Goodbye March, Hello April... Lots of changes during Spring, longer days, flowering trees, bulbs blooming, grass turning green, birds returning and welcoming the day with their song.

We’ve made a change for the betterment of the club—due to a large increase in rent, we’ve changed storage facilities. We’re no longer in Amityville, but have relocated to StorQuest Self Storage in Ronkonkoma. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this happen and a VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to board member, Susan Seddo, for orchestrating the move. Susan researched many storage units and negotiated a rate that better fits our budget.

More changes (for the good) on the horizon—stay tuned!

With the mild weather moving in, windows and doors will be opening more. Please be aware of where your parrots are in the house—keep them safe. Is it time to get them groomed after the winter? When taking your parrots out of the house, have you considered harness training? There are plenty of light-weight travel cages available to transport your parrots outside of your home.

More and more outreaches are being scheduled. Check the events calendar on our website to find out more and if you’re interested in volunteering, please let us by sending an email to: info@liparrots.org

Thank you to the Suffolk County SPCA for being the presenter at our March 15 in-person meeting. Our Zoom meeting presenter for April 19 is Debbie Goodrich from the Flight Club Foundation in Seattle, WA. See inside the newsletter for more information.

Our own, Roberta Fabiano, serenades us each Monday from 2-3 pm ET via Facebook Live. It’s a wonderful hour of music (you can even make requests)! Roberta’s parrots also make cameo appearances. https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063624034653

Reminder, Robin Sullivan from The Leather Elves conducts a FREE Facebook Live stream on Fridays at 7 pm ET. Always a fun and learning experience. https://www.facebook.com/theleatherelves If you don’t catch live, you can watch via YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+leather+elves

Lafeber has some great FREE webinars as well on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/LafeberNutriBerries Here is the link the watch the webinars via YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@lafebercompany-official3250/videos

Save the date: Our annual Member Appreciation Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 3 at Belmont Lake State Park in West Babylon (Pine Pavilion) from 10-5 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of our events, want to be added to our volunteer email list, want to donate unwanted items, and/or would like to suggest speakers/topics you would like to see/hear about, please either leave a message at 631-957-1100 or please let us know by sending an email to info@liparrots.org.

Diane P Hyde, President
## Deposits as of March 2023

<table>
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## TFCU Account Balances as of March 2023

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<td>CD (Shelter)</td>
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## Expenses as of March 2023

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## Board Meeting Minutes - March 2023

March 8, 2023 7PM via ZOOM ATTENDING: David Abrahams, Donna Barbaro, Susan Chamberlain, Bob Dietrich, Shawn Florman, Robert Gross, Diane Hyde, Candy Liel, Susan Seddo

- Summary of 3/4/23 LI Pet EXPO—Candy/Diane; Diane posted photos of event on FB and downloaded to Birdbox. Volunteer turn out was great. Everyone complied with sanitation requirements. Few people asked to hold birds; Diane had made up a flyer about bird flu precautions for attendees. The prize wheel did well; collected $97.00 for spars. New members who came as attendees came by booth. The volunteers and their birds were fantastic. The tent was 10x10, so we slid out a table and put it on the outside.
- **Event in Port Jeff on 4/1/23 6-8 pm** (requesting two parrots)—pirate themed. Shawn has volunteered with 2 parrots; Diane may attend as well. UPDATE: Cancelled—Venue will not allow animals.
- **Storage Unit**—Susan Seddo has an update on a storage company in Ronkonkoma. Important that we are allowed to have cage sales on site. UPDATE: Move to STORQUEST in Ronkonkoma in progress. CURRENT—LIFE STORAGE (Amityville) Have been there for 11 years. Per month: $517 Per year: $6,204

