

Squawk 'n Talk

Volume 9, Issue 6

July 2009

Greetings from the Presidential Perch!

Once, again, summer is here! I hope everyone had a fun and safe Fourth of July celebrating Independence Day.

I would like to thank everyone for showing up for the Toy Making Party. We have approximately 100+ toys that were made or donated for the raffle table at this year's Fair. Thank you again for making it a success. I also would like to thank Dawn Breer for her help and assistance in making the toys. Our speaker for the July meeting will be Georgia Fletcher answering questions from our membership.

By the time you read this it will be only six weeks until our Fair. Things will start to get a little busier, now. Our vendor area is all booked up, seminar speakers have been scheduled, the Saturday dinner planned, and the Cockatiel Show is still scheduled.

I hope everyone is getting excited about the Fair. It is just a month away! You may be called or emailed within the next few weeks to volunteer for a small block of time to help out during the Fair. (We are fortunate that the Hall staff will set up and take down the tables.) Any time frame that you can volunteer for will be appreciated. The Fair is not just work, but also a lot of fun. There are a lot of interesting people to meet, things to see, and things to learn. Please see Jenn Moore or Penney O'Grady at the meeting for the volunteer signup sheets. The Fair couldn't happen without the help of volunteers like you.

We will have Fair flyers at the July meeting. Please take some to distribute to your friends & relatives, as well as to businesses, community bulletin boards, and pet shops. If you can't make it to the July meeting or need more flyers, please contact Christine Kinkade at 636-343-8097 or by email, parrotsx10@aol.com for more flyers.

The July meeting will be the last meeting before the Fair, so be sure to attend. We still have important business to conduct as well as finalizing our plans for the Fair.

As always, visitors are welcomed. Bring a friend! And, your birds!

See you at the meetings! Dave

Abbreviated Newsletter This Month

Dave Kinkade

Due to difficulties beyond our control our Squawk 'n Talk will be a little thinner this month. But, it will still include our regular articles and any last minute information concerning our Fair.

All-American Hookbill Fair Update

Dave Kinkade

So far, so fair with the Fair (sorry about the pun!) All of the vendor spots have been filled. Things are moving along well. Additional advertising has been placed in our local newspapers and online. If you haven't already been contacted to volunteer to help at the Fair, you will be soon. A sign up sheet will be available at the July meeting. Don't be afraid to raise your hand and volunteer. Everyone is needed. The more help we have, the more we all can enjoy the Fair.

Book Picks of the Month

Christine Kinkade

Here are the library picks for this month. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have a book request, and I will bring the book to the next GPC meeting. A complete listing of books and videos can be found on the GPC website (www.GatewayParrotClub.org).

Irene Pepperberg will be our featured speaker at our 2009 August Bird Fair. "Alex & Me" is her latest book.

Alex and Friends by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent

This book addresses animal talking, thinking, and intelligence with emphasis on Alex, the African Grey, and his owner, Irene Pepperberg. Lots of color photos by William Munoz. (96 pages).

Guide To The Quaker Parrot by Mattie Sue Athan

Here is everything you need to know about caring for and training your Quaker parrot. Although this book is primarily about the Quaker parrot, the first aid and medical care section can be related to any parrot. The book also lists the things you will need for a home emergency kit. Dozens of full-color photos and illustrations. (122 pages).

Caring For Your Pet Bird by Dr. R. Dean Axelson

A "how-to" approach for the owners of all types of cage birds, by a veterinary surgeon with years of experience in treating birds and answering their owners' questions. Contains information on the cage and home environments, tips on care, feeding your bird, sicknesses and common diseases, diets, and more. Several b&w illustrations. (160 pages).

Feeding Budgerigars by C. Feyerabend and Dr. M. Vriends

This is an older book that contains information on proper nutrition in feeding your budgerigars. It has chapters on vitamins, sprouting seeds, ultra violet light, calcium, feather plucking, and more. Several color and b&w photos. (128 pages)

Captive Foraging (DVD) by M. Scott Echols

"The Next Best Thing to Being Free." This DVD will help you to understand the natural instinct of all animals to forage, how to redirect this energy in a captive bird to prevent unwanted

Saturday Dinner – Phyllis and Christine will be organizing the Saturday evening buffet dinner that we have for the vendors, speakers, and guests. Drinks and desserts are included. This is a good time for you to get to know your vendors and speakers in a casual, friendly atmosphere.

