



Parrot Education & Adoption Center™

# BEAK TO TAIL

Issue 73

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## BIRD HEATSTROKE DANGERS

by Rebecca Sweat

### Can you recognize if a parrot has heatstroke?

When birds suffer heatstroke, it's almost always a result of the owners leaving their birds in a car on a hot day while they're out running errands, according to avian veterinarian Gregory Harrison, DVM.

"They may be taking their bird to the veterinary clinic for an examination or for grooming and then decide to run another errand while they're out," Dr. Harrison said. "When they make their stop, they roll up the windows because they don't want anyone breaking into their car and stealing their parrot. Then they run into the store or the bank or wherever they're going, thinking it'll just be a couple minutes, but then they forget how long they're gone. Fifteen minutes later they come back to their car and their bird is dead or in critical condition."

Dr. Harrison practices in southern Florida, and has never seen a bird with heatstroke from simply being outdoors in the sun. "Usually outdoor birds have exposure to a breeze, or at least they can fly to get some air movement and cool themselves down," he said. "But when birds are contained within an environment like a car, the air is stagnant, they can't fly around, and there's nothing they can do to cool off." Birds have no sweat glands and therefore cannot dissipate heat by perspiring, he added.

In the early stage of heatstroke, a bird will hold its wings out from its body and pant. It may appear anxious or agitated, or have a blank stare on its face. As the condition worsens, the panting will become very heavy, and the bird will rock back and forth on the perch and have a hard time keeping its balance. Eventually the bird will fall off the perch and begin to convulse. "If the bird is allowed to convulse, the convulsion will continue to drive the temperature up — even if the bird is brought out of the sun — because the body is working so hard during the convulsion," Dr. Harrison said.

If the temperature is not brought down quickly, the bird will die or sustain permanent brain damage.

But while heatstroke (which is an actual clotting of blood vessels to the brain) is very serious, most veterinarians do not see a lot of it in their avian patients. Usually when pet birds have had too much exposure to heat or the sun, they simply suffer from heat stress, according to Dr. Harrison. A heat-stressed bird will hold out its wings and pant, but it does not go unconscious or have convulsions like it would if it was having a heatstroke.

Heat stress is still not good for pet birds, Dr. Harrison said, because like any type of chronic stress, "heat stress causes a release of chemicals in the body that can bring on bacterial or yeast infections or metabolic diseases in birds that aren't perfectly healthy." This means that a bird that is not on a good diet or is overweight, if exposed to excessively hot temperatures, could very well become sick, he said.

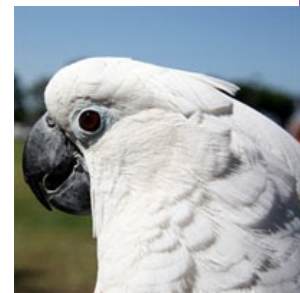
### Tips to cool down your parrot

Sometimes, though, despite best planning the worst happens, like your air conditioner gives up the ghost on a 100-degree Fahrenheit day. Your parrot can quickly become heat-stressed or suffer a full-fledged heat stroke. What should you do?

If your bird is simply panting and is a little heat stressed, cool — not cold — water from a misting bottle helps bring your bird's temperature down. If the bird is in the sun, get it into a shaded area or bring it inside your house in an air conditioned room or hold it in front of a fan. Offer it a small amount of water or electrolyte solution, or let it step in a shallow dish of cool water.

"If your bird stops panting, seems more relaxed, and responds normally to your voice, it is doing fine," said North Carolina avian veterinarian, Gregory Burkett, DVM.

*(Continued on page 10)*



Birds can experience heat stress if exposed to hot temperatures.

## Letter from the Director

Dear PEAC Members,

It has been quite a year so far. I'll start with the positive things to report. This past quarter we were successful in transferring three special-needs parrots, all with mutilation and feather destructive behavior, to the Macaw and Cockatoo Rescue of New Mexico, a rescue that specializes in working with parrots that suffer from these problems. Over the past couple of weeks, Anna, the director, has updated me with great news that all three have stopped the behavior and are responding well so far to her approach. Bam Bam, an umbrella cockatoo who has been on Xanax for several years, is now off the medication and showing no signs of feather destructive behavior. PEAC is so thankful to Anna for opening her rescue to working with us on placing these special-needs parrots.

