in this weather. This is the time of year when showers and baths are extremely important; especially to those of us who live here in the mid-west.

We live in southern Michigan and our weather the past few months has been cold, snowy and bitterly cold. So, Steve my companion human has increased the humidity on his furnace to make our home more comfortable. Higher humidity helps prevent dry skin and itching on all of us, his feathered flock. Unfortunately one of the side effects of him doing this for us is large amounts of ice building up on the inside of our house windows. When this occurs he then has to turn the humidity down so the

ice doesn't damage woodwork or the windows. Ergo Steve's solution to this dilemma is to increase our baths and showers. When we exit the shower he allows us to preen and dry ourselves off, he doesn't towel or blow dry our feathers, this helps with itchy dry skin and lets us take care of those pesky pin feathers. For those of you that prefer to live alternative lifestyles like I do frequent showers help keep our skin soft and supple. This was a long winded answer to a simple question the simple answer is; yes we need showers in the winter especially if your home has a forced air furnace. Stay out of cold drafts when you're wet; dry and preen your own feathers.

There is one more subject I must touch upon briefly this month; weather forecasting. Companion humans are about the most foolish when it comes to predicting weather in the month of February; instead of consulting meteorological charts or radar images they consult with and overweight ground rat named Puxatony Phil. What makes him such a wonderful predictor of weather? Anyone even a companion human can look at the weather for the past few months, realize that it hasn't gotten above thirty-two degrees and predict it's going to stay cold. Aside from this little detail, fat rat Puxatony only predicts six weeks into the future, I will predict much further than that. My prediction is that it will rain in April and

May followed by warm sunny weather in June, July and August!

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



RESCUE RANGERS



Well it isn't exactly ancient Egypt in fact it was no place near Egypt not even close and this Moses wasn't about to part any waters anyway. It was really Ferndale Michigan and this Moses happened to be a Red Lored Amazon he lived with a couple that could no longer take his boisterous outburst. Now you must realize that he is an Amazon Parrot and this was part of his celebration of being alive. Unfortunately the owners did not see it that way and liked their quiet time but this was the time Moses wanted to let the world know he was there! So they finally called the Rangers to take this now obnoxious little bundle of feathers. To make matters worse he bit one of the people in this couple which made his departure from the house all the more important and the sooner the better.

When the Rangers arrived and entered they were immediately over powered by the pungent and overpowering

smell of cigarette smoke it made their eyes water and their noses plug completely. In the middle of this smokehouse was a large cage and Moses sitting looking warily at these two strangers (not to say that they were strange looking but you know our Rangers, I'm just sayin'). Anyway, they quickly got Moses in the carrier which always seems to amaze many people how good they are at it including this couple. Then they quickly took his cage apart which again amazes many but let's face it they have had a lot of experience doing both so they have gotten good at it. So with the cage in pieces loaded into their vehicle they took the carrier containing Moses to the car much to the relief of this couple. They would get their sanity back. So off they went with a bird in the hand and none in the bush to the foster home.

Because of the heavy smoking in his former house a vet visit was arranged and a DNA sexing was performed. Lo and behold Moses was not a Moses at all another miraculous sex change and Moses became Josie and as the former he, she was settling into her new home. Yes her fosters failed and she has become part of an all star line-up for the education programs. She has really come into her own and if the former owners thought she (former he) was noisy I can introduce them to a Cockatoo or two that makes her seem mute! All are happy, Josie now smells like an Amazon should not like a burning cigarette and the Rangers are breathing easy as they close the books on this rescue. Still their job is not done, there are more birds that need their assistance in find their forever homes and they will tirelessly (well almost) keep doing what they do for they are **THE RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!**

Stay riveted for the next enthralling adventure Not That Scully in Commerce!!!



Rambling with Rambo

Hi gang.

Well, that was some January we had. Since not much has been happening around here, I'm just going to let my little, though superior, brain run to and fro. That is an interesting expression. Well, let's see. How do you, and your pet human view winter? Do they sit inside and complain about the cold and snow? Do they jump for joy? Do they tell you about how fun winter is, skiing, snow mobiling, going out ice-fishing? Are you people crazy? Sitting on a frozen lake trying to catch fish? Picture this, Captain, and Merlin, the big Scarlet Macaw, on snow skies, with the poles, goggles, and a scarf flapping behind them. Consider this. In that place called Siberia, their coldest time of year is January, with -15 degrees, though some spots get much, much colder. Their warmest time of year, July, is only 59 degrees. Surprisingly, in

Brazil, the average temperature is 77 degrees all year long. Also, in the Rainforest they get between 98 and 180 inches of rain. Imagine how much snow that would be. Daddy is always talking about going there. I would love to visit with our wild cousins. But, I'll stay here in my warm, and air conditioned, house. Here are some more facts about winter. Where we live, Wayne County, our average winter temperature is 32 degrees, summer 84. The lowest temperature we ever had was -60 degrees in Vanderbilt, Michigan on 2-9-1934. Our highest temperature ever was 112 degrees at Mio, on 7-13-36. Down here we average 30-40 inches of snow. In the U.P. they average 160 inches of snow. Guess us trolls [Trolls live under a bridge. You know below the Mackinaw Bridge. Come on, EVERY Michigander knows that] have things pretty good. So stop complaining you humans.

Ok let's leave winter behind for now. The other night we were watching this TV show about dinosaurs. The earliest know (bird) was called Archaeopteryx. This was a dinosaur that Flew and Had Feathers. They lived about 200 million years ago. They were the size of a modern day Crow. Well how about that. Didn't think you would learn all this in my column today, did you?

Well what else can I tell you about? Both Michael and Mommy were sick over Christmas and New Year's. That was not much fun for me. I didn't get played with much. I'm still having some beak problems.

I get it real nice then I chip it again. Maybe I'm playing a little too rough. Hey, you humans. Let's get it together. Not having any events over the winter is getting boring. Well, the year did end with a fantastic Christmas party. So I better stop here. My poor little, and superior, brain needs a rest. I hope this month's column was interesting for you. I had lots of fun looking all this stuff up on the computer for you.

Last item: Here it is, a new year. We have a chance for new adventures, with new friends. We can start over, make improvements, share love with all we meet, and show how great Parrots are. Oh no, Michael has that look again. What is he thinking of doing? Who knows? We'll find out soon.

As always, Be Good, Have Fun,
and Remember Macaws Rule.

Your Buddy,
Rambo.

birds is very difficult so a foster offer could be for a long time

Our thanks go to all our members for your support in the rescue. It is because of your participation in our monthly raffle and your donations of food, cages, toys and money that we are able to accomplish this awesome feat. Thank you one and all and please keep up the great work.



Rescue Update

There were four adoptions last month two Quakers and two Parakeets We are always in need of foster homes especially for smaller birds but be aware that finding homes and people willing to adopt smaller



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to :

CINDY GRIFFIN

MAR. 4

SANDY PROSZKOWSKI	MAR. 7
JACQUELINE THOMAS	MAR. 10
KEN SHOLAR	MAR. 13
BRIAN CHINERY	MAR. 17
STAN JOHNSON	MAR. 17
JIM HEFFERNAN	MAR. 18
RON LANKFORD	MAR.18
SUSAN ERNST	MAR. 25
JEFF KEENE	MAR.26
ANDREW HANNA	MAR.27
DIANE DAVIS	MAR 28
LANAH HARRIS	MAR. 29
CAROLYN HEMMJE	MAR 30

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo. When she receives your order she will send you a PayPal® invoice. In a short time you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal® account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)

CLUB T-SHIRTS



Good news! Tracy Hilka who is Bella

Embroidery is now going to make our club shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to XI and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

What you do is go to her website.

www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb

Then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page).

Look down the page and find Gildan

DryBlend 50/50 T-shirts #8000

Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes.

Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.



Made in
China

When looking at birds toys recently, my husband noticed that a particular product was “Made in China”. Upon further investigation, we found other bird toys and products made in China. You may wonder what inspired me to write this article....it’s because my birds are precious to me, as I’m sure yours are to you.

In the recent past it was reported that the Chinese had exported baby food laced with melamine to make it appear thicker. Then there was the toothpaste contaminated with a chemical found in antifreeze, the same chemical found in cough syrup that killed people in Panama when it turned up in their cough syrup...and not once, but multiple times, our dog and cat food!...and many more things. The FDA is also on the lookout for vegetable proteins contaminated with melamine – the same chemical that killed over 8,000 American dogs and cats when it was imported from China in pet food and treats.

There were some 257 refusals alone (of Chinese food products) in April of 2007 because the food was labeled by the FDA as “filthy”. Most of the time the official term, “filthy,” is used when inspectors smell decomposition or gross contamination of food. This food could be for either human or animal consumption.

No country is increasing its food exports faster than China – about 20 percent in the last year alone. From pesticides, feed additives, heavy metals, coal tar, and other toxins, these are the environmental conditions in China that are poisoning China's people and their human and pet food exports.

So what does this all have to do with pet toys? Well, we need to know what kind of material they’re made from and especially what kinds of dyes are used if our precious birds are going to chew on them! Also found on the website <http://www.parrotparrot.com/alerts-toxins/> is a story on toxic material used on bird cages and the heavy metal poisoning that can occur. Beware of bird cages made in China. Also, beware if they are lacking a good brand name. It probably means that they were made in China.

In the future, be sure to look at the tags that come on all bird toys and cages, and please refrain from buying ones that come from China. A cheap price is not worth the physical and emotional expense of your bird’s health and possible death.

Many of you have other pets besides birds. You may want to subscribe to “Poisoned Pets: A look inside the pet food industry” to keep up to date with pet/bird food recalls and poisonings at <http://www.poisonedpets.com/>. If you remember just a few months ago, there was a nationwide recall by Zupreem® due to dangerous levels of calcium, phosphorus and vitamin D in some of its Fruit Blend pellets. They actually had two recalls last year. The other was due to calcium levels being higher than recommended in some of their formulated pellets. There were also other recalls, one by Magnolia Bird Farm Products who recalled peanuts and seed mixes due to salmonella contamination. The Lafever recall was due to the possibility of bacteria or fungus in one of the grains used in their products. They recommended discontinuing feeding of the affected products. Kaytee recalled Hand Feeding Formula Baby Birds and Hand Feeding Formula Baby Macaw due to high levels of vitamin D and salmonella. I don’t know about you, but this really concerns me. I don’t know whether or not any of these cases were due to Chinese vitamins, additives or manufacturing, but you can’t be too careful. If the Chinese are not concerned about our babies, they surely wouldn’t be concerned about our birds!

The Bird Mama
Susan Dixon



UP COMING EVENTS

As of
Feb 4th 2014

Feb 22nd Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM

Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Novi Public Library
45255 W. 10 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
6:00 PM set-up
7:00PM Show

Feb 25th Senior Educational Program
University Assisted Living
2865 South Main St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

May 3rd Motor City Bird Breeders
Bird Fair
\$4.00 Adm. 10AM to 5PM
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
** Note our rescue will NOT have a table at
this show **

Mar 7th Senior Educational Program
Waltonwood at Cherryhill
42500 Cherry Hill Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

May 13th Senior Educational Program
Medilodge of Milford
555 Milford Rd.
Milford MI 48381
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

Mar 22nd Senior Educational Program
American House Taylor
25250 Eureka Rd.
Taylor, MI 48180
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

June 22nd Rainbow Feathers Bird Club
17th Annual Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM
VFW Post 345
27345 Schoolcraft Rd.
Redford, MI 48239
10:00AM to 4:00PM

April 4th Senior Show
Independence Village-Stoney Point
11555 Silverstone Lane
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
12:00 PM set-up (noon)
1:00PM Show

June 28th Educational Program
Highland Township Public Library
444 Beach Farm Circle
Highland, MI 48357
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

April 11th Senior Show
Brighton Gardens
15870 Haggerty Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
2:00 PM set-up
3:00PM Show

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

April 22nd Library Educational Show

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

***CANCELTION CONFUSION ***

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.

Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Well it seems that all this talk of the Polar Vortex has really gotten our pet humans very uptight. Sure the temperatures have plunged below zero for several days this event has brought out something even worse, THE HAT!!! Yes that dreaded hat has made its return and I have been getting squawks through Squawker (like twitter only louder) and texts on my Blackbirdie of pictures of my pet human in that awful hat. I am beyond mortified; I don’t even want to show my face in public. Both Pookie and I thought we got rid of that hat last spring I mean we sent it to China they must have sent it back and to be honest I would too! The other possibility is that he went out and bought a whole case of them and to make matters worse he must have bought two different colors. I do realize that he has to keep his egghead warm after all I would too if I had nothing on my head but why that particular hat? I find that hat not only ugly but downright embarrassing but he still wears it. There are other choices in winter headwear he could have chosen but oh no he still chooses that hat Even Charlie, Ollie, Dante, Ricky, Doodles, and Baby can’t figure him out. They all want to know is he going for the psychedelic Cockatoo look or does he need mental help, I choose the latter. Either way the hat has to go and this time for

What do you do with them when you are done here, Take them back to the zoo?

Can you de-squawk them?

These birds belong back in Africa where they can live free!

A Pigeon, with a red tail?

Novi pet expo: So those are African Gray Parrots. So where do they come from?

Are those birds real?

So, which one of these are Parrots?

So you're with the bird group you certainly are a different group. (Said by a woman wearing sparkly cat ears and with whiskers painted on her face.)

My personal favorite: So when you're done with them here what happens to them?

These are some of the best of the goofy things said to us at the events and I am sure we will hear some even stranger things with 2014's upcoming events



Are you watching your bird's figure?

By ZuPreem Staff

Obesity is a common condition in companion birds and occurs when they consume more calories than they can expend over an

extended period of time. Lack of flight activity and a diet rich in fatty seeds are common causes of obesity. Your bird could be obese if its body weight exceeds the normal body weight (within normal variation) for its species by 15 percent or more.

Here's how to tell if your bird is overweight

Take a minute to perform a quick home exam. Start by noticing your bird's stance. A wider than normal stance can be a sign of obesity. Next, check for a small roll of fat, a "double chin" visible under the beak. Also, look for small yellow or white fat deposits in the abdomen, along the flanks, inner thighs, upper breast and crop area. Finally, check for any bald patches where feather tracts may have separated due to fat under the skin.

You can also weigh your bird

To do this at home, use an electronic scale that measures in grams, not ounces, to detect small changes. Of course, the best way to be sure is to have your pet weighed and examined by your avian veterinarian.

Health risks associated with obesity

Obesity increases your bird's risk of developing many serious diseases including heart disease, liver disease, fatty tumor formation (lipomas) and respiratory distress during exercise and play. Obesity is also associated with abnormal feathering, egg binding and infertility.

What you can do

If you suspect your bird may be obese, see your veterinarian for a complete and thorough physical examination as well as advice on how to change your bird's diet to a healthier one. Along with more exercise, converting your bird from a seed-based diet to a more nutritionally balanced extruded diet could be the answer. Remember that any weight-loss regimen for your bird should be done with your veterinarian's guidance.

How does your bird weigh in?



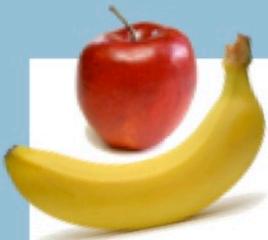
The following table expresses approximate normal mature body weights for some bird species in terms of both the average weight and a range of acceptable variances (+/-) from the average.

Species	Average Weight (grams)	Variance (+/- grams)
Scarlet Macaw	1,001	151
Blue & Gold Macaw	1039	102

Military Macaw	925	57
Hyacinth Macaw	1355	95
Umbrella Cockatoo	403	57
Moluccan Cockatoo	577	71
Great Sulfur Crested Cockatoo	843	147
Citron Cockatoo	357	34
Grand Eclectus	432	40
African Grey	554	66
Blue-Fronted Amazon	432	51
Mexican Red-Headed Amazon	360	24
Yellow-Naped Amazon	596	85

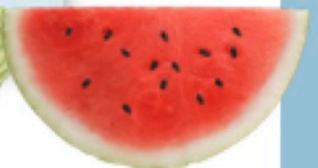
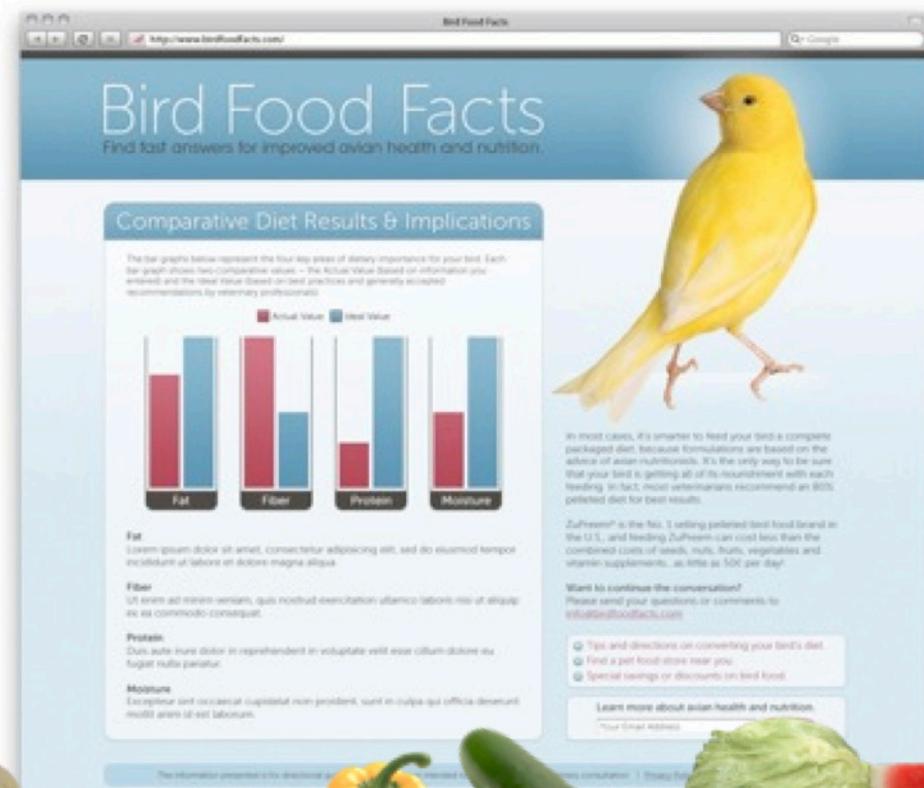
Double Yellow-Headed Amazon	568	61
Budgerigar	30	*
Lovebird	45	*
Cockatule	180	*

Taken from Clinical Avian Medicine and Surge
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What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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MURALS AND OTHER CREATIONS

BY **MARY KAY PERVA**

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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

March 2014
Volume 17 Issue3

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

March 23rd -- Fourth Sunday

April 27th ----- Fourth Sunday

May 18th----- Third Sunday

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary– Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Mary Perva- 517-618-7008

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email – susanhdixon@hotmail.net

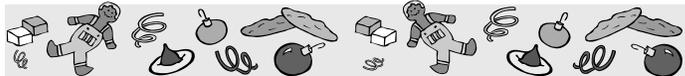
Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- bigduke@comcast.net



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!



CLUB WELFARE

. Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



**From
the prez:**

OK enough is enough

I want spring and I want it now! I am so tired of frigid temperatures below zero and I have had enough snow to last for the next five winters. We are solidly in place for the number two spot for the snowiest winters but wait we are not done yet so just stay warm and safe. I was so glad the weather cooperated and let us have our meeting. I mean since we had to reschedule the elections a month later because of a weather related poor turnout it was nice to have a

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff Livonia, MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

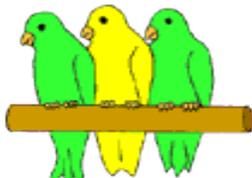
Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



regular size meeting. Your officers stayed the same for the most part but I would like to welcome Susan Dixon on board as our new Trustee she replaces Stan Johnson because his term was up but Stan thank you for your service to the club as Trustee you are one in a million! Also if you look the event season is ramping up and we are already booked for the Heritage Festival and the Pet Expo in Novi and the Guardians for Animals Pet Expo so once again it looks like it will be a busy season. I never worry because the backing we get from the members in all capacities is nothing less than fantastic and I thank you for that. So as the club moves forward let us all take a deep breath tighten up our running shoes and get ready we are about to get really busy!! That's Ok with me because **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez
Dave



Voice of the Veep

It was an excellent meeting that we had last month. The weather cooperated with us and gave us one of the best days seen in two months both temperature and precipitation wise. On a personal front it

was wonderful seeing so many members and guests at a meeting.

We were finally able to hold our annual elections and the only change in the board was the nomination and election of Susan Dixon as a trustee to the board. I would like to welcome Susan and thank Stan Johnson for his service as a board member for the past three years. There was a minor disappointment to the elections in my opinion though; that is the position of our newsletter editor. I put forth the option of electing a new editor and was met with a room of silence? My feeble attempt to create and vote on a new newsletter editor failed miserably.

The shows and events are starting to rapidly roll in for our club and rescue and I encourage everyone to consider joining us for a show. The senior shows and assisted living homes and educational shows at libraries are one of the many ways we use to help fund our rescue. We are always in need of help before, during and after a show; so don't feel that you have to bring your own parrot there are plenty of other ways you can assist. We always need help bringing birds in from the cars, walking parrots among the guests to get a better look at them, standing by with paper towel in case of a "poopie oopsie" and taking birds back out to the cars after the show. The listing of shows is constantly changing and evolving and any changes are updated on our web site as soon as they are confirmed. If you want to see the latest

update to the events please check the web site <http://www.rfbirdclub.com> and if you have a problem accessing the web or have found an error please call me "Steve at 734-513-0030" .

Your VP
Steve



Rescue Update

The snow the past few months has put a hindrance on both rescues and adoptions; so for the first time in a long while there were none

All of the birds we adopt go to their new homes with cages, toys, water bottles, and pellets. We are able to accomplish this because of the wonderful generosity of the members of this club. Your donations of supplies brought to the meetings and especially your participation in the monthly club raffles has allowed the rescue to send our adoptees to their new homes fully prepared. Thank you one and all. You should all be very proud of yourselves for this; our rescue couldn't do this without you.



OUT AND ABOUT WITH POOKIE

The abuse we endure as companion birds was wearing thin on all of us in Steve's flock, so one day last month we had a meeting to decide what to do about the problem. While Steve napped innocently on the sofa one afternoon we got together and formulated a plan. The name that was decided upon for this operation was "The Great Escape" and it was decided to be enacted during the middle of the night while Steve was sleeping in bed.

I being the master mind assumed overall command and had the code name Mr. Big, Sparky was second in command and her duty was to coordinate all of the participants. JB and Calvin being the best yeggs (safecrackers) in the flock took on the duties of being the tunnel rats, while Tyler, Misimo, and Squeak agreed to create as much havoc as possible.

It was a cold and snowy night when the great escape took place; JB and Calvin pulled back their cage grate and tray and dropped out the bottom. They then opened Tyler's cage and mine and Sparky's. Tyler released Mo and Mo released Squeak. With everyone out we then proceeded to wreak havoc before our escape was discovered.

The first target was the two twenty pound sacks of Zupreem® bird food that sat upon the kitchen floor. These bags were chewed open and pellets spread across the kitchen, this provided two things a snack for us and a deterrent against Steve in his bare

feet from catching us. We then discovered two cardboard boxes of toys in the front room to chew. Two forts were created with tunnels into the toy boxes providing hiding spots and wonderful fun and discovery. It was the middle of the night and Steve was blissfully snoring in the back room in bed as we all foraged forward chewing, playing, and just having a fun time with our freedom.

The one mistake that was made was when JB released the Krakens (Canaries) they flew out the newly opened doors and spread out through the house. Sadly I have to say the Canaries don't seem to be the sharpest pencils in the box. One of them flew into the back room at 4:00 AM in the morning and landed on Steve's nose which awakened him causing him to get up out of bed and discover all of us out of our cages and scattered throughout the house. All of us were in trouble after catching us out and on the lam except JB. Somehow he knew Steve was up and scampered back into his cage and was innocently sitting inside on his perch absolving himself of any blame. He caused the whole event and let us take the fall.

Until next month
Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



BIRD FAIR

Our annual bird fair is now going to be on Sunday June 22nd and will be at the same location as last year. The location is VFW Post 345 at 27345 Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239.

We are not going to be able to set up for the fair the night before as we have in years past but we will be getting access to the hall about 6:00 AM. The tentative plan is load a U-Haul® truck the evening before with Cages and stuff at Steve's house. In the morning before the fair starts we will bring in all the cages, raffle items and supplies.

We will need as much help as we can get at 6:00 AM to cover tables, price cages, run electricity and set up the raffle. Hopefully this will mostly be finished by 7:00 AM when the vendors will start arriving. We need help holding doors open and assisting vendors move in at this time. They really appreciate this; it's something that rarely occurs for them at other fairs and keeps them coming back. During the fair we will need help at the admissions desk, assisting at the raffle, rescue, and bake sale tables. Another

time when help is needed is after the fair doing the clean-up.

This is our rescue's largest fundraiser of the year, so please; one and all come and make this fair the success of past years. We have rented out a record number of tables this year with many first time vendors. Let's show them what a dynamic group we are by assisting them in every way possible.

Come on out and lend a hand even if you haven't signed up. You don't have to stay all day; any time you can help would be wonderful.

Bake sale items are also needed. If you're one of the talented members that can bake goodies please consider making something wrapped in individual servings.

Nature these days? I'm sure she has a logical explanation and I for one would love to hear it. I don't think she understands that when it stays cold my pet human wears **THAT HAT** that hideous hat. We had good enough weather to do a program and I wanted to die when he walked in wearing that hat. Has he no sense of shame or fashion why is he doing this to me? Well Stella better get things together and send spring our way so we (Pookie and I) can deep six that hat if you know what I mean. As long as it stays cold though I will have to endure constant ridicule over his hat and I can't take it anymore! So Mother Nature please I beg of you send spring so the hat can disappear forever. I think of it as a mercy killing for my sake.

Cheers
Captain Morgan

CAPTAINS CORNER

Avast ye Mates



What is going on with Stella these days (Mother Nature) I think she has forgot that spring is supposed be here very soon.

All I see is this awful white stuff called snow and even my pet human has had it with the stuff. Plus, it has been so cold I have seen the Robins wearing fur coats this is ridiculous. What is going on with Mother



CLUB T-SHIRTS



Good news! Tracy
Hilka who is Bella

Embroidery is now going to make our club

shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to XL and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

What you do is go to her website.

www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb

Then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page).

Look down the page and find Gildan

DryBlend 50/50 T-shirts #8000

Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes.

Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo

When she receives your order she will send you a PayPal® invoice

In a short time you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal® account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)



Well 2014 has hit the ground running and the crazy things people say are getting a head start as well. So here is the first of many strange statements to come!

A woman called and was sure this time her new neighbors had an illegal bird (she had called before) and needed us to take it away from them right away. She described it as looking like a Flamingo but with shorter legs and beak and was sure it was illegal because she had never seen anything like it. I told her what she was describing was a Moluccan Cockatoo and they were not illegal. She asked me if I was sure and I said yes. I then asked her how she was able to get so much detail about the bird did she have binoculars? She said no but should I get some? I told her no but she was going to check with the Police to make sure I was right. Why do I get the feeling they probably know her very well.

A young man came up to me at the Finch and Canary Clubs Bird Fair and he ask me that when Captain dies am I going to have him stuffed. Well he would sure be low maintenance then wouldn't he! Another woman asked me, at the same fair why I would do that to my bird. Confused I asked what and she said dye him to enhance his colors like that. OKAAAY!!!

A woman called me and wanted to give up a bird but there was a catch it was her former fiancé's bird and she was doing this as a get back at you kind of thing.

When all the facts came out she made a copy of the front door key and with the help of her girlfriend stole the bird after he threw her out. When I told her she had just committed larceny and could be prosecuted under the law she really changed her tune.

This has been my favorite so far. A woman wanted to know if she could have her male Blue Crown Conure fixed because he was mating with her hand. Ain't love wonderful!!

Well this starts the 2014 season and this is only the beginning!

and you should do the same. Hopefully I will see you in March with my favorite human Duke.

God bless, till I see you all in March,

Till next month,
your friend Baby

>< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< ><



BITS from BABY



A big Howdy to everyone this is Baby your roving reporter who wants to go back to Miami it's too cold here! Well it seems my favorite human has had his wings clipped and will be laid up for a while so we missed the February meeting. I am hoping to see you all again in March but we'll see. I have been informed by my other sources that we had fifty-five members and five guests at the February meeting and a total of thirty-three birds in attendance. There were seven Macaws, seven Cockatoos and six Grays along with thirteen other assorted parrots. While my favorite human is recuperating I will keep tabs on the goings on through my assistants but until then I will stay put and stay warm

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

MARK MAKLENBURG	APR. 2
JEFF ROSENTHAL	APR. 3
MATT DAVIS	APR. 6
PATTI POLZIN	APR. 8
BARB ROSENTHAL	APR. 8
JELENA FONTANA	APR. 9
McKENNA LYNCH	APR. 13
ASHLEY IWANICKI	APR. 17
MARIE KEEHL	APR. 17
ROSEMARY MEDVE	APR. 17
CHERISH BOUGENOY	APR. 20
TAMMY CAROL	APR. 20
DANN TODD	APR. 20
SCOTT TARR	APR. 23
ALISON SAUVE	APR. 24
MARK GREENWOOD	APR. 25
CARINNE KORANY	APR. 27

where Mulder is either so put that thought out of your minds. So with another rescue under their belts they were off and heading home. This does not mean they can sit idle, oh no, there are other birds that need their assistance and they will not sleep (well maybe a little) until their services are no longer needed for they are **THE RESCUE RANGERS!!!**

Stay tuned Ranger Fans for our next action filled adventure Five to Love in Clinton Township



RESCUE RANGERS



The call came in and our Rangers were off to the land where every street is named Commerce and that would be where else but Commerce Michigan. They were off to pick up Scully and before all you X-Files groupies get all a-twitter it is NOT that Scully this one happened to be a Severe Macaw. I can hear it now how severe was he? Well a cyber Gibbs Slap to all of you. Scully was not abused but he was loud and his owner's life had changed and they could no longer keep him so they called our Heroes to come get him. Never knowing what they would see they were very surprised to see a beautiful little Macaw looking a little confused over the whole proceedings. It was with heavy hearts they surrendered him over to the Rangers and they were off. Well it did not take long for Scully to find a home and everyone was happy. Also before you ask I do not know



Rambling with Rambo

We had another interesting month in February; more cold and snow. Like I really need to tell you that.

Even though the Canary and Finch show was a total dud, it was still fun seeing my friends an extra time. A few of us are still in bad shape. We need to send them our love. I'm sure they miss us as much we miss them. If you can, send them a card, make a visit, or give them a call. No matter what someone is going through, these little things can make a big difference for them.

I had a great time at the February meeting. Michael and I met some new friends. Michael and Cynthia are an interesting couple. We also learned much more about others. Some of you never cease to amaze me. I couldn't keep up with you. And, all that pizza we had, yum. Somebody nominated Michael for a position on the board of trustees. Well, he was not elected. But he did get 15 votes.

I'm proud of him. Congratulations to Sue Dixon.