Everyone is welcome to attend the dinner. There is a cost of \$15.00 per person. Please pre-register before August 10. Call 314-537-6175 or 636-343-8097.

Irene Pepperberg of the Alex Foundation will be our featured guest speaker at the fair. Spread the word and plan on hearing her speak both days.

Local Speakers for the fair include Lisa Rose, Parrot Behaviorist; David Kersting, DVM, Bird Medicine & Surgery; Carole Grommet, Bird Toy Workshop; and Sandy Warren, Cockatiels and Other Pet Birds.

Cockatiel Show - As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we will also be hosting a Cockatiel Show sanctioned by the National Cockatiel Society. Sandy Warren will be heading up the show. For more information on the show you can contact Sandy by phone, 618-843-1460, or by her email address, yduckie21@yahoo.com.

Your Questions Answered

Dave Kinkade

Be sure to come to the meeting this Sunday. Georgia Fletcher will be the speaker for our Education Program. She will be answering the questions that the membership submitted a couple of months ago.

Georgia is a longtime friend and member of the GPC who has owned many types of birds from cockatoos to macaws. She has had experiences working in an avian veterinary office. She has great knowledge and experience in breeding various parrots and finches. Georgia can answer your questions about socializing and handling your birds. She will also be one of the vendors at the August Fair.

behaviors, how to build a foraging tree for a bird in a home, and how to create foraging toys to keep your birds occupied and happy.

GPC members can check out any of these featured picks at this month's meeting. Please note that some books are quite old and some of the information may be a little outdated. Please keep this in mind when reading the books.

A complete listing of the GPC library is available on the GPC website www.GatewayParrotClub.org. If you wish to check out any of these, or any of our books, please contact me prior to the next GPC meeting by phone (636) 343-8097, or email at Librarian@GatewayParrotClub.org, and I will bring them to the next meeting.

All books checked out should be returned at the following GPC meeting. If that is not possible, please return the books by mail to Christine Kinkade, 2412 Angela Dr., High Ridge, MO. 63049-2848.

Happy reading!

Christine

Recipe of the Month Corny Bean Salad

Here is a repeat recipe from the May 2007 Squawk 'n Talk that was originally submitted by Heidi Keifer. Christine Kinkade has made this recipe many times for our club meetings and has received several requests for the recipe. This recipe is delicious for people and birds alike, but should be given to birds in moderation due to the fat and salt content.

Heidi Keifer

- 3 cans (15 oz) - beans (we use garbanzo, red kidney and black beans)
- 1 cup - corn, fresh or frozen, cooked and cooled
- ½ red pepper, chopped
- 2 slices red onion, chopped
- ¼ cup - chopped fresh cilantro, yum, key ingredient

Vinaigrette

- 6 T - olive oil
- 2 T - balsamic vinegar (balsamic is worth the buy)
- 1 t - Dijon mustard
- Salt and pepper - to taste, which I think we forget every time

Drain and rinse the beans, then place them in a large bowl. Add corn, red pepper, red onion and cilantro. Stir.

Prepare vinaigrette.

Measure the olive oil, vinegar and mustard into a jar. Screw on lid tightly and shake the dressing well. Add salt and pepper to taste. Pour over bean mix a little at a time and mix to coat. Add enough to suit your taste, but remember, it picks up more flavor overnight. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Serves 8-10, or so they claim. Kent and I love it so much that we finish it off in a sitting.) If there's a cup left over, I put it on a salad with some cheese and call it southwestern topping.

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.

2009 Schedule

July 19 – Georgia Fletcher – Answers Your Questions
August – All-American Hookbill Fair
September 13 (Second Sunday)
October 18 –
November 15 – Nominations for office
December 13 (Second Sunday) Elections and Party

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

Jim Berk	(636) 586-1445
Dawn Breer	(636) 464-8085
Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Jenn Moore	(636) 795-4384
Pat Seiler	(636) 462-4732
Trey Shaffer	(314) 432-4317

Committees

Education	Who? You?	
Hospitality	Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Librarian	Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Ways & Means	Suzanne Dohack	(636) 734-4527
Website		
Newsletter	Trey Shaffer	(314) 432-4317
Public Relations		