

THE CAPITAL FLYER

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

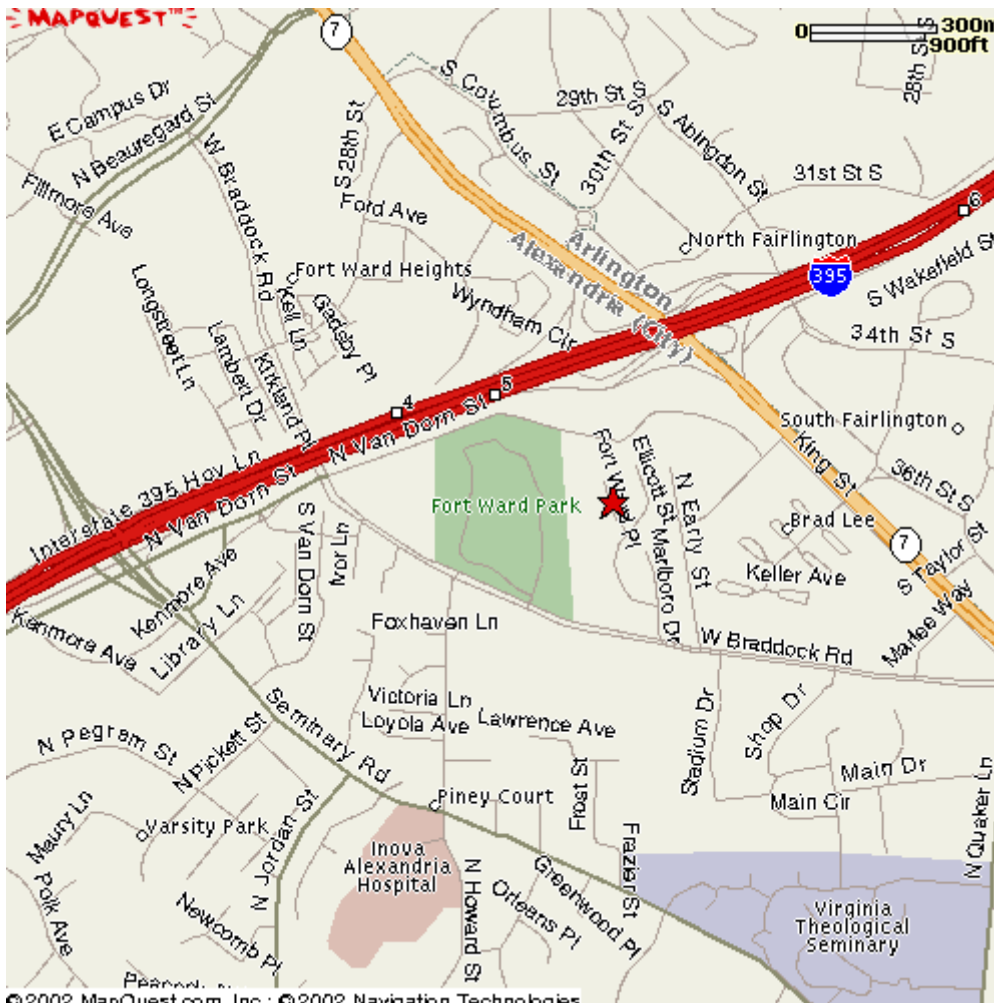
June 2002

“It’s Time to Party”

This month is the club picnic at Ft. Ward Park in Northern Virginia at 2pm on Sunday, June 2. Attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share. The club will supply the hotdogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, and drinks. Hope to see you there! This year there will not be a silent auction. Next month we will meet at our regular meeting place, the McLean Government Center.

Directions to Fort Ward Park in Alexandria

From Interstate 395 exit on Seminary Road East. Travel east about ¾ mile. The Alexandria Hospital will be on your right. Turn left on Howard Street; there is a traffic light at the hospital. Travel about ½ mile to the end of Howard. Turn right on Braddock Road. Enter the park by turning left about 100 yards from Howard. Park in the lot on the right. We are in Area 8. You can see Area 8 from the parking lot and from Braddock Road.



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FUTURE MEETINGS	
June 2	**
July 14	*
August 4	
September 8	*
October 6	
November 10	*
December 8	*,**

* Note date change
** Different Location

Don't forget to bring a side dish to the picnic.

Hope to see you there at 2pm, June 2 at Fort Ward Park!

“Giardia... The Mail-In Clinic Begins” By Debbie Arbogast

After being inspired by several birds who showed us that there was indeed a need for a way for birds to be tested for Giardia easily and effectively, in April 2000 we set up a mail-in Giardia clinic, where bird owners could collect samples from their birds and mail them in whenever they wanted to test them, using one of the most reliable testing methods available, without having to take their bird anywhere.

