

Birdy Bytes

Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 4, Issue 9

September 2011

Upcoming Events

- Sept 7th** – Monthly Meeting: Roundtable Discussion – All Things Birdy
- Sept 24th - 25th** – Community Outreach: 2011 Corrales Harvest Festival
- Oct 5th** – Monthly Meeting: DVD Captive Foraging – Making Foraging Toys for your Parrots
- Nov 2nd** – Monthly Meeting: Club Officer Election and Parrot Knowledge Game
- Dec 7th** – Monthly Meeting: Dinner and a Show: Our Holiday Potluck Dinner and Bird Star! Talent Show

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Words from the Prez

Hi Birdie Buddies!

What do they WANT!?! I feed them, water them, clean up after them, give them lots of out time, shoulder time, hand feed them treats, shower them, give them magazines to shred, buy them toys. Did I mention clean up after them? And what do they do? They fret while I fix supper, they yell because I am too slow at delivering their shares.

Maxie, an African Grey, sits on the arm of my recliner while I multi-task in the evenings. But he wants me to ONLY pay attention to him. He reaches over and pinches my arm, or hand or elbow. Me! Over here! He puts his head down asking for a head scratch. Does he want one? Nooooo. He twists his head around quickly and grabs my hand. It's a grey thing. Greys LOVE this game of gotcha! Be warned! If you're in the presence of an African Grey and it has its head down – don't believe it!

How do YOUR kids play with you?

If you have had a fun, cute, funny or endearing bird experience this past month that you would like to share with the club, please bring it to our next meeting! We will be having share time, but please keep it to two minutes.

Our September program about Eclectus is postponed for another time. For this next meeting, let's have a question and answer opportunity to discuss all things birdy. I had been asked in the past if we could do this and now is a good time. There are a lot of years of parrot keeping experience and knowledge in our club and I think it would be fun to share.

Roberta Birch



Bird Club Biz

High Desert Bird Club of NM
P.O. Box 67855
Albuquerque, NM 87193
www.HighDesertBirdClub.org

Bird Rescue Hotline: (505) 554-0804

Monthly Meetings

First Wednesday of each month unless otherwise announced.

Meeting time: 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Location:

Paradise Hills Community Center
5901 Paradise Hills Blvd. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114

Club Officers

President: Roberta Birch
Vice President: Carolyn Newell
Secretary: Marion Beal
Treasurer: Jill Mansfield

Committee Chairpersons

Advertising/Publicity: Jerry Tuttle
AFA Delegate: Carolyn Newell, backup: Betty Hall
Bird Expo: Jennifer Catron
Bird Rescue: Sandi Brennan, Carolyn Newell, Penny Sullivan
Education: Sandi Brennan
Fundraising: Penny Sullivan
Hospitality: Stephanie Calkins
Library: Betty Hall
Membership: Tim Parish and Penny Sullivan
Newsletter: Jennifer Catron
Raffle: Karen Wingrove
Website: Jennifer Catron

Treasurer's Report as of 8/20/11

Beginning balance	\$2,243.85
Revenue	\$83.50
Expenses	\$0
Ending balance	\$2,327.35

The High Desert Bird Club of NM is a 501(c)(3) educational, public charity recognized by the IRS.

Membership Requirements

Any person interested in cage birds who agrees to support the objectives in the HDDB By-Laws is eligible for membership.

Membership Dues

\$20.00 Individual
\$30.00 Household
\$15.00 Junior (17 or younger)
\$15.00 Senior (60 or older)
\$25.00 Senior Household

Dues are payable in January of each year or at a quarterly pro-rated amount upon joining the Club.

Newsletter Policy

Birdy Bytes is issued on a monthly basis. Content from members is encouraged. Content deemed obscene, inflammatory, overtly personal, copyrighted without permission to republish, or insufficiently bird-related may not be published at the discretion of the newsletter Editor.

Newsletter Advertising Policy

Any individual or business that supports HDDB through the donation of money, goods, or services may have a near business-card sized ad published in the newsletter for three months for no cost.

Members may have a text-only ad of up to 50 words for no cost. Ads run for two months and may be renewed for two-month increments. Members are responsible for contacting the newsletter Editor to renew their ad.

Advertising space may be purchased. A half-page ad costs \$25 for six months. Additional ad sizes and corresponding rates are pending.

Newsletter Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any advertisement based on the appropriateness for *Birdy Bytes*.

To submit content for *Birdy Bytes*, contact Jennifer Catron, Editor, at jrcatron@Q.com, or (505) 235-2803.

Thank you.



Meeting Presentations

September Meeting

The presentation on Eclectus Parrots is postponed for another time. In its place, we will have a roundtable discussion on all things birdy. Collectively, our Club membership has decades of pet bird knowledge. Bring your questions and answers to our next meeting for a lively discussion on all things birdy.

