

# Squawk 'n Talk

**Volume 15, Issue 4**

**April 2015**

## Greetings from the Presidential Perch!

Wishing everyone a Peaceful and Happy Easter.

Morgan Clough will be presenting at our April meeting. Morgan has spent many years breeding and showing Canaries. He will be sharing much of his extensive knowledge with GPC on the 19<sup>th</sup>. I have always enjoyed listening to canaries and finches singing, they are charming, beautiful. Watching and listening to them is, for me, very relaxing, and I look forward to learning more about them.

Last month the members present at our meeting voted on the nominated organizations for us to present \$300 grants to. They are:

1. St. Louis Avian Rescue (STAR)
2. Wild Bird Rehabilitation
3. World Bird Sanctuary

The Fair allows us 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 shares the same goals, my thanks to our members for making such great choices.

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

I want to thank Tracy, Mike, Mickey, Jesse 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 April 19<sup>th</sup>,

**Georgia**

## Tidbits

**March Meeting** – Thanks to Lisa Rose for her presentation on establishing a safe environment for your birds. In addition to Lisa's tips and member discussion, we watched a DVD featuring Dr. Laura Wade, DVM. We voted for grant recipients; see details below. Included later in the newsletter is a list of hazards Georgia referenced in January and Lisa mentioned last month. Keep it for reference.

**April Meeting** – Our guest will be Morgan Clough. He will talk to us about Canaries. See a self-bio later in the newsletter.

## Grants

### **Trey Shaffer**

As mentioned, we selected three recipients from nominees. Each will receive \$300.

### **STAR**

St. Louis Avian Rescue, formerly Perfectly Precious, 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.

### **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.

### **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.

# Canaries

## **Morgan Clough**

My first experience with birds was growing up on our family farm with chickens and an assortment of other poultry - geese, guinea fowl, ducks and pigeons - and on my 7th birthday I was given my first budgie - Pete.

In 1990 I moved to Chapel Hill, NC and while there I joined a local caged bird club. Here I saw birds I have never seen before- all shapes, sizes, colors and noises! I discovered very quickly that I was not a big bird/parrot person but it was the canaries and finches that caught my attention.

I've been keeping canaries for about 25 years off and on and when I didn't have them, I was making plans to acquire them. In 2005 I joined the St. Louis Canary limited Club. It was exciting to learn about all the types and color canaries. My participation in the club allowed me the opportunity to meet master breeders and to hear their stories. My favorites are the fives and I'm dabbling in a few color canaries. I keep a few canaries for hobby and for the fun of hearing their song fill my home.

## 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.

# Plants Safe and Otherwise

## Planned Parrothood

The following lists were compiled and presented on the website,

[www.plannedparrothood.com/plants.html](http://www.plannedparrothood.com/plants.html)

We have four lists:

- Safe branches, presumably for perches
- Safe foliage, that your bird might play with or ingest
- Unsafe plants
- Other unsafe stuff in the house

## Safe Branches

The following materials are not safe if toxic chemicals or insecticides have been sprayed on them. Before installing them in any cage, scrub all branches with a non-toxic disinfectant such as vinegar, then rinse and dry well.

|            |              |            |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| Aspen      | Ash          | Beech      |
| Birch      | Citrus (Any) | Dogwood    |
| Dragonwood | Elm          | Eucalyptus |
| Guava      | Lilac        | Madrona    |
| Magnolia   | Manzanita    | Papaya     |
| Pine       | Poplar       | Prune      |
| Ribbonwood | Sassafras    | Sycamore   |
| Thurlow    | Vine Maple   |            |

Balsam (Douglas, Subalpine, White Fir)

Maple (Except Red Maple)

Nut (Except Chestnut & Oak)

Spruce (Black, Norway, Red, White)

Willows (Goat, Pussy & Weeping)