We also rescued four macaws from the Pasadena area and relinquished them to a rescue in Arizona, and from what we have heard, all four are responding well to treatment for infections in their beaks and crops caused most likely by the environment they were kept in and the poor diet they had been eating for years.

I would also like to mention the Olive Branch Parrot Rescue. We received a call this past quarter that a couple of parrots needed to be relinquished, and at the time, we did not have an opening, so we reached out to Sean, Olive Branch's director, and he was able to take these parrots in. Also this last quarter, there was a gentleman wanting to adopt a third Eclectus parrot to add to his flock. At the time he contacted PEAC, we had no Eclectus in our foster program; however, Olive Branch did, so we put him in contact with them, and I am happy to report that he adopted one of their female Eclectus parrots.

(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

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

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Melanie Ariessohn

**Social Media**

Fiona Graham

**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](mailto:adoption@peac.org) to find out more about any of these birds!

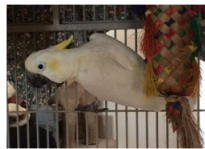
### African Greys



**“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.

### Cockatoos



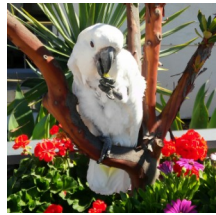
**“Pita,” 11-yr-old m. lesser-sulfur crested.** Pita lived with his previous owner from the time he was weaned until she found PEAC to assist her in finding a new home.

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.



**“Ziggy,” 10-yr-old m. umbrella.** Ziggy came to us when his former owner was no longer able to give him the care he needed. Despite that, Ziggy is extremely well adjusted. Although he is not used to a lot of holding or cuddling, he will readily step up. He is fairly quiet for a 'too. He prefers to be in the company of his flock (either human or feathered). He is a very verbal guy who says quite a few phrases (Hi Ziggy; Ziggy is a good boy; Be good, Ziggy; I love you, Ziggy; Go night-night; and more). He loves music and "sings" la la la la la when in a new situation.

Ziggy has taken to a variety of toys. He is a smart boy who will break off a long thin piece of wood and use it as a back scratcher. He is in gorgeous feather. We are in the process of converting him to a healthy diet. He is a wonderful bird who will make some lucky person a great companion.



**“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. Tootsie was unable to adjust and pulled most 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.” Tootsie requires someone with a great deal of cockatoo experience. She is a fast learner and just wants to be in a forever home that will love her the way she deserves.

### Macaws



**“Willow,” 21-yr-old f. blue-and-gold.** Willow came to PEAC from the Dept. of Animal Services after being found on a rooftop. She has some feather loss on her chest.

Willow immediately converted over to a pelleted diet and is starting to show some interest in her morning vegetables, fruit, and sprouts. She loves her afternoon nuts. She steps up very well, and has shown no aggression at all. Willow is a very sweet girl who will make a wonderful companion for someone who has the time and space for a macaw.



**“Leona,” 43-yr-old f. greenwing.** Leona came to PEAC in 2014 after her only owner passed away. Due to the trauma of losing her constant companion, Leona pulled all of her wing and tail feathers, as well as some on her chest. Our vet placed her on Xanax, which she still takes at night, and most of her feathers have grown

back in.

Leona does require the presence of another bird in her world, as without one she reverts to feather destructive behavior. She will require someone with macaw experience and a calm household. She is a very special girl looking for a special forever home.



## Available for Adoption in San Diego/Southern California

Call 619 287-8200 or email [adoption@peac.org](mailto:adoption@peac.org) to find out more about any of these birds!

### 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

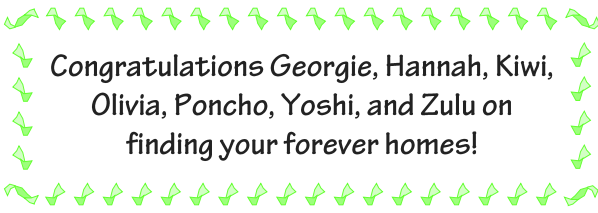
mommy's heart. He can be a little shy when asked to step up, and would like someone who is patient and has a calm household.