August Meeting

Carolyn and Sparky Newell of Exotics of the Rainforest gave a wonderful presentation about Macaws and Amazons.

The Newell's birds included four macaws and three amazons. Among the Macaws, was a Red-Fronted and Blue-Throated Macaw, two macaws that are on the endangered species list in the wild. Also part of the presentation was a Scarlet and a Greenwing Macaw. Among the Amazons, were a Mealy, Yellow-Naped, and Mexican Red headed.



Red-Fronted, Greenwing, and Blue-Throated Macaws



Carolyn and their Mealy Amazon



Sparky and Carolyn Newell with their Yellow-Naped Amazon



Carolyn and their Blue-Throated Macaw



A Red-Fronted Macaw



Carolyn and their Scarlet Macaw Checking the Presentation Notes

HDBC Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by President Roberta Birch. The President, Vice President, and Treasurer were present. The Secretary was absent.

President's report: Offered two suggestions to the club. 1) Have a share session for cute bird stories that have happened since the last meeting, limit to two minutes per person. 2) Made a suggestion for modification to rescue adoption rules to make it easier for interstate inter-club adoptions where members of the other club's rescue group could do the interviewing and inspection on our behalf to approve/disapprove adoption of one of our rescue birds by one of their members.

Vice President's report from Carolyn Newell: Nothing new to report.

Treasurer's report from Jill Mansfield: Club account balances are published in the monthly newsletter, HDBC *Birdy Bytes*.

Committee Chair Reports: No reports.

Announcements:

HDBC is invited to staff an information table at PETCO in the Cottonwood Corners shopping center on Saturday, 8/20/11. Our application to participate at the 2011 Corrales Harvest Festival on 9/24-25/11 was accepted and we'll have an information booth. Volunteer sign-up sheets were circulated in the room for anyone who wanted to participate at these events.

The New Mexico Bird Club is hosting a one-day bird mart on 9/24/11. Vendor applications are available on their website for anyone interested in participating. Contact their club president, Carol Shafer, if you have any questions about their bird mart.

Program: Exotics of the Rainforest presented Macaws and Amazons.

A raffle followed the presentation and meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by Jennifer Catron and Roberta Birch on behalf of Mimi Beal.

Community Outreach

Corrales Harvest Festival

Our application to participate in the Corrales Harvest Festival was accepted and we are formally invited to participate.

Date: Sat and Sun, Sept. 24-25, 2011

Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Place: Corrales

This is a two-day, outdoor event. We can set up an HDBC information booth with tables, chairs and a shade canopy the Friday evening before the event. Two, four-hour shifts are planned for each day, that way we and our birds have a chance to rest and enjoy part of the day.



This is a fun event and a great opportunity for HDBC to spread the word about proper pet bird care. Volunteers are still needed to staff our booth. If you'd like to help, please let Jennifer Catron know either at the September meeting or via email (jrcatron@Q.com). HDBC booth volunteers will be issued wristbands for admission. We need to make special arrangements for parking access for those bringing birds, so please let me know if and when you can help staff the HDBC booth.

PETCO

We had another successful community outreach event at PETCO in August. Thank you to Larry Gonzales, Manager of the Cottonwood PETCO, for inviting us, and thank you Roberta Birch, Stephanie Calkins, and Jennifer Catron for staffing the HDBC information table.

We spoke to a lot of people about pet birds and hopefully we will see some new faces at future HDBC monthly meetings. Welcome!

HDBC Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption

We currently don't have any birds available for adoption. If you know of a pet bird or someone who may need our bird rescue and adoption services, please contact HDBC through our hotline at (505) 554-0804

The HDBC Bird Rescue Policy, adoption applications, and other bird rescue forms are posted on our website at www.HighDesertBirdClub.org.

Completing a Birdy Basics class is part of the adoption process and requirement. The first class will be scheduled soon. Class dates, times and locations will be announced in both *Birdy Bytes* and on our website as soon as possible.

HDBC Library

The HDBC library is available to all HDBC members. We're accumulating an impressive collection of bird related books, magazines, and DVDs.

Our library is available for perusal at each monthly meeting. An updated list of the library inventory is pending and will be posted on our HDBC website as soon as possible.

Thank you to Betty Hall for being our past HDBC librarian. We have two people sharing the responsibility of getting the library to each meeting and will be the new library contacts. Donna Tucker or Karen Wingrove can help you with checking out or donating any media in the HDBC library. Thank you Donna and Karen!

Hospitality Table

Do you like snacks? Do you like to share? HDBC invites you to share some snacks at our hospitality table at each monthly meeting. Everyone is encouraged to bring snacks when they can. We're very informal about who brings what and when. Donations are always welcome.

Thank you for your contribution and support.

