

Squawk 'n Talk

Volume 12, Issue 1

January 2012

Greetings from the Presidential Perch!

“ . . . And to all, a Happy New Year!” I hope everyone began the New Year safely and in good health. So, far, no adverse weather – thank goodness!

Our December Holiday Party turned out very well, and everyone had a good time. I would like to thank everyone who came to the party. I would also like to thank Christine Kinkade who prepared the turkey and to thank everyone who brought side dishes, desserts, and snacks. It was all so good! And, of course, I would like to thank Niki Stein for organizing, preparing, and conducting the games.

The election has taken place, and the results are in. Congratulations go to Cindy Burquin and Nancy Marron who were re-elected to their offices of Secretary and Treasurer, and to Jim Berk, Janet Marks, and Christine Kinkade who were re-elected to their offices of Board Members.

Congratulations also go to Al Marks as our new Membership Secretary. I'm sure he will do a fine job. For the past four years, Niki Stein has held this position. I would like to thank Niki for the time and effort she has given in maintaining the membership records.

The GPC will be going on an Eagle Watch outing on Sunday, Feb. 12, 2012 near Alton, IL. Donna Mount will be coordinating the event and will need to know the number of members and guests who will be attending. Please contact

her at (636) 386-5656 or (314) 591-4817. More information can be found on our website, www.GatewayParrotClub.org.

We will still have our regular membership meeting on Sunday, Feb. 19, 2012 at 2:00 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend the monthly meetings and get involved. As always, bring a friend, as well as your birds!

See you at the meetings! ---- Dave

Tidbits

Membership – As Dave mentioned, we have a new Membership Secretary, Al Marks. And since this is January, your membership has expired (probably). This is the first of the annual renewal requests. Please come to the meeting, meet Al, and pay your dues. If you prefer, drop a check in the mail. You will notice a new return address on the newsletter. That is Al's mailing address. We have also included a membership application as the inside cover of the newsletter. Please use the form to update any of your contact information that may have changed. Please include your name, even if that has not changed. For a limited time, until January 23, you can renew your membership through the website.

Website Update – As just mentioned, some features of the website will stop working soon. That is actually good news. Our web host is upgrading the servers hosting our website. The bad news is that some features of the site, based on the older technology will not work on the new system. Those features are the various forms and notifications. Most of the site is basic content and will be unaffected. I will update the active content with the new technology, but the timeline is unclear. It will also be a good time to refresh the site in general, so feel free to send suggestions.

February Meeting – Earlier we announced Dr. Pernikoff as our guest for the January meeting. His schedule didn't work out. He will, instead join us at our February meeting, when he will talk about conservation efforts for the Thick-billed parrot. Just a reminder, the GPC sponsors two of the Thick-billed parrots at the World Bird Sanctuary, Charlie and Arizona.

Elections – As Dave mentioned, we had elections and elected Cindy Burquin, Nancy Marron, Al Marks, Jim Berk, Janet Marks and Christine Kinkade.

Slippery Not Deadly – You all should know that non-stick cookware made with Teflon (PFTE) is a potential health threat. Potentially to you but more so to your birds. If this is news to you, don't panic. When Teflon is heated above 500 degrees, it emits PFOA, which is short for a long, deadly name. Nobody intentionally cooks at 500 degrees, but people have left pans over heat until they overheated accidentally. This is relatively old news. We were contacted by a cookware seller, GoCookware promoting their line of cookware with a ceramic coating offering the benefits of a non-stick surface without the potential hazard of PFOA. This is not an endorsement, but if you are considering a cookware purchase, you might want to check them out. Put the company name in a search engine to find their website. Here is a promotion code good for a 10% discount and a 5% kickback to the GPC... **LPMI**

Eagle Watching

Trey Shaffer

Eagle Watch – February 12 – 8:00 AM

If you are a hard-core Eagle watcher, you will be hoping for cold weather. We will meet at a gas station just South of Alton. For your GPS, the address is 14700 North Hwy 67, West Alton, MO, 63386. Take I-270 to the MO 367 exit. Head north, and the gas station is just before you cross the river into Alton.

After we meet and greet, we will start our expedition at the new Audubon Society at the Riverlands facility. The Audubon Society took over the Department of Conservation facility and has expanded it. So we will check that out and move on from there with some outdoor activity. We will find our way across the river to the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, where we will see what is happening and take in the World Bird Sanctuary's Masters of the Sky program. There will probably be some more outdoor activity on the Illinois side and eventually an expedition up the River Road. The River Road is usually a good watching way (for all but the drivers). We'll go through Grafton and up to Brussels Ferry. By then it should be lunchtime and everyone

should be hungry. For those interested in a classic lunch at a historic location, join us at the Wittmond Hotel, a nineteenth century gem.

Donna Mount will coordinate with the Wittmond for reservation/head count, so please let Donna know if you will be coming. (636) 386-5656

Get the App

If you are interested in more information about Eagle watching, there are several resources. You can get smartphone apps from your phone's store/market. Search for Alton/Eagle. From your computer, browse to the Alton Visitor's Center: www.visitalton.com

Nice brochure (from 2009) bit.ly/yYtrSF

Audubon Center At Riverlands riverlands.audubon.org

KTVI Segment on the Riverlands and new viewing barge
bit.ly/wnjDMR

Grant Nominations Open

The process to be used this year, disbursing available funds, is similar to that used in recent years.

