Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!

Thank you Debbie Foster, CPBT-KA and CPBC, for being our guest speaker during our October 19 Zoom meeting.

Debbie presented to us on parrot training and I know we all learned something to benefit our feathered companions and to strengthen our bond with them. Here is Debbie’s contact info: 704 609 3921; email: parrotspandasqs@gmail.com; Facebook: Parrot Ps and Qs. We hope to have Debbie present to us again.

A JotForm has been created for our members to complete: LI Parrot Society Volunteer Skills Survey. You’ll see the link/QR code inside the newsletter (page 19). We would love for our members to complete.

Does your parrot have an Instagram following? Family member Lisa Eastwood’s much-loved black-capped caique, Boogie, (boogieonmyfinger) has his own page. Boogie gets strapped into his harness and off he goes—meeting hoards of adoring fans—leaving nothing but smiles. Lisa and Boogie invite you to follow him on Instagram.

A quick note to share the latest news from Long Island Bird & Exotics Veterinary Clinic: “We’re excited to announce that the clinic is now officially open on Sundays! Hours are limited to 10:30AM - 2:30PM and by appointment only, so please contact us to schedule a Sunday visit for your pet.”

For those following Tico and the Man on YouTube, Tico was on Sweden’s Got Talent! Airs in January where the outcome will be revealed! America’s Got Talent is now looking at Tico! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGFbXza-uSFzUjXIOBqCrFg

Watching this Double Yellow Head amazon rockin’ out is priceless.

As always, please contact us if you are interested in volunteering, want to be added to our volunteer email list, want to donate unwanted items, or would like to suggest speakers/topics you would like to see, please either leave a message at 631-957-1100 or email us at info@liparrots.org.

Diane P Hyde, President
Deposits as of October 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deposits</th>
<th>$1728.01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Deposits</td>
<td>$1728.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TFCU Account Balances as of October 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Fund</td>
<td>$5480.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPO Fund</td>
<td>$16998.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parrot Care</td>
<td>$2666.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MM (Shelter)</td>
<td>$140,483.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD (Shelter)</td>
<td>$9,411.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$168,639.52</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses as of October 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Value Printing</td>
<td>223.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Storage</td>
<td>$442.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRM (SalesNow)</td>
<td>$45.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USPS</td>
<td>$126.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Foster Donation</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc.</td>
<td>$687.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1844.35</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Holiday cards/annual fundraiser: approximately 400 cards required; first class postage necessary; SC to create donation letter & card layout: Approved
- Annual donation: In 2022, donated $106.62 ($100 plus fee) to help parrots in Ukraine via a Polish organization (3/10/22) and $100 to AFA fundraiser (7/22/22). Nothing donated for the Parrot Care Fund in 2022 (yet). Possible non-profits: STAR Foundation; Sweetbriar; Phoenix Landing; Tallgrass Parrot Sanctuary; Quaker Parakeet Society; Gabriel Foundation; Florida organizations affected by Hurricane Ian. Will research candidates and members will vote at December meeting.
- Hoarding situation in Brookhaven; shelter reached out to LIPS, but no further news as of 10/12/22. Approximately 120-150 birds expected to be involved.
- Holiday party—RSVP? Club to provide pizza, salad, hero, beverages: approved. Definitely require RSVP from members.
- Board elections: Up for 2023-2025 term: Donna Barbano; Robert Gross (add a ninth BOD member?)—Suggestions welcome. Elections in December. Will include qualifications in October Feather Flash.
- December board dinner: Venue discussed. Board members to pay $30.00.
- Refresher course on how to access the BirdBox via FileZilla—Shawn
- Photo Booth—Shawn—designed a photo booth; could it be used for fundraising? Does club want to buy it for $350.00? Potential uses: Pet EXPO, parties, Parrot EXPO, outreach, etc. Shawn could teach how to set up. Donna suggested a tryout session. Dedicated person would be necessary to haul equipment & operate system.
- Parrot Cornhole game for kids at outreaches; kids loved Shawn’s beanbags at outreach; game suggested for outreach events.
- Discussed plans for making customized Cornhole boards. Will research materials and costs and practicality.
- Additional giveaways/worksheets suggested for outreaches (Kaitlin sent examples—parrot word search; parrot word scramble, . https://thewordscramble.com/maker/ and https://worksheets.theenglishcorner.net/make-your-own/word-scramble/)
- Set up JoForm to ask membership to list their skills for possible volunteer positions. Donna can take over creating JoForm documents.
- Set up JoForm for folks requesting parrots for different events (birthdays, etc.) Create package pricing; number of birds & handlers, hours required, travel distance.
- Pipsqueak productions—donated parrot-related items to us at Tannen Park (which we raffled off at 9/21/22 meeting). https://pipsqueakproductions.com/ They offer sales to charities. https://pipsqueakproductions.com/charity
- CustomLink fundraising possibility: Tee shirts, etc.
- Cage Donations: Several cage donations to be picked up. Large cage to be offered on FB Marketplace. Robert Gross fielding calls.
- Pam Clark: Progressive Parrotkeeping for November ZOOM presentation.
As I write this column, the ten-foot-high waves of Superstorm Sandy is just days away. I watched the unimaginable devastation on television from Sanibel Island, Florida. Just a few weeks ago, I watched as my family’s vacation home, Sanibel, was hammered by Hurricane Ian. The causeway was washed out in five places. The lighthouse buildings are gone. Gulf front structures were obliterated or severely damaged. The entire island was reportedly under water when the storm surge swept in.

