



BEAK TO TAIL

Issues 60/61

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PARROT BODY LANGUAGE, IN A NUTSHELL

by April Adcock, Melanie Ariessohn, and Barbara Crouse
with special thanks to Craig Smartis

How do you know what your bird wants? We use verbal communication with our parrots, but does your parrot answer you in the same language? In most cases, the answer is no. As is true for people, vocalizations account for only around ten percent of a parrot's communication with other members of its flock. The rest of what they have to tell us is communicated through body language. This discussion will focus on aggressive posturing, using the Amazon parrot as an example.

Amazons are well known for the clarity of their nonverbal communication: most companion humans agree that there isn't much guesswork necessary when reading their Amazon's intentions.

The initial reaction of an Amazon that is slightly aroused to an unwanted, close approach might be to bend its body away in avoidance and tighten its feathers close to its body. She might use her beak or head to push the object away or might raise one foot in a gesture of resistance. Ignoring these signs can lead to an Amazon expressing a higher state of arousal, associated with aggression, with the exhibition of several striking physical signs. "Pinning", or the rapid dilation and contraction of the pupils, when accompanied by flaring of the tail feathers, an open beak, and erection of the feathers on the crown of the head and/or the nape, can indicate that the bird is feeling threatened or anxious and that you should keep your distance.

With continued provocation, Amazons will also show a more aggressive stance. When the

parrot bends forward in a rigid posture with the head down, the bird is preparing to lunge forward for a bite. Often all of these behaviors will be presented simultaneously. Body language associated with a fearful and/or aggressive response is likely to occur much more commonly in captivity; in nature the parrot can simply fly away if frightened or provoked, as opposed to being "trapped" on a perch or in a cage with clipped flight feathers.

Failure to respect your bird's non-verbal "no thanks" will push it to respond, eventually, by biting to make its point. As humans, we are often oblivious to the parrot's subtle stages of warning behaviors, and may indeed claim, "My bird bites me without warning!" With our repeated displays of insensitivity, our birds sometimes give up displaying warnings, as those behaviors have lost their function; instead the bird has learned that the only thing humans respond to is a bite!

(Continued on page 10)



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear PEAC Members,

It's late summer in Southern California and the continued warm weather means more opportunities for outdoor sunshine for us and our birds. Please remember to use appropriate precautions when moving your birds between indoor and outdoor enclosures to avoid escapes. Guidelines for constructing outdoor enclosures can be found at <http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-housing/bird-aviaries/build-outdoor-aviary.aspx>.

In late January, PEAC participated in the first ever San Diego Pet Expo at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Although I was unable to attend, it was, by all accounts, an incredibly successful event! The second San Diego Pet Expo is already scheduled for October 15th and 16th at the Del Mar Fairgrounds; we'll be there and hope you'll save the date.

Our Leadership Team is also busy preparing for our Main Event, "PEAC San Diego 2011 Conference" on October 29, and we think you'll like what you see. Please see the brochure and registration pages following page 4 in this issue.

America's Family Pet Expo at the Orange County Fairgrounds on April 15-17 was incredibly successful again this year, resulting in contact with several hundred people and accompanying public appearances for our foster birds. We are also excited to be forging new relationships with the San Diego Humane Society and are starting to include Humane Society Officers at our monthly seminars.

And finally, we'll be capping off the year with our annual Holiday Toy-Making Workshop on November 20. I strongly encourage you to attend -- this is a fun-filled event where, for one low price, attendees get group and individual instruction in making toys specific to their parrots' species and play-styles, plus high-quality materials sufficient to make two or three professional-grade toys for your own birds or to give as gifts, and all the holiday muffins you can eat! We hope to see you there, in November, and at our 2011 Conference next month.

Sincerely yours,
Barbara Crouse

WHAT WE ARE

Parrot Education & Adoption Center is a 501(c)3 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

Parrot Education & Adoption
Center
P.O. Box 600423
San Diego, CA 92160-0423

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Judy Michaels

Rene Pina

Nibal Qagi

Bobbie Sevier

Craig & Kylene Smartis

Mary Taylor

PEAC Artist

Linda Ruschat

Newsletter Editor

Melanie Ariessohn

Webmaster

Jeff Morneweck

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 of small birds are required to attend our "Avian Basic Care" seminar.
6. Potential adopters of medium to large birds are required to attend at least the following three seminars: "Avian Basic Care," "Parrot Personalities," and "Behavioral Problems."
7. Potential adopters will receive a copy of our adoption application after attending the required seminars.
8. All potential adopters will receive a home visit performed by one of our volunteers before being approved for adoption.
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. Only one parrot acquisition/adoption per home or PEAC membership is allowed in an 18-month time period.
11. Adopters are required to pay an adoption fee and reimburse PEAC for veterinary fees the bird may have incurred.
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. 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.
15. As a general rule, we will not place a Cockatoo, Macaw, or other noisy bird in an apartment or condominium.
16. PEAC will not adopt birds as companions to other birds.
17. PEAC does not place birds into aviary situations.
18. Birds must remain in a 100% smoke-free environment.