The avian testing lab we work with told us the most effective way to test for Giardia was to collect fecal samples for three days, as opposed to collecting one sample, which is many times the way birds are tested in veterinary offices around the country. We took it one step further and suggested that the sample should be collected from the first poop that birds do in the morning commonly referred to as the “morning big one.” Our theory was that of all the poops that

the bird does during the day, the “morning big one” has the highest chance of containing Giardia, if they are present, than any other poops. Also, to collect it within seconds of the bird pooping, since Giardia breaks down after being exposed to air. The less time it is exposed, the more Giardia will be present and available to show up under the microscope. So we came up with our Giardia tag line: “Get it while it’s hot, not when it’s not.”

Our theory proved true. This was especially important to the feather-picking birds. Some bird owners whose birds had previously tested negative using other methods were testing positive. Within the feather-picking community, of the pickers who tested negative, we went a step further and suggested testing other birds in the home. Many times other birds in the home of the picker tested positive,

suggesting that Giardia was present in the picker, even when the picker had a negative Giardia test result. We found this scenario to be most prevalent in homes with budgies and cockatiels, who have a high incidence of carrying Giardia, and commonly pass it on to other birds in their environment.

An interesting pattern we found among birds being tested was that it was common in many birds for Giardia to take between 2 to 4 years to show up in feather pickers; that is, for pickers to have been exposed to other birds and then begin picking. Our clinic results has also shown a near 20-percent positive rate of all species of birds.

Our mail-in clinic has been a success. We have been running the clinic now for 2 years and have been able to help birds all over the country get diagnosed and treated.

Bird Adoption (Birds That Need Homes)

Kimberly Manthay has the following birds available for adoption. If you are interested, please call her at (703) 578-3219.

- 1 2 year old orange-wing Amazon with a Cockatoo sized cage**
- 1 8 year old female Triton Cockatoo**
- 1 young cockatiel though to be male with a cage**
- 1 2 year old female quacker parakeet -- very plucked with no cage**
- 4 parakeets**
- 1 female lovebird -- healthy but needs to be with a male**
- 1 splay-legged female lovebird -- not tamed, cannot handle a cage mate, with cage**

“Parrot Lullaby” By John Davey

The Davey birds – Teddy Bird, the plucked nekkid female Quaker Parrot – and Bilbo Bob – the stubborn male Meyers Parrot – have moved from their winter quarters in the bedroom dormer window to the screened-in back porch for the warmer months of the year. Younger son and I carried the large cage – in pieces – downstairs and out on the back porch, and we put the two small sleeping cages back in the dormer. The birds spend their days on the porch – enjoying the fresh air – and they spend their nights in the small sleeping cages.

Along with the move – I really, really, really cleaned the birds’ large cage. I usually do a pretty good job of cleaning everything, but this time I “detailed” the cage – even down to using the old toothbrush on all the little nooks and crannies. It was a choice of either that or completely cleaning the basement for my wife – so there was no real choice for me – the birds got a clean, clean cage.

Then, that night, when it was time for lights out, I transported the birds back to their sleeping cages, covered the cages with the light deadening cover, and wished them pleasant dreams. I had just one low light on in the room, along with the television set. Things settled down, and I was watching some educational TV when I heard a soft, low, irregular whistle. For a couple of minutes, I

thought it was something to do with the program I was watching. (You can never tell with “The Simpson’s.”) But after a while – and a commercial – I could tell it was one of the birds softly whistling.

After a few more minutes, I could tell that it was Old Teddy Bird. She occasionally talks or whistles herself to sleep. This doesn’t happen very often, but it’s sorta sweet when it does happen. I think it soothes her or relaxes her. Teddy’s soft whistling went on for a couple of minutes and then it trailed off, but then Teddy started to talk to herself. I’m always fascinated when she does this, and it’s always well worth the wait for those infrequent treats. I wonder if this talking had something to do with the “excitement” of having the cage moved; having the cage so completely cleaned; the birds being out on top of the cage and climbing around and investigating stuff for much longer than they normally do; and then finally spending the night in the sleeping cages.

Anyway, whatever the reason, Teddy started talking softly, sweetly to herself. She always surprises me with the number of words she knows and the clarity of elocution that she can muster. She started in with: “Teddy... Teddy... Teddy... Teddy Bird.” I had turned down the volume on the TV and I started to speak softly to her: She would say,

“Teddy,” and I would answer, “Bilbo.” She would respond “Teddy.” And I would answer, “Bilbo.” After a while she persisted with “Teddy” so I finally responded “Teddy.” There was a longer pause and she responded “Bilbo.” This went on softly but steadily for about 20 minutes. Teddy went through her entire repertoire of words – “Pretty Bird! Such a Pretty Bird!” “Come on! Step Up! Step Up, Silly Bird!” And on and on. Then she spoke some words that were a surprise to me: Out of the blue, she said “Good Boy! Good Boy!” Now, we have known that Teddy was female for at least the past 6 years, so she must have picked this up as we held and spoke with Bilbo. You really gotta watch what you say whenever you are within listening range of your parrot.

