



THE CAPITAL FLYER

The Monthly Newsletter of the
National Capital Bird Club
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<http://www.ncbc-dc.org>

January 2002

Dr. Carol Canny Speaking in January

Dr. Canny is an avian veterinarian currently practicing at the Pender Veterinary Clinic in Northern Virginia. Having an a good avian veterinarian is an important element in your pet bird's care, continued health and well-being. Take this opportunity to meet a local avian veterinarian and learn more about the Pender Veterinary Clinic.

NCBC Officers Elected for 2 Year Term

Voting took place in December for the election of officers for a 2 year term from January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2003. The officers elected were Tammy Ellison for President, Tom Marshall for Vice-President, Wayne Porter for Treasurer, and Carol Rees for Secretary.

There are many open positions available in the NCBC that need volunteers. The Ways and Means Committee, Publicity Committee, and Audit Committee all need assistance and currently are empty. If you can help out

if would greatly be appreciated.

Anyone who has ideas for a speaker or who desires to be a speaker should contact Tom Marshall. Since the position of Vice-President was empty last year, Tammy Ellison temporarily took over those duties but now that Tom Marshall is the Vice-President he will be handling the scheduling of speakers.

NCBC Membership Renewal

Your 2001 NCBC membership ends at the end of December 2001. Membership forms for 2002 are provided in both the November and December newsletters. Please don't forget to renew your membership.

Newsletters will continue to be sent to current members through February 2002. After that period, members who have not renewed their membership will be dropped from the rolls but will be reinstated upon payment of dues.

I have changed the membership form to include a questionnaire. The information that you provide will hopefully enable me to put together a new members booklet, which will include information about local avian veterinarians, local bird stores, local bird breeders, local sanctuaries, and other resources that would be local to the Washington, DC area. I encourage each member to fill out the questionnaire. Thank you for your assistance.

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FUTURE MEETINGS

January 6
February 3
March 3
April 7
May 5
June 2
July 14 *
August 4
September 8 *
October 6
November 10 *
December 8 *, **

* Note date change

** Different Location

Sorry but I got busy over the holidays. I will make up membership cards, print them out, and mail them in the February issue of the newsletter.

Carol Rees



AFA In Brief... December 2001

Published quarterly by the American Federation of Aviculture. Editor: Carol Brasaemle

WELCOME NEW FLORIDA REGION DIRECTOR JERRY JOHNSON!

Jerry Johnson serves as the Regional Director of the Florida/ P.R./V.I. Region of the AFA. He currently practices pharmacy full time at Shands Hospital at the University of Florida, having received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree from the University of Florida in 1965 and earning a Master of Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University in 1998. Jerry served in the U.S. Army Technical escort unit as supply and escort officer for biological, radiological and chemical materials during the Vietnam War. His wife, Shirl, and he are hobbyist breeders of Goffins Cockatoos and Maximilian Pionus. They also have three Congo African Grey parrots and an Umbrella Cockatoo as companions. Their flock presently numbers 22 parrots and two Goffins eggs. Their birds parent raise through weaning and nest box activities are video recorded (an article has been published in the AFA Watchbird on this activity). They have had companion birds for over 10 years and have been active at the local Gainesville Bird Fanciers club for seven years. They have been members of the AFA for six years and have attended five national AFA conventions. Jerry served as a delegate and attended the House of Delegate's meeting at the Los Angeles Convention. Jerry and Shirl are members of the African Parrot Society, the Pionus Breeders Association, the Pionus Parrots Research Foundation and the Cockatoo Society. They are longtime members of the Sierra Club, National Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, and the National Speleological (Caving)

Society. Jerry serves on the Board of Directors and as treasurer of the Florida Speleological Society. He also participates regularly in various Internet Bird associated lists and both Jerry and Shirl do volunteer work at the Eye of the Eagle Wildlife rehabilitation facility in Gainesville, FL.

THE AFA AWARD AT THE GREAT AMERICAN BIRD SHOW GOES TO... Dave and Mary Arthur!

On Saturday October 3, 2001 the Great American Bird Show was held in Des Moines, Iowa. There were hundreds of beautiful birds on display including lovebirds, cockatiels, finches and many beautiful parrots. The Great American is one of the largest shows in the Nation primarily dedicated to hookbills and is the only National show that gives cash awards.

The American Federation of Aviculture gives a beautiful plaque to the Best Bird in Show Bred and Banded by an AFA Member. This year's award goes to Dave and Mary Arthur who won first place in the Lovebird Division with their magnificent Abyssinian lovebird. The beautiful bird also placed third in the overall standings for Best Bird in Show. Congratulations to Dave and Mary and on behalf of AFA, thank you for such excellence in breeding and exhibiting your wonderful birds.

