



Parrot Education & Adoption Center™

BEAK TO TAIL

Issue 79

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

1Q 2017

Testing for Zinc in Parrot Toys, Play Gyms, and Cages

by Ed Harris (continued from our last issue)

One alternative to testing for zinc yourself that you may want to consider is to see if there is a local commercial analytical lab in your area that can do the testing for you. Another alternative is to check with the toxicology lab at a nearby University. They may charge a small fee for the testing, but at least you won't need to handle dangerous chemicals yourself.

What if You Find Zinc-coated Parts?

If you test a number of toys and play gym parts, it is very likely that some of these parts will be zinc plated. Your bird may not chew on the particular metal parts, for example, a quick link or a small exposed wire, in which case there is probably no reason to replace the toy or part. However, if you have a metal chewer like I do, you will need to take some action to protect your bird. Here are some suggestions:

1. If your bird shows any of the signs and symptoms listed earlier in this article, then you should consult your avian vet for advice about possible testing for zinc toxicity.
2. Contact the toy manufacturer or company you purchased the toy from to see if you can return it or exchange it for a safe toy. If you have a play gym with metal parts, ask them to send you stainless steel parts to replace the unsafe parts.
3. In many cases it is possible to modify or rebuild the toy to make it safe. At the end of this article are some places where you can purchase stainless steel parts, including quick links, screw eyes, metal loops, chain, and wire. Components like screw eyes and quick links are generally easy to replace. In some cases you may be able to figure out a way to "hide" the non-safe part. For example, one of my bird's favorite toys is a coiled rope-covered hanging toy ("Boing") that contains an unsafe metal wire core. All of the wire is completely covered, however, except for a small section at the top that is connected to a quick link to hang it.

Naturally, this was the part of the toy that Scooter prefers to chew on. I made a small extension loop out of stainless steel wire and used a hollow wooden toy part to cover the exposed metal. The stainless steel wire loop fastens to the unsafe metal wire, goes through the wooden toy part, and has a loop at the top that is used to hang the toy using a stainless steel quick link. I have also replaced the wire in several toys with stainless steel wire, metal loops with stainless steel loops, etc. Be creative – you can often figure out a way to modify or rebuild many toys or at least use the safe wooden or plastic parts to make new toys.

4. Stainless steel is much harder than normal zinc-coated steel. You will need heavy-duty wire cutters to cut through stainless steel wire and long nose pliers to bend it. Also note that even though the wire used to string together a toy may be larger in diameter, you should probably not use stainless steel wire thicker than 1/16" because it will be very hard to cut and bend. Stainless steel chain can be cut with a hacksaw or with a heavy-duty bolt cutter. Make sure you wear safety goggles when you cut or bend stainless steel parts.

Visually Inspecting Toy Parts

Having tested a great number of metal toy parts and play gym components, I can give you some guidelines as to what to look for if you do not want to go through the testing process.

Any metal parts that are not shiny are probably zinc-plated steel. For example, many perches have large washers at one end that are used to fasten the perch to the bars of the cage. Generally these washers are zinc-plated. On some of the perches you can easily replace the washers with stainless steel washers to make the perch safe. However, the cholla wood perches mostly seem to have one of the washers glued to the wood, which makes replacing the washer difficult to do.

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DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Members,

Wow - - I cannot believe it is 2017! 2016 came with many challenges, as well as many rewards. We took in and adopted out a record number of parrots. I will be announcing our totals and averages in an upcoming email that will be sent out by the end of January.

Along with that information, our final numbers in our 2016 Year-End Fundraising Campaign will be given. At this time, we estimate that we have taken in just over \$20,000. This means we have reached our matching anonymous donor dollar for dollar; therefore, we actually have raised just over \$40,000. As you might recall, for the last two years we have been running at a deficit of \$10,000 each year. With the funds provided to us by this amazing and generous matching donor we will be able to pay off our vet bills, as well as other expenses that we have incurred due to these operating deficits. I have no words to express how overjoyed I am at all your support these past few weeks. All our programs which we have written into our budget for 2017 are now fully funded. Below is an outline of activities and projects we are planning for 2017:

1) Implement the use of our new NEON cloud-based data collection program. This program will allow us to integrate all our membership information and donor information, so that we will have better access to the latest numbers. It will provide a platform to send out emails to our donors and members, in an effort to keep you more informed throughout the year.

(continued page 12)

WHAT WE ARE

Parrot Education & Adoption Center is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to educating its members and current and potential bird owners about the proper care of pet birds. Unwanted or found parrots are accepted at PEAC and in turn are adopted to qualified applicants.

Sharing current information and correcting misconceptions about parrots are the major aims of PEAC. Our goal is to keep abreast of the latest developments in the world of aviculture and share them with you, our members.

PEAC was founded in 1996 by Bonnie Kenk, who served as the Executive Director for our first 12 years.

CONTACT US

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**PEAC
Policies and Procedures**

1. PEAC does not purchase birds, even to remove them from bad situations.
2. PEAC will accept birds donated to our organization, pending approval of an intake questionnaire and a physical intake evaluation.
3. PEAC does not breed birds or place any birds into breeding situations.
4. PEAC does not adopt birds to children.
5. Potential adopters are required to attend our class focusing on Basic Anatomy and Health, Nutrition, Enrichment & Environment,, and Body Language, as well as a seminar specific to the species they wish to adopt.
6. After attending the mandatory seminars, those wishing to adopt a specific bird will be required to spend hands-on time with that bird at least three times under the supervision of one of our volunteers, to ensure that there is a good match between the bird and the potential adopter.
7. All potential adopters will receive a home visit performed by a PEAC volunteer.
8. Potential adopters will receive a copy of our adoption application after the home visit has been completed.
9. Approved adoption applications will be placed on a waiting list if a bird is not currently in our system that would be a good match for the approved adopter.
10. Adopters are required to pay an adoption fee and a one-year PEAC membership fee, once approved for adoption and prior to taking ownership of the bird.
11. Only one parrot acquisition/adoption per home or PEAC membership is allowed in an 18-month time period.
12. Adopted birds are to remain in the home and be treated as a member of the family.
13. Adopted birds may not be sold, given away, bred, or used for any type of monetary purposes.
14. As a general rule, we will not place a cockatoo, macaw, or other noisy bird in an apartment or condominium.
15. PEAC will not adopt birds as companions to other birds.
16. Birds must remain in a 100% smoke-free environment.

Available for Adoption in San Diego/Southern California

Call 619 287-8200 or email adoption@peac.org to find out more about any of these birds!

African Grey



“Kasuku,” (aka “Cori”) m. Congo (red-tailed), age unk. Kasuku was found and taken in by a woman, who, when she realized after 18 months that he needed someone with more experience than she had, relinquished him to PEAC. He is not yet trained to step up due to a significant fear of hands,

but he has slowly settled in and will now take treats that are dropped into his food dish. He also has started saying Hello, his first discernible word. He plays with foraging toys and has not shown any aggression, and seems quite happy, as long as you don’t approach his cage too closely. Kasuku is on a great diet. He is in beautiful feather. He will need to be adopted by someone with a lot of patience and significant experience in using positive reinforcement training with parrots.