10/29/2011
9:00am - 5:30pm
Marina Village
Conference Center
1936 Quivira Way
San Diego, CA 92109

PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER

PEAC Conference 2011

Join us on beautiful Mission Bay for a full-day program of speakers who will help you keep your companion parrot happy, healthy, and living in harmony with you.



Diane Grindol: "How Birds Make a Difference in Your Life" Diane Grindol, long-time columnist for *BIRD TALK* and author of several bird care books, including *Cockatiels For Dummies®* and *Teaching Your Bird to Talk*, will speak on how having companion birds has changed her life. We'll look at changes you've probably noticed in your life, too, from the amount of exotic produce in your fridge to the number of dust busters in your house. This is a true but tongue-in-cheek look at owning a companion bird (or several!).



Sybil Erden: "From the Beginning to Now: The Growth of the Avian Welfare Movement" Sybil is the Founder and President of The Oasis Sanctuary in Benson, AZ, a rescue facility for captive exotic birds and home to the famous sea-faring macaw, Gulliver. Sybil began her professional life in the art world, and in 1996 was directing an artists' coop that she'd founded, when she decided to take her 50+ rescued parrots and establish a non-profit sanctuary for them and others who shared their plight. The result, the Oasis Sanctuary, is currently home to over 600 parrots, who now have the quality of life they so deserve.



Noelle Fontaine: "Where Do We Go from Here? Helping People Keep their Parrots!" How do we catapult the exotics industry out of the limitations of the proverbial "pet in the living room" and into educated, contributing, long-term capable family environments? Noelle Fontaine, well-known conservationist of the blue Macaws, helps us identify the characteristics of certain people that enable them to keep their exotic animals through crisis; how we, the parrot community, can expand our resources, knowledge, and experiences to assist during times of crisis; and how proper facilities make a difference in the long term.



Jeffrey Jenkins DVM, D-ABVP-Avian: "Debunking the Myths of Parrot Ownership" We are proud to present Dr. Jenkins, one of our own PEAC veterinarians and a member of our Board of Directors. Dr. Jenkins is internationally recognized for his work and research in avian medicine and surgery. He was among the first group of 20 vets to achieve the Diplomate status in Avian Practice by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. He has lectured nationally and internationally on a variety of topics in avian medicine, and his work has been published in numerous peer-reviewed journals, texts, and monographs.



Hillary Hankey: "Shaping the Mutually-Enriching Human / Avian Relationship" We have coexisted with parrots for thousands of years, but only in the last few decades have we begun to examine our role in this relationship. Many of the ways we have been taught to manage parrot behavior fail to prioritize communication, inhibiting the potential for a rich relationship. Using positive reinforcement and empowerment, we can replace undesired behaviors with mutually beneficial ones and break down communication barriers to construct a truly enriching relationship. Hillary Hankey, a professional animal trainer, will provide training demonstrations using PEAC program birds to make her point!

REGISTRATION FORM

PEAC San Diego 2011 Conference

October 29, 2011, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm, Marina Village Conference Center, 1936 Quivira Way, San Diego, CA

Join us on beautiful Mission Bay for a full-day program of speakers who will help you keep your companion parrot happy, healthy, and living harmoniously with you.

We'll also have vendors, as well as our famous raffles!!!

A continental breakfast and lunch are included in the registration fee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: () _____

Early Bird Registration (Postmarked on or before 10/1/2011)	Fee	Number of People	Total
PEAC Member	\$55.00		
Non-Member	\$65.00		
Regular Registration (Postmarked after 10/1/2011)	Fee	Number of People	Total
PEAC Member	\$65.00		
Non-Member	\$75.00		
PEAC MEMBERSHIP (Special conference rates! Good for one year.)	Single \$10 Family \$20		
DISCOUNT (Two PEAC members in the same household)	<10.00>	---	<10.00>
YES! I'd like to donate an additional \$ _____ and be recognized as a sponsor of this event.			\$ _____
Total Amount Due:			\$ _____
Credit card payments: ___Visa ___MC ___Discover ___AmEx Number: _____ - _____ - _____ Exp: ___ / ___ Signature _____ Billing Zip _____			

Refunds: 100% before September 24; 50% Sept 24 to Oct 10, 2011

Please return registration form and check made payable to

Parrot Education and Adoption Center

PO Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160

Credit card payments: Mail to above address ~ or fax to 909 563-8418 ~ or email to parroted@peac.org.

PayPal: email to parroted@peac.org

Questions? Email parroted@peac.org or call (619) 287-8200

~ WE LOVE YOUR BIRDS, BUT PLEASE DON'T BRING THEM TO THIS CONFERENCE ~

Letter from the San Diego Operations Manager

Dear PEAC Members,

I'm sitting in my living room, trying to concentrate with 2 Macaws, a Cockatoo, and a Caique all screaming, to try to get me to go into the bird room and pet/feed/drek to/preen/bathe/play with/take to the outside aviary -- them all. They aren't all "screamers" -- one of them no doubt started it, and the rest chimed in. At times like this, I'm inclined to tell myself I'd be happier without any birds at all.