Perhaps the most heart-rending losses were suffered at Periwinkle Park, the island’s 35-acre campground and manufactured home community. Here is some background:

Dick Muench owns Periwinkle Park; thirty-five acres on the east end of Sanibel, and he can often be seen pilotting his Segway® along the trails. He began breeding exotic birds there in 1977 and was honored by the American Association of Zoological Parks & Aquariums with a first breeding AVI award for breeding the black-necked aracari in June 1987. His private collection includes fruit doves, red and yellow barbets, Sulawesi, trumpet and piping hornbills, turacos, a 25-year-old Rothschild’s mynah, and assorted rock doves including macaws, angnecked parakeets and African greys. Marmosets, lemurs, squirrel monkeys and African crowned cranes are also in residence.

Some birds, like the female Sulawesi hornbill from the Lowery Park Zoo in Tampa, are on breeding loan. Muench is a member of the Zoological Association of America, an organization that promotes responsible ownership and conservation in public and private facilities through professional standards in husbandry, care, and ethics. Periwinkle Park is inspected twice a year by the USDA and the Fish & Wildlife Service comes by annually.

The tropical climate and wildlife-friendly sanctuary island present unique challenges: insects, mold, and moisture in the warm and humidity, and Muench controls them through constant cleaning. The ground is raked out daily and every food and water bowl scrubbed. The ground birds help with insect management. Fruits and vegetables are reinforced and wired at the top to keep predators, including bobcats out. Aviaries are planted to provide shade from the sun, and there is a spatterketter system to provide water for bathing and for the plants. There is a rodent-proof metal building for food storage, and a walk-in refrigerator for fresh food.

The birds are acclimated to the outdoors and can easily withstand the occasional winter cold snap. There is a strong, 1963 building on the property where birds can be housed in individual cages in case of emergency. Hurricanes are an annual threat, and according to Muench, “The biggest issue is power outage. We have a generator, and following Hurricane Charlie in 2004, we had to take water out of the swimming pool to wash everything. We lost one tree and two birds, which were eventually recovered.” Working a viable plan is the best defense against hurricanes.

Muench has cut back on breeding in the past twenty or so years, citing the passage of time. Still, he maintains a few exotic birds along with the waterfowl and animals. Some, like the black-spotted barbets go other breeders. “Having birds is a luxury,” he said. “It is as if you have another child. They require attention. You need to hire bird-sitters. Aspiring breeders should not think they are getting into a hobby. It is a business process, and it is ultimately up to the birds.”

As I approached, the Muench family secured the birds and animals in the safe building on the property, and decided to ride out the hurricane on the island so they would be there to care for the critters after the storm, which at the time, was forecast to make landfall in the Tampa area, approximately 135 miles north of Sanibel. As Tampa prepared for a surge and civil and military authorities provided the surge, the water was instead sucked out of Tampa Bay, and I am headed straight for the fragile barrier islands and Ft. Myers Beach.

Even though the birds and animals were secure from the 150 mph winds, the buildings were empty. Our little haven, covered in the warmth and humidity, and Muench controls them through constant cleaning. The ground is raked out daily and every food and water bowl was scrubbed. The ground birds help with insect management. Fruits and vegetables are reinforced and wired at the top to keep predators, including bobcats out. Aviaries are planted to provide shade from the sun, and there is a spatterketter system to provide water for bathing and for the plants. There is a rodent-proof metal building for food storage, and a walk-in refrigerator for fresh food.

The birds are acclimated to the outdoors and can easily withstand the occasional winter cold snap. There is a strong, 1963 building on the property where birds can be housed in individual cages in case of emergency. Hurricanes are an annual threat, and according to Muench, “The biggest issue is power outage. We have a generator, and following Hurricane Charlie in 2004, we had to take water out of the swimming pool to wash everything. We lost one tree and two birds, which were eventually recovered.” Working a viable plan is the best defense against hurricanes.

Muench has cut back on breeding in the past twenty or so years, citing the passage of time. Still, he maintains a few exotic birds along with the waterfowl and animals. Some, like the black-spotted barbets go other breeders. “Having birds is a luxury,” he said. “It is as if you have another child. They require attention. You need to hire bird-sitters. Aspiring breeders should not think they are getting into a hobby. It is a business process, and it is ultimately up to the birds.”

As I approached, the Muench family secured the birds and animals in the safe building on the property, and decided to ride out the hurricane on the island so they would be there to care for the critters after the storm, which at the time, was forecast to make landfall in the Tampa area, approximately 135 miles north of Sanibel. As Tampa prepared for a surge and civil and military authorities provided the surge, the water was instead sucked out of Tampa Bay, and I am headed straight for the fragile barrier islands and Ft. Myers Beach.

Even though the birds and animals were secure from the 150 mph winds, the buildings were empty. Our little haven, covered in the warmth and humidity, and Muench controls them through constant cleaning. The ground is raked out daily and every food and water bowl was scrubbed. The ground birds help with insect management. Fruits and vegetables are reinforced and wired at the top to keep predators, including bobcats out. Aviaries are planted to provide shade from the sun, and there is a spatterketter system to provide water for bathing and for the plants. There is a rodent-proof metal building for food storage, and a walk-in refrigerator for fresh food.

