April certainly did bring showers at the end of the month; however, that can only mean one thing—MAY FLOWERS!

Speaking of May flowers, our Spring Bulb Fundraiser was a success—thanks to the fundraiser participants, we reached 130.25% of our goal! Participants will be receiving their bulbs in May (and flowers will be blooming in a couple of months after that—ready for summer).

BIG NEWS! We have a new location for our June 21 in-person meeting! Board member, Susan Seddo, was scouting out some locations and happened upon the American Legion Hall in Sayville. The price was right—no charge for a non-profit! The address is: 23 Foster Avenue in Sayville (631) 750-2572 Directions and a map are located in the newsletter. Plenty of parking.

The presenter for the in-person June 21 meeting is LIPS member, Frank Huwer. Frank will be demonstrating toy making and will have kits for you to join along. We will also have toy parts, books and t-shirts for sale and great raffle prizes. There will also be Bird Talk magazines that will be given away. Coffee/tea/water will be available. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Debbie Goodrich from the Flight Club Foundation in Seattle presented to us via Zoom on April 19. She spoke about “Successful Strategies for Recovering Lost Parrots”. Debbie’s presentation was eye-opening. Debbie agreed to having her presentation recorded as she loves sharing—definitely worth viewing—(https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=xP0X2p0YhE)—you’re going to learn a lot. Debbie’s bio is in the April newsletter to learn more about her.

Our May 17 Zoom meeting presenter is South Florida Wildlife Photographer, Jon-Mark Davey. What a presentation this will be! Read Jon-Mark’s bio in the newsletter.

Kaitlin Saxton, Bird Girl Pet Services, LLC, is always educating herself for the betterment of the animals under her care in her boarding/sitting/grooming business. Kaitlin just successfully completed Pet Sitters International’s course on Rabbit and Pocket Pet First Aid and Care for Pet-Care Professionals. Kaitlin has also completed the Bird First Aid and Care for Pet-Care Professionals. Congratulations and thank you Kaitlin for always going that extra step.

Kudos to board members and volunteers extraordinaire, Susan C and Susan S, for continuing the reorganization of the new storage unit. Still more to be accomplished; however, there is a light at the end of the tunnel!

Stay tuned for more news regarding our mini EXPO to be held in October at the VFW in Sayville. The reorganization of the new storage unit is playing a big role in this event.

You asked for more LIPS reusable shopping bags—we heard you. Order date is pending.

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 email us at info@liparrots.org.

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

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### TFCU Account Balances as of April 2023

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### Board Business

**Spring Bulb Fundraiser** — posted on LIPS FB page and FF (so far one order received) We have until April 24th to order. The organization running the fundraiser has quality plants. On April 12, a visit to the PO Box resulted in a check for $1100.00 from a FB fundraiser!

**Two AFA Delegates** from LIPS (we renewed our annual membership with the AFA). We renewed our membership. Diane is a delegate; we need one more from the club. Delegates vote on AFA bylaws. Susan C to be the second delegate.

**NY State Charities Board...** we must submit aCHR-500 form each year; then must file form 990EZ. Now must be done electronically and done at one time. Bob Dietrich to complete 990EZ

**CAGE SALES:** We do not have enough cages to mount a successful sale at this writing. Have several cages pending pick-up.

**Process of the NL** — Review and Comments by Board Members; Susan S. suggested doing an interview with Eric Powers highlighting CEEED.

**Letter seeking raffle donations** to be updated by Susan C.

**Elderly former LIPS member** (Steve Grossman from Great Neck) needed help and Susan S and member Marla Greene stepped up to the plate! Susan S is currently fostering his Meyers parrot — will be put up for adoption. Vet check for bird approved.

**Continued organizing of new storage shed in Ronkonkoma — must complete building two shelving units to accommodate more boxes. Susan C to purchase more plastic boxes. Meeting at the shed on Friday April 14 for further organization.**

**June 21 in-person meeting.** Thanks to Susan S, American Legion Hall in Sayville can accommodate us for free. Hall has WiFi. Susan S is waiting to hear from her contact to see when we (a couple of board members) can do a quick walk through. Need to confirm that they will do set-up and break down of tables/chairs. Susan S indicated there will be a moderator on site. If this is the same person who does set up/breakdown and since we are not paying rent, a tip to this person would be the right thing to do ($100?).

**Frank agreed to demonstrate toy making.** The club will sell toy parts at the June meeting.

**Order more reusable shopping bags?** Stick to green color for branding purposes. Passed; order date pending.

**Mini EXPO at VFV in Sayville in October** (we have enough raffle items and toys/toy parts to be self-sufficient). 2200 square feet; can accommodate a mini-EXPO.

**Avian Flu:** Condors in Arizona died of avian flu, as well as some birds on Long Island including loons, gulls, bald eagles, snow goose and even a lori keet. Most dangerous time is during migration. Avian flu has spread to other species: skunks, foxes, cats, marine mammals. We will follow strict sanitary protocols at outreach events.

**SC 1777–2022** (local law to restrict use of exotic animals in traveling performances in Suffolk County) — The resolution was tabled in January 2023. Diane emailed Legislators Robert Trotta and Leslie Kennedy to find out when the resolution will be back on agenda and if the meeting will be open to the public.
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
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Long Island Bird & Exotics Veterinary Clinic (LIBEVC) is a state of the art veterinary hospital dedicated entirely to the care of bird and exotic pet species. We specialize in surgical procedures, endoscopy and minimally invasive surgery and advanced imaging of these unique species. We are open seven (7) days a week and our overnight staff can be reached by calling our emergency line: (516) 441-2726.