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.

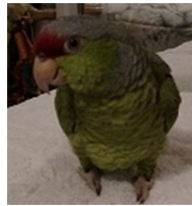


**“Jazz, aka Snickers” 12-yr-old m. blue-fronted.** Jazz was relinquished to PEAC from his first home. He is extremely quiet. He says “hello” when the phone rings. He loves to sit on his playgym and contribute to his foster family's or tv conversations, saying “oh, my god,” “uh-oh,” “uh-uh,” or the occasional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


  
**Congratulations Georgie, Hannah, Kiwi,  
 Olivia, Poncho, Yoshi, and Zulu on  
 finding your forever homes!**

### Amazons (cont)



**“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.

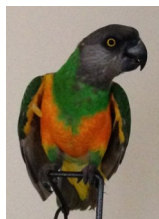
Ponch is a delightful little guy who is already learning about target training and eagerly participates in training sessions. He is accustomed to eating a wide variety of vegetables and other healthful foods, and we are working on teaching him that pellets are equally yummy (instead of seed). Ponch is 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)!



**“Beanie,” 35-yr-old m. red-lored.** Beanie lived with the same family for 20 years before coming to PEAC when his owner could no longer afford to treat his chronic sinus infection and abnormal liver function. His previous diet consisted of seed and junk food but he quickly began eating pellets and vegetables.

Beanie is clearly a survivor; in his first home, his right wing was broken after being stepped on. He does not appear to have any discomfort, but he cannot fly. In spite of the hardships of his life, Beanie is one of the most sweet-natured and affectionate Amazons we have had in our program. He immediately stepped up on his foster volunteer's arm and regularly solicits head scratches. He's a very resilient boy who would love to spend his remaining years with you!

### Poicephalus



**“Sammi,” m. Senegal.** Sammi escaped his cage and was found 10 months later in someone's yard; nonetheless, 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.



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

Jeffrey R. Jenkins, DVM  
Diplomate ABVP-Avian Practice  
1276 Morena Blvd.  
San Diego, California 92110  
Telephone: (619) 260-1412  
Fax: (619) 260-1499

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## 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

We encourage everyone to attend our Volunteer / Adoption Required Seminar, "Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet," which is a comprehensive seminar for everyone, incorporating the latest information on everything from anatomy and behavior to care and enrichment.

8/16 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet" (required for adoption) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates
8/30 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet" (required for adoption) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates
9/12 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet" (required for adoption) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates
9/27 Sun	1:00 pm 2:15 pm	"Understanding this Unique Wild Companion Pet" (required for adoption) "Become a Foster Volunteer," foster volunteer requirements and updates

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.

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

We encourage everyone to attend our Volunteer / Adoption Required Seminar, "Everything You Need to Know about Parrots," which is a comprehensive seminar for everyone, incorporating the latest information on "everything parrot," from anatomy and behavior to care and enrichment.

8/29 Sat 1:00 pm "Everything You Need to Know about Parrots"

9/26 Sat 1:00 pm "Everything You Need to Know about Parrots"

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.

<b>Seminar fees (per person/day):</b>	<b>ADVANCE REGISTERED*</b>	<b>AT THE DOOR</b>
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REGISTER ME!

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

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.

### BIRD HEATSTROKE DANGERS (continued from page 1)

Once your bird seems improved, he advises you have it examined by a veterinarian to make sure there was no permanent brain or organ damage.



Your bird can easily become heat-stressed. Be prepared to deal with hot temperature emergencies in your home.

*Courtesy Phyllis Ness, Indiana*

If your bird is having a heat stroke and is actually convulsing, avian veterinarian Gregory Harrison, DVM, recommends you shower the bird with cool soapy water. Use either mild dish detergent or liquid hand soap in the water. Either way, the soap functions as a wetting agent and helps get water under the feathers and to the body. Be sure the water is not excessively cold or icy. If you use water that is too cold, “your bird would go right through normal and into a hypothermia situation,” Dr. Harrison cautioned.

