



BEAK TO TAIL

Issue 72

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OVERPOPULATION OF PARROTS & THE EXPANDING UNWANTED PARROT CRISIS Part 2

by Karen Windsor

Many breeders do sincerely care about their parrots. Some even allow their parrot babies to remain with their natural parents for several days before they are pulled to be hand-reared by true professionals who have decades of hand-feeding experience. Many breeders are now familiar with the work of people like Rosemary Low, and understand the importance of “abundance weaning” and other nurturing forms of support during the critical neonatal development period. Good breeders never sell their babies unweaned. And some good breeders actually screen applicants to try to ensure that their babies only go to experienced, committed homes.

The production-bred baby and the baby nurtured lovingly by the good breeder appear to have very little in common as they begin their lives as pets. But they actually have three very important things in common: neither baby knows what species it is. Despite having been domestically bred, both babies are still wild animals. And regardless of the fact that every fiber of their being is linked to, influenced by, and dependent upon their ability to fly, neither will be allowed to fly. These three characteristics impact the capacity of every single domestically bred parrot to develop into a healthy, well adjusted “pet” regardless of the quality of their breeding.

We are well aware that there are very many people who provide outstanding lives for their pet birds. Some pet birds are even allowed to fly. But we’re not talking about that exceptionally miniscule percentage of people who have the time, the knowledge, the resources, and the commitment necessary to really provide for all of the physical, psychological, and social needs of a parrot. We are talking about the typical experiences of captive parrots at the hands of the millions of ordinary people who try to keep them as pets.

Typically speaking, pet parrots are highly social animals who spend their days alone, confined to cages, waiting for someone to come home from work. They have no way to constructively deal with loneliness. They are hard-wired to be connected, either with a flock, with a partner, or with both. They are highly intelligent animals whose

cognitive capacity evolved parallel to their social behavior and as a means of navigating a very large and complex world. In captivity, their worlds are tiny, and their best forms of mental stimulation may only come in the form of a few toys hanging inside their cage. Or trying to figure out how to get out of the cage. Or trying to figure out how to get under their owner’s skin so that someone will pay attention to them. Typically speaking, pet parrots’ wings are routinely clipped, with the first clipping being delivered before they ever have a chance to fledge. As prey animals whose primary escape reflex is directly and inalterably tied to flight, the fact that these parrots inevitably hit the floor - or the bars of a cage - when they are startled or threatened, leads to feelings of vulnerability and insecurity, and sometimes to inappropriate, chronic phobias arising from the fact that they don’t seem to have an effective mechanism to help them cope with danger.

The typical pet parrot sits in a cage in front of a window but seldom, if ever, gets to go outside or sit in sun that isn’t filtered through glass. The typical parrot eats a seed-based diet that is high in fat, missing critical nutrients, and is poorly metabolized because there is very little opportunity for a parrot to exercise.

In the life of a typical parrot who suspects he is human, there is a resident human that he is highly – maybe exclusively – bonded to, and whom he has identified as his sexual partner. The hormones grip the bird, but the human partner is unreceptive, altogether absent, or being stolen by other humans in the household. Sexually mature parrots instinctually are driven to establish territory, to engage a partner, to mate and to defend a nest. The resulting aggression and frustration are generally expressed by parrots in ways that are incompatible with a human household.

Excessive and inappropriate vocalizations, stereotypical behavior, displaced aggression, hyperphobic behavior, feather destruction, and self mutilation are all abnormalities that are common in captive parrots.

(Continued on page 10)

Letter from the Director

Dear PEAC Members,

I debated back and forth what to write about in this issue. I must admit, the past couple of months have been a challenge with regard to the incoming requests for relinquishments. It seems as though as soon as one parrot in the foster program is adopted, there are two waiting to come in. Over the past few months, we have seen a large number of macaws and large cockatoos enter the PEAC foster flock. At the time this is being written, we have 6 macaws and one Moluccan in the foster program and 4 macaws, 2 Moluccan cockatoos and one umbrella cockatoo on the waiting list to possibly come into the program. We have been fortunate that the number of smaller parrots like Amazons, conures, and smaller macaws has kept pace with the adoptions of similar sized parrots. Our adoption numbers continue to be strong, considering our fairly regimented adoption process that people must go through to qualify. Though some in the bird community feel PEAC is a little too strict, I come back with the fact that we have not had a single parrot returned to us after being adopted.

There are, on occasion, those parrots that do not qualify for our program for various reasons; for example, a recent intake interview of a Hahn's macaw who has severely attacked his own feet, twice in the past 6 months. After much review of the case with the owner and Dr. Cecil, no external triggers have been identified. We are continuing to work with the bird's owner while this parrot heals from his latest outburst. The next step may include the use of hormone-modulating therapy to help curb this mutilating behavior. In these situations, PEAC is left to make the difficult decision of whether this bird can be truly rehabilitated in a manner to make it a good parrot companion. The answer will likely be that he is a better candidate for Best Friends Animal Society, who on occasion is able to take in parrots who do not fit the criteria for good companion parrot material, but need a place where they feel safe and are cared for, for the remainder of their lives.