ENDOSCOPY Dr. Malka is one of the leading avian and exotic endoscopists in the field
- Gastrointestinal endoscopy, bronchoscopy, endoscopy assisted surgery and coelioscopy
- Internal biopsies, bladder stone removals in small mammals (rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs)
- Endoscopy assisted dentistry in all small mammal procedures

CT, FLUOROSCOPY AND ULTRASOUND
LIBEVC is one of four hospitals in the country that utilize CTScan designated exclusively for birds and exotic pets. 3-D reformatting enables us to perform surgeries or endoscopic surgeries with greater precision and success.

SURGERY
- Orthopedics
- Soft tissue surgery
- Rodent/Lagomorph dentistry and maxillofacial surgery
- Avian and reptilian reproductive tract emergencies
**Education**

### Avian Flu Update

Avian flu is a highly contagious and deadly viral infection affecting birds. It is caused by the influenza A virus and can be transmitted from birds to humans, as well as between birds through contact or exposure to infected material.

Several years ago, a major outbreak of avian flu occurred, and it was crucial to implement biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of the virus. This involved strict control of access to farms, separation of infected and healthy birds, and regular testing for the virus.

**The Early Days of Introduction**

As a parrot becomes a member of your family, it is important to consider the transition period. During this time, the parrot will need to adapt to its new environment and establish a bond with its new caregiver.

### The Introduction of a New Parrot

By Pamela Clark

My best Christmas gift this year is Chuckie. Chuckie is the sixth African Grey to join my flock for good, although a few others have come and gone. He is approximately 11 years old and has been cared for well by a friend of mine. She didn’t use to be a friend. She was a client who brought Chuckie in annually to the vet clinic at which I worked. I was always the tech technician and we grew fond of each other over the years.

At one point, she began asking me if I would adopt Chuckie when she died. I said “No.” She continued to make the request every year when I saw her, and I finally agreed to foster Chuckie while I tried to find him a home. At the time, we must have caught me in a weak moment, and I did agree finally to adopt him myself. That was several years ago.

This December, age, health and other concerns forced a move for her much closer to family and it wasn’t possible to take Chuckie. The decision was an agonizing one, as it so often is when anyone surrenders a beloved parrot. But, there really was not a choice when it came right down to it. And, now Chuckie is mine.

This change is a big adjustment for Chuckie. He is used to living with his best friend in their home – just the two of them. Now he lives with me, whom he knows just a little, and five goofball African Greys and assorted other parrots.

Now he must not only navigate a new friendship with my family, but also make new friends as well. It is true, something he has never done. A parrot who has always lived with humans can find this to be a considerable challenge. Chuckie speaks English very well, but doesn’t know anything about speaking African Grey.

### Behavior is a Study of One

Many people ask about the best way to introduce a parrot into your home, expecting a set of simple instructions. Years ago, the oft-repeated advice was to leave a new cage for three days to allow him to “acclimate” to your home before you allowed him out to interact. That might be appropriate for some parrots, for others it could be punishing.

Behavior is a study of one. I don’t know who first said that. I am repeating it here because this is one of the most important things you will ever learn. Generalizations such as the advice to leave a new bird in the cage for three days, will never serve you well.

Every parrot brings with him a different learning history, in addition to differences dictated by genetics. Further, his behavior in your home will differ from the behavior he displayed in his previous home, especially if that was a rescue organization.

Even small environment changes can have a significant impact upon a parrot’s behavior. When it comes to changing homes, a total environment change, the impact on a bird can be huge in the short term. Therefore, the behavior you may have observed in his last living situation may not be the behavior that you see once you get him home.

### Before You Bring Him Home

Prior to bringing a new adult parrot home, it’s important to know much information as possible about his past. Does he choose to fly? What are his favorite treats? What diet has he been eating? What are his favorite toys? Does he show fear of anything? Ask as many questions as you can that are pertinent to your home and family.

When it comes to information about diet and environment, you make your new parrot feel as comfortable as possible. You can use his favorite foods for motivation and teaching. You can provide his favorite toys to ensure some level of continuity. You will certainly offer the diet he is used to eating.

Try to keep as many things the same in this regard during your early weeks with him. You can always improve his diet and get him a better cage once he’s more comfortable.

When it comes to information told to you about his behavior, you will not be able to rely upon this to be true. It offers you a starting point only, and the information that you collect by observing the parrot yourself will be much more important.

For one thing, when people relinquish a parrot; they often lie. We are all human, and if you want to get rid of an animal, you are not going to highlight their problem behaviors when speaking to a potential adopter.

Additionally, the previous owner may not know how to interpret body language and, therefore, may not really know or understand the parrot with whom they have lived. In these cases, the information they provide may not be helpful. So, when you finally get your new bird home, you may be in for some surprises.

### Have in Mind Some Future Goals

As a parrot becomes a member of your family, you are always in the back of my mind a set of goals. These goals represent all of the activities that I believe are vital to good emotional, mental and physical health:

- **Eating a varied, nutritionally complete diet**
- **Time spent foraging**
- **Chewing wood and other materials**
- **Bathing**
- **Learning new things**
- **Acceptance of a variety of alternate perching sites**
- **Enjoying an outdoor avairy**
- **Compliance with reinforcement for handling**
- **The development of better flight skills (if possible)**
- **Peaceful co-existence with the other birds**
- **A minimum of noise**
- **A lack of aggression**

### The Early Days of Introduction

When a new parrot joins our home, we must suspend whatever arbitrary agenda we might have previously entertained, and instead support the parrot’s process for integration into the family. A parrot’s...
innately social nature will move him to incorporate himself into whatever social structure exists. All we have to do is provide support and guidance.