- Susan S. asked at Sam’s Club about discounts…can discount for 501c3
- Picnic: Sunday, 7/23 best date. Cost: Approx. $250. UPDATE: Date unavailable; scheduled for September 3 shed clean-up (4/15 or 4/16)—Susan and Tony Seddo (with help) depending on possible move
- Cage Sale Sunday, April 23 (10-3 p.m.) location depends on possible move.
- Future presenter suggestion by Marla Greene: Can we reach out to Ollie the tie’s humans in New Zealand to talk about his trip on the the Araoragi trail. I think NZ is 15 hours ahead of us, so it would be about 11:00 in the am I also found this article from Lafeber regarding Ollie: [http://lafeber.com/pet-birds/ollie-the-cockatiel](http://lafeber.com/pet-birds/ollie-the-cockatiel)
- Possible presenters discussed; board is brainstorming for in-person presenter for June meeting. Discussed possible meeting events...seed exchange, game night, toymaking workshop.
- Newsletter: We have a calendar on the website that works via Google. Shawn moved upcoming meetings and outreach to the back of NL. Shawn suggested adding a QR code instead of listing events in NL—Decision: will stay as-it-for now.
- Discussed code of conduct for members; FB etiquette, etc.
- EXPO: 2400 sq ft facility available October 14 VFW on Lakeland Ave in Sayville; 8:30-6:30PM; Main speaker; vendors, birds; smaller crowd; smaller space.
- Possible free meeting space
- **New ads coming for newsletter.**

(Continued on page 16)
To advertise your business or service in our newsletter register on our website:

www.liparrots.org/ad_placement

Full Page $375/year, $200/6 months
Half Page $175/year, $125/6 months
Quarter Page $100/year, $75/6 months
Business card $50/year
As you’re likely read elsewhere in this month’s Long Island Parrot Beacon, a contingent of club members got together last month to move our gear from the Amityville storage unit to a new one in Ronkonkoma. It was a long, labor-intensive day. We unearthed many treasures for future sales and raffles, along with historical documents and photos. There’s still some organizing to do, but we’ve got this! We’re looking forward to hosting the next in-person meeting (June 21), a spring cage sale and a special event before year’s end, whether they happen or not. More information will be available for purchase. We can also promise that the raffle tables will be overflowing!

Summer Vacation is Coming! - Bird Sitter Checklist
By Susan C.

When I plan an extended trip out of town, the first person I call is my bird sitter. Plane, hotel and tourist reservations all depend on her availability. If she’s not available, I adjust my dates accordingly. I have five birds, and boarding them might be rather unwieldy, so I have a bird sitter come to the house. I am a bird sitter who sleeps overnight at my home, a definite plus, especially during extreme weather conditions! Whether your bird sitter comes in once or twice a day, or spends the night, this check list will help you both. Even when boarding a bird or swapping bird sitting services with a friend, many checklist items will be useful.

When the trip is still a dream:

If you don’t already have a bird sitter, ask for referrals. Many sources for referrals are: vet’s office; bird store; bird club; other bird owners; professional pet sitter’s organizations. Pet Sitters International www.petsitters.com or National Association of Professional Pet Sitters www.petsitters.org The Long Island Parrot Society has a list of pet sitters at www.liparrots.org

Schedule interviews so prospective pet sitters can meet your birds. Check references.

Ask your bird sitter about availability on the dates you plan to be away.

Confirm services required and cost.

When you have made your trip plans:

Contact your pet sitter and confirm dates and cost.

Call or visit your avian veterinarian to plan for your bird’s medication. If the need should arise while you are away, tell your vet the dates you will be away, the name of the person who is authorizing your bird in for treatment or evaluation and plan to have such visits billed to you directly.

A month before you leave:

Bring your bird to the vet for a well-bird visit. Re-confirm emergency arrangements.

Re-confirm dates with your bird-sitter.

Purchase some safe toys (‘hand’ toys or other proven safe playthings) for your bird to play with while you are away.

If you purchase bird supplies via mail order, catalog or online, order them now.

Two weeks before your trip:

Line up a friend or family member to check in on your bird sitter once or twice a day during your absence just to be sure everything is okay.

Have your bird groomed. Trimmed toenails and clipped flight feathers will help reduce the risk of accidents or escape while you’re away.

Purchase extra trash bags and cleaning products for the bird sitter to use while you’re away.

Make sure there’s an ample supply of newspaper or cage tray paper. Save time later and cut paper to size if necessary.

Label any spray bottles and bird cleaning products your bird sitter will use. Your bird’s bath spray bottle should be clearly marked “Clean Water for Bathing Birds”.

Make an extra set of house keys for your bird sitter and test them to be sure they work.