And yet. We have a foster-bird-in-waiting, in the 30-to-60-day quarantine program that all of our birds undergo before becoming available for adoption. After a PEAC-Bird-to-Be's lab test results come back and the bird is medically cleared by one of our Board-Certified Avian vets, it comes to live in quarantine with one of our volunteers. While a bird is in "q," the quarantining volunteer gets to know it -- assessing its behavior and personality, starting to work on any untoward behaviors via positive reinforcement, working on converting it to a better diet, if necessary, and, in short, doing whatever the bird needs to make sure it's healthy, happy, and adoptable. But I digress....

The bird we have in quarantine was originally one of a "set." I don't say "pair" because they were of two different species, but they were very closely attached to each other. They'd been through some exceptionally rough times together, and seemed to have helped each other through them. One of them was the spokesman for the other, telling their caregivers when the other wanted something to eat, and he seemed to be perhaps the emotionally stronger of the two, if such a thing can be said about a parrot.

The birds had, purely by happenstance, ended up in a home that, while loving, was just crazy, with remodeling and the attendant fumes, noise, and dust; and crowded, with even more people moving in. The birds' original owner had passed away and his wife was too old to care for them, and the family asked these good people to watch the birds temporarily while a new home was found. They agreed to take the birds as a stopgap measure; the original family then ceased contact and abandoned the birds with these wonderful people who were trying to help. They had fallen in love with the birds, but had way more going on at this point in their lives than anyone should be expected to handle, and something had to give. And what gave was those who were liable to die from construction fumes or dust. We were contacted, and arrangements were made for us to take the birds. This part of the story was the good part.

Then, through some horrible and inexplicable turn of circumstance, the stronger bird didn't make it through the transition to PEAC. The turmoil in the home, the third-time packing up of the toys and supplies, the car trips, the vet visit, exam, and blood-drawing (apparently its first vet visit ever) all seemed to be too much. And now, suddenly, the bird is gone. That bird was so well-loved -- by everyone from the "not-mate," who depended on it for companionship and to be its mouthpiece, to our Adoption Coordinator, who only met him once and fell immediately in love with him. And of course his most recent caregivers, who made the difficult but correct decision to turn the two of them over to PEAC, to save their lives.

Continued on page 12

AWW, C'MON....HELP WANTED!

PEAC San Diego and PEAC Anchorage still have an incredible need for foster homes. Who's on our waiting list? In San Diego, we had just whittled our waiting list down to one bird, when we received several new applications from people wanting to give theirs up. With the economy still in the dumps and people losing their homes, the coming months will continue to reveal new people needing to relinquish their parrot companions. What can we do? How can we say no to these poor birds in such great need? Desperate people who are unwilling or unable to wait for their birds to move up our waiting list and into our program can end up selling or giving their birds to yet another parrot-clueless person, and in a year or so, the bird will be in another unwanted situation, with perhaps additional behavioral problems. Some people will even go so far as to euthanize the pet parrot that they consider a "problem" when they "can't" wait any longer for an opening to become available in our program.

We still continue to receive large numbers of calls and emails from people wanting to relinquish parrots to our adoption program, and **we are still turning away, on average, 20+ parrots each month, just in San Diego, due to a surfeit of foster families.**

Our foster birds come to your home pre-vet-checked and usually pre-quarantined by us. During their initial 30-day quarantine period in the home of one of our most experienced volunteers, each bird is evaluated for personality and behavior traits, to help us place it with the best possible foster match. We also evaluate your lifestyle and personality and your comments with respect to what species and personality type you think would be best for you, to ensure that the bird we are placing with you is one that we think can best succeed with you as its foster parent. Sometimes we do such a good job at this that it backfires, and the foster parent ends up adopting the bird! Why do we call this "backfiring"? Because it permanently closes up one opening in our foster parent program. But you know, love is love, and we can't always help who we fall in love with!



PEAC provides our foster homes with an appropriate cage, a playstand when possible, a travel carrier, TOPS organic pellets, an initial batch of toys and later replacement toys whenever available, and all the support you could ever ask for. All you need to supply is treats, fruits, veg, and pasta; varying degrees of patience; and a whole lotta love.

You may be able to save a life. How much better can that be?

Call 619.287.8200

or email parroted@peac.org for San Diego

PEAC San Diego 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
Diplomate
ABVP-Avian Practice



Specialist in Avian Medicine

AVIAN & EXOTIC ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Practice limited to birds & exotic animals
"Extraordinary care for extraordinary animals"

2317 Hotel Circle South, Suite C, San Diego, CA 92108
619 260-1412 619 260-1499 fax

Dr. Jenkins provides a complimentary exam for newly adopted PEAC San Diego program birds and a discount on care for our foster birds.

Dr. Loudis will give a certificate good for one exam (to be used within 10 days of adoption) to new adopters of PEAC San Diego foster birds, and provides a discount on care for our foster birds.