How do we do that? We observe body language and respond appropriately. Parrots are great communicators. All we have to do is be good listeners and to take our cues from the new parrot.

Generating Specific Goals

When a new parrot enters my house, my approach is two-fold: (1) begin to slowly introduce activities consistent with my goals, and (2) begin to build a trusting social relationship.

Since I know that I can’t necessarily rely upon the information I have gathered about my parrot’s previous behavior, I procrastinate only when I begin to introduce each of these things. I then watch his reaction, which provides me with better data about what types of teaching will be necessary as we go forward.

For example, I will present him with the diet I feed all of my birds and see what he does. If he eats it, I continue to offer it and observe. If he only picks at it, I will supplement his dinner with something I might have provided. If he has been on a seed mix, I will continue to provide that and use the method I have developed to convert him from eating seed mix to pellets and fresh foods.

If I provide a basic foraging toy and he ignores it, I assume that I will need to teach him to forage. I will provide an easily available future, the food. I know that I may have to use positive reinforcement to capture and shape the behavior of choice. If I scrimp with water and he runs away, I know that I need to teach him to bathe.

When it comes to Chuckie, I am very lucky. He already eats a great diet and loves to bathe. He chews on wood when it is provided. He’s a wonderful talker but makes no sounds. I don’t like and he hasn’t shown the least inclination to bite insects or play. He quickly figured out the orange winged parrot’s social behavior and shape the behavior of choice. If I chow him down with water and he runs away, I know that I need to teach him to bathe.

Chuckie in foreground stretching comfortably. He is already exploring away from his cage on his own and has even moved into the living room. Since he can move around on his own, I see no reason to try to force this issue by carrying him out there. He’ll make the trip when he’s ready.

He is also already making friends. Bongo Marie and Naadav are now hanging out near his cage, where Chuckie still prefers to stay most of the time. They have become steady companions. It will be fun to see what materializes in the future. Greys do enjoy those other grey birds.

Chuckie does not, however, step up from inside his cage and onto my hand. He is very much a parrot. He also still prefers to remain in or on his cage a lot more than I would like. And, he’s relatively new to an avian environment, having been found just now when my husband and I boarded with us. And, I don’t think he yet understands the concept of hidden food.

So, my list of things to work on for him include:

- Better compliance when it comes to stepping up. Learning new cued behaviors (targeting to start)
- Learning to forage. Learning to enjoy the aviary
- Building Trust
- When it comes to establishing a social/handling relationship, I prefer to let Chuckie lead in the early stages as I make observations. If I don’t know the parrot well, I simply put the carrier with the door open inside the aviary. If such a system becomes a problem, I recommend this approach. It allows him to come out on his own when he’s ready. The door to the cage can be open as well.
- At this point, you can begin your data collection in regards to his “social temperament.” Hopefully, you have a list of his favorite foods and objects that you can use as reinforcers. Chuckie will look for ways to be successful (gain access to the things he wants) in this new environment.
- If the parrot remains in the carrier for longer than 10 minutes, you have an indication that he may be fearful, at least for now. That will tell you that you may need to proceed slowly. This is the benefit of allowing him to make the moves early and often.
- When does he emerge from the carrier; watch what he does. Does he stay in the cage at the back? Or goes he come out on top and begin exploring. These are critical observations to make. It will be the best evidence you have about whether his behavior lies on the side of bold or shy. This information can then inform your other training strategies.
- During his first week, you will be able to make a list of things that you need to work on and adjustments that you may need to make to the environment.
- Does he startle when the dog or cat walks by? Or, does he show much fondness for your husband? Does he sound an alarm every time someone walks by the window? In order to make him comfortable, or to prevent him from calling in to make adjustments to the environment that will help.

Handling Your New Parrot

- Chuckie is partially flighted as he recovers from his wing clip.
- Chuckie in foreground stretching comfortably. He is already exploring away from his cage on his own and has even moved into the living room. Since he can move around on his own, I see no reason to try to force this issue by carrying him out there. He’ll make the trip when he’s ready.
- Chuckie is partially flighted as he recovers from his wing clip.
- Chuckie in foreground stretching comfortably.

Conservation Notes

From the World Parrot Trust: This March, World Parrot Trust partners, Proyecto Conservacion Coturnoi Puertorriqueno de la Rio Abajo reported an incredible 160 eggs being laid between their captive and wild populations of Puerto Rican Amazon parrots! The Rio Abajo reserve is monitoring wild nests and performing regular inspections to ensure the survival of as many chicks as possible.

Puerto Rican Amazon Parrots are critically endangered and in the 1970’s they were nearly extinct in the wild with less than 20 individuals remaining. Thanks to the continued captive breeding and release efforts on the island, there are now over two hundred parrots in the Rio Abajo forests.

Watch for more updates and learn how your support of the WPT aids Puerto Rican Amazon: https://www.worldparrottrust.org/projects/puerto-rican-amazon

The Major Mitchell’s cockatoo has been listed as threatened in Australia due to loss of habitat and illegal trapping for the pet trade. Clearing for agriculture has ended in all states except Queensland, but the species is slow to recover.