It was the day after Valentine's Day. Daddy was listening to his usual Saturday radio show, "The Vinyl Café" ; 9:00am 89.9Fm. Today's story was about a championship hockey game, way back in 1943. Well, it was a fierce game, with both teams playing their best ever. The game ended in a tie. Both teams discussed this situation. Being war time, both teams wanted to win for the pride of their home country. However, someone said, "Everybody loses in a war. This game shows we are both winners. We can't have a loser here. Let's play for the 'Love of The Game.'" They all agreed. So the teams were randomly mixed up. They played a period, for 'The Love of the Game' there would be no loser. And everyone would be a winner.

Where am I going with this? Here is a thought. Why do parrots play, both alone, and with our people? We play for 'The Love of The Game.' We love our people, because they love us. Parrots play with each other for the 'The Love of The Game.'

This brings up another thought. Why do our people go to all the work they do for lost, lonely, unwanted birds? They do this for 'Love of Birds.' Now think about how much work it takes to rescue, care for, foster, adopt, and care for us parrots. Think about how much work putting on all our events is.

Our people do all these things, for 'The Love of Us Birds.' Why would any sane, or even

crazy, person put up with us parrots? We make huge messes; we chew up, and sometimes eat, everything.

Those crazy humans can't help but love us. How can they be mad while we are sitting in their destroyed Gucci purse, or shoes, or how about when we poop on that white Channel dress, or Armani jacket? We look up at them, with the most innocent look. Then we hit them with that, "I Love You."

Humans, there is no understanding them. But, We Still Love Them.

As always, Have fun, (try to) Be Good, and remember, Macaws Rule. Rambo



UP COMING EVENTS

As of

Mar 10th 2014

- Mar 22nd Senior Educational Program
American House Taylor
25250 Eureka Rd.
Taylor, MI 48180
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show
- April 4th Senior Show
Independence Village-Story Point
1155 Silverstone Lane
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
12:00 PM set-up (noon)
1:00PM Show
- April 11th Senior Show
Brighton Gardens

15870 Haggerty Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
2:00 PM set-up
3:00PM Show

Ann Arbor, MI 48105
9:00am Set-up
10:00 am Show

April 22nd Library Educational Show
Novi Public Library
45255 W. 10 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
6:00 PM set-up
7:00PM Show

June 20th Senior Show
Independence Village-Brighton Valley
7700 Nemco Way
Brighton, MI 48116
Noon Set-up
1:00PM Show

April 26th Senior Show
Waltonwoods at University
3280 Walton Blvd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show

June 22nd Rainbow Feathers Bird Club
17th Annual Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM
VFW Post 345
27345 Schoolcraft Rd.
Redford, MI 48239
10:00AM to 4:00PM

May 3rd Motor City Bird Breeders
Bird Fair
\$4.00 Adm. 10AM to 5PM
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071

June 28th Educational Program
Highland Township Public Library
444 Beach Farm Circle
Highland, MI 48357
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

May 13th Senior Educational Program
Medilodge of Milford
555 Milford Rd.
Milford MI 48381
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

May 30th Senior Show
Independence Village Plymouth
14707 Northville Rd.
Plymouth MI, 48170
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

June 13th Senior Show
Glacier Hills
Senior Living Community 3rd floor
1200 Earhart Rd.

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

****NOTE****NOTE****NOTE****

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Sept. 28th Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Sat Times TBD
Sun Times TBD

***CANCELTION CONFUSION ***

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace

46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

We will be setting up on Thursday

Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.

Please remember no birds will be allowed through the front door.



****NOTE****NOTE****NOTE****

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event****

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.





How to tell if your bird is sick

By Don J. Harris, DVM

Birds in the wild instinctively hide illness in an attempt to avoid predators that prey on sick or injured birds. Pet birds are also just as effective in hiding illness as their wild counterparts, and it is up to bird owners to recognize subtle behavioral and physical signs that may indicate their birds are sick.

Behavioral signs may include:

- Sleeping later in the morning than usual
- Sleeping more during the day
- Irritability
- Unusually compliant or passive
- Sitting on the bottom of the cage
- Picking at food and/or not eating at usual times
- Eating less overall
- Vocalizing less
- A change in the voice or hoarseness
- Different breathing pattern
- Making unusual sounds when breathing

Physical signs may include:

- Coughing or sneezing
- Discharge from nostrils (nares)
- Matted eyes
- Eyes are dull and closing excessively
- Matted feathers on the face and head
- Diarrhea
- Black stools
- A change in the white part of the droppings to another color such as red, yellow or green
- Weight loss—can you feel or see the breastbone?
- Unusual swellings, especially around the eyes
- Irregular discoloration of the feathers
- Feathers are “fluffed up”
- Random or generalized loss of feathers
- Scaling or crusting of skin
- Increased temperature of feet or beak

Any of the signs listed above, or any other unusual signs, may indicate your bird is sick. You should take immediate action by making an appointment with your avian veterinarian. Waiting even one day to resolve the problem can jeopardize the long-term outcome of your bird's health.

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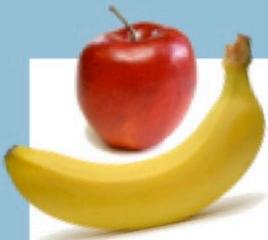
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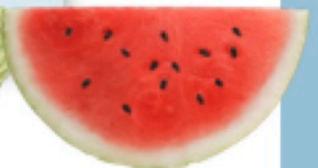
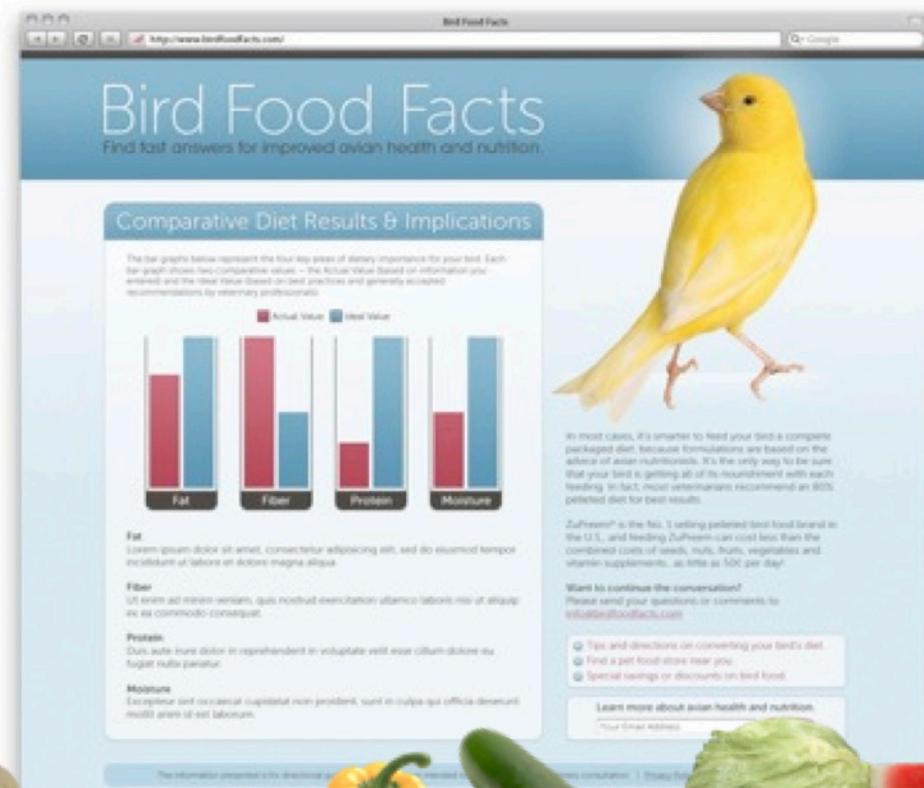
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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

April 2014
Volume 17 Issue 4

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING DATES :

APRIL 27th -----Fourth Sunday

MAY 18th -----Third Sunday

JUNE 22nd -----BIRD FAIR

*****NO MEETING IN JUNE*****

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops and more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary– Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Mary Perva 517-618-7008

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email – susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- bigduke@comcast.net

ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st weekend of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff Livonia, MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

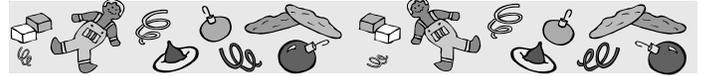
Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



CLUB WELFARE

. Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is two fold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and deserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



Crossing The Rainbow Bridge

Sadly we must report the passing of another feathered member of our club. Sunny a Sun Conure who owned Jeff and Cathe Cote crossed during the night earlier this month; his crossing was very sudden and unexpected. We wish Sunny a fond

farewell, Soar high and free on the far side of the bridge you will be missed.

!!!!!!! NEWSLETTER DELIVERY CHANGES!!!!!!!

Due to our increased costs in printing and delivery of our monthly newsletters we are looking to institute some changes. What we want to do is start sending our monthly newsletter to all of our members via their e-mail. The newsletter will be in a Microsoft Word® format and will be an attachment to an e-mail; it will also be accessible on our web site. From either of these sources you would be able to print the newsletter or just read it. This change will enable our rescue to save about \$300.00 per month in printing and mailing costs.

Our target for effecting this change was going to be March or April in 2014; however there is a problem, more than a third of our members do not have a valid e-mail address on file with Tammy. So we are going to continue to snail mail our newsletters for now. We need to have everybody send Tammy or Steve your name and e-mail address so we can update our list of e-mail address prior to instituting this change. Send your e-mail address to sweettweeters@comcast.net and splafchan@twmi.rr.com please remember to keep it updated if you change it.

We know there are some members that don't have a computer or don't have

an e-mail address; we will continue to send all of you your monthly newsletter via snail mail (US Postal Service) but we need to know who you are. Please make an effort to notify Tammy that you have to have postal delivery of your monthly newsletter. If you don't tell us you have to have postal delivery of the newsletter we will assume e-mail is ok.

Veterinary offices and other special recipients will also continue to receive a printed copy of our monthly newsletter.

DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE!

From the prez:
**FINALLY,
FINALLY, FINALLY,**



spring has sprung and winter seems to have left us, at least as of my writing this. I have been loving this beautiful weather and can finally say I do have spring fever and am glad to have it. The rough winter weather put a damper on many things like programs, rescue runs and even our meeting size. I truly do not blame anyone for not wanting to venture out into the sub-zero temperatures but those days are done till next winter, (I hope). We have got many things on our plate for this summer and into the fall all you have to do is check our upcoming events and they will be listed. Please come join us even if you do not bring any birds the extra set of eyes are always welcome, the help is appreciated beyond words and we

have a blast so check out these events. I have been asked by many other organizations how we do it. I always ask do what? Get the participation from our club it amazes them. I tell them the reason we get the participation is that this is their club all the ideas, decorating and anything else comes from the members themselves. We only have officers because to maintain our 501c3 status we have to have them but everything you see is because of the great members we have in our club. What you guys do not only at our fair but at all the events shows what kind of group we are and everyone notices. I was even told that that can't be true someone has to manage things, I told them that if you trust the club to get it done it will, micromanaging just makes you and everyone else crazy plus it causes stress that everyone from the public at events to vendors at the fair will notice. Trust is the most important thing and our club members have **NEVER LET THE CLUB DOWN!!!!** You guy always give your all to make an event a rousing success and no one worries because we know we will get the job done. Oh I almost forgot my position is to handle that big scary guy who seems a bit perturbed, point him in my direction but just give me a good running start so he'll have to really work to catch me. So as we plunge headlong into the summer season let us make every event not only a success but fun as in party fun as well. I say this all the time but it is so true **YOU GUY ROCK!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez

Dave



Voice of the Veep

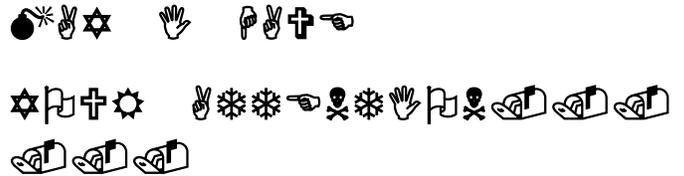
It was an excellent meeting that we had last month. The weather cooperated with us and gave us one of the best days seen in two months both temperature and precipitation wise. On a personal front it was wonderful seeing so many members and guests at a meeting.

There is probably nobody in our club that will disagree with the statement I'm about to make "life is never dull when you're living with parrots." My latest adventure took place one evening this month with JB. JB was roaming around the family room being his normally pesky self when a sudden noise startled him. He looked up, looked around and bolted under the cable/DVD stand that is only four inches tall. My first thought was that whatever startled him did a good job because he stayed under the stand for about thirty minutes. It turned out he wasn't scared he had discovered a new source of fun and enjoyment; dust bunnies. When he popped out from under the shelf he was covered in dust. He had a poufy dust coif on top of his head, there were dust bunny trailers stuck to his tail feathers that looked like an automobile from a wedding trailing soup cans. Who needs a robotic floor sweeper when a parrots willing to dust for you. ☺

The shows and events are starting to rapidly roll in for our club and rescue and I

encourage everyone to consider joining us for a show. The senior shows and assisted living homes and educational shows at libraries are one of the many ways we use to help fund our rescue. We are always in need of help before, during and after a show; so don't feel that you have to bring your own parrot there are plenty of other ways you can assist. We always need help bringing birds in from the cars, walking parrots among the guests to get a better look at them, standing by with paper towel in case of a "poopie oopsie" and taking birds back out to the cars after the show. The listing of shows is constantly changing and evolving and any changes are updated on our web site as soon as they are confirmed. If you want to see the latest update to the events please check the web site <http://www.rfbirdclub.com> and if you have a problem accessing the web or have found an error please call me "Steve at 734-513-0030" .

Your Veep
Steve



As you know we are approaching a very busy season of both outdoor and indoor events, the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival and the All American Family Pet Expo to name two of many events that we will be attending. Along with doing these events comes something that we have become accustom to and that is drawing huge crowds. With that being said there are certain rules that must be followed to insure that birds do not go missing and the owner does not have heart failure wondering where that bird is. So I would like to pass on to you the rules of etiquette for doing high traffic events. If you have someone else's bird other than your own always follow these rules. First let the owner of the bird know that you have that bird so they know where and who the bird is with. Second stay within eyesight of the bird's owner. We love the fact that many of us can handle each other's bird and it gives the owner peace of mind when they can see where their bird is. Third and most important never ever hand a bird to someone and then walk away.

With the huge crowds we attract it would be very easy for someone to steal a bird if you take your eyes off of it for even a few seconds. Fourth, always take the bird back from the person you have handed it to and never let them hand it to someone else. Finally, return the bird either back to the owner or its time out stand, if you put it on the stand let the owner know that you have done so. This will help avoid the owner having panic attacks and keep everyone happy, relaxed and the event fun for all!



Rambling with Rambo

First I want to thank everyone for your attendance at the March

meeting. It was great to see so many friends. There were some of you missing that I truly wanted to see. Hope everyone is feeling better by time the you get this. Hey everyone, we all MUST SAY A PRAYER FOR Charles, and Sue Dixon. A card or phone call would be appreciated also. I don't know if Charles is up to any visitors yet. In fact, many of our members could use some encouragement right now. Please keep them in mind.

Hey you humans. The March meeting was a little light on things us birds could eat. Those meatballs are a little sloppy. And what is this? There weren't many deserts for our pet humans to give us. Talking about the meeting, we continue to get new

members every month. It's fun to meet new friends. In spite of getting a full treatment, wings, nails, and beak trim, I had a great time. Oh yeah, we figured out why I have issues with Tammy, other then when she is giving me pizza. I love her then. Well, she is the one that trims my beak and nails. Oh I hate getting my beak filed.

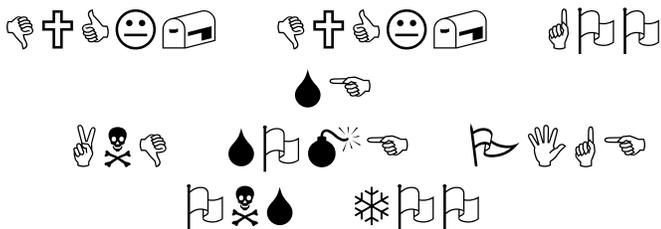
In spite of a last minute snow fall, spring must be here. The Robins (not Bat Man's friend) are back. Think about how far many outside birds travel in the fall and spring. We have it really good here. Around here things have been interesting. Michael bought us (Michael, and myself) a new TV. Then things went crazy. Daddy's car broke; something about the brakes being worn out. Then he needed new glasses. Can you believe it? He said I can't chew on the new ones. They look so yummy. Then I got sick. My sinuses got infected. Oh that HORRIBLE medicine. He had to shoot it into my mouth. He had to put a different kind in my nose. Then Michael hurt his back. What, he won't hold me when he is lying down. Oh yeah, here is another thing. When coming home from Dr Cook's, Daddy took me to the bank. The girls there have been asking him to bring me there forever. Then the only problem was being sick I didn't want to play. I only wanted to cuddle against Daddy's arm. He told them we will come back when the weather is warm, and I'm feeling better.

The show at American House, in Taylor, was great. However, I showed the

people there, what a little Parrot can do to a person's hand. I was real excited (my eyes were flashing) when Tammy unknowingly walked up real close to me. Well, the people there saw me bite, and really hang on. Michael yelled, pulled me off his hand, and then gave me a time out. After that, I showed everyone how sweet, and innocent I can be. Daddy explained to everyone that I was just over excited. Then he told them why I don't like Tammy.

I really do love all of you. I just don't like getting groomed. I'll try to be good.

As always, Have Fun,
Be Good and Remember
Macaws Rule
Rambo



Many people go to our fantastic website to find a bird rescue but some ignore the fact that we do only cage birds. They peruse the site see only parrots but still call us for help with an injured or what they think is an abandon baby bird. Still there are some that think we do other things like animal relocation. Here are some of the crazy calls we have got to relocate nuisance ducks, geese and pigeons.

One woman called to get our help moving a flock of Canadian Geese. It seems that the said geese were using this West Bloomfield neighborhood as a hangout before moving on to where ever geese go. She did not ask she demanded we come out right away because they were disrupting the neighborhood. Not only were they all over the place but they were pooping everywhere (wow, birds pooping can you imagine that). They were causing a big headache for all the people who lived in this neighborhood and we had to do something about it. So I asked how many geese are there? She replied about 90 to 100. I had to inform her we only did exotic cage birds and to direct her request to the DNR. This did not make her happy but can you imagine Steve and me wrangling a flock of volatile Canadian Geese, I can't.

Another woman called about a pair of Mallard Ducks trying to make a nest in her backyard and asked us to relocate them to a more suitable place. I told her we did not and could not do that under the law and we only did cage birds. She said so how do I stop them. Luckily I watch a lot of the National Geographic Channel and just saw this on one of their programs. So I told her to make the site they are determined to nest in as unappealing as possible and they should go elsewhere.

The last one really made me laugh because it involved a problem that many have that try to feed the wild birds and that problem is Pigeons. Now Pigeons are actually native to Africa and are also known as Rock Doves but they are a nuisance to

many. This elderly woman called saying that she needed our assistance in ridding her backyard of a large flock of Pigeons. It seems that she started feeding the wild birds and after a while noticed a Pigeon started coming around well that opened the floodgates. I think they spread the word very quickly because once you have one soon you will have 100 it seems. She said that they were dirty and chased all the native birds away until all she was feeding seemed to be pigeons. I told her due to the winter being so rough she could not stop what she started or else the other birds that visit her feeders might starve, but as soon as food becomes readily available stop feeding the wild birds. This should cause your Pigeon flock to eventually move on. Then I gave her an alternative look on the internet to see what foods Pigeons don't like but attract the birds you desire. Steve and I nets in hand trying to relocate a flock of Pigeons what a sight that would be but the kicker is we would have to go back and back and back, Pigeons have a great homing ability and would probably return to her feeders within a week.

So if you need a gaggle of geese moved, a pair of smitten Mallards re-homed, a flock of Pigeons taken somewhere else to cause havoc or even a murder of crows shown the door please don't call us. Thank you!



Rescue update

The rescue continued to have success on placing foster birds in new homes. This past month we placed a Sun Conure: Green Cheek Conure: Fred an Umbrella Cockatoo: Jeepers a Military Macaw and three Canaries.

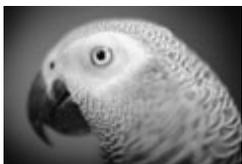
We also rescued a number of gently used cages which will be available at our bird fair in June. If you are interested be sure to stop by "Honest Steve's Used Cages" table at the fair. I would also like to mention that I have for sale an Animal Environments® stainless steel Cockatoo cage, call me if you might be interested. As is standard for our adopted birds they went to their new homes with cages, toys and food. We are only able to do this because of you, our members.

We want to thank all of our club members for your generous participation in our monthly raffles and your donations of toys and food. It is you, the members that enable us to send our rescued birds to their new adopted homes fully outfitted with cages, food, and toys. Your generosity also allows us to pay for vet care if needed and have made our rescue the success that it is. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

PAT GREENWOOD	MAY 2
SHARON MURPHY	MAY 3
JOSEPH FONTANA	MAY 5
MICHAEL GYARMATI	MAY 5
RACHEL JOHNSON	MAY 8
DAVE CAROL	MAY 13
SUE GOUIN	MAY 13
DALE DOMEIER	MAY 15
LANCE KNUDSON	MAY 16
JIM HAGER	MAY 17
RITA REED	MAY 18
RANDY BRATCHER	MAY 20
EMMA SCHOENFELNER	MAY 21
BILL MEDLEN	MAY 23
MICHELLE TODD	MAY 25
LAURIE STADTHER	MAY 29
LANGE BOUGENOY	MAY 30



Out and About with Pookie

Maintaining the condition of your beak and toe nails while providing pleasing environmental modifications to your residential space. This is an often misunderstood concept by most, if not all companion humans. We, as beings with superior intelligence must do our best to not

only understand but to also modify our behavior to accommodate their ignorance.

Whoa! Easy! Calm down! I can hear all your squawks and screeches and I totally agree with you. Chewing conditions your beak and toes and is a very healthy activity. The fact that a cage cover looks better chewed, a lamp shade provides better ambiance when rimmed with beak punctures is simply an added benefit. Window curtains and vertical blinds were made to be chomped, chewed, shredded and climbed upon. Not to mention horizontal blinds and window shades; weren't they created for birds to destroy? Oh! I nearly forgot wood door molding; a more chewable item just doesn't exist; except possibly leather furniture. The feel of a supple hand tooled Italian Corinthian® as it is being chewed between your beaks is probably the closest to heaven a companion bird may attain. It's far more tasty and fun to chew than most any toy inside of your cage. I understand all these things and I totally agree with you, unfortunately I doubt that your companion human does. They can however be taught to appreciate the beauty of a chewed drape or molding if it is done properly.

Humans don't react well to, nor do they accept sudden radical change to their surroundings. They are creatures of habit but they will accept small and slow changes. A totally and properly chewed molding will most likely be met with an undesired reaction where a nibbled door molding will most likely go unnoticed. So this is what you do; you add nibbles to the molding slowly over many weeks and months. These changes will be accepted by your human and in no time at all you will have gained the desired result. Some humans are not so easy and may require diversionary tactics during this time. Chewing on that toy inside your cage will divert their attention from the main

plan. Your human will see all the wood chips inside your cage or on the floor by the molding you're modifying. This mess will divert their attention from your primary task. The end result is an aesthetically pleasing piece of molding and a sharp and healthy beak.

Remember for healthy beaks and toes chew, chew, chew a busy beak is a happy beak.

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie

Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Greetings Mate's

AAAAHHHH!!!! It seems that spring has finally arrived and it has come none too soon for me and the rest of my friends. I was sitting with my friends at our favorite table at Birdsbee Coffee just enjoying this beautiful spring weather. Pookie had her usual Café Latte J.B. had his Cappuccino with a side shot if Espresso (as if he needed the caffeine) Winnie had his Soy Latte with extra Vanilla Mr. Finnegan and Ruby were to engrossed in each other that their coffee got cold and I had my Café Mocha Double Shot Latte. Buttons had a Vanilla version of a hot chocolate Willow had the Almond Frappe and Princess and Sunny opted for a Hazel nut Cappuccino with whipped cream.

The discussion was about our pet humans and how they were driving us crazy this past winter. I mean if we heard them complain about snow one more time it could have gotten ugly real fast. They kept calling it cabin fever but whatever it was it just made us nuts. We were so glad that the sub-zero temperatures broke and our pet humans would finally be enjoying some real spring weather finally. Stella (Mother Nature to you) even joined us and told us that getting old man winter out of the picture was the hardest of any of the winters so far. He seems not to want to let go and is still ravaging the Midwest but for us it's time for Tulips and Daffodils, YAY! Stella has let us know that she is trying to get us the same weather we had for the outdoor events that we had last year but those pesky Ground hogs are up to their old tricks so we will have to wait and see. For now though we can all enjoy this great spring weather and kick Old Man Winter to the curb, at least for this year!!

Cheers
Captain Morgan



BIRD FAIR

Our annual bird fair is now going to be on Sunday June 22nd and will be at the same location as

last year. The location is VFW Post 345 at 27345 Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239.

We are not going to be able to set up for the fair the night before as we have in years past but we will be getting access to the hall about 6:00 AM. The tentative plan is load a U-Haul® truck the evening before with Cages and stuff at Steve's house. In the morning before the fair starts we will bring in all the cages, raffle items and supplies.

We will need as much help as we can get at 6:00 AM to cover tables, price cages, run electricity and set up the raffle. Hopefully this will mostly be finished by 7:00 AM when the vendors will start arriving. We need help holding doors open and assisting vendors move in at this time. They really appreciate this; it's something that rarely occurs for them at other fairs and keeps them coming back. During the fair we will need help at the admissions desk, assisting at the raffle, rescue, and bake sale tables. Another time when help is needed is after the fair doing the clean-up.

This is our rescue's largest fundraiser of the year, so please; one and all come and make this fair the success of past years. We have rented out a record number of tables this year with many first time vendors. Let's show them what a dynamic group we

are by assisting them in every way possible.

Come on out and lend a hand even if you haven't signed up. You don't have to stay all day; any time you can help would be wonderful.

Bake sale items are also needed. If you're one of the talented members that can bake goodies please consider making something wrapped in individual servings.

CLUB T-SHIRTS



Good news! Tracy Hilka who is Bella

Embroidery is now going to make our club shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to XL and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

What you do is go our website www.rfbirdclub.com and click on the tab "RF GEAR" or to her website.

www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb

Then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page).

Look down the page and find Gildan DryBlend 50/50 T-shirts #8000

Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes.

Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo
When she receives your order she will send you a PayPal® invoice
In a short time you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal® account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)

BITS from BABY



Howdy everyone it seems that my favorite human still had his wings clipped for the March meeting so I had to rely on my other sources for all my information. It looks like spring is in the air and I think I'll stay here and leave Miami alone until next

winter. Speaking of spring looks like someone had a spring in their step (yes Steve that would be you) it seems that the Grays took the prize at the March meeting with nine in attendance followed by seven Macaws, seven Cockatoos, seven Conures and eleven other miscellaneous parrots there for a total of forty-one all together. It was also a much bigger meeting than we have had in a while because for a change it did not snow on the meeting day and fifty-seven people were there. Hopefully both my favorite human and I will be there in April I really miss the meetings, the programs and all my feathered and non-feathered friends.

God bless, till I see you all at the meeting,

Your friend Baby

<< >> << >> <><> <> <> <> <><>




RESCUE RANGERS



As they looked into the sky they saw the Ranger Signal flashing bright and knew they had to spring into action! Well it really was a phone call and they walk to the Rescue Mobile they don't spring like they used to. This time it was to Clinton Michigan to rescue five Lovebirds the Mom and Dad and three babies. It seems that the pair they had bought and were assured were

two males turn out not to be, (duh, you think) and had babies on the bottom of the cage. This does sometimes happen if the pair is determined enough to raise a family and these two were! When the Rangers arrived they were taken into the family room and saw three beautiful blue Peachfaced Lovebirds babies and a green Mom and Blue Dad. Why they wanted to find a home for these guys was Mom and Dad were showing signs that they wanted to have babies again so before that happened they had to give them up. The reason they got the two in the first place is a story that is all too familiar to the Rangers, "If you don't buy two one will die of loneliness" a myth started probably by a breeder that had too many Lovebirds to sell no doubt. So the Rangers scooped up the birds put them in carriers and were off. Because these birds were so striking, (White faced mutations) the babies quickly found homes. Even Mom and Dad got adopted and were put into a situation that really discouraged breeding and so far no "oops" babies, YAY! It is so very nice when the little guys find homes and they have a happy ending. Things though are not ending for the Rescue rangers there are many more birds that need their help and they will keep calm and carry on because they are **THE RESCUE RANGERS!!!!**

Stay tuned for our next keep you on the edge of your seat installment Crazy in Ypsilanti!



UP COMING EVENTS

April 22nd 2014

April 22nd Library Educational Show
Novi Public Library
45255 W. 10 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
6:00 PM set-up
7:00PM Show

April 26th Senior Show
Waltonwoods at University
3280 Walton Blvd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show

May 3rd Motor City Bird Breeders
Bird Fair
\$4.00 Adm. 10AM to 5PM
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
(We do NOT have a table here this year)

May 13th Senior Educational Program
Medilodge of Milford
555 Milford Rd.
Milford MI 48381
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

May 30th Senior Show
Independence Village Plymouth
14707 Northville Rd.
Plymouth MI, 48170
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show

June 13th Senior Show
Glacier Hills
Senior Living Community 3rd floor
1200 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
9:00am Set-up
10:00 am Show

June 20th Senior Show
Independence Village-Brighton Valley
7700 Nemco Way
Brighton, MI 48116
Noon Set-up
1:00PM Show

June 22nd Rainbow Feathers Bird Club
17th Annual Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM
VFW Post 345
27345 Schoolcraft Rd.
Redford, MI 48239
10:00AM to 4:00PM

June 28th Educational Program
Highland Township Public Library
444 Beach Farm Circle
Highland, MI 48357
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival
Aug 15th Noon to 8:30PM
Aug 16th 10AM to 8:30 PM
Aug 17th 11 AM to 6PM

More details will be posted
as they become available

****Our Club Has a Booth at This
Event****

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
****Our Club Has a Booth at This
Event****

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Sept. 28th Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Sat Times TBD
Sun Times TBD

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace
46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

**We will be setting up on Thursday
Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.
Please remember no birds will be allowed
through the front door.**

****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE**
**

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

*****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event*****

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE**
**

****CANCELATION CONFUSION ****

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.