(continued on page 16)

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.
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 an afternoon class focusing on Basic Anatomy and Health, Nutrition, Enrichment & Environment,, and Body Language.
6. All potential adopters will then receive a home visit performed by a PEAC volunteer.
7. Potential adopters will receive a copy of our adoption application after the home visit has been completed.
8. 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.
9. Only one parrot acquisition/adoption per home or PEAC membership is allowed in an 18-month time period.
10. Adopters are required to pay an adoption fee and reimburse PEAC for veterinary fees the bird may have incurred.
11. Adopted birds are to remain in the home and be treated as a member of the family.
12. Adopted birds may not be sold, given away, bred, or used for any type of monetary purposes.
13. After attending the mandatory seminars, those wishing to adopt a first-time large bird, such as an Amazon, African Grey, Cockatoo, or Macaw, will be required to spend hands-on time with the species of their choice under supervision of one of our volunteers before being approved.
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 Greys



“Bentley,” 14-yr-old m. Timneh. Bentley is in generally good feather. He eats well and is always willing to try new foods. He loves any toys that can be shredded or torn apart. Bentley talks, but mostly mumbles. He whistles beautifully and mostly communicates when you are out

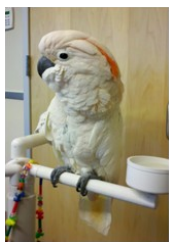
of the room, but loves to whistle and talk back and forth. Bentley needs some work with cage aggression. He would probably do best in a home with a low level of energy where he gets plenty of attention, but isn't required to be extremely affectionate. His charm is in his intelligence and forward personality.



“Sophie” 1 1/2-yr-old f. Congo. Sophie was relinquished to PEAC in March 2015. In her first home, she lived outside on the back patio. In spite of poor diet and lack of enrichment, she steps up readily and is in great feather. Sophie has taken quickly to eating a high quality pelleted diet and absolutely devours all vegetables offered!

She has an extensive vocabulary including words in a variety of voices and whistles, as well as outdoor noises (engine starting, dog barking, crow vocalizations, truck backing up, etc.). Sophie enjoys head scratches and will be a splendid companion for someone who has the time to give her what she deserves.

Cockatoos



“Francis,” 17-yr-old m. Moluccan. Francis entered PEAC in June of 2012 when his owner surrendered him for what we were told was a screaming problem. On receiving Francis he was not handle-able and had a lot of phobic behaviors. He has now improved greatly. His screaming is mainly now only fear driven and also used for tattling on his foster's other cockatoo. He's no longer phobic, he now chews on toys and steps up, and he is eating a better diet, talking a little, and exploring his surroundings. He is still nervous when left alone.

Francis may be best suited to a home with another bird. He will require someone who has a great deal of cockatoo experience, and with some more work, he is going to be a wonderful companion parrot.

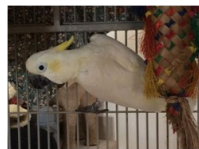
Cockatoos (cont)



“Tootsie,” 13-yr-old f. umbrella. Tootsie came to us in April of 2014. The couple that had Tootsie for her first 12 years moved and had to confine her to a very small cage. She was unable to adjust and pulled the majority of her feathers from her chest and

legs.

Since coming to PEAC and getting an appropriate cage, Tootsie has grown back most of her feathers. She is gentle and loves to cuddle and be around her people. She LOVES her toys! Tootsie knows a few words such as “hello” and “I love you.” She is a fast learner and a very sweet cockatoo, and just wants to be in a forever home that will love her the way she deserves.



“Pita,” 11-yr-old m. lesser-sulfur crested. Pita lived with his previous owner from the time he was weaned until she found PEAC to assist her in finding a new home.

Pita is now on a very healthy and varied diet of fruits and vegetables along with a pelleted diet. He has adjusted to his new foster family and is working on stepping up. He is comfortable around small dogs and cats, but needs to be the only bird in his new home. He has a varied vocabulary. With continued positive reinforcement training, Pita will become a wonderful companion cockatoo.

Macaw



“Wyatt,” blue-and-gold, age and sex unknown. Wyatt came to PEAC from the Dept. of Animal Services after being found on a rooftop. We are waiting for the results of DNA sexing. He has some feather loss on his chest, which could be from plucking or just due to age, similar to male pattern baldness in humans. He has shown no signs of feather destructive behavior while being in the foster program.

Wyatt immediately converted over to a pelleted diet and is starting to show some interest in his morning vegetables, fruit, and sprouts. He loves his afternoon nuts. He steps up very well, and although he is a bit nervous about having his head scratched, he has shown no aggression at all. Wyatt will make a wonderful companion for someone who has the time and space for a macaw.

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Amazons

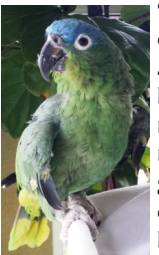


“Samantha,” 21-yr-old f. double-yellow head. Sam was turned over to our Anchorage Chapter by Dept. of Animal Services from a hoarding situation. Now, Sam loves showers! She enjoys ambient attention from the people in her life, but prefers not to be touched. She has a beautiful, melodic voice, speaks clearly, and loves to laugh along with you. She steps up on a stick, and would love to follow you around the house!



“Quinn,” age unknown, m. lilac-crowned. Quinn is a gentle and calm Amazon who enjoys being around other birds but prefers Amazons. Quinn says "hello" in a very sweet Elmo voice and melts his foster mommy's heart. He can be a little shy when asked to step up, and would like someone who is patient and has a calm household.