Amazon



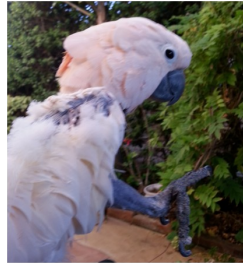
“CupCake” 34-yr-old f. Yellow-Naped. CupCake had the same owner for her first 34 years, and was relinquished to PEAC after her owner grew elderly and unable to care for her, due to medical problems.

CupCake is a very sweet Amazon who readily steps up onto both a stick and a hand. Her foster mom was told that CupCake likes music and human company; and when some music was playing recently, CupCake said, very loudly, “I like that!” She likes to laugh, and she also says “Hello, CupCake,” “I love you, CupCake,” and “Ooh, la-la!” She is learning to eat a healthy diet; and although like most Amazons, she loves her fruit, we are working on substituting some more-nutritious vegetables.

At the age of 34, CupCake is still a “young adult,” and may live up to another 40 years in good health, continuing to bring happiness to the people whose lives she touches. There are many advantages to adopting an “older” bird; and older birds can certainly bond with a new owner, just as young ones do.

CupCake is looking for her new forever home and will be a delightful companion. She will need to go to a home where her primary caregiver is a woman, as she lived with a woman for her entire life and it takes her a while to warm up to men.

Cockatoo



“Paris,” 11-yr-old f. Moluccan. Paris’s history is not entirely clear; she was purchased at a swap meet and later turned in to a local animal shelter. Our vet estimates her age at appx 11. Like many ‘toos, Paris is very social and steps right up. She seems to trust women more than men.

She is quite expressive; her body language is very clear.

Paris loves veggies, and also eats pellets, fruit, almonds, and walnuts. She is not nearly as loud or noisy as most Moluccans, although she does call the flock an hour before sundown. She is a classic escape artist and knows how to pick the lock on her cage. Paris loves to chew wood toys. She is naked on her legs, breast and back, and we dress her in protective clothing, which she doesn’t seem to mind.

Paris seems to dislike the other birds in her foster home, but would love to be a single bird in a home with a cockatoo savvy family.

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 If you’re interested in adopting any of
 our program birds, you must attend
 the seminars required for adoption
 and complete an application for ap-
 proval, after a home visit by one of
 our volunteers. You must also show
 proof that you have an adequate cage
 and are acquainted with an avian vet-
 erinarian before taking your bird
 home. Adopted birds may not be
 bred, sold, given away or used for any
 type of monetary purposes! A mini-
 mal adoption fee is required. For
 more information on adopting a
 PEAC bird, visit [http://peac.org/?](http://peac.org/?page_id=40)
[page_id=40](http://peac.org/?page_id=40).
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Available for Adoption in San Diego/Southern California

Call 619 287-8200 or email adoption@peac.org to find out more about any of these birds!

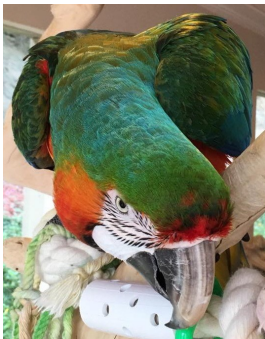
Macaws



“Jupiter,” appx 7-10 yrs old, m. Harlequin. Jupiter and his brother Neptune came to us from Minnesota after having been fostered for the Humane Society by a woman who personally flew them out to us, when she felt they needed more rehabilitation than she could provide.

Jupiter loves attention. He has selected a few people he likes, but is still quite shy with them.

He isn't too playful or interested in toys, but he savors his treats, getting every last morsel and leaving very little waste. So far he has proven to be the milder tempered of the two. He does not hesitate to step up and remains all day on his play tree or outside in his aviary. We are familiarizing the brothers with being separated, as we feel that this will increase the ability to find homes for them. Although he is progressing quite quickly, due to his personality and years without training, Jupiter is going to need a caregiver who has a good knowledge and experience in working with these large parrots. If you are interested in adopting a large companion parrot such as Jupiter, please call and leave a message so that we may coordinate a visit.



“Neptune,” appx 7-10 yrs old, m. Harlequin. Neptune and his brother Jupiter came to us from Minnesota after having been fostered for the Humane Society by a woman who personally flew them out to us after she decided they needed more rehabilitation than she could provide.

Neptune is very outgoing when it comes to attention. He

comes before Jupiter for treats, and will chase him away if treats and attention are being offered. We are therefore recommending that the birds be rehomed separately. Even though they have always been together, they are reaching sexual maturity and will only continue to become more competitive. Their separation in their new foster home has so far been successful.

Due to his personality and years without training, Neptune is going to need a caregiver who has a good knowledge and experience in working with large parrots. He has a 2-year-old's behavior traits, as he needs to be the center of attention and gets into lots of trouble by exploring the world around him. If you are interested in adopting Neptune, please call us at 619 287-8200.

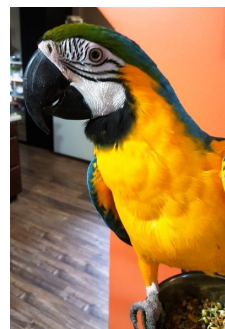


“Abbi,” 31-yr-old m. blue-and-gold. Abbi came to us after his second home in 30 yrs. In his early life, he sustained a traumatic event which resulted in the loss of his left eye, as well as the use of his left wing, which was broken and never set, so he is not able to open and extend it.

Abbi shows significant signs of aggression toward women, although with men, he steps right up and loves to play, and is a remarkable companion parrot. Hillary Hankey, a well-known avian behaviorist, fostered Abbi for several months, after which time he was accepting of some women; however, his aggression toward them returned when he left Hillary's facility.

One of Abbi's favorite play behaviors is getting in your lap and playing with your fingers and hand while flipping himself on his back and having you tickle his feet. This just shows how wonderful he can be.

Abbi is a unique and amazing blue-and-gold macaw who will require a person with significant experience with larger parrots, as well as a good grasp on using positive reinforcement training with parrots.



“Tiko,” 8-yr-old f. blue-and-gold. Tiko's owner of 6 years relinquished this sweet little girl to PEAC after he realized that a macaw is not a good condo pet.

Tiko has only been with us a short time, but is already enjoying her new diet of sprouts, Caitec pellets, apples, bananas, sweet potatoes, corn, peas, tiny portions of scrambled eggs, and

walnuts. We are working on getting her to eat more fresh vegetables, and she has been willing to try any new food, once she sees her foster mom or one of the other birds eating it. When she puts a particularly yummy food into her mouth, her eyes flash and she says “Mmm!” quite loudly! It took her only a few minutes to learn to eat from a spoon, which is an important behavior to teach a bird in case it ever needs to be medicated.

Tiko says “Hello” and “Up, up, up,” and we are waiting to see what else she says, once she's settled more comfortably into her foster home. So far, she seems to be a sweet, loving parrot who steps up easily for both men and women and readily accepts head scratches. She gets along with dogs and other birds, and will make some lucky family a wonderful companion.

Available for Adoption in San Diego/Southern California

Call 619 287-8200 or email adoption@peac.org to find out more about any of these birds!