Teddy then went through her laugh: “Ha, ha ha, ha ha!” and her kissing, “Kiss, kiss, kiss, kiss, Kiss!” and again – all sorts of words and phrases. She went on for the longest time – at least a half hour. All very quiet. All very relaxed. Bilbo didn’t say a word for all of this – this was Teddy’s show. Then she must have drifted off to sleep. Very nice. Very soft. Very relaxing. One of the sweet, unexpected dividends of parrot ownership.

American Federation of Aviculture Has Moved

AFA has successfully moved to Kansas City and being managed by a professional organization, Attaché International, in order to provide you better service, as well as decrease costs. Our new phone number is 1-816-421-BIRD(2473), FAX 1-816-421-3214, email AFAOffice@aol.com. Day-to-day questions should be directed to Sharon Bosley. All contact regarding the convention should be directed to Esther Aboumaali. These folks are aces and will handle your questions or orders promptly, pleasantly and professionally.

New address:

**American Federation of Aviculture
PO Box 7312
N. Kansas City, MO 64116**

American Federation 2002 Convention Speaker List

<i>Sponsoring Organization</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>
African Love Bird Society	Dr. Phil Ryan	Aviary Design & Construction
Quaker Parakeet Society	Dr. Scott Doak	Avian Genetics
Cockatoo Society Captive	Dr. Walt Frey	Management of Cockatoos
The Bird Endowment	Laney Rickman	Captive Population Management
North American Parrot Society, Inc., -	Linda S. Rubin	Genetics Management for Exhibition
National Finch & Softbill Society	Roland Cristo	Cissas
Pyrrhura Breeders Association	Richard Cusick	Pyrrhura conures
Florida Federation of Aviculture	Jan Beatrous	Preventing Theft
Tanygnathus Group	June Dinger	
Busch Gardens	Mike Wells	
Sea World	Sheri Branch	
Aviculture Breeding & Research Center	Dr. April Romagno	
The Amazona Society	Nancy Speed	Avian Pediatrics
National Finch & Softbill Society	Danny Gonzales	Tropical Softbills, Shipping Roundtable
International Parrotlet Society	Sandee Molenda	Shipping Roundtable
International Conure Association	Liz Wilson	Screaming & biting parrots, Behavior Roundtable
	Laurella Desborough	AWA & Standards & Accreditation in Aviculture
	Dr. Ian Tizzard	AWA Roundtable
	Mattie Sue Athan	Behavior Roundtable
	Gail Worth	Shipping Roundtable
	Genny Wall	Rescue and Adoptions, AWA Roundtable
	Dr. Mike Kreger	USDA - AWA Roundtable
	Richard Porter	Standards & Accreditation in Aviculture Roundtable
	Mark Hagan	Standards & Accreditation in Aviculture Roundtable
Possibly -	Ramon Noegel, Carla Freed, Dr. Susan Clubb	
Roundtables -		Shipping in the Wake of 9/11, AWA, Standards & Accreditation in Aviculture
Workshops - (Sunday) -		Behavior, Captive Management Programs, Softbill Symposium, Aviary Management

Speakers are subject to change

AFA 2002 Convention Registration Form

AFA Convention 2002 August 8 – 11, 2002 Hyatt Regency at Tampa City Center

Printable

Registration Form

Full Registration includes lectures, workshops, exhibits, a banquet ticket and all specialty meetings

Fee does NOT include tours, proceedings or hotel accommodations. **Full payment must be sent with this form.**

Refunds: Postmarked on or before June 29, 2002, 100%. Postmarked on or before July 20th, 50%. Refund requests MUST be in writing and mailed or faxed to the AFA business office. **Hotel Accommodations are not included.** AFA Convention rate of \$89 single or double & \$114 triple/quad if reservation is made by July 16th 2002. Call 1-800-233-1234 for reservations. Make sure you state AFA affiliation to get the rate.