Quinn is always ready to eat, and enjoys baked or steamed yams, broccoli, peas, apples, veggie pasta, rice, quinoa and anything tasty and nutritious! He is a wonderful companion who is looking for a forever home.



“Georgie,” 23-yr-old f. mealy. Georgie came to us from her one and only owner. As a result of being kept in a small cage, her wings droop down and she has no muscle strength to hold them upright. This may correct its self as she begins to be busier, as she now has an adequate cage size and lots of time to explore her play tree outside of her cage.

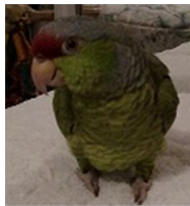
Georgie steps up and is full of energy and curiosity. She gets along well with other birds. She is a bit quieter than other mealies, but is still quite vocal, especially around dusk. Georgie loves her pellets! She has a wonderful, funny personality and will jabber on and on with you all day. She is an amazing Amazon for the right person, as she will provide not only lots of love for her new owner, but hours of laughter, as well.



“Jazz, aka Snickers” 12-yr-old m. blue-fronted. Jazz was relinquished to PEAC from his first home. He is extremely quiet. He says “hello” when the phone rings. He loves to sit on his playgym and contribute to his foster family's or tv conversations, saying “oh, my god,” “uh-oh,” “uh-uh,” or the occasional snicker. Jazz eats an excellent variety of vegetables and pellets. He steps up, and loves head scratches. Jazz quickly learned about target training.

Amazons (cont)

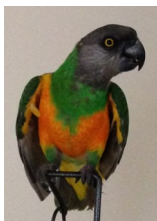
He loves to shred cardboard and softer toys and enjoys destroying various foraging devices. Jazz can be excitable at times and will do best in a quieter home where he is the only bird. He's a very nice young Amazon who will make a wonderful companion for a parrot-savvy family.



“Ponch,” 45+-yr-old m. lilac-crowned. Ponch (aka Poncho) flew into a yard in 1970 and was adopted by the family when no owner came forward. His owner of 45 years passed away in December of 2014 and no one in the family was able to care for him long term.

Ponch is a delightful little guy who is already learning about target training and eagerly participates in training sessions. He is accustomed to eating a wide variety of vegetables and other healthful foods, and we are working on teaching him that pellets are equally yummy (instead of seed). Ponch is a very fun bird; he comes with an animated monkey toy that he dances and plays with (he even knows how to push the button to activate the toy)!

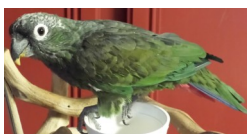
Poicephalus



“Sammi,” m. Senegal. Sammi escaped his cage and was found 10 months later in someone's yard; however, a vet check found him in excellent health! His former owner could not take Sammi back, so he was placed into PEAC. Sammi steps up and makes many different whistles and sounds. He

loves to cuddle and get scratches from his foster mom but does not like men or other birds, so would be happiest as a single bird in a home with a woman as his primary caregiver, where he can show his charming and loving nature.

Pionus



“Kiwi,” 12-yr-old m. Maximilian's. Kiwi was relinquished when his only owner had to move his entire family back East and felt it was not fair for

Kiwi to live in a travel trailer. Kiwi is a fun, beautiful, well-feathered bird. He is learning to step up and likes an occasional head scratch. He loves his play stand and likes small toys. Kiwi makes lots of chirping noises, but for the most part is a quiet bird who enjoys hanging out with his foster family and their flock of parrots while he waits for his forever home.

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!

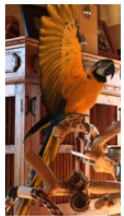
Macaws



"Baby," 9-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.

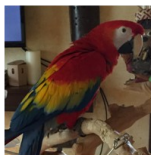
Baby is now eating a balanced diet and is learning to play with toys. He does exhibit feather destructive behavior and has no feathers on his chest. Baby tends to make very loud vocalizations, especially when left alone, as well as when he first wakes up and at dusk.

Baby now enjoys human interaction and is out of his cage for about 10 hours a day. He says "hi baby" and "hello". He readily steps up. Baby gets along with other parrots, and both men and women, and does not seem to have a gender preference. He is a sweet, fun guy looking for his forever home.



"Abbi," 30-yr-old m. blue-and-gold. Abbi came to us in January 2015 after his second home in 30 yrs. His first owner moved out of state, and he was placed for just a short time in his second home, until they moved into an apartment. In Abbi's early life, he sustained a traumatic injury, which resulted in the loss of his left eye and the use of his left wing, which was broken and never set, so he is not able to open and extend it.

Abbi is a bit shy at first, as he has trouble seeing to his left. He is adjusting to getting his every-other day shower at his foster volunteer's home and seems to enjoy the company of the other macaws that are part of his foster flock. Despite what must have been a rough start in life, Abbi seems resilient and is just looking for his new forever home with someone who will respect his slight limitations and love him no matter what.



"Asha," 1-1/2 -yr-old m. scarlet. Asha came to PEAC on January 24-2015. A PEAC volunteer contacted the organization, explaining that Asha was not in the best of environments and she was very concerned about the bird's welfare. Scarlet macaws

tend to have a very complex personality and without constant gentle but confident handling, tend to become aggressive, even with their owners. Many people refer to their personality as similar to that of a teenager, always looking to be independent but needing constant supervision.

