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Monthly newsletter from the Gateway Parrot Club!

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Squawk 'n Talk

March 2017

**Gateway Parrot Club
Come Join Us
Sunday, March 19, 2017
Varieties Bird Store
Valley Park, MO**

2:00 p.m.

Speakers:

**Brian Prather and Diane Bricmont,
Avid Bird Watchers
"Spring Time Birding"**

Brian and Diane are very excited to present our program in March. Spring is a wonderful time to observe all the migrating birds coming into our area from the south. They will be sharing their vast knowledge of bird watching with us.

Come join us for a fun Sunday afternoon:

**Program
Food
Fellowship
Raffle
Meeting**



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Greetings from the Presidential Perch!

Easter and Spring are creeping up on us again, YEA! I'm so done with winter.

This month we have the pleasure of welcoming Brian Prather and Diane Bricmont who will share information about Bird Watching and observing the wild birds who either live in our area or who migrate through here as they return to their more Northern habitats.

Last month the members present at our meeting nominated organizations for us to present \$500 grants to six organizations. The nominated names of these organizations are listed below in Dave Kincade's article on Grants.

We will be asking each of you Members to attend our March meeting to vote for the **six** organizations of your choice. The Fair provides us the opportunity to earn funds so we can give grants to these kinds of Organizations. Our focus is to promote Education and to work toward conservation and the betterment of birds. Each of these organizations share the same goals. My thanks to our members for making such great choices.

Progress is being made toward a new website for Gateway Parrot Club. Our plans for the GPC website for it to be interesting, informative and interactive. More to come soon.

I want to thank Tracy, Mike, Micki, Jessie and all of the staff of Varieties' Bird Store. Sunday is a day that they would much prefer to be spending as a day of worship, and family sharing, but they have generously opened their doors to provide us with a fantastic location for our meetings. I hope all of you appreciate this as much as the Board does and are as supportive of them as they are supportive of us.

See you at the Meeting on March 19th,

Georgia

Information from the Perch...

Grants (Dave Kincade):

This year the club will be able to donate grants of \$500.00 each to six different organizations for a total of \$3,000.00.

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description. Members will vote for six of these organizations at the March 19 Membership Meeting. The six organizations that receive the most votes will receive the grants.

To vote you must be a current member with paid up dues and present at the March 19 Membership Meeting. If your dues are not paid up, please contact Renee Davis, Membership Secretary.

[Below is the current list of nominated organizations and a brief description of each:](#)

Texas A & M Research (Avian Research)

The Schubot Exotic Bird Health Center is an academic center within the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. It has been very instrumental in the discovery of the Psittacine Bornavirus that causes Proventricular Dilatation Disease (PDD) and in the development of a vaccine against the disease. vetmed.tamu.edu/schubot.

Wild Bird Rehabilitation (WBR)

The Wild Bird Rehabilitation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide care for injured, ill, and orphaned native wild songbirds and to release them back into their natural habitat. Last year WBR cared for more than 1800 birds representing over 100 different native bird species. wildbirdrehab.org.

World Bird Sanctuary (WBS)

World Bird Sanctuary World Bird Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that preserves, protects, and inspires to safeguard bird species as part of the global community for future generations. Their mission is accomplished through education, captive breeding, field studies, and rehabilitation. www.worldbirdsantuary.org.

St. Louis Avian Rescue (STAR)

St. Louis Avian Rescue (STAR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to assist companion birds in need of homes and to educate the community regarding bird care and health. They have volunteers who foster a variety of bird species with the eventual goal of the placement of these birds in forever homes. staravian.org.

Missouri Wildlife Rescue Center (WRC)

The Wildlife Rescue Center rehabilitates injured, sick and orphaned native wildlife and releases healthy animals to their natural habitat. Through educational outreach the Center provides environmental awareness, promotes a harmonious relationship with native wildlife, and encourages the community to protect our delicate ecosystems. www.mowildlife.org.

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The mission of the Bi-State Wildlife Rescue is teaching humane wildlife conflict resolution and peaceful coexistence with our wild neighbors.

www.facebook.com/pg/wildlifehotline/about/

Association of Avian Veterinarians Research

The Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV) is the American branch of an international organization devoted to "Advancing and Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship." The GPC would donate to their Research Fund. www.aav.org.

Saving the Blues (Blue-throated macaws) (Funding nests for Blue Throat Macaws in the wild)

Blue-throated macaws are very rare macaws endemic to a small area of north-central Bolivia. they live in groups of palm trees that dot the level plains. They are not a forest dwelling bird. They are endangered because of illegal hunting for pets and a decline in palm trees needed to build nests. www.birdendowment.org.

Bird Medicine and Surgery – Emergency Policy

David Kersting, D.V.M. attended our GPC Meeting on February 19, 2017 to discuss his current Emergency Policy. Dr. Kersting indicated that he is presently the only Veterinarian at his Clinic thus making it difficult to be available for emergency services 24/7.

Dr. Kersting stated that he would still be on call for emergencies unless he is tied up and unable to come to the office to meet you. He asks that you still continue to call his After Hours Emergency number **314-569-5700** and leave a message regarding the emergency and your contact number. If you don't receive a reply within 30 minutes, call the 314-569-5700 number again. He should reply to you regarding your emergency with instructions to you about what to do.