Hopefully, your bird will come around in a few minutes, but if 15 to 20 minutes goes by and it isn’t, Dr. Harrison suggests you pack your bird in cool towels with some ice packs around its feet and beak and take it to the emergency clinic. The staff there may be able to give your bird some phenobarbital or acepromazine to control the convulsions.

#### Keep temperatures comfortable

Exotic birds tend to do well in warmer temperatures. But just like other household pets (and humans!), birds in extremely hot spaces can experience heatstroke, symptoms of which can include the following:

- panting
- weakness
- an inability to maintain balance
- holding wings out

Keep the temperatures comfortable and consider misting Tweety when the temperature gets excessively high. Doing so will add humidity to your bird’s environment and protect his or her respiratory system.

#### Beware of indoor fans

If you plan to use fans of any kind (and especially those on your ceiling), you’ll need to be diligent about keeping an eye on Tweety. Fans pose one of the biggest household dangers to birds, even those that have had their wings clipped. If your feathered friend flies into a fan, he or she could sustain severe – and too often, deadly – injuries.

#### Clip your bird’s wings

You’ll likely be keeping your windows and doors more open than usual during the summer. Even if you have screens, make sure to get your bird’s wings clipped. That way, if he or she gets loose from the cage, you’ll lessen the chance that your feathered friend will get injured and/or accidentally fly away.

Volunteer Bobbie manning the PEAC booth at the San Diego County Fair.



## OUTREACH EVENTS IN TEMECULA!

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

**7/19 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm**

**8/16 Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm**

**9/20 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!***

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

Elise Patkotak	Suzette Farber-Katz	Renee Bridges
Gail Bradford	Gale Chan	Michele Hughes
Terry Edmonson	Tracy Henchberger	Marie Walton
Helen Mari Grenier	Nancy Brown	Jeffrey Beckett
John Nash	Constance Russell	Kimberly Heringes
Judith Lazar	David Koehn	John & Janet Smith
Mike & Julie Comella	Richard & Sigrid Pittman	Audrey Reisenauer
Jessica Niehoff	Susan Coyne	The Thiem Family

(Continued on page 14)

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

### ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	Phone Number(s)	Additional Information
Animal Rescue Reserve (A.R.R.)	619-299-0871	Authorized to rescue behind fire lines.
Animal Rescue	760-789-5775 760-735-0448 (pager)	Not permitted behind fire lines.
Wildlife Assist Volunteers	858-278-2222 (gen info) 858-653-7300 619-921-6044	Captures injured wildlife.

### INTERNET LOST & FOUND

[www.911parrotalert.com](http://www.911parrotalert.com)

<http://birdmart.com/classifieds/lost/>

[www.birdhotline.com](http://www.birdhotline.com)

[www.parrotpages.com](http://www.parrotpages.com)

### PARROT RESCUE & ADOPTION ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	Phone Number	Website
Parrot Education & Adoption Center (San Diego)	619-287-8200	<a href="http://www.peac.org">www.peac.org</a>
The Lily Sanctuary (Fountain Valley)	714-442-9474	<a href="http://www.lilysanctuary.org">www.lilysanctuary.org</a>
Parrots First (Los Angeles)	866-248-7670	<a href="http://www.parrotsfirst.org">www.parrotsfirst.org</a>
Olive Branch Parrot Rescue (Inland Empire)	909-609-9048	<a href="http://www.olivebranchparrotrescue.org">www.olivebranchparrotrescue.org</a>
Last Chance at Life	760-433-3763	<a href="http://www.lastchanceatlife.org">www.lastchanceatlife.org</a>

### WILDLIFE REHABILITATION ORGANIZATIONS

Calif. Dept of Fish & Game – local search: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/rehab/facilities.html>

California Wildlife Center, Malibu – 818-222-2658; [www.californiawildlifecenter.org](http://www.californiawildlifecenter.org)

Project Wildlife - 619-225-9453; [www.projectwildlife.org](http://www.projectwildlife.org)