### **Safe Foliage**

Acacia

African Violet

Aloe

American Bittersweet

Areca Palm

Australian Laurel

Autumn Olive

Baby's Tears

Bamboo

Barberry

Bayberry

Begonia

Bird's Nest Fern

Bladdernut

Blueberry

Boston Fern

Bottle Brush Fern

Bougainvillea

Canary Island Palm

Chickweed

Christmas Cactus

Cissus (Kangaroo Vine)

Coffee Tree

Coleus

Comfrey

Coralberry

Corn Plant

Cotoneaster Firethorn

Crabapple

Creeping Fig

Dandelion

Danish Ivy

Dogwood

Donkey Tail

Dracaena Varieties

Dragon Tree

Elderberry (Common, European, Red)

European Fan Palm

Ferns (Bird's Nest, Boston, Maidenhair, Ming, Mother)

Figs (Creeping, Rubber, Fiddle Leaf, Laurel Leaf)

Flame Nettle

Gardenia

Grape Ivy

Hawaiian Scheffler

Hen And Chickens

Huckleberry

Impatiens

Indian Laurel

Jade Plant

Kalanchoe

Kangaroo Vine

Lace Fern

Lady Palm

Magnolia

Marigolds

## Safe Foliage - continued

|   |                     |               |
|---|---------------------|---------------|
| Monkey Plant                                      | Mother-In-Law       | Nasturtium    |
| Natal Plum  | Norfolk Island Pine | Orchids       |
| Palms (Areca, Date, Fan, Lady, Paradise, Parlour) |                     |               |
| Palms (Howeia, Kentia, Phoenix)                   |                     |               |
| Peperomia   | Petunia             | Pittosporum   |
| Prayer Plant                                      | Purple Passion      | Pyracantha    |
| Raspberry   | Rose                | Rubber Plant  |
| Sensitive Plant                                   | Snake Plant         | Spider Plant  |
| Swedish Ivy                                       | Thistle             | Umbrella Tree |
| Velvet Nettle                                     | Viburnum            | Wandering Jew |
| Wax Plant   | White Clover        | Yucca         |
| Zebra Plant                                       | Zinnia              |               |

## Toxic Plants

|   |                          |                     |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Arum Lily   | Amaryllis                | Apricot Tree        |
| Aralia  | Arrowhead Vine           | Autumn Crocus       |
| Australian Flametree  | Australian Umbrella Tree |                     |
| Avocado   | Azalea                   | Baneberry           |
| Beans (Castor, Horse, Fava, Broad, Glory)                     |                          |                     |
| Beans (Scarlet Runner, Mescal, Navy, Pregatory)               |                          |                     |
| Bird Of Paradise  | Bishop's Weed            | Black Laurel        |
| Black Locust  | Bleeding Heart           | Dutchman's Breeches |
| Bloodroot   | Bluebonnet               | Bluegreen Algae     |
| Boxwood   | Bracken Fern             | Buckthorn           |
| Bulb Flowers (Amaryllis, Daffodil, Narcissus, Hyacinth, Iris) |                          |                     |

## Toxic Plants - continued

|  |                           |                      |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Burdock  | Buttercup                 | Cacao                |
| Calla Lily   | Camel Bush                | Castor Bean          |
| Caladium   | Cana Lily                 | Cardinal Flower      |
| Chalice  | (Trumpet Vine)            | Cherry Tree          |
| China Berry Tree   | Christmas Candle          | Christmas Cherry     |
| Clematis   | (Virginia Bower)          | Clivia               |
| Cocklebur  | Coffee (Senna)            | Coffee Bean          |
| Rattlebush   | Rattle Box                | Coffeeweed           |
| Coral Plant  | Coriander                 | Corncockle           |
| Coyotillo  | Cowslip                   | Cutleaf Philodendron |
| Daffodil   | Daphne                    | Datura Stramonium    |
| Angel's Trumpet  | Death Camus               | Delphinium           |
| Devil's Ivy  | Dieffenbachia (Dumb Cane) |                      |
| Eggplant   | Elderberry                | Elephant Ear (Taro)  |
| English Ivy  | Ergot                     |                      |
| Eucalyptus (Dried, Dyed Or Treated In Floral Arrangements) |                           |                      |
| Euonymus (Spindle Tree)                                    |                           | Euphorbia Cactus     |
| False Hellebore  | Flame Tree                |                      |
| Felt Plant (Maternity, Air and Panda Plants)               |                           |                      |
| Fig (Weeping)  | Fire Thorn                | Flamingo Flower      |
| Four O'clock   | Foxglove                  | Glottidium           |
| Golden Chain   | Ground Cherry             |                      |
| Grass (Johnson, Sorghum, Sudan, Broom Corn)                |                           |                      |
| Heaths (Kalmia, Leucotho, Peires, Rhododendron, Mountain)  |                           |                      |
| Heaths (Laurel, Black Laurel, Andromeda & Azalea)          |                           |                      |