ALL PETS ANIMAL HOSPITAL

BRIAN LOUDIS, DVM, ABVP
Diplomat, American Board of Veterinary Practitioners

760-634-2022
www.allpetsanimal.com

285 N. El Camino Real #105 Encinitas, CA 92024

Todd R Cecil, DVM, DABVP-Avian
Board Certified Specialist in Avian Medicine

Complete daytime & emergency medical/surgical services for exotic and avian patients.

La Mesa 5232 Jackson Dr. 91941
Chula Vista 885 Canarios Court 91910

619 462-4800
www.pescsandiego.com exotics@pescsandiego.com



Dr. Cecil provides a 50% discount on non-emergency services to our foster birds and 20% on emergency/after hour care.

We welcome our new volunteers, Linda and Leo McNamara and Nibal Qagi

PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER, SAN DIEGO 2011 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

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

- Jean-Michel Cousteau

THERE'S NEW INFO! HAVE YOU BEEN TO A PEAC SEMINAR LATELY?

We are continually changing the content of our seminars as new information becomes available in the world of parrot care and behavior. So the seminar you attended even two years ago may well be different now, with updated information.

Come back - - we'd love to see you again and share with you all that's new.

And with pre-registration, it's free to members!!!

10/23 Sun 1:00 pm Parrot Personalities (*required for adoption*)
2:15 pm Behavior Problems: Using Positive Reinforcement Training (*required for adoption*)

10/29 Sat 8:30 am - 5:00 pm PEAC SAN DIEGO 2011 CONFERENCE! PLEASE USE SPECIAL REGISTRATION FORM AFTER PAGE 4 IN THIS ISSUE

11/20 Sun 1 - 4 pm Holiday Toy Making Workshop (special pricing TBA, to cover cost of materials)

San Diego seminars are held at Marina Village Conference Center, 1936 Quivira Way, Room D-6, San Diego. Regular seminars begin at 1:00 pm; second seminar begins at 2:15 pm. Seminar check-in begins at 12:30 pm. When possible, program birds will be present from 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 2011 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) _____

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

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

NEW SEMINAR LOCATION!

In our constant quest to bring parrot education to you, we are now holding So. California seminars in a second location! Wildomar is located in Riverside County, in the Temecula area.

- Sat, 10/22/11 1:00 pm Parrot Body Language
2:15 pm Resolving Biting Behavior
- Sat, 12/3/11 1:00 pm Parrot Personalities *(required for adoption)*
2:15 pm Behavior Problems: Using Positive Reinforcement Training
(required for adoption)

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

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

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 Wild, Wild, Wildomar for these 2011 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) _____

Make checks payable to PEAC and mail with this form to PEAC, PO Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160
Or fax credit card payments to 909 563-8418 or email credit card payment or PayPal to parroted@peac.org

PARROT BODY LANGUAGE, IN A NUTSHELL

(continued from page 1)

Use of Applied Behavioral Analysis can help to determine the trigger, or antecedent, to aggressive posturing. For example, the following might describe the sequence of events and context that result in your parrot displaying aggressive body language.

Antecedent: When I ask my parrot to step up while she is playing with a favorite toy...

Behavior: She displays eye pinning, feather erection and tail fanning...

Consequence: I remove my hand and she continues playing with the favored item.

Consider changing the environment in order to make it more rewarding for your parrot to step onto your hand by offering a food treat, a head scratch, a favorite foot toy, or some other reinforcer when she steps onto your hand. The reinforcer offered must be more rewarding *to the parrot* than staying in its current location. Finally, allowing a choice to empower your bird may actually result in a stronger relationship. You may be pleasantly surprised to, over time, have your bird more frequently choose to interact with you when this is consistently rewarded with positive reinforcement.

Our parrots can learn human verbal communication to varying degrees, but they also have complex systems of nonverbal communication that we must interpret and react to appropriately. Learning to read and respect our parrots' body language will not only enable us to avoid unwanted interactions and misunderstandings, but also can increase the depth of the bond we have with our avian companions.



This article first appeared on www.BirdChannel.com, Bird e-University Semester 2: Communication: Body Language (<http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-university/session-1/communication/default.aspx?activityid=4330>), with an accompanying video starring our own April Adcock and some of her more demonstrative parrots. Free registration is required.

Yellow-naped Amazon photos: "Baby," courtesy April Adcock

RETURNED MAIL?

PEAC San Diego had a little problem with our PO box address for a few weeks, during which time most of the mail you sent us, including membership and donation checks, was returned to you.

If your mail was returned, please simply re-send it to us at PO Box 600423, San Diego, CA 92160. We do rely on your donations to keep the organization going, and we sincerely thank you for your continued support and apologize for the inconvenience this caused you.



THE "CHICKEN" MEMORIAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

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 was doing bird adoptions; Layne immediately fell in love with Chicken. He says 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, making a little growling sound. In 1998, Chicken died of lung cancer. Layne has never completely gotten over it.