NEW AFA WATCHBIRD

The following articles will appear in the 4th Quarter issue expected to be out sometime after the first of the year: * SCARLET CHESTED PARROT by Joseph Forshaw, color photo by Cyril

Laubscher

* LIFE WITH A PIED CROW

* REESTABLISHMENT OF A KAKA POPULATION by Glen Holland

* BUILDING ATTACHED AVIARIES

* RINGNECKS AND RATS (rat control story by Sheldon Dingle)

* A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON PARENT-REARING

* VETERINARY VIEWPOINTS by Dr. Amy Worell

* BREEDING THE RED-CAPPED CARDINAL by Gary Roulston, notes by Robbie Harris

* Several accounts of the AFA Convention in Houston including a full color/full page montage of photos of nearly everyone — plus a few additional photos as room permits.

Enjoy! If you are not an individual or family member, ask your Club Delegate for a peek. Better yet: join AFA so you can get your very own!

NEW CITES PIN

A stunning Hawk-head parrot is the subject of the new AFA CITES pin.

Designed by Lyrae Perry, this bird practically leaps out at you! Pins may be available through your Club Delegate. If not, call the AFA Business Office (602-484-0931) and order yours today.

Trouble in River City By John Davey

During the cold months of the year, Teddy Bird - the plucked female Quaker Parakeet and Bilbo Bob - the stubborn male Meyers Parrot, share a large cage in one of our bedroom dormer windows. It's just right for the birds - lots of light, but not too much direct sunlight.

It's funny, but many times, birds are like kids. A parent (keeper) can tell immediately when something is wrong. When I went into the bedroom the other day, I knew I had a problem. I saw Old Teddy Bird on the bottom grate of the cage - not a place she normally occupies. Teddy was, literally, a bloody mess. (For those of you who don't know, Teddy is one of the NCBC's premier pluckers. She has plucked off all of her feathers, leaving only her head, flight feathers and tail feathers intact.)

I got Teddy out of the cage, and she was a pretty miserable-looking little bird. After a quick body scan - she let me do this without any bites - I took her into the bathroom, turned the shower on to a light warm spray, and cleaned her off.

After a fight or an accident, birds usually look pretty bad. Blood gets on feathers, and it mats and clumps there, and things usually look a lot worse than they really are. You need to get the bird cleaned up to see exactly what happened. Teddy was pretty cooperative through all of this, and I quickly got her down to bare skin - to check out her problems. I guess I should be thankful (!) for her plucking, because I could see exactly where she was hurt.

Teddy had a bite on her left wing - at the covert part of the second joint - where the wing comes up to the shoulder. She also had a bite on her left leg joint.

After a hopefully soothing shower, I put her back in the cage. Bilbo was out of the cage by this time, so I had no problem with him. Teddy sat on one of the perches and just shivered - not her normal reaction after a shower. I knew

I still had a problem. I took her back out of the cage and wrapped her in a washcloth and sat with her for a while, petting her and soothing her. She seemed better when I finally put her back in the cage - mostly dry and warm.

I tried to feed Teddy by hand, but she wouldn't touch her pellets. Her crop was empty, and I believe that one of the best things a sick/injured bird can do is get something to eat. After a while, I gave up on feeding her and left her on a perch in the window. The afternoon sun was coming in, and the area around the perch was warm, but not hot.

Bilbo was scooting around the top of the cage, trying to get at Teddy, so I took him with me on some of my jobs around the house. After giving Teddy about an hour's rest, I put her back on the food dish, and she started to eat a little bit and even went over to the water bottle for a small drink.

Teddy wanted to be with me, so I switched birds and took her downstairs and pulled some frozen corn kernels out of the freezer. I defrosted them in my hand under some running cold water, and then we sat at the kitchen table, and I fed Teddy the corn. I have yet to meet the Quaker that will refuse corn. Teddy ate piece after piece of the corn, gently eating the entire germ out of each kernel and then flicking the empty corn skin away. Once she had a full crop, I petted her for a while and took her back to her cage for more rest.

I know what happened. Teddy has the natural Quaker's intolerance for other breeds. She can't help herself. She always has to take a swing (bite) at Bilbo. Bilbo (Meyers Parrot) is a much more placid fellow, and I really believe that he would have preferred to be friends with Teddy. But this was Nature triumphing over Nurture. Teddy probably took out after Bilbo, and Bilbo finally let her have it.

Once there was a fight, there would

be no contest. While Teddy and Bilbo actually weigh the same, Teddy has the long, slender, streamlined body that experts identify as a "parakeet." On the other hand, Bilbo had the stocky, square body of a "true parrot." It would be like Michael Jordan (parakeet) fighting Mike Tyson (parrot). No contest.

After a while, when Teddy was noticeably stronger, I tried to put the two birds back together in the big cage. This is quite a large cage, and the birds have coexisted in a Cold War status for years. I have a space problem, because I have room in the dormer window for only the large cage or for the two smaller sleeping cages.

The reunion didn't work. While there was no more fighting, I noticed that Teddy's crop was soon empty, again. Bilbo was not letting Teddy get near either of the two feeding dishes. When I took Bilbo out of the cage and put Teddy down on the lip of the feeding dish, she just chowed down. So, I knew that I had to do something more.