Macaws (cont)

Asha is only a year and a half old and has a personality that is still developing. He already speaks a little, saying "up up" and "hello" on occasion. Asha requires someone with macaw experience to continue working with positive reinforcement training to keep this magnificent parrot happy and healthy for what could easily be the next 80+ years of his life.

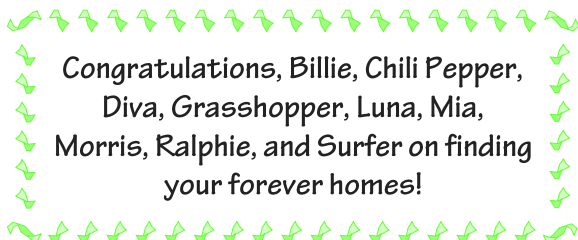


"Boubo (Robert)," 42-yr-old m. greenwing. Boubo came to PEAC after his owner passed away in June of 2014. He is a very large male greenwing with just as large a personality to go along with his size. Boubo is approximately 42 yrs old so is just entering the second half of his life, as these parrots can live to around 80 yrs or longer. He shows a preference toward women but is easy to handle by men, as well.

Boubo is a very outgoing parrot who requires plenty of toys to keep him busy. He is our resident artist (see pg 19). He loves to forage for his food. Due to his very large size, he will require a very large cage and LOTS of time outside of his cage so he has a chance to stretch and keep his muscles in good condition. He plays on his tree during the day and has shown no interest in going to the floor. He loves his showers, which he gets every-other day. Boubo will make someone a wonderful companion for life. He will do best as the only bird in the home. We prefer that the person interested in adopting him has large parrot experience, but all persons interested are encouraged to contact PEAC to discuss the adoption process for Boubo.



"Yoshi," m. severe macaw, age unknown. Yoshi came to PEAC in February 2015 after being found in a back yard. He is a sweet smaller macaw with a very pleasant personality. He steps up well. He is starting to make quiet calls, and is extremely quiet for a severe macaw. He eats a wide variety of vegetables and quickly accepted a pelleted diet. Yoshi loves to bob up and down and dance, both while he's hanging out on his playgym and while you're holding him. He's in beautiful feather and ready for his new home.


 Congratulations, Billie, Chili Pepper,
 Diva, Grasshopper, Luna, Mia,
 Morris, Ralphie, and Surfer 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

Jeffery R. Jenkins, DVM
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We thank all of our volunteers and members for helping to make
PEAC what it is today!

PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER 2015 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

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

New Seminar: We encourage you to attend our new Volunteer / Adoption Required Seminar, which is a new, comprehensive seminar for everyone, incorporating the latest information on "everything parrot," from anatomy and care to behavior and enrichment.

4/26 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Everything You Need to Know about Parrots" (required to Volunteer / Adopt) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates
5/10 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Everything You Need to Know about Parrots" (required to Volunteer / Adopt) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates
5/31 Sun	1:00 pm	New: Movie: "A Place to Land"
6/14 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Everything You Need to Know about Parrots" (required to Volunteer / Adopt) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates
6/28 Sun	1:00 pm	New: Movie: "Australia: Land of Parrots" OR "Parrots in the Land of Oz"

San Diego seminars are held at the San Diego Department of Animal Services, 5480 Gaines Street, San Diego 92110. Seminar check-in begins at 12:30 pm. First seminar begins at 1:00 pm; second seminar begins at 2:15 pm. When possible, program birds will be present 12:30 to 1:00.

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

*Advance registration is due by the Wednesday prior to the seminar; no exceptions.

REGISTER ME!

Sign Me Up in Sunny San Diego for these 2015 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 or PayPal to parroted@peac.org.

PEAC RIVERSIDE COUNTY 2015 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

New Seminar: We encourage you to attend our new Volunteer / Adoption Required Seminar, which is a new, comprehensive seminar for everyone, incorporating the latest information on “everything parrot,” from anatomy and care to behavior and enrichment.

- 5/23 Sat. 1:00 pm **New:** Volunteer / Adoption Required Seminar
- 6/27 Sat. 1:00 pm **New:** Volunteer / Adoption Required Seminar

When possible, program birds will be present from 12:30 to 1:00.

Seminar Location:
 Animal Friends of the Valleys
 Southwest Communities Animal Shelter
 33751 Mission Trail, Wildomar, CA

Seminar check-in begins at 12:30 pm. First seminar begins at 1:00 pm; second seminar begins at 2:15 pm. When possible, program birds will be present 12:30 to 1:00.

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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) _____

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

The manner of mass production widely practiced in aviculture today inevitably results in a mind-boggling number of "pet" birds that are emotionally and psychologically impaired, experience severe challenges as they develop into adult birds, and are still wild animals destined to reach sexual maturity and succumb to the instinctual directive of their species. Millions of people who purchase these birds are unprepared to deal with the resulting behavioral issues. After these birds have been passed through a succession of homes, someone finally contacts a rescue organization...As a parrot rescue organization dealing continually with the fall-out from the pet trade... from where we stand... captivity isn't really working for parrots. Even in parrots that appear to cope well as pets there are other issues that the avian veterinary community routinely encounters, including obesity, liver disease, fatty tumors, cancers, reproductive diseases, heart disease, and stroke. Every single thing that's wrong with pet parrots is directly related to their captivity.