10 steps to a better relationship with your parrot

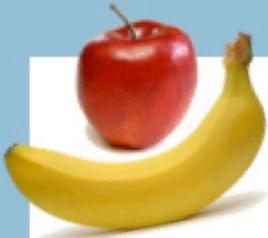
By Liz Wilson,CVT

- 1) Ensure your companion bird is healthy by doing annual check-ups and routine diagnostics with your experienced avian veterinarian. Since birds hide the obvious signs of illness, allowing basic annual testing is critical to the early detection of medical problems.
- 2) Ensure your companion bird is consuming a good diet. This is critical to the proper functioning of its immune system and increases its potential for a healthy life, as well as eliminating nutrition-based problem behaviors, such as some cases of feather destruction
- 3) Ensure your companion bird lives in a sufficiently large cage, allowing it lots of room for exuberant wing-flapping exercise and energetic play; allow it daily out-of-cage time on play stations other than just the cage to minimize territorial behaviors. Encouraging healthy exercise can decrease problem behaviors like excessive screaming, since a tired parrot is a quiet parrot.
- 4) Establish controls with your parrot by lovingly teaching it to respond to the simple commands of Up and Down, and setting clear and consistent limits on its behavior. By teaching manners and setting boundaries, parrots can become better companions.
- 5) Give your parrot quality interaction daily, no matter how busy your life gets...even if for just 10-15 minutes of one on one time. Psittacines are biologically wild animals, and won't retain their "tameness" without daily contact with people
- 6) Make your companion bird a member of the family, since it is a flock animal and extremely social. Single birds should not be housed in rooms by themselves.
- 7) Socialize your parrot to family and trusted friends, thereby teaching it to adapt to the society in which it lives. It should be comfortable interacting with and being handled by other people. Do not allow it to become over-bonded to one person.
- 8) Assure your companion bird gets adequate rest, with 10-12 hours of dark, uninterrupted sleep time nightly. Sleep deprivation often leads to problem behaviors like biting, excessive screaming and feather destruction.

9) Establish trust with your companion bird by teaching it that it is safe with you. Consistency is critical to establishing trust, as your parrot learns what to expect from you and what you expect from it.

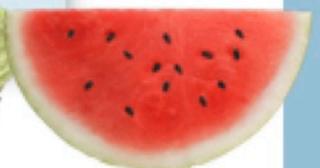
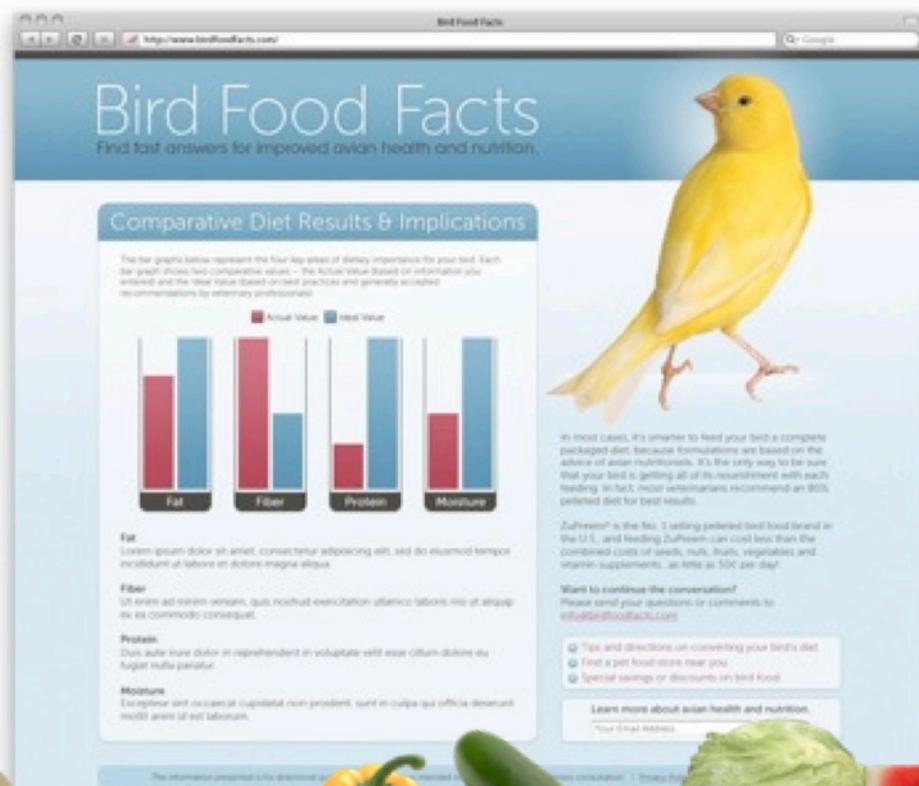
10) Accept your parrot for what it is, not what you want it to be. No matter how well trained it is, a healthy parrot may still be noisy messy and destructive because it's a parrot!

This article was funded by an educational grant from ZuPreem®, the makers of exceptional diets for extraordinary animals. ZuPreem® is committed to the advancement of knowledge regarding avian husbandry and nutrition. Working together, ZuPreem® and bird clubs with similar interests can support high-quality avian health in our worldwide community



What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

May 2014
Volume 17 Issue 5

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING DATES :

MAY 18th –Third Sunday

JUNE 22nd – Bird Fair

JULY 27th – Fourth Sunday

*******NO MEETING IN JUNE*******

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops and more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary– Beverly Sholar 313-4925700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –
Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- bigduke@comcast.net

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email- susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Mary Perva - 517-618-7008

ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st weekend of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff Livonia, MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



CLUB WELFARE

. Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is two fold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and deserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.

From the prez:



I often get asked this question every time we do a fair or an event, how do you get so many people to help? I can't escape it and I don't want to because it shows that we are doing things right. Whenever we have an event I never worry about turnout from our group I worry about having enough space for everybody. This is truly a good thing to worry about and

I will never complain about this, **EVER!** The other comment I get is that there is no, and this is their words not mine, drama, stress or noticeable sniping at each other. I always tell them the important things that make this happen, one we are all on the same page knowing that the task at hand has to get done. Two there are no micro-managers we don't sweat the small stuff because there are enough people who can resolve a small issue and they are trusted to do so. Three we truly like each other and have a good time at these events. Four there is a wonderful pool of talent and knowledge among our members. Last but not least we are all crazy bird people and you know what they say about birds of a feather, just sayin'. With that being said we are entering our big event season starting with the spring event in June in Whitmore Lake and going on to our bird fair on June 22nd. Plus a whole lot of other things during the summer. So keep looking at the upcoming events for where we will be next. I am putting out a plea for help at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival we need as many who would like to come out and help. This is a three day event and even if you do not bring a bird the extra eyes are a big help to keep track of the birds that will be there. I must warn you though, be prepared to have fun we always do, can anyone say Gelato!! Also the May meeting is the last before our fair so please come we will have all the details finalized for the fair and **NO I AM NOT IN THE RAFFLE**, you would lose money there. So watch the upcoming events see where we will be next come join us if you can but most important

is my thanks for all you guys do. Our meetings are awesome, the food is awesome, the fun we have is awesome and you guys are just plain awesome! As always **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until next time,
Your Prez, Dave



Voice of the Veep

One month away! Our annual bird fair is next month on Sunday June 22nd. I'm hoping all of you are as excited as I am. The fair is at the same venue in Redford and we're going to need as much assistance from all of you to make it a success. In case anyone isn't sure the address is: VFW Post 345, 27345 Schoolcraft Road (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239. On Saturday, the night before the fair, at my house we will be loading a U-Haul[®] truck with used cages, raffle prizes and anything else that needs to go to the hall. We will probably be at my house about 5:00 pm to start the loading. The real work starts at 6:00AM on Sunday when we have to unload the truck, set up for the raffle, cover tables, run extension cords, set-up used cages and play stands and put lawn signs up around the neighborhood. At 7:00AM the real work starts because we have to start helping vendors bring in their wares and be on hand to help anyone who needs help. Remember the I-96 freeway is completely shut down

between Newburgh Rd. and Telegraph Rd. although the service drive will be open there is lane closures and restricted traffic flow. The best and easiest way to access the hall is to get on Plymouth Road (one mile south of I-96) and take it to Inkster Road and go north on Inkster Road to where the hall is, just east of the Comerica bank on the I-96 service drive. All the help we can muster is needed especially on Sunday morning at the hall so anyone that can lend a hand please plan on helping. Our club has established a reputation of providing more assistance to the vendors than almost any other fair and that is a reputation we would like to build upon in any way we can.

We have encountered a severe problem with information about the parrot count at our meetings. I'm not sure which Cockatoo Baby designated as his replacement counter while Duke is convalescing; but they need to start using their wing feathers to keep better track! According to the erroneous summation last month there were more than twice, I repeat twice as many Cockatoos as African Grays in attendance. I'm posting a fair warning that I may be forced to use my position as VP to institute a Cockatoo restriction in the future if this situation doesn't improve! 😊 (Just Kidding)

Your Veep
Steve



Help Wanted

Discount
Pet & Supplies
is looking for
part-time help.
You will need to

be able to unload cages and supplies from manufacturer's delivery trucks, assemble cages and play stands. You will also have to clean cages and assist in feeding birds. If you are interested apply at the store located at 16320 Middlebelt Rd. Livonia, MI 48154. (734)513-6060



BIRD FAIR

Our annual bird fair is going to be on Sunday June 22nd and has been moved to a new location. The new location is VFW Post 345 at 27345 Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239. (same as last year) We are not going to be able to set up for the fair the night before as we have in years past but we will be getting access to the hall about 6:00 AM. The tentative plan is load a U-Haul® truck

the evening before with Cages and stuff at Steve's house. In the morning before the fair starts we will bring in all the cages, raffle items and supplies.

We will need as much help as we can get at 6:00 AM to cover tables, price cages, run electricity and set up the raffle. Hopefully this will mostly be done by 7:00 AM when the vendors will start arriving. We need help holding doors open and assisting vendors move in at this time. They really appreciate this; it's something that rarely occurs for them at other fairs and keeps them coming back. During the fair we need help at the admissions desks, assisting at the raffle and rescue tables. Another time when help is needed is after the fair doing the clean-up.

This is our rescue's largest fundraiser of the year, so please; one and all come and make this fair the success of past years. We have rented out a record number of tables this year with many first time vendors. Let's show them what a dynamic group we are by assisting them in every way possible.

Come on out and lend a hand even if you haven't signed up. You don't have to stay all day; any time you can help would be wonderful.

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SPECIAL BREEDER PRICING



Out and about with Pookie

Spring time is finally here and the weather is warming up at last, the good part of this is I'm getting back outside and attending the club's events again. In case any of you were wondering I have definitely not lost any of my charisma or ability to wow the crowds. My unique looks stemming from the alternative lifestyle that I live is still a crowd pleaser. (I am a feather picker and my personal motto is "life is good when you dare to be bare"). The accolades and comments are just wonderful; she's so cute, is that a baby, she looks so soft and snuggly are just a small sampling of the comments I receive at the shows.

A problem that has definitely occurred and seems to occur every spring is with Steve my companion human; he has forgotten all of the obedience training he received last year? Are all companion humans like this? Do all of them need re-training every spring? If you don't know what I'm referring to I'll tell you. Every spring after the weather warms up and we start going to shows and for rides in the car Steve becomes obsessed with the misconception that he's in control. He has to be completely retrained; he seems to forget all the standard protocols and worse of all he thinks he's in charge! Can you imagine?

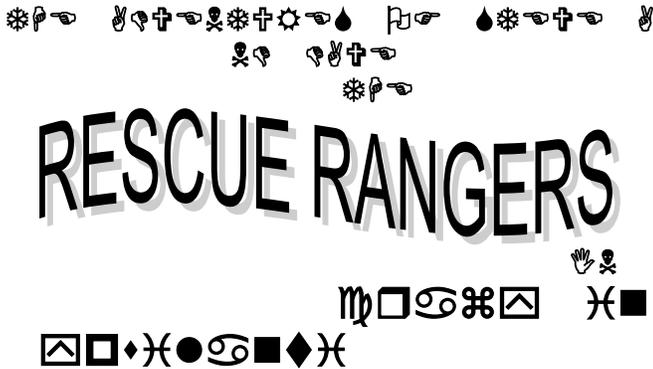
Maintaining superiority and control of your companion human is vitally important especially while riding in the car. The first time we went for a car ride this spring we had to claim our riding perches; JB on top of the passenger seat, Sparky on the passenger seat perch and I belong on Steve's shoulder. My position on the shoulder allows me to establish the dominance needed to help control Steve and his excesses. When he pulls into a drive-thru and orders food our positions make him much more willing to share his French fries and soda. If he doesn't willingly provide each of us with our own portions of the lunch we are able to take action. My position allows me to snatch food from his hand as he attempts to eat, Sparky and JB will rapidly move from their upper locations and snatch the bag of food or remove the lid and straw from his beverage container. Our positions of dominance will compel him to share his lunch with all of us and this sharing will reduce his intake and consumption of the unhealthy fast food.

So to all of my loyal readers I cannot stress strongly enough you must establish your dominance and authority quickly and firmly, your companion human needs your help!

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie

a blast we all have fun and the best part is embarrassing our pet humans in front of other pet humans. I know you know how to do that, and very well if I might add. Well time is short and soon my pet human will be home from work so I will sign off now and hope to see you at these events they are in Pookies newsletter every month.

Cheers
 Captain Morgan



Well every now and then a call comes in and you stop and it feels like déjà vu you get the creepy feeling you have been here before. Sometimes it is not a feeling but the all out fear you have dealt with this person before and you remember what that was like and you vowed you would never do that again. Then there are the times when you freeze in fear knowing you are going to have to deal with this person for the fourth time. This is one of those times. The Rangers had been to her house three time before picking up Finches and Canaries always expecting to come away with less than what was arranged and watching her have deep heartfelt discussions with each bird she had to give up. This time she had moved to Ypsilanti and was giving up the remaining

finches she had, (wait I thought she had no more, where did she, HUH). Well the Rangers were off, (and not that way) to get them.

When they arrived they found that she had another canary, a Green Singing Finch and a Red Cheeked Cordon Blue Finch. As in the times before she had to have her long deep and thoughtful conversations with each one, then she turned her sights on the Rangers talking about things that made no sense. The situation was getting dire both of our Heroes were getting mental whiplash as she flitted from one subject to another. THEN she started debating whether or not she wanted to keep the one cage just in case. The problem there was it was already loaded and ready to go. Finally in desperation Ranger Steve had Rangerette Celeste call him feigning another duty to which their attention was needed. It was like a miracle it worked and so the Rangers made a hasty get-away before she had a chance to change her mind again. The Finches and Canary were easy to place and soon everyone was happy. The Rangers made a solemn wish that she never gets anymore birds so they never have to deal with her again. So far, wish granted! Still there were far more sane people who needed their assistance and birds that needed their help for they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!!**

Stay riveted to your mailbox for the next exciting installment The Four Outlaws of Garden City

!!!!!!! NEWSLETTER DELIVERY CHANGES!!!!!!!

Due to our increased costs in printing and delivery of our monthly newsletters we are looking to institute some changes. What we want to do is start sending our monthly newsletter to all of our members via their e-mail. The newsletter will be in a Microsoft Word® format and will be an attachment to an e-mail; it will also be accessible on our web site. From either of these sources you would be able to print the newsletter or just read it. This change will enable our rescue to save about \$300.00 per month in printing and mailing costs.

Our target for effecting this change was going to be March or April in 2014: however there is a problem, more than a third of our members do not have a valid e-mail address on file with Tammy. So we are going to continue to snail mail our newsletters for now. We need to have everybody send Tammy or Steve your name and e-mail address so we can update our list of e-mail address prior to instituting this change. Send your e-mail address to sweettweeters@comcast.net and splafchan@twmi.rr.com please remember to keep it updated if you change it.

We know there are some members that don't have a computer or don't have an e-mail address; we will continue to send all of you your monthly newsletter via snail mail (US Postal Service) but we need to

know who you are. Please make an effort to notify Tammy that you have to have postal delivery of your monthly newsletter. If you don't tell us you have to have postal delivery of the newsletter we will assume e-mail is ok.

Veterinary offices and other special recipients will also continue to receive a printed copy of our monthly newsletter.

DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE!

I WANT..... . .

I love the phone calls that we get that start out with I want... it always make me afraid of what is coming next. Here are some things that came next.

I want a bird that will be guaranteed to talk.
I want a bird that will not ever bite me.
I want a big bird.
I want a bird that is not fuzzy or a feather picker.
I want a bird that is nice.



I want one of those Grays you had at the show.
 I want that Blue and Gold Macaw you had at the show.
 I want a bird that is perfect.
 I want a bird that will be easy.
 I want a bird that is not messy.
 I want a bird that will ride on my shoulder like a Pirate.
 I want a housebroken bird.
 And finally, I want a parrot any parrot will be OK.
 I left the comments out because I know, or should I say I want you to fill in the blanks.

to your home to meet the bird and see how they interact with it. A portion of the decision as to weather the bird is going to the correct home will be up to the foster home. This is because you will have the best judgment of the bird's personality and how it interacts with people.

We would like to extend a great big thank you to all of our club members for their support at the monthly club raffles and for the donations of food and toys. It is your participation that funds our rescue and allows us to send the adopted birds to their new homes with cages, toys and food. Our rescue could not do this without you. **KUDDOS and a great big THANK YOU to everyone.**

Bird Center of Washtenaw County

Wild Birds and Waterfowl Rescue



Rescue update

There was one adoption last month; Sienna a Blue Crown

Conure was adopted into a new forever home. After poor Sienna had been rejected for adoption she was adopted to the perfect home.

We are in need of members who are willing to foster rescued birds. The duties of a foster parent are four fold. You must be able to quarantine the rescued bird from your own flock (in case the rescued bird has an illness it could pass to your own birds.) You have to convert the rescued bird to a healthy (pellet) diet that includes fruits and veggies. You have to be willing to take the bird to the rescue vet (Roose Animal Hospital.) The vet bills and pellets will be paid for by the club's rescue. When the time comes that the bird is up for adoption you may have to have the prospective new owners come

The Bird Center is a 501(c) (3) non-profit wild bird rescue. If you are contacted by anyone or have found a Songbird or Water Fowl that is need of rescue please refer or contact the Bird Center. They have provided us with contact numbers
 Bird Center (Songbirds) 734- 761-9640
 Mallard Marsh (Water Fowl) 734-482-8187

What to do when a bird needs help

Fledgling birds should be left alone the parents are near and will take care of it.

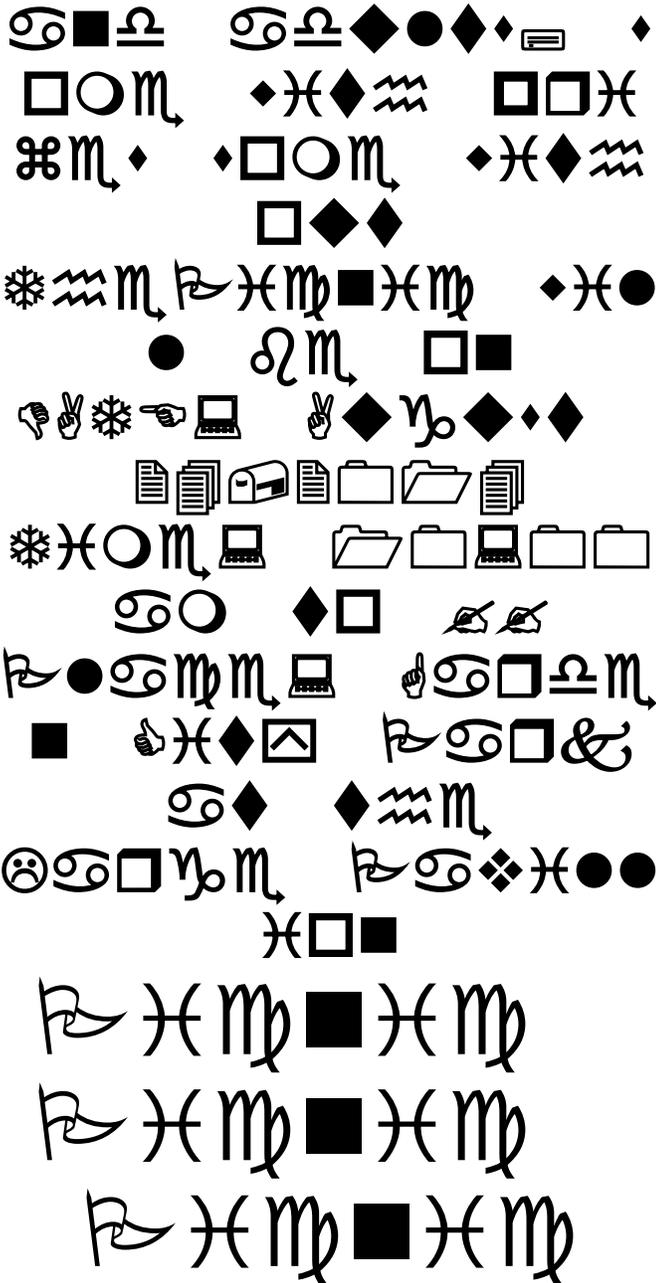
If a baby has little or no feathers return it to the nest if possible.

Baby ducks, geese and swans walking with parents should be left alone.

If you have an injured bird of any type please contact the Bird Center or Mallard Marsh at the phone numbers listed above for instructions. Proper food, care and handling are critical for the survival of an injured bird. The Bird Center will advise you on what to do and how to proceed. Some birds, such as Hawks, Owls, Herons, Cranes and Geese can cause injury to you even though you have the best intentions at heart.

More information is available at their website: www.birdcenterwashtenaw.org
 Bird Center of Washtenaw County
 2229 Needham
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104





UP COMING
EVENTS

As of

May 13th 2014

May 13th Senior Educational Program
Medilodge of Milford
555 Milford Rd.
Milford MI 48381
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

May 30th Senior Show
Independence Village Plymouth
14707 Northville Rd.
Plymouth MI, 48170
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show

June 7th Whitmore Lake Summer
Extravaganza
Downtown Whitmore Lake
Main Street in Whitmore Lake
Runs from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Rain or Shine
Set-up at 10:00 am
We will be setting up our pop-up
In a 10' X 10' Space

June 13th Senior Show
Glacier Hills
Senior Living Community 3rd floor
1200 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
9:00am Set-up
10:00 am Show

June 20th Senior Show
Independence Village-Brighton Valley
7700 Nemco Way
Brighton, MI 48116
Noon Set-up
1:00PM Show

June 22nd Rainbow Feathers Bird Club
17th Annual Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM
VFW Post 345
27345 Schoolcraft Rd.
Redford, MI 48239
10:00AM to 4:00PM

June 28th Educational Program
Highland Township Public Library
444 Beach Farm Circle
Highland, MI 48357
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

July 15th Library Show
River Rouge Public Library
221 Burke
River Rouge, MI 48218
Set-up at 1pm
Start at 2 pm

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival
Aug 15th Noon to 8:30PM
Aug 16th 10AM to 8:30 PM
Aug 17th 11 AM to 6PM
More details will be posted
as they become available

****Our Club Has a Booth at This
Event****

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

****Our Club Has a Booth at This
Event****

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Sept. 28th Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Sat Times TBD
Sun Times TBD

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace

46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

**We will be setting up on Thursday
Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.
Please remember no birds will be allowed
through the front door.**

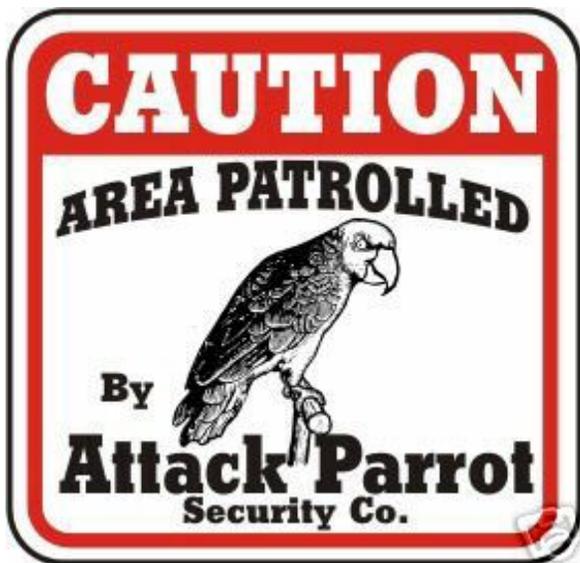
****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE**
**

There has been some confusion from
the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to
which events they are allowed to bring their

own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

*****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event*****

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

BRENT BEAVERS	JUNE 1
LIZ MONTANA	JUNE 1
JANIE LYNCH	JUNE 2
MIA LYNCH	JUNE 5
DANIEL JOHNSON	JUNE 6
SHERRY MADDREN	JUNE 6
JESSICA GREENWOOD	JUNE 7
JACLYN WARD	JUNE 11
LINDA RAMSEY	JUNE 13
CINDEE ROSENTHAL	JUNE 23
SREEJITH PILLAI	JUNE 24
JASON MILLER	JUNE 25
JILL DOMEIER	JUNE 28
CARA WARD	JUNE 29

Select the right bird for you and your family

By Don J. Harris, DVM



Exotic birds can be delightful pets—just ask any of the millions of companion bird owners throughout the world who enjoy a rewarding and satisfying relationship with their feathered friends. Creating a long-lasting positive relationship with your bird may be the result of

Choosing the right bird *for you and your family* in the beginning. This crucial first step is part of being a responsible pet owner, but it is often overlooked in the rush to acquire a new bird. Identifying what characteristics you want in a bird, and researching different species and their characteristics can go a long ways in helping establish a long and happy relationship. Rarely will one bird fit more than a few of the desired characteristics. You may acquire a bird and expect it to speak, only to eventually realize this particular species never talks. Others may discover that a large colorful macaw is also a large intolerably noisy creature. Many potential owners have expectations that cannot possibly be fulfilled by the species they choose. The best way to obtain the “perfect” pet is to first determine which characteristics are most important to you. Then

shop for the bird that fits those criteria. Certain species arise as leaders in a variety of categories, and this list can be used as a starting point in making your choice. Remember, there are always exceptions, so once you have narrowed down your decision to a particular species, look at the parents and gather information from the breeder about an individual bird's behavior.

Appearance

Finches, Macaws, Eclectus, Lories, Toucans

Speaking ability

African Grey, Amazon, Mynah

Natural vocalization (song)

Canary, Cockatiel

Intelligence

African Grey

Social attributes

Cockatoo, Budgie, Cockatiel

Small size

Canary, Finch, Budgie, Lovebird, Cockatiel

Low maintenance

Amazon and smaller

Cleanliness

Most smaller species

Some bird owners may want to avoid certain "unpopular" characteristics like those listed below. Others may not see these same characteristics as undesirable. It's up to bird owners to weigh all characteristics of a species or an individual bird to make the best decision.

Loud

Macaws, Cockatoos

Messy

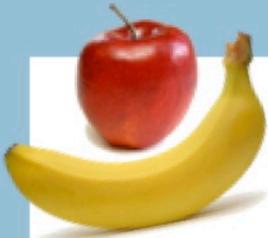
Macaws, Mynahs, Toucans

Aggressive

Female Eclectus, Male Amazons

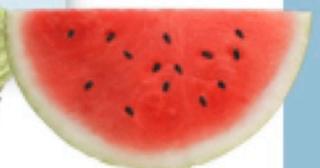
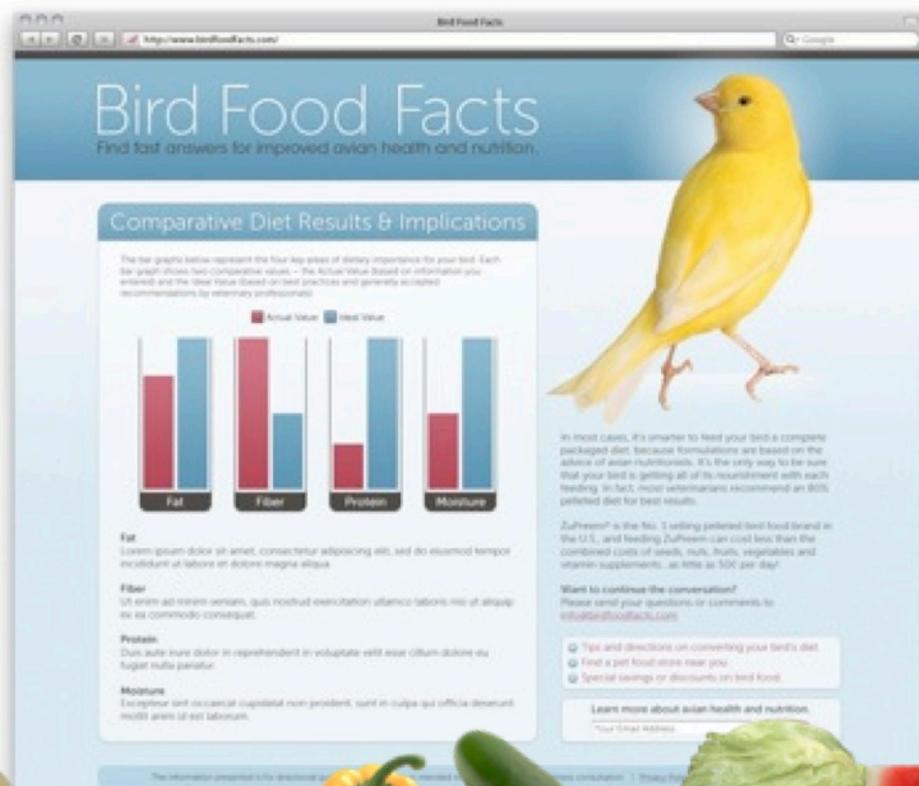
In the end, individuals interested in owning a bird should first decide what they expect from a pet bird. Once this question is answered, an appropriate species can be identified and researched. Only then can the potential for a long and mutually beneficial relationship be realized.

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What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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OAKLAND VETERINARY EMERGENCY GROUP
1400 Telegraph Rd * Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
248-334-6877

ROOSE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Kevin Roose, D.V.M. * Karen Knight, D.V.M.
509 W. Ann Arbor Trail * Plymouth, MI 48170
734-451-2870

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Keith Cook, D.V.M. * Elieen Cook, D.V.M.
13697 Dix-Toledo Rd* Southgate, MI 48195
734-284-9122

WARREN WOODS VETERINARY HOSPITAL
29157 Schoenherr * Warren, MI 48314
586-751-3350

ANIMAL EMERGENCY CENTER
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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

June 2014
Volume 17 Issue 6

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

JUNE 22nd – BIRD FAIR
JULY 27th – FOURTH SUNDAY
AUG. 24th – FOURTH SUNDAY PICNIC

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops

And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Mary Perva 517-618-7008

Susan Dixon 248-330-0938

Email- susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- bigduke@comcast.net



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st weekend of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff Livonia, MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Anyone who wishes to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.

any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is two fold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and deserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

From the prez:

Summer has finally arrived and I could not be happier!!! I thought I would not see grass until August but miracles do happen and it has become warm and beautiful. Well you know what that means June 22nd is our bird fair and we are sold out of all our table space YAY!! So we need help at 6:00 AM covering tables setting up the raffle and assisting the vendors bringing their wares in so they can be set up before we open the doors at ten and the tearing down and getting loaded up for their trips home. Help is needed everywhere and anytime you can help is greatly appreciated be it an hour or all day no help is ever turned away. Also our event season begins and there are several, just keep looking in the upcoming events because it changes so fast. I never worry all I have to do is put out the word and you guys seem to come out of nowhere and make the event a complete success we have also been invited to a new



BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



CLUB WELFARE

. Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of

event right in our own backyard in Redford Michigan in September more information will follow. Things are humming along oh and July is Bag-It-Bingo food and fun no formal meeting just stuff we need to take care of and fun. So I hope to see you guys bright and early on the 22nd at the fair at 6 AM for set-up and I do not have to say let's make this event a success you guys have never let the club down ever so I know it will be a success why because **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez
Dave



Voice of the Veep

Our annual bird fair is this month on Sunday June 22nd.