The following procedures are what he has set up to cover emergencies when he isn't going to be available. He will discuss these options with you when he calls you back. He has made arrangements with the following Animal Emergency Centers to have their Doctors see your bird(s), they have his personal cell numbers on file at the individual E.C.'s. They are to see and evaluate your bird then call him for specific instructions regarding proper care. He will work in conjunction with these Doctors to provide effective care for your bird.

This is the list of the Animal Emergency Centers (AEC) that Dr. Kersting has set up Consultation Agreements with:

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2. WEBSTER GROVES ANIMAL HOSPITAL 314-968-4310

8028 Big Bend Blvd. Webster Groves, MO 63119

3. ST. LOUIS ANIMAL EMERGENCY SOUTH METRO AREA 314-822-7600

9937 Big Bend Road Kirkwood, MO 63122

4. ST. LOUIS ANIMAL EMERGENCY ST. CHARLES AREA 636-240-5496

334 Fort Zumwalt Square O'Fallon, MO 63366

5. COLLINSVILLE EMERGENCY CLINIC 618-346-1843

2005 Mall Street Collinsville, IL 62234

Dr. Baebler is frequently on call at the Collinsville Emergency Clinic and she is generally working at that clinic on Saturday and Sunday nights.

Dr. Kersting was asked what we are to do if the staff or Doctors at any of these EC's refuses or balks at treating birds. He stated that we should immediately call his Emergency Number with that information so that he can take action.

He also indicated that either he or one of his staff would be doing a follow up call the next day to the person who called his Emergency Number and/or received care at one of the Emergency Centers. Additionally, he indicated that leaving a message regarding the emergency, your contact number and what action you took regarding the emergency can be left on the voice mail message system at the regular office phone number **314-469-6661** any time day or night outside of regular office hours. This will also serve to alert Dr. Kersting and his staff about the need for follow up calls to you.

General Meeting Information:

Come and enjoy the fun and bring a bird (as long as it is clipped). It's so enjoyable seeing all the different species of parrots and talking to other parrot owners.

You don't have to be a member to attend, but we would love to have you join. Meeting starts at 2:00 and it will be a full afternoon of meeting, socializing, eating, program, and raffle. For members who have not renewed their membership or who would like to join, please see Renee Davis, our membership chairman. She will be at the meeting to sign you up. An annual membership fee of \$20.00 includes your family (two voting members) and brings you our monthly newsletter by email. Thank you for joining and helping support the parrot community in St. Louis.

We meet at Varietees Bird Store, 60 Meramec Valley Plaza, Valley Park, MO. Varietees will be open in the afternoon so you can purchase bird food, supplies, toys, cages, play stands, etc.

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each or 6 for \$5.00.

In honor of St. Pat's Day, Chef Christine will be making corned beef and cabbage, a vegetable pasta salad for non-meat eaters, and a strawberry jello dessert. Feel free to bring something to add to the buffet (snacks, salad, dessert, etc.).

Fair Update (Dick Grommet):

Vendor packages have been sent out so we should start hearing back from them soon. We are also posting on 15-20 Facebook group pages to see if we can recruit new vendors. If you or someone you know would be interested in reserving space to sell, fill out the vendor application on our website or contact Dick Grommet (VicePresident@GatewayParrotClub.org).

The fair will be August 26th, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., at the Machinist's Hall in Bridgeton (same place as last year).

We will need volunteers so please consider volunteering for a couple hours or more. The vendors start setting up at 7:00 a.m. and it would be very helpful to have some additional people early. The volunteer coordinator is Heidi Hellmuth who would be glad to sign you up.

We also will need raffle and silent auction items so if you have something to donate, please talk to Jane Mueller who is head of these two areas. Items need not be bird related.

February 2017 Membership Report (Renee Davis)

February meeting attendees:

Georgia Fletcher

Tom How

Dick Grommet

Steve Johnson

David Kinkade

David Kersting

Cathy Timma

Aubrey Kiener

Renee Davis

Linda Kraft

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Carole Grommet

Julie Morgan

Heidi Hellmuth

Penny O'Grady

Christine Kinkade

Barbara Peach

Rick Ruderer

Sue Rodgers

Tracy Schwarztrauber

Lisa Rose

Barbara Agathen

Pat Seiler

Paul Agathen

Christy Sigwerth

Joerg Augustin

Perry Sigwerth

Megan Augustin

Terri Uhlmeyer

Jim Berk

Gerry Van Der Heide

Cindy Burquin

Deborah Van Der Heide

Dixie Danzeisen

Jim Foster

Dan Fogarty

Dennis O'Grady

Jim Hermann

Cathy Wendler

Esther Hermann

Not a member yet?

[Download a membership application](#) and bring it to our next meeting, or email it to Renee Davis, our membership secretary, at membership@gatewayparrotclub.org.

Our PayPal email address is payments@gatewayparrotclub.org

You can also now join and pay dues securely from our site: <http://gatewayparrotclub.org/join-now/>

Our Officers and Board members: <http://gatewayparrotclub.org/about-us/>

Join our FaceBook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GateWayParrotClub/>

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pics to post on the website or future newsletters, have a suggestion, etc!

The Gateway Parrot Club, Inc. is a 501c3 not for profit organization based in St. Louis Missouri and 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.

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