From WPT’s Dr. Rowan Martin: “Following long investigations by the Eagle Network, two law enforcement operations recently took place, leading to the seizure of more than 100 African grey parrots in Ivory Coast and 11 Timneh parrots in Senegal. The World Parrot Trust has been collaborating with local partners to prepare for the seizures and ensure that the parrots receive emergency treatment and the care they need so that where feasible they can be returned to the wild.”

From theconversation.com The orange-bellied parrot is one of the most endangered birds in the world. In 2016, just four females returned to Tasmania from migration, and only one of them produced a surviving chick. The species migrates from its summer breeding ground in southwestern Tasmania to the coasts of southeastern mainland Australia, but these movements take a toll on the population.

Fortunately, despite ongoing uncertainty about reducing threats, intensive conservation efforts have grown the population. More than thirty females have returned from migration annually over the past two years. Despite this success, many juvenile parrots (both captive-bred and wild-born) that leave Tasmania on their northerly migration die.

Based on a solution is found for high migration and winter mortality rates, orange-bellied parrots will remain dependent on captive breeding and release to prevent extinction and grow the population.

Until a solution is found for high migration and winter mortality rates, orange-bellied parrots will remain dependent on captive breeding and release to prevent extinction and grow the population.

Noted author and parrot expert, Tony Silva says on his Facebook page that African grey parrots display sexual dimorphism. The under-tails in the female are bordered in grey while in the male this feature is absent.

From the American Bird Conservancy: UPDATE: Gray-breasted Parakeets, found only in Brazil, were on the brink of extinction when conservationists stepped in to save the species just over a decade ago. Now, the species is doing so well in its last stronghold in the Baturité Mountains that conservationists have hatched an ambitious plan to reintroduce it across its historic range. With support from ABC, the first phase of that plan hit an incredible milestone earlier this year, when a group of Gray-breasted Parakeets released at a reintroduction site with ideal habitat successfully raised chicks.

Of the seventeen bird species extinctions considered to have been averted since 1994 in the Americas, the American Bird Conservancy and partners have helped to prevent five. Although surviving, they require ongoing conservation oversight. The Andean cock-of-the-rock, red-bellied macaw and yellow-eared parrot are included in the list.

...And in the USA:

Avin Flu is still out there! The endangered California condor has been severely affected. A lorikeet died on Long Island. Please keep observing biosecurity protocols, especially if you are near waterfowl.

The Centerport eagles continue to incubate eggs, while eagle hatches elsewhere on Long Island. The widowed male eagle in North Ft. Myers, Florida, continues to shepherd his two offspring through life. Both birds have successfully fledged and are learning to hunt. One disappeared for a day, but was soon back and flying. It may return to the nest tree to great the great of nest watchers.

Suffolk County leads NY State in pesticide use! In 2021 the DEC reported that the county used 6.52 million pounds of pesticide products, while Nassau used 1.65 million pounds. The usage of these insecticides is dependent on birds (especially nestlings when they are fed poisoned bugs), pollinators and drinking water. Much of the responsibility lies with homeowners who prize lush green lawns and often use pesticides and herbicides improperly.
Do Animals Have Emotions?

By Lara Joseph

DoAnimalsHaveEmotions?

IN-PERSON MEETING JUNE 21
NEW VENUE, NEW PARROT PHERNALIA!
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT?

Would be able to better treat behavior issues or animal with us. Building a better relationship with that animal and that communication and better communication results in teaching. Teaching is learning. Learning is a form of language and we can do that through training. Training is key to better understand in reading our animal’s body language. If excitement is read as anger, we get confused in how a interpreted as an act of aggression. We can see overstimulation can quick result in a bite. That bite could be emotional by relating the body language to our own. This can work in our favor or not. For example, overstimulation can quickly result in a bite. That bite could be interpreted as an act of aggression. We can see overstimulation in play. If the play results in a bite, and excitement is read as anger, we get confused in how a happy animal gets upset during play which could likely result in the engagement of play being punished. They key is to better understand in reading our animal’s body language and we can do that through training. Training is teaching. Teaching is learning. Learning is a form of communication and better communication results in building a better relationship with that animal and that animal with us.

If we can better understand the emotions of animals, we would be able to better treat behavior issues or concerns. I love to see empowered animals. I want to see animals having choices and a sense of control over their environment. We do this through enrichment. Enrichment empowers the animal both physically and mentally. Enrichment can change animal emotions. Emotions can be as exciting as joy while redriving the opposite of loneliness, and depression. This is why I train animals using positive reinforcement and behavior analysis. Studies show that if using positive reinforcement training, it is the animal’s preferred form of enrichment.

There are many emotions that can be prevented within our animal’s emotional experiences. There are many psychological problems that are induced when animals are taken away from their parents at a young age. We see this in dogs, primates, parrots, pigs, and many more. With most animals, their parents teach them crucial, life-surviving skills at a young age. Parents of different species can communicate with their young better than we can. They teach them behaviors for a successful future. A future potentially with us.

Socialization can be one of the most complex forms of enrichment we can provide an animal, whether that is socialization with humans or other animals of the same species. Often times we see highly social animals kept or housed individually. What emotional states and behavior concerns does this induce? I have several social species housed individually for several different reasons, with safety is at the top of the list. This is where movement and training plays an important role in the animal’s quality of life. I encourage vocal and visual enrichment between the animals in close proximity and in distances. I reinforce this with my attention and approval while slowly fading myself out of the picture. This helps them begin interacting with each other, especially when I am not around. This also helps prevent separation anxiety.