Macaws (cont)



"Baby," 10-yr-old m. yellow-collared. Before being relinquished, Baby had not been let out of his cage, did not step up, and was on a high-fat diet of only sunflower seeds. A vet check after taking him in to PEAC was normal, despite his poor diet.

Baby is now eating a balanced diet and playing well with toys. He is out of his cage for about 10 hours a day. Baby is a very gentle bird. He sits with his foster mother every evening, watching television. He puts his beak around her finger but never bites. Baby enjoys playing with toys that he can shred and spends much of his time doing this. He says "Hello Baby" in a rather raucous voice but also has a very sweet "Hello". When no one is in the room he also makes other sweet, soft sounds which his foster family believes are sounds he hears from the other birds. He also enjoys being sung to at bedtime and bobs his head to Brahms's Lullaby) In fact, he becomes annoyed when he doesn't get to hear this.

Baby enjoys human interaction and gets along with both men and women, quickly adapting after being introduced to them. He readily steps up. Although he can be very loud at times, he is a sweet, fun guy looking for his forever home.

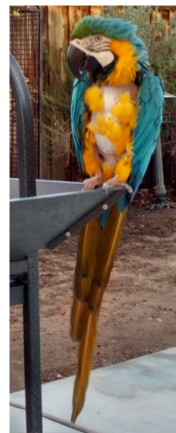


"Gabby," 10-yr-old m. scarlet. Gabby was relinquished to PEAC by a kind lady whose backyard he flew into in Los Angeles, after she was unsuccessful in finding his owner. Prior to coming into the PEAC foster program, Gabby was exhibiting behavior that indicated that he had developed a mate bond with his

temporary caregiver. He started pulling some of his down feathers out and making a nest for her in the wine barrel that she provided in his outdoor aviary. This encouraged an even more determined Gabby to prove to her that he was her man. He started chasing her shoes and biting the laces, and when he would step up for her, he would give her a "love" bite on her arm. All of this was not his fault but was due to the way he was being housed and cared for. Many people make this mistake and inadvertently encourage their parrot to develop a mate bond with them.

For a scarlet macaw, Gabby has a great personality and is a bit less nippy than some of the scarlets that PEAC has had in the past. He has come a long way in a short period of time. He is starting to stay on his play tree when indoors. He has a great sense of humor, and likes to talk into his nut bowl and then laugh.

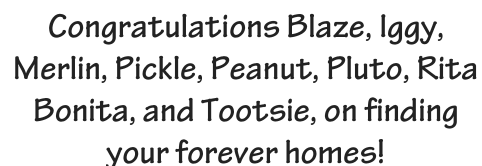
Gabby will need an owner who has or is willing to learn good macaw handling skills. He has a strong drive to be in a flock environment, which does not go over well with many of the other macaws at our Jamul facility. With such a strong flock drive, we feel he would make a good single macaw in the home, but might be too much of a challenge if there were already a macaw in the home. If you have an interest in Gabby or any questions about him, please call us at 619-287-8200 or email us at membership@peac.org.



"Willow," 22-yr-old f. blue-and-gold. Willow came to PEAC from the Dept. of Animal Services after being found on a rooftop. She has some feather loss on her chest. Willow immediately converted over to a pelleted diet and prefers fruit over veggies, so we are baking the latter into her birdie bread. She loves her afternoon nuts. This little girl loves being the center of attention in a public place and going for drives in the car; and she is routinely featured at the Temecula Petco, our adoption venue on the 3rd Sunday of each month. When

not starring at adoption fairs, Willow prefers to be outdoors at home, playing ball or taking "hose showers," or on her playstand, where her antics are hilarious.

She says "Hi lady," "Willow," "Hola," and "Step up," and she whispers a lot. She steps up very well for women, and with a gentle and patient approach she does step up for men once in a while, although her foster family is working on this. Willow is a very playful, loving girl, who will make a wonderful companion for someone who has the time and space for a macaw.


 Congratulations Blaze, Iggy,
 Merlin, Pickle, Peanut, Pluto, Rita
 Bonita, and Tootsie, on finding
 your forever homes!

PEAC thanks the following Avian Board-certified veterinarians, who have generously agreed to provide discounts on veterinary care for our program birds:

Dr. Jeffrey Jenkins, San Diego 619.260.1412

Dr. Brian Loudis, Encinitas 760.634.2022

Dr. Todd Cecil, La Mesa 619.462.4800



Todd R Cecil, DVM, DABVP-Avian
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619 462-4800
www.pescsandiego.com exotics@pescsandiego.com



~ Welcome to our newest volunteer, Jenine Schaeffer. We thank our PEAC volunteers and supporters for all the sacrifices they make for our organization! ~

PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER 2017 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

"People protect what they love. We need to provide the information so that they can love."
- Jean-Michel Cousteau

We encourage everyone to attend our Volunteer and Adoption Required Seminar, "Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet," which is a comprehensive seminar for everyone, incorporating the latest information on everything parrot, from anatomy and behavior to care and enrichment. To ensure that the education in this seminar is disseminated in the most effective way, it will now be held one-on one, or at most, in small groups, at the Jamul home and ARC parrot facility of the Director of PEAC. To register, email membership@peac.org or leave a message at 619 287-8200, and we will contact you to set up a date and time.

This year, for the first time, we are offering a seminar series on select topics on Sundays near the end of the month at the Dept of Animal Services Conference Room, 5480 Gaines St., San Diego.

Registration for attendance at the Special Topic Seminars is required by midnight the Wednesday prior to the seminar, so that we will know how many people to prepare for. We're sorry, but there is no admittance without prior registration.

Our first Special Topic Seminar is on 1/22/2017. We are pleased to present Dr. Annie Peterson: "Animal-Assisted Therapy & the Benefits of Spending Time with Companion Animals."

Seminar fees per person/day (Select Special Topic seminars may be subject to higher fees):

PEAC Members: FREE!

Non-members: \$10.00

PEAC Members: You must register to attend. If registering online, please enter coupon code "Member," in order to have the registration fee waived.

Special Topic Seminars are subject to cancellation due to lack of participation.

REGISTER ME!

Sign Me Up in Sunny San Diego for these 2017 Seminars:

DATE	TITLE	# PEOPLE	AMT
			\$
			\$
			\$

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____

Credit Card #: _____ (VISA MC AMEX, DISCOVER) Exp. ____/____

Signature (for credit cards) _____ CVV (3 digits on back of card) _____

Make checks payable to PEAC and mail with this form to PEAC, PO Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160

Or fax credit card info to 909 563-8418 or email credit card or PayPal to membership@peac.org, or register online at http://peac.org/?page_id=6.

PEAC RIVERSIDE COUNTY 2017 SEMINARS

We encourage everyone to attend our Volunteer and Adoption Required Seminar, "Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet," which is a comprehensive seminar for everyone, incorporating the latest information on everything parrot, from anatomy and behavior to care and enrichment. To ensure that the education in this seminar is disseminated in the most effective way, it will now be held one-on one, or at most, in small groups, on an as-requested basis. If you would like to attend our seminar in Riverside County, please call us at (619) 287-8200 and we will return your call with available dates.

"Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet"
(required for adoption and volunteering)

Seminar fees (per person/day):	PAY WHEN REGISTERED	AT THE DOOR
PEAC Members:	FREE!	\$5.00
Non-members:	\$10.00	\$15.00

Registration is due by midnight the Wednesday prior to the seminar; no exceptions.

REGISTER ME!

Sign Me Up in Wild, Wild Wildomar for these 2017 Seminars:

DATE	TITLE	# PEOPLE	AMT
			\$
			\$
			\$

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____

Credit Card #: _____ (VISA MC AMEX, DISCOVER) Exp. ____/____

Signature (for credit cards) _____ CVV (3 digits on back of card) _____

Make checks payable to PEAC and mail with this form to PEAC, PO Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160

Or fax credit card payment to 909 563-8418 or email credit card payment or PayPal to member-ship@peac.org.

UPDATE ON BLAZE, December 2016

Many months ago we took in a greenwing macaw named Blaze. She was suffering from serious neglect. She had a broken femur and a broken wing. The wing required surgery. Her calcium level was found to be 30% below the low range of normal, resulting in very brittle bones. She weighed in at just below 900g which is 250-300g below the normal weight for a greenwing macaw. Blaze had lived in a 3'x3' cage for the past 20 years, which allowed for little movement, resulting in severe weakness and atrophy of her muscles. After surgery to repair her wing, she was housed in a Plexiglass enclosure that restricted some of her movement so the wing could heal as she slowly began to build up her lost muscle mass. This container, lined with towels and containing some foot toys, was her home for her first 8 weeks at PEAC. She never once complained about being moved for cleaning of her cage or for her many bandage changes. She wanted so much to step up, but even that was difficult, as she had no balance and was very vulnerable to injury.

During her eighth week postop, the pin holding Blaze's wing together was removed and she no longer had to endure the twice-daily injections of antibiotics. The next eight weeks of her rehabilitation involved physical therapy twice a day. As she became stronger, Blaze was handled more and more each day. After another four weeks she was introduced to the outdoor aviaries at our Jamul location. She became even more lively and animated with her exposure to the fresh air and sunshine. As most bird people know, there's more than one factor involved in bringing a bird back to good health, and this combination of things brings about the positive result we wish for every parrot.

Blaze was under veterinary care, which we followed to the letter, and also we changed her diet from the boxed cat food she had sadly been forced to eat, to a pelleted parrot food. We were fortunate that she took to this new diet so easily, and that she was always up for trying new vegetables, as well as sprouts. She was given as much sprouts and veggies as she would eat every morning, and then at around noon she was given 1/8 cup of pistachios, two almonds, and two Brazil nuts. That is a lot of nuts, even for a macaw, but she was so underweight that the vet and PEAC felt it was a good way to put weight on, and then once she had reached the ideal weight, we would reduce her nuts to what the other macaws receive each day. Instead of only giving her 50 pellets a day, like the other macaws receive, she was allowed to eat all the pellets she wanted.

By the end of the first eight weeks, Blaze's feather condition had improved significantly. They started to shine, and she had finally begun to groom herself on a daily basis, which she had been unable to do in the small cage that she had been kept in. She was also given a shower every-other day to encourage her to groom; and then this was reduced just before her adoption to twice a week.

During Blaze's recuperation, a member of PEAC who had had a greenwing for many years reached out to us to donate his macaw cage, as his beloved Bubbles had passed away after years of struggle with the herpes virus. During this initial phone call, the member inquired about Blaze and asked if he could come down (he lived 300 miles north of San Diego) to meet her and see if she might be interested in him. **(Cont on page 13)**



In her foster home, late October



At her new vet's ofc, in November



Early December -
feathers growing
back in!!

OUTREACH EVENTS IN TEMECULA!

PEAC is appearing at Petco Adoption Fairs in Temecula!
Come check out our booth!

1/15/17 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm
2/19/17 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm
3/19/17 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm

Program birds and our illustrious volunteers will be present for you to meet and greet!

Location:

Petco at the Promenade Mall in Temecula
40474 Winchester Road
Temecula, CA 92591
951 296-0388

BRING YOUR FRIENDS! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

As you know, our Year-End Fundraising Campaign was a huge success, thanks to you, our generous supporters:

New Recurring Donors During Campaign:

Barbara Crouse	Elizabeth Fuehr	Marianne Mackenberg
Billie Bearden	Janis Fries-Martinez	

Recurring Donors Set Up Prior to Campaign:

Allison Schacht	David Hiiapakka	Jonathan Poh	Stephen Hartfield
Ann Palik	Elisa Patkotak	Judith Michaels	Steve Velasco
Catherine Bourne	Gale Bradford	Lisa Stevens	Tina Hauer
Charla de la Mora	Gale Chan	Maria Brinson	
Chloe Rogers	H Lloyd	Mary Taylor	
Daniel Kuttner	Jeffrey Beckett	Rene Pina	

Chicken Sponsorship:

Debra Kolen	Kathleen Fraga	Paul and Debra Kolen
Jessica Niehoff	Linda Stuart	Philip Jenkin
Jim & Karen Hodson	Lisa Greeson	Steve Scott
Judith Lazar	Mike and Julie Comella	Tina Hauer

continued on page 22)

DIRECTOR'S LETTER (from page 2)

- 1) (cont) Being a cloud-based system, the data will be stored off site, making it much safer, should we have a computer failure. This program will also give different levels of user access, so that we may have one volunteer have access to the membership data, so that memberships and renewals may be more easily managed; another senior volunteer will have access to our donor information; and our accountant will have access to our financial data, so that QuickBooks may be more easily managed and reports may be made accessible in a timelier manner.
- 2) Coloring books will be purchased to be used in our Spring outreach events with patients at Rady Children's Hospital. PEAC believes in not only providing a safe and healthy place for parrots to be cared for until they find a new home, but also in giving back to our community that so generously supports us.
- 3) We will be continuing our work with our active-duty military, and will be working on how to implement access to our veterans, as well. Being in a military town, it feels good to help those who have given so much to us. This program not only benefits the members of our armed services, but also the parrots who are involved. Many of the birds that come to us are not well socialized, and this program allows interactions with the birds on the bird's terms so that parrot/human trust is built.
- 4) Fostering our relationships with other parrot organizations nearby and abroad. We will plan on continued efforts to work together on cases like that of Jupiter and Neptune, two Harlequin macaws that came to us via a foster home for the local humane society in St. Paul, Minnesota. Additionally, Last Chance at Life has been a true lifeline for us this past year, and I hope to continue to foster that relationship. After the death of my daughter, I was very overwhelmed with the number of macaws that PEAC currently had in the program; and Heather and Lisa, two of the founders of LCAL, stepped in to offer a helping hand with the care and needs of all the birds. This help ended up in two adoptions: Major, the military macaw with special needs; and Bobo, the red-fronted macaw, who after many years with his owners, was the sad result of a divorce. We have also just begun to work with Parrot Sanctuary Gardens. Debra, the director, has some wonderful ideas and agrees with the idea of working together, when we can, to help parrots in need. Along with the previously-mentioned organizations, we also continue to have great relationships with Best Friends Animal Society, Avian Rehabilitation Center, and The Olive Branch Parrot Rescue. I believe that all of us working together will definitely benefit the parrots that we all are called on to help.
- 5) WE NEED FOSTER HOMES. This year, my fellow volunteers and I will be working hard to encourage people to consider being foster volunteers. We are limited at times not only by funding shortages, but also by the number of volunteers who have opened their homes to foster a parrot. We will be reaching out to those who attend our outreach events with literature on becoming a foster, and will talk with them about the steps to take to becoming approved as a foster volunteer. Many of us tend to take on too much, and if we could find other people to help lessen the workload and share in our joy of fostering, that would be just fantastic.
- 6) We will be taking stock of our current equipment and evaluate what we might need to purchase in the way of cages and play trees. We ask you all to continue to call and email us if you have a cage that you would like to donate. It's most helpful to include the dimensions and photos, as many times the cages are too small and/or the wear is too much to call it safe for our foster birds. We are not the type of organization that will step below the standards we ask our adopters to keep. Many may think that new cages are a luxury that are not necessary for our foster birds. PEAC will never place a parrot in a cage we would not put one of our own loved birds in. Thus we lead by example.
- 7) Finally, we will be setting up an appointment next week for one of the Petsmart store managers to come out to Jamul and do an onsite inspection, which is the last step to our becoming certified to do outreach events at the various Petsmart stores around San Diego County. This, along with our monthly Temecula outreach event at Petco, will significantly increase the number of people we can inform about parrots as companion animals. We always need volunteers to sign up and work these events. If you or a friend and yourself are interested, please contact PEACoperations@gmail.com or membership@peac.org, and someone will get in touch with you to talk about the process of becoming a volunteer.