All minors attending the AFA Convention **must be accompanied** at all times by a registered adult participant. AFA is not responsible for minors who attend without proper adult supervision. AFAMember NonMember

Early Bird must be **postmarked by** June 28, 2002. Indicate banquet choice below: V = vegetarian or N = non-vegetarian \$195
\$225 \$_____

Indicate banquet choice - V = vegetarian or N = non-vegetarian | Type: _____

Full Registration June 29TH thru on site. Indicate banquet choice below: V = vegetarian or N = non-vegetarian. \$235 \$265
\$_____

Indicate banquet choice - V = vegetarian or N = non-vegetarian | Type: _____

Extra Sat. Aug. 11th Banquet Tickets | Type: _____ \$45 \$45 \$_____

SINGLE DAY REGISTRATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday Aug. 8th Florida Fish Feast with open bar & DJ. **No reservation taken after July 31st.** Includes transportation. \$40
\$40 \$_____

Friday Aug. 9th fee includes lectures, exhibits, & specialty meetings. \$75 \$90 \$_____

Saturday Aug. 10th fee includes lectures & exhibits. Banquet is NOT included. \$75 \$90 \$_____

Sunday Aug. 11th 8 am – noon Avian Workshops \$75 \$90 \$_____

Advance purchase of proceedings by Aug 3rd (pick up at registration desk only - will be \$30 on site) \$20 ea. \$20 ea. \$_____

Convention T-Shirts for Pick up at AFA Booth - Size Med, L, XL, XXL | Size: _____ \$25 ea. \$25 ea. \$_____

If you are not yet a member join now for full privileges: Individual \$40 Family \$45, Supporting \$75, Commercial \$125
\$_____

Use one form per person. Name of registrant, as it is to appear on badge. Date: _____

PLEASE PRINT Name: _____ Phone: _____ Fax _____

Aviary/Business name _____

Address _____ Member # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If you are an AFA Officer, or State Coordinator enter state, region. If you are a Club Delegate, please name club.

Title: _____ Region: _____ Club: _____

Make checks payable to AFA or provide credit card information. Check enclosed ___ MC ___ VISA ___ AMX ___ Total due
\$ _____

Name (Please Print) _____ Authorized Signature _____

Credit card # _____ Expiration _____

Mail to: American Federation of Aviculture (AFA), P. O. Box 7312, N. Kansas City, MO 64116

Phone (816) 421-BIRD (2473) | Fax (816) 421-3214 | E-mail AFAOffice@aol.com | web site <http://www.afa.birds.org>

CLUB NEWS

Treasurer's Report May 2002

Beginning Balance:	\$3440.01
Income	
Dues	20.00
Total Income:	\$20.00
Expenses	
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
Ending Balance:	\$3460.01

Membership Report May 2002

Exchange Memberships	17
Single Memberships	39
Family Memberships	20
Total Memberships	76

National Capital Bird Club Meeting Minutes 5/5/02

There were two wonderful examples of the cockatoo at the Cockatoo Roundtable at May's meeting, a Sulfur-Crested Cockatoo and an Umbrella Cockatoo. They demonstrated how loud Cockatoos can be and held a birdie conversation with each other.

An announcement was made for the picnic for next month's meeting. There will not be a silent auction at this picnic.

CLUB INFORMATION

President

Tammy Ellison 301-946-3511
 elton.tammy@verizon.net

Vice President

Tom Marshall 703-777-3252

Treasurer

Wayne Porter 703-751-5717

Secretary

Carol Rees 301-277-9846
 carol.rees@usa.com

Audit Committee Chair

OPEN

Hospitality Committee Chair

Elizabeth Moore 703-751-5717

Library Committee Chair

Silvia Tennison 301-474-1883

Newsletter Committee Chair

Carol Rees 301-277-9846
 carol.rees@usa.com

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.

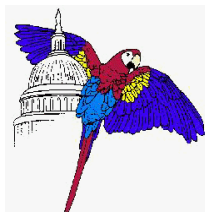
Club **MEETINGS** are normally held the first Sunday of each month at 3:30p.m. at the McLean Government Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA; (703) 356-0551.

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.

NCBC Editorial Policies

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Club or its members. Unless otherwise stated, articles appearing in *The Capital Flyer* may be reprinted provided that credit is given to the author and *The Capital Flyer*. To protect other authors, permission must be obtained from the original source. Send articles or newsletter submissions to: Carol Rees, NCBC Editor, 4615 Harvard Road, College Park, MD 20740-3752 or carol.rees@usa.com.

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>

**Your new membership card
 is stapled here for paid members.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 11, 2002

Peninsula Caged Bird Society Spring Bird Mart

Columbian Center
12742 Nettles Drive
Newport News, VA (757) 874-4651

August 25, 2002

Mid- Atlantic Bird Mart

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

May 18, 2002

Baltimore Bird Fanciers Bird Mart

Tall Cedars Hall
Parkville, VA (410) 628-2051

June 2, 2002

Bird Mart

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

August 8-11, 2002

AFA Convention 2002
Hyatt Regency Hotel - Tampa City Center
Tampa, FA (816) 421-BIRD

<http://www.afa.birds.org/convention/index.html>

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