

## Greetings From Our President

Welcome to our annual All-American Hookbill Fair & Seminar. If you have never been to our fair, you are in for a great experience. For those that have been to our fairs, welcome back.

You will see and meet local and out-of-state vendors who can provide you with everything you need to keep your bird happy and healthy. There are so many things to choose from, such as bird food and snacks, toys and toy parts, cages, swings, play stands and play trees, perches, and, of course, birds.

You will also find our seminar speakers very interesting and informative. The subjects of their talks include the rainforest, avian behavior, first aid for birds, and medical advances in avian medicine. Please join the speakers in the Seminar room located outside the vendor area. You will find a Speakers' Schedule just outside the Seminar room and in the vendor area. Seminars are free with paid admission to the Fair.

If you would like to know more about the Gateway Parrot Club, stop by the Membership Table. There you will find more information about our club in our club flyer. You will also find membership forms, if you wish to join our club.

I hope you have a great day and find everything you need for your feathered friends.

***Dave Kinkade***

President, Gateway Parrot Club

## Schedule of Events

### ***Saturday***

- 10:00 AM** **Doors Open** To The Public
- 11:00 AM** **Rachel Crandell** – Monteverde Conservation League  
Save the Rainforest, save the birds.
- 12:30 PM** **Mattie Sue Athan** – Positively Parrots  
Behavior, training, grooming...
- 2:00 PM** **David Kersting, DVM** – Avian first aid for all.  
What new bird owners need to know...
- 4:00 PM** **Walter Crawford** - World Bird Sanctuary  
What's happening with our wild friends?
- 6:00 PM** **Fair closes.** Dinner with vendors, speakers, members

### ***Sunday***

- 10:00 AM** **Doors Open** To The Public
- 12:00 AM** **Mattie Sue Athan** – Behavior, training, grooming
- 1:30 PM** **Ken Welle, DVM** - What's new in avian medicine
- 3:15 PM** **Silent Auction** Closes
- 3:45 PM** **Big Cage Raffle** Drawing
- 4:00 PM** **Table Raffle** Drawings
- 5:00 PM** Fair Closes

Gateway Parrot Club  
And  
Unweaned Birds

This is our tenth annual Fair since adopting a policy prohibiting sale of unweaned birds. This is a firm commitment to the welfare of our avian friends.

***We do not allow display or sale of unweaned birds at the Fair.*** All vendors have accepted this policy and we are proud of their commitment to the health and welfare of their fledglings. They have taken an extra step to provide a higher level of care than breeders who sell unweaned birds to inexperienced but well meaning people.

This is not an easy choice for these breeders. Many have birds they are unable to present today because they are too young to go home with you. We ask you to applaud these breeders. Talk to them. Get to know them, and arrange for them to introduce you to their young charges when they are truly ready to move on to a new and wonderful experience in a new home. Let them guide you, teach you, and help you make the right decision about the best bird to be your life-long companion.

***Why?*** You might ask. Without going into the unpleasant details, there is a body of unfortunate incidents associated with well intentioned, but inexperienced, owners taking responsibility for the care of an unweaned bird and not fulfilling that responsibility. Ten years ago we were on the leading edge of the effort to eliminate the practice of premature transfer of baby birds. Today, major avian and veterinary organizations are united in this recommendation and States are passing legislation to make the recommendation law. If you would like more information on these organizations their policies, simply do a web search on the words “unweaned birds,” or talk with Gateway Parrot Club members at the Fair.

## **e-Birds**

### Flying Through the Ether

Join us on the web

This is the twenty-first century after all... Like every other interest group, there is a wealth of information available on the World Wide Web about birds. This is just a plug for *our* website:

**[www.GatewayParrotClub.org](http://www.GatewayParrotClub.org)**

We hope you will take advantage of the information and become a member of *The Gateway Parrot Club*.

The website changes periodically, but always offers information about Club activities, details about and links to bird-related information. Our monthly meetings, held the third Sunday of each month at the Humane Society at 2:00 PM, feature interesting and educational speakers discussing topics of interest to bird owners and bird lovers.

While we are *The Gateway Parrot Club*, you will find information of interest to anyone interested in exotic birds and their domestic or wild habitats.