Hope Wildlife, Corona - 951-279-3232

Wind Canyon Wild Life Rehabilitation Center (raptors, mammals) - 951-677-6940

**ANIMAL POISON CONTROL HOTLINE — 888-416-4435**



**AVIAN VETERINARIANS**

<b><u>Facility (city)</u></b>	<b><u>Veterinarian(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Phone/Website</u></b>
Acacia Animal Health Center (Escondido)	Gary A Gallerstein, DVM Carmine G. Bausone, DVM	760-745-8115 <a href="http://www.aahc.us">www.aahc.us</a>
All Pets Animal Hospital (Encinitas)	Brian Loudis, DVM, DABVP-Avian	760-634-2022 <a href="http://www.allpetsanimal.com">www.allpetsanimal.com</a>
All Pets Medical Centre (West Hills)	Amy Worell, DVM, DABVP-Avian	818-883-2600 <a href="http://www.yourpets.com">www.yourpets.com</a>
Animal & Bird Wellness Center (Westlake Village)	Tiffany Margolin, DVM, DABVP-Avian	805-497-4900 <a href="http://www.animalandbirdwellness.com">www.animalandbirdwellness.com</a>
Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital (San Diego)	Jeffrey Jenkins, DVM, DABVP-Avian	619-260-1412 <a href="http://www.drexotic.com">www.drexotic.com</a>
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 <a href="http://www.discoveryvalleyvet.com">www.discoveryvalleyvet.com</a>
Chaparral Pet Hospital (Claremont)	Ann McDowell, DVM	909-625-1561
Pacific Beach Veterinary Clinic (San Diego)	Benita Keiss, DVM	858-272-6255 <a href="http://www.pbvetclinic.com">www.pbvetclinic.com</a>
Pet Emergency & Specialty Ctr (La Mesa)	Todd R. Cecil, DVM, DABVP-Avian	619-462-4800 <a href="http://www.pescsandiego.com">www.pescsandiego.com</a>
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 <a href="http://www.thebirdclinic.com">www.thebirdclinic.com</a>
VCA Wilshire Animal Hospital (Santa Monica)	Frank Lavac, DVM, DABVP-Avian	310-828-4587 <a href="http://www.vcawilshire.com">www.vcawilshire.com</a>

(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



Diamond Avian



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



Petco Foundation



The Laughing Parrot  
(coupon code PEAC15)

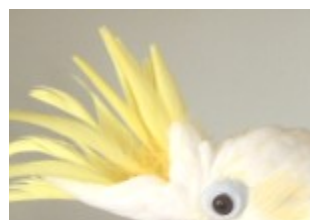
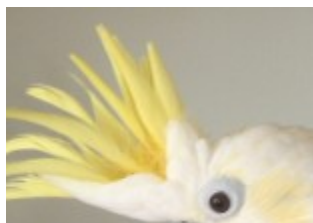
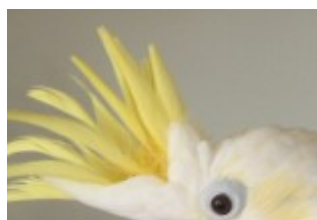


Jungle Toys

The Purring Parrot



Bird Toys Etc



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

(continued)

Anonymous

Alan & Barbara Crouse

Ann Palik

April Adcock

Charla de la Mora

Chloe Rogers

David Hiipakka

Judy Michaels

Kelly Flynn

Maria Brinson

Mary Taylor

Rene Pina

Stephen Hartfield

Steve Velasco

Jeanine Lyons

Catherine Bourne

Abbie Farber-Katz

Jean Rockwell

Geneva Potepan

Rosemary Patrick

Janice Szumowski

## SPOTLIGHT on ASHA



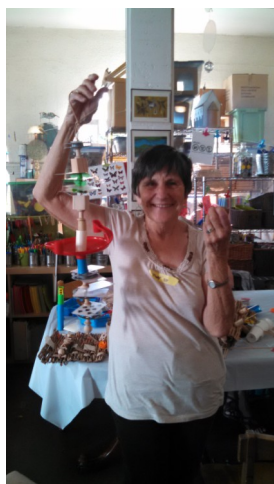
Asha, a scarlet macaw, just turned 2 years old. He is a young boy who requires someone with a good deal of experience in working with the larger parrots, particularly macaws.

The scarlet macaw is usually very different in temperament from either the blue and gold or the greenwing. They have a reputation for being nippy, and tend to be more high strung and more sensitive to fast movement than the others. This doesn't lessen his qualifications as a companion parrot, but it does suggest that the caregiver should have experience in parrot psychology and handling to manage him.