Participants

Gale Chan
 Mike & Julie Comella
 Kelly Flynn
 Kathy Fraga
 Lisa Greeson
 Jim & Karen Hodson
 Philip & Lee Jenkins
 Beverly Kirkegaard
 Paul & Debra Kolen
 Judy Lazar
 Jan & James O'Connor
 Ann Palik
 Rene Pina
 Geneva Potepan
 Jean Rockwell
 Chloe Rogers
 Steve Scott
 Linda Stuart
 Virginia VanDyke*
 *(in memory of Ziggy)

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 \$20 or \$30 toy at least once a month, in addition to the food costs. 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 will 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 Sponsorship List in our quarterly newsletter. All donations are tax deductible and will directly benefit our birds.

Simply fill out the enrollment form and return it with your donation.* After enrolling, for your convenience, you will receive an envelope each month in which to return your donation. The birds are waiting and thank you for your contribution!

* All donations to this program remain at PEAC headquarters in San Diego. For sponsorship opportunities in your area, contact your local Chapter.

THE CHICKEN MEMORIAL SPONSORSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Sponsorship Levels:

- \$50/mo. Macaw/Large Cockatoo \$25/mo. African Grey/Amazon/Eclectus
 \$15/mo. Conure/Parrotlet \$10/mo. Cockatiel/Budgie/Lovebird
 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.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS
TO THE BIRDS OF PEAC IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Good Bird, Inc.
Sheralin Conkey
Kathy Hayes
Ann Miller
Suzanne Osborne

Parrot People/ April Adcock
Terry Petrovich, in memory of Moki
DJ Sommers
Evan Tzakis
Steve and Linda Velasco



Letter from the San Diego Operations Manager

(continued from page 5)

Hug (gently) your birds and other loved ones today. The next time you want to scream, "Will you x@\$% shut up, you noisy x@\$%!", think about this: It may be hard for us, but how much more difficult is it for them?

With best regards, and with remembrance.

Melanie Ariessohn

Operations Manager
Parrot Education and Adoption Center, San Diego



OUTREACH PROGRAMS

PEAC San Diego seemed to be everywhere at once this Spring! In addition to our monthly seminars, we started “showing” our program birds and disseminating information at the first ever San Diego Pet Expo, as well as the annual Orange County Expo, and the Del Mar Petco.



From our November 2010 Toy-Making Workshop



Our trip last November to the Oasis Sanctuary in Arizona

ANCHORAGE PEAC

Board and Volunteers
Anchorage, AK Chapter

Karen Webster
Managing Director

BOARD

Debbie Cather
Kathy Doty, DVM
Jackie Frederickson, DVM
Garry Wallan
Karen Webster

VOLUNTEERS

Debbie & Jeff Cather
Sarah Hill & Jim Power
Sydney & Tim Kaderman
Eric Kennard
Karen Ottenbreit
Elise Patkotak
Krys Traver
Garry Wallan

ADOPTION COMMITTEE

Jackie Frederickson
Karen Ottenbreit
Garry Wallan
Karen Webster
Liz Wilson

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

A lot of our birds have reproductive seasons twice a year (at least mine do!), and now is the time, six months after the Spring season. You may be thinking, "Seems like I just finished cleaning up from the last one," but if you have any parrots who have proclivities for "reproduction issues" this time of year, remember to remove anything from the cage that could be construed as a nest cavity (cardboard boxes, paper bags,



etc.), keep up with the rotation of new toys, and think about giving these birds more frequent baths/showers, provided you can keep them out of a draft until they are thoroughly dry. Do they like to shred, and try to shred the newspaper at the bottom of the cage? Think about going to a thrift store and grabbing a supply of clean, inexpensive paperbacks...hanging these from the bars of the cage serves as a shredding delight for many parrots large and small. If you have

access to a hand saw, an even greater opportunity is presented when the telephone book yellow pages (which seem to grow exponentially thicker each year) can be cut into strips....so much more to chew! And just because your bird has never shown a propensity for these problems in years past....you still need to be on the lookout.

Remember, our birds haven't been "spayed or neutered", so they have their full complement of hormones and you never know when nature is going to send the signal "now is the time"!

When planning your garden beds or containers this fall, keep your avian friends in mind. All our birds LOVE sugar snap peas, and they are so easy to grow. Of course, the moose love them as well, so try to plant where those critters can't get to them. Other goodies we like to plant include carrots, beets, Brussels sprouts, collard greens, celery, fennel, and a whole slew of herbs and even edible flowers like nasturtiums. Just remember to NOT use chemical pesticides or fertilizers if you plan on feeding your harvest to the birds.

We're hoping to continue adding fun and educational topics to the seminar lineup this year, including "movie night". For the latest information, check out our website (www.akpeac.org) or follow us on FaceBook (AKPEAC – Alaska Parrot Education & Adoption Center).

With best regards,

Karen Webster
Managing Director, Anchorage



Available for Adoption in Anchorage
Parrot Education & Adoption Center
P.O. Box 91707
Anchorage, AK 99509-1707
907.929.2473
www.akpeac.org
akpeac@gmail.com

African Grey

Name: **Jayla**

Species: Red-tailed (a.k.a. "Congo")

Age: 3 years

Sex: Female

Notes: Jayla is a very young, very sweet little girl. Despite having the best intentions and making all the right moves and choices, life sometimes throws us humans a curveball.

