

Birdy Bytes

Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 14, Issue 2

February 2021

Upcoming Events

February – General Meeting - **CANCELLED**
Covid19 Virus Quarantine Restrictions
RGSCC Albuquerque, NM

Next Meeting – General Meeting
DVD Movie: Bill and Co
RGSCC Albuquerque, NM

Next Next Meeting – General Meeting
Parrot Treat Competition
RGSCC Albuquerque, NM

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Words from the Prez

Greetings Everyone,

I hope everyone is safe and sound and staying warm with these wild weather conditions. Fortunate for us, New Mexico has not experienced the level of challenges inflicted on our neighbors in Texas.

Some members of the American Federation of Aviculture (AFA) live in Texas and shared some frightening and sad stories about people and their pet birds. Wild birds were also affected by the freezing temperatures and some did not survive the cold.

The AFA has a disaster relief program established to help people and their birds in need. An email sent out by the Regional Coordinator, Fred Smith, describes the program and gives information on how you can help. See Page 5.

Now is a good time to revisit disaster preparedness and have necessary supplies and a way to survive if our power went out during a deep freeze or cold snap like in Texas. Research how to heat your home without creating a toxic or lethal level of air quality. It can be done. It just takes some time and research to determine what will work best for you and your household.

As the saying goes, “don’t be scared, be prepared”. A little bit of planning can go a long way for comfort and survival.

Hang in there everyone. Don’t be afraid to reach out if you need help with food or supplies. Use social media to stay connected. This too shall pass.

Jennifer Catron



Be Brave

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

General Meetings

Fourth Thursday of the month

Meeting time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Location:

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

Club Officers

President: Jennifer Catron
Vice President: Dorothy Newbill
Secretary: Ramona Buzard
Treasurer: Carolyn Newell

Committee Chairpersons

Advertising/Publicity: Available
AFA Delegate: Available
Bird Rescue: Jennifer Catron
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 12/31/20)	\$1,497.17
Revenue (memberships)	\$45.00
Expenses	0
Ending balance (stmt 1/31/21)	\$1,542.17

**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 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 jrcatron@Q.com, or (505) 235-2803.

Thank you.



General Meetings

February - Cancelled

Once again our monthly general meeting is cancelled due to actions and measures to prevent the spread of the Covid19 virus.

Our meeting place, Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center, is closed to community group meetings until further notice.

When we can resume our regular monthly meetings is unknown. We'll keep you posted as we know more about restrictions being lifted and reopening of our meeting venue.

Thank you for understanding. Stay safe and remain calm. This too shall pass.

Next Meeting

DVD movie night: Bill and Coo! This movie premiered in 1948 and won a special Academy award for artistry and patience blended in a novel and entertaining use of the medium of motion pictures.

All the actors are animals and most of them are birds. This heartwarming story is about the town of Chirpendale, its residents, and how they pull together to defeat a crow menacing their town.

The video quality is not the best, but it's just fascinating to watch all these birds act and perform tricks.



Next Next Meeting

Parrot treats competition. Do you make or bake some special treats for your birds? Think your recipe can win over our panel of experts on parrot treats?

For our next next meeting program, everyone is encouraged to bring in samples of their choice of a parrot treat.



The panel of experts will be all the birds at the meeting. Winners will be determined by the most eaten parrot treat. First, second and third places can pick a prize from the HDBC prize bin.

It's a lot of fun for our birds and people alike.

Meeting Minutes

No meeting. No minutes.

HDBC Hotline

This month we had an equal distribution of calls regarding pet birds and wild birds.

More calls were received about adopting a bird and people interested in the process than surrenders which is a good thing.

Calls regarding adoptions and surrenders of pet birds were referred to Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM.

A man called about an owl in his backyard that was perched and not moving. He thought something was wrong. That's normal for owls during the day unless they are disturbed or chased away by other birds as was the case with this owl.

Calls for injured wild birds were referred to either the Wildlife Rescue of New Mexico, or Mikal Deese (On a Wing and a Prayer). Both have Facebook pages for more information.

For bird adoptions, surrenders and lost and found birds, Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM is the go to place.

Membership Support

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.



Thank You Joining or Renewing Your HDBC Membership

Membership dues begin each calendar year and are prorated on a quarterly basis. Membership classification and annual dues rates are 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.

For everyone who has joined HDBC or renewed their membership, thank you! If you're not a member, join today and sup

Boxes and Boxes

You may have seen postings on Facebook about cardboard delivery boxes having been sprayed with disinfectant as part of the Covid19 safety precautions. Some people reported their

birds getting sick and some birds even dying from contact with sprayed boxes.

Many of us give our birds these types of boxes to chew up or shred. There is no way to tell which boxes were sprayed or not.

Apparently both UPS and Amazon were spraying delivery boxes to protect their workers. Both companies claim to have stopped spraying delivery boxes, but it is unknown how many of the sprayed boxes may still be in the supply line.