The birds are acclimated to the outdoors and can easily withstand the occasional winter cold snap. There is a strong, 1963 building on the property where birds can be housed in individual cages in case of emergency. Hurricanes are an annual threat, and according to Muench, “The biggest issue is power outage. We have a generator, and following Hurricane Charlie in 2004, we had to take water out of the swimming pool to wash everything. We lost one tree and two birds, which were eventually recovered.” Working a viable plan is the best defense against hurricanes.

Muench has cut back on breeding in the past twenty or so years, citing the passage of time. Still, he maintains a few exotic birds along with the waterfowl and animals. Some, like the black-spotted barbets go other breeders. “Having birds is a luxury,” he said. “It is as if you have another child. They require attention. You need to hire bird-sitters. Aspiring breeders should not think they are getting into a hobby. It is a business process, and it is ultimately up to the birds.”

As I approached, the Muench family secured the birds and animals in the safe building on the property, and decided to ride out the hurricane on the island so they would be there to care for the critters after the storm, which at the time, was forecast to make landfall in the Tampa area, approximately 135 miles north of Sanibel. As Tampa prepared for a surge and civil and military authorities provided the surge, the water was instead sucked out of Tampa Bay, and I am headed straight for the fragile barrier islands and Ft. Myers Beach.

Even though the birds and animals were secure from the 150 mph winds, the buildings were empty. Our little haven, covered in the warmth and humidity, and Muench controls them through constant cleaning. The ground is raked out daily and every food and water bowl was scrubbed. The ground birds help with insect management. Fruits and vegetables are reinforced and wired at the top to keep predators, including bobcats out. Aviaries are planted to provide shade from the sun, and there is a spatterketter system to provide water for bathing and for the plants. There is a rodent-proof metal building for food storage, and a walk-in refrigerator for fresh food.

The birds are acclimated to the outdoors and can easily withstand the occasional winter cold snap. There is a strong, 1963 building on the property where birds can be housed in individual cages in case of emergency. Hurricanes are an annual threat, and according to Muench, “The biggest issue is power outage. We have a generator, and following Hurricane Charlie in 2004, we had to take water out of the swimming pool to wash everything. We lost one tree and two birds, which were eventually recovered.” Working a viable plan is the best defense against hurricanes.

Muench has cut back on breeding in the past twenty or so years, citing the passage of time. Still, he maintains a few exotic birds along with the waterfowl and animals. Some, like the black-spotted barbets go other breeders. “Having birds is a luxury,” he said. “It is as if you have another child. They require attention. You need to hire bird-sitters. Aspiring breeders should not think they are getting into a hobby. It is a business process, and it is ultimately up to the birds.”

As I approached, the Muench family secured the birds and animals in the safe building on the property, and decided to ride out the hurricane on the island so they would be there to care for the critters after the storm, which at the time, was forecast to make landfall in the Tampa area, approximately 135 miles north of Sanibel. As Tampa prepared for a surge and civil and military authorities provided the surge, the water was instead sucked out of Tampa Bay, and I am headed straight for the fragile barrier islands and Ft. Myers Beach.

Even though the birds and animals were secure from the 150 mph winds, the buildings were empty. Our little haven, covered in the warmth and humidity, and Muench controls them through constant cleaning. The ground is raked out daily and every food and water bowl was scrubbed. The ground birds help with insect management. Fruits and vegetables are reinforced and wired at the top to keep predators, including bobcats out. Aviaries are planted to provide shade from the sun, and there is a spatterketter system to provide water for bathing and for the plants. There is a rodent-proof metal building for food storage, and a walk-in refrigerator for fresh food.

The birds are acclimated to the outdoors and can easily withstand the occasional winter cold snap. There is a strong, 1963 building on the property where birds can be housed in individual cages in case of emergency. Hurricanes are an annual threat, and according to Muench, “The biggest issue is power outage. We have a generator, and following Hurricane Charlie in 2004, we had to take water out of the swimming pool to wash everything. We lost one tree and two birds, which were eventually recovered.” Working a viable plan is the best defense against hurricanes.

Muench has cut back on breeding in the past twenty or so years, citing the passage of time. Still, he maintains a few exotic birds along with the waterfowl and animals. Some, like the black-spotted barbets go other breeders. “Having birds is a luxury,” he said. “It is as if you have another child. They require attention. You need to hire bird-sitters. Aspiring breeders should not think they are getting into a hobby. It is a business process, and it is ultimately up to the birds.”

As I approached, the Muench family secured the birds and animals in the safe building on the property, and decided to ride out the hurricane on the island so they would be there to care for the critters after the storm, which at the time, was forecast to make landfall in the Tampa area, approximately 135 miles north of Sanibel. As Tampa prepared for a surge and civil and military authorities provided the surge, the water was instead sucked out of Tampa Bay, and I am headed straight for the fragile barrier islands and Ft. Myers Beach.
“Every Breath You Take”
By Susan Chamberlain

When your bird flaps its wings, does it look as though it’s snowing in the room? Do you run your fingers across a table, window sill or other surface, only to have them come up looking like they’re tipped in talcum powder? Does a cloud of dust emanate from your bird’s cage tray paper each time you change it? Are there dried bird droppings everywhere in your home? If you’ve answered “yes” to any of these questions, your health may be at risk. If you share your home with a pigeon, African grey parrot, budgie, cockatiel, or cockatoo, the risk may be increased.