Many young scarlets, including Asha, seem to be born with an innate desire to pinch. If he finds that by pinching his new caregiver he can control you or scare you, he will quickly learn that biting works even better. Never react to a pinch with aggression or hitting, as that is why Asha came to PEAC. In his prior home this was how he was punished for pinching, which is not the training approach that PEAC subscribes to. PEAC instructs parrot owners to develop the skills of positive reinforcement to redirect this unwanted behavior.

As macaws can live between 60-80 years, Asha is a lifetime commitment and the new caregiver will need to think to the future to assure that if anything should happen to them, Asha would have a place to go where he would be cared for.

If you are interested in learning more about this amazing baby boy, please email Eric Kern, our director, at [membership@peac.org](mailto:membership@peac.org), as he would be happy to discuss Asha with you.



Judy showing her craftsmanship at the Toy-Making Workshop

### VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

Upcoming quarterly meetings for volunteers:

- November 15, 10:30a Advisory Committee
- November 15, 12:30p Volunteer Meeting
- November 15 Adoption Committee, if necessary, immediately following Volunteer Meeting

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

**DIRECTOR'S LETTER (continued)**

Just this past week we worked with a member of Mickaboo parrot rescue, which is located in the San Francisco Bay area, by completing an adoption for Georgie, a Mealy Amazon in our foster program. This person had successfully completed the adoption requirements set forth by Mickaboo and was also approved to foster for them after having a home visit made by a volunteer of their organization. Mickaboo holds the same standards and policies that PEAC does, so our adoption committee and I are excited when someone who is affiliated with them is interested in a particular parrot that we have in our foster flock and we can complete an adoption this way.

It is with the joint cooperation of PEAC with these rescues, and hopefully others, that we work at finding a solution to the problem of companion parrot overpopulation. We have set up strict requirements that another rescue must meet and prove prior to us entering into any joint efforts. Once we both are in agreement with policies and procedures, we are very open to working together. Sometimes PEAC is not able to provide space for a particular parrot, and by having a network of other rescues we work with, the odds are, we will find a group that is able to provide for that parrot.

We are very grateful to have been chosen as the Non-Profit Animal Rescue to receive donations from the San Diego County Library Summer Reading Program. This program, which is a joint effort between the Dept. of Animal Services and the library system, is providing donations in the way of toys and microchips to PEAC for all the books that the children read over summer break. We have put the toys to good use, as they all went to our foster parrots, and we are working with two local avian vets to implant a chip in each newly arrived foster parrot to our program. We'd like to give a big thank you to both the County Library System and DAS for recognizing the work we do in the Southern CA area.

This last quarter, PEAC has successfully submitted two large grants. One was to the Bissell Foundation, and the other was to the Thursdays Club, located in Point Loma. Both grants asked for the same amounts, which will be used to purchase 1000 copies of a fantastic parrot information coloring book for children under the age of 12, and for six new stainless steel cages for our foster program. We are very hopeful that one or both will be funded, which will be a first for PEAC. Several other grants are available at different times of the year, and we will continue to look for other ways to cover capital expenditures that PEAC is in need of making in the coming years.

I would like to preface my final remarks for this newsletter by reporting some statistics for the first half of 2015. We have taken an estimated 300 phone calls. 25% of these calls were from people asking for information on our adoption procedures and for information on a particular parrot that they are interested in adopting.

(continued on page 17)

**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](http://www.peac.org)

*Watch your email for our PEAC Monthly Info Blast*



**DIRECTOR'S LETTER (continued)**

5% were calls about general operating questions; and the remaining 70% were calls asking for information on how to relinquish a parrot to our organization. That means that we were contacted about almost 210 parrots in need of finding a new home in the first half of 2015. Some have been calls for budgies and cockatiels, which we do not currently work with. Others are determined, for a variety of reasons, to be not a good fit for our foster program. Sometimes, the parrot is located closer to another rescue, so we refer the caller to an organization that is closer to them. However, that still leaves a staggering number of parrots that are looking for a safe place to be relinquished to.