Begin making your own Bird Sitter’s Check List. Leave the check list where your bird sitter will find it. Include the following things as they apply to you and your birds and add your own special items:

- Phone number where you can be reached; landline at destination and your cell phone numbers; your e-mail address;
- Emergency numbers while you’re away; related to medical care, heating company; household repair people; alarm company;
- Location of electrical panel and shut-off switches for boiler, etc.
- Airline flight numbers and schedule or driving itinerary.
- Date and time of your return;
- Garbage collection days and location of cans
- Location of mailbox, newspaper delivery and package delivery so bird sitter can bring items inside
- Dates and times of scheduled service visits: cleaning person, lawn service, etc. (You should also request an additional charge if your sitter must use an extra special trip to let people in.)
- List of your bird’s names and species

The week before you leave:

If you’re using a new bird sitter, ask him or her to come over for a final visit before you leave. At this time, another questions: re-familiarize your bird sitter with your home and give the sitter your house keys and your alarm code. (Some alarms accommodate a special, additional code for this check.)

(Continued to page 10)
Storage Shed Moves to Ronkonkoma

We have a great team—on both ends (Amityville and Ronkonkoma).

A BIG shout out of thanks to:

Susan S, David, Bob, Robert, Candy, Mike & Carol, My nephew, Jason, Susan C, Shawn & Karie-ann

Relax and have a wonderful time!

Since implementing a nickel charge for single-use plastic bags, Suffolk County has seen their utilization go down more than 80 percent! A reduction of more than one billion plastic bags was reported during the first year after a bag fee was imposed in New York. Special thanks go to everyone who uses reusable bags for shopping.

The bald eagles in Centerport are reportedly sitting on two eggs. Several suitors are still courting the female. The widowed male bald eagle in North Palm Beach, Florida continues to raise his two youngsters, who, at this writing are fledging.

A dozen scarlet macaws flew to freedom in Costa Rica this past February, thanks to the Macaw Recovery Network. See video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p7RdadYCZI

Chalky, Maud and Blumine islands, which are now predator-free.

From the Japanese Times: Some 60% of animal cafes in Japan contain exotic species restricted by international trade laws, raising fears that their popularity may not just threaten their conservation, but may also heighten the risks of animal-borne diseases, a recent study found. By species, birds made up 62% of the total, of which 40% were owls. A total of 38 stores also sold the animals displayed in the cafe. Many of the owls were available for $1,500 to $4,400, while reptiles could be obtained cheaply. The most expensive animal listed was a secretary bird for nearly $23,000.

From the American Bird Conservancy: ABC and partner Aquasis have been working in Brazil’s Baturité Mountains, one of the species’ last wild strongholds, to prevent the gray-breasted parakeet’s extinction. Barely 13 percent of the Gray-breasted Parakeet’s original habitat remains. Until recently, most of the population was found in just one isolated area. Aquasis has collaborated with landowners to prevent poaching and to install nest boxes that provide the parakeets with nesting sites. The nest box program has been successful, adding hundreds of birds to the population — enough to get the species downlisted from Critically Endangered to Endangered in 2017.

In addition, the partners have begun to establish additional populations of the species. For the first attempted reintroduction, they selected a protected area in the Aratanha Mountains, about thirty-five miles northeast of the Baturité Mountains. Starting in November 2021, conservationists took several groups of Gray-breasted Parakeets to the new site. In February 2023, three chicks fledged from the reintroduction site — the first official members of the first-ever reintroduced population of gray-breasted parakeets.

The Long Island Parrot Society recently sent two packages of feathers to feathers for Native Americans in Virginia. The nonprofit 501(c)(3) feather distribution program collects molted feathers and donates them to the Pueblo Indians of the Southwest for use in their rich customs and traditions. By gifting molted Macaw and Parrot feathers, we can eliminate sellers of illegally imported feathers from Central and South America. If you’d like to donate feathers, send to: Steven James, Feather Collection Center, 3415 Butterfly Arch, Virginia Beach, VA 23456

To learn more, visit www.feathersfortribalnatives.org.

From the World Parrot Trust: Orange-fronted Parakeets are found on offshore islands in New Zealand. They have reached a critical status in the wild due to introduced predators and the loss of their nesting trees. Thankfully, the species has been subject to intensive breeding-for-release and nest protection efforts by the New Zealand Department of Conservation, which have helped to increase their population. Birds have been released on...
**Why Focus On Enrichment?**

**BY LARA JOSEPH | FEBRUARY 23, 2023**

Enrichment isn’t an option; it’s a necessity

What is enrichment?