## Toxic Plants - continued

|   |                      |                |
|---|----------------------|----------------|
| Heliotrope  | Hemlock              | Henbane        |
| Holly   | Honeysuckle          | Horse Chestnut |
| Horse Tail  | Hoya                 | Hyacinth       |
| Hydrangea   | Iris                 |                |
| Ivy: (English & Others)                                 | Jack-In-The-Pulpit   | Jasmine        |
| Jerusalem Cherry  | Jimsonweed           | Juniper        |
| Kentucky Coffee Tree                                    | Lantana (Red Sage)   | Larkspur       |
| Lily Of The Valley                                      | Lily, Arum           | Lobelia        |
| Locoweed (Milk Vetch)                                   | Locusts, Black/Honey |                |
| Lords & Ladies (Cuckoopint)                             |                      | Lupine         |
| Malanga   | Marijuana (Hemp)     |                |
| Mayapple (Mandrake)                                     | Mexican Breadfruit   | Mexican Poppy  |
| Milkweed (Cotton Bush)                                  |                      | Mistletoe      |
| Mock Orange   | Monkshood            | Moonseed       |
| Morning Glory   | Mountainn. Laurel    |                |
| Mushrooms (Amanita)                                     | Myrtle               | Narcissus      |
| Nectarine Tree  | Nettles              |                |
| Nightshades (Deadly, Black, Garden, Woody, Bittersweet) |                      |                |
| Nightshades (Eggplant, Jerusalem Cherry)                |                      |                |
| Oak   | Oleander             | Oxalis         |
| Parsley   | Peace Lily           | Peach Tree     |
| Periwinkle  |                      |                |
| Philodendrons (Split Leaf, Swiss, Cheese, Heart-Leaf)   |                      |                |
| Pigweed   | Plum Tree            | Poinciana      |
| Poinsettia  | Poison Ivy           | Poison Hemlock |



## Toxic Plants - continued

|  |                        |                      |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| Poison Oak (Western & Eastern)                                   |                        | Pokeweed             |
| Potato Shoots  | Pothos                 | Privet               |
| Pyracantha   | Rain Tree              |                      |
| Ranunculus (Buttercup)   |                        | Rape                 |
| Rattlebox  | Crotalaria             | Red Maple            |
| Red Sage (Lantana)   | Redwood Tree           | Rhubarb Leaves       |
| Rhododendrons  | Rosary Pea Seeds       | Sago Palm            |
| Sand Box Tree  | Schefflera             | Skunk Cabbage        |
| Sorrel (Dock)  | Snow Drop              |                      |
| Spurges (Pencil, Tree, Snow-On-Mtn, Candelabra, Crown Of Thorns) |                        |                      |
| Star Of Bethlehem  | Sweet Pea              |                      |
| Swiss Cheese Plant(Monstera)                                     |                        | Tansy Ragwort        |
| Tobacco  | Tomato (Stems, Leaves) |                      |
| Umbrella Plant   |                        | Vetch (Hairy/Common) |
| Virginia Creeper   |                        | Wattle               |
| Weeping Fig  | White Cedar            | China Berry          |
| Wisteria   | Yews                   | Yellow Jasmine       |