Inhaled organic matter may result in serious a disease called allergic extrinsic alveolitis.

Alveolitis: Microscopic air sacs in the lungs where oxygen is exchanged for carbon dioxide

Allergic: a condition producing an unfavorable reaction

Extrinsic: from outside, i.e. Foreign matter introduced into the body

Alveolitis: Inflammation of the Alveoli

What is allergic extrinsic alveolitis?

Allergic alveolitis is also known as hypersensitivity pneumonitis, birdkeeper’s lung disease and pigeon keeper’s disease. It may occur in acute, sub-acute and chronic form. Pet bird owners often exhibit the chronic variety, as they have been exposed to low levels of the antigen over a long period of time. Symptoms may include a non-productive cough, shortness of breath, possible weight loss, fever, and a flu-like illness.

Geneticist Anthea Stavroulakis, Ph.D., is a former Associate Professor at Kingsborough Community College, City University of New York. I asked Dr. Stavroulakis to explain how allergic alveolitis occurs. “Air follows a progressive pathway into the body: nose-mouth-trachea-bronchi-bronchioles-alveoli,” she explained. “Nose hairs act as the first filters to inhaled particles. In the trachea, very fine, hair-like projections of cells (cilia) constantly beat in an upward direction to propel particulate matter out. This is called the ciliary escalator. Take the example of a smoker. The smoker has damaged cilia already, so the ability to expel particulate matter is compromised. You don’t have to be a smoker to contract alveolitis, but an already compromised respiratory system may make you more susceptible. If particulate matter gets past the nose hairs and ciliary escalator, it lands in the lungs. In the case of alveolitis, particles have made their way down to the smallest sub-division, the alveoli, which is the point where oxygen enters the bloodstream. (As we inhale, we take in oxygen. The red blood cells give up carbon dioxide and take in oxygen.) Immunological surveillance cells try to isolate the particles. As a result, a wall forms around the particulate matter, which sets in an inflammatory process, which, in turn, stops the normal oxygen exchange. The entire body responds, as the oxygen supply in the blood is reduced, which may for example, cause fatigue.”

How is allergic alveolitis different than asthma?

Asthma affects the bronchial tubes. Alveolitis affects the alveoli in the lungs. Asthma may be caused or aggravated by various inhaled irritants, both organic and inorganic. Alveolitis is caused by the inhalation of organic matter. In the case of birdkeeper’s lung disease, the inhaled matter (feathers or dust) is from the bird itself. Asthma is often reversible when the offending antigen is eliminated. According to Dr. Michael Niederman, a pulmonary critical care physician and Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Winthrop University Hospital on Long Island, NY, “Allergic extrinsic alveolitis is a much more serious than asthma; it can lead to permanent scarring of the lungs.”

Is allergic alveolitis difficult to diagnose?

Dr. Niederman says it’s not difficult to diagnose allergic alveolitis if you’re thinking about it. “I don’t see many cases on Long Island. It’s not a common disease. It can be confusing, and could be missed if the doctor isn’t specifically looking for it. There has to be a specific antigenic component. We ask an animal owner who is exposed to proteins from animals or plants? There is a very specific type of lung response, not just a cough or shortness of breath. It’s appropriate to ask patients about pets and exposures. If you have birds, mention it to your doctor. A classic symptom would be if you feel sick at home, then feel better when you’re away on vacation.”

Jill Wise of Pendleton, IN was diagnosed with allergic extrinsic alveolitis in December 2001. She suffered from generalized fatigue, sleeplessness, and weight loss for approximately 3 months prior to diagnosis. “I don’t smoke, so I knew there was no reason I should have been breathless,” reported Wise. During that time, she was treated for pneumonia and asthma by a nurse practitioner. Her chest X-rays came back normal, as did readings of her oxygen level. Wise, who works at a veterinary hospital used the clinic’s pulse oximeter and discovered that her oxygen level was down to 65 after mild exertion. “I reported this to my family doctor, who sent me to a pulmonologist...”

From the World Parrot Trust:

One of Australia’s rarest cockatoos has been spotted in Deep Creek National Park on the Flinders Peninsula for the first time since the 1970s. A single male South Australian glossy black cockatoo was spotted in the park in late July, and another sighting was confirmed in the same location more recently.

For the past 50 years the endangered glossy black cockatoo has only been found in South Australia on Kangaroo Island. There were severe concerns for the species after the 2019-20 Kangaroo Island bushfires, with more than 50 per cent of their feeding habitat and nearly 40 per cent of nesting sites located within the 210,000 hectares burned in the bushfires.

Prior to the 1970s, the glossy black cockatoo occurred on mainland Flinders Peninsula but due to widespread loss of drooping she-oak trees, the population contracted to Kangaroo Island where just 160 birds remained in the early 1990s. Since then, a concerted recovery program run by the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board has resulted in steady increase to about four hundred birds at present. Visit glamadelake.com au for more!

The illegal trade in birds and animals is a major threat to many iconic parrot species and ending this trade is a core focus of the World Parrot Trust’s work. Recently, WPT’s Dr. Rowan Martin joined three leading figures from law enforcement agencies, conservation organizations and businesses at the United for Wildlife Global Summit in London.

From allafrica.com

A sanctuary for African grey parrots has been opened at the Uganda Wildlife Education Centre (UWEC) also known as the Entebbe Zoo.
who hospitalized me, suspecting a possible blood clot. I was diagnosed the next day, after a CAT scan showed inflamed alveoli in my lungs.