Foster Parrots is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue and sanctuary of unwanted, languishing, and abused parrots. We are one of hundreds of rescue organizations in operation across the country. We currently care for over 500 avian residents in our 16,000 square foot sanctuary facility located in southern Rhode Island. Our focus is permanent sanctuary care for wild and unadoptable parrots—primarily older wild-caught birds, ex-breeders, or those captive-raised parrots who somehow emerged from the domestic breeding machine with their sense of species identification intact.

Our focus is parrots who reject ABA training and human socialization and, instead, embrace their wild heritage and their right to be birds. We care for other kinds of parrots, as well. Parrots that are no longer candidates for adoption due to health or disease issues. Parrots that have plucked themselves naked or have mutilation issues and are no longer desirable as pets. Cockatoos who, no matter how much they love people, cannot manage to keep their homes for long. We turn away approximately 1500 New England area surrender requests each year for lack of space and/or resources to deal with the demand. We are one of the oldest and best known parrot rescue organizations in the country, but like all other parrot rescue groups, big or small, we are over-worked, overwhelmed, and seriously under-funded.

There is very little support for parrots, and one of the primary reasons for this is the fact that wide and hostile divisions exist in the parrot sector that do not exist in other areas of animal welfare. Or at least not to the same extent. People who love dogs and cats are in full support of the rescue groups that work to help dogs and cats. In contrast, people who love parrots – the breeders, the bird clubs, the behaviorists, the trainers, the parrot accessory manufacturers and yes, sometimes even the avian veterinary community - all close their doors, turn their backs and withhold financial support from parrot rescue groups who, operating under the mantra that "parrots should not be pets", represent a threat – or at least an opposition – to their very livelihoods.

Parrots should not be pets. Until there are more parrots in captivity thriving than suffering, parrots should not be pets. Until avian science and aviculture are able to actually work together for the benefit of parrots rather than for the benefit of people, parrots should not be pets.

If the avian veterinary community is to embrace parrots as pets, you also must embrace the failure of parrots as pets, and your responsibility, as the true parrot experts, to stand up for the welfare of parrots in captivity.

It is not enough to be avian biologists or avian immunology specialists. If you are not connected to the emotional and psychological lives of birds, you are not seeing the whole animal. And if you, the veterinarians and the healers, are not questioning – and challenging – the standards that have been put into place that are harming parrots, then what chance do parrots have? In the words of author Mira Tweti: It is not enough to do what you can do to help an animal. You have to do everything you can do.

References:

Of Parrots and People – Mira Tweti; Birdsnews.com – Breeder listing and information website; Bird-breeders.com – Breeder reference website; WPT group list 2006; Stamper Auction Inventory List – Luv Them Birds; The New England Exotic Wildlife Sanctuary/Foster Parrots, Ltd.

OUTREACH EVENTS IN TEMECULA!

PEAC will now be appearing at Petco Adoption Fairs in Riverside!
Come check out our booth!

4/19 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm

5/17 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm

6/21 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm

Program birds 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!

We'll be looking for you at the Orange County Animal Care "Pet"apalooza Rescue and Adoption Fair! Come meet our volunteers and foster birds! We will answer your bird-related questions and concerns. 561 The City Dr., Orange, May 2, 10:00-2:00.

Come see us and some of our foster birds at the Turquoise Animal Hospital's Exotic Pet Expo! 950 Turquoise St., Pacific Beach, April 18, 2:00-4:00.

PEAC is participating in the Orange County Pet Expo on April 10-12. This is a huge event at the Orange County Fairgrounds and has a wide variety of animals for adoption, pet supplies including bird toys, dog agility and splash dogs, and animal shows, including the Bird Man of Las Vegas's bird show. Come visit our booth and meet some of our volunteers and foster birds! We look forward to seeing you there! Fri 10-6, Sat 10-7, Sun 10-6.

PEAC PRESENTS OUR PARROT-TOY-MAKING WORKSHOP!

Saturday, May 16, 2:30 pm, Check-in 2:00 pm
ArtFORM, 3316 Adams Avenue, San Diego 92116



PEAC members: \$40/person
Non-members: \$45/person

ArtFORM is where creative re-used materials take shape. Many of the materials are parrot-friendly, so we have chosen a large variety of these materials for you to choose from to create your very own parrot toys. Erin Pennell, president and board chair of ArtFORM, will be directing or workshop and together we hope to find fun ways to put re-used materials to use for our companion parrots. The workshop price includes materials sufficient to make 2 toys for Amazon/Cockatoo/Macaw –sized birds, or 3 smaller toys. Much less expensive and more fun than buying toys from a store!

Registration limited to 15 participants. Please register by 5/2/15.

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Workshop (PEAC members): [people] \$40.00/person

Workshop (non-members): [people] \$45.00/person

I'd like to donate an additional \$ _____ and be recognized as a sponsor of this event.

Total Amount: \$ _____

Payment method: (check one)

Check enclosed for \$ _____

PayPal at parroted@peac.org

Credit Card amount \$ _____

Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Card #: _____ CVV#: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

Signature: _____ Zip code: _____

Mail to PEAC, P.O. Box 600423, San Diego, CA or fax to (909) 563-8418
 or email to peacoperations@gmail.com

We love your birds, but please do NOT bring them to this event!

