



THE CAPITAL FLYER

The Monthly Newsletter of the
National Capital Bird Club
4615 Harvard Road
College Park, MD 20740-3752
carol.rees@usa.com

<http://www.ncbc-dc.org>

May 2004

A Holistic Approach

Dr. Jennifer Ramelmeier of Avian House Calls (Holistic Vet) will be April's speaker. She will talk about the holistic approach to treating pet birds, what it involves, and the advantages it has over traditional treatment. She will also answer general avian health questions.

Indonesian Parrot Party & Auction

MAY 15th, 2004 (7:00-10:00 PM), HILTON TOWERS
DR. STEWART METZ, M.D.

Stewart Metz, known as S'Too by his friends, is dedicated to protecting parrots in the wild. He created the Indonesian Parrot Project, an arm of Project Bird Watch, specifically to help conserve the habitats of endangered cockatoos, eclectus and great billed parrots.

The goal of this program is to create alternative local jobs and detract individuals from poaching parrots in Indonesia for the pet trade. Phoenix Landing is proud to have contributed to this effort. To learn more about this project, go to: www.indonesian-parrot-project.org and please join us on May 15th to learn more about parrots in the wild!

S'Too is also well known for the **Parrot's Bill of Rights**. We recommend you read them and incorporate their teachings into your everyday relationship with your parrot.

We're planning an evening festival and auction to celebrate the parrots of Indonesia. This festive occasion will be held at the Hilton, Arlington Towers located at 950 North Stafford Street in Arlington, Virginia. (\$20 donation appreciated.)

We're also planning a silent auction to benefit the parrots of Indonesia and Phoenix Landing. Don't miss this wonderful occasion!! There will be jewelry, pictures, quilts, aviaries and many other items of interest.

If you would like to donate a tax deductible item or service to this cause, please fill out the donation form on page (page 3) and send it to us or email us at phoenixlanding@earthlink.net. All types of auction items are gratefully accepted, they do not need to be parrot-related. (*Article from the Phoenix Landing website*)

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FUTURE MEETINGS

- May 2, 2004
- June 6, 2004 **
- July 11, 2004 *
- August 1, 2004
- September 12, 2004 *
- October 3, 2004
- November 7, 2004
- December 5, 2004 **

* Date change

** Different Location

Next Meeting
May 2, 2004

Parrot Fever at Fairfax Petco

As reported in the Washington Post on April 21, 2004, twenty-five parrots at a Petco store located at 10708 Lee Highway in Fairfax, VA have been quarantined after one parakeet was found to have psittacosis also known as

“parrot fever”.

Unless you handled the infected bird you are not considered at risk. The incubation period for psittacosis is between 5 and 19 days. This disease can be treated by antibiotics. A description

of the disease can be found in the web article <http://www.multiscope.com/hotspot/psittacosis.htm>

The Noisy Month of May By John Davey

Well, it's that time of the year again. The time when the Davey birds – Old Teddy Bird, the plucked nekkid, neurotic female Quaker parakeet – and Old Bilbo Bob Bird, the sweet, shy, stubborn male Meyers parrot – make their annual trek from the upstairs bedroom dormer window, down and out to the screened-in back porch.

The birds spend the cold, dark, winter months in the big gray cage in the bedroom dormer widow, looking out on the front yard and the neighborhood kids playing in the snow. It's warm and it's sunny. Not bad a bad place for the colder months of the year. They spend the warm, moist summer months on the back porch, enjoying the sun and the shade and the sounds and smells of deep suburban – almost rural – Virginia.

I will take the birds downstairs, out of their cage, on my fingers, and I'll deposit them on the backs of two of the porch chairs, and then I'll bushwhack Younger Son and make him help me carry the big cage out of the bedroom and through the hall and down the stairs. It's a two-man job. The cage is big and heavy and awkward. The only way the big cage will fit onto the back porch is to take it out the front door and carry it around the house and onto the porch. I'll then carry the two small sleeping cages out of the garden shed and install them back up in the dormer window. I daren't leave the birds on the porch at night, because we are rural enough to have to worry about raccoons and possum and foxes. Better to be safe than sorry. It's a lot of work for two dumb birds, but I guess they are worth it.