I’ve always described enrichment as an arousal of the senses. There are five different senses, and many times, I incorporate enrichment using more than one of these senses. Enrichment can come in the form of visual, olfactory, tactile, auditory, and even olfactory. Enrichment can come in the form of a toy, a change in the environment, a scent, food, or something the animal can touch or manipulate. There is such a wide variety of ways we can incorporate enrichment into the lives of animals under our care.

Is enrichment important?

That depends on whom you ask. Most of our work at The Animal Behavior Center focuses on enrichment for many important reasons. Studies show if you are actually using positive reinforcement training, the animal's preferred form of enrichment, I agree. I see this every day. If the animal is giving behaviors for items or events of high value, why would it want the training to stop? This is the primary reason why I train.

If you were to ask me if enrichment is important, I would tell you it’s not an option; it’s a necessity. When an animal is in our care, its choices are usually restricted in some form or another. These choices can be restrictive due to their safety when we aren’t able to supervise. A dog living in a house has restricted options in choice. For this reason, there are government regulations on enrichment for zoos and aquariums. These government regulations are starting to focus more on all animals, not just those of higher intelligence. Birds are the most recent focus of their implementation. There is also the Animal Welfare Act, first implemented in 1966. The act has been changed many times since then. The primary purpose of the AWA is to ensure that animals receive the minimum standards of humane care and treatment.

How does one identify enrichment?

Enrichment should engage the animal in interacting with it. The more the animal interacts with it, the more it manipulates it through investigation and curiosity. Curiosity is extremely important to an animal’s well-being. Studies show that mental and physical stimulation is extremely important to an animal’s well-being.

When I’m working with a curious animal, I am manipulating its environment to identify what the environment contains that can bring the animal satisfaction. I observe the choices the animal makes. I then take those reinforcers and provide them in various ways to keep the animal engaged in the future.

When we help provide choices to an animal, we are helping empower that animal. Empowerment is giving that animal power over its environment. We can set up the environment to help the animal make appropriate choices and help prevent behavior concerns. We can empower animals by providing choice, control, and changing and increasing complexities.

It is important to note that enrichment should be individualized and based on and designed around the one animal in front of you. Let me give you an example that made this point very clear to me. Let’s say I’m a teacher of a five-grade class. Just because the child in my class named Sarah doesn’t mean all future students named Sarah will be the same and have the same likes, dislikes, personalities, and behaviors. The same is true for every Rivetter, ring-tailed lemur, or Umbrella cockatoo sitting in front of us.

Animals of the same species are all individuals and should be treated and approached as such. An animal’s individual history will differ in how it was raised, what choices it was provided with, and concerns it may have. These factors are extremely important when deciding what enrichment we will provide.

How does enrichment impact behavior concerns?

Behavior concerns develop from a lack of individualized enrichment. If we don’t provide mental and physical enrichment, the animal is learning. If the animal is learning it means the animal’s choice is involved. When the animal has the choice, the animal has control. You have an empowered animal in a controlled complexity.

*Used with permission - www.theanimalbehaviorcenter.com | https://www.theanimalbehaviorcenter.com/why-focus-on-enrichment/*

(Continued from page 12)

I spoke for two hours and stayed an additional forty minutes addressing questions and brainstorming ideas and future collaboration with the students. I discussed the severity of misunderstood behavior issues and inaccurate behavior modification plans. This doesn’t need to be. Several of the resident at The Animal Behavior Center, not just parrots, were cases likely ending in euthanasia. My goal is to provide full quality and empowered livest to these animals in addition to showing how these are behavior issues that can be addressed.

Many of the behavior issues in the companion parrot world are due to separation anxiety, unknowingly

reinforcing nesting behaviors, and lack of appropriate enrichment, which many cases turn to feather destructiv behaviors and severe cases of self-mutilation.

The lives of parrots contain a level of mental and physical complexity that mentally aging for many people.

We don’t learn from easy and there is much room for us to do better. This comes in the form of education. When we know better, we do better. The lives of animals rely on us doing better.

Meredith Peet Bain 1-29-1948 – 2/28/2023

Charter Long Island Parrot Society member. Meredith Bain passed away at her winter residence in Florida after a valiant, three-year battle with ALS.

Even without the ability to speak she charmed an audience in the Broadway play Newsies, rode her beloved horse Spicy Jax until 6 months before she passed, and enjoyed a sip of a nightly cocktail. Her beloved caique traveled between Florida and Long Island with Meredith and her husband, Gene Nifenecker each season.