We have another communication tool, an email group. This is hosted by Yahoo Groups and is a very loosely structured place to ask questions or pass along information of interest to subscribers interested in birds. The email group is not tightly associated with the Club. Non-Club members are welcome to participate.

To join the mailing list, just point your browser to:

**[Groups.Yahoo.Com/Group/GatewayParrots](http://Groups.Yahoo.Com/Group/GatewayParrots)**

or look for more detailed instructions, and some important suggestions, on our website at:

**[www.Gatewayparrotclub.org/Members/YahooGroup/YahooGroup.htm](http://www.Gatewayparrotclub.org/Members/YahooGroup/YahooGroup.htm)**

## Got Feathers?

Just a reminder, don't throw them away.

Feathers are not just a nuisance, something to clean up along with the other "stuff" in the bottom of your bird's cage.

Native Americans use feathers from a wide variety of birds in ceremonial costumes and objects. Dr. Jonathan Reyman, an Anthropologist at the Illinois State Museum, started a program, in 1982, to collect feathers and give them, free of charge, to Native Americans.

**The Feather Distribution Project** is designed to help birds as well as Native Americans. Without going into unpleasant details, donating your bird's feathers will reduce the likelihood wild birds will be caught or killed simply for their feathers.

Dr. Reyman has been a guest speaker at our regular meetings and the 2003 All American Hookbill Fair. His experiences with Native Americans and insights into current and historic means of feather gathering are fascinating. You can find details about *The Feather Distribution Project* and view images of some of the ways the feathers are used, on our website.

The Gateway Parrot Club collects feathers and forwards them to *The Feather Distribution Project*. Simply bring your feathers to one of our meetings or contact a club member to coordinate delivery.

## Positively Parrots

### Mattie Sue Athan

Mattie Sue Athan is one of the world's most experienced parrot behavior consultants. In business since 1978, her work is famous for being logical, understandable and practical. Mattie Sue has a special interest in the influence of environment on parrot behavior.

You can find out more from her website,  
[www.PositivelyParrots.com](http://www.PositivelyParrots.com)

Mattie Sue is a behavioral specialist for our birds and has been working closely with the Quaker Parakeet Society.

Her books are industry standards. Titles include:

- Guide To A Well-behaved Parrot
- Guide To Companion Parrot Behavior
- Guide To The Quaker Parrot

She has coauthored:

- The African Grey Parrot Handbook
- Guide To The Senegal Parrot And Its Family

## Quaker Parakeets

We welcome the national Quaker Parakeet Society, having their annual meeting, here in St. Louis, in conjunction with the All American Hookbill Fair. We also want to thank QPS for their donation to the expense of presenting Mattie Sue Athan.

## All Creatures/Birds

Ken Welle, DVM

Dr. Ken Welle studied Animal Science at the University of Illinois and graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine in 1988. In 1991, Dr. Welle joined the veterinary college as an assistant professor, teaching avian, exotic, and wildlife medicine. In 1992, he opened *All Creatures Animal Hospital*. Dr. Ken became the first veterinarian practicing in Illinois to become board certified in avian medicine. He is a member (and currently treasurer) of the Association of Avian Veterinarians, the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, the Association of Reptile and Amphibian Veterinarians, and the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians. Dr. Welle has presented at local and national veterinary conferences and has achieved his goal of creating an exceptional avian and exotic animal hospital for central Illinois.

## Save the Rainforest, Save the Birds

(Rainforest) Rachel Crandell

Rachel represents *The Monteverde Conservation League*, which started with the efforts of school children in 1987, and has blossomed into an international effort focused on The Children's Eternal Rainforest, in Costa Rica.

Find out how it happened, what's going on today, and how you might help...

## Bird Medicine – For You

David Kersting, DVM

Dr. Kersting graduated from the University of Missouri Veterinary School in 1987 and founded *Bird Medicine and Surgery* that year. The practice expanded to Kersting Veterinary hospital in 1994. Birds make up about 80% of the case load. The practice is available 24 hours a day for both clients and non-clients, and consults with five area emergency clinics.