I finally took the larger of the two sleeping cages out of winter storage and set it up on a cabinet near the large cage. I added some toys and put in another water bottle and one of the feeding dishes. I also added clip locks to all of the doors in the small sleeping cage. The little gravity-activated tabs that hold the doors closed on the sleeping cage wouldn't keep Bilbo or Teddy inside for more than a minute.

I think that I will switch the birds back and forth for a couple of days - letting each one get time in the large cage and then a day or so in the smaller cage - at least until I'm satisfied that they are back on a more amicable footing. Right now, they are both hanging on the sides of the cages, closest to each other and are both calling to each other by name. Go figure.

MARCH 23-24, 2002

12th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA



12th ANNUAL CONVENTION

CONVENTION

267611 21683 2168321

EB CLAVENS, HAWAII

DAN DALLEY, TEXAS

DAN MORROW, KANSAS

DAN EMMERSON, IOWA

DAN KEAY, MISSOURI

Virginia's 12th Annual Convention

Disease control updates

Legislation updates

Public health and bioscience

12th Annual Convention Projects



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CONFERENCE CENTER

14072 AVENUE

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CLUB INFORMATION

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Silvia Tennison 301-474-1883

Newsletter Committee Chair

Carol Rees 301-277-9846
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Publicity Committee Chair

OPEN

Ways & Means Committee Chair

OPEN

AFA Delegates

Tom Marshall 703-777-3252

NCBC is affiliated with the American Federation of Aviculture, Bird Clubs of Virginia, and Bird Clubs of America. NCBC is dedicated to education and aviculture with respect to all types of birds.

Annual **DUES** are payable on January 1 of each year: Individual - \$20; Family - \$25. After June, dues are one-half the above amount. Make checks payable to NCBC and send to: National Capital Bird Club, 4615 Harvard Road, College Park, MD 20740.

Club **MEETINGS** are normally held the first Sunday of each month at 3:30p.m. at the McLean Government Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA; (703) 356-0551.

DIRECTIONS TO MEETINGS:

From Capital Beltway (I-495): Exit onto Rt. 123 EAST (toward McLean). Follow Rt. 123/Dolly Madison through watching for small blue sign that says "police substation." Turn left onto Lewinsville Road. Take immediate right on to Balls Hill Rd.

BIRDS are normally welcome at meetings; however, NCBC assumes no responsibility for their safety or welfare.

REFRESHMENTS: Please bring a snack to share at the meetings whenever you can. It doesn't need to be fancy or handmade, store-bought is fine.



DONATE USED MAGAZINES:

Please donate your old magazines to the Club Librarian when you are finished with them.

NCBC Advertising Policies

Advertisements appearing in *The Capital Flyer* are not endorsed by NCBC unless stated otherwise. NCBC assumes no responsibility for advertiser's claims or the quality of their product or service. NCBC reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it considers inappropriate. Advertisements must be prepaid.

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CLASSIFIED AD RATES:

<i>Ad Type</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Non-Member</i>
<i>Line Ad</i>	<i>Free</i>	<i>15¢/word - \$ 3 min.</i>
<i>Bus. Card</i>	<i>\$3</i>	<i>\$ 5</i>
<i>¼ page</i>	<i>\$5</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>½ page</i>	<i>\$8</i>	<i>\$15</i>

For Sale:

King's Cage, New Yorker model 2620. Includes seed skirt & playgym. The bird space is 20 x 26 x 30, 5/8" bar spacing, overall height 64". The cage has white powder coated stainless steel bars, stainless steel food dishes, and it stands on brass casters. Cage includes sandy perch and lixit water bottle. Asking \$375. I also have an **airline approved travel carrier** with 2 food dishes, \$12.

Please call Shirley Coggon at (703) 793-9800 or email shirleycog@hotmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16-20, 2002

International Aviculturists Society Convention

Sheraton West Palm Beach Hotel, City Place
West Palm Beach, FL (901) 218-4320

<http://www.funnyfarmexotics.com/IAS/2002conv.htm>

January 25-27, 2001

Parrot Festival 2002

Marriot North/Greenspoint
Houston, TX (281) 353-8062

*Sponsored by The National Parrot Rescue and
Preservation Foundation*

<http://www.parrotfestival.org/>

February 6-10

The Gabriel Foundation Symposium 2002

U.S. Grant Hotel at Horton Plaza
San Diego, CA (877) 923-1009

<http://www.thegabrielfoundation.org/education1.html>

February 24, 2002

Liz Wilson All-day Seminar

Tysons Westpark Best Western
McLean, VA (703) 771-9678

Sponsored by Bransan Ritchie/Grey Poop On Challenge

March 23-24, 2002

Bird Clubs of Virginia 18th Annual Convention

Renaissance Hotel & Waterfront Conference Ctr.
Portsmouth, VA (757) 420-3354

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4615 Harvard Road
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Address Correction Requested