## Household Toxins

|                    |                   |                |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Alcoholic Drinks   | Ammonia           | Antifreeze     |
| Ant Syrup Or Paste | Arsenic           | Asbestos       |
| Auto Products      | Bathroom Cleaners |                |
| Bleach             | Boric Acid        | Camphophenique |
| Carbon Monoxide    | Carpet Cleaners   |                |
| Carpet Fresheners  | Charcoal Fluids   |                |

## Household Toxins - continued

|                     |                               |                  |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Chlordane           | Chlorine                      | Cigarette Smoke  |
| Clinitest Tablets   | Copper/Brass Cleaner          |                  |
| Corn & Wart Remover |                               | Deodorants       |
| Detergents          | Diazinon                      | Disinfectants    |
| Drain Cleaners      | Epoxy Glue                    | Felt Tip Markers |
| Flea Products       | Floor Polish                  | Formaldehyde     |
| Furniture Polish    | Garden Sprays                 | Gasoline         |
| Gun Cleaners        | Hair Dyes & Sprays            |                  |
| Herbicides          | Insecticides                  | Iodine           |
| Kerosene            | Lighter Fluid                 | Lye              |
| Matches             | Melaleuca Oil                 | Model Cement     |
| Mothballs           | Muriatic Acid                 | Mushrooms        |
| Nailpolish/Remover  | Nitrogen Dioxide              |                  |
| Oven Cleaner        | Overheated Non-Stick Cookware |                  |
| Paint & Thinner     | Perfume                       | Permanents(Hair) |
| Pesticides          | Photo Solutions               |                  |
| Pine Oil            | Rx Drugs                      | Rodenticides     |
| Rubbing Alcohol     | Scented Candles               |                  |
| Shaving Lotion      | Shellac                       | Shoe Polish      |
| Snail Bait          | Spot Removers                 |                  |
| Spray Starch        | Strychnine                    | Sulfuric Acid    |
| Super Glue          | Suntan Lotions/Oils           |                  |
| Surgical Acrylics   | Tea Tree Oil                  | Turpentine       |
| Wax                 | Weed Killers                  | Window Cleaners  |
| Wood Preservatives  |                               |                  |

## March Attendance

The following attended our last meeting and signed in...

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Pamela Alsop      | Cindy Burquin         |
| Scott Collier     | Dixie Danzeisen       |
| Renee Davis       | Achilles Eric & Donna |
| Georgia Fletcher  | Carole Grommet        |
| Dick Grommet      | Jennifer Kennah       |
| Christine Kinkade | David Kinkade         |
| Linda Kraft       | Al Marks              |
| Janet Marks       | Nancy Marron          |
| Edwin Massie      | Jane Mueller          |
| Jessica Murray    | Sandy Newcomb         |
| June O'Brien      | Paul O'Brien          |
| Barbara Peach     | Sue Rodgers           |
| Lisa Rose         | Rick Ruderer          |
| Bernie Seiler     | Pat Seiler            |
| Trey Shaffer      | Cathy Timma           |
| Pam Walsh         | Hannah Welby          |

## Coming Events

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| April 19     | Canaries – Morgan Clough   |
| May 17       |                            |
| June 14      |                            |
| July 19      | Toy making party           |
| August 22    | All-American Hookbill Fair |
| September 20 |                            |
| October 18   |                            |
| November 15  | Nominations                |
| December 13  | Elections, Holiday Party   |

## Contact Information

### Officers

|                |                  |                |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| President      | Georgia Fletcher | (314) 504-5019 |
| Vice President | Dick Grommet     | (636) 529-0026 |
| Secretary      | Dave Kinkade     | (636) 343-8097 |
| 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 |
| Carole Grommet    | (636) 529-0026 |
| Jane Mueller      | (314) 302-2970 |
| Trey Shaffer      | (314) 496-8000 |

### 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) 490-8000 |
| Public Outreach |                   |                |