(continued on page 22)

STAR VOLUNTEER: DORY THOMPSON

Our star volunteer this quarter, Dory is a foster volunteer and a member of our Adoption Committee. Dory helps with our Temecula Petco outreach events, and is always ready to help when PEAC needs her, even if it means traveling an hour from her home to an event only a few hours long in San Diego. Thank you so much for all you do, Dory!



Dory and Willow

Dory, how did you come to be interested in parrots, and what was your first bird? I got my first bird, Admiral Bird, a half moon conure, in early 80's. My husband Ted and I were cruising on our sailboat in Mexico. We were able to get him his green card and bring him back with us when we returned to San Diego. Admiral Bird was a great sailor and lived with us for 25 years. He died of old age. Some of my parrots now still mimic his repertoire.

Why did you decide to become a volunteer with PEAC? I found out about PEAC through Beak Squad, a group that shares common interests in parrots that I joined after moving to Lake Elsinore. This is where I learned that many parrots end up in bad situations and also don't get the best care. I wanted to broaden my experience learning from others and heard about PEAC's foster program. I joined PEAC in 2012 and have enjoyed as many as 10 fosters.

What animals are currently living with you? The feathered and furry Thompsons family: My sweet dog Darla, who loves her feathered friends, was found on my doorstep. Papagayo, Lilac Crown, she's about 30; we found her and the owner relinquished her to us. Baby Huey, a Blue Crown Mealy age 16, was a year old when we got him; he was rescued from a non-bird person. Lola, U2, is 19; she was rescued from a friend. Karana, my BG Macaw age 25, also belonged to a friend. I also have 7 chickens and a California Desert Tortoise.

Was there a favorite foster bird you've had? I would have to say Noah the DYA was my favorite, since I adopted him. He needed some rehabilitation, as his feet were somewhat atrophied from being kept in a small cage. He learned how to pick up food and play. Then he fell in friendship with Baby Huey and these two became like peanut butter and jelly. I could not deny their friendship.

Have you had any unusual or funny bird-related experiences? The funniest can almost be not so funny. I was folding my laundry, all whites. Lola, the U2, is quite stealthy. She climbed up on my couch and nuzzled herself between the folded towels and almost was on her way to the linen closet!

How do you spend your non-bird-related spare time? In my non-bird time I love to camp at the beach and like to surf. Ted and I enjoy our old cars, mainly Fords from the 1930's to 1950's. I have a 1951 Ford Woody station wagon that we are restoring, and we belong to a few car clubs. I enjoy cross fit 3-4 times a week and do about 4 to 6 extreme runs each year, like running up Mount Baldy.



Dory's Bird Room

BLAZE (from page 10)

This first visit was followed by several more visits, and each time the member's interest in her grew and grew, in a beautiful way. Finally, he asked if he could apply to adopt her. He did apply, and after fulfilling all of the requirements, he was approved by PEAC's Adoption Committee. I cannot tell you how happy this made us all. Not only had Blaze found a new home, but it's one with an owner who loves greenwings; and if the photos he shared of himself and his Bubbles are evidence of his care and commitment to that bird, Blaze is going to have a life full of attention and adventure. She has gone from a bird who we were not sure would even make it through the surgery, to a shining, beautiful example of a parrot's ability to forgive the wrong in her prior life.

Blaze is a holiday wish come true. She is but one example of the help PEAC brings, not only to Southern California, but to other places where a parrot is in need of help. Our goal this year, to raise \$30,000, which is what we have budgeted for 2017, will allow us to continue the very important work PEAC does for parrots. Blaze alone cost PEAC around \$6,000. Some may ask if she was worth it, as she is just one parrot, when \$6,000 could have saved many parrots in need. Just one look into Blaze's eyes and the smile on her new caregiver's face shows that the only answer to this question is YES. Please help us continue this work, along with other areas of our mission, including education. If we can educate more people, it is our hope that there will be fewer and fewer Blazes in the world.



The "Chicken" Memorial Sponsorship Program

Many people have been asking why, in a parrot rescue organization, requests are being made to sponsor chickens! Here is that story:

Chicken, a Festive Amazon (*Amazona festiva*) was imported in about 1970, as an adult, wild-caught bird. He was first owned by an elderly woman, a chain smoker, who had him for about 15 years and taught him to be a phenomenal talker. When she passed away, Chicken was left to her two sons, neither of whom liked him, and they kept him in isolation. Their sister rescued Chicken and gave him to a vet tech at the hospital where he was a client. The tech kept Chicken for a few years, until becoming engaged to someone who was allergic. In 1993, she called Layne Dicker, who would later become involved with the now-defunct PEAC Anchorage Chapter. Layne was doing bird adoptions, and he immediately fell in love with Chicken. He said that Chicken was affectionate, personable, and completely trustworthy. He would sit on Layne's shoulder for an hour with his head down, getting scratched, and if Layne stopped, he'd nibble at his ear and make a little growling sound. In 1998, Chicken passed away from lung cancer, and Layne never completely got over his passing.

PEAC has set up a memorial fund to help homeless birds with stories like Chicken's. But we can't do this without your help. Just one of our Amazons or macaws requires a new toy at least once a month, at a cost of \$40 to \$100, in addition to food costs and vet care. And we have numerous birds of all sizes waiting to enter our program! We are appealing to you as a fellow parrot lover to help us help these homeless birds. Please consider enrolling in our Sponsorship Program. For a monthly contribution you can sponsor one or more of our birds. In return, you'll receive the satisfaction of knowing that a parrot's life was enriched by your donation, and your name will appear, if you wish, on our Donor List in the quarterly newsletter. All donations are tax-deductible and directly benefit our birds.