To be on the safe side, don't give your birds any boxes that have gone through the mail or delivery services. Use boxes from places like Costco or Sam's Club that were used for food or dry goods. Don't use boxes that contained anything like raw meat or soaps/detergents that could harbor bacteria or have a strong fragrance.

Some people use the flat rate shipping boxes from the U.S. Post Office. If you do, get them directly at the post office where you have to fold them into boxes; don't reuse ones that have gone through the mail.

Taking precaution to avoid giving your birds cardboard boxes sprayed with disinfectant could possibly save a lot of heart ache in the long run.

Price Increases

A contact from one of the major suppliers of bird food and accessories has given us a heads up that prices for bird supplies are on the way up.

Price increases of around 33-36 percent are anticipated after the end of this month, February 2021.

We're already seeing prices for energy, food, and other goods and services slowly increase. The same applies to bird supplies.

Now may be a good time to order more of what you need for your birds before the prices go up. Some prices have already increased, but will likely continue to go up even more.



AFA Disaster Relief Program

We received a special email from Fred Smith, the AFA Disaster Relief Program Regional Coordinator. This program has been in existence for many years and has helped people and birds throughout the United States.

If you are looking for a way to help, the AFA already has the infrastructure set up to help people with their birds during disasters.

The following is the email from Fred Smith.

The Disaster Relief Program is now faced with the terrible storms of snow and ice as well as subzero temperatures, lack of electricity and water shortages for those in Texas as well as Louisiana and other states. The ice has brought down many trees with some landing on cages. Thousands of birds have been in carriers during these storms while being kept in homes, buildings, and cars due to sub-zero temperatures. The Disaster Relief Program provides assistance to both AFA **members and non-members** alike.



If you need assistance or know of someone in need, contact your State Coordinator listed on the website at www.afabirds.org. You can also request disaster relief directly by emailing disasterrelief@afabirds.org. This email inbox is being checked frequently. We can only continue to assist those in need with your contributions. 100% of your donations go to help those in need. You may donate to the program by going to www.afabirds.org and clicking the "donate now" button on the front page. The AFA can help with damage to aviaries from ice and fallen trees, interrupted food supplies as a result of the unusually cold weather, power blackouts, and water supply issues due to frozen or broken pipes.

The American Federation of Aviculture (AFA) started its Disaster Relief Program after Hurricane Andrew destroyed much of southern Florida in 1992. The program was designed to help those with birds to provide temporary relief with such items as wire for cages, material for

cage roofs as well as water and feed for the birds.

Over the years AFA Disaster Relief Program has helped thousands of birds who have survived disasters such as hurricanes, fires, tornadoes, and floods.



This program has continued to help those impacted by disasters only with the donations of individuals as well as feed companies, bird clubs, and other groups. Your donations have meant so much to those desperately needing assistance with their birds.

Thank you for your help.

Fred Smith

disasterrelief@afabirds.org

New Stove Warning



Buying a new stove or oven? READ THIS: ALL NEW OVENS and STOVES give off fumes that KILL BIRDS for the first week of use or longer. There are disclaimers on all manufacturers' websites about this and discussions on ConsumerReports.com. WHAT TO DO? Buy your stove from a LOCAL dealer, pay them extra to run the stove for 2 - 3 days in their store, to burn off the insulation binder that gives off toxic fumes. ALSO, DO NOT USE self-cleaning stoves -- the self-cleaning feature also kills birds! Lodge Complaints to Dept. of Health & Human Services! www.hhs.gov

Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption

A 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.



Blue and Gold and Scarlet Macaws



African Grey

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.



Umbrella Cockatoo

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

Rehoming fees and adoption policy process apply.



Friends of HDBC



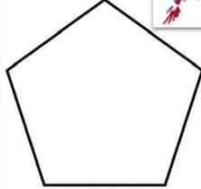
DANIEL LEVENSON, DVM

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ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87114

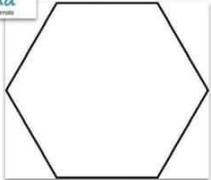
505-890-8810
505-890-8797 FAX
INFO@MYSOUTHWESTVET.COM

Facebook Fun

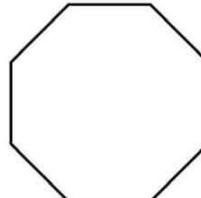




Pentagon



Hexagon



Octagon



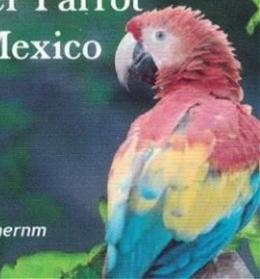
Silencegone



Exotics of the Rainforest presents an informative visual presentation featuring live parrots & reptiles from the tropical rainforests and deserts of the world.

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Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico

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Time to Order More Bird Treats