Meredith was truly a force of nature, and the world is diminished without her in it. All who knew her will miss her humor, her energy, and her sense of fun. She lived a truly remarkable life, and we are all richer for having her in it. As Meredith would say, "Cowgirl up!"
The Hardest Animal to Train

BY LARA JOSEPH

A fearful, unsocialized animal can communicate this history through behaviors such as hissing, lunging, growling, and more. These are all signs of communication that serve a purpose for the animal. Too many people want too big of behaviors too fast. ‘Too big’ means the animal doesn’t understand what you are asking for or your intentions, because he may never have been communicated through training and learning. These examples are often the cases of numerous returns to the shelters, euthanization, chained to the garage, or covered in a cage in a basement.

Each animal is as individual as each person and should be approached as such. We, as caretakers can fall into the trap of expectations in wanting or adopting the animal we have in mind. No person or animal comes with a guarantee. We work with what we are given and we can do better for them and their future with us by recognizing this. I was recently contacted by someone that adopted a dog with fearful behaviors. This person told me “This is not what I wanted.” I responded by saying “You have what you adopted… a unique individual.”

The above conversation correlates to a recent example I heard someone describe. It is relative to a teacher saying “Sarah just graduated from the fifth grade and therefore I expect all fifth grade students named Sarah to be exactly alike. This worked for my last Sarah. Why isn’t this working for this one?” Genetics, history, nutrition, environment, medicine, and experience through consequences all play a major factor in the behavior of the animal.

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**Long Island Pet Expo**

**March 3, 2023**

**Organizations / Clubs**

**LIPS Donates to Eric Powers at CEED**

**“We’re Back!”**

Photo credit to Diane Hyde
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. (631-957-1100):

- **Bird Paradise**, Burlington, NJ, 10% off (doesn’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**, 24/7, 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 liparrot10
- **First Flight**, 514 Middle Country Road, Coram (631-732-1494) 10% birds and related
- **Paumanok Veterinary Hospital**, Patchogue (631-475-1312) 10% off exam
- **Total Pet Care/Lawrence Labs**, Holbrook (800-TOTL-PET) 10% LIPS.

Please observe the following rules for the safety of your parrots and others!

- You must be a LIPS member for at least 60 days prior to bringing birds to meetings or events.
- Non-members and guests are not permitted to bring birds to meetings or events.
- Flighted birds must be confined to carriers or cages.
- All birds must remain under supervision of their pet human or a caretaker designated by said human.
- Please clean up after your birds (poop, food, etc.).

The following birds must have been quarantined for 60 days prior to attending meetings or events:

- Newly acquired birds, baby birds and geriatric birds.
- Sick birds; any bird exposed to sick birds within the past 60 days.
- Birds that have been boarded in pet shops.
- Pin-feathered baby birds are not permitted at meetings or events unless contained in appropriate, solid sided containers or incubators. Owner assumes any risks associated with bringing such birds to meetings or events.

Direction to Our Meeting Hall, 58 Greenwood Avenue East Islip, NY 11730

From the East:
Sunrise Hwy to exit 46. Left on Connetquot Avenue. Stay straight. Turn right at Hawthorne Ave. (Just after Railroad tracks.) Stay straight until the end of the street, note the Greenwood Hall Sign. Follow into the long drive way.

From the West:
Sunrise Hwy to exit 46 toward County Rd 17/Carleton Ave/East Islip/Central Islip. Merge onto Sunrise Hwy South Service Rd. Turn right onto Garfield Ave. Turn left onto Jackson St. Turn right onto Carleton Ave. Turn left onto Union Blvd. Turn left at the 2nd cross street onto Greenwood Ave Street.

Speak up for Feather Flash
The official, online news service of the Long Island Parrot Society
- Updates on Club Activities and events!
- Timely product warnings!
- News you can use!
- Happenings in the avian community
Don't miss us!
Subscribe to our website www.liparrots.org/featherflash!

Check Out Our Meeting Vendors!
- **14 Karat Parrot**—Great “Parrotphernalia”!
- Fine Gifts and Accessories for the Exotic Bird Lover!
- **K&M Mobile Grooming & Bird Food**

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Going Away? Don’t Delay!
- Pet Siting
- Property and Building
- Mobile Notary Services
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631-563-0838
DietrichSVC@gmail.com

Support the Long Island Parrot Society when you shop on GoodShop.com.
- Simply click on Choose a Cause at the top of the page.
- In the search box type in Long Island Parrot Society.
- On the right of the page, a link for Long Island Parrot Society will appear. Click the link.
- Goodshop.com will display information on LIPS, on the right, click the SHOP NOW button.
- At the top of your page, it will now display, Supporting the Long Island Parrot Society. You can now shop and donate!