AVIAN VETERINARIANS

<u>Facility (city)</u>	<u>Veterinarian(s)</u>	<u>Phone/Website</u>
Acacia Animal Health Center (Escondido)	Gary A Gallerstein, DVM Carmine G. Bausone, DVM	760-745-8115 www.aahc.us
All Pets Animal Hospital (Encinitas)	Brian Loudis, DVM, DABVP-Avian	760-634-2022 www.allpetsanimal.com
All Pets Medical Centre (West Hills)	Amy Worell, DVM, DABVP-Avian	818-883-2600 www.yourpets.com
Animal & Bird Wellness Center (Westlake Village)	Tiffany Margolin, DVM, DABVP-Avian	805-497-4900 www.animalandbirdwellness.com
Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital (San Diego)	Jeffrey Jenkins, DVM, DABVP-Avian	619-260-1412 www.drexotic.com
Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital (Hawthorne)	Walter J. Rosskopf, DVM, DABVP-Avian	310-679-0693
Discovery Valley Animal Hospital (San Marcos)	Lee Young, DVM	760-744-0032 www.discoveryvalleyvet.com
Chaparral Pet Hospital (Claremont)	Ann McDowell, DVM	909-625-1561
Pacific Beach Veterinary Clinic (San Diego)	Benita Keiss, DVM	858-272-6255 www.pbvetclinic.com
Pet Emergency & Specialty Ctr (La Mesa)	Todd R. Cecil, DVM, DABVP-Avian	619-462-4800 www.pescsandiego.com
Rancho San Diego Animal Hosp (Rancho San Diego)	Roseanne Brown, DVM	619-660-6767
The Bird Clinic (Orange)	Larry P. Nemetz, DVM (exclusive avian practice)	714-633-2910 www.thebirdclinic.com
VCA Wilshire Animal Hospital (Santa Monica)	Frank Lavac, DVM, DABVP-Avian	310-828-4587 www.vcawilshire.com

(D)ABVP – (Diplomate) American Board of Veterinary Practitioners -Avian

NECROPSY (animal autopsy) & laboratory tests - County of San Diego Veterinarian, 858-694-2838.

Parrot Education & Adoption Center provides the above information as part of our educational efforts. This does not constitute an endorsement of any specific service. Always ask for references before choosing a specific service.

We strongly recommend establishing a relationship with an avian veterinarian before you are faced with an emergency.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT:



Avian Behavior International



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



Diamond Avian



Petco Foundation



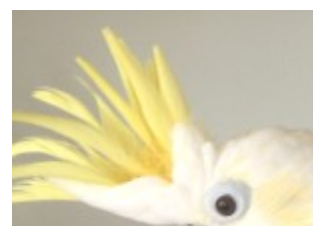
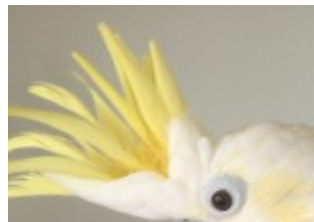
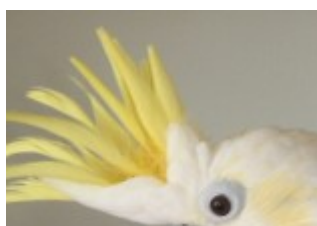
Jungle Toys



The Laughing Parrot (coupon code PEAC15)



The Purring Parrot



Thank you to the following people
who have so generously donated to the birds of PEAC:

Caroline Dobbs
Charles and Barbara Coffee Trust
Cindy and John Brewer
Eugene and Judith Opittek
Jeffrey Beckett
Jim and Karen Hodson
Judith Lazar
Kenneth and Denise Engelhard
Linda Stuart
Melinda Brown

Lisa Greeson
Lisa Ruby
Mike and Julie Comella
P. Wheeler
Paul and Debra Kolen
Ruth Pierce
Sanford Schane
Shad and Kris Adair
Nancy Brown
West Los Angeles Bird Club

SPOTLIGHT on Francis



Francis is a 17-year-old male Moluccan Cockatoo who came to PEAC in May of 2012 after being with a family for almost three years. They purchased him from a bird store in San Diego who had acquired him after he was removed from a breeding program. Francis was placed with a PEAC foster volunteer in Orange County where he remained for 2 years, making some progress regarding some very severe behavioral problems. In May of 2014, Francis was placed with Eric Kern, Director of PEAC. Eric and his partner, Adonis, consulted Hillary Hankey to do an evaluation on Francis to guide their efforts to help Francis learn some self esteem and confidence. Francis was demonstrating nervous behavior of new things and quick movements around him. When he came to Eric's home, he was not very willing to step up but could be forced to do so when a large stick, wrapped in cotton, was presented to him. After arriving at his new foster home, the step-up behavior was immediately addressed and a steady arm was slowly substituted for his usual stick. At first, Francis would only step up after letting himself out of his cage, and only on rare occasions. Slowly, he began to trust more and more, and eventually started stepping up when his cage door was open; and when it was time to go to sleep, he would willingly step up off his play tree. Francis showed no interest in anyone at first, but today demonstrates his likes and dislikes very obviously with his body language. If he likes you, he will eagerly lower his head for you to

give him a scratch or two or to preen some of his crest feathers. If he is not interested in you, he will step back and begin clicking his beak. Francis is affectionate with some people but not others, but equally goes to men or women. He now allows those he likes to hold him and preen his head while standing on your hand.