"Most people think if they consult a doctor, they'll automatically know what's wrong with you," Wise related. "When they took oxygen levels in the office, I was sitting up, so there was no stenosis. I didn't know how to explain the sensation I got in my chest...it didn't feel 'tight' to me, but now I know what I feel is how they detect stenosis. I thought my case condition worsened; that's probably why they thought I had pneumonia. Sometimes an x-ray will read 'clean' or be misdiagnosed as a 'bad x-ray.' The condition produces a 'ground glass' appearance on a x-ray. The initial x-rays didn't look 'clear' enough.'

Wisely continued, "Blood panels showed that I was allergic to a mold and to birds. They tested 'pigeon serum' on me and it came back positive. I had 2 pigeons and in October I cleaned out an enclosed pigeon coop that hadn't been used for a while. Droppings had dried and probably aerosolized. I didn't use a face mask and I used a shop vac that blew back dust. I have a feeling this is what triggered it. The doctor said, 'If you're allergic to this, you're allergic to all birds; if it was just this episode, you wouldn't have recovered.' I've since read that African greys, cockatiels and cockatoos are more irritating to other allergies as well."

Wisely is planning more tests: "There's a Bird Antigen Precipitin Panel test available. The antigen panel normally available tests only with pigeon serum. It was difficult to locate a more specialized test. This one offers 3 specialized antigen panels that screen for specific birds. I was told I was allergic to 12 species when re-exposed to the 3 parrots I kept. I suspect I'm sensitive to one of the birds I removed from my environment rather than to all bird antigens. This lab also allows you to send your own blood sample in for testing."
Among Dr. Stavroulakis’ recommendations for preventing alveolitis are “wash or replace AC filters often. Don’t seal your house so tightly that the house can’t breathe. There must be an exchange of air. There are many air-filtration devices on the market. You can even buy a personal air purifier to hang around your neck!”

Other things you can do to reduce the amount of dust in your environment include:

* Purchase cage covers made of smooth, launderable fabric such as cotton or poly/cotton. Shake covers outdoors every day. Launder covers weekly, using plain hot water or a non-scented detergent. Air or machine dry. Do not use fabric softeners in washer or dryer.

* Use window fans, blowing out during mild weather. Think you don’t have dust? Take a look at the screen after a week!

* Locate and use a home cleaning service certified as indoor air specialists.

* Bid your home of dust collectors: old books, papers, stuffed animals, artificial plants and flowers, elaborate draperies (get curtains you can wash, and wash them frequently), knickknacks, and where feasible, carpeting.

* Spray cage tray liner paper with water before you remove it. This dramatically reduces the amount of dust dispersal. Change cage paper several times a day.

* Use high-efficiency vacuum cleaner bags. Consider installing a central vacuum system when remodeling or building a new home. This will eliminate the ‘blowback’ of dust.

* Use high-efficiency filters on air conditioning and heating systems. Change them frequently.

* Open the windows! Fresh air is the best purifier.

It would break my heart to give up my birds.

The emotional toll of this illness may be great. In addition to being told that you have a possibly chronic illness, you may also be instructed to part with your bird. How can you possibly cope? I asked Family Therapist, Terri Pakula for some input.

“Illness affects a person’s emotions and affects a person’s health,” Pakula explained. “A person who has developed a chronic illness may suffer a sense of loss and may grieve for their lost health. If it happens at a young age, the sense of loss might be even greater, as the person feels cheated out of part of life. Typical emotions associated with the grief process are not forgotten, and in no order: anger, sadness, denial, acceptance and rebound.

“When you are told to give up your birds too, these feelings are compounded. You might experience guilt and almost a sense of failure: Because you have this disease, you must give up this animal you love. You may feel an acute sense of loss; people tend to project and grieve for the future they won’t have with the pet. Try to look at the past and honor it, be grateful for it and remember it. That’s one way to help the healing process. Another way would be to find a really good home for the bird and to take satisfaction in that. Play a part in what is going to happen to your pet. That may give you a sense of peace. It’s very different than taking an animal to a public shelter and hoping it gets adopted out. You have a voice in the outcome. Finally, seek therapy if you feel you need it.”

Jill Wise feels fortunate because the breeder she’d obtained her cockatiels and parakeets from was able to help her. She planted escape routes in the cages “tied together,” said Wise. “That made it easier on my emotions because I knew they’d adapt to the change. The parakeets were adopted together through PetSmart’s program. The pigeons (which I suspect were the biggest threat) were feral birds that I had rehabilitated as orphan babies. I had set them free, but they never left, so we found a place to relocate them.”

* Can my bird contract allergic alveolitis?*

Dr. Monica has seen macaws, especially blue and golds, with respiratory sensitivities. “Macaws can be sensitive to dust,” she tries to prevent problems, he says. “I don’t recommend keeping macaws in the same room with cockatoos or other dust producers. When I’ve recommended separating macaws from other birds, their condition improved. It’s not just birds; even dogs and cats sometimes suffer allergic reactions to organic dust.”

Birds don’t breathe their own molt or house dust in the rainforest. In our homes they’re breathing dust, their own molt and other bird’s molt, which makes them more susceptible to infection. By the time you find out your bird has a problem, it may be too late. Often, birds develop respiratory problems before the humans do.