Separation anxiety is one of the toughest situations to live with. It doesn’t have to be hard to modify but the behavior consequences of separation anxiety can be extreme such as excessive barking, screaming, abnormal repetitive behaviors, and self mutilation. The longer the history of separation and the more reinforced it is, the more likely it will have to remain on a maintenance plan. Many people unknowingly reinforce separation anxiety by not letting the animal spend time with them. People thinking their animals cannot be happy without them. This doesn’t have to be and is not fair for the animal when our lives happen.

The late neuroscientist and psychobiologist Jaak Panksepp, aka “the rat tickler” discovered laughter in rats. His research in interaction and laughter in rats helped design medication to help treat human depression. As he states, when we take the time to better understand in reading our animal’s body language, we are one step closer in understanding our own behavior. According to the American Bird Conservancy, pesticides and other toxins account for seventy-two million avian deaths per year in the United States. They mind very much if you smoke! Secondhand smoke is particularly harmful to pet birds! Eye problems and respiratory issues are likely to result. Why is your bird is handled by a smoker, contact dermatitis may be caused by the nicotine on the smoker’s hands. Some feather plucking has to result from secondhand smoke. The smoke contains many of the chemicals that cause cancer in humans. The chemicals contained in the clouds from vaping can also be harmful. When a bird gets a hold of cigarettes or butts, it may get nicotine poisoning. Please smoke or vapor outdoors and wash your hands before handling your birds. Smoking and Tobacco Use I CDC.

*Used with permission - www.pamelaclarkonline.com - https://blogpamelaclarkonline.com/2020/05/02/the-re-introduction-of-a-new-parrot/

Do Animals Have Emotions?

Imagine, what would life be without emotions? Emotions are a state of consciousness that come through the mind and physiological changes. Our emotions affect mood and how we interact with our environment. They both reinforce and punish behavior. They can be deciding factors in our decisions to perform a behavior again or prevent us engaging in a situation.

It has been a long-term debate on whether animals have emotions. There are many emotionsthat can be prevented within our animal’s emotional experiences. There are many psychological problems that are induced when animals are taken away from their parents at a young age. We see this in dogs, primates, parrots, pigs, and many more. With most animals, their parents teach them crucial, life-surviving skills at a young age. Parents of different species can communicate with their young better than we can. They teach them behaviors for a successful future. A future potentially with us.

Socialization can be one of the most complex forms of enrichment we can provide an animal, whether that is socialization with humans or other animals of the same species. Often times we see highly social animals kept or housed individually. What emotional states and behavior concerns does this induce? I have several social species housed individually for several different reasons, with safety is at the top of the list. This is where movement and training plays an important role in the animal’s quality of life. I encourage vocal and visual enrichment between the animals in close proximity and in distances. I reinforce this with my attention and approval while slowly fading myself out of the picture. This helps them begin interacting with each other, especially when I am not around. This also helps prevent separation anxiety.

Separation anxiety is one of the toughest situations to live with. It doesn’t have to be hard to modify but the behavior consequences of separation anxiety can be extreme such as excessive barking, screaming, abnormal repetitive behaviors, and self mutilation. The longer the history of separation and the more reinforced it is, the more likely it will have to remain on a maintenance plan. Many people unknowingly reinforce separation anxiety by not letting the animal spend time with them. People thinking their animals cannot be happy without them. This doesn’t have to be and is not fair for the animal when our lives happen.

The late neuroscientist and psychobiologist Jaak Panksepp, aka “the rat tickler” discovered laughter in rats. His research in interaction and laughter in rats helped design medication to help treat human depression. As he states, when we take the time to better understand in reading our animal’s body language, we are one step closer in understanding our own behavior. Consequently, I love to see empowered animals. I want to see animals having choices and a sense of control over their environment. We do this through enrichment. Enrichment empowers the animal both physically and mentally. Enrichment can change animal emotions. Emotions can be as exciting as joy while redriving the opposite of loneliness, and depression. This is why I train animals using positive reinforcement and behavior analysis. Studies show that if using positive reinforcement training, it is the animal’s preferred form of enrichment.

There are many emotions that can be prevented within our animal’s emotional experiences. There are many psychological problems that are induced when animals are taken away from their parents at a young age. We see this in dogs, primates, parrots, pigs, and many more. With most animals, their parents teach them crucial, life-surviving skills at a young age. Parents of different species can communicate with their young better than we can. They teach them behaviors for a successful future. A future potentially with us.

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Watch: The science of emotions: Jaak Panksepp at TEDxRainier

BEWARE OF ONLINE BIRD SCAMS!

Have you seen adorable baby birds for sale on Facebook or other online sites and groups? While there are many legitimate breeders in the US, there are just as many scammers.

Some telltale signs are:

- The page or site is new.
- The seller will only communicate via email, messenger, or text.
- There may be some mutual friends shown, but there are few overall.
- Command of the English language is bad, with poor spelling or grammar.
- They have ‘many’ babies, and sometimes even eggs for sale.
- All comments from ‘customers’ are glowing.
- There are numerous photos of baby birds. Many may be shot at various locations, indicating photos may have been stolen from other sites.
- They make stupid mistakes. On ‘Parrot for Sale United States’ on Facebook, they illustrate a post about ‘famous’ parrots that need to be shot to divers.
- Prices are too good to be true.
- The seller insists on shipping the bird rather than letting you pick it up. They often set up fake shipping company sites to further swindle buyers. The shipment is then held up by demands that you wire more money for insurance, food, vet bills or a shipping crate.
- Beware of people who say they only want to find a loving home for their bird and ask you to just pay shipping costs. They often have a sob story to go with it. Ignore threats that the bird will suffer, or that you will face criminal charges if you do not continue sending money.
- The seller demands payment by money transfers, like Western Union or MoneyGram, gift card or prepaid debit card. They may also ask for Zelle or Venmo. Credit card payments provide more protection in case of fraud or dispute.