Unfortunately, Jayla's owner developed a life-threatening allergic reaction to her, and it became necessary for Jayla to come to us to find her a new forever home. She's essentially a little Grey sponge, soaking up all life has to offer her, and will make someone a fabulous lifelong companion.



Amazon

Name: **Samantha**

Species: Double Yellow Head

Age: 17 years

Sex: Female

Notes: Friendly in that she wants to be around people, but reserved in that she would prefer not to be touched. A true Amazon, Sam does love her showers! Definitely not a cuddler, but she does have a very sweet voice and personality.



Conure

Name: **Wilson**

Species: Blue-crowned Conure

Age: unknown

Sex: unknown

Notes: Wilson was a found bird, rescued after spending a day hanging out in several very tall trees close to an Italian restaurant. Care to guess what his favorite food is? He talks quite a bit, and while there's interest in getting scratches only from favored people, he's VERY interested in getting attention from that person, as well as playing with toys, etc.



Poicephalus - Senegal

Name: **Sassy**

Age: unknown

Sex: unknown

Notes: Sassy was found and turned over to us. She can be social and outgoing when she wants to, yet, like a lot of Senegals, she can be somewhat territorial of her space. She has a healthy appetite and loves to play with her toys and get cuddles and scratches from her favorite people.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP!!

Have you ever wondered how you could help PEAC, but thought "I just don't have the ability to foster"? That's okay, there's lots of ways people can help PEAC...

The Program Birds always appreciate these donations:

New toys
Harrison's Bird Food
(including Bird Bread Mix)
Nutriberries
Nuts in the shell
(almond, walnut, etc.)
Seasonal fruit
Travel carriers
Large cages
Perches

If it were not for our volunteers, members, and public donations, we would not be able to do what we do. A large part of our funding comes from special events and fundraisers.

We are always looking for donations for the events we put on throughout the year. If you have an item you'd like to donate, please call or email us!
907-929-BIRD (2473)
akpeac@gmail.com

Your membership, support, and participation at our events are essential to the future of our chapter and our foster birds! Thank you for your generosity!!

We would like to extend a special THANK YOU to the following individuals, organizations, and businesses who have donated to our Anchorage chapter:

Alaska Mill and Feed
Grey Feather Toys
TOPS (Totally Organic Pellets)
VCA Alaska Pet Care

Jackie Frederickson, DVM
Robert A. Rehbock
Lin Westgard

Ginger Memorial Fund
Layne Dicker & Sally Spencer
Rayna Neumiller-Duenas

*Mirror, mirror, on the wall,
Who's the most spoiled bird
of all?*



Gimme Four!!





THE "GINGER" MEMORIAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM*

Ginger was one of the first birds Anchorage took in, and the difference we were able to make in this bird's life was remarkable. Unfortunately, we were not granted enough time with Ginger on this earth; let the story of her life carry the message of birds in need to future generations. May she rest in peace.

Through word of mouth, PEAC has become widely known. With this notoriety comes an increase in the number of birds needing our help. The increased volume of birds coming through our door has placed an additional financial burden on the organization. Just one of our macaws requires a \$20-\$30 toy at least once a month, in addition to the food costs (and thanks to the difficult times we are facing, food costs have risen dramatically). Sadly, we have numerous parrots of all sizes, needing food and a variety of toys, 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 will receive the satisfaction of knowing that a parrot's life was enriched by your donation, and your name will appear on our Sponsorship List in our quarterly newsletter, *Beak to Tail*. (If you wish to remain anonymous, just check that box on the Sponsorship Enrollment Form.) All donations are tax-deductible and directly benefit our birds. Simply fill out the enrollment form and return it with your donation.* After enrolling, for your convenience, you will receive an envelope each month in which to return your donation.

The birds are waiting and thank you for your contribution.

THE GINGER MEMORIAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FORM

Sponsorship Levels:

- \$50/mo. Macaw/Large Cockatoo
- \$25/mo. African Grey/Amazon/Eclectus
- \$15/mo. Conure/Parrotlet
- \$10/mo. Cockatiel/Budgie/Lovebird

- I wish to remain anonymous.
- 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: _____
 VISA/MC/AMEX Card #: _____ Exp: ____ / ____

Or make check payable to PEAC and mail with this form to
 PEAC, P.O. Box 91707, Anchorage, AK 99509-1707

* All donations to the Ginger Sponsorship Program remain at PEAC's Anchorage chapter.

Letter from the Director, Pittsburgh Chapter

Hello, PEAC!

My name is Scott Reichert. It is very exciting to be able to address you as the newly appointed Director of the Pittsburgh Chapter. I succeed Christy Kaufmann upon her retirement. In so doing I have quite a reputation to follow. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for selecting me to lead our organization's mission into the future. My primary goal is to follow the original mission laid out for PEAC by the founder, Bonnie Kenk: to educate the public about responsible companion bird care and ownership. I hope to be able to transcend personalities and focus on solidifying our national ties. I also want to keep our operation transparent and to bring it into the vernacular.