Dr. Donna Muscarella, Senior Research Associate in the Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology at the Veterinary Medical Center at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, said, “I spoke with Dr. AbuBakri here at Cornell and she mentioned the possibility of macaws developing a similar condition. I found some information in Avian Medicine and Surgery by Altman, Clubb, Dorensten and Quesenberry about pneumonitis in macaws, with feather particles, powder down and aspergillus as the suspected antigens. It is not clear if this condition is identical to the human allergic pneumonitis, but it is severe, causing respiratory distress and death in affected birds.”

*What’s the bottom line?*

According to Jill Wise, “Be your own advocate where your health is concerned. Insist on getting your oxygen level measured while you’re active. If I’d climbed a flight of stairs and then taken the test, I would have been diagnosed two months earlier. Pay attention to your body: People who get this disease feel sick and spend more time indoors which is more detrimental because they’re in close quarters with the allergen. Shortness of breath may make you think you’re just tired. Smokers may delay going to a doctor, thinking their symptoms are smoking-related. I got help through Internet searches, correspondence with other bird people and access to bird clubs listed in Bird Talk magazine. I’m fortunate that I work as a veterinary technician with access to pulse oximetry and laboratory knowledge, which enabled me to monitor my own vital signs. Develop a relationship with a doctor before you get sick. If doctors know you have this condition and you have birds, they treat you like you’re hanging on a pack of cigarettes.”

This article is not intended as medical advice, but is a result of research and a compilation of the experiences, knowledge and advice of the people interviewed. Always consult your physician if you experience difficulty breathing or other physical problems.

*Sidebar*

Further Reading

The Secret Life of Dust: From the Cosmos to the Kitchen Counter, the Big Consequences of Little Things by Hannah Holmes; ISBN: 0471377430 John Wiley & Sons. 8/2001


Check out these Environmental Protection Agency websites:
http://www.epa.gov/oag/pubs/airclean.html
http://www.epa.gov/oag/pubs/residairhtml

Consult your local chapter of the American Lung Association for copies of Biological Pollutants in Your Home: Air Pollution in Your Home? and other publications.

*Sidebar*

Air Filters and Purifiers

Air filters remove quantities of pollen, dust, pet dander, dead skin cells, and other particulate matter from the indoor atmosphere. Purifiers kill bacteria and viruses. Do not rely on an air filter or purifier to remove airborne toxins or germs from the air before they affect you or your bird. If you suffer from asthma, alveolitis, or other respiratory condition, consult your physician before purchasing an air-cleaning device.

Electronic air cleaners are available at department stores, home-supply, and variety stores, and through mail-order catalogues. Some models require medical grade use or specifically for use with pets.

Copyright Susan Chamberlain 2022. This article may not be reproduced, published or disseminated without express written permission of the author.
Meet the Member

Shawn Florman joined the Long Island Parrot Society in 2018 and jumped in with both feet! A familiar face at outreach events and meetings, Shawn, and wife Carrie, first encountered LIPS at Pet EXPO in Tanger Park. “We were walking around and noticed a tent with parrots. That is when we met LIPS members, Michelle Benner, Ken Lisi and Diane Hyde. Ken put Angie, his cockatoo on my shoulder and that was the first time I had ever had a parrot on me,” related Shawn. It was amazing. Looking back, it makes me appreciate how visitors feel when they stop by our booth at outreach events. Diane gave me a packet of information about the club. I brought it home, read it and ultimately joined.”

Which came first, the parrot or the club? Shawn said the club came first and he would suggest joining an avian organization prior to getting one. “I had no idea what to do. I learned a lot in a brief period of time before we adopted African grey, Wally. I told Diane, ‘I want to do more, and was quickly enlisted to help at outreach events. The first one was at Sachem Library, and I felt out of place at first because everyone had a bird with them except me. I couldn’t bring Wally because he didn’t like men and was not social enough. His previous owner had COPD and Wally was kept alone in a room with an air purifier and television. He seemed deprived of human interaction. He still dislikes men but is getting more tolerant: he will take treats from me, give kisses, and allows petting. He is the quietest of my four birds. He whistles, laughs, cackles, and says ‘hit-nite’ when he is ready to go to sit.”

The Flormans share their home with three African greys, one a Timneh and a Meyer’s parrot. Wally, and Perry (Timneh) were adopted through LOPS, Noah, a Congo grey and Jay, a Meyer’s parrot were purchased as weaned youngsters at Bird Paradise in Burlington, New Jersey. Shawn reported, “I went just to look at the first time and saw two greys. Noah was one of them. I was talking to them both and I could see that Noah was listening and looking at me, so I asked to hold him. (We all know how that goes!) I like their system at Bird Paradise. They come back every few weeks to visit until your bird is weaned. I kept going to spend time with him. After the very last visit, I was able to bring him home. He is the definition of a ‘companion parrot’. He just likes to hang out with me no matter what I am doing. When I am too far away, he will let out a screech that he learned from Perry. I am sure the neighbors can hear that. Once the maintenance people came by to ask ‘if the fire alarm was going off?’”

Shawn had parakeets as a child; one a blue and white, bird named Mikey. His parents took care of him. He always has been interested in pigeons. “The eye was one time we went anywhere and saw parrots we would stop and visit with them. My mother loved parrots. We mostly saw macaws and cockatoos. I had never seen an African grey until I was in my thirties. I did not know much about them and was working on one and wanted to do a specific effect with the color grey, I Googled and saw a picture of a grey bird with a red tail. I clicked on it and discovered it was a parrot. I started reading about it and forgot about my project. I was fascinated with them and said, ‘I could ever have a parrot, that’s what I’d want.’”