Francis needs a home where someone has a large amount of time to give to him. He does much better when out of his cage for a large part of the day. As many Moluccans can be, he can be quite vocal at times, so he is not a good choice for an apartment or condo. He is mostly vocal in the morning when he wants out of his cage and breakfast to be served, and at night when he is placed back in his cage. These are natural times for avian pets to vocalize, since natural flocks normally call to other mates during the morning and evening. If startled, he tends to bark like a dog and will only stop once you reassure him everything is ok. Francis has come far with his fear response issues and is rarely timid anymore when it comes to new experiences. If you would like to meet Francis and see if the two of you are a match, please email PEAC at membership@peac.org.

⤵
 If you're interested in adopting any of our program birds, you must attend the seminars required for adoption and complete an application for approval. You must also show proof that you have an adequate cage and are acquainted with an avian veterinarian before taking your bird home. Adopted birds may not be bred, sold, given away or used for any type of monetary purposes! A minimal adoption fee is required, as is reimbursement for any vet fees that the bird you are adopting has incurred.
 For more information on adopting a PEAC bird, visit http://peac.org/?page_id=40.
 ⤵

VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

Upcoming quarterly meetings for volunteers:

- April 26, time TBA; Gaines Street location
- June 28, 2:15p; Gaines Street location

• Please submit suggested topics to Eric by 7 days prior to meeting.

Volunteers: we look forward to seeing you there!

DIRECTOR'S LETTER (continued)

Many of our members are not aware of the behind-the-scenes workings of PEAC, such as the difficult process that is involved in evaluating a parrot for the foster program. It is more often than not that when we do a home interview, the environment is inadequate for the parrot and we feel terrible having to leave these birds one more day in the conditions they are forced to live in; but foster availability is limited. This brings me to the main purpose of this issue's director's letter: we desperately need more foster volunteers. I need you, our membership, to help spread the word that we need more foster homes for our flock. It would be wonderful if we could get a small group of potential fosters together to do a day's seminar with them and have them listen to the testimony of some of our more seasoned foster volunteers. I will never place more parrots in a foster home than the foster volunteer has adequate space and time for, as we will never become a warehouse for parrots. I would rather we remain with a smaller number of foster parrots that are receiving good training and care from their foster volunteers than have a large number of parrots spending countless hours in a cage with no interaction.

As you might have gathered from reading this letter, the number of parrots needing to be re-homed is reaching an epidemic level. The U.S. still produces 2.5 million companion parrots a year by small- and large-scale breeding facilities. Parrots' long lives compound the problem, unlike more mainstream pets. Imagine how it works: year one, 2.5 million are hatched, year two carry over the 2.5M from year one and add another 2.5M, and do this over and over again for 10 years. The number you come up with should be 250,000,000. As a parrot lover, some of the decisions that have to be made as the Director are hard, and trust me, I do not ever make a decision without a great deal of thought. Each parrot that comes to PEAC is treated with respect and compassion, and we will always do our best to provide them with a positive future, even if that means driving to Utah or Arizona to deliver them safe and sound to another animal welfare organization.

In conclusion, our adoption numbers remain strong and promising. We have placed many birds into first-time bird owners' homes and it is reassuring to see the excitement and willingness to continue to learn as much as they can about their new companion.

(continued on page 19)

Come visit us on the web!

"Like" us on Facebook

[Parrot-Education-and-Adoption-Center](#)

Follow us on Twitter

@PEACsandiego

Check the updated calendar and interesting articles on our website

www.peac.org

Watch your email for our PEAC Monthly Info Blast

NEWSFLASH - - UPCOMING FOSTER BIRD EVENTS!!

Come see our volunteers and foster birds in San Diego at the following events:

Petco Unleashed, 308 Washington St. **5/3**, 9:00a to 2:00p

Petco Unleashed, 308 Washington St. **6/7**, 9:00a to 2:00p

Thank you to the following people, who most generously donated to PEAC through our two GlobalGiving campaigns:

Abbie Farber-Katz	Eric Kern	Marianne Mackenberg
Alan Crouse	Evonne Kern	Marie Walton
Alexandra Magin	Florence Harrod	Marvin Katz
Amy Hopkins	Frank Graff	Michael Lobosco
Ann Palik	Gail Bradford	Mona Zammit
Anonymous	Gale Chan	Pauline Smith
April Adcock	Janice Szumowski	Regina Cook
Barbara Crouse	Jason Manviller	Rene Pina
Betsy Jaeger	Jeanine Lyons	Sandra Marschman
Beverly Berkowitz	Jessica Niehoff	Shirley Oakeson
Carol Blackburn	Joyce Richards	Stephen Hartfield
Catherine Bourne	Judy Michaels	Steve Velasco
Cesar Pina	Junko Lee	Susan Holmes-Peterson
Charla de la Mora	Karen Quinn	Susan Pack
Chloe Rogers	Kathy Fraga	Suzette Farber-Katz
Cynthia Boyer	Kelly Flynn	The Zenker Family Trust
David Hiipakka	Kenneth Kitzmiller	Tracey Janssen
Diana Wentworth	Liane Hernstadt	Tracy Henchbarger
Diane Ballard	Linda McNamara	Yuliya Rueb
Elise Patkotak	Marla Brinson	Helene Grenier
Ray Greer	Rebecca Gerondale	Yolanda Osana

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO HEAR ABOUT?