The Importance of Socialization For The Future of Our Animals

By Lara Joseph

Do a reverse-image search for pictures of a specific bird you are considering buying. Copy and paste text from sales sites and ads into a search engine. If you find matching images and notes in the comments, you are dealing with a scammer. Check the seller’s name against watchdog lists of suspected scammers.

Bottom line: Get references from people you trust—people who have met the breeder and their birds. Never buy or adopt any pet unless you meet it in person!

This month’s topic in our membership program is “Targeting, target training and its importance with all animals.” About a month ago I started target training Rico again, (this particular target is him touching his beak to a stick this/thick needed to be taught) Target training is a great way to get new people involved and engaged with an animal labeled as “Off Contact,” which Rico is labeled for now. I will change this because his future depends on it. I’m not going to use the threat of being the only one to be able to interact with an animal and being the preferred person. This is not good for the health and future of the animal or for anyone living with the animal. Believe me, I love that close interaction with the animal but when an animal is extremely bonded to one person, I guarantee you behavior issues will follow along with stress and anxiety of the animal and the people involved in the life of that animal. Seeing and hearing stress and anxiety in an animal greatly increases my stress level. It is my mission to make all environments as stress free as possible for the animal.

In this photo you will see our new volunteer, Katy Masters target training and reinforcing Rico with an almond silver. Katy has been here two weeks. That’s great work and great training and very desirable behavior changes we’ve seen in Rico. This photo makes me smile very big for Rico and very big for someone who wants to know more about birds! Happy Holidays & Happy Training!

The Real Deal in Macaw Meals: Bird Food by Lafeber

Lafeber Company is dedicated to making the best bird food possible for your macaw and can offer you the benefits of our years of research. Our non-GMO foods incorporate pellets, seeds, fruits and vegetables, balanced Omega 3 & 6 fatty acids and chelated minerals. We believe that bird food should be nutritious and exciting at the same time, so you will find that our diets are designed to promote healthy foraging and enrichment.

Our balanced bird foods for your Macaw include Classic Nutri-Berries and Gourmet Nutri-Berries, Avi-Cakes, Pellet Berries, and Premium Daily Diet Pellets round out the list.

A long, happy, healthy life starts with good nutrition, and we invite you to check out our diets.

Links worth Checking Out!

15 Common Backyard Birds You Should Know

Is your parrot hormonal? How to know and what to do

Inside the Unique Rehab Center Saving NJ Birds

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

August 20-24, Boston, MA Exotics Con, The researchers who taught parrots to make video calls to talk with other parrots are doing 3 presentations! Visit www.exoticscon.org

opportunity to tear food apart!

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opportunity to tear food apart!
Tanglewood Preserve
April 15, 2023

Photo Credit to Shawn & Karie-Ann Florman
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% 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.

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.
We Welcome Our New Members with Open Wings:
April 2023: Diana Capobianco; Stacey McKenna; Grace King; Sharora Khamdamova; Briana Cassano; Anthony Grimaldi

Lifetime member, Ray Young had a wonderful time visiting Sarasota Jungle Gardens on a recent visit to Florida. He got quite a bit of attention and a behind-the-scenes tour because he wore his Long Island Parrot Society tee shirt!

Member Holly Lupo sent some of her sun conure's feathers to Feathers for Native Americans and got a nice thank you note.

Congratulations to Michele Benners and Ken Lisi on their recent marriage!

The conures featured in Mark Bittner's The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill (book and movie) have been voted the unofficial animal of San Francisco pending a change to the city's administrative code. The birds beat out sea lions in the poll sponsored by the San Francisco Chronicle.

Our Facebook page, Friends of Long Island Parrot Society has 3,849 members!

Many thanks to Board member, Susan Seddo for providing lunch for the storage shed crew on April 14th!

Want your Bird TV? Pet bird owners will soon have a streaming channel just for them—If they have Smart TV Roku sticks.

Our Spring Bull Fundraiser exceeded our goal by more than 30%, and again, we have Susan Seddo to thank, as she is the one who suggested it!

Rudos to the Animatronic Club students at William Floyd High school who designed and constructed animatronic singing birds.

Lifetimer member, Roberta Fabiano reports that the osprey couple at Old Field Farm near West Meadow Beach has settled into the specially constructed nesting platform built for them by PSEG at the behest of local ranger, Nicole Pochiari. Roberta and fiancé Frank Fountain were instrumental in calling the osprey pair's plight to her attention after PSEG had to remove several of their nests from utility poles.

The family moved to South Florida later on where his son decided he wanted a cockatiel so off to the Burt Reynolds ranch they went to acquire one. That was the beginning of his love affair with parrots. Christmas 1993, Max, an Eastern Rosella joined the family. In January of 1994 Stanley, the Quaker Parrot, chose him as a companion when he was at a bird store looking for an Amazon Parrot. Stanley was his “best bud” for 16 years. In that time he practiced photographing Stanley and Max and learned as much about their species as possible. He began a website called QuakerVille.com which lived for over a decade and was once recognized as the largest single species bird website. He and his wife Jo were special species editors for “Bird Talk” magazine and they have traveled to speak at conferences and bird meetings, including the American Federation of Aviculture. They also co-authored the book “Parrots in the City” telling the story of the extinction of the Carolina Parakeet and the rescue of Quaker babies and eggs during scheduled nest tear downs by the local power company.