Based on available funds and projected expenses for the coming year, we will disburse \$1,200 as four grants, of \$300 each, using our nomination/voting process. The amounts, process and timeline were determined at the November Board meeting.

Nominations

Nominations opened at the November meeting, are announced here in the December newsletter and close at midnight on January 31, 2012.

GPC members nominate recipients by communicating their nomination to our President, Dave Kinkade. Nominations will appear here and on the website as they come in. A final list will be distributed in the February newsletter.

Voting

Voting will occur at the February meeting, February 19, 2012. Each active GPC member may vote for four recipients from the list of nominees. Should there be a tie for fourth place; the \$300 award will be

divided equally between third place nominees. Should there be more than two nominees tied for second place, \$600 will be divided between second place nominees. Should there be more than three nominees tied for first place, \$900 will be divided between first place nominees.

Here is our current list of nominees. You have a few weeks to submit more...

STAR

St. Louis Avian Rescue - formerly Perfectly Precious. STAR's mission is to provide public education about avian care and accept relinquished birds, then provide veterinary screening, foster homes for rehabilitation and eventually permanent rehoming. STAR has a standards-based screening process for potential adopters.

Feather Distribution Project

The Project, operated for more than twenty years by Jonathan Reyman, collects feathers from a number of sources and distributes them to Native Americans in the Southwest for use in religious ceremonies, traditional clothing and artifacts. Dr. Reyman has been our guest several times to explain the positive impact the simple act of saving our birds' feathers can have on Native Americans as well as reducing the incentive to capture wild birds just to harvest their feathers

World Bird Sanctuary

Our mission is to preserve earth's biological diversity and secure the future of threatened bird species in their natural environments. We fulfill that mission through education, captive breeding, field studies and rehabilitation. We maintain a parrot population as well as raptors, and have an Adoption Program, where GPC might adopt several parrots, thereby focusing a donation.

AAV Research – Association of Avian Veterinarians

AAV is the American branch of an international organization devoted to, "Advancing and Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship." We would donate to their Research Fund. The AAV then allocates funds to individual projects as they see fit.

GeesePeace

GeesePeace St. Louis is a local, nonprofit, 501 (C) 3 all-volunteer organization, committed to building better communities by providing a humane solution for reducing the nuisance

aspect of individual populations of geese while recognizing and respecting their place in our environment. Our primary focus is education. Our volunteers offer free workshops and in-field consultation on population stabilization. GeesePeace works in cooperation with the Humane Society of Missouri, the Wildlife Center in Ballwin, and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Wild Bird Rehabilitation

WBR helps over 2,500 birds a year, representing 100 different migratory bird species. WBR receives referrals from St. Louis city, county and state animal agencies as well as many veterinarians and other animal welfare organizations.

ALEX Foundation

The Alex Foundation, represented by Dr. Irene Pepperberg, continues to advance our understanding of avian cognition and explore non-human use of language and symbols

Monteverde Conservation League

In 1987 Swedish schoolchildren started a worldwide effort to purchase and protect rainforest in the Monteverde region of Costa Rica, one of the planet's most bio diverse habitats. Since then, children and adults from 44 nations have joined that effort. Today, the 55,000-acre Children's Eternal Rainforest is a testament to the change that can be accomplished by individual direct action. Your support helps to protect the air we breathe, the water we use and the amazing abundance of life on which we depend.

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.

Buttercup's Birdie Bars

Posted by: Misty

byrdhaus@netins.net

April 21, 1999

- 2 cups cornmeal
- 2 cups flour
- 8tsp baking powder
- 4 eggs w/shells (grind/blend shells)
- 1 1/2 cups applesauce
- 2 cups apple juice
- 4 tbs peanut butter
- 2 cups seed
- 2 cups mixed veggies
- 1 can fruit cocktail

Mix and pour in greased 9x12 pan and bake at 350 for 40-45 min. Cut in bars, cool and serve.

From the Birds n Ways website

www.BirdsnWays.com

Find us on the web

www.GatewayParrotClub.org

[Facebook - GatewayParrotClub](#)

Contact Information

We welcome your comments and suggestions...

Officers

President	Dave Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Vice President	Phyllis Cotton	(314) 537-6175
Secretary	Cindy Burquin	(314) 965-8489
Treasurer	Nancy Marron	(314) 984-9524
Membership	Al Marks	(636) 441-0255

Board Members

Jim Berk	(636) 586-1445
Janet Marks	(636) 441-0255
Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Penney O'Grady	(636) 290-4084
Pat Seiler	(636) 462-4732
Trey Shaffer	(314) 432-4317

Committees

Education	Lisa Rose	(636) 524-3989
Hospitality	Christine Kinkade	(636) 343-8097
Ways & Means	Penney O'Grady	(636) 290-4084
	Pat Seiler	(636) 462-4732
Website		
Newsletter	Trey Shaffer	(314) 432-4317
Public Outreach		
Bird Shows	Sandy Warren	(618) 945-3608