We have implemented a two-part relinquishment process this year. First, the owner is asked to fill out a questionnaire so that we may review any concerns or obvious causes of a particular behavior that may have led the owner to look at relinquishing their parrot. Second, we require an intake interview of the parrot, so that one of our trained volunteers may report any concerns they may have regarding whether or not PEAC is capable of providing the necessary care that this particular parrot may need. If both of these things point to a good chance that PEAC will be able to adopt this parrot to a qualified new home, and if we have a spot available, we will then take the parrot in. If we do not have a spot, we will place the parrot on our wait list and provide them with other rescues to contact (although almost every rescue that PEAC currently partners with is full the majority of the time). We are limited to the number we can take in at any given time, as there are only so many foster homes in our organization and I will not allow PEAC to become a warehouse for unwanted parrots, as that does not give the bird what PEAC teaches is necessary for a parrot to be healthy and happy. Also, we do take in some birds who need some measure of behavioral rehabilitation, and no foster home can provide this appropriately if overwhelmed with too many foster birds.

This brings me to the financial situation PEAC is facing this year. We have consumed all the funds that we raised during our annual year-end fundraiser in conjunction with Globalgiving. We have had several parrots that have come to us with significant health issues. Santiago ("Surfer") required radiographs and multiple blood tests due to his age and the severe arthritis and arterial sclerosis he came to us with. Yoshi developed an abscess on his face which required lancing and flushing twice and intensive at-home followup care. Another amazing rescue we have had this quarter is Beanie, a red-lored Amazon. He came to us on death's door with what was the most advanced sinus infection I have ever seen. His eyes were dull, his nares were completely closed with what seemed to be mucus plugs, his feathers were not well preened, and he had no strength. Immediately after being surrendered to PEAC, he was rushed to the vet. With a combination of excellent veterinary care (several visits), and the love and dedication of his foster volunteer, he has pulled through with a complete recovery. He is now a bright and beautiful parrot who is patiently waiting for that special person to come and adopt him.

Not only do new arrivals to our foster program go through a full physical exam and blood chemistries, but many of the parrots in our foster program stay with us for over a year, and this means yearly veterinary exams for those that are still under our care. 90% of our operating budget goes to veterinary care, leaving very little for educational outreach, which is the only way we may find a solution to the overpopulation issue we are dealing with every day (U.S. Fish and Wildlife estimates that 2.5 million are hatched in the U.S. annually; and by 2020, 100 million companion parrots will be kept in the United States alone).

(continued on page 19)

**After our end-of-year fundraiser we had a \$ 10,000 shortfall. Materials went into the mail last week for our Summer Fundraiser. Won't you please help us out with a donation? Every little bit helps our foster birds, and the money raised goes directly to education and their care.**

### STAR VOLUNTEER: BARBARA CROUSE

*Our star volunteer this quarter is Barbara Crouse. Barb is always up for taking in (and working wonders with!) a new Amazon. Congrats on your recent retirement, Barb!*

**What got you interested in parrots, and what was your first bird?** A good friend has had parrots for many years and their highly interactive nature really fascinated me. I Googled parrot adoption and found PEAC, took the classes, had the home visit, and was approved for adoption. I'd like to thank Gary and Sue Baer for making the 90 minute drive for our home visit! Herbie, our Yellow-naped Amazon adopted from PEAC in 2002, was my first bird.

**What do you like most about volunteering for PEAC?** I've been volunteering in various capacities since early 2003. It is always wonderful to see a new foster bird blossom and learn new skills with us, and of course so gratifying when they go to a forever home. I love it when new families send updates and photos! I also really enjoy the camaraderie of working alongside other volunteers, learning from them, and laughing at our birds and ourselves.

**What animals are currently living with you?** All of our animals have been rescues. At the moment, we have Herbie (YNA), 3 foster birds (Amazons Beanie, Poncho, and Ponch), and two Australian Shepherds. Our two 30-something-year-old donkeys have done an exemplary job of weed abatement for over 10 years now; no more notices from the Fire Department!