Simply fill out the enrollment form and return it with your first check. For credit card donations, please leave a message at 619 287-8200 and we will return your call as soon as possible. For PayPal, use membership@peac.org. For your convenience, each month afterward you will receive an envelope in which to return your donation. The birds are waiting and thank you for your contribution!

THE CHICKEN MEMORIAL SPONSORSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Sponsorship Levels (monthly):

- \$50/mo. Macaw/Large Cockatoo
- \$25/mo. African Grey/Amazon
- \$15/mo. Mini Macaw/Electus
- \$10/mo. Conure/other small species
- I wish to remain anonymous. Do not print my name on the Sponsorship list.
- I am unable to give a monthly donation, but I would like to help with a one-time donation of \$_____.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

Make check payable to PEAC and mail with the registration form to
 PEAC, P.O. Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160.

Testing for Zinc in Parrot Toys, Play Gyms, and Cages (from page 1)

If the toy contains a wire core used to string wooden or plastic parts, the wire itself is probably zinc-plated. Wire is also sometimes used to fasten parts of the toy together. If the wire is magnetic, it is almost certainly zinc-plated.

Screw eyes on play gyms are likely to be zinc-plated. You can easily use a magnet to see if they are stainless steel.

Metal chain is a mixed bag. Some chain is nickel-plated and is safe. Other chain is zinc-plated and is not safe. You generally cannot tell the difference unless you test it.

Quick links are also a mixed bag. Some are nickel-plated and safe; others are zinc-plated and unsafe. You need to check for zinc or replace them with stainless steel quick links.

The brass used to make brass-plated steel is made up of copper and zinc. Depending on the proportions of copper and zinc the platings can potentially be toxic. I have tested some samples of brass-plated steel and gotten no zinc reaction indicating that they are probably safe, but it is probably not a good idea to assume that all brass-plated steel is safe. With pure brass, the zinc and copper are tightly bound so it would be necessary to ingest a piece of a brass object to get a significant amount of zinc into the system. I would recommend avoiding brass if possible.

Summary

In this article I have tried to address the issue of zinc toxicity in pet birds and how you can make sure that your toys are free from zinc. If you have any questions, I can be reached at eharris@synnovation.com.

Resources

Note: A current list of companies that sell bird safe toys and toy parts is maintained on my website at: <http://www.synnovation.com/zinctesting.html>. Please contact me at eharris@synnovation.com to suggest additional companies to add to this resource list.)

Cautionary Note: Even the best intentioned toy companies may have toys with unsafe parts that they are not aware of. Recently one company that I was working with missed that some of the metal ends on wooden ladders used on their playgyms were not safe. The company immediately switched to safer parts once I pointed this out. For this reason, if a toy has any metal parts that you are not sure about, start by contacting the company. Most companies will honestly tell you if the parts turn out to be unsafe and will immediately send you replacement parts.

Companies That Sell Stainless Steel and Other Safe Parts for Making Toys

Bird-E-Toys (<http://www.bird-e-toys.com/>) Bird-E-Toys sells a wide variety of stainless steel toy parts, including chain, washers, quick links, screw eyes, open rings, wire, and bells. They also sell bird safe wood, plastic, and leather toy parts.

C&L Aviaries (<http://www.claviaryonline.com/>) C&L Aviaries sells stainless steel quick links. They also sell the Perma-Play product line. Some of their toys may have zinc-plated metal parts – check with them before ordering.

Grey Feather Toy Creations (<http://www.greyfeathertoys.com/>) Grey Feather Toys sells a wide variety of stainless steel toy parts in addition to their wood/leather/plastic/stainless steel toy lines.

Perma-Play Products (<http://www.perma-play.com/>) Perma-Play sells stainless steel quick links and nylon washers in addition to their bird safe product line.

Birdsafe.com (<http://www.birdsafe.com>) Birdsafe.com sells stainless steel hardware and other parts for making safe bird toys

BirdsJustWannaHaveFun.com (<http://birdsjustwannahavefun.com>) BirdsJustWannaHaveFun.com sells a variety of safe toy parts.

Expandable Habitats (<http://www.expandablehabitats.com>) Expandable Habitats sells a product called HanginRound. This is a stainless steel rod that attaches to the cage with an acrylic ball that can be used as a food skewer or to hold toys.

(Continued on page 18)

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT:



Avian Behavior International



Rebecca K. O'Connor/CAITEC
/Project Parrot Positive

Diamond Avian



The Laughing Parrot
(coupon code PEAC15)



Petco Foundation



Pet Terrific

Jungle Toys



Petsmart



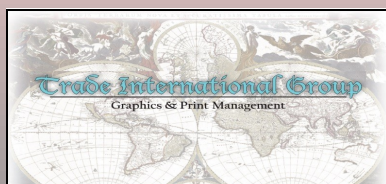
The Purring Parrot



San Diego Plastics



Bird Toys Etc



Trade International Group



Avian Rehabilitation Center

Come visit us on the web!

“Like” us on Facebook: [Parrot-Education-and-Adoption-Center](#)

Follow us on Twitter: @PEACsandiego

Check calendar updates and interesting articles on our website: www.peac.org



SUPPORT



In order for PEAC to continue the work it does in Southern CA we need your financial gift. No matter what size the donation, it all will go to help PEAC continue its ongoing projects focusing on education in all things parrot, and just as importantly, will financially assist with the care of the parrots that make up our foster flock.

At no other time in PEAC history going back to 1998 have we ever needed your support more. Each year we see more and more parrots needing assistance in being rehomed either by entering our foster flock or obtaining our help in locating another organization.

TO HELP:

- 1) Go to http://peac.org/?page_id=1716 and donate through PayPal, GlobalGiving, or Text-to-Donate-\$10.
- 2) Call 619 287-8200, or email membership@peac.org

Or mail PEAC, PO Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160 with your check, or credit card number with your name, billing zip code, card number and exp date and 3-digit security code from the back of your card.

Testing for Zinc in Parrot Toys, Play Gyms, and Cages (from page 15)

Virginia Cage Company (540-350-2284) Email: fredfisher@vacage.com. Virginia Cage Company sells a line of stainless steel quicklinks, chain, rings, and perch hardware.

Choppers Toys (<http://www.chopperstoys.com/>) In addition to bird safe toys, Choppers Toys also sells a wide variety of stainless steel parts for making your own toys.

T&T Parrot Palace (<http://www.parrotplace.net/>) In addition to bird safe toys, T&T Parrot Palace also sells a wide variety of stainless steel and other safe parts for making your own toys.

California Bird Nerds (<http://www.cabirdnerds.com/>) California Bird Nerds sells a wide variety of mostly small foot toys as well as many different kinds of safe toy parts.

Birdy D'Lite Toys (<http://www.birdydlite.com/>) Birdy D'Lite Toys uses only bird safe plastics, acrylics, stainless steel chain, rings, quick links, the finest cotton ropes, marbela beads, vegetable tanned leather to construct their bird toys. They also sell stainless steel toy parts.

Nalani Toys (<http://www.nalanitoys.com/>) In addition to selling a variety of bird safe toys, Nalani Toys also sells a wide variety of safe toy parts.