Life changed when the Flormans became parrot parents. “Now we must find a place to board birds or have someone in come to take care of them if we want to go on vacation. We learned about caring for them every single day. We get up early and so do the birds. We became accustomed to all the stuff: food, cages, stands, carriers and more. We stock bottled water for a bird who seems sensitive to tap water. We are more observant about toxins in the home. I always tell people at outreach about the dangers of non-stick cookware, scented candles, aerosols, and cleaning chemicals. It was a substantial change for us too. I learned all that from being a club member.”

Which bird is most challenging? Shawn said it is a toss-up between Perry and Jay. “I am a bit of a mystery shopper and Perry seesches. I went to a behavior consultant for help, but it did not work out so well. Perry seesched for attention or food. He stops when I pick him up. I suspect he may be getting over stimulated and sometimes puts him in a quiet room for a little while. That seems to help. Poopexal, Jaxix is stuck trained so that bees can be avoided. I have been doing target training with my finger and that diverts him away from biting. He can be re-directed for the moment. He does not know he is small, so he keep him away from the other birds for his own safety.”

Shawn wears many hats at the Long Island Parrot Society: Board member, Vice-President, Long Island Parrot Beacon Editor, Webmaster, Parrot Placement Team member, Webmaster, and AV and ZOOM technician at meetings. He returns phone calls, screens candidates, and counsel people who want to rehome their birds. “It’s a full-time job,” he said. Shawn’s other job is tech support for the company he works for in Bridgewater. “I have been building robotic equipment that duplicates CDs and DVDs. Shawn builds the devices and trouble shoots with customers.”

Robert Gross (Incumbent): The bird man of Wantagh! We own 8 birds 3 parakeets 3 conures 1 cockatiel and of course Romeo. I was not always interested in birds; basically for the last 12 years. When I was 18 I had my first encounter with a talking bird. I was at a party and I was trying to give directions for a friend to come over. There was a lot of noise in the living room so I decided to check it out. I walked over to a chair and asked the bird to keep the noise down and the bird an African grey told me kiss my ass!!! My friend came in and said I see you met rocky isn’t he fun? I said wow I must get one of these one day. I worked with computers for 36 years until my job went offshore so I became a full time real estate agent. I really have a wide range of interests from coin collecting, 55 years playing and winning radio contests for 41 years which is where I got my eBay id, Mr. Redial. As our members know I host the first zoom meeting each month and also help run the cage committee and participate in outreach activities I also try to assist with anything else that might be needed.

I look forward to our shelter opening up and I will help as much as I can, my goal with the society is to get more members and get more birds homes. Thanks for reading!!

Donna Barbano (Incumbent): My name is Donna Barbano. I am seeking re-election to the Board for another term so I can continue to help move our club forward and grow.

I am a resident of Wading River, and our flock consists of 5 parrots (2 African greys, 3 cockatiels), 2 chickens, and a dog. I’ve been a Long Island Parrot Society member since 1990, served on the Parrot Placement Team (2019/20), and have been a member of the Board since 2021.

In my time on our Board, I have drafted our Guidelines for Handling Charitable Contributions, created an informational presentation for our Club to use at multiple events and the Parrot University Program, and suggested fun things and items to use as Outreach giveaways when we could not bring parrots due to avian influenza.

I reviewed and updated information for our website and blog regarding emergency avian veterinary care, kept our club updated regarding high pathogenic avian influenza and how to mitigate risks to our parrots, contributed to our newsletter (The Long Island Parrot Beacon), and our mini-zoom monthly workshops. I also volunteered at in person and virtual outreach and helped our Board as needed with tech help.

My passion for parrots revolves around education, training, behavior, and enrichment. Outside of my Club duties, I continue to support our Club’s Mission of fostering responsible bird ownership through education and example. I am a mentor for Jennifer Cunha’s Parrot Kindergarten where I help teach and support parrot families dedicated to increasing human-parrot communication.

I look forward to serving our Long Island Parrot Society members for another term!

Susan Seddo: I would like to introduce myself ... and my sidekick, who has recently, very much enjoyed the “Outreach at Crabtree!” I have Nurse for twenty years and earned my Master’s Degree in Nursing from Joseph’s University. I have been a LIPS member for 2+ years and have Jenncy Conure, and most recently, Zara, a Sun Conure. THEY CONTINUE EVERY DAY!!

I sit on both the Cage Committee and actively participate with our very much enjoy helping people, of all ages, find the best, unique, and feathered Friends! I also find it fascinating, at our Outreach, how youngest participants are ... as well as our senior citizens. I enjoy sharing our knowledge and educating them about all kind of birds. I strive to be bring forth new ideas to the Club, enhance our membership, create fundraising projects — to promote outside donations for our rescue efforts. Thank you for considering me for this position.

(Continued on page 20)


**LIPS MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

The following businesses give the discounts noted for LIPS members. You must show your current membership card. Discounts are subject to change; we suggest you ask before you make your purchase. If you have a problem with a store or service not honoring it, let us know. (631-357-1100).

**Bird Paradise, Burlington, NJ, 10% off (don't apply to purchased birds or Harrison's products)** - in store only. 15% discount for on-line purchases — code: LIPS15.

