

# Birdy Bytes

## Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 13, Issue 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2020

### Upcoming Events

**Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>** – General Meeting  
Program: Bird Toy Workshop  
RGSCC Albuquerque, NM

**Feb 27<sup>th</sup>** – General Meeting  
Program: TBD  
RGSCC Albuquerque, NM

**Mar 26<sup>th</sup>** – General Meeting  
Program TBD  
RGSCC Albuquerque, NM

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### Words from the Prez

Greetings Everyone,

I call it "The Winter Blues." I feel like a few weeks ago I was writing about the "Dog Days of Summer." I don't know about you all, but I sure prefer the warm over the cold and I know my birds do also.

At times, I feel that my parrots get a good old case of the "winter blues" and I try to find ways on how to fix it. A friend of mine uses 'spectrum lighting' and I've seen a difference in her birds overall plumage. I did some digging into it and some of major benefits are:

- Prepares bird for seasonal changes.
- Encourages breeding behaviors.
- Strengthens immune system.
- Lowers obsessive/compulsive behavior frequencies.
- Relieves psychological distress.
- Mimics a bird's natural environment.
- Aids in Vitamin D synthesis.

Wow, I'm sold.

I also increase toy variety and have found clever ways of hanging fruit and veggies with cord and rope, foraging toys and goodie bags. They love paper lunch bags filled with parrot friendly toys.

I'm so glad we are making bird toys this Thursday and I look forward to seeing everyone soon. If anyone has any great ideas on how they help their birds beat the winter blues please share your ideas.

**Margaret Johnson**



**Dee and Zander**

## Bird Club Biz

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High Desert Bird Club of NM  
P.O. Box 67855  
Albuquerque, NM 87193  
[www.HighDesertBirdClub.org](http://www.HighDesertBirdClub.org)

**Bird Rescue Hotline: (505) 554-0804**

### General Meetings

**Fourth Thursday** of the month

Meeting time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Location:

**Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center**  
9800 - 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Albuquerque, NM  
Map link: <http://goo.gl/maps/tk52Y>

### Club Officers

President: Margaret Johnson  
Vice President: Dorothy Newbill  
Secretary: Available  
Treasurer: Jennifer Catron

### Committee Chairpersons

Advertising/Publicity: Available  
AFA Delegate: Jennifer Catron  
Bird Rescue: Margaret Johnson  
Education: Dorothy Newbill  
Fundraising: Available  
Hospitality: Available  
Library: Available  
Membership: Available  
Newsletter: Jennifer Catron  
Raffle: Available  
Website: Jennifer Catron

### Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance (stmt 11/30/19)	\$1,582.87
Revenue	\$0
Expenses	\$0
Ending balance (stmt 12/31/19)	<b>\$1,582.87</b>

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

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### 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 generally 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 ad of up to 50 words and a reasonable number of supporting photos 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 available.

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 [jcatron@Q.com](mailto:jcatron@Q.com), or (505) 235-2803.

Thank you.



## General Meetings

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### January

Our first meeting of the year will host another bird toy workshop. Cold winter weather means a lot more inside time. Which means a greater need for boredom-busting toys, and a diversion for feather destructive behavior.

The club has a collection of bird toy parts and foraging items ready for assembly. Everyone is encouraged to bring additional items for making bird toys or to refresh some existing toys.



**Bird Toy Made of Coffee Filters**

While we are making toys for our birds, let's make an additional toy for donation to Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM. If you don't yet have a parrot, but would like to help out, bring your creativity to assemble some toys for parrots in need.

Join us for some bird-toy making fun. Members, guests, and birds are always welcome. Tell a friend.

## Membership Support

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HDBC depends on your support. One of the easiest ways to show your support is to renew or become a member. Membership dues helps HDBC fulfill Club charter objectives to educate members and the general public in the best care, keeping, maintenance, and breeding of caged birds. In addition to supporting bird conservation and fellowship, funds also support the HDBC bird rescue, foster and adoption program.

Membership benefits include:

- Subscription to the Club newsletter *Birdy Bytes*.
- Early notification and the opportunity to adopt birds received through the HDBC rescue.
- Access to the Club library to check out bird-related books and DVDs.

- Fellowship with others interested in companion birds.

Membership dues begin each calendar year and are prorated on a quarterly basis. Membership classification and annual dues rates at listed under the Bird Club Biz section of each newsletter. Information about membership is also contained in our Club Constitution and By Laws posted on our website: [www.HighDesertBirdClub.org](http://www.HighDesertBirdClub.org).

For everyone who has joined HDBC or renewed their membership, thank you! If you're not a member, join today and support a good cause. We're all about the birds.

## Hospitality Table

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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 support.



**Shopping Online Can Be One Boredom-Busting Activity**

## Channel 'Too

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A woman based in Australia has a Facebook page named Channel 'Too. She has a flock of wild Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and Rainbow Lorikeets that visit her apartment window sills daily for food and water, or "noms" as she calls it. Many of the birds will take food from her hand and some will even perch on her hand, arm, and sometimes on top of her head.

It's amazing to see these wild birds so trusting. Many are regulars, and she has names for most of them.

With the wildfires burning thousands of acres of land in Australia, many birds are flocking to the cities in search of food and water. She calls these birds "Bush 'Toos", and has posted many pictures of these newcomers. They are significantly larger than the city "Toos. The Bush 'Toos perched in nearby trees watching the city 'Toos interact with this woman. It didn't take long for her to gain their trust and now many of the Bush 'Toos are regulars.

The fire devastation in Australia is horrible, but it is great fun watching her interact with these 'Toos in videos and seeing all the photos she posts.

If you'd like to see her posts or follow her page, here's a link: <https://tinyurl.com/va3832> (The Facebook link is 596 characters, so here's a tinyurl shortcut link.)



## BFPR Fund Raiser

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A big thank you to everyone who donated and participated at the Rock and Brews fund raiser for Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM.

Attendance was very good despite the snow and cold, and some much-needed funds were raised. Thank you and stay tuned for future fund raisers.



## Facebook Fun

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**Baby It's Cold Outside**

## Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption

A wide variety of birds are available for adoption at Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico (BFPR). HDBC is partnering with BFPR to help with receiving, fostering and rehoming pet birds.

If you're interested in adding a feathered friend to your family, please contact Dorothy Newbill (BFPR) at (505) 980-6166, or you can call our HDBC Pet Bird Rescue Hotline at (505) 554-0804 for assistance.



**Scarlet Macaw**



**Green Cheek Conure**

If you are interested in fostering or adopting a parrot, BFPR is a **very** active parrot rescue. They are always working with a variety of different pet birds from Amazons to Macaws, and the smaller birds like budgies and cockatiels. They've even had some hand-tame doves available for adoption.

For more information, call Dorothy Newbill at (505) 980-6166 or check out their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/birdsofafeathernm/>.

Rehoming fees and adoption policy process apply.

**Double Yellow-headed Amazon**



## Friends of HDBC

Dr. Timothy O'Leary, DVM

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