Raffle Fun

Want a chance to win cool birdy stuff? HDBC hosts a raffle at most monthly meetings. Ticket prices are:

50 cents for each ticket
\$5.00 for 12 tickets
\$10.00 for 24 tickets

Raffle prizes are member supported. Donations of bird-related items are always welcome and encouraged. Bird-related items include bird toys, accessories, art, literature, or bird services.

One free raffle ticket for each donated item is given to the donor.

Thank you to everyone who has generously donated items for our raffle. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Support HDBC. Donate some prizes. Buy some raffle tickets. Have some fun!



**Goffins Cockatoo
Choosing a Winning
Ticket**

HDBC T-Shirts *SALE*

Wear your support for HDBC. Our HDBC T-shirt is 100% preshrunk cotton in Macaw red with our name and Hiram logo in white. We still have a good selection of sizes in Small, Medium, Large, and Extra Large (S, M, L, and XL).



If you have been waiting to buy, now is your chance to support HDBC and enjoy a bargain. These T-shirts are the original, first issue design for HDBC. Collect your part of HDBC history for the special sale price of only **\$10.00!**

HDBC T-shirts are available for sale at the monthly meetings and most community outreach events. You can purchase your shirt for cash or check payable to High Desert Bird Club of NM. Show your support and stand out in a crowd with a colorful HDBC T-shirt.

Education

Bird Friends Presentations

HDHC offers Bird Friends presentations free of charge to schools or community groups. Each program is tailored to the audience or can be customized to cover specific topics.

For more information about Bird Friends presentations or to schedule one, please contact Sandi Brennan at Conurelady@msn.com or 505-281-7729. HDHC members are encouraged to participate in giving a presentation; it's fun, easy, and helps people learn more about pet birds.

Cash for Quills?

Many of our birds are in a heavy molt right now shedding old, often worn-out, feathers and growing beautiful new ones. There may not be gold at the bottom of the cage, but evidently molted feathers are worth a little silver.



A quick search on eBay results in list of sellers offering a variety molted parrot feathers. Suggested uses for buyers include feathers for craft

projects or making fly fishing lures. Prices ranged from ten Amazon wing feathers for \$8, to 100 miscellaneous African Grey feathers for \$25. Forty miscellaneous Cockatoo feathers were offered for the bargain price of \$18.75.

Those of us with large parrots like macaws may already donate molted feathers to Native Americans for their traditional regalia. Every year, a vendor at the Gather of Nations Pow Wow offers a variety of feathers for sale. At the most recent Gathering last April, a single, center tail feather from a Scarlet Macaw was priced at \$35.

It's unclear whether the feather resale market is booming. However, judging by the number of sellers on eBay and websites dedicated to selling molted parrot feathers, there may be some cash for those quills at the bottom of the cage.

Classified Ads

For Sale: Handfed Conures: Green Cheeked and Gold Capped. A variety of breeder pairs are also available. Hand-made bird toys and Avitech products. Quality cages available in stock and special order. Call Sandi Brennan at 505-281-7729, or visit the new website at: www.finefeatheredflock.com.

Wanted: Adult, female White-fronted Amazon, also known as a Spectacled Amazon. If you have one you would be willing to part with or know someone who does, please call Roberta Birch at 505-503-0968. Out of state is acceptable if it is around a day's drive one way.

For Sale: Hand-fed, darling, Goffins Cockatoos. 1M, 1F, siblings, "devilish angels", one year old. \$600 each; negotiable. Contact Evelyn Candelaria at 505-842-8615

More Pics

Here are a few more pictures from the Exotics of the Rainforest presentation.



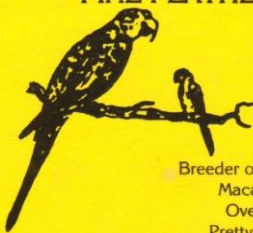
A Scarlet Macaw



A Red-Fronted Macaw

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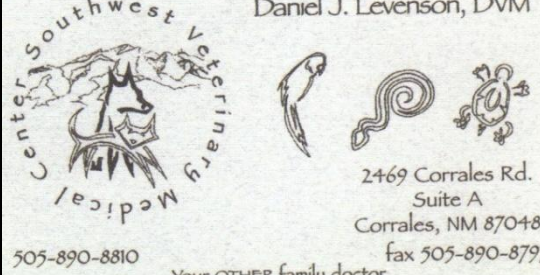
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Puzzle Answer

The August issue of *Birdy Bytes* contained a word puzzle titled "Polly Want a Cracker?" After finding all the bird-related words listed, letters of an anagram remained to solve the puzzle. The remaining letters are:

OEFTEMBARRASS, to spell the words:
OFTEN EMBARRASS. Thank you the Penny Sullivan and Roberta Birch for solving the puzzle.