**Have you had any unusual bird-related experiences?** Well, there was the purchase of Herbie's Cal Cage and loading it into my new Beetle. Fortunately it does disassemble somewhat, but it still took 20 minutes to figure a way to get it into my little car. Somehow I made it all fit inside with store staff staring in disbelief. And the day we brought Herbie home, I was in the kitchen fixing dinner and Alan was in our family room watching TV when we heard "here, kitty, kitty!" At the time, we had 4 cats, and Alan wanted to know why I was calling them. We both laughed realizing it was our new family member responding to one of the cats walking by.

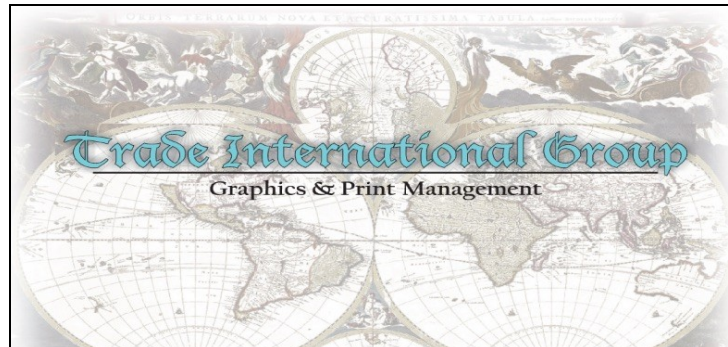
**How do you spend your spare time?** My spare time gets pretty well filled with gardening, fixit projects around the house, sewing, and catching up with friends. The birds take up lots of time between basic husbandry and cleaning, medical care for Beanie, making sure they all get time in the outdoor enclosures, training as needed, making toys, and creating new foraging challenges for them. Evening time is reserved for head scratches and one-on-one time for each of them.



Tootsie watching Einstein.



*PEAC would like to give a special thanks to the Thiem family. Not only did it take a special kind of family to open their hearts and home to Surfer (now Santiago), the scarlet macaw with arteriosclerosis and foot arthritis, but they have also donated the services of their printing company (Trade International Group) to us, and have printed hundreds of business cards, Avian Basic Care brochures, PEAC brochures, and fundraising materials for us at no charge. Please look to them for your printing needs, as a way of saying thanks for their generosity to PEAC.*



#### **DIRECTOR'S LETTER (continued)**

In order to continue to take in relinquished parrots for the remainder of 2015, we are launching our first summer mail-in fundraiser. You will soon be receiving a letter, Beanie's full story, and a donation card with a self-addressed stamped envelope to return with your donation to PEAC. I wish there were a way that we could avoid once again turning to our members and asking for financial support, but without your donation PEAC will not be able to continue the necessary work we do. Any donation you make will go directly to the care the foster parrots require. On average, we have 20-30 parrots in our program at any given time. We work very hard to keep costs down by accepting donations such as printing costs, cages, and various items that are for parrot care; and although we do receive a significant discount from local avian vets, our veterinary costs are staggering, as we spend thousands of dollars each year on the care our foster flock requires. Every dollar counts, so please keep an eye out for our mailing and kindly return your pledge card with your donation as soon as possible. The fundraiser will be running until the end of the summer and will conclude on or around Labor Day.

At this time I would like to thank Trade International Group/Graphics and Print Management, owned and operated by the Thiem family, who have so kindly not only adopted Santiago, but have donated hundreds of copies of our ABC and general information brochures and business cards, and have also stepped forward to donate all the printed material for our mail-in fundraiser. This is over 1000 pieces of printed material, along with the mailing labels, and they delivered them folded and ready for the stuffing of envelopes.

I am hopeful that in the next newsletter I will be able to report the success of our fundraiser and how we are able to continue providing a place of refuge for parrots in need of new homes. Thank you all for your support and help, and please enjoy this issue of our quarterly newsletter.

Kindly,

Eric Kern  
Director

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



Parrot Education & Adoption Center®

## UPCOMING EVENTS

August 1, 2015

Poway County Library Booth  
(San Diego)

August 16 and 30, 2015

Adoption/Volunteer Required Seminar  
(San Diego)

August 16, September 20, 2015

Petco Outreach  
(Wildomar)

August 29, September 26, 2015

Adoption/Volunteer Required Seminar  
(Wildomar)

September 12 and 27, 2015

Adoption/Volunteer Required Seminar  
(San Diego)