**B.T.J.'s Jungle, West Islip (631-587-8191) 10% off**

**Central Veterinary Associates, 247/7, Valley Stream + 5 other locations, 10% off all services, call (888-4CVA-PET), www.centralvets.com — for LIPS members.**

**Fine Feather, LLC (The Pet Store Next Door), www.finefeather.us (516-801-6400) discount code liparro10**

**First Flight, 514 Middle Country Road, Coram (631-732-1494) 10% off birds and related**

**Paumanok Veterinary Hospital, Patchogue (631-475-1312) 10% off exam**

**Total Pet Care/Lawrence Labs, Holbrook (800-TOTL-PET) 10% LIPS.**

---

**Check Out Our Meeting Vendors!**

14 Katari Parrot—Great "Parrrophernalia!" Fine Gifts and Accessories for the Exotic Bird Lover! K&M Mobile Grooming & Bird Food

---

**Join the LIPS Team!**

We need help with Administrative work, answering phone calls, emails, data entry, committee specific help, just to name a few. Get more involved with the Long Island Parrot Society. Let's build a team that helps grow our organization. Scan the QR code to take our Skills Survey. Once we received your information, we will contact you.
Thank you to members and friends who shop through smile.amazon.com and name Long Island Parrot Society of New York as their designated charity! Your April 1–June 30 purchases helped garner a $131.13 donation to the club! With holiday gift giving season coming up, now is the time to sign up for Amazon Smile! No sensitive information to divulge and not a penny comes out of your own pocket! Visit smile.amazon.com

Welcome, new Lifetime Long Island Parrot Society member, Wendy Davis! We appreciate your support and confidence in the club!

A big sigh of relief after Nicole Pica’s caique, Pignoli, recovered from a serious illness! Much of the credit goes to Nicole’s expert vet-tech care!

Prices for pet birds have gone up, resulting in a dramatic rise in bird thefts nationwide. A group of African grey parrots were recently stolen in Florida. Read a great article about the why, where, and how these thefts are occurring. Click to follow the link or copy into your browser. The Stolen Parrots of Punta Gorda, Florida - The Atlantic

Many thanks to member Barbara-Jean Landsperg for her recent and extra-generous donation to the LIPS Shelter Fund.

The club switched to an electronic version of the newsletter at the beginning of 2022. Members were given the option to continue receiving a printed copy. It is now in color, just like you see online! Due to increased postage and printing costs, there will be an additional charge for printed newsletters beginning in 2023. Amount to be determined. Many thanks to several members who have sent donations to help defray production and mailing costs!

Welcome new L.I. Parrot Beacon advertiser, Cassie Malina!

We hear that Sally Blanchard’s beloved Amazon parrot has finally been settled in its new home, as per Sally’s wishes.

Thanks to Dr. Robert Monaco (Old Country Animal Clinic) for providing our newsletter, the Long Island Parrot Beacon a shout-out on his Facebook page!

Best wishes to Pat & Neal Rudikoff and their flock as they travel cross-country to winter at their home in Arizona. Dr. Monaco featured their cockatoo, Zeus, in an October Facebook post.

We are happy to see that Marcia Abrahams is doing a little birding again as she recovers from a broken arm.

Welcome home to Florida member, Andrea Feldman Walen, who just returned with husband John, from her 50th cruise! This time the world travelers visited numerous Mediterranean ports. We strongly suspect they are planning their next adventure! (See Andrea’s colorSTREET ad in this issue of the Long Island Parrot Beacon.)
October 1, 2002 - Atelier at Flowerfield Workshop for Kids
UPCOMING MEETINGS/OUTREACHES

Wednesday, November 16
7PM via ZOOM  Pamela Clark, Parrot Behavior Consultant
*Mini-ZOOM meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7PM. In-person meetings will be live-streamed via ZOOM. Meeting invitations are sent via email

Sunday, December 3 — Longwood Library — Ranger Eric Powers has asked us to participate in his World of Birds presentation (11-12 noon) — library is located at 800 Middle Country Road in Middle Island. If you would also like to participate to help educate the attendees on the different aspects of parrots, please email Candy at candyl@liparrots.org

OUT OF TOWN & VIRTUAL EVENTS

Organizations: list your upcoming events here. Email information to: editor@liparrots.org

Join The Leather Elves Facebook page every Friday evening at 7PM EST! Robin Shewokis-Sullivan hosts an informative and entertaining presentation on different avian topics each week!

Saturday November 26 - Elizabeth, NJ - Garden State Bird Association 16th Annual Bird Show -

Friday to Sunday, January 6th to the 8th - Super Pet Expo - Edison NJ

The Long Island Parrot Society (LIPS) of New York Inc. is a 501C3 nonprofit organization devoted to the education of bird lovers. LIPS is not responsible for the medical/nutritional views herein. Consult an avian veterinarian for specific guidance. LIPS assumes no responsibility for advertiser’s claims or quality of merchandise. Publication of an ad does not constitute endorsement of a product or service. LIPService is a monthly publication of the Long Island Parrot Society of New York, Inc. for members. Opinions expressed in articles in this publication are the opinions and responsibility of the author/editor and do not necessarily reflect the views or philosophies of the Long Island Parrot Society of NY, Inc. Exchange bird clubs may reproduce original articles provided the source and author are noted, except when copyrighted or otherwise noted. (c)2016