My Parrot Shop (<http://www.myparrotshop.com/>) My Parrot Shop provides parrot toys and parrot supplies for all types of companion and aviary parrots. My Parrot Shop's website includes in-depth product information (including materials used), and lots of detailed photos.

Companies That Sell Toys with No Metal Parts or Safe Metal Parts Only

Any toys made with just leather, wood, or heavy plastic parts are probably bird safe (at least you don't have to be concerned about zinc problems). However, you should still check with the company to make sure that the leather has not been chemically tanned.

BirdsJustWannaHaveFun.com (<http://birdsjustwannahavefun.com>) BirdsJustWannaHaveFun.com sells a variety of safe toys.

Featherbutts Toys (<http://www.featherbutts.com/index.htm>) Featherbutts Toys sells a line of Coca toys containing only safe parts.

Parrots Treasure (636-272-4880) Parrots Treasure sells a number of toys made using only natural wood and leather.

Choppers Toys (<http://www.chopperstoys.com/>) Choppers Toys sells a wide variety of bird safe toys that have no metal parts. They also sell many toys with nickel plated metal parts. One toy that Choppers Toys sells and our African Grey loves is a stainless steel bucket which we filled with foot toys and a hidden treat each day!

Beek and Destroy (<http://beekanddestroy.com>) Beek and Destroy sells a number of bird safe toys. All metal parts are zinc and lead free, plastics are bird-safe, and only 100% natural cotton and sisal ropes are used.

Perma-Play Products (<http://www.perma-play.com/>) All Perma-Play toys are made using only stainless steel metal parts, with the exception of the bells used on some of these toys. The bells are nickel-plated steel (tested) and are completely safe. Perma-Play also sells stainless steel quick links and nylon washers.

Bird Toys, Etc. (<http://www.birdtoysetc.com>) In addition to toys with safe metal parts, Bird Toys, Etc. has many other toys and play gyms available that have few metal parts and are bird safe. They mostly use stainless steel parts but some metal parts are nickel-plated steel instead (they indicated that they have tested the non-stainless steel parts to make sure that they are nickel-plated).

Budgie World (http://www.budgieworld.net/nut_and_branch_toys.htm) Budgie World sells products for Budgies only. They have a very nice line of Gum Nut & Eucalyptus Branch Toys that have no metal parts.

George Products (<http://www.georgeproducts.net>) George Products makes custom play gyms and play stands for parrots. All of their play gyms use only stainless steel metal parts.

T&T Parrot Palace (<http://www.parrotplace.net/>) T&T Parrot Palace sells only bird safe toys as well as a wide variety of stainless steel and other safe parts for making your own toys.

California Bird Nerds (<http://www.cabirdnerds.com>) California Bird Nerds sells a wide variety of mostly small foot toys as well as many different kinds of safe toy parts.

Birdy D'Lite Toys (<http://www.birdydlite.com/>) Birdy D'Lite Toys uses only bird safe plastics, acrylics, stainless steel chain, rings, quick links, the finest cotton ropes, marbela beads, vegetable tanned leather to construct their bird toys. They also sell stainless steel toy parts.

Nalani Toys (<http://www.nalanitoys.com/>) Nalani Toys sells a variety of toys that they manufacture using bird safe materials. They also carry a few toys made by other companies that either either bird safe or have been modified to be bird safe. They also sell safe toy parts.

Simply Parrots (<http://www.simplyparrots.com/>) In addition to selling bird safe toys, Simply Parrots sells foods, accessories, and some bird safe cages. They also carry a few safe toy parts.

Bird Toy Outlet (<http://www.birdtoyoutlet.com/>) Bird Toy Outlet is a bird toy company that offers safe, durable, mind stimulating bird toys, valuable bird related resources, bird cages, bird food and bird accessories.

Companies That Sell Toys or Play Gyms Using Zinc-free Parts (Tested)

Any companies included in this list have allowed us to test a representative sample of their products to ensure that they are zinc free. This does not guarantee that all of their products are completely zinc free, but is a good indicator of a company that is trying hard to make sure that their products are completely bird safe. (Note for toy companies: please contact me at eharris@synnovation.com for information on this free testing service.) (continued page 19)

Testing for Zinc in Parrot Toys, Play Gyms, and Cages (from page 18)

Advanced Avian Designs, Inc. (<http://www.parrotgyms.com/>) Advanced Avian Designs sells hardwood play gyms. The metal parts are either nickel-plated steel, brass-plated steel (tested safe), or stainless steel and are completely safe.

Blue Moon Innovations (<http://www.bminnovations.com/>) Blue Moon Innovations is best known for its line of "For The Birds" acrylic bird toys. All of their toys are 100% Zinc-Free, the chain is nickel-plated and the quick links are stainless steel.

Companies That Make Stainless Steel Cages and Enclosures

Cage Avianix (<http://www.freedomcage.com>) Note: We have one of these cages and love it!

Virginia Cage Company (540-350-2282)

Animal Environments (<http://www.animalenvironments.com>)

References

"The Merck Veterinary Manual", Seventh Edition

"A Practitioner's Guide to Avian Medicine", Louise Bauck, BSc, DVM, MVSc

American Zinc Association (www.zinc.org)

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Editor's Note: Parrot Education and Adoption Center does not necessarily endorse any of the companies listed in this article, and is not liable for any injury, illness, or other untoward event arising from the use of any product from any of these companies.

NEEDED: SOMEONE WITH "WORDPRESS" WEB SKILLS

We are in dire need of someone who can volunteer their expertise and a bit of time to help us fix our website, peac.org! We have had web gurus work on the problems, but without specialized skills in "Wordpress," they have not been able to fix what's broken. If you can help, please contact us at membership@peac.org. We'll be forever grateful!



VOLUNTEER MEETING

The next Volunteer Meeting will be on February 12. Advisory Meeting 11:30a; General Volunteer Meeting to immediately follow. DAS Conf. Room, 5480 Gaines St., San Diego.

Please submit suggested topics to Eric or Melanie by 7 days prior to the meeting.

This issue of *Beak to Tail* is available in hard copy thanks to the most generous donation from the **Thiem Family's** printing and graphics company, **Trade International Group.**

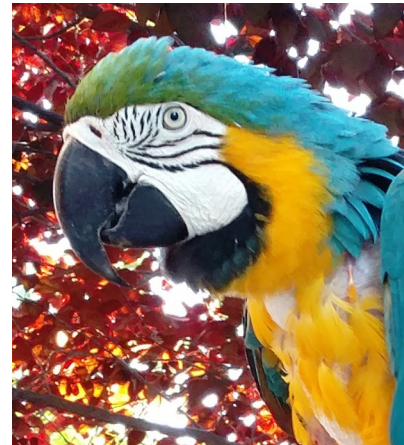
www.tradeintgroup.com

SPOTLIGHT ON WILLOW!

Willow is a 23-year-old female blue-and-gold macaw who came to us from the Dept of Animal Services after she was found on a rooftop. We know her age from her leg band. She immediately converted to a pelleted diet, and she eats her veggies chopped up in birdie bread. She loves pistachios and Brazil nuts, which she eats in the afternoons.