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- Pin-feathered baby birds are not permitted at meetings or events unless contained in appropriate, solid sided containers or incubators. Owner assumes any risks associated with bringing such birds to meetings or events.

Become a LIPS Volunteer!
We need help with Administrative work, answering phone call, 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.

Directions to Our Meeting Hall, 58 Greenwood Avenue East Islip, NY 11730
From the East:
Sunrise Hwy to exit 46. Left on Connetquot Avenue. Stay straight. Turn right at Hawthorne Ave. (Just after Railroad tracks.) Stay straight until the end of the street, note the Greenwood Hall Sign. Follow into the long drive way.

From the West:
Sunrise Hwy to exit 46 toward County Rd 17/Carleton Ave/East Islip/Central Islip. Merge onto Sunrise Hwy South Service Rd. Turn right onto Garfield Ave. Turn left onto Jackson St. Turn right onto Carleton Ave. Turn left onto Union Blvd. Turn left at the 2nd cross street onto Greenwood Ave Street.

Please observe the following rules for the safety of your parrots and others!
- You must be a LIPS member for at least 60 days prior to bringing birds to meetings or events.
- Non-members and guests are not permitted to bring birds to meetings or events.
- Flighted birds must be confined to carriers or cages.
- All birds must remain under supervision of their pet human or a caretaker designated by said human.
- Please clean up after your birds (poop, food, etc.).

The following birds must have been quarantined for 60 days prior to attending meetings or events:
- Newly acquired birds, baby birds and geriatric birds.
- Sick birds; any bird exposed to sick birds within the past 60 days.
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We Welcome Our New Members with Open Wings:

January 2023: MaryKate Brennan; Nichole Scalone; Jane O'Halloran; Liz Bitondo; Christina Segovia; Susan Murphy; Rosemarie Vega; Stamatina Gregory; Lauren Kolesinskas, Melissa Bonet; Bonnie Zimmerman

February 2023: Kimberly Rastelli; Lisa Labrusciano; Giovanni Arroyo; George Stockdale; Lisa Bono; Michelle Gren Raynor

March 2023: Nancy Taubenslag; Barry Jones; Yasmin Tejeda; Luis Ramos; Susan Walsdorf; Janna Jovine; Emily Rothschild; Marina Stalson

We hear that Dr. Heidi Hoefner has retired but remains on staff as a consultant at Island Exotic Veterinary Care in Huntington Station. Dr. Meredith Davis acquired the practice last year. Long Island Budgie Rescue founder, Shana Kersten works there too!

Condolences to Tom Walkowiak, whose toucan, Sam, passed away in March. He had purchased/rescued Sam from a pet store and gave him a couple of great years. He knew Sam was an older bird when he got her. Sam waited for Tom to get home and pick her up before she made her journey over the rainbow bridge.

Best wishes to Diane Ciardullo as she recovers from back surgery.

A little birdie told us that member Linda LaFleur entered her pup in one of the dog events at Pet Expo last month!

Condolences to Joan Napolitano on the loss of her sister, Marian DiFazio.

Do you remember Sister Barbara Seaward, a regular meeting attendee with her African grey parrot, Angel? Sister Barbara is now in the nursing center at Dominican Village in Amityville. Send her a card at: Sister Barbara Seaward, Dominican Sisters, 555 Albany Avenue, Amityville NY 11701

Happy wedding anniversary to Frank Huwer and his bride of 47 years!

Sympathy to Andrea Mercier on her dad’s passing. Many thanks to first-year Board member, Susan Seddo, who is proving to be a real go-getter! She researched and visited alternatives to our storage unit, and negotiated a move that will save the club several thousand dollars a year! Thanks also for her generous, and much-loved donation to the March raffle table! Delicious!

Condolences to Denise Coscia, on the loss of her 25-year-old Quaker parakeet. She had him for 21 of those years.

Best wishes to Patti McKenna who is recovering from surgery.

Amazon Smile sent us a donation of $108.57, covering the period from October 1-December 31, 2022. Thanks to all who shopped!