I'm hoping all of you are as excited as I am. The fair is at the same venue in Redford and we're going to need as much assistance from all of you to make it a success. In case anyone isn't sure the address is: VFW Post 345, 27345 Schoolcraft Road (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239. On Saturday, the night before the fair, at my house we will be loading a U-Haul[®] truck with used cages, raffle prizes and anything else that needs to go to the hall. We will probably be at my house about 5:00 pm to start the loading. The real work starts at 6:00AM on Sunday when we have to unload the truck, set up for the raffle, cover tables, run extension cords, set-up used cages and play stands and put lawn signs up around the neighborhood. At 7:00AM the real work starts because we have to start helping vendors bring in their wares and be on hand to help anyone who

needs help. Remember the I-96 freeway is completely shut down between Newburgh Rd. and Telegraph Rd. although the service drive will be open there is lane closures and restricted traffic flow. The best and easiest way to access the hall is to get on Plymouth Road (one mile south of I-96) and take it to Inkster Road and go north on Inkster Road to where the hall is, just east of the Comerica bank on the I-96 service drive. All the help we can muster is needed especially on Sunday morning at the hall so anyone that can lend a hand please plan on helping. Our club has established a reputation of providing more assistance to the vendors than almost any other fair and that is a reputation we would like to build upon in any way we can.

Your Veep
Steve



TALES OF BUSTER BROWN

There is a new appliance in the Brown household. It is something Buster cannot stay away from for more than a few hours. It is a wine cooler that he can see his reflection. I think he sees it as completion (since he is an only bird child). Since he is a very inquisitive creature, he would walk around for quite some time looking at this interesting character. The second day, he looked into the reflection and started talking. He used

his beak and banged on the reflection and said “knock, knock that’s there?” And there was no response. I think it frustrated him, so he said “Hey, you, you bird brain”. Still no response! So he walked away and got interested in some base-board chewing. The next day, he went back to confront his reflection. He said “Hey you, step up/ step up” ---no response. He waddled back to his cage, and started chewing on something in his cage (for a change). Next day, he confronted his reflection again. I think that there is a love/hate relationship with this reflection. Understand that Buster for eleven years has been any only bird child, and I think that he felt threatened. However, how can we know what they think! The next time, I think he went for a gentler tone, he said “I love you, give me birdie kisses”. No response. He walked away saying “whatever!” Note that every day there is some kind of communication. So what do you think? Do you think, Buster could handle a sibling?

Linda Brown



Out and About with Pookie

Everyone knows the importance of foraging, not only is it enjoyable it facilitates stimulation and activity. Our companion human, Steve, has been providing us with two items that have benefited all of us in the flock but Steve also. Paper bags and cardboard boxes what an immeasurable

source of fun they are for me, JB, Sparky and Calvin.

Steve places an empty box or bag on the floor in our room or on the kitchen floor and we go to work. An empty bag allows us to go inside of it or pounce on it, crinkling, ripping and rolling around inside of it. Boxes which are more stable allow us to chew holes in the side and actually go inside of the box. A large enough bag or box provides an excellent way to repay Steve for his thoughtfulness in providing us with these awesome foraging toys. Repayment is probably not the correct term, returning the favor for the foraging toys is more correct.

What we do for him is assist in his exercise program by helping him jump, hop and run. These activities increase his heart rate which is a healthy activity, We also allow him many ample opportunities to share snacks with us; everybody knows that sharing always makes you feel better. The quizzical looks on your faces are obvious even though I truly cannot see them right now; I know you’re scratching your heads. Here’s how this is accomplished; JB stealthily hides inside a box or paper bag and sits very quietly, when Steve walks past he streaks out and attacks his feet. The sudden shock usually causes him to jump, hop and scamper out of the room. You must remember there are four of us involved in these maneuvers Sparky, Calvin, myself and JB; so Steve never knows when the attack will happen. The kitchen is the

best ambush site because we'll wait until he's holding a plate of food or a bag of snacks in one hand and a cold beverage in the other. When he jumps and runs a portion of the items he's carrying drop or splash on the floor which means they become fair game for us. What usually occurs though is he scampers away from us and sets his snacks down by the TV and his chair and returns to the kitchen to clean the mess on the floor. While he's cleaning I continue to attack his feet slowing him down, this gives JB, Calvin and Sparky time to raid the plate and procure tasty treats for everyone.

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



BIRD FAIR

Our annual bird fair is going to be on Sunday June 22nd. The location is VFW Post 345 at 27345 Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239. (same as last year) We are not going to be able to set up for the fair the night before as we have in years past but we will be getting access to the hall about 6:00 AM. The tentative plan is load a U-Haul® truck the evening before with Cages and stuff at Steve's house. In the morning before the fair starts we will bring in all the cages, raffle items and supplies.

We will need as much help as we can get at 6:00 AM to cover tables, price cages, run electricity and set up the raffle. Hopefully this will mostly be done by 7:00 AM when the vendors will start arriving. We need help holding doors open and assisting vendors move in at this time. They really appreciate this; it's something that rarely occurs for them at other fairs and keeps them coming back. During the fair we need help at the admissions desks, assisting at the raffle and rescue tables. Another time when help is needed is after the fair doing the clean-up.



Help Wanted

**Discount
Pet & Supplies**
is looking for
part-time help.

You will need to be able to unload cages and supplies from manufacturer's delivery trucks, assemble cages and play stands. You will also have to clean cages and assist in feeding birds. If you are interested apply at the store located at 16320 Middlebelt Rd. Livonia, MI 48154. (734)513-6060 (Remember to mention you saw this ad in the newsletter)

This is our rescue's largest fundraiser of the year, so please; one and all come and make this fair the success of past years. We have rented out a record number of tables this year with many first time vendors. Let's show them what a dynamic group we are by assisting them in every way possible.

Come on out and lend a hand even if you haven't signed up. You don't have to stay all day; any time you can help would be wonderful.



BITS from BABY

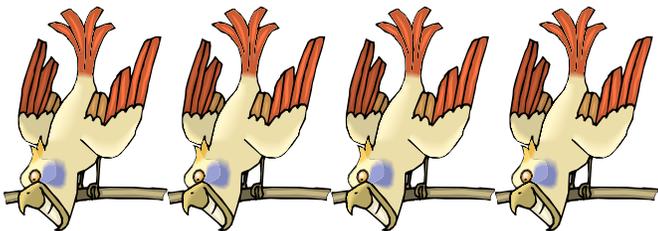


Well Howdy everyone this is Baby your roving reporter. I received an e-mail from Duke about the May meeting so the report is second hand this month.

We had Forty nine people that showed up. Forty six club members and three guests. One of guests joined our flock. There were Thirty four birds, of which the Macaws and the African Grays had seven each and the Cockatoos with six, plus fourteen other types of Parrots.

Duke came to the meeting for the first time in four months. I hope to be at the July meeting with Duke.

Till next month
Your friend
Baby
>>>>>>>>



**WE INTERRUPT OUR
REGULARLY SCHEDULED
RESCUE RANGERS FOR ONE
THAT YOU JUST HAVE TO
READ TO
BELIEVE!!!!!!!!!!!!**



RESCUE RANGERS



It was a quite Sunday morning and ranger Dave was just finishing his breakfast when the phone rang, at 8:15 in the morning to be exact. It was a woman who had rescued two African Grays from a feed store a few days before and realized she could not keep them. They had been dumped there and she felt sorry for them and bought them for a very low price and took them home. Then she discovered they were noisy, messy and mean!

The home was in the city of Ortonville Michigan. Ranger Dave was on the phone pronto with ranger Steve and made arrangements to drive the hour out to Ortonville after the bird club meeting to go get these poor African Grays. They drove and they drove and they drove until finally they reached their destination. They went up to the door rang the doorbell, nothing, rang it again, nothing, knocked on the door, still nothing??? Now our usually calm, cool and collected rangers were getting a might miffed so as ranger Steve called the lady on his cell phone, ranger Dave had rangerette

Tammy call this woman as well. Ranger Steve connected with her first, then rangerette Tammy talked to her and she told rangerette Tammy she had just talked to Randall (aka Steve) and she had a tragedy the day before and looked terrible but would let us in.

So we were finally in and she led us to the Grays and, they were grays alright two gray Cockatiels. All rangers Dave and Steve could do was stand there dumb founded for a second before he uttered those never so true words “these are Cockatiels not African Grays”. Well they caught both birds not male and female like she had stated but both female put them into the carrier and while ranger Dave was taking the cage out to the car, that was when ranger Steve built up the courage to make a statement. What ranger Steve said was “we were under the impression they were African Grey parrots not cockatiels.” She stood and looked at ranger Steve as if he were dumber than a bag of rocks and said “that yes indeed they were African Grays because everyone knows that all gray parrots come from Africa.” Ranger Steve was flabbergasted and speechless all he could do was stand and smile. Then in the next breathe she says “maybe I shouldn’t have animals I should just stick with fish”, no truer words were ever spoken.

So with the African Grays that weren’t in tow back to their part of the state they went both exclaiming if we hadn’t actually been through that we would never have believed it. Hey it’s all in a day’s work for **THE RESCUE RANGERS!!!!**

We now return you next month to the Four Outlaws of Garden City.



Rambling with Rambo

Hi Friends:

Here is what’s happening. Michael bought some new glasses. He won’t let me chew on them. Well!!

On to other things: Lately Daddy has been leaving on music for me when he leaves. Sometimes it’s that guy Beet-Hoven. His music is interesting. It’s nowhere near as good as the Macaw Boogie with, Amazons crooning, and Grays covering the drum beat. I love Cracker’s whistle. Sorry Cockatoos you can’t carry a tune. We had a pretty good May. Daddy took me on a few adventures. The weather was rather good. You could even say the rain was nice. It washed the winter dirt away. The rain now has the grass nice and green, and the flowers are tall, full, brightly colored.

Here is my thought for this month. Every morning, after my cereal, Michael reads the newspaper. Mommy wants the crossword cut out. Sometimes he lets me sit there and tear up the paper for him. I love grabbing the part he is reading. I always chew, and tear, just ahead of him.

Every morning he reads this column called “Dear Abby”. Is that the girl on NCIS? She’s so cool. So my superior brain has to ask, “Why don’t our pet people ask us for

advice?” After all us parrots are full of wisdom. We can tell them when to go on a diet – by taking their junk food away. We can tell them when to get new furniture, or time to redecorate. We can tell them when it’s time for a new shirt, or dress, or those EXPENSIVE shoes don’t look good on them, or how about their keyboard is worn out. However I did write that Abbey person a song. I call it “Dear Abby, My human is Alright”

Dear Abby, Dear Abby. My human’s alright.

He feeds me treats, so I never bite.

Dear Abby, Dear Abby. He cleans up my mess without a fight.

He tells Mommy, “I’ll get to it tonight”. She says, “Yeah right!”

Dear Abby, Dear Abby. Even when I’m bad

(come on now, parrots never do bad things)

he treats me right.

When he’s sad, I tell him I love him.

Then he smiles, and says “You always help me feel alright.

Dear Abby, Dear Abby. With a kiss, my human always tells me

“Good Night.”

Dear Abby, Dear Abby. My human loves me;

He loves me so, even when I bite his toe.

Dear Abby, Dear Abby. My human is the best human I know.

Dear Abby, Dear Abby I had to let you know.

So please print this song. So everyone will know,

“MY HUMAN IS ALRIGHT”

Yours Truly,

Rambo

Well Friends, let’s all make this a “Happy Spring”.

As Always, Have Fun, (try to) Be Good.

Remember Macaws Rule.



Ahhh, here we are in the month of June but many do not realize that June first also officially begins our severe weather season. It usually runs through the first week in August and this is when we see some of our worst storms and many of our tornados. Here in Michigan we have become complacent to the watches and warnings for severe weather but if the past winter is any indication we may just have to pay closer attention to what Mother Nature throws our way. What if you were caught up in a severe weather situation, even if it didn’t hit you directly it could still impact you, would you be ready? Would you and your pets make it through a rough patch and

would you have all that you would need to get you by? Here are some things you should have on you or with you in the event of an extended time of misery caused by the weather. You should have enough food for your pets to last a full three to four full days. Having bottled purified drinking water for three to four days because in the event of a power failure the sewage can sometimes backup into the drinking water system contaminating it and prompting a boil water order. Money stashed for emergencies. Even if you are fortunate enough to have a generator you should still have these basic items for the safety of your pets. These types of emergencies can happen in the blink of an eye so take that old Boy Scout motto to heart and be prepared!



UP COMING
EVENTS
As of
June 13th 2014

June 13th Senior Show
 Glacier Hills
 Senior Living Community 3rd floor
 1200 Earhart Rd.
 Ann Arbor, MI 48105

9:00am Set-up
 10:00 am Show

June 19th Senior Show
 Inn at Cass Lake
 900 N. Cass Lake Rd.
 Waterford, MI. 48328
 Set-up 12:45pm
 Show 1:45pm

June 20th Senior Show
 Independence Village-Brighton Valley
 7700 Nemco Way
 Brighton, MI 48116
 Noon Set-up
 1:00PM Show

June 22nd Rainbow Feathers Bird Club
 17th Annual Bird Fair
 \$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM
 VFW Post 345
 27345 Schoolcraft Rd.
 Redford, MI 48239
 10:00AM to 4:00PM

June 28th Educational Program
 Highland Township Public Library
 444 Beach Farm Circle
 Highland, MI 48357
 1:00 PM Set-up
 2:00 PM Show

June 29th Senior Show
 American House
 24400 Middlebelt Rd.
 Farmington Hills, MI 48336
 2:00 PM Set-up
 3:00 PM Show

July 15th Library Show
 River Rouge Public Library

221 Burke
River Rouge, MI 48218
Set-up at 1pm
Start at 2 pm

\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

July 20th Senior Show
American House
5859 West Maple
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Set-up 1:00 PM
Show 2:00 PM

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

July 22nd Senior Show
Redford Geriatric
22811 West 7 Mile
Redford, MI 48219
Set-up 1:00 PM
Show 2:00 PM

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Sept. 28th Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Sat Times TBD
Sun Times TBD

July 25th Senior Show
American House Stone
3741 S Adams Rd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
Set-up 12:30pm
Show 1:30pm

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace

46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

**We will be setting up on Thursday
Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.
Please remember no birds will be allowed
through the front door.**

Aug 12th Arkay Center for
Handicapped Adults
16045 Dix-Toledo Rd.
Southgate, MI 48195
Set-up 10:00 AM
Show 11:00AM

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival
Aug 15th Noon to 8:30PM
Aug 16th 10AM to 8:30 PM
Aug 17th 11 AM to 6PM

More details will be posted
as they become available

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders Bird Fair

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

*****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE*****

****CANCELATION CONFUSION ****

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.



BIRD SHOWS

Through out the year we contract shows and outdoor events. Educational senior shows are at different independent and assisted living homes and nursing homes. Educational shows are at schools and libraries. These are one day events and normally take about three hours. Outdoor and indoor fairs can be two to three day events that last up to ten hours in a day. If

the event is outdoors we set up a pop-up canopy with screened in sides.

We want to invite all of our new members to consider joining us at these fund raising venues. If you’re not sure about bringing your own bird that’s OK we always need help even if it’s only for a few hours. If you have never done one of our educational shows they are a lot of fun and are very well received. Come and join us for a good time.



BAG-IT-BINGO

Next month is “Bag-it-Bingo” month and “Bag-it-Bingo” is a blast.

For those of you who haven’t experienced this event it’s easy; just bring an inexpensive gift wrapped in a paper bag (like something from a dollar store or a re-gifted item). We

then play Bingo for the wrapped gifts, but you can’t open them yet.

After all the bags and gifts have been picked bingo winners get to start “stealing” gifts from other winners, When this ends we open our surprises at the same time, some of them will be very nice and some of them turn out to be zonks. Which one will you get? Be sure to join us for a great time.



RESCUE UPDATE

We had several successful adoptions this past month. Sadly I forgot to write down all the birds that found new homes. I

will mention the ones I can recall; Four Cockatiels and one Canary.

We're looking for foster help; any of our members that would be willing to become a foster home please let us know. We need foster parents that would be willing to foster small bird, Budgies, Cockatiels, Love Birds, etc. We also need foster homes for medium to larger size parrots also. Please contact Dave, Tammy or Steve at a meeting to let us know you're willing to help.

We here at Bird Droppings want to thank all of the members of our club for supporting our rescue. It is your participation in the monthly meeting raffles, our annual bird fair and all the adoption events that allows us to fund the rescue. Thank you one and all without your help and participation we couldn't do it.

green droppings or the fact her Cockatoo wanted to sleep more than usual. Until that morning when she woke up to find her beloved companion dead on the bottom of it's cage. A necropsy revealed it had died of Fatty Liver Disease. Although the bird was only six years old it had succumbed to a short life of a poor diet of Sunflower, Safflower seeds, Peanuts and other fatty foods.

What exactly is Fatty Liver Disease? To put it simply it is when a bird receives a diet so high in fat the liver is simply overwhelmed and can no longer function as it should. Some of the symptoms are bright green droppings, rapid overgrowing and softening of the top beak, lethargy and plain obesity. Sometimes a bird shows no symptoms at all but is just an apparent healthy overweight bird. If caught in time it can be reversed by being seen by a certified avian vet. A vet can prescribe the proper treatment. Birds that need to be watched, that are susceptible to this disease are Amazons, Cockatoos, African Grays and Cockatiels. A diet of pellets, fresh veggies and some seed used only as a treat can help your bird lead a long and healthy life.

Getting the skinny on Fatty Liver Disease



She doted on her Cockatoo giving it everything a bird could want or for that matter desire. She paid no attention to the lime



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

MICHAEL ROSENTHAL	JULY 5
CRAIG PERDUE	JULY 6
ALEXANDRA PATTON	JULY 8
DON BOUGENOY	JULY 10
PATRICIA FULLERTON	JULY 13
HUSTON BOUGENOY	JULY 14
HENRY JEDRZEJEK	JULY 16
CHERYL HITTER	JULY 18
BEVERLY SHOLAR	JULY 18
SUSAN GOODEN	JULY 19
NICHOLAS MARKEY	JULY 20
BARBARA SWANTNER	JULY 24
SUSAN DIXON	JULY 30
EDWARD PROSZKOWSKI	JULY 31

Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Hello all my feathered and non-feathered friends I certainly hope all is going well for you I am just great. By the time you read this we will have done our first outdoor event and I am sure we will get oohhs and aaahhs no doubt. We will also get are those gray birds Pigeons? Oh kids look at the Parakeet (meaning me). So which one of these birds are parrots? Finally we cannot forget the classic command, make the bird talk! This is precisely why we don't do it in the first place we will not be commanded to do anything just because you want us to do it. Still these events are a lot of fun to do and on top of everything we get junk food to boot. Then there is this bird fair they keep harping about. We know nothing about it because we **NEVER GET TO GO!** They say it is because of all the stuff going on but I think it is because it is really a secret party they are keeping from us I say it is time to crash this party and get the real scoop on this whole

affair. So if any of my birdie friends has any ideas on how to crash this party hit me up on my Blackbirdie 4.0 and let's really see what this is all about. So Pookie and I will keep you guys posted about all the upcoming events, the summer looks like it is going to be a blast.

Cheers

Captain Morgan



Consider these factors before you purchase a bird

By Don J. Harris, DVM

Purchasing a new bird is an act that requires much forethought and planning. Some potential bird owners research a new car purchase with far more diligence than they do a new pet. But, because some parrots live as long as 50-60+ years, impulse buying may have repercussions that last for decades—much longer than a new car. Here are a few aspects to consider when purchasing a bird.

Does this particular bird fit your lifestyle?

Does the species enjoy a busy and noisy environment with a lot of people interacting, or would it do better in a quieter more isolated environment? If it is a large species, is there enough space in your home for a large cage?

How much time can you devote to a pet?

Does the species demand a lot of care and attention? Is it a "high maintenance" species that needs a lot of one-on-one interaction, or is it happy to be left alone for periods of time?

Does this bird have the pet characteristics you want?

If it is important to you that your bird talks, choose a species with high speaking ability, such as an African Grey, Amazon or Mynah. If cleanliness is important, check out a smaller species. If intelligence is important, you can't beat an African Grey.

What is the average life span of this species?

Life spans range from 10-60+ years, depending on the species. Do you want a bird that may outlive you?

Where are you purchasing your new bird?

Was it bred locally? Is the breeder available for questioning? Is the dealer in a fixed location where you can locate him or her should you need follow-up advice or if a problem arises?

Is there a guarantee?

Be suspicious of anyone who doesn't offer some assurance of the bird's health.

What are the nutritional needs of this species?

Certain species of birds have special nutritional needs. Can you meet them?

What kind of diet is the bird currently eating?

Is the bird already eating a balanced diet or will it need to be converted to a new more nutritious one?

Older birds on seed diets can be difficult to convert, but may encounter health problems if not switched.

Is the bird healthy?

There is no way to answer this without a complete post-purchase veterinary exam. Schedule an exam with your avian veterinarian immediately after purchasing your new bird. Don't wait.

Is your home ready for your new bird?

Is the caging suitable? Is it situated in the correct location in the home? Are the perches arranged correctly? Are there toxic plants or substances harmful to birds in the household that may need to be removed? If your new bird is joining other

birds in your family, do you have a plan on how to quarantine the new bird until you have a post-purchase veterinary exam?

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Why Home-Cooked Foods May Not Meet Your Bird's Nutritional Needs

If you are feeding your bird the same foods you cook for yourself, how do you know he is getting the correct balance of nutrients? After all, his nutrition needs are different from yours.

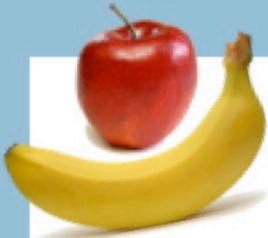
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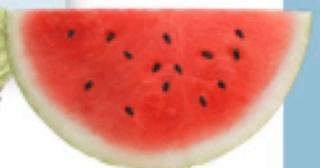
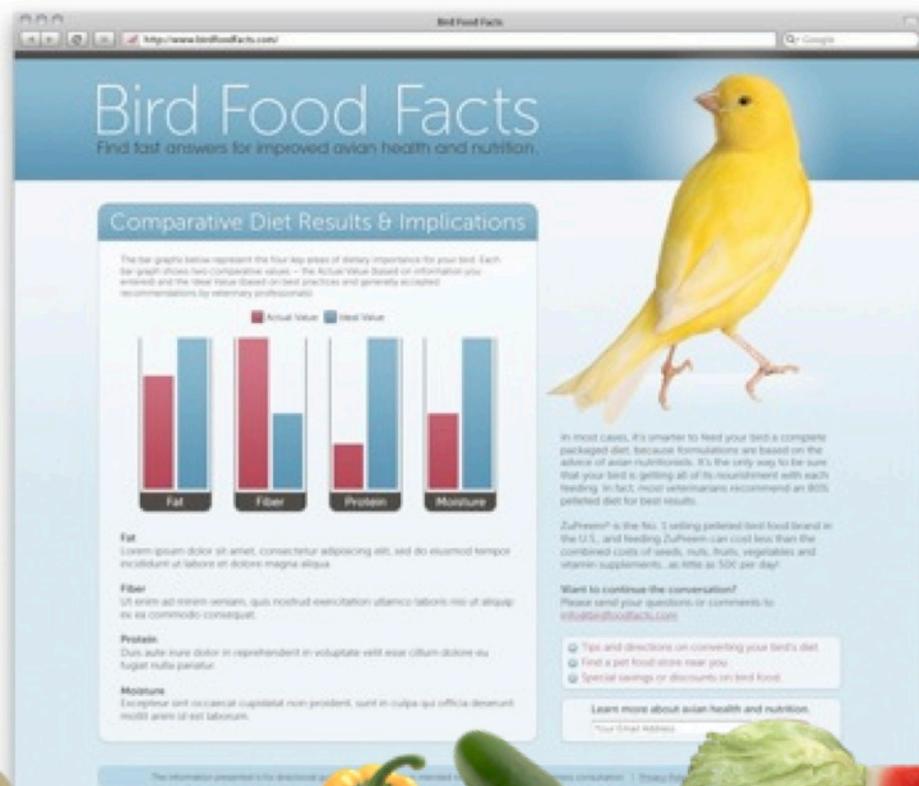
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What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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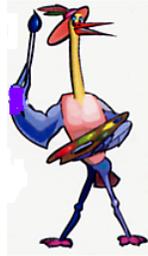
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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

July 2014
Volume 17 Issue 7

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

JULY 27th - FOURTH SUNDAY
AUGUST 24th - FOURTH SUNDAY
PICNIC
SEPT 21st - THIRD SUNDAY

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
 - Support scholarships for avian vet students
 - Yearly Bird Fair
 - Club Library for members
 - Grooming available
 - Avian rescue/relocation programs
 - Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
 - Monthly newsletter
 - Periodic Service projects
 - Field Trips
 - Educational Programs upon request
 - Make-it-take-it workshops
- And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

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Email- susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- bigduke@comcast.net



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia, MI 48150 or email them to him at splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.

CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is two fold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and deserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



Crossing The Rainbow Bridge

SKY

Sadly we must report yet another loss of a feathered club member; Sky a budgie who owned Morgan Hall crossed over last month. Sky was rescued by Morgan one morning when she noticed some young boys by her home tormenting this poor little lost bird. Morgan scooped up Sky and gave her a loving home until she crossed the rainbow bridge. To Morgan we offer our sympathies and want her to know we know how she feels because all of us that are owned by

feathered friends have felt this loss. To Sky we say fly free and soar high on the far side of the rainbow bridge; you will always be remembered and loved.

From the prez:



WE DID IT!!!!!!

Even with the freeway being shut down we still pulled off a fantastic bird fair. The crowds were only down by a handful of people but boy were the people taking the bags out the door. The vendors I asked did very well and were pleased with the turnout. I was more than pleased because the freeway closure had me a little worried but they still came. People loved the raffle with all the good stuff as they put it. One man ran out of tickets half way through and had to buy more for the other stuff he wanted to try to win. I also resisted temptation and did not buy one of those Brown throated Conures but did get lots of toys for my guys. The help we had was awesome the vendors got in, in record time and had enough time to have a breakfast sandwich & coffee which they loved. It was a very great day and a great fair so my thanks to all who helped make it the success it was. This is what happens when we pull together and work for a common goal we can overcome a closed freeway and make things work in our favor. We have already booked the hall for next year so we are off again. Also we are ramping up for our event season starting with the Ypsilanti Heritage

Festival on the 15th, 16th and 17th of August help is needed Friday the 15th setting up the pop-ups in the morning and then tearing down Sunday the 17th after it is all over. Your help in desperately needed and so very much appreciated you will never know. The other events will appear in the newsletter and we will once again need your help for these as well. As for the fair I would like to thank you once again for a job very well done. Also do not forget July's meeting is bag-it-bingo so come and be prepared to have fun. As always **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

P.S. July is the bag-it-bingo meeting bring something and conceal it any way you want and be prepared to have fun. Maybe this year somebody else can be the target, I won't give you any suggestions but Celeste or Steve are good substitutes, just sayin'.

Until Next Time
Your Prez
Dave



Voice of
the Veep

Another fair is in the books for our club and thanks to all of our members it was a success. Personally I would like to thank everyone who showed up at my house on Saturday

evening and helped load the U-Haul truck with all the used cages, boxes of gently used toys and raffle prizes. Thanks also to everybody that was at the hall bright and early to unload the truck and set up for the fair. There were a large number of members who were there in the morning between 7:00AM and 10:00AM helping the vendors move in and set up the raffle. In all it is all of you, the members, that made our fair stand out once again to the vendors and to the public. Even though the freeway was closed the attendance was only down by about thirty people but everybody was buying. All the vendors I talked to were pleased with the crowd and said they were having good sales.

Even though this year's fair is now in the history books we have started planning for the 2015 fair. The hall is reserved and rented for June 14th 2015 which is the second Sunday of the month. With the date set the collection of donations starts anew. We have decided to move our fair to the second Sunday in June because of a conflict with a coin show that has a prior claim to the fourth Sunday of every month. We were able to move to the second Sunday with no conflicts at all into the distant future.

We have a very busy summer of shows scheduled; many, many senior shows but the big show we need help at is the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival on the 15th, 16th & 17th of August. We will be setting up the pop-ups about 7:30 or 8:00AM on Friday in Riverside Park which is down in the valley northeast of the intersection of Michigan Ave and Huron St. Parking during festival hours can be difficult so if you intend to help I can give you more detailed parking

instructions please call me (Steve at 734-513-0030) for information.

Your Veep
Steve



BIRD SHOWS A BIG HIT

We have recently staged many senior educational shows at numerous retirement communities and senior centers. Our club received many accolades and smiles from the residents and other guests in attendance. We also want to say "thank you" to the retirement homes for the generous donations to our rescue for staging the shows

Our bird shows are lots of fun and great fund raisers for our rescue. If you have never attended one of our shows come and join us and see what all fun is about. Even if you can't bring your bird you can still assist us with the show, everyone is welcome.



Out and About With Pookie

The subject of my column this month is: dominance of companion humans, more importantly gaining and maintaining dominance over your companion human. This is a very important subject to all parrots. Humans want to be dominating in your home. It is your job as the more intelligent species to make them believe they are in control while manipulating them to do your wishes.

One of the easiest ways to accomplish this is to gain a position of superiority. Sitting on a shoulder is one of the best spots to gain an advantage from. From the prime shoulder position you can look your human in the eye and gain his trust. The shoulder position is also an excellent spot to discipline an unruly human from. You can remove their glasses, grab a well-deserved snack and nibble on an ear if needed. Please note that the eyeglasses snatch is especially useful if your human happens to be driving when you execute the maneuver. Imagining that your human has just visited the drive-thru of his favorite restaurant and has started to dine on some French fries. This is a prime time for an eyeglasses flip; your human will quickly weave a bit, put his glasses back on and give you a French fry to stop you from removing them again. Little do they realize that it's not his glasses you want it's the French fry. From that point on all you have to do is lean forward and he'll feed you another fry. Mission accomplished! From now on you will be sharing whatever he or she is snacking on. They may be a bit thick but once a human learns the signals they generally respond properly. Another advantage of the shoulder is it allows rapid access to two additional vantage points. From the shoulder you can climb on top of their cranium while gripping their head feathers (most humans call it hair.) This position provides and excellent

hold and makes great nesting material. The shoulder also provides access to the middle of their back just below the neck, humans can't reach there easily. Your human can't turn their head like you or I can so they will be unable to see you while you are maintaining this position. Their arms will have a difficult time trying to pick you up from the middle of their back allowing you to evade capture. Another strong point of the superior shoulder perch are the convenient appendages mounted on the sides of their heads. Your companion human probably call them ears although unlike a svelte birdie ear they flap about but can be used in an emergency as a beak hold and to store bits of regurgitated food. Good luck in your training endeavor and remember that a well-trained human companion can provide you with many years of entertainment; good company and they are usually very loyal.

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



Mommy's Toes. This is my chance for some fun. Attack. Down I flew. Ready, set, she's looking the other way, now. Beak open, head down, Go, and we're off. She sees me coming. The chase is on. She goes running across the room. "He, He, yes. She forgot her shoes. She has to come back." I'll let her get back over there. She's back across the room. Go, and the chase is on again. Shoot, she got away. Next time. Now, all my fine feathered friends. Remember, they are out there waiting for us. Yes, Mommy's, and Daddy's, Toes; a source of great fun.