Photos Credit: Roberta Fabiano

Kudos to the Animatronic Club students at William Floyd High school who designed and constructed animatronic singing birds.

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Photo Credit: Roberta Fabiano

Those crazy kids, Pat and Neal Rudikoff recently had an adventure, ziplining over the Arizona desert!

Who let the birds out? An unbelievable number of budgies have been reported missing, found, or sighted on Long Island this spring! Remind yourself to keep exterior doors and unscreened windows closed when your bird is out of its cage. Check flight feathers and have them trimmed if necessary.

SAVE THE DATE!
LI Parrot Society Annual Member Appreciation Picnic, Sept 3rd from 10 to 5pm Pine Pavilion, Belmont Lake State Park

June meeting tee shirt preview

Photo: Susan C.

Jon Mark Davey began photographing birds and other wildlife during his school years in the ’80’s in the mountains of Arkansas. After High school he decided to relocate to Central Florida and began working in the Radio and TV profession. He worked for almost 20 years with some of the best professional cameras in the market. Plus he had access to all the film he could possibly use and a film processing system to enlarge pictures.

After arriving in Florida, at the age of 19, he purchased his first real camera and telephoto lens and set out to document the wonderful wildlife in Florida. His first real encounter with exotic birds happened during a trip to Bush Gardens in Tampa where you can see birds from around the world at the end of your lens. It was love at first click.

The family moved to South Florida later on where his son decided he wanted a cockatiel so off to the Burt Reynolds ranch they went to acquire one. That was the beginning of his love affair with parrots. Christmas 1993, Max, an Eastern Rosella joined the family. In January of 1994 Stanley, the Quaker Parrot, chose him as a companion when he was at a bird store looking for an Amazon Parrot. Stanley was his “best bud” for 16 years. In that time he practiced photographing Stanley and Max and learned as much about their species as possible. He began a web site called QuakerVille.com which lived for over a decade and was once recognized as the largest single species bird website. He and his wife Jo were special species editors for “Bird Talk” magazine and they have traveled to speak at conferences and bird meetings, including the American Federation of Aviculture. They also co-authored the book “Parrots in the City” telling the story of the extinction of the Carolina Parakeet and the rescue of Quaker babies and eggs during scheduled nest tear downs by the local power company.

In 1999 Jon-Mark attended a bird group meeting in Houston, Texas where he met a group of other birders and co-founded two SOTI C3 non-profit organizations, Quaker Parrot Society and Parrot Festival. Twenty-three years later both organizations still help preserve parrots with rescue and preservation services.

Over the years Jon and Jo have had a dozen quakers, 2 Eastern Rosellas, a Double Yellow Headed Amazon and a wonderful Cameroon African Gray pratt as avian companions. They have facilitated many rescued of parrots, a hawk and an eagle. They still have 3 Quakers, Rocky, Biggy and Slicker.
Ray found the members of the club to be kindred spirits. “I found that the people of LIPS loved their parrots as did I,” Ray said. “I thought this was a wonderful place to learn about larger parrots from people who owned them.”

Presently, Ray and wife Rhea have two in-home parrots, a 28-year-old scarlet macaw purchased as a baby from Charles Gonder; they also own a 17-year-old greenwing macaw adopted through LIPS. Sydney is unable to fly due to a damaged left wing, so no harm to Ray when she flies off. “I had my first contact!” Ray said. He explained, “Scarlets can be very friendly birds. I can keep Sydney in my lap, and she just sits there. When I first adopted Sydney, she was extremely aggressive and bit all the time. After a few months she became a big mush. She relaxed, and I began to enjoy her company. I have trained her to step on my lap and sit on a perch in her cage and outside of the cage where she hides behind her toys to sleep. “She is a bird that demands attention and throws a temper tantrum when we are eating, and she wants something. We give in. Trixie, our greening, is a handful! She is a young bird, full of energy and can play rough. Rhea, is afraid of her because of the damage I caused in the past. I have trained her to stop in the kitchen where we have tile floors. Because she is tamed, I must put her in a harness to take her out. Trixie has chewed through four harnesses so far!”

Ray continued, “I take both my birds out all the time, but never at the same time! Sydney is out at one time and I go out to the garden and let her to have her picture taken by people. She is so gentle that I can place her on a stranger’s arm, and she sits right there. If you offer her a pine nut, she will grab it, and I can carry her all over the room. Rhea and I will sit outside at restaurants and coffee shops to eat. They had many outings, activities, and great speakers. I attended his first meeting in April of 2013 and joined immediately. “I found the club to be active, warm & inviting,” said Ray. “It was at one of the meetings where I met Charles Gonder and got my greenwing macaw from him.” Ray had owned two cockatiels and a greenwing macaw, and a Canary by that time, and felt that LIPS was a great place to learn about larger birds before he made his purchase.

Ray found the Trixies to be the greenwing being the most challenging as she is strong and very playful and tends to get into mischief. “If Trixie is quiet, look out, she is ripping something apart!” Trixie is more demanding than Sydney and if she does not want to do something, she will just fly away. Both love to be in the shower and get bathed every other day. If I turn off the water before the Trixie is soaked to the core, she will scream, demand the water back and stay in it longer. I made sure the birds were out of the water when they had enough, they climb to the top of the shower and flip. The entire bathroom will be soaked to the core, she will scream, demanding the water back. When she is done with her bath, she will demand to be held by Rhea so she can get a bath in her arm.