One of our members, who has the personality for it, has been working part-time as a food demonstrator at Costco in Westbury. Can you guess who?

Sign of the times? The March issues of two major pet industry magazines featured only three ads for bird products, and not a single article about pet birds.

Special thanks to Michele Benners whose birthday Facebook fundraiser resulted in $120.00 in donations for LIPS as of this writing!
Although the Abrahams had backyard bird feeders when they lived in North Babylon, they really got into birthing in Florida, and Marcia became quite an avid birder. “I got involved with Audubon and learned how to identify birds. It started as a photo effort, but then I got into serious birding. I started with eBird, a website devoted to birding (Visit ebird.org). For me, it’s really about seeing new species and seeing ‘lifers’. I like getting out & getting into nature.” Marcia is anxious to see the spoils for sparrow, recently reported at Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Having pet birds of my own made me much more aware of wild birds,” she said. “When I lived in Florida, I loved seeing the wild parrots. There are white fronted Amazons and mitred conures at the Biltmore Hotel.” Marcia did a Zoom presentation for LIPS, featuring photos of the many parrot species she saw around Florida. She belongs to the Queens County Bird Club and has arranged for some speaker presentations.

David and Marcia moved back to New York in 2019, and showed up at Parrot EXPO and then got right back into attending meetings until COVID struck in early 2020. They live with their mom and three parrots, Pepper, the macaw, and Amazons Kiwi and Coco in a Bayside apartment with a million-dollar view of New York City bridges. “Part of me will always want another sun conure,” shared Marcia, “But space limitations won’t allow it.” However, the apartment provides birdwatching opportunities of its own: “We see Merlins, Cooper’s hawks, red-tailed hawks and American kestrels,” Marcia enthused.

Before retiring, David supervised a computer unit at the District Attorney’s office in New York City. Half-jokingly, he said he’s glad he’s not there now! Marcia formerly worked selling print and digital media for Newspapers First in New York, then worked for TV stations and Wellington Magazine in Florida. “It was stressful, but I loved my equine clients,” said Marcia. “It was stressul, but I loved my equine clients,” Marcia enthused.

Always enthusiastic volunteers and event participants, both Marcia and David hope that we get beyond the avian club and participate in outreach events, often carrying Oscar and Pepper with them. Combined with Elise’s greenwing, Henny Penny, they made quite an impression! Both Marcia and David served on the board of the Bird Lover’s Club, and when Elise founded the Parrot Society of the Palm Beaches, they joined that as well. Lifetime LIPS member, Terri Pakula had also moved to South Florida, and they saw her periodically as well.

Sunny, the sun conure sadly passed away in Florida, and because Maui seemed lonely afterwards, they adopted red-lored Amazon, Coco. They are not the best of friends, but they are comfortable with each other, according to David and Marcia.

The Abrahams moved to Florida in 2011 with their caravan of parrots, and joined up with fellow club member, Elise Negrin to participate in parrot related events, including Hollywood’s Candy Cane Parade. They joined the Bird Lover’s Club and participated in outreach events, often bringing Oscar and Pepper with them. Combined with...
LIPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(Please Print Clearly)

Name:

Address:

Phone Number (with area code):

eMail Address for Feather Flash:

I hereby apply for membership in the Long Island Parrot Society of NY, Inc. Check all that apply:

☐ NEW MEMBER
☐ RENEWAL
☐ SENIOR (62+ 10% off)

☐ GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
(includes electronic newsletter delivery: $45)
☐ LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP $500

☐ Only select this option if you do not want electronic newsletter delivery.

Paper Copy ($15 additional fee charged to help defray the cost of paper version)

Gift (if gift, list your name as sponsor):

Please make your check or money order payable to the Long Island Parrot Society of NY, Inc.
Mail to: P O Box 2754, North Babylon, NY 11703-0754

Membership fees may also be paid on-line on our website using PayPal: https://www.liparrots.org/membership

General Phone: 631-957-1100 Adopion Line: 631-456-1813 eMail: info@liparrots.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS/OUTREACHES

June 21st - In Person Meeting at Greenwood Hall. Starts at 7pm.

*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.

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!

May 12 – 14 - Festival of the Birds
Presque Isle State Park in Erie, PA

May 13 - Audubon’s World Series of Birding - Bernardsville, NJ

May 18 - 21 - New Jersey Audubon's 2023 Cape May Spring Festival - Cape May, 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