Well, June was too much fun. Between the Educational Shows, the Highland Michigan Fair, our Big Annual Bird Fair, and the Library Show, it was too much fun. Lucky we were able to rest for a couple of weeks.

It certainly has been a great summer so far. A while back, Daddy started using this thing called "Face Book". Now he is on the computer more than ever. Well, he does let me sit on his shoulder, and he feeds me while I'm up there. And he takes me outside more than normal. But, he takes that thing he calls a Laptop where ever he goes. The good thing about this is, he can tell you about our adventures, before the 'Bird Droppings' gets to you

Remember, have fun,
be good, and as always
Macaws Rule
Rambo.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

LEO FENNELLY	AUG. 7
JEAN JEDRZEJEK	AUG. 9
KATHE COTE	AUG. 14
PAM JANKOWSKI	AUG. 15
LINDA MCCARTHY	AUG. 17
PAM PEMBERTON	AUG. 17
LISA GOYETTE	AUG. 19
SUSAN JENISON	AUG 20
SUSIE JANKOWSKI	AUG. 26
MOLLY CHINERY	AUG. 28



DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC!

Next month is our annual picnic at Garden City Park, Cherry Hill and Merriman. Enter the park from Cherry Hill and follow the road around until you see Dave and Tammy at the large pavilion. Remember we are moving the location of our picnic from the pavilion on the north side of the park to the large pavilion at the east end by the restrooms.

The Club is providing the meat and everyone is to bring items to pass and your own beverage (there will be a cooler with water and ice.) It is also recommended that you leave your pets at home for this event unless they are used to being outside in the wind and weather. Wings' being clipped is a must and smaller lighter birds should stay home, we don't want any accidental fly offs. The picnic is from 10ish until we're tired of each other's company.



BITS from BABY

Well howdy everyone Baby your roving reporter with nothing to report. That was because we had a bird fair instead of a meeting and I heard it was a huge success. I only heard because we had to stay home while the humans got to have all the fun, not fair! Oh well maybe next year. One thing did happen I got to go with Duke to a bird program for the first time in months and I was glad to see him and to be there. As always we were a hit, the feathered participants not the humans and it was so good to be back out again like being sprung from prison. So now that we both are back in circulation I hope to see you at a meeting

once again and be back among my friends, Feathered and non-feathered.

Till next month
Your friend
Baby

>< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< ><

BAG-IT-BINGO

This month is “Bag-it-Bingo” month and “Bag-it-Bingo” is a blast.

For those of you who haven't experienced this event it's easy; just bring an inexpensive gift wrapped in a paper bag (like something from a dollar store or a re-gifted item). We then play Bingo for the wrapped gifts, but you can't open them yet. After all the bags and gifts have been picked bingo winners get to start “stealing” gifts from other winners, When this ends we open our surprises at the same time, some of them will be very nice and some of them may turn out to be zonks. Which one will you get? Be sure to join us for a great time.



RESCUE RANGERS



Well it seems that this adventure would not be far for the Rangers in fact you could say it was right in their backyard. This rescue would take them to Garden City Michigan to round up four outlaws or in this case Parakeets. It seems as happens in many cases these poor guys became outlaws as soon as the kids lost interest in them and they became more of a burden than an asset. The kids who promised to care for them found other things to invest their time in and the Parakeets became the fallout of their fickle nature. So a call was made to the Rangers and they were off to pick up the four poor misunderstood little birdies (kinda tugs at your heart doesn't it, WELL doesn't it) I thought so. So after wrangling four little rockets with feathers they were off to their foster home. Fear not because of their beautiful colors they quickly found their forever homes and there was peace in the city. Not for our Rangers though there were more birdies to rescue and they were soon again called to duty for they are **THE RESCUE RANGERS!!!!**

Stay glued to your mailbox for our next thrilling adventure Elvis has Left the Building!!!

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 Rainforest Rice Puddin®: Pollypasta®
 Kung Fu Yum®
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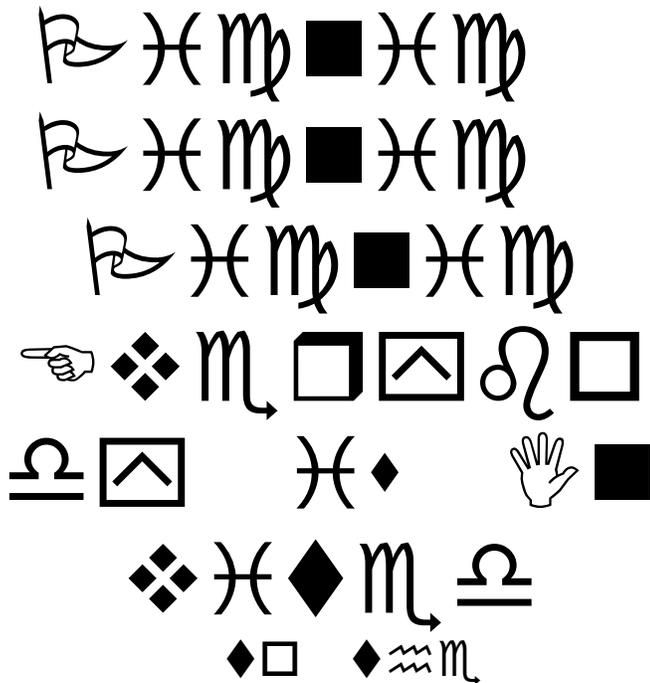
ALL NATURAL
More Quality

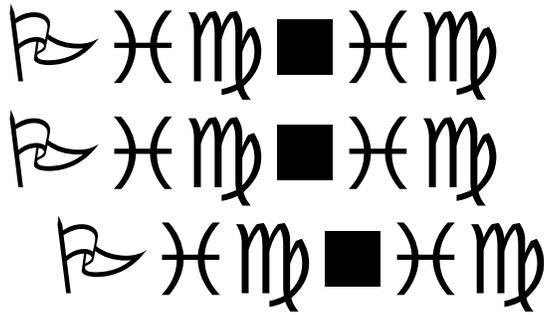
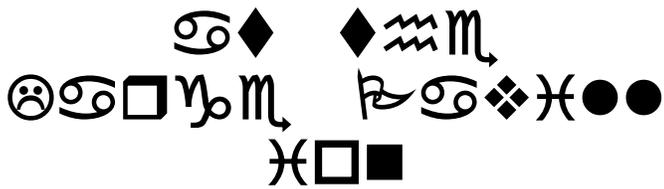
CRAZY CORN

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This has been a slow month for our adoption efforts. There were no successful adoptions but there were also no rescues; mostly because of all our efforts were directed to having a successful bird fair. There are quite a number of rescues pending, so if you might be able to foster please let us know at the July meeting.

Everyone in our club should be proud of themselves. It is your donations and participation in the club's monthly raffles and events that have made our rescue the success that it is. Kudos and thanks to all of you for your help, keep up the great work.





RESCUE PROCEDURE

There is a proper procedure for turning a bird into the rescue and we must do our best to follow it. Any time a bird is to be surrendered to our rescue Dave, Steve, Tammy, Mary or Stan must be contacted first so proper arrangements can be made. Rainbow Feathers Bird Club and Rescue can not take responsibility for any birds that have not followed this procedure. If you have elected to take in someone's unwanted bird or if you have been offered a "free" bird please be aware that you will have to assume the full cost of veterinary care yourself.

Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

I have put this all over Squawker (like Twitter only louder) texted it on my Blackbirdie 4.0 to all of my feathered

friends there is a new danger out there and my pet did nothing to get away from it. I even gave him the old warning nip but it did no good at all. I found myself facing a horrible being more frightening than zombies they are clowns! Freakish faces, unnatural colored hair and garish outfits it was my worst nightmare come to life. To make matters worse this clown had long things filled with air that she would make into strange shapes and occasionally explode without warning. I am lucky I still have my feathers the stress was awful. Even the little humans were smarter than my pet human they didn't like the clown either. All this being had to do was look at me and it sent me into spasms of fear. I was told that there was a real human underneath all the make-up and gaudy clothing but I doubt it. The only peace I got was when this clown walked away for about 20 minutes. Those things should be outlawed for giving me such a scare. I hope I never see another one as long as I live but with the outdoor events we may see more. I will be ready and any clown that comes next to me well let's just say I'll be ready to run the clowns can take my pet human but please leave me alone. Then I heard a song that says send in the clowns, no I say send them back to the evil place they come from. So keep an eye out because you will never know when or where they will show up.

Cheers
Captain Morgan



UP COMING

EVENTS

as of

July 15th 2014

July 15th Library Show
River Rouge Public Library
221 Burke
River Rouge, MI 48218
Set-up at 1pm
Start at 2 pm

July 20th Senior Show
American House
5859 West Maple
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Set-up 1:00 PM
Show 2:00 PM

July 22nd Senior Show
Redford Geriatric
22811 West 7 Mile
Redford, MI 48219
Set-up 1:00 PM
Show 2:00 PM

July 25th Senior Show
American House Stone
3741 S Adams Rd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
Set-up 12:30pm
Show 1:30pm

Aug 12th Arkay Center for
Handicapped Adults
16045 Dix-Toledo Rd.
Southgate, MI 48195
Set-up 10:00 AM
Show 11:00AM

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival

Aug 15th Noon to 8:30PM
Aug 16th 10AM to 8:30 PM
Aug 17th 11 AM to 6PM

More details will be posted
as they become available

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Aug. 19th Senior Show
American House Southgate
16333 Allen Rd.
Southgate, MI 48195
1:30 set-up
2:30 show

Aug. 20th Senior Show
American House East II
18760 13 Mile Rd.
Roseville, MI 48066
1:00 set-up
2:00 show

Sept 7th Senior Educational Program
Waltonwood at Cherryhill
42500 Cherry Hill Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

Sept. 13th Critter Care Fair
Handy Park
12121 Hemingway
Redford, MI
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Set-up at 8:30 AM

Sept. 13th Society of Canary and Finch

Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Sept. 14th Walled Lake Pet Awareness Day
at
Walled Lake's Historic Lakefront District
Ferland Street at E. Walled Lake Drive
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
We will be setting up our pop-up before the
event . Set-up starts at 9:00 AM

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Sept. 28th Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Sat Times TBD
Sun Times TBD

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm
Suburban Collection Showplace
46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

**We will be setting up on Thursday
Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.**

**Please remember no birds will be allowed
through the front door.**

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

*****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event*****

following or "Educational Show" preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don't let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

**CANCELTION CONFUSION **

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.

*****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE*****

How to find an avian veterinarian

By Don J. Harris, DVM



One of the first
responsibilities you have as a pet

owner is obtaining quality medical care for your bird. The process of finding a qualified veterinarian, who is educated, trained and experienced in treating birds, is often more difficult than you initially might think. Perseverance and some good common sense on your part can result in finding a veterinarian who is skilled in treating your bird. Here are some methods you can use.

Yellow Pages

While this may be the easiest method, an ad in the yellow pages does not necessarily qualify the practitioner to treat your bird. The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) allows the term "specialist" by only those veterinarians who have fulfilled certain defined criteria in that specialty. Beyond that, yellow page ads can reflect marketing skills more than veterinary competence.

Association Rosters

Many pet owners check association rosters for qualified veterinarians. For example, the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) is a veterinary certifying organization that requires its members to prove competence in order to belong. Within ABVP, there is the "Avian Practice" category of specialization. Veterinarians who complete this certification process are recognized by the AVMA as true specialists. These individuals are identified by the title ABVP, Avian Practice, DVM behind their names. Generally, bird owners can trust these practitioners to provide competent care for their birds.

Pet Suppliers' Recommendations

Pet retail stores or breeders will often recommend a veterinarian they work with on a regular basis. Their recommendations may be

based on positive experiences with this particular veterinarian's care and treatment. On the other hand, pet suppliers occasionally have relationships with veterinarians based on discounted services in exchange for referrals. While this business relationship is not in itself bad, bird owners should be advised to verify the veterinarian's credentials.

Word-of-Mouth Recommendations

This is one of the best ways of finding a competent avian veterinarian. If a veterinarian's own clients are making recommendations, there must be a reason why. Unfortunately, these personal recommendations are not always available, especially if you recently moved into the area and don't know anyone to ask.

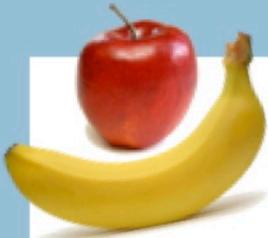
Colleague Recommendations

This is probably the best and most consistently reliable method, but it demands a little sleuthing on your part. Here are the steps you can follow:

- Identify and call veterinarians in the yellow pages who DO NOT claim to be avian specialists.
- Call to ask if they will see your bird. If they agree, thank them and move on.
- If they decline, ask whom they would recommend.
- Continue this process until you get enough answers to form a consensus. The veterinarian whose name was recommended the most often is the veterinarian most recognized by his colleagues for competence with exotic birds.

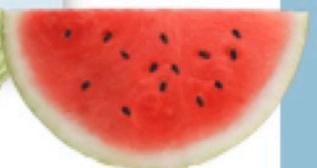
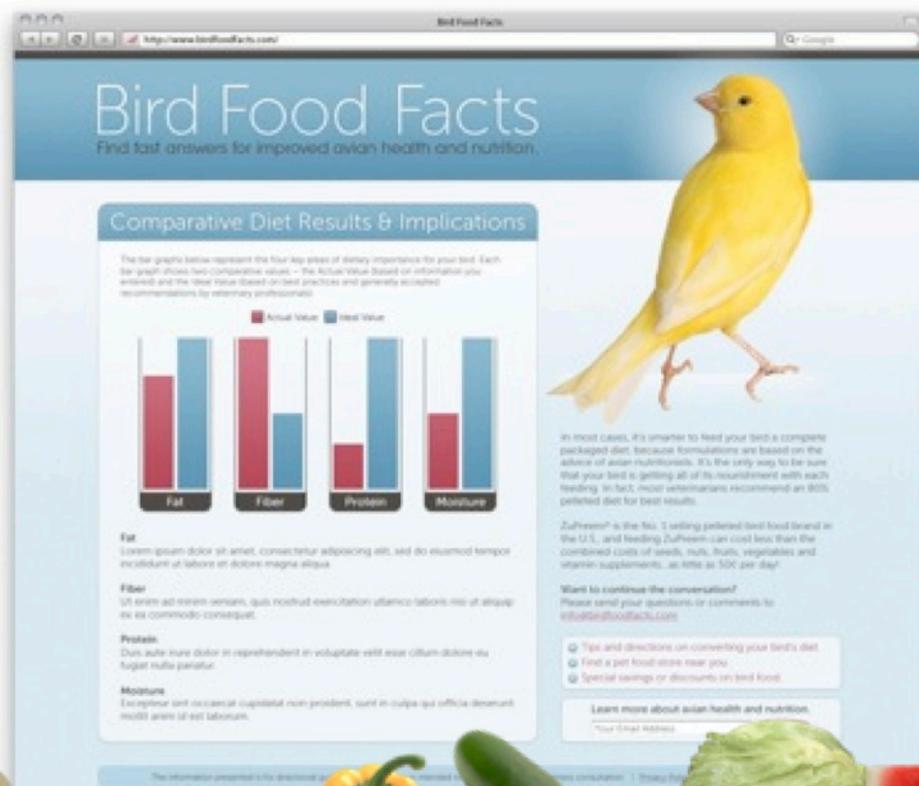
Congratulations! Through hard work and some common sense, you may have found just the right veterinarian for you and your bird.

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What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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Frederick B. Shulak, D.V.M.
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248-557-7773

WARREN WOODS VETERINARY HOSPITAL
29157 Schoenherr * Warren, MI 48314
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248-334-6877

ROOSE ANIMAL HOSPITAL
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Keith Cook, D.V.M. * Elieen Cook, D.V.M.
13697 Dix-Toledo Rd* Southgate, MI 48195
734-284-9122

ANIMAL EMERGENCY CENTER
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The logo for Zoo Med Laboratories, Inc. is circular with a yellow border. Inside the circle, a white cockatoo with a red crest is perched on a branch. The text "ZOO MED" is written in large, bold, orange letters across the middle, with "LABORATORIES, INC." in smaller text below it. At the bottom of the circle, the phrase "SAVE YOUR BIRDS" is written in a curved, orange font.

MURALS
AND OTHER
CREATIONS
BY MARY KAY PERVA
734-207-0489



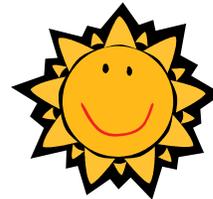
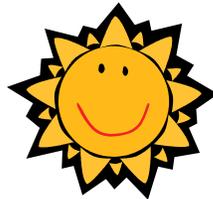
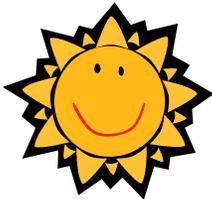
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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird Club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

August 2014
Volume 17 Issue 8

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

AUGUST 24th – Fourth Sunday-Picnic

SEPT 21st ----- Third Sunday

OCT. 26th ----- Fourth Sunday

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Yearly Pet Expo
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops

And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – -basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

E-mail bigduke@comcast.net

Mary Perva 517-618-7008

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email- susanhdixon@hotmail.com



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia, MI 48150 or email them to him at splafchan@twmi.rr.com

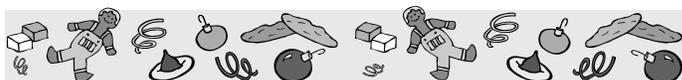
Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.

any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

From the prez:



Where has summer gone? I keep telling myself that it can't be August already but here it is and we are about to get very busy. We have the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival coming up the 15, 16, and 17th of August and we will be there all three days. We will be setting up at 8 AM on the 15th so we can be ready when they open at noon so we need help with the set-up. Also when the festival begins on Friday all the way thru Sunday and with the teardown at 6 PM on Sunday. Even if you don't bring birds we can use the extra sets of eyes to watch our birds with the crowd and it gets crazy but it's a lot of fun too. Oh guess what I got a prize at Bag-it-Bingo Celeste you're slipping you missed me, better luck next year. I have to say that it was so much fun and thanks to Bev, Brent

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of

and Ken for getting the Bingo Balls for us. Anyway it is onward and upward with all the things we have going on the Heritage Festival a new event in Redford Township, the Guardians for Animals Pet Expo and the Novi Pet Expo in November plus all the senior Programs we are hopping. This is all made possible because of **YOU THE CLUB MEMBERS**; we could not be the kind of club without all of your support for everything we do whether it is directly or behind the scenes everything helps. Just because you can't be there does not mean you don't help, your support of the monthly raffles and the club in general makes all we do possible. So to the best club members in the universe, **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez
Dave



Voice of the Veep

The show and event calendar for our club has become quite active and is filling up fast. Last month we attended six senior shows. We also attended one event at a Family Video to promote the release of Rio 2© on DVD. The event at Family Video was the brain storm idea of Janie Lynch's daughter Sierra and dare I say it was a brilliant idea. All of the donations from this event were donated to our club to assist our rescue. Family Video promoted the fact that we would be there which resulted in a large amount of neighborhood interest and foot traffic through the front door. The participation of

our club members was also excellent; there were about ten or eleven birds and nine club members present. We received over \$109.00 in donations with more expected from the proceeds of a silent auction being held. The manager was so pleased with the response of his customers and our club that he asked us if we would be willing to do this again. Our answer was yes, absolutely; so an encore date has been set for Saturday October 25th from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. At this show we are probably going to be taking souvenir photos for donations (a request from Family Video) so a photo taker helper is needed. Please consider joining us at this event it's a short day and large amount of fun.

August is an event filled month; we have a number of senior shows, the three days at the Heritage Festival in Ypsilanti and our club picnic. The Heritage Festival is an amazingly fun and crowded event so we can use any help you can give; even if it's only to help watch birds and talk about our rescue with the crowd. Anyone who would like directions about where our tent will be and where to park can call me (Steve) at 734-513-0030 for more information.

Watch the UPCOMING EVENTS tab on our web site <http://www.rfbirdclub.com> for the most recent updates.

See you at the picnic.

Your Veep
Steve

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival

As most of you know we are putting up a pop-up at the three day festival. This will be our fifth year doing this multi-day outdoor event under a pop-up. We have two spaces this year one for us to meet and greet the public. The second is for a quiet spot for the birds. Even if you didn't sign up to help, come to the festival and visit our booth. It's sure to be a good time. Anyone who would like more information about where our pop-up will be or details about where to park feel free to call Steve at 734-513-0030

The festival runs from Aug. 15th to Aug. 17th noon till 8:30PM on Friday, 10AM till 8:30PM on Sat, and 11AM till 6PM on Sun.

SEE YOU THERE!



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1-800-BIRD YUM

in California (818) 503-4YUM. Fax (818) 765-4895

SPECIAL BREEDER PRICING



Out and About with Pookie

I am outraged, incensed, irate and just plain pis**d off ; some humans just cannot understand rational explanations. What I'm ranting about is the inability of some humans to understand and accept those of us that live and practice alternative lifestyles. As most of you know I am a feather picker; the cause of my picking habit is a consequence of my hatching over seventeen years ago. Either my mother or father was infected with the Avian Bornavirus passing it onto me when I was hatched. Almost all of the time a chick that is hatched with this virus does not survive to adulthood but due to Steve's diligence and a lot of medications I survived this critical time. Please be aware that this virus is only passed through breeding and cannot be transmitted through droppings or environment. Sparky, my cage, mate does not have this condition and I have been caged with her for over twelve years.

What I'm so upset about isn't the fact that I won't be allowed to have any babies or that I pick and chew my feathers, it's those un-informed humans that believe Steve has abused me. Almost every time I am out in public with Steve we meet those who feel I should be taken from my home because of abuse and those that feel I "should be put to sleep" just because I don't look perfect in their eyes. We always explain my history and tell these "experts" I'm happy, healthy and loved; but it doesn't matter all they see is a featherless bird. You just can't change some opinions no matter

how happy, healthy and well treated we are. By using the word we I'm referring to all of us that live alternative life styles.

The issue of feather picking isn't actually with me it's with all the companion birds that are admitted to our rescue program that pick and chew their feathers like I do. It is sad that many potential human adopters are so myopic and intolerant. There have been many parrots at my home being fostered by Steve that are sweet and polite that have been rejected for adoption because they weren't perfect. No matter how much Steve tries to make them understand that the stress of being moved to a new home and environment and not being able to understand what has happened to their home and flock is most likely the issue. Imagine if you were suddenly uprooted and moved to a home with strange people and furnishings you'd be stressed also. Sadly though these explanations seem to fall on deaf ears and a wonderful companion parrot is rejected once again just because he doesn't look perfect.

Remember the motto I live by; "life is great when you dare to be bare." Parrots that live alternative life styles need homes too, please adopt on personality not on looks.

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



Some people read some older books on parrots and come out with some, to put it politely, outdated ideas. Here are a

couple of them.

A woman at a fundraiser we did at a Family video told Bev this and I do not want to read this book, ever! First she said that she KNEW birds and she read if you look at a bird out of one eye with your head tilted you are flirting with it and they like it. If you look them straight in the eye it is threatening and will make them aggressive.

At last year's Pet Expo one man said he read in a book that your bird will bond with you if YOU share some of YOUR already chewed up food with them. (EEEEWWWW!!!!)

Another person read that parrots diet should consist of a good healthy mix of Sunflower seeds, Peanuts and other seeds. (Healthy really?)

Finally a Gentleman was insistent that you had to get a parrot as a baby so it will bond to you because he read it in a book. The information they got came from some very outdated books and unfortunately they are still out there. So I am sure there will be more of these misnomers still going around.



Guardians for Animals Pet Expo Raffle Tickets

The Guardians for Animals Pet Expo is fast approaching on September 27th and 28th and the way out rescue benefits from this event is from raffle ticket sales. All the rescues receive an equal cut of the total raffle ticket sales with the rescue that sells the most tickets receiving an extra cut.

Tammy has received our club's first box of 500 tickets to sell; the price of the tickets is \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00 we could sure use everyone's help selling and buying tickets over the next couple of months. We will have tickets available at all of the upcoming events or you can call Tammy for arrangements to obtain some.

Talk to your friends and neighbors and ask if they would be interested in helping our rescue out. Let's all do our best to sell all of our tickets!





It is not us I say but our pet humans who make us this way with their rules and what is expected of us it is enough to make anyone crazy. I have to ask this question, why are we the crazy ones and not our pet humans? Do they not dress funny sometimes (how about those eighties photo's anyone). Do they not talk funny and eat some strange things. I say let's get them into therapy and see who's crazy! So let us band together my feathered friends and see who flies over the Cuckoo's Nest.

Avast ye Mates

Cheers
Captain Morgan



CAPTAINS CORNER

Greetings I think I have finally gotten over my trauma of seeing that hideous thing called a clown. I have seen my therapist and he assured me they are probably more scared of me than I am of them, (hey, I live with my pet human Dave so don't even ask why I need to see one). So I am ready for our major events starting with Ypsilanti's Heritage Festival. Now my therapist Dr. Coo Coo Byrd says that if I face my fears I can overcome anything and with all the events coming up I'll need a ton of resolve. Like J.B. who has a fear of never getting any snacks again ever, or Mr. Finnegan's fear of commitment (Ruby was saying) and Cracker's disrespect of authority (BLAH, BLAH, BLAH) we are a therapist's dream.

NOT SO COZY HUT!!!!



This is a tale of warning for all bird owners, now there are frayed toys that we can see and replace but what about we can't see? Well this involves a Cozy Hut, Snuggle hut or Sleepy Hut, I have seen all the different names and I am sure there are more but you know what they are. In case you don't they are the fabric triangular bird hideaways that many people hang in their birds cages and the birds seem to love them. Many of them are made with two pieces of fabric on each side to make them soft and comfy. Here lies the problem. While you can see the outside just fine the inside remains hidden and if you do not inspect them on a regular basis tragedy can

strike. This just happened not so long ago to a couple who lost their Sun Conure because he got tangled up on the frayed inner layer of its Cozy hut. He strangled himself because he panicked and continued to wrap the threads around his neck. They sadly found him tangled on the inside of the hut and were too late. So if you use these please check them inside and out to prevent a tragedy like this!

Dave



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

DANIELLE MILLER	9/1
SREEJA MURALIDHARAN	9/6
JULIE KAMINSKI	9/8
SUE WILHELM	9/8
WILL SOPHA	9/10
MATT COPIJA	9/17
SHERYL COPIJA	9/23
JEFF COTE	9/23
CELESTE MARKEY	9/25
ROSE ANN KEENAN	9/26
MARY PERVA	9/27
JENNIFER NICHOLSON-FARIS	9/29

CLUB T-SHIRTS



Good news! Tracy Hilka who is Bella Embroidery is now going to make our club shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to xl and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

What you do is go to her website.

www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb

Then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page).

Look down the page and find Gildan DryBlend 50/50 T-shirts #8000

Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes.

Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo

When she receives your order she will send you a PayPal® invoice

In a short time you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal® account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE

prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)

As of
August 7th, 2014



RESCUE UPDATE

There were a number of adoptions this past month, Sam a Blue & Gold Macaw, Wanda

Bee (Gracie) an African Gray, Oscar a Quaker and a Cockatiel were given forever homes. All of these birds went to their new homes with a good health report from the vet, and were on a pellet food diet.

Our thanks again go out to all of our club members for making the rescue the success it is. We couldn't do it without your assistance, donations and participation in our monthly raffles.

Thank You Thank You Thank You



UP COMING EVENTS

Aug 13th Arkay Center for
Handicapped Adults
16045 Dix-Toledo Rd.
Southgate, MI 48195
Set-up 10:00 AM
Show 11:00AM

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival
Aug 15th Noon to 8:30PM
Aug 16th 10AM to 8:30 PM
Aug 17th 11 AM to 6PM

We will be setting up our pop-ups at about 8:00am on Friday the 15th as we have done in years past. Tearing down on Sunday after the festival ends.

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Aug. 19th Senior Show
American House Southgate
16333 Allen Rd.
Southgate, MI 48195
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

Aug. 20th Senior Show
American House East II
18760 13 Mile Rd.
Roseville, MI 48066
12:00 PM Set-up
1:00 PM Show

Sept 3rd Senior Show
Putnam Twp. Senior Center
131 S. Howell St.
Pinckney, MI 48169

Set-up 10:00 AM
Show 11:00 AM

**NOTE: They may be relocating before the show. Call Tammy or Steve if you plan on attending to see which location is correct.

New Location address
350 Mower Rd.
Pinckney, MI 48169

Sept 7th Senior Educational Program
Waltonwood at Cherryhill
42500 Cherry Hill Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

Sept 9th Senior Education Program
Clare Bridge of Ann Arbor
750 W. Eisenhower Parkway
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Set-up 12:30 PM
Show 1:30 PM

Sept. 13th Critter Care Fair
Handy Park
12121 Hemingway
Redford, MI
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
We will be setting up our pop-up
before the event
Set-up at 8:30 AM

Sept 14th Walled Lake Pet Awareness Day at
Walled Lake's Historic
Lakefront District
Ferland Street at E. Walled Lake Drive

11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
We will be setting up our pop-up before the
event
Set-up starts at 9:00 AM

Sept 19th Senior Show
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show

Sept 20th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9 AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Sept 22nd Senior Show
Jewish Community Center
6600 West Maple Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

Sept 24th Senior Educational Show
Oakmont Sterling
41155 Pond View Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive

Madison Heights, MI 48071

Sat Times 10 AM to 5 PM

Sun Times 11 AM to 4 PM

Hopefully we will be setting up on Friday
like last year

Sept.30th

Senior Show
Independence Village of
Grand Ledge
4775 Village Dr.
Grand Ledge, MI 48837-8107
12:00 PM Set-up
1:00 PM Show

Oct 4th Motor City Bird Breeders Bird Fair
\$4.00 Adm. 10 AM to 4:30 PM
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Oct 5th

Senior Show
American House
26600 Ann Arbor Trail
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show

Oct 7th

Senior Show
Jewish Community Center
15110 West 10 Mile Rd.
Oak Park, MI 48237
12:00 PM Set-up
1:00 PM Show

Oct 11th

Bird Show
Buddy Program for Handicapped Children
Grace Church
220 Bogie Lake Rd.

White Lake, MI 48383

11:30 AM Set-up

Noon
Show

Oct
25th
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Raiser
for our
Club
Family
Video
2571

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Coolidge Hwy.
Berkley, MI 48072
3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Nov 4th

Senior Show
Village Manor in Heartland
9501 West Highland Road (M-59)
Howell, MI 48843
12:15 PM Set-up
1:15 PM Show

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace

46100 Grand River

Novi, MI 48374

We will be setting up on Thursday

Nov. 22nd most likely around 9:00 am.

How to manage your bird's excessive territoriality

By Liz Wilson, CVT

In the wild, a parrot's territorial instinct is extremely strong, because he must protect his territory from invasion. You may also see



this territoriality in

action in your companion bird. When your bird drives everyone away from his turf, he is exhibiting excessive territoriality, and if unchecked, this behavior can become a serious problem that threatens your bird's future as a companion animal.

Some bird enthusiasts feel parrots should be allowed to be territorial around their cages, but most behavior consultants disagree. It is also not fair to assume that your bird must be at your every beck and call, coming out for interaction whenever it suits your schedule. Just as children are allowed privacy in their own rooms, parrots should have the right to decline human interaction. Experienced caretakers recognize this through careful observation of psittacine body language, and they respect a bird's privacy by not approaching during these times.