When asked what he likes most about the club, Ray responded, “We all know that bird people are slightly crazy! It is nice to be in a group that understands this. I love that LIPS has so many meetings with great speakers, I find that if I need advice from someone who has dealt with a particular condition. For example, I need advice about a Cockatoo, Robert Gross would be my go to person. Rhea loves the outings, the events, the volunteers at RIRP, clean seventy cages each day, prepare food and fresh water and any other special dietary needs, then socialize with the birds, while noting their progress each day. The relinquished birds stay in quarantine until they get a complete checkup by an avian vet who comes in once a month. Someone had relinquished a hyacinth macaw who was blind, deaf, and had many feathers off his body. The previous owner just fed him MAC and trail mix and kept this beautiful bird locked in a cage! The bird has had a sad life, yet everyone at the rescue loves this bird! I do volunteer work related to the public about this. I am also involved in building out the new rescue facility that will house many more birds, feature an education area, a veterinary office, and event area, and a store dedicated to parrot needs.”

Ray’s hopes for LIPS are that it will continue to thrive and grow its membership. “As we get older, it would be nice to see new members,” Ray said. “I continued what we have created. I would love to see big000 outgoing and increasing. We have a lot of participation. Whenever I take my birds out, I talk about the importance of good, responsible bird ownership and of having a well-behaved parrot with me. It makes a difference! Maybe LIPS can spin off an out of state club!”

Parrot’s Name: Blanco
Species: Umbrella Cockatoo
Age of Parrot: Unknown
Sex: Unknown
Birthday/Hatchday: Unknown
Are the Wings Clipped? No - Fully flighted
Bird Color: White/yellow
Does your bird talk? Hello, I love you, and etc.
What do you currently feed your bird to eat? He/She has the best diet. He/She is healthy.
What does your bird have any feather issues? None.
When was the bird last Vet checked? Yes
2022
Which of the following is your bird good with? Other Pets
What other pets does your bird get along with? I don’t allow any dog/cats and etc to interact with him, as it could end up horrible. Not sure if he interacts with others at prior home
Tell us if your bird has any behavior issues? Plucking, nothing other than that.
Why are you needing to rehome your bird? My parent passed away and no other family member was able to take him in.
Provide us with any additional information. For approved adopters, we will require a few visits to make sure it’s a good fit as the bird chooses their owner. He is very friendly but picky on his people.

Blanco is looking for his forever home. If you are interested in adopting Blanco please contact us at 631-957-1100 or send an email to liparrotbeacon@gmail.com for further information. You can find our adoption application at: liparrotbeacon.org/Adopt
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

UPCOMING MEETINGS/OUTREACHES

May 20th - Outreach - Sachem Library Adoption Fair - 10a-2p
May 20th - Outreach - Lindenhurst Adoption Fair - 11:30a to 2:30p
June 10th - Sweetbriar Nature Center’s Butterfly and Bird Festival - Saturday from 10 to 4pm.
June 17th - North Babylon Library’s Pet Adoption Fair, Saturday from 10 to 1pm.
June 21st - In Person Meeting at American Legion Hall, Sayville. 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 13th - NJ Audubon’s World Series of Birding - Bernardsville, NJ
May 18-21 - New Jersey Audubon’s 2023 Cape May Spring Festival - Cape May, NJ
May 19-21 - Pennsylvania Society For Ornithology’s Birding Festival - Narvon, PA
June 2 - 4 - Great Adirondack Birding Celebration - Paul Smiths, NY

Contact Information:
Website: www.liparrots.org
E-mail: info@liparrots.org
Feather Flash (sign-up): https://www.liparrots.org/featherflash
Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/liparrots
Parrot Phone: 631-957-1100; Diane Hyde
GET INVOLVED—TEAMS & SERVICES—JOIN A TEAM:
Accountant: Adam Seyam, CPA
Bookkeeper: Sharon Millard
Cage Donation Committee: Bob Dietrich, Robert Gross, Susan Seddo
Fundraising Coordinator: Susan Chamberlain
Grooming: Nicole Pica, LVT
Holiday Party Coordinator: Diane Hyde
Hospitality: Carol and Mike Christenson
Membership Coordinator: Bob Dietrich
Media Coordinators:
(Newsletter, Social Media, Signage, AV, Web, & Research)
Kaitlin Saxton, Donna Barbaro, Karie-Ann & Shawn Florman
Outreach Events Coordinator: Candy Little
Parrot EXPO Coordinator: Board of Directors
Parrot Placement Program Coordinators: (631-456-1813)
Diane Hyde, Shawn Florman, Maria Greene
Parrot University® Coordinator: Robert Gross
Picnic Coordinators: Bob Dietrich, Diane Hyde,
Carol and Mike Christenson
Programming and Education Coordinator: David Abrahams
Publicity and Public Relations Coordinator: Susan Chamberlain
Raffles Coordinators:
Special Events: Susan Chamberlain
Vendor and Venue Liaison: TBD
Volunteer Coordinator: Candy Little

HELP WANTED!
Monthly Meetings:
Help with set-up before meeting and break down afterward
Coffee/Refreshments
Volunteers for Parrot University and Outreach Events during the year

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

General Phone: 631 957 1100 Adoption Line: 631 456 1813 E-mail: info@liparrots.org

The Long Island Parrot Society of New York, Inc. is a nonprofit 501c3 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