Willow has some feather loss on her chest, although she has shown no signs of feather destructive behavior and there are never any feathers on the bottom of her cage. She currently has a large number of pin feathers on her chest, legs, head, and back.

This playful, loving little girl loves being the center of attention in a public place, as well as going for drives in the car; and she is routinely featured at our Temecula Petco outreach adoption events. When not starring at adoption fairs, Willow prefers to be outdoors at home, playing ball or taking "hose showers;" or on her playstand, where her antics are hilarious.



She says "Hi lady," "Willow," "Hola," and "Step up," and she whispers a lot. She steps up very well for women; and although with a gentle and patient approach she does step up for men once in a while, her foster family is working on this. Willow is waiting patiently for her forever home, where she will bring joy to the heart of that special someone who understands that true beauty comes from within, and not from how many feathers one has.

OUR FIRST SPECIAL TOPIC SEMINAR!

On January 22 at 12:00p, Annie Petersen, Ed.D., President and CEO of Association for Human-Animal Bond Studies, will speak to us at the Dept of Animal Services, 5480 Gaines St., San Diego, about **Animal-Assisted Therapy and the benefits of spending time with companion animals**. Following Annie's talk, Eric Kern, the Director of PEAC and President of ARC, will update those in attendance on our outreach project working with our military personnel and on our talks with Rady Children's Hospital. Register with the registration form on page 8; an email to membership@peac.org; PayPal to [membership@peac.org](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?business=membership@peac.org); or online at http://peac.org/?page_id=6 and click on this event. PEAC members and 2016 donors are free (use coupon code MEMBER); non-members are \$10. Registration must be received no later than midnight Wednesday, January 18. *As of 1/1/17, registration is required by everyone for attendance at all events.*

PET EXPO 2017!



PEAC will have a booth again this year at America's Family Pet Expo at the Orange County Fair and Event Center in Costa Mesa, from April 28 to April 30. This is our biggest and most popular and enjoyable event of the year, featuring more foster birds and volunteers than any of our other events! There are also bird shows, K-9 shows and splash dogs, reptiles, pet boutiques and supplies, and much, much more. Check their website, petexpoooc.org, for more information.

BECAUSE WHO DOESN'T LOVE A GOOD PICTURE....



Outside our fundraising event at Hidden Forest Gallery



A full house at PEAC/ARC



Foster macaw Willow with her Christmas stocking



PEAC at Winter Holidays in La Mesa Village



Abbi: I just washed my hair and I can't do a *thing* with it!

DIRECTOR'S LETTER (from page 12)

So that is the long and short of it. 2017 will be an amazing year, I'm sure. With your help and the dedication of our volunteers, PEAC will continue on for another 20 years of educating people on the care and needs of companion parrots, in addition to offering a safe place for parrots to turn to when they are in need of a home, for whatever reason. Thank you again for your generous support monetarily, with your time, and with your talents.

Kindly,
Eric Kern
Director

PEAC thanks you, our generous supporters during our Year-End Fundraising Campaign: (from page 11) NOTE: We've run out of room to list everyone, so if your name is not here, you will be

All Other Donors:

Abbie Farber-Katz

Alan Crouse

Allison Schacht

Alyssa Vakulchik

Amber Lopez

Amy Hopkins

Ann Palik

Ann-Louise Allen

Barbara Crouse

Ben Alcantara

Betsy Jaegar

Beverly Moran

Billie Bearden

BK Jackson

Cari McCormack

Carolyn Harvey

Carolyn Whalen

Carrie Mix

Christine McMahon

Curtis Froschheiser

Cynthia Boyer

David Hermo

Diane Ballard

Diane Koczur

Dianna Stoketelny

Dory Thompson

Douglas McCrary

Elizabeth Blackburn

Erica Melendez

FM Malachwiej

Francis Bozzolo

Frank Mazzella

Gail Bradford

Henry Bruning

Janice Szumowski

Jason Manviller

Jennifer Behnke

Jennifer Budrock

Jessica Niehoff

John & Cheryl Beran

Judith Goe

Judith Lazar

Judith Michaels

Judy Hunter

Just Give (Recurring)

Jamie Gronlund

Justin Brown

Kam Tsoi

Kathleen Fraga

Kelly Flynn

Lacey Logan

Liane Dyson

Lien Ly

Lisa Ruby

Live United (Recurring)

Lori Duran

Mai Ly

Maria Brinson

Marie Diamond

Mary Yang

Meg Weiss

Melanie Ariessohn

Mike & Julie Comella

Mona Zammit

Nancy Brown

Nicole Kahle

Patricia Cassidy

Peter Eto

Philip Dyson

Rene Pina

Richard & Marian Holzman

Robin Fletcher DePree

Rosalynd Hawk

Rose Essex

Roxanna Khadem

Roxanne Romey

Sandy Marschman

Sharon Stearman

Stacy Pompei

Stacy Williams

Stephanie Porras

Sue Lasbury

Susan Euing

Susan Holmes-Peterson

Susan Mackenberg

Susan Pack

Teri Irvin

Text to Donate Donors

Tom Trax

W and A Wade

Deborah Ditson

Avian Rehab Center

In our next issue!

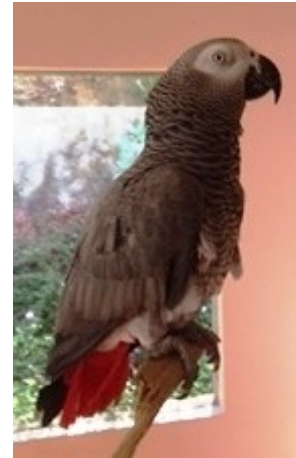
Arthur Lazanoff in Memory of Bubbles
Barbara Courey in Memory of Beloved Sister Beverly Kirkegaard

CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR NEW HOME!

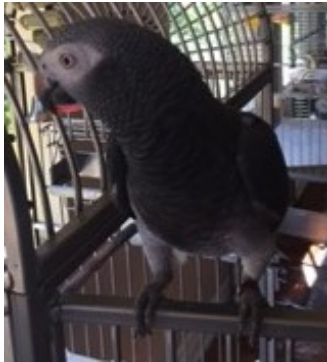


IGGY

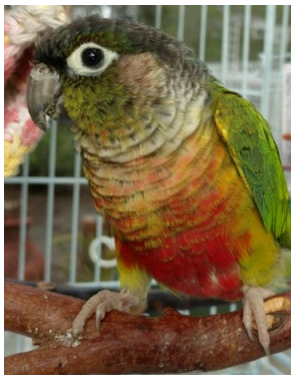
PEANUT



RITA BONITA



PLUTO



MERLIN



PICKLE



BLAZE!



TOOTSIE

BEAK TO TAIL
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P.O. Box 600423
SAN DIEGO, CA 92160-0423



Parrot Education & Adoption Center®

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 15, 2017

Petco Adoption Fair
(Temecula)

January 22, 2017

Guest Speaker - Animal Assisted Therapy
(San Diego)

February 19, 2017

Petco Adoption Fair
(Temecula)

February 26, 2017

Special Topic Seminar—TBA
(San Diego)

March 26, 2017

Special Topic Seminar—TBA
(San Diego)

April 28-30, 2017

America's Family Pet Expo
(Orange County Fairgrounds)