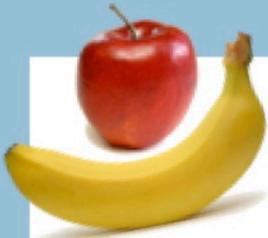
Excessively territorial companion parrots act like they outrank everyone in their flocks. To resolve this misunderstanding, you should establish nonaggressive controls by patterning your bird to respond to simple commands like "up" and "down." Daily training sessions should happen in a neutral room, or in an area the bird doesn't consider his own, and on a neutral perch such as the back of a chair. Once the bird is responding to commands, you can start moving the training perch slowly out of the neutral area and into the area of your bird's cage. By moving a few inches at a time and then working again on the commands, you can make certain your bird responds correctly. Then, praise him for his good behavior. Once in view of your bird's cage, training may become more difficult, but with patience and consistency, most birds will respond again to the commands. When the cage is finally reached, you can step the bird into it with the "down" command, then immediately pick it up with the "up" command. Repeating this several times will teach your parrot that the commands also

work in and around his cage. Repeat this process on the cage top and on any other of your bird's favorite hangouts. Once your bird is trained, and he wants out of his cage, he must step onto the hand when you say "up." Do not just open the cage door and let him come out on his own, or he might conclude that he is in control again. Continue to use the commands every day, to remind him that the rules are still in force. By following these easy training techniques and handling your parrot in a firm, loving, unaggressive and

consistent manner, you can keep control of your headstrong bundle of feathers and maintain a mutually loving relationship.

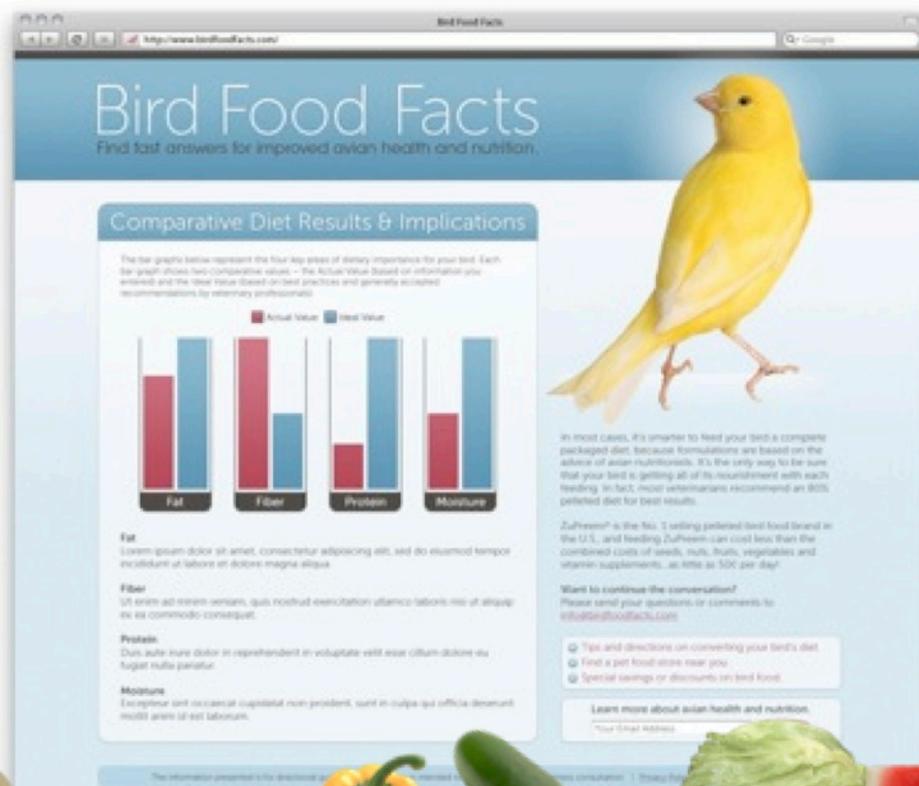
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What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

September 2014
Volume 17 Issue 9

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

SEPT. – 21st Third Sunday

OCT. 26th – Fourth Sunday

NOV. Pet Expo- No Meeting

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Yearly Pet Expo
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops

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Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – _basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

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Email- [mail to:susanhdixon@hotmail.com](mailto:mail.to:susanhdixon@hotmail.com)

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

E-mail bigduke@comcast.net



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia, MI 48150 or email them to him at splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.

From the prez:

OK, what happened to summer? It was here in June but I feel like I just went to bed in June and woke up in September! It sure went by in a flash and our September is full on and fully loaded just look at our upcoming events. Three pet adoption events in September alone Critter Care in Redford, Walled Lake



Pet Awareness and the two day Guardians for Animals Pet Expo in Madison Heights along with the programs will keep us very busy. We are going to need a long nap and in November the three day Novi Pet Expo, I think this is what is making time fly. The thought of winter coming just doesn't thrill me especially since they are expecting a repeat of last winter except colder. Colder, really is that possible and more snow, oh YAY! Well maybe reflecting on our past summer will keep me warm especially the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. To all of you who showed up to help a big thanks and all of you who supported us in other ways thank you also. I would like to say to Bev that your Idea to set-up the pop-ups sideways instead of facing the walkway was brilliant and it kept the walkway clear and the festival security happy. To Brent and Steve for the use of your pop-ups for three days it was our home away from home for the weekend. To Faith Greenwood for her photographic skills you took a ton of pictures. Finally to everyone who came out whether one or all three days you showed the others how a group should be. They referred to our end of the lane as the happy end. Well we were right next to the food and we even had some entertainment on Saturday as we watched them remove a Hornets nest from the tree right above the porta-potties. Oh did I mention the food Empanadas, Gelato, ribs and pulled pork and every type of carnival food you could imagine made it a great weekend. Plus Mother Nature gave us a stunning three days with the only rain on Saturday night. It was

a very successful weekend and we raised \$860 for our rescue efforts. I was even asked how we did IT, IT being remaining so high spirited and happy for three insane days and I said you already said it we're insane but in a good way. So how we handled ourselves was noticed big time! With that being said it is time to go out again and show the public what they see is real and we are the real thing and the joy we show in doing these events and the camaraderie is real as well. So to the greatest club members in the universe **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time,
Your Prez,
Dave



Voice of the
Veep

We have survived another Heritage Festival in Ypsilanti and it was great! It was an awesome success our club raised \$860.00 in donations for the rescue this success was due in no small part to all the members who helped out. I want to extend my personal thanks to Faith Greenwood for taking on the job of photographer of the souvenir photos. Her diligence to the camera saved me from a complete and total collapse. Joe and Jessica Greenwood absolutely shined in their interaction with the crowds and helping me by handling Sparky and JB. Now don't

misunderstand me over the three days of the festival we had tremendous help from many, many members of the club from the set-up at the crack of dawn on Friday to the tear down on Sunday. If I attempted to list everyone that helped all there would be here is a long list of names so to all members who were there I extend my thanks.

There are thirteen shows and events in the month of September way too many to list in this column individually. There are two back to back outdoor events on the 13th and 14th of September where we will be putting up our pop-up and the two day Guardians for Animals Expo on the 27th & 28th. Please check the Upcoming Events page on our web site for more details and consider joining your fellow club members at a senior show or an event. Please remember you don't have to bring your bird to help we always need extra hands and eyes both indoors and outdoors and the events are a lot of fun. If you are interested in joining us at an event and want more information or directions please feel free to call me at (734) 513-0030 and I'll be happy to fill you in on everything you want to know.

Our annual club picnic was last month and I don't believe I'm exaggerating when I say; I think this was the largest gathering we've ever had at a picnic. There was a lot of good food, birds and bird talk, and games. Kudos to Beverly and Mary for organizing and running the games they were a lot of fun; they did an awesome job we should all give them a big "THANK YOU."

Your Veep
Steve



Ramblings from Rambo

Hi Friends.

Well, I had written this month's column earlier. Bet by the magic of computers, it went to "Delete land". Some would say it is "Lost in Cyber Space". Well, how about that. But that actually turned out for the best. See, Michael and I went on an extra adventure. This was something we have never done before. We spent the whole afternoon in a store. The best part was all (well many) of my feathered friends were there with me. See this was a video store. They rent movies there. The next episode of the movie, "Rio" was being released. The store wanted a bunch of us parrots there to introduce this big event. This was a really fun time. Speaking of Rio, this brings to mind a few things. The first is this. There is this place called Rio de Janeiro. This is in the country of Brazil. This is where many of us fine specimens of the greatest parrots come from. Yes friends I am speaking about those most wonderful of Parrots, the Macaws. See the main character in the movie is, well of course, a Macaw. Not just any Macaw, a Hyacinth Macaw. You see the Hyacinth Macaw is the biggest of us Macaws. Yes, a huge regal blue Macaw. We almost never see any of these regal creatures. Being so large, most of our pet humans don't have the room for one, or the money, or the experience to handle one.

My human, Michael, has always wanted to go to Brazil. He actually wants to move there. See, in Brazil, hundreds, and thousands of Parrots roam free. They are all free to live where ever they please. Yes Parrots of all kinds fly free. They fly, and play, and dance, and sing all day long. They are even free to come visit the humans. Wouldn't that be a wonderful place to be? Yes, it sure would.

Then friends, at our July meeting, our humans played 'Bag It Bingo'. And what does this mean for us birds? Well of course. We have Bags, and paper to play with. Sometimes a new bag is more fun than a new toy. What can we do with a new bag? We can hide, and we can hide our human's things. We can hide those pieces of metal, humans call 'Car Keys'. Ah yes, it is so much fun watching them look for these things. In our new bag is the last place they think to look.

And before I go, I want to mention the Ypsilanti Heritage Days. Just like last year, it was loads of fun. Some of our long lost non-feathered friends made an appearance. Yes, I'm referring to the Pasek kids. It was great to see you.

Well, Ypsilanti had all the fun of last year. We posed for lots, and lots, of pictures. Michael took me for walks. We had lots of yummy food. And Miss Beverley's friend from last year was there. She was so happy to see him. I had to

mention The Ypsilanti Heritage Days, before I forget.

As you know we will have many, many, adventures in September to talk about.

Well, friends, I have Rambled on enough for this time.

As always, Have Fun,
(try to) Be Good, and
Remember Macaws Rule.

Rambo.



PET EXPO

Here is
tentative Pet Expo

information; the hours are as follows:

Friday, November 21st, Noon - 8pm

Saturday, November 22nd, 10am - 8pm

Sunday, November 23rd 11am-5pm

The Suburban Showcase has the operation of the pet expo again this year. Our club has been given the same generous space that we had last year and vendor badges will be available same as last year. We do know that no birds will be allowed through the front door; **if your bird is going to attend we must get you a pass to enter in the rear doors.** This can be accomplished in multiple ways; 1) Be sure to wear your club badge 2) Go to the vendor desk at the rear doors to either receive a vendor badge or to be allowed access to our booth to receive a badge. 3) Call Dave, Tammy or me on our cell phones to bring you a badge.

The club will be getting parking passes for you if you have signed up to work. If you are scheduled to work and have to pay an admission to enter or park your car keep your receipts and the club will refund your admission and parking fees. **YOU MUST HAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!** Entrance to the expo as a club member means you plan on working at least three hours at our booth. If you intend to shop and look around plan on arriving early or staying over after your scheduled work times please.

If you signed up to work and haven't heard any details feel free to call Tammy 734-422-5981 or Steve 734-513-0030 for last minute information

For those of you who want to look around at the Expo, you can come early or stay after your scheduled time. The schedule will be as follows; Set-up is Thursday 9am-6pm, we will be arriving at the church to move tables into our vehicles about 7:45 AM then to Suburban Showcase at 9am to set up. Friday's show schedule is: Noon-3pm, 3pm-6pm, 6pm-8pm, Saturday's schedule is 11am – noon, noon-3pm, 3pm-6pm and 6pm to 8pm. Sunday's schedule is 11am-1pm, 1-3pm and 3-5pm, and after the expo closes we will need help to clear out our space and return the tables to the church.

Tammy



Guardians for Animals Pet Expo Raffle Tickets

The Guardians for Animals Pet Expo is fast approaching on September 27th and 28th and the way our rescue benefits from this event is from raffle ticket sales. All the rescues receive an equal cut of the total raffle ticket sales with the rescue that sells the most tickets receiving an extra cut.

Tammy has received our club's first box of 500 tickets to sell; the price of the tickets is \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00 we could sure use everyone's help selling and buying tickets over the next couple of months. We will have tickets available at all of the upcoming events or you can call Tammy for arrangements to obtain some.

Talk to your friends and neighbors and ask if they would be interested in helping our rescue out. Let's all do our best to sell all of our tickets!

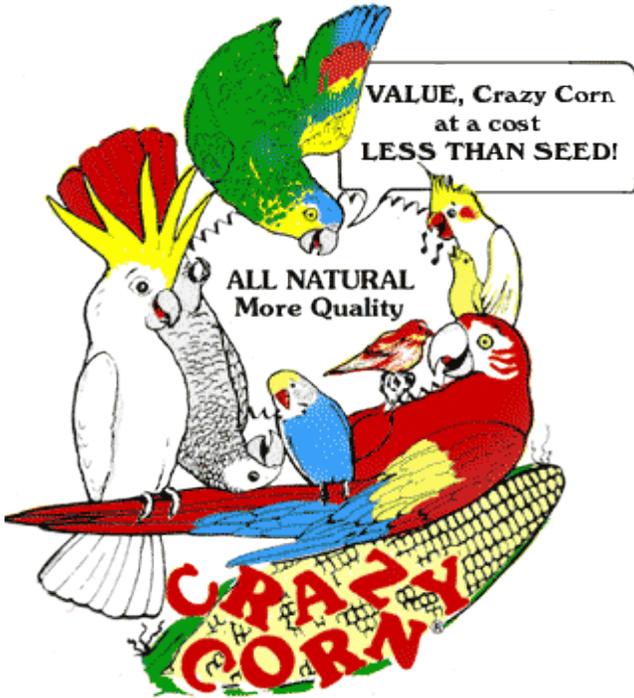
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SPECIAL BREEDER PRICING



Out and About with Pookie

What an exciting month we had here last month. We had two house guests between the end of July and the end of August, the first was Lucy. Lucy is a Congo African Gray and she was here for eight weeks while her mom traveled to Ireland for an extended visit. The second visitor we had was Apollo, he also is a CAG, and has stayed with us a few times in the past.

Upon Lucy's arrival JB and I introduced ourselves and explained to her about our ongoing exercise and fitness program for Steve. We were becoming quite frustrated with our inability to make him move away from the television. Lucy told us that she had a sure fire way of achieving success; after she revealed her plans and methods to us we knew she was a parrot with a plan.

Step one was for JB and me to start leaving our cages and joining Lucy inside of her cage and Lucy joining us in our cages. This enabled us to placate any concerns Steve might have about the three of us having a squabble of any sort. Once Steve started leaving us alone while he was in the back room on his computer we went into action; JB showed Lucy how to climb up on Steve's favorite chair. Lucy then introduced both of us to one of her favorite toys, the cable box remote control. She scampered up onto the table from Steve's chair and tossed the remote to the floor where we were waiting. Once she joined us we all started



RESCUE UPDATE

The adoption side of our rescue was about average this month. There were a few Adoptions last month,

Ramses a Blue Front Amazon, Jose a Jenday Conure and a Cockatiel. They all went to their new homes with cages, toys, and food thanks to the generosity of you, our club members.

The rescue side has been very active also. I can't divulge what birds are in the rescue right now, however I will say if you are interested in adopting a larger bird contact a member of the board to find out what is available we just might have that special bird you've been waiting for.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

CHUCK JAMIESON	OCT. 1
ANGELA KEENAN	OCT. 9
NADA JURISICH-FONTANA	OCT.11
ISABEL FONTANA	OCT. 11
JEFFERY PASEK	OCT. 12

BRIGETTE FELIX	OCT. 15
JOSEPH GREENWOOD	OCT.17
STEVE PLAFCHAN	OCT. 17
JAN HARTZ	OCT. 21
OLIVIA	OCT. 23
LEVI GOYETTE	OCT. 24
BARRY SCHOENFELNER	OCT. 24
FAITH GREENWOOD	OCT.30
SHARON SCHOENFELNER	OCT. 31
CAROL STAMM	OCT. 31



Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Well another Heritage Festival has come and gone and I have to say it was a huge success! Not only were we the hit of the show but our booth was extremely popular! Year after year people love us and let's face it we are the hardest working birds in the business, there's no doubt about that. My biggest pet peeve is being misidentified, I am not a Parakeet (no offense Buttons) or an Amazon I am a Macaw. I feel really bad for Sparky and J.B. being called Pigeons all the time and especially when people ask which of us is a Parrot. Come on people you have Google, Goggle us I mean really you have so many electronic gadgets you

can't look us up. There are some things that amuse us to no end like the big strong muscle guy turning into a scared little girl in our presence. How about the guy acting so tough until he comes face to face with Phoenix freezes in fear and then a little kid runs up and holds him. Oh there were many great stories of how we delighted, intimidated or just flat out caused fits of fearful screaming, some even ran by faster than an Indy Car to avoid us. Still it was an awesome three days with great weather but every one of us (pet humans included) were totally wiped out by the end of the weekend and earned a long nap. Just remember this is kind of a trial run for the pet expo in November so rest up because that is coming up faster than you think. So to all my feathered friends and their pet humans' fantastic job we made it a memorable weekend for so many. YAY team birdbrain!!!!

Cheers
Captain Morgan



Wow it is hard to believe that it is September already the kids are back to school and the seasons are changing very quickly. With that brings those fall holidays that we love Halloween and Thanksgiving. Now we may love them but many of our birds do not simply because of all the strange things going on. Halloween with its

costumes can downright send a bird into fit of terror worthy of the best scary movie and then there are the other hazards the decorations. Lit candles, fake spider webs, and many other things that ooze, smoke or mist can be dangerous to our feathered kids. Plus the biggie the candy we give out to the trick or treaters. Chocolate is so poisonous for all pets and the darker it is the more toxic it is. Also the wrappers can pose a hazard as well so keep them away from all pets. Now let us move on to Thanksgiving. First if you are hosting a big dinner the extra commotion can really stress out a bird if they are not used to it. Then there are those hot pans, dishes and pots that look inviting to a bird to come an check out. Also there are in some houses decorations that look pretty tempting to a bird but can really hurt them especially lit candles with their flames and hot wax. So it is important we keep our birds safe during these fall holidays and get ready for the two winter ones.



Now you know that whenever we do an event like the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival people give us many moments of "Are you

serious” and this year’s Festival gave us some real gems.

One kid asked Tammy if she could squeeze Princess (Lutino Indian Ringneck) and make her poop on his head. NO! Get Captain Morgan his poop would be much more memorable!

One woman asked me if we leave the birds in the tents all night. Yes and they make S’mores tell ghost stories and raid the beer tent!

One guy asked me why Captain Morgan wasn’t red like Phoenix. DUH!!

One woman asked if we had to go to South America to get the birds for the festival. No just around the corner to McBirdies they come with the flappy meal!

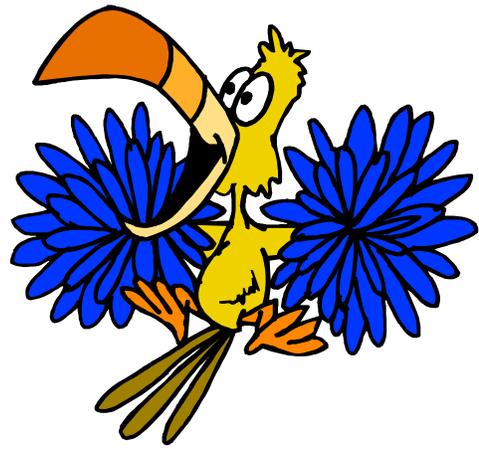
One guy thought they were on loan from the zoo and when I said they live with us he looked at me and said “in your house?” No they have their own place around the block from us.

One woman asked me what we do with the birds once the Festival is over. Well, we take the batteries out and put them back in their boxes until next year.

One young person could be heard yelling “are those real parrots” to which I responded “No they are animatronics on loan from Disney.

These are the best of the comments from the Heritage festival and with more events I’m sure will not be the last of the goofy things people say.

Remember it is our job to educate them to the proper names of these parrots. Just don’t let them see you laugh, OK.



Upcoming Events As of Sept. 4th 2014

- Sept 7th Senior Educational Program
Waltonwood at Cherryhill
42500 Cherry Hill Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
1:30 PM Set-up
2:30 PM Show
- Sept.9th Senior Educational Program
Clare Bridge of Ann Arbor
750 W. Eisenhower Parkway
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 PM Show
- Sept. 13th Critter Care Fair
Handy Park
12121 Hemingway
Redford, MI
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
We will be setting up our pop-up
before the event
Set-up at 8:30 AM

Sept. 14th Walled Lake Pet Awareness Day
at
Walled Lake's Historic Lakefront District
Ferland Street at E. Walled Lake Drive
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
We will be setting up our pop-up
before the event .
Set-up starts at 9:00 AM

Sept.22nd Senior Show
Jewish Community Center
6600 West Maple Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 Show

Sept. 24th Senior Educational Program
Oakmont Sterling
41155 Pond View Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 Show

Sept. 16th Senior Program
American House
Sterling Woods
(Located behind Starbucks,
Hampton Inn and Meijer)
36430 Van Dyke
Sterling Heights, MI 48312
1:00 PM Set-up
2:00 PM Show

Sept. 27th Guardians for Animals
Sept. 28th Pet Expo
Madison Place
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Sat Times 10 AM to 5 PM
Sun Times 11 AM to 4 PM
We hopefully will be setting up on Friday
like last year

Sept. 19th Senior Educational Program
Stonegate Health
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446
12:30 PM Set-up
1:30 Show

Sept. 30th Senior Show
Independence Village
Of
Grand Ledge
4775 Village Dr.
Grand Ledge, MI 48837-8107
12:00PM Set-up
1:00PM Show

Sept. 20th Society of Canary and Finch
Breeders
Bird Fair
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 4 PM
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246
31117 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Oct.5th Senior Show
American House
26600 Ann Arbor Trail
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
1:30 set-up
2:30 show

Our Club Has a Booth at This Event

Oct.7th Senior Show
 Jewish Community Center
 15110 West 10 Mile Rd.
 Oak Park, MI 48237
 12:00PM Set-up
 1:00PM Show

Oct.8th Bird Show
 The Village Rehabilitation and Care
 Community
 Their Building will be on the right
 22600 West Main St.
 Armada, MI 48005
 1:00 PM Set-up
 2:00 Show

Oct.11th Bird Show
 Buddy Program for Handicapped Children
 Grace Church
 220 Bogie Lake Rd.
 White Lake, MI 48383
 11:30 AM set-up
 Noon show

Oct. 12th Senior Program
 Waltonwood of Carriage Park
 (Independent Building)
 2000 Canton Center Rd.
 Canton, MI 48187
 1:00 PM Set-up
 2:00 PM Show

Oct.17th Senior Show
 Glacier Hills
 Senior Living Community 3rd floor
 1200 Earhart Rd.
 Ann Arbor, MI 48105
 9:00am Set-up
 10:00 am Show

Oct. 21st Senior Show
 Presbyterian Village
 In the Rose Cottage
 32111 Cherryhill Rd.
 Westland, MI 48186
 2:00 PM Set-up
 3:00PM Show

Oct.24th School Show
 Shrine Catholic Grade School
 1621 Linwood Ave.
 Royal Oak, MI 48067
 8:30 AM Set-up
 9:00AM Show

Oct. 25th Fund Raiser for our Club
 Family Video
 2571 Coolidge Hwy.
 Berkley, MI 48072
 3:00 PM
 To
 7:00 PM

*****2015*****

Oct. 29th Senior Show
Abbey Park
28413 Abbey Lane
New Hudson, MI 48165
12:30PM Set-up
1:30PM Show

May 5th Educational Show
AARP Meeting at Wayne County
Community College
in the Ray Mix Room
21000 Northline
Taylor, MI 48180
11:30 AM Set-up
12:30 PM Show

Nov.4th Senior Show
Village Manor in Heartland
9501 West Highland Road (M-59)
Howell, MI 48843
12:15 PM Set-up
1:15 Show

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

Nov.5th School Show
Rainbow Elementary
33749 Wurfel
Clinton Township, MI 48035
Noon Set-up
1:00PM show

*****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event*****

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

NOTE**NOTE*****NOTE***

Suburban Collection Showplace
46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

***CANCELTION CONFUSION ***

**We will be setting up on Thursday
Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.
Please remember no birds will be allowed
through the front door.**

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not

regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.



RESCUE RANGERS



Many times the Rangers are called to rescue a bird out of fear, fear of the bird. This was the case in Dearborn fear had taken over the house hold. This animal was holding the household at bay filling all of their days with an unimaginable horror that could not be quelled. Now you might think we are talking about a large Cockatoo, Macaw or even an Amazon, could it be a growling unhappy African Gray, not quite.

The bird that had them paralyzed in fear was (drum roll please) the most feared creature of all, a Cockatiel. Yes a little one year old Cockatiel by the name of Liberty had everyone in the household giving this poor bird a wide berth. They did not do any research before getting her and knew nothing about being a parrot parent. So any little move they interpreted as aggressive (Whether it was or not) sent them running.

So the call went out to the Rangers to come and remove the “mean” animal at once. So off they went expecting the Tasmanian devil with feathers and found a cuddly misunderstood ball of fluff coming into their care. They mistook what was normal behavior as aggression and the kicker Liberty was not aggressive at all. In fact she was a wonderful beautiful pearl Pied Female that only wanted someone to love her.

Well it was not long before someone fell in love with her and Liberty was set free from the burden of being known as mean and nasty because the adoptee knew exactly what she was doing with her. It was a match made in heaven for both Liberty and her new parrot parent and a joy for the Rangers. Hark (yes I did say hark, deal with it) their job was not done more birdies needed their assistance and tirelessly (here we go again telling fibs) they would not stop for duty calls for they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!**

Stay glued to your mailbox for our next thrilling installment Oscar the Grouch of Redford!





Establishing Control with Nurturing Guidance

By Liz Wilson, CVT

Nurturing guidance is a training concept developed by Sally Blanchard, and it is critical to enjoying cohabitation with a parrot. Without it, a parrot is often unclear as to his position within his human flock. Genetically an exotic bird is a wild animal, whether domestic-bred or not, and he understands little about cohabiting with people. With patient teaching and guidance, he can learn how to be a good companion. Nurturing guidance is established by teaching and using basic commands. By setting these parameters, a parrot will have a better understanding of what is expected of it.

The first command is “Up,” which means step onto my hand. The second command is “Down,” which means step off my hand onto an inanimate object (like a perch). This is not a directional command. Onto the hand is up, off the hand is down. Teaching these commands requires a neutral room and a neutral perch. Ideally, the bird should have no experience with either the location or perch. This minimizes distractions and maximizes learning. Lessons should be short and upbeat, held once or twice a day for 10-15 minutes. Make sure you are relaxed before you begin, and smile and be patient. Under NO circumstance is aggression acceptable. Training a parrot is like teaching nursery school. You must keep your student involved or

it won't learn. Sessions should be fun, not boring or frightening. Simply put, behavior modification uses positive reinforcement for good behaviors and no reinforcement for bad behaviors. Instead, misbehaviors are ignored. If the parrot follows a command, smile and praise the bird. If it doesn't, ignore the transgression and repeat the command, pushing gently at his legs with the side of your hand. If you don't expect him to behave, he won't. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCE is aggression allowed with parrots. If approached with respect and love, parrots learn quickly and happily. Aggression begets aggression and is absolutely unacceptable. Experienced parrot behavior consultants agree that allowing a parrot to shoulder is asking for trouble. In this position, you cannot see a bird's body language, so you don't know if he's getting frightened or upset. You also can't anticipate and prevent a bite—and you DON'T want to be bitten in the face. If you follow these guidelines and use these commands clearly and consistently, life with your parrot should improve immensely.

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This newsletter
Devoted to pet bird
Enthusiasts is
Published monthly by
The Rainbow Feathers
Bird club of Michigan
A 501(c) (3) club

October 2014
Volume 17 Issue 10

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING

DATES :

OCTOBER 26th – FOURTH SUNDAY
NOVEMBER- PET EXPO NO MEETING
DECEMBER 21ST - THIRD SUNDAY

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops
- Non-perishable food contributions to local soup kitchens

And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email- mailto:susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Mary Perva – 734-207-0489

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email – bigduke@comcast.net



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia, MI 48150 or email them to him at splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



Crossing The Rainbow Bridge

Sadly we must report yet another loss of two feathered club members; Sky a blue Quaker and Charlie a Moluccan Cockatoo both who were owned by Dave and Tammy

crossed over the rainbow bridge. Both of their crossings were sudden and unexpected, as of this writing there has been no determination on the cause of their passing.

To Charlie and Sky we say farewell and forever may you fly free on the far side of the rainbow bridge. You will both always be loved and remembered.

From the prez:



So where did summer go it seems to go faster every year and now we are looking toward fall and our last big event the Novi Pet Expo. Before that though we did many other events through the summer that we did have a lot of fun at. That is what people notice the most how much fun we have as a group it makes a big impression on everyone. We even did a new event Critter Care put on by the Redford Jaycees unfortunately Mother Nature did not cooperate. It was a little chilly but still in our own way we had fun and are looking forward to next year. The Guardians for Animals Pet Expo was a great event and Captain Morgan even won the Pet talent contest on Saturday. We made some very good connections and the crowd loved us. Now we must focus on the Novi Pet expo the 21-22-23 of November and we need all the help we can get! Set-up will be Thursday November 20 at 9:00 A.M. at the Suburban Collection Showcase then it runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday times are in the newsletter. Please sign up if you intend to join us so we can get you a parking pass and put you on the list so you can get in as a

vendor. This is so very important so please let us know if you are going to be there. We are looking at the end of another year and as usual it has been a busy one and it doesn't look to slow down for next year either. I know that we will continue to do great things because of the type of members we have in the club. So remember to sign up for the pet expo or call me or Tammy to let us know if you intend on being there. Let us continue to have fun and keep growing like we have been and as always, **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez Dave



Voice of the Veep

September was an absolutely insane month for shows. We hosted eight senior shows, attended two outdoor pet adoption events, one two day indoor adoption event and the Canary & Finch bird show. If you add these shows and events up the number is thirteen and that is only two days short of having an event every other day for the entire month. I want to thank everyone who helps out at these events and shows by donating their time and helping out. The donations we receive by attending and staging these shows is extremely helpful in funding and supporting our rescue.

Our next big event is rapidly approaching; that's the Pet Expo at the Suburban Showcase in Novi. We are expecting this year's expo to be extremely

busy because of the special guest they have this year: Victoria Stilwell from the Animal Planet television show is going to be there on Friday and Saturday. She was last at the Expo about four or five years ago and the spill over crowds from her popularity spilled into our booth big time that year. We want to encourage everyone to consider attending and helping us out. We will have extra perches if you want to bring your feathered friend but even if you can't bring your bird don't worry your help is welcome. There will be a need for members to welcome and talk to patrons and help handle and watch birds for us. We also can use some help on Thursday morning November 20th the day before the Expo to set up our display. We will be meeting at the church about 7:45 AM (I think) to move tables out of the basement and into Brent's pick-up then take them to the expo location in Novi and set up our display. There will also be a need for help Sunday night after the expo ends to help tear down the display and return the tables to the church basement. If you can assist with set-up please feel free to call me, Steve, at home (734-513-0030) for a confirmation of the exact times.