"PEAC is a professional volunteer organization. In so being, it is absolutely dependent on its volunteers! I have made a commitment to retain as many current volunteers as possible, to recover any former resignees, and to recruit responsible, willing new volunteers. I aim to increase the transparency of the Pittsburgh chapter, decentralize tasks, and allow our volunteers to be as active as they choose to be in both the active 'pounding the pavement' tasks as well as the decision making process. ANY amount of time, ANY skill a person is willing to give, is a treasure that will be greatly appreciated."

This is the beginning of the letter that I wrote to our volunteers in Pittsburgh on September 25, 2010, shortly after taking the helm. Since that time, we have had a very successful volunteer meeting, which accomplished the tasks I laid out. Our volunteer ranks have significantly increased and number over twenty now. We have attended several public events, including the Circleville Exotic Bird Expo, PETCO Adoption Weekends, Cranberry Public Library's Adoption Expo, and others. Our number of foster homes has more than doubled. Lots of new ideas presented that meeting have been implemented, for example, a new and improved quarantine procedure for every bird that enters our program. The decentralization and transparency aspects of my commitment have been realized in the development of our "Volunteer" communication page and planned posting of public documents on our website, as well as the assembly of a new Leadership Committee. We have filled many coordinator positions, as well. I want to thank you all for so much participation, energy, ideas, and hard work.

PEAC – Pittsburgh, PA
P.O. Box 741
Monroeville, Pa., 15146
724-378-7588
info@pitpeac.org
<http://www.pitpeac.org>

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Jo Traggiai
Nancy Pierce
Marilou Welty

Staff Writers

Jenna Tyger
Denise Battista

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It is also important to recognize the help we have received from the national organization. PEAC as a whole has been incredibly supportive of this transition. Educational materials, cages, financial consideration, and even personal encouragement have been readily provided by the other PEAC chapters, their directors, and their staff. I was overwhelmed. You have made an otherwise daunting task so much more manageable. Thank you.

I would like to recognize a couple of our volunteers: Tambri Iriti-Tiwold as our Education Coordinator and Tom Murphy as our Adoption Coordinator. Thank you so much for your service. Tambri was a former member of PEAC. She is an active volunteer at the National Aviary, and participates in the Gabriel Foundation as well as several other avian organizations. She is well-versed in many aspects of avian care, as well as administrative tasks. Tom Murphy is a long-standing member of PEAC. He has adopted from PEAC and fostered for us in the past. He is well educated, and has spent over thirty years as an educator himself. Welcome aboard, both of you!

Dr. Edward Bennett of All Pet Animal Hospital in Gibsonia has come on board as our primary consulting avian veterinarian. He has agreed to a very advantageous financial arrangement for our foster birds' veterinary care, and has agreed to provide a benefit for our members, as well. Thank you, Dr. Bennett.

Last, but MOST important, our membership has been wonderful. In a transition such as the one we traversed this past year, it would not be unusual to lose membership. This has not been the case, and our membership actually has increased by over 20%. Your memberships are ABSOLUTELY vital to the mission we pursue. Without your financial support, we could not do anything for these wonderful creatures.

I would love to hear from each and every one of you, with suggestions on how we can improve this program. You can reach me at s.reichert@pitpeac.org. I encourage you all to visit our redesigned website at www.pitpeac.org and register on the right-hand side for our email updates. You can also find a link there to follow us on FaceBook, if that's your preferred communication method. We need you now more than ever. If you haven't been around for a while, come join us for some of our new happenings!

Sincerely yours,

Scott Reichert
Director, PEAC Pittsburgh

PEAC Pittsburgh's Primary Consulting Avian Veterinarian

Dr. Edward Bennett
All Pet Animal Hospital

5354 Rt. 8, Suite 203
Gibsonia, PA 15044-9650

616 S. Pike Rd., Suite 200
Sarver, PA 16055-9539

(724) 444-6600
(724) 295-9933



Available for Adoption in Pittsburgh
Call 724-378-7588
Or email info@pitpeac.org



Species: Citron-crested Cockatoo

Age: 8"

Notes: "Mango" is a very sweet and quiet bird who is mostly recovered from feather-picking. She likes to talk, enjoys out-of-the-cage time, seems to prefer men, and loves her pellets, fresh fruits and veggies, and an occasional sunflower seed.



Species: Lesser Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

Age: 3

Notes: "Baby Doll" is very friendly, and seems to prefer females. She is recovering from feather-picking and loves to dance. She bathes in the shower and eats pellets, fresh veggies, and fruit. She can be noisy to get your attention, but once she has it, she loves to cuddle!



Species: Orange-winged Amazon

Age: 26

Notes: "Carlos" came into our adoption program when his owner passed away. Although he is not hand tame, he loves out-of-the-cage time, fresh foods, and destructible toys. He prefers women to men and will make a great addition to a home with someone who understands him.