Dr. Kersting was a founding member of the Gateway Parrot Club, and has been the Avian Consultant on staff for Grant's Farm since 1999, and is veterinary consultant for the Pekin Duck Fund and Wild Bird Rehabilitation. Dr. Kersting has been an avian consultant for the Butterfly House, Purina Mills Research Farm in Gray Summit, the American Cockatiel Society, and was a founding member of the Gateway Parrot Club.

## Into the Wild

Walter Crawford

Walter spent his boyhood years in Venezuela, where exotic birds caught his attention and led him to his life's work — the propagation, rescue, rehabilitation, and preservation of birds, especially birds of prey. He received a bachelor's degree from Southeast Missouri State University and a master's degree from Mississippi State University. He was recognized by the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums for

the first captive breeding of the Bateleur Eagle and the Mottled Owl. With the blessing and support of the Zoo's Director Emeritus, Marlin Perkins, in 1977 Crawford founded what is now known as the World Bird Sanctuary, one of North America's largest conservation facilities for birds. Walter has been recognized many times for his leadership in ornithology, both nationally and internationally.

Walter's philosophy is simple: "I am fortunate to be able to do what I love in life and I am always pleased to share my interests and passion for wildlife and this planet with anyone who is willing to listen."

## Vendor Details

We encourage you to visit and support our vendors. As an incentive, you received a "check off" sheet with your program. As you visit each booth, ask the vendor to validate your sheet. After you have all the vendors signed off, turn in the sheet at our registration desk for a chance to win valuable prizes. You need not be present to win. Be sure to include your address and phone number so we may contact you about your prize.

If you would like to contact any of our vendors after the Fair, please stop by our admission table and pick up a printed list of vendor information, or visit our website...

## New Bird Exam

There are many reasons to visit our Fair. One is to bring home a new family member. We hope you support the vendors at our Fair, but regardless where your new bird comes from, please follow these two simple recommendations.

**If you have other birds, isolate your new bird** from them for at least thirty, preferably sixty days. Make this isolation as complete as possible and practical. Don't allow contamination of food, water or cages through common cleaning materials and, if possible, air flow.

**Have your new bird examined by an avian veterinarian.** If you do not currently have an avian vet, please choose carefully. Perhaps the most important qualification for your vet is that birds are a significant part of their practice. While the Gateway Parrot Club does not officially recommend avian veterinarians, our website lists area veterinarians. You will find avian veterinarians at our Fair. Ask them about their practice and recommendations. Feel free to talk to our members and ask about their *personal* preferences for veterinarians.

Details of the initial exam will vary depending on veterinarian, bird and the environment the bird will live in. Talk directly with the vet before making your appointment and find out what the exam for your bird will involve. A complete exam involves a careful physical observation, fecal exam and blood test. The actual tests performed may vary based on the general vitality of the bird, and whether it will be in a community with other birds.

Some optional services during the initial exam might include sex determination, in breeds where it is not obvious, and microchip identification.

## Contact Information

We welcome your comments and suggestions...

Officers		
President	Dave Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Vice President	Phyllis Cotton	(314) 427-3679
Secretary	Cathy Wendler	(636) 586-0604
Treasurer	Nancy Marron	(314) 984-9524
Membership	Niki Shaffer	(314) 853-5323
Board Members		
	Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
	Jim Berk	(636) 586-1445
	Dawn Breer	(636) 464-8085
	Trey Shaffer	(314) 432-4317
	Janet Draper	(314) 432-3019
	Niki Shaffer	(314) 432-4890
Committees		
Hospitality	Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Librarian	Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Ways & Means	Suzanne Dohack	(636) 734-4527
Website/ Newsletter/ Public Events	Trey Shaffer	(314) 432-4317

## Our Mission

**The Gateway Parrot Club, Inc.** is a not for profit organization established in 1988 to:

Bring people together in a friendly atmosphere in the interest of exchanging information on bird care and breeding.

Create interest in bird care and responsible breeding through monthly educational programs and annual bird fairs.

Reduce neglect, cruelty and abuse of captive birds through education and public outreach.

Educate the public, as well as ourselves, on the ever present danger of extinction in the wild.