Your Veep
Steve



Out and About with Pookie

It is an established fact and very well documented that foraging is beneficial to all companion parrots. Unfortunately most companion

parrots are not aware of the benefits of foraging for companion humans and it is up to us to initiate this behavior in our humans.

How this is actually accomplished is predicated upon the motivation level of the companion human that you live with. I will speak of our human who happens to be a type "L" companion human. What is considered a type "L" human? One that is lazy, un-motivated and selfish. They are more willing to lie upon the sofa and watch TV than make bird toys and share food. I know this because we live with one. Steve is a classic sloth he would rather watch television than take us to the park. He would rather snack on pretzels than eat a salad. If you live with a companion human like this, don't despair. There is hope for them all you have to do is follow the example of what we have done at our home.

First; we have dramatically increased Steve's need to forage just before he leaves the house. No we're not making him forage for food we're forcing him to forage for parrots. When we see that he is preparing to depart all of us Sparky, JB, Calvin, Misimo and I hide. JB and Calvin duck into the back room where the foster birds are; I run into Steve's bedroom and hide under his bed or dresser; Misimo scampers under one of our cages and refuses to come out. This may not seem like much but when Steve is short on time forcing him to run around the house in a panic looking for all of us can produce quite a sweat on his forehead. If we can conceal ourselves effectively Steve might even run up and down the stairs to the basement a few times. This process

stimulates not only his mind but provides him with needed exercise.

Secondly; we have increased our interference with Steve's culinary habits by inviting ourselves to share in his dinners and snacks. We nip at his toes, climb up his leg, pull the towel off the foot stool his meal is sitting on or just sit on the edge of his plate. Doing any or all of these distractions may not be classified as foraging but the end result is the same. He spends less time eating and more time sharing with us and chasing his meal around the family room.

Until next month
Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



PET EXPO

Here is
tentative Pet Expo

information; the hours are as follows:

Friday, November 21st, Noon - 8pm

Saturday, November 22nd, 10am - 8pm

Sunday, November 23rd 11am-5pm

The Suburban Showcase has the operation of the pet expo again this year. Our club has been given the same generous space that we had last year and vendor badges will be available same as last year. We do know that no birds will be allowed through the front door; **if your bird is going to attend we must get you a pass to enter in the rear doors.** This can be accomplished in multiple ways; 1) Be sure to wear your club badge 2) Go to the vendor desk at the rear doors to either receive a vendor badge or to be allowed access to our booth to receive a

badge. 3) Call Dave, Tammy or me on our cell phones to bring you a badge.

The club will be getting parking passes for you if you have signed up to work. If you are scheduled to work and have to pay an admission to enter or park your car keep your receipts and the club will refund your admission and parking fees. **YOU MUST HAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!** Entrance to the expo as a club member means you plan on working at least three hours at our booth. If you intend to shop and look around plan on arriving early or staying over after your scheduled work times please.

If you signed up to work and haven't heard any details feel free to call Tammy 734-422-5981 or Steve 734-513-0030 for last minute information

For those of you who want to look around at the Expo, you can come early or stay after your scheduled time. The schedule will be as follows; Set-up is Thursday 9am-6pm, we will be arriving at the church to move tables into our vehicles about 7:45 AM then to Suburban Showcase at 9am to set up. Friday's show schedule is: Noon-3pm, 3pm-6pm, 6pm-8pm, Saturday's schedule is 11am – noon, noon-3pm, 3pm-6pm and 6pm to 8pm. Sunday's schedule is 11am-1pm, 1-3pm and 3-5pm, and after the expo closes we will need help to clear out our space and return the tables to the church.

Tammy

!!!!IMPORANT NOTE!!!!

Please remember if you plan on working you have to sign up or let Tammy know. She needs to know as soon as possible to put your name on the list so you may enter through the rear door and she can get you a parking pass.

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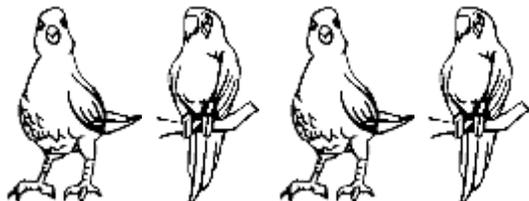
RESCUE RANGERS



Our story has the Rangers going to a place they have been many times before and that is a place known as Redford Township (Ranger Dave's place of his childhood). They were called to pick up a very grouchy Blue Front Amazon named Oscar. Now we can not confuse this Oscar with another Famous grouchy Oscar who lives on Sesame Street no there was no Big Bird or any other characters from that well known street just a cranky Amazon. The Rangers arrived at Oscars residence and found exactly as was described to them one very grumpy Amazon. When Ranger Dave went over to talk to him he tried to tear his face off through the cage bars. Oh joy they thought, he will be a hard cookie to crack let alone

adopt what are we going to do? Well the owners were more than relieved to have Oscar going out of their humble abode into Rangers Dave's. Ranger Steve was relieved as well. So off to the foster home grumpy Oscar went. After a few days a change came over Oscar he calmed down (no nobody slipped him a Mickey or drugged him) it seemed there was way too much activity in the house with a dog and kids zooming around all the time that would make me grumpy. He still was not the friendliest of birds but at least he stopped trying to rip someone's face off. Just when they thought the prospect of a forever home were fading for this poor guy a miracle happened and a gentleman wanted to meet Oscar. Then as Oscar met his potential new parrot parent the second miracle happened he seemed to actually like this gentleman and he couldn't wait to take Oscar home. It was in his new home it was discovered that Oscar had a rather large vocabulary and was quite the clown. He also took to his new parrot parent and was soon stepping up for him and riding around on his shoulder. This proves that the right person with patience can turn a grouch into a sweetie pie. What a great life for the Amazon once known as Oscar the Grouch and what a great ending to this adventure. Still there are many more Oscars out there that need the Rangers help but they will be ready for they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!**

Don't go away stay right where you are and wait for our next thrilling adventure A Redhead Named Percy!



RESCUE UPDATE



The adoption side of the rescue saw a lot of activity last month. We adopted five birds to new homes; Mickey a Congo African Grey, Gemini a Jenday Conure, Grayson an Indian Ringneck, Cookie a Goffin Cockatoo and Annie a Cockatiel went to new forever homes. They all went to their new homes with cages, toys and food.

Again we want to extend our "THANKS" to you, our club members for your generous donations and participation in our monthly raffles. It is your generosity that makes our rescue the success that it is. Thank You!



Odds and ends

- The gifts for our Christmas exchange should have a \$5 maximum. Now's when the bargains are if you want to start looking around for items.
- Start asking businesses for donations for our raffle tables for the bird fair. They do not need to be bird related.

OH BABY?

There are times that amaze you, scare you, exhaust you and sometimes leave you shocked beyond words. This happens to be one of those shocking ones. It was Saturday at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival this past August and things were going like they always do, crazy. Little did we know they would go beyond crazy to absolutely mind boggling. A young woman carrying a baby excitedly ran up to our booth and was totally captivated by all the parrots there but one in particular caught her attention. That was Captain Morgan the Blue and Gold Macaw. She wanted to hold him so badly that she did the hand off of the baby to me and took Captain Morgan on her arm. Now I (Dave) am left holding the baby while she was holding the Macaw. The look of total shock could be seen on my face from Pluto and Steve so wished he had a video camera at that moment to capture the look of surprise on my face. So I am now holding this baby, me a total stranger, a person she has never met until now and she is now trusting me with her baby. The kicker was that the baby's uncle was standing right behind her! It was alright the baby really liked me (kid has good taste) and did not start to cry until the uncle took him from me. She was happy beyond words; the baby not so much until



she took him from the uncle and I was happy I did not drop the baby (I mean if you saw how she handed him to me you would understand). There was an added bonus to all this Steve got great pleasure from my predicament (I guess the look on my face was priceless) and I got another great story to share from another big event. Let's hope this is the one and only time this happens I'm just glad he had a clean diaper!!!



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS: To

NANCY KEENAN	NOV. 1
RIDGE BOUGENOV	NOV. 2
PATRICIA TREGURTHA	NOV. 8
SHERYL DEGREGORIO	NOV. 9
MARY ANN KENNE	NOV. 9
BOB GRUSZCZYNSKI	NOV. 12
RICHARD DEKEYSER	NOV. 13
JONI GRUSZCZYNSKI	NOV. 13
JOE LYNCH	NOV. 13
STEPHAN SULLIVAN	NOV. 15
JACOB PASEK	NOV. 17
JANET ONDERCHANIN	NOV. 19
FRED GORLITZ	NOV. 20
DIANE ARQUETTE	NOV. 22
ROBERT GONZALEZ JR	NOV. 24
ARIANA PASEK	NOV. 25

Bits from Baby



Howdy all my Rainbow Feathered Friends, this your roving reporter Baby with the latest and greatest club news.

The September meeting had sixty-eight people and thirty-four birds. Sixty-one were club members and seven guests. One of the guest's is now a new member of our flock. The feathered members were nine Cockatoos, five African Grays, four Macaws plus fifteen other types of Parrots.

As always the meeting was great and with lots of food and conversation. One thing that we feathered members like is we get to eat some very good food at the meeting.

Sept. 27th and 28th at The Guardians for Animals Pet Expo in Madison Place, our resident ham Captain Morgan took **FIRST PLACE** in the talent contest. Good Job Captain!

October looks like another one of our busiest months with nine shows and one Fund Raiser. These shows are a lot of fun for all of us and I'd like to thank everyone for their help at these programs.

On a very sad note I'd like to say good bye to my cage neighbor Charlie who crossed over the Rainbow Bridge last month. We all **LOVED YOU AND WE'LL ALL MISS YOU.**

Till next we meet in October at the Meeting,

Your friend Baby,



Ramblings from Rambo

Well friends, September, was certainly an exciting, and busy month. I lost

track of how many Senior shows, Pet Fairs, and other things we did this month. I'm aware of only one that I missed. Michael was so busy that week, he mixed up his days. I don't even know where to start to tell you about my adventures. My poor little (though superior) mind is all a spin. I had **TOO MUCH FUN** IN September. Looking back at Michael's appointment book, I see 13 days we went to something. We did not attend the senior show in Lapeer, Michigan. Daddy told Miss Tammy, with all the other event coming up later in the month; he cannot afford the gas for that one.

Now normally I write my column early in the month. This time I'm writing it on the last day of September. It seems I have not been home enough to rest my little mind. I've been too tired to think. I also wanted to see what happens during the latter part of the month. I wanted to be able to tell you about any adventures, later in the month.

Actually a good thing I waited to write this. Some interesting things

happened. First, the Critter fair in Redford was a real dud. The weather was cold. It was so cold I didn't get to go; neither did JB, or Sparky. But a few of us did show up. Celeste brought Tuna, and the Dixons brought Mr. Finnegan. I can't remember if any other of us birdies brought our humans that day. The next day we went to Walled Lake. This one was very good. Here we had some real excitement. The weather was a little chilly, but nothing like the day before. We had a great spot for our tent. We were up on a hill, near the road, facing the lake. Being a little chilly, I snuggled with Daddy, most of the time.

I see I'm getting wordy. Just a little more, bear with me

Michael desperately wants to get me a play mate. So he has been testing me around other birds. I get along great with Jeff's Noble's Macaw. I let Maggie, the big Cockatoo; sit on Daddy's shoulder with me. We have a picture to prove it. Mr. Finnegan, not so well. I chased him off Michael's other shoulder. Probably because he's green like me. And at Guardians for Animals show. Michael sat me down next to a kitten, no big deal. I could have eaten that cat if I wanted to. But he was cool. Not bad for one of them.

Anyways, it was a great month. And tomorrow I'm off to another show. I better rest today.

Until next time, have Fun

(Try to) Be good and remember

Macaws Rule,



UP COMING
EVENTS
As of
Oct. 17th 2014

- Oct.17th Senior Show
Glacier Hills
Senior Living Community 3rd floor
1200 Earhart Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
9:00am Set-up
10:00 am Show
- Oct. 21st Senior Show
Presbyterian Village
In the Rose Cottage
32111 Cherryhill Rd.
Westland, MI 48186
2:00 PM Set-up
3:00PM Show
- Oct.24th School Show
Shrine Catholic Grade School
1621 Linwood Ave.
Royal Oak, MI 48067
8:30 AM Set-up
9:00AM Show
- Oct. 25th Fund Raiser for our Club
Family Video
2571 Coolidge Hwy.
Berkley, MI 48072
3:00 PM
To

7:00 PM

Oct. 29th Senior Show
Abbey Park
28413 Abbey Lane
New Hudson, MI 48165
12:30PM Set-up
1:30PM Show

Nov. 1st Senior Educational Program
Independence Village
of Frankenmuth
255 Mayer Road
Frankenmuth, MI 48734
12:00 noon set-up
1:00 PM show

Nov. 4th Senior Show
Village Manor in Heartland
9501 West Highland Road (M-59)
Howell, MI 48843
12:15 PM Set-up
1:15 Show

Nov. 5th School Show
Rainbow Elementary
33749 Wurfel
Clinton Township, MI 48035
Noon Set-up
1:00PM show

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace
46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

**We will be setting up on Thursday
Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.**

**Please remember no birds will be allowed
through the front door.**

Dec. 7th Senior Show
American House
24400 Middle belt Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48366
2:00 PM set-up
3:00 PM show

*******2015*******

May 5th Educational Show
AARP Meeting at Wayne County
Community College
in the Ray Mix Room
21000 Northline
Taylor, MI 48180
11:30 AM Set-up
12:30 PM Show

******NOTE****NOTE****NOTE******

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

*****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event***** following or "Educational Show" preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don't let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

******NOTE****NOTE****NOTE******



Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Strike one for the birds we have made our mark and those slobbery dogs can take that to the bank! I won the talent contest at the Guardians for Animals Pet Expo can you believe it. I think that J.B. got robbed he should have come in at least second if not first. No some dogs with their big puppy eyes steamrolled over the judges. Maybe if J.B. learned to slobber then he might have a chance to win. Why do dogs get all the glory when we are truly the most intelligent on the planet? We are even smarter than our pet humans but don't tell them that we like to think that they are the smart ones. None the less, I still think that J.B. got a dirty deal but we have shown them we are here and we will not go away. So guys it is time to show the dogs and cats that our time is now no more will they dominate these shows it is time for feathers instead of fur. Raise your wings in unity and show the world we have arrived and we are here to stay so watch out dogs and cats we're coming after you!!!!



Five methods for converting your bird to a healthier diet.

By ZuPreem Staff

For years, companion birds have been fed a diet comprised primarily of seeds. However, new research shows a diet with a high percentage of seeds does not provide even the minimum nutrient levels your bird requires. Because seeds are not consistent in nutrient levels, many seeds are deficient in calcium and have excess levels of fat. A diet high in seeds may lead to obesity and other nutritionally related diseases. Avian nutritionists recommend a diet like ZuPreem® Avian Maintenance™ should make up at least 85 percent of an adult Bird's meal. If your bird currently eats primarily seeds, you may want to consider switching to a diet that ensures the proper consumption of nutrients and will promote a healthier longer life for your bird.

Which method is best for you and your bird?

There are many methods for converting your bird to a new diet, and your avian veterinarian can help you decide which method may work best for you and your bird.

1. Interval feeding

For 20-30 minutes three times a day, offer 50% seeds along with 50% new diet in the same bowl. The bowl should only be 1/4 full using this method. Remove all uneaten food from the cage after each feeding and check to see how much of the old and the new diet the bird is eating. If the bird is eating some of the new diet, reduce the amount of seed and increase the amount of the new diet at each feeding until you are feeding only the new diet. This method assures your bird will not starve, but should still be hungry enough to begin experimenting with the new food. This process may take several days or several weeks, depending on your bird.

2. Ten-day gradual method

Over a 10-day period, fill the food dish 1/4 full several times a day maintaining the following proportions of the old and the new diet.

3. Remove seeds until later in the day

Starting at bedtime, remove all seeds. In the morning, put fresh portions of the new diet in the cup. Leave the new diet in the cage until mid- to late afternoon. Then feed the bird's previous diet for the rest of the day. Repeat this process for several days or until the bird is consuming the new diet. Then offer only the new diet at all feedings.

4. Back and forth method

Starting at night, remove all food from the cage. In the morning, put the new diet in the food cup. Let the bird experiment with the new food, perhaps sampling one or two nuggets. Then after an hour, remove the nuggets and feed the old diet. Repeat the process throughout the day—new food for an hour, then the old diet. During the next 4-5 days, repeat the process but lengthen the time the new diet is in the cage, before offering the old diet. During the following week, keep extending the time the new diet is in the food cup, until you eliminate the old diet altogether.

5. Total new diet

In the wild, birds often do not have options. They eat seeds one season, fruits the next, consuming what is available. Many authorities believe that some birds are able to make an abrupt transition because they recognize the new unfamiliar shapes as food and adapt relatively easily. Great care should be taken to confirm that your bird is eating enough of the new diet to maintain weight.

Day	Old Diet	New Diet
Day 1	90%	10%
Day 2	80%	20%
Day 3	70%	30%
Day 4	60%	40%
Day 5	50%	50%
Day 6	40%	60%
Day 7	30%	70%
Day 8	20%	80%
Day 9	10%	90%
Day 10	00%	100%

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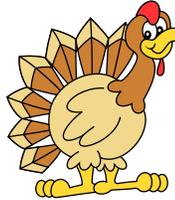
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Volume 17 Issue 11

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING DATES :
NOVEMBER 21st, 22nd, 23rd – PET EXPO
NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER
DECEMBER 21st – THIRD SUNDAY
JANUARY 25th – FOURTH SUNDAY

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops

And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

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Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Mary Perva – 517-618-7008

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email – susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email – bigduke@comcast.net



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net



Monthly snack list

We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!



CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at bigduke@comcast.net if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.

From the prez:



I am still trying to find out what happened to summer and here we are heading toward Thanksgiving and Christmas. Well it seems that they have pushed all the holidays together so they kind of morph into each

other and we skip over Thanksgiving and dive right into Christmas. I think we need to slow things down and celebrate each holiday as they were meant to be. We need to take a minute and give thanks for all the good things in our lives like family, friends and our pets that bring us so much joy. We need to step back from those things that make us crazy and look at what matters most because those things never change. I am thankful for so much I am truly blessed in so many aspects of my life and the club is one of them. The last meeting was fantastic so much great food and even though it was a nice fall day we still had over 60 members show up and even voted two new members in. It was a great meeting but what made it even better was all the fun we always have. We have even found a way to keep the business light and humorous. That is what we all want a place where all can feel comfortable and just enjoy each other and our birds I feel we have achieved that. Now it is on to the Novi Pet Expo and I hope you all have signed up so we can get you parking passes and get you on the list to get in. The Suburban Collection Showplace is very accommodating and knows it takes a small army to man our booth so they let us put all our volunteers on a list so they can get in. We also need help Thursday the 20th of November for set up we will be at the church at 7:30 AM to get the tables loaded up and be at the hall by 9:00AM to set-up and it starts Friday November 21st at 12:00 PM we will get there about 10:30 AM to get the final touches taken care of. The times are as follows Nov. 21st 12-8, 22nd 10-8 and

the 23rd 11-5. All members signed up to help must come in through the back doors no birds will be allowed through the front doors. This is one of our premier events so come to meet and greet and have fun like we always do. So I look forward to seeing those who can be there at the pet expo and thank all those who support efforts like this buy participating in the monthly raffles and all the other ways the club is supported. It all fits like a grand puzzle and we are the pieces that make up the bigger picture, and what a grand picture it is!!! As always, **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez
Dave



Voice of the Veep

Without a doubt this past summer has been the busiest our club has ever had. At the last meeting Tammy gave an estimate on the amount of the donations our rescue has received for doing shows and the number of shows that we staged. Including the five shows in late October and early November the number of Senior and school shows we have done is about forty-five. When you include the bird fairs, pet expos, pet adoption events and festivals we attended this past year the number increases too approximately fifty-five or sixty. This is significant for two reasons; firstly the amount of money we earned in donations

was tremendous. All the funds went into our rescue and helped cover the cost of veterinary bills, food and foster care costs. Our rescue would not be able to continue or survive without these funds. The second reason the number of events and shows is impressive is the response and participation of all of you our club members. We have had more help at the senior shows and at the fairs and festivals than in years past. Words cannot convey how wonderful this is and those of you that attended a show or festival for the first time last year know how rewarding it is. To everyone in the club I wish to convey my gratitude for your support, it's not just the members that attend shows, it's participating in the monthly raffles at club meetings, fostering parrots and helping out in any and all ways.

Now is not the time to relax the pet expo at the Suburban Showcase in Novi is this month and I expect our booth to be one of, if not the biggest attraction. Tammy has discount tickets if you know anyone who wants one and hopefully we will make the local morning television shows on Saturday like we did last year. Last year our television appearance boosted the crowds and filled our booth all day long. I encourage everyone to come to the expo and join us it will be a memorable time.

Remember there is no meeting at the church in November because of the Expo. I'll see you there!

See you at the Pet Expo
Your Veep
Steve



PET EXPO

Here is Pet Expo information; the hours are as follows:

Friday, November 21st, Noon - 8pm

Saturday, November 22nd, 10am - 8pm

Sunday, November 23rd 11am-5pm

The Suburban Showcase has the operation of the pet expo again this year. Our club has been given the same generous space that we had last year and vendor badges will be available same as last year. We do know that no birds will be allowed through the front door; **if your bird is going to attend we must get you a pass to enter in the rear doors.** This can be accomplished in multiple ways; 1) Be sure to wear your club badge 2) Go to the vendor desk at the rear doors to either receive a vendor badge or to be allowed access to our booth to receive a badge. 3) Call Dave, Tammy or me on our cell phones to bring you a badge.

The club will be getting parking passes for you if you have signed up to work. If you are scheduled to work and have to pay an admission to enter or park your car keep your receipts and the club will refund your admission and parking fees. **YOU MUST HAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!** Entrance to the expo as a club member means you plan on working at least three hours at our booth. If you intend to shop and look around plan on arriving early or staying over after your scheduled work times please.

If you signed up to work and haven't heard any details feel free to call Tammy 734-422-5981 or Steve 734-513-0030 for last minute information

For those of you who want to look around at the Expo, you can come early or stay after your scheduled time. The

schedule will be as follows; Set-up is Thursday 9am, we will be arriving at the church to move tables into our vehicles about 7:30 AM then to Suburban Showcase at 9am to set up. Friday's show schedule is: Noon-3pm, 3pm-6pm, 6pm-8pm, Saturday's schedule is 10am – noon, noon-3pm, 3pm-6pm and 6pm to 8pm. Sunday's schedule is 11am-1pm, 1-3pm and 3-5pm, and after the expo closes we will need help to clear out our space and return the tables to the church.

Tammy



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to:

CHERYL BRATCHER	DEC. 1
LINDA WAGNER	DEC. 3
JEREMY EAMES	DEC. 7
PATRICK BONSE	DEC. 13
ROBERT GONZALEZ	DEC. 13
LINNEA NICHOLSON-FARIS	DEC.13
ANNETTE BALLARD	DEC. 14
ANITA WISNIEWSKI	DEC. 16
ELIZABETH GLADSON	DEC. 17
ROBERT OSENKOWSKI	DEC. 28

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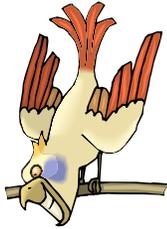
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SPECIAL BREEDER PRICING



Odds and ends

- The gifts for our Christmas exchange should have a \$5 maximum. Now's when the bargains are if you want to start looking around for items.
- Start asking businesses for donations for our raffle tables for the bird fair. They do not need to be bird related.



UP COMING EVENTS

As of
Nov. 6th 2014

PET EXPO

Nov. 21st Noon to 8pm
 Nov. 22nd 10am to 8pm
 Nov. 23rd 11am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace
 46100 Grand River
 Novi, MI 48374

**We will be setting up on Thursday
 Nov. 20th most likely around 9:00 am.
 Please remember no birds will be allowed
 through the front door.**

Dec.7th Senior Show
 American House
 24400 Middle belt Rd.
 Farmington Hills, MI 48366
 2:00 PM set-up
 3:00 PM show

Dec.8th Senior Show
 Sanctuary at Woodland
 7533 Grand River Rd.
 Brighton, MI 48114-9338
 2:00 PM Set-up
 3:00PM Show

*******2015*******

May 5th Educational Show
 AARP Meeting at Wayne County
 Community College
 in the Ray Mix Room
 21000 Northline
 Taylor, MI 48180
 11:30 AM Set-up
 12:30 PM Show

*******NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE****

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

*******Our Club Has a Booth at This Event*******

following or "Educational Show" preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at

some of these events but don't let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.

I'm Sick.....



I'm sick can I give this to my birds? That is one of the most asked questions I get at this time of year hands down. Now as we all know rule of thumb is that if you are sick you stay home and avoid groups of people so you do not spread what you have or pick up a secondary infection. This is just common sense but what about your birds; can you give them your cold or flu? In most cases we can not share illnesses with our feathered kids, (except for a couple the main one being Psittacosis or Parrot Fever in humans). This however doesn't mean that you shouldn't be more careful around your birds. When ever I get sick I limit face time with my birds which means I do not do my

normal snuggling and cuddling just as a safety measure and I constantly wash my hands. I just do not like to take chances with my bird's health and I know we are all that way. Another thing that has everybody concerned is the Swine Flu they have had turkeys that have contracted this virus but exotics have not. So remember if you do get sick stay home and take care of yourself even if it means missing church or even a bird club meeting. We want you healthy, happy and your birds too.

Dave

Out and About with Pookie



Last month I was reiterating about the importance of foraging for your companion humans and how our foraging program has benefited Steve in particular. Unfortunately my space is limited so I was forced to trim my column short so here is a small addendum to our foraging efforts for Steve.

We like to call this activity "Shock and Ouch!" Shock, because that is the common reaction from Steve when he receives our attention and ouch, because this is a "G" rated verbalization of what he usually says when we strike. (I was forced to edit the actual language that is emitted by Steve

because the true language was constantly being censored). The foraging benefit is achieved by us hiding under our cages, inside of cardboard boxes on the floor in the kitchen and behind bags and boxes on the floor in the living room. Steve realizes we are not in our cages so he starts looking under and inside any space we might hide in. His short attention span convinces him that it is clear and safe so he lets down his guard. This is when we strike! Wham! In the blink of an eye one of us rockets out of our hiding space and bites his sock covered foot. The dancing, hopping and colorful language then ensues. Needless to say all of us have been learning some new catch phrases to use at inappropriate times. I'll show you what the Bird Droppings censor does when I attempt to put his true words in. I emerge suddenly from the cardboard box in the kitchen and nip Steve's toe. Steve starts to hop about and says things like; "You &@**, ^#!!?, OUCH, \$#***%, let go , *&%^#\$ that hurts. Trust me he will soon regret his choice of words because all of us know that anything said with great emotion and emphasis is what we will retain and remember.

On a completely different note, it's Pet Expo time! This is my favorite event of the year because this is the event where I receive so many accolades. My fuzzy coif and sweet demeanor brings in all the calls of "she's so cute, look it's a baby, can I touch her fuzzy but, it looks so soft and so forth. All the feathered members stand out

at this event but this is my big chance to laud the benefits of adopting a companion bird with issues. Hopefully the local television stations will be there like last year and I will be allowed to do another private interview on Saturday morning. I'll see everybody at the EXPO!

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



I READ IT ON THE INTERNET!



No matter what event we do it seems that the internet always trumps anything we know. After all they can't put anything that isn't true on the internet, Right? Well here are some things that we have heard from the so called internet experts.

One woman saw on U-Tube that Moluccan Cockatoos were easy birds to

keep and minimally noisy. In what universe is that?

A gentleman read that it is better to keep a flock of Budgies so they don't develop behavior issue. Really?

A woman read that you should always give your bird a mirror so it won't get lonely. Plus it won't want anything to do with you!

Another woman read on a "birdsite" that any one of the Conures are good first time birds. OK, let's see how they handle a noisy Sun or Jenday Conure.

A woman read on a bird behavior site that you can teach a bird not to scream, ever. Please get me that site I need to know this!

Finally I have had many people tell me that they have read on the internet that birds are a very easy pet to keep. They have a low mess level and do not require all the attention a dog or cat needs. Good thing I don't have hair or I'd be pulling it out.

Oh yes the Internet is a great source of information but it is also filled with many self-proclaimed experts that make our job of educating people that much harder. Still it makes for great newsletter stuff!



Rambling with Rambo



Well friends, October was an interesting month. We were all very busy.

We had 10 shows during October. The show (fund raiser) at Family Video was the most fun. The show at the school was not as good as I expected. Maybe the children were too young to appreciate what was going on. They didn't even crack up when we pooped all over the floor. Let me tell you, Max let out the Biggest, Wettest poop I've ever seen. You would have thought we were being bombed by Sea Gulls. You know how big the splat is when they hit (an always freshly washed) car? Max let go with a bigger one.

By the time our meeting came, both myself, and Michael, were very tired. And boy did he spend the money on gasoline. However, he still managed to scrape

together some money to get me some new toys, and treats. Every week, he gets me Fresh fruit. I think he skipped getting something he wanted, to get me toys. He must really love me.

A couple of other things happened in October. The first was this. Michael has been trying to find me a playmate, for a long time. Well, he found one. There is this rescue up north, near Traverse City. They received a little Citron Cockatoo.

Wouldn't you know it? Someone else gave him a new loving home, before we could get him. Oh well, he must not have been meant to be my brother. Daddy told me: "Rambo everything happens for a reason, even if we don't understand it."

The other thing that happened was this. At our September meeting, Maggie, the Umbrella Cockatoo, came too really like Michael. I even like Maggie. I let her sit on Daddy's shoulder with me. Well at the School Show, where Mia goes to school, again Maggie came walking over to Daddy. She wanted him to pick her up. She did this twice; once when we first came in and later when we were all getting ready to go home. She snuggled with him the whole time. She even tried to stay with Daddy when Janie went to leave with her. Even though we all like each other, she couldn't go home with us. She belongs to Mia.

Lastly, fall arrived in October. That meant the temperature was getting colder. Well, it was getting to cold for our evening walk. So, Michael only takes me to inside places.

I see I'm rambling on, as usual. So, I'll stop here. Talk to you next month.

As always, Remember,
Have Fun, (try to) Be Good,
and Never Forget,
Macaws Rule.

Rambo



Bits from Baby

Howdy all my rainbow feathered friends, this your roving reporter Baby with the latest and greatest club news.

The October meeting had sixty-nine people and Forty-one birds. Sixty-five were club members and four guests. Two of the guests are now new members of our flock. The feathered members were ten Cockatoos, seven African Grays, four Macaws plus twenty other types of Parrots.

November we have had four programs starting on the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th. On November 21st, 22nd, and 23, The Greatest Show on Earth will be at the Novi Pet Expo. The feathered and non-feathered members all have a great time there. We get to meet a lot of new people and make some good friends.