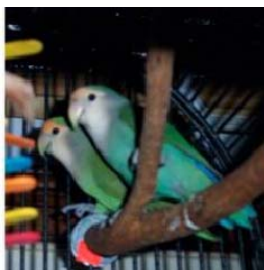


Species: Yellow-naped Amazon

Name: Lucky

Age: 23

Notes: Lucky is a very sweet female who is guaranteed to brighten your day! She loves people, can talk up a storm, is healthy and full-feathered, and enjoys bathing in the shower. Her diet consists of pellets, fresh fruits, and veggies.



Species: Blue Peach-faced Lovebirds

Ages: 3

Notes: "Stanley" and "Stella" are a male and female bonded pair who came into our adoption program when their owner was no longer able to care for them. They prefer to remain in their cage together, but will provide you with entertainment as only two healthy, happy lovebirds are able to do!

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

We would like to extend a special thank you to the following individuals, organizations, and businesses that have donated to our Pittsburgh Chapter:

C&B Birds
Lisa Baker
Karen Brown
Jaye Cantagallo
Christine Ebken
John Fisher / Nationwide Parrot Place Organization
Whendy Godich
Don and Marian Hayduk
Bob and Lorraine Kalcevic
Deborah Maliver
Jeff Morneweck
Terry Parrinello
Ellen Smith
Jennifer Traficante
Andrea Tillmann
Fran Weber

Special thanks to PEAC Cleveland and PEAC San Diego for their invaluable assistance, advice, and patience during our transition.



Species: Timneh African Grey

Age: 25

Notes: "Timba" is a quiet, easily-managed Grey who talks and makes numerous interesting sounds. He likes to play with his toys and bathe in the shower. He eats pellets, fresh veggies, and fruits.

Congratulations to Jan, Marsha, and Cindy – a trio of budgies who recently went to their forever home!

PEAC MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS

Check it out! The following companies are supportive of PEAC's work and have graciously offered to give PEAC members a discount on items ordered from them.

Note: PEAC does not particularly endorse any of the products sold on this page and is not liable for any damages resulting from the use of any of these products.

Advanced Avian Designs, Inc.
888-408-4967 - 10%

Artistic Avian Accessories
209-748-5631 - 10%

Avian Antics
734-782-5270 - 10%
www.AvianAnticsBirdToys.com
Coupon code: PEAC2010

Avian Gourmet
1-888-88-AVIAN
www.aviangourmet.com - 10%

AviTech, Inc.
1-800-646-BIRD - 10%

Bell Plastics
1-800-235-8265 - 20%

Birds by Donalee
520-574-7290
www.birdsbydonalee.com - 10%

Charlie Macaw
Companion Birdwear
800-704-3003
PEAC member price: \$19.50

Everything Birdie **NEW**
www.EverythingBirdie.com
15% off everything but cages
Use coupon code "peac"

Featherwear
925-280-9666 - 10%

Feathered Follies - 10%
www.feathered-follies.com
925-681-2473

Firefly Studios
800-777-9242 - \$2 off shirts

Freeway Enterprises
Home of the Birdie Play Stand
707-678-9065 - 10%

Grey Feather Toy Creations
www.GreyFeatherToys.com
866-355-5904 - 5%
(must use discount code: PEAC)

Hidden Forest Art Gallery
Fallbrook, CA
www.gaminiratnavira.com - 10%

**Manzanita Avenue
Fred Bird & Company**
530-347-6339 - 10%

Noah's Kingdom
1-800-662-4711 - 10%

Parrot Island
952-928-9985
888-9PARROT (Orders only)
www.parrotislandinc.com - 10%

***** Parrot People **NEW!!!****
www.parrotpeople.com - 10%
toys, food, perches, etc.

Premium Pet Kitchen
1-800-945-2451
20% off first order

Puppy Paws
www.puppypaws.com
Coupon Code: PEAC - 15%

The Purring Parrot - 10%
619-223-2326
www.thepurringparrot.com

Rose's Pet Emporium
888-418-2269
www.rosespet.com - 10%

Scooterware
914-255-MOON
www.scooterware1.com - 10%

Southern Cross
941-283-3037 - 10%

Sunrise Solutions/Hide N Sleep
303-469-4217 - 10%

White Wing Farms
360-942-3669
25% (write "PEAC member discount" on order form)

San Diego Stores
Feathers - San Marcos
Birdland - North Park
The Purring Parrot - Point Loma
20% discount, 1st time boarders

Cleveland Area Store
Pet Paradise - Willoughby

Anchorage Area Store
Alaska Mill & Feed
10% discount on companion bird food, toys, supplies, etc.

Costa Rica
Laguna del Lagarto Lodge
25% off prevailing room rates.
www.lagarto-lodge-costa-rica.com

BEAK TO TAIL
PARROT EDUCATION & ADOPTION CENTER®
P.O. Box 600423
SAN DIEGO, CA 92160-0423



Parrot Education & Adoption Center®

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 15-16, 2011

San Diego Pet Expo
(Del Mar Fairgrounds, San Diego)

October 23, 2011

Parrot Personalities, Behavior Problems
(San Diego)

October 29, 2011

PEAC Conference 2011
(San Diego)

November 20, 2011

Annual Toy-Making Workshop
(San Diego)