We'd like to boost attendance at our seminars / special events! Please email peacoperations@gmail.com and let us know what topics / guest speakers you'd be interested in.

MOVIES!! Yep, that's right—we'll be showing movies for our May 31 and June 28 seminars at the San Diego location on Gaines Street. May 31: "A Place to Land" about parrot rescues across the United States; June 28: "Australia, Land of Parrots." Both seminars start at 1:00. Foster birds will be there for meet and greet at 12:30. Registration form on page 8 or at peac.org.

Bring your popcorn and we'll see you there!

We will have a booth at the San Diego Maritime Museum's Pirate Days!! Come join our volunteers and foster flock for a fun-filled weekend with lots of pirates and parrots. We will answer all of your bird-related questions. Aaaaa! Maritime Museum, San Diego Embarcadero, May 16-17, 10:00 – 5:00.

STAR VOLUNTEER: JUDY MICHAELS

Judy is our “star volunteer” for this issue of Beak to Tail. She is one of our “Senior Volunteers,” so called because of her experience and expertise as a PEAC volunteer. We know we can always count on Judy for any help we may need. Let’s get to know her a little better:

Judy, how long have you been a volunteer for PEAC? I have been a volunteer for PEAC for about 6 years.



What got you interested in parrots? As a child I had a canary and after he died I had a budgie. I did not have birds as an adult until a cockatiel flew into my backyard and landed on my head! That was about 20 years ago and was the beginning of my going bird crazy.

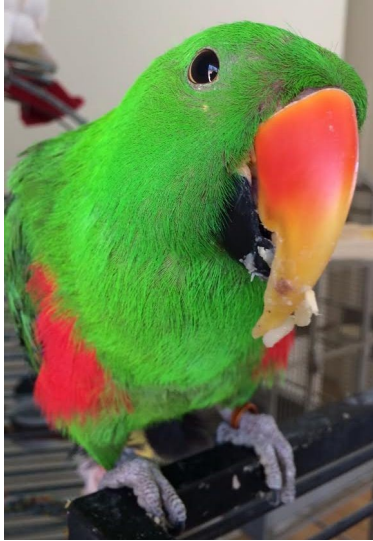
What birds are you currently living with? Now I have 3 parrots of my own: a blue-crown conure who is 15 years old; a Hahn’s macaw, 12 years; and a white-fronted Amazon who was originally a PEAC bird. Besides these I am usually fostering three parrots for PEAC at any given time. These have included Amazons, greys, Senegals, conures and mini-macaws. In addition, I have two dogs, a cat, and a husband.

What made you want to volunteer for PEAC? I started volunteering for PEAC because I wanted to give back to the organization that has taught and continues to teach me so much about parrots. Also, through my membership I became aware of the tremendous need for foster homes, as PEAC always has a waiting list of people who want to relinquish their birds. I love volunteering for PEAC in the capacity of a foster mom.

How do you spend your spare time (if any!)? I actually do have a life beyond parrots and cleaning up after parrots! I work part-time in the Genealogy division of the Cole Library in Carlsbad, walk 3 times per week with a walking group and do occasional half-marathons, and keep up with the lives of my three adult children and six grandchildren.



PEAC booth at the San Diego Pet Expo



DIRECTOR'S LETTER (continued)

Some of our more notable rescues include Surfer, a scarlet macaw who was found in the Sunset Cliffs area of San Diego, and who, despite his severe arthritis and advanced arterial sclerosis, is going to a wonderful home to live out the rest of his days in the safety and comfort of a family that loves him very much. Mia, a Moluccan cockatoo who once showed feather destructive behavior, has gone to a family of four and is fitting right in with her new owners and their two young girls. Then there is Grasshopper, an Eclectus male who was brought to PEAC by the Dept. of Animal Services, who picked his new owners who live in NM and travel to San Diego regularly and were willing to "jump through the hoops" to get qualified to adopt this very vocal green bird. So we do have great success stories that warm everyone's heart. PEAC continues to grow and stretch to new limits while maintaining our ability to reach the public with education on these wonderful companion parrots and the plight many of them are now facing. Thanks to your membership renewals and continued donations, PEAC will continue to stand as a beacon of hope for companion parrots in the Southern California area.

Sincerely yours,

Eric Kern
Director



Sammi
Playing
with His
Food



Boubo Painting
a Masterpiece



Parrot Education & Adoption Center®

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 10-12 2015
Orange County Pet Expo
(San Diego)

April 26, May 10, and June 14, 2015
Everything You Need to Know About Parrots
(San Diego)

April 19, May 17, and June 21, 2015
Petco Outreach Event
(Wildomar)

May 16, 2015
Toy-Making Workshop
(San Diego)

May 23, and June 27, 2015
Everything You Need to Know About Parrots
(Wildomar)

May 31, 2015
Movie: "A Place to Land"
(San Diego)

June 28, 2015
Movie: "Australia: Land of Parrots"
(San Diego)