It's a fun show for everyone that comes and takes part in the show. This event is one of my favorite shows that I can come to and see all my feathered and non-feathered friends. Hope to see you all there.

Your friend Baby

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not a senorita but a senior with a traditional Mexican name, wait for it, Percy. Now it seems that the owner's life was taking a dramatic turn and changes were very close on the horizon. With no one to turn to they enlisted the help of the Rescue Rangers. Percy even though he was an Amazon Parrot he was pretty even tempered for an Amazon and ranger Steve having a soft spot for Mexican Redheaded Amazon Parrots (can we say Missy Moe) was more than happy to Foster this poor guy. It was a rescue fraught with tears from the owner having to give up their beloved pet but they were soothed in the fact that the Rangers would work diligently to find Percy the perfect new home. The biggest bonus was that he was a well cared for young man great cage, food, toys, and (YAY) vet care. So with Percy and his belongings packed up the Rangers headed to Ranger Steve's casa (that's house in Spanish for all you foreign language challenged) to begin his foster period. To the Rangers delight his stay in foster care would be short for he was a great bird and soon found his forever home! Ah, don't you love a happy ending! For the Rangers this was one of many happy endings but the rescue calls are NEVER ENDING and they are ready to answer those calls for they are **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!!**



RESCUE RANGERS



Once again the call came in and the rangers were off, (Yeah I know they're always off but that a whole different problem) to a place called Montrose Michigan. There they would pick up Mexican Redhead (NO! not a saucy senorita) a Mexican Redheaded Amazon Parrot. It also has to be said that this was

Stay on the lookout for our next riveting adventure This Gumby was no Pokey!!!!!!!



Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

Well I have never been so humiliated in my entire life and it seems that a certain Cockatoo may be responsible for some of it! I have been given a new and embarrassing nickname “Capt Crabby pants” all I can do is HOW RUDE! It all started when MY pet human picked up another Blue and Gold macaw IN MY PRESENCE, what was he thinking! Anyway I went to express my displeasure and tried to give him a nip on the finger and that’s where things went wrong. I was just a little too far and ended falling off my stand all the while still attached to my pet human’s finger. I was holding on for dear life and was now on my back in mid-air and it wasn’t until I felt

something solid that I let go. My pet human’s reaction was not at all what I expected instead of screaming in pain he was very quiet and calmly put me down, no drama, no tears not even a few choice four letter words, really, have I lost my touch? He instead went and got of all things Angry Bird Band-Aids fixed up his finger and even laughed about it. This guy must really be a wacko! Anyway, he even knew why I did it and still came back and picked me up all the while telling me he was not going to take that kind of behavior from me. Then another one of those not quite right humans named Cheryl gave the moniker Capt Crabby Pants and it stuck. Oh the shame! The unknown to me Maggie the Umbrella Cockatoo was taking pictures and posting them from her Blackbirdie 4.0 and posting them to Squawker and Featherbook. I am hoping that all this will die down I mean my pet human has forgiven me and I have learned a valuable lesson; if you are going to do something like that think first because with today’s technology you cannot do anything in public like that. I’ll wait until we get home next time!

Cheers
Captain Morgan



Rescue Update

Our rescue continues to be active. We have adopted to new homes three African Greys;

a Timneh named Alex and two Congo's to the same new home. Gingko a male and Cherry who have lived together their entire lives went to their new home together. This was a major accomplishment for the rescue because Gingko (who participated in an alternative lifestyle) was severely plucked. We also promised their former owner that we would attempt to keep them together. We were successful in doing this.

All these birds went to their new homes with cages, food and toys. Thanks to all of you, our generous club members. It is because of your support and participation in our monthly club raffles and your donations that help to make our rescue the success that it is. Keep up the great work, our thanks to all of you.



A bird's droppings can be an early indicator of illness



By Don J. Harris, DVM

Because birds are excellent at hiding illness, your bird's dropping may be one of the early indicators that your bird is sick. There are three components to your bird's

droppings—the stool component, the urine component and the uric acid component. Changes in any of the three components should be taken seriously and may indicate your bird is sick. Any abnormal signs demand the immediate attention of your veterinarian.

1. The stool component

The stool comes from the gastrointestinal tract and is usually a greenish rope or blob. This portion of the bird's droppings is highly influenced by the bird's diet and can radically vary with a change in diet. For example, beets can make the stools red, while blueberries may turn the stools purple. Colorants in some commercial diets can also change the color of the stools. Color changes are often irrelevant, but bird owners should be concerned if the stools become black or have a strong or unusual odor.

2. The urine component

The relatively clear, watery urine portion is produced by your bird's kidneys. The amount of water in your bird's droppings is directly influenced by the water content of the foods your bird eats. Wet stools, however, should become drier with dry foods. Large amounts of water persistently present in the droppings could be a sign of serious disease and you should consult your avian veterinarian.

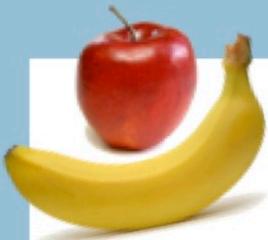
3. The uric acid component

The white/cream colored uric acid portion of your bird's droppings is a very important indicator of health. This part of the droppings should without exception be white or near white in color. Changes to lime green, bright yellow, mustard brown, pale brown and brick red are common signs of very serious illness. Any change from normal should be investigated immediately. Establish a normal benchmark in your bird by observing and keeping a

record of the number, volume, color and consistency of your bird's droppings. This can be very helpful later if you notice a change.

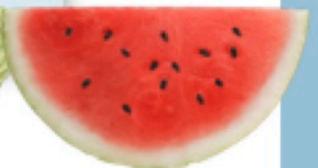
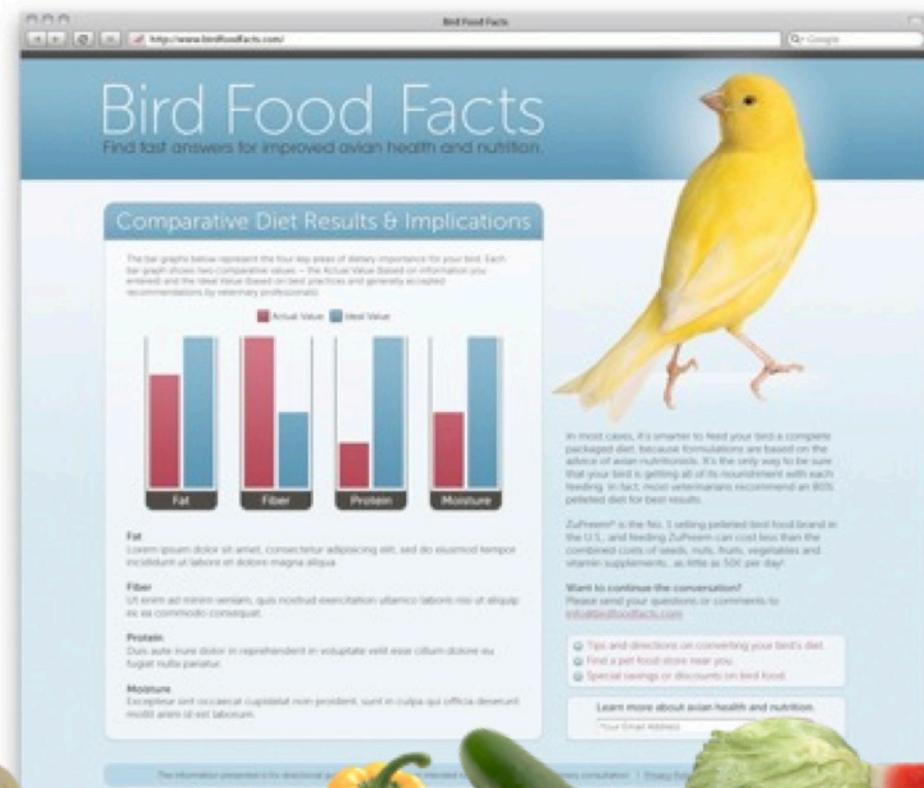
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A 501(c) (3) club

December 2014
Volume 17 Issue 12

Bird Droppings



UPCOMING MEETING DATES :
DECEMBER 21st – THIRD SUNDAY
JANUARY 25th – FOURTH SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 22nd – FOURTH SUNDAY

RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
 - Support scholarships for avian vet students
 - Yearly Bird Fair
 - Club Library for members
 - Grooming available
 - Avian rescue/relocation programs
 - Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
 - Monthly newsletter
 - Periodic service projects
 - Field Trips
 - Educational programs upon request
 - Make-it-take-it workshops
- And more.....

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

Secretary – Beverly Sholar 313-492-5700

Email – basholar@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – sweettweeters@comcast.net

Board of Trustees –

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email – susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email – bigduke@comcast.net

Mary Perva – 734-207-0489



ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail sweettweeters@comcast.net

so easy to get caught up in all the hype and stress when we really have the best gifts around us all the time, family and Good friends. So as we face a long winter keep those warm thoughts going with the true gifts at Christmas and all year. You are members of a bird club family that continues to grow and continues to show the people at the many events we do what a strong group of like minded people can accomplish. Also remember the Christmas meeting raffle is here so bring something nice and wrap it, \$5 should be the limit. So to all the members of the best club in the universe have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year and remember **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!**

Until Next Time
Your Prez Dave

because if our schedule maintains this pace it will probably be busier with more events than last year. Another benefit of all these shows is the donations we receive for doing them. Tammy will have a more precise number but I believe a good estimate is over \$3000.00 was made for vet bills and rescue care. If you've never joined us please plan on attending an event during the next year it's a lot of fun and I promise you will have a great time.

Remember this month's meeting is an open house as well as having our Christmas raffle, so please try to bring a dish to share for our pot-luck and a small wrapped gift for the raffle. All the money from the monthly raffles goes back to the rescue to help us cover vet bills and other costs.

Merry Christmas to Everyone
and a Happy New Year
Your Veep
Steve



Voice of the Veep

It's hard to believe that another year has passed us by.

This past year was without a doubt the most event filled year we have ever had. There were about forty-five educational / senior shows; four multi day shows that totaled ten days and five single day shows. What I think is most amazing about this all the help and participation by our members. A good example of this was the Pet Expo last month, we had more help setting up and tearing down than ever before. This doesn't even mention all the members that were at the expo and helped us meet and greet the public. Everyone keep your eyes on the upcoming events for the next year





Annual elections

The annual elections will be held at our January meeting. We will be voting on a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Any member in good standing is eligible to fill any one of these offices. To help you decide who you think would best fill these offices, the following is a brief guide to their duties:

PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, see that the bylaws are enforced, call such meetings as are needed, and be responsible for the execution of all motions passed by the members. The President shall also be public relations administrator and liaison between the Club and all other groups.

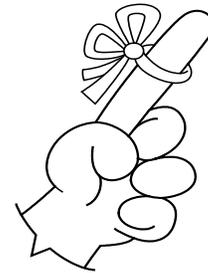
VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall assume the President's responsibilities in the absence or disability of the President, keep constantly informed of Club activities, and shall be responsible for special programs and social events.

SECRETARY: The Secretary is responsible for minutes at all general membership and board meetings, reads minutes of previous meetings when requested, keeps a file of all minutes, shall provide copies of minutes for each board member upon request, is responsible for all member notices, and is responsible for all correspondence, both incoming and outgoing.

TREASURER: The Treasurer collects all dues and records all moneys belonging to the Club, disburses same under the direction of the President, deposits the funds of the Club in the name of the Club in such bank or banks as may be designated by the Executive Committee, and submits a statement of accounts at each meeting. The books and accounts shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any member. The Treasurer shall be responsible for disbursement of moneys for bird bands.

TRUSTEE: One Trustee is elected each year to serve a three year term. A person serving as Trustee is ineligible for other elected office. Duties shall be to serve as coordinators of the

Club, assuring a meeting place, acting as assistants to the President, and serve as a grievance committee. They shall conduct an annual audit of all Club records, Treasurer's and Secretary's books, etc. The Trustees whose terms of office have not expired shall serve as the election committee and shall conduct the annual elections. The Trustees shall review all absences of officers and shall fill any vacant office by either appointment or special election with the membership.



A REMINDER

Our dues are due in January. Checks should be made out to **RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB**. Please pay them at the January meeting or by mail to Tammy Carol at Rainbow Feathers Bird Club, PO Box 1587, Garden City MI 48135.

Please note any of our new members that have joined the club between July and December 2014 do not have to pay dues in January. Your membership is valid until January 2016!



Bits from Baby

Howdy all my Rainbow Feathered Friends, this is your roving reporter Baby with the latest and greatest club news.

What a time we all had at the Novi Pet Expo, we had three days of non stop action. It was hard on this old bird but, I had a ball. There were so many people there from all over Michigan and other states. The Rainbow Feathers Club even made it on the TV News. I usually make it only on Friday and Saturday but this year I was also there on Sunday. The Feathered and Non-feathered members worked hard to make all the visitors feel welcomed and they really seemed to enjoy themselves.

We have only two more programs this year plus Our Christmas party. It sure was a busy year in 2014. We broke our record for the most programs and event of all times as a Club.

Till next we meet in January at the Meeting,

your friend
Baby,

>< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< ><



CLUB T-SHIRTS

Anyone interested in a club shirt; Tracy Hilka who is Bella Embroidery is now making our club shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to XI and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

You can go to her website or you can go to our website.

<http://www.rfbirdclub.com> . or

www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb

There is a tab on our web site that will send you to her ordering pages for t-shirts or other types of shirts and items. Once you are on her website you then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page).

Look down the page and find Gildan DryBlend 50/50 T-shirts #8000

Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes.

Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo

When she receives your order she will send you a PayPal[®] invoice

In a short time you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal[®] account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)



RESCUE PROCEDURE

There is a proper procedure for turning a bird into the rescue and we must do our best to follow it. Any time a bird is to be surrendered to our rescue Dave, Steve, Tammy or Mary must be contacted first so proper arrangements can be made. Rainbow Feathers Bird Club and Rescue can not take responsibility for any birds that have not followed this procedure. If you have elected to take in someone's unwanted bird or if you have been offered a "free" bird please be aware that you will have to assume the full cost of veterinary care yourself.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to:

TOM POKRYFKY	JAN. 9
CHARLES DIXON	JAN. 18
LOVEY QUESNEL	JAN. 27
SARA SCHUBRING	JAN. 27
SHAE FENNELLY	JAN. 28
JEAN DEKEYSER	JAN. 30
SANDRA KEMPISTY	JAN. 31



Rambling with Rambo

November was another exciting month. Though truthfully, it actually felt very slow as compared to October. The month did start off with a

bang. Our first show of the month was a Senior Education Event. That one was pretty good; nice turnout and we all performed well. I am giving Michael a break (from my little love nibbles). I'm being much nicer around strangers. Notice I said 'strangers'. Yes, I still warn him when certain persons get too close to me.

We had a show at Rainbow Elementary School, in Clinton Twp., MI. This was truly the best show I have ever been to. There were 240 children there, and many teachers, and the school Principle.

Everyone LOVED the show we put on. Miss Celeste is teaching Tuna some tricks. Tuna is doing well. We can't let JB have all the glory. Tuna sure likes Michael. It seems all the big Cockatoos like him. And I must admit, they are pretty cool birds.

Oh yeah, the show at the school. After the show, our humans (most of them) lined up with us superior creatures to let the children pet, or hold us. The big people at the school were so excited about us being

there. The principle said, "That was the best thing we ever did here. I'm going to tell ALL the other schools in the area about you." Well naturally, we are Super Stars. Michael has all these friends on this computer place called Facebook. He posted pictures of (well, everything we do) this School Show. He has friends all over the world. They love seeing the events we put on. Many are so jealous of our adventures, especially that girl in Finland. Most of these people tell us nobody else does the things we do. And in many countries, there are not even bird clubs. That is so sad. But then We Are Rainbow Feathers, super stars of the avian world.

Here is something encouraging. Emma, Michael's friend in Finland, took it upon herself to put on a show at her local pet store. She brought her 5 Kaks, to show everyone, and tell all about them. She said, "It went Great." She sent me some pictures of it.

See all you Rainbow Feather members; this is why we need you at our events. You never know where our good work will touch, and change the lives of fellow bird lovers. Never forget, We Are Rainbow Feathers. We are the Super Stars of the Avian World.

I must tell you all about the Pet Expo, in Novi. Michael was really sick. Hence we were only there on Sunday. It was Great. We had an awesome turnout. Over the course of the day, about 25 of our humans were there.

The show was exciting. More happened then I could tell you here. The 2 biggest things that happened were this. First, Dave, Faith, Jessie, and Joey held this giant snake. It was 14 feet long, and weighed 150 pounds.

The other exciting thing that happened was this. I let a girl, I had never met, stroke my chest. I didn't bite, or back away, or do anything. I just stood there on Michael's arm chilling. My, my, my, I'm getting really good around other humans.

Oh my, I'm rambling on again. I see you at our meeting or out at some event.

Well gang, as always, be good, have fun and remember "Macaws Rule"

Your buddy
Rambo



Odds and ends

- Rescue contacts – These are the main contacts for the rescue, and from here we have several foster homes. Please refer all questions concerning the rescue to the following:

Dave and Tammy Carol
734-422-5981
sweettweeters@comcast.net

Steve Plafchan
734-513-0030
splafchan@twmi.rr.com



Out and About with Pookie

The Pet Expo was fantastic!

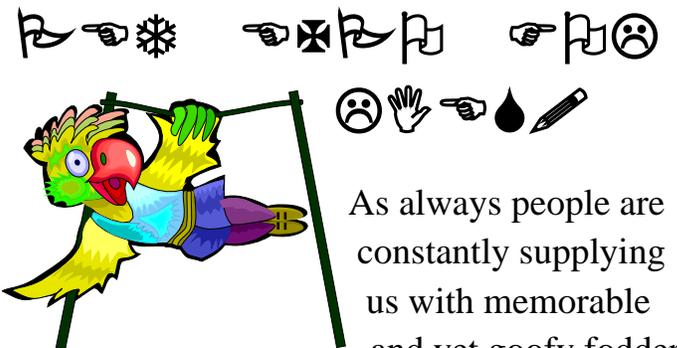
We, the feathered members of our club were the biggest hit of the event. Aside from attracting massive crowds all three days we gained recognition by being on television Sunday morning. Another point of notice was by Victoria Stillwell who was presenting a program on the stage across the aisle from our booth. Her curiosity was peaked because as she was on stage she looked across the aisle at the massive crowd in our booth. She even wondered why there was a competing program going on at the same time she was on stage. We were also invited to be live on the Sunday morning television shows. This was an offer we couldn't refuse so I woke Steve up at 5:00AM so he could get us to the showplace in time for our interview. The interview brought a lot of visitors to our booth and definably increased our, souvenir photo for a donation business that day.

The only drawback from doing the interview was, as usual, Steve and Dave. Their egos and heads swelled up larger than a feather cyst or as big as a tick on a hound dogs butt. It is just sad how they take all the credit for the awesome job we (the feathered members) did at the event as well as the interview. All I've heard from Steve since the expo has been him tooting his own horn talking about the great job he and the rest of the companion humans accomplished. Well, Pigeon feathers it wasn't them it was us the feathered members that were the stars.

Nobody, not one single person wanted a souvenir photo with Steve sitting on their lap, they wanted us the birds. We even had many of our club members that are usually quite shy decide to get into the act and posed for photos and handling. Max the Greenwing Macaw and Arora the Rosebreasted Cockatoo were in the crowds for the first time. Please remember it was all of us (the feathered club members) who were the attraction so don't listen to Steve and Dave.

On a completely separate topic all of us here at home have discovered a new item for Steve's exercise program. I don't have enough space left in this month's column to expound upon the details of the program but I will give you a hint. It involves Smoke alarms and house alarms at three AM in the morning! Oh what fun! Stay tuned.

Chirps and Squawks
Pookie



As always people are constantly supplying us with memorable and yet goofy fodder for the newsletters and this year's Pet Expo was no different. So here they are! Looking at Captain Morgan, Wow is that a Hyacinth Macaw!! (No but he wishes he was.) Looking at Aurora, a pink African Gray? (Really?)

Once again looking at Aurora, I thought it was an African Gray until it turned around. (You mean the pink head a little crest didn't give it away.)

Those must be Homing Pigeons. (Sorry Sparky, sorry J.B. but this always happens.)

Looking at Princess, is that a Canary? (OK!)

One gentleman said I can tell male from female by the size and your Blue and Gold is definitely female. Uh no this is a male.

How do **YOU** know? He was DNA sexed. What's that? (High School biology flunkee, maybe, what do you think?)

Explaining to a woman that Ruby and Mr. Finnegan are the same bird just male and female I got this. No they're not they're different colors and the male is **ALWAYS** more colorful everybody knows that.

(Apparently not you.)

One guy told me Tuna was not a Cockatoo, Cockatoo's have a yellow crest like that one, (points to baby) that's a Cockatoo. (So Aurora is what? A Flamingo!)

My absolute favorite came from a woman who looked at me with a strange look after I told her I was with the bird group. She said, oh you're not what I expected; I thought you'd be wimpier. (I was either complimented or insulted I still can't tell) I love doing these events and the people are always willing to give us some good stuff for the newsletter. I know this will never change so as long as we keep doing these events I well keep printing their comments for your amusement and mine!



Rescue Update

This has been a slow month for adopting rescued birds to new families and for rescues.

There were no adoptions but we did bring in a lot of adoption applications at the Pet Expo. There is a brief update on Alex who was adopted last month. While he was at my home I never heard him say a word. One day after he was adopted his first words were "Hey Toots, get me a Beer" and he hasn't stopped talking since. I have been assured he is definitely in his forever home.

We want to thank everyone for their participation in the raffles and for their donations to the rescue. It is the support of our members that allows us to take rescued birds to the vet and find them new homes with cages, food and toys. Your continuing support is what makes our rescue and club the success that it is

THANK YOU



Avast ye Mates



CAPTAINS CORNER

AAAAAAH, as you can see I am still basking in the afterglow of a very successful pet expo. Just like in times past we (the birds) were a hit and everyone loved us. I must say being across from all those reptiles was a tad bit unnerving but we learned to deal with it. I myself was on a mission to erase the nickname Capt Crabbypants from my record. This took being on my best behavior and stepping up when they wanted me to without giving anyone any trouble. I still had to make my presence known though and it was said they could hear my all through the showplace. This plan of mine might have worked I was not referred to as, well you know, all weekend. I just need to keep myself out of trouble from now on but then it happened, why oh why did it have to happen now of all times why? The why I am talking about is that dreaded stinking, obnoxious, oh so embarrassing and totally ridiculous hat had to resurface. The kicker he wore it in public!! I could have died from the embarrassment I mean can't he get a normal hat for goodness sake. Now I realize he needs to keep that shiny egghead warm but not that hat. Well I'll have to find a way to deep six that hat on the bright side we are in tight with Santa maybe he can bring him a NORMAL HAT. That's it I'll ask him to bring him one for Christmas and gently lose that other hat. This way I can stay out of trouble and less one stupid nickname, so stay tuned to see what happens HEHEHEHEHE!!!!

Christmas Cheers
Captain Morgan



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RESCUE RANGERS



Well the story with a call about a very obnoxious little green bird in Ann Arbor Michigan. The call came in about a Quaker Parakeet that had gotten very, in their words, mean. So the Rangers were off to get this little green ball of terror. They arrived and found this little Quaker had quite the Napoleon complex. He thought he was as big as a Hyacinth Macaw and was more than willing to prove it to everyone who crossed his path. The Rangers knew that there was more to this little guy's story so they did a quick assessment of the situation and came to these conclusions. First off he was being a typical Quaker very protective of his cage and secondly he was fully flighted and that gave him a huge attitude. So with bird in hand they were off. The first thing they did was clip his wings to give him a major attitude adjustment

And a miracle happened. It was if though the evil spirit had left his little green body and he became a totally different bird. He willingly stepped up and was not biting except in his cage and that is typical of Quakers. The little green devil had now earned his halo and became a little green angel. Gumby quickly found his forever home and the Rangers could add bird exorcist to their list of expertise. (Not really

but it does sound cool doesn't it?) So it is off to new adventures and to new places and an education on the geography of the state of Michigan. For there are many more birds that need their help for they are **THE RESCUE RANGERS!!!!**

Stay tuned in for our next exciting adventure A Mutant in Taylor!!!



We are raffling off grab-bag gifts at the December potluck meeting. Items are to be nice (not tacky), about \$5 in price, and wrapped in a paper bag or wrapping paper. This is a fun activity and a great fund raiser for the rescue program at the same time.



Upcoming Events

UP COMING
EVENTS

As of

Dec. 10th 2014

*****2015*****

- March 11th Senior Show
American House
39201 Joy Road
Westland, MI 48185
5:30 PM Set-up
6:30 PM Show
- April 27th Senior Show
Caretel Inns of Brighton
1014 East Grand River
Brighton, MI 48116
2:00 Set-up
3:00 Show
- May 5th Educational Show
AARP Meeting at Wayne County
Community College
in the Ray Mix Room
21000 Northline
Taylor, MI 48180
11:30 AM Set-up
12:30 PM Show
- May 12th Senior Show
Village Care Center
22600 W. Main St.
Armada, MI 48005
1:00 PM set-up
2:00 PM show

*****NOTE*****NOTE*****NOTE**
**

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their

own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

*****Our Club Has a Booth at This Event*****

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

***CANCELATION CONFUSION ***

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.



Bloodwork is important in a post-purchase veterinary exam

By Don J. Harris, DVM

All too often a bird owner with a recently purchased bird either does not take the bird to a veterinarian for examination, or if they do, the most important part of this exam is not

performed. What is crucial in a post-purchase evaluation is the bloodwork. Because birds are great at hiding physical signs of illness, blood testing is mandatory in assessing the health of avian patients. The veterinarian may scrutinize a bird and look for any physical abnormalities, but even the healthiest looking birds can be hiding disease. Sometimes, blood tests are the only way to accurately uncover hidden health problems. Many illnesses display no external signs until the end when the bird is at death's door. By then, it is often too late to resolve the problem.

Most problems can be addressed if detected early, and bloodwork is the key to early detection. Bird owners should ask that blood tests be performed on their bird, even if the veterinarian doesn't suggest it. In fact, if a veterinarian doesn't discuss lab tests in the face of avian illness, another veterinarian should be sought. If the results are negative, the owner will have peace of mind knowing the bird is healthy. If the results suggest a problem, action can be taken to treat the condition. Bloodwork can also provide a baseline that can be helpful in future evaluations of your bird.

I recently became aware of a pet owner who took her bird to a veterinarian for a post-purchase exam. The veterinarian checked over the bird, did a culture of the bird's throat and vent, and recommended bloodwork. The new bird owner decided not to do the blood tests. Everything appeared okay—until the bird died two days later. A necropsy showed

the bird had *Aspergillus* fungus throughout its abdomen. Had the new owner consented to blood tests for her bird, the fungus would have been detected. Possible conditions or diseases that may be diagnosed through a complete blood analysis include:

- Infections
- Parasites
- Reproductivity
- Malnutrition
- Metabolic disorders such as liver or kidney disease
- Vitamin deficiencies such as Vitamin A deficiency

Bloodwork is the veterinarian's first and most important tool in evaluating patients. It is an internal view of the bird's overall health. Depending on the results of the initial bloodwork, other diagnostic tests may be warranted to fully diagnose the extent or the cause of any abnormality



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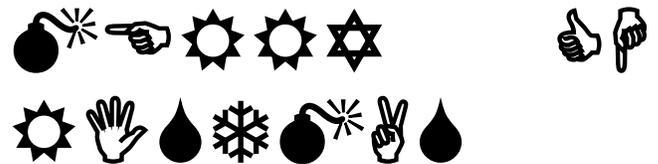
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Silent night not a chance
 Oh great now where could he be
 Looking for him in every nook and cranny
 There he is get out of the tree
 This is not heavenly peace this is not heavenly peace
 Silent night not a chance
 Wait what is this I hear
 Lights are off except for the tree
 Yes it's quiet oh what joy for me
 Finally heavenly peace finally heavenly peace!
My apologies to the original!

A Cracked Christmas Carol
 By Dave Carol



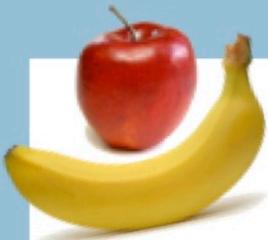
☹️👉👎👉👎👉👎 (NOT A CHANCE)
(SUNG TO THE TUNE OF SILENT NIGHT)

Silent Night not a chance
 Macaws scream, Cockatoos dance
 Lovebirds doing what Lovebirds do
 On my shirt oh no is that poo
 This is not heavenly peace this is not heavenly peace



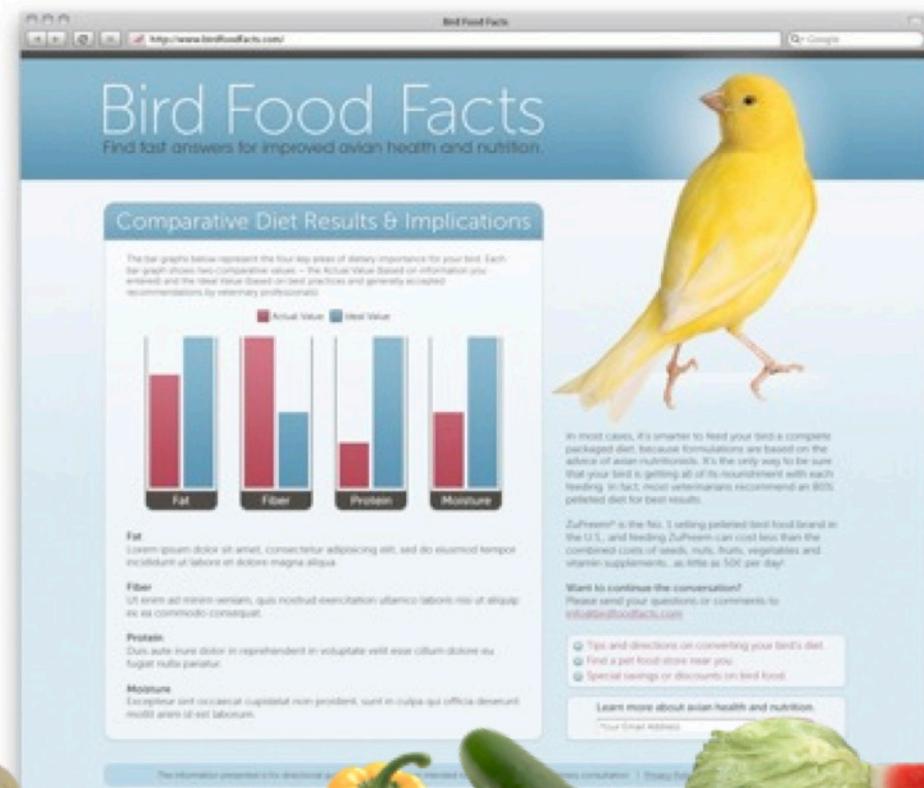
HAPPY NEW YEAR!





What are you really feeding your bird? Visit BirdFoodFacts.com to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit BirdFoodFacts.com. This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



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Susan Dixon
1-248-330-6938
susanhdixon@hotmail.com



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SUNDAY 9:30-6:00

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