I've written in previous articles that the back porch is a pretty nice place to spend the summertime. It faces up onto some deep woods and a pretty little run. (That's a Virginia term for a small stream or creek.) It can be warm but it's never uncomfortably hot. Our new dog, Mosby, will be sharing the porch with

the birds, so there's plenty of security and plenty of entertainment for them. (The birds have already learned Mosby's name and enjoy calling him to their cage at odd hours. He is always confused at who has been calling him. They have also learned that they can toss a food pellet out of the cage and onto the floor and Mosby will run to snarf it up. Hours and hours of quality entertainment, there.)

When the dog gets too close and puts his nose up to the bars of the cage, a quick love-nip to the nose will send him off, howling – and that's more great entertainment! The neat thing (from a parrot point of view) is that poor old Mosby will quickly forget the nip, and – lured by the promise of tasty parrot pellets and the sight and sound of noisy, pretty, feathered creatures – he soon will be tempted to put his nose back to the bars and start the commotion all over again.

The birds will also shift their repertoire of words and sounds from the wintertime, inside sequence of creaking closet door hinges and smoke detector test beeps to a more varied spring and summertime assortment. These summer sounds include the ubiquitous spring peepers – the tiny, almost invisible frogs that inhabit the woods and the run and the calls of the scores of wild birds that make the backyard and woods their home. Both of my parrots “do” a wicked robin chirp and a great cardinal cheep. Bilbo Bob was working on a passable Piliated Woodpecker call last year, and I'm sure that he will pick up where he left off when he gets back on the porch.

As an added attraction, I can hardly wait for this year's “Brood X” hatch of the 17-year locusts – properly known as cicadas. The local newspapers and television news shows have promised a bumper crop of these noisy but harmless visitors. I can't imagine more noise and more bugs than there were during the

last visit in 1987, but we didn't have two quick-witted parrots and an always-hungry dog back then. The cicadas have been described as flying cocktail wieners for dogs, so I know that Mosby will be busy and probably full, and I cannot imagine the racket that will occur after my two feathered mimics have been exposed to hour after hour of cicada sewing machine chatter. It should be an interesting – but noisy – Spring.

@ John Davey, 2004



The Phoenix Landing Foundation presents
"AN INDONESIAN PARROT PARTY"
with Dr. Stewart Metz

Beneficiaries: www.indonesian-parrot-project.org and www.phoenixlanding.org

Saturday, MAY 15, 2004, 7-10PM

Donation Item Form

Please complete this form, sign it and fax it to 703-993-1269 (ATTN: Rita) by May 1, 2004.

For additional information please call 703-533-3838 or email phoenixlanding@earthlink.net. A copy of this form will be returned to you as a confirmation for tax purposes, once your auction item or services are received. Your company name, web site and phone number will be included in our Event Program which will be made available to all attendees.

Benefactor Information:

Name or Company: _____

Contact Person: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Website: _____ Email: _____

The description you provide will assist us in listing the item or service for the auction, or recognizing your generous contribution of food for the reception.

Donated Item(s) Description:

Please provide approximate value of donated items:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CLUB NEWS

National Capital Bird Club Meeting Minutes 4/4/04

Brian Wilson, of the Wilson Parrot Foundation, located in Damascus, Maryland was the speaker for the April meeting. He brought 9 of his rescue parrots, which for a donation of \$20 attendees could be photographed with and receive an 8x10 color photo. He told about how he came to start the foundation and what they provided.

Treasurer's Report March 29, 2004

Beginning Balance:	\$2905.62
Total Income:	\$608.00
Dues	\$465.00
Raffles	\$73.00
Magazine Sales	\$70.00
Add Back Unclaimed Donation from 2002	\$112.00
Total Expenses:	\$283.83
AFA Membership	\$125.00
Printing	\$106.56
Postage	\$51.80
Ending Balance:	\$1841.79

Membership Report March 29, 2004

Exchange Memberships	17
Single Memberships	30
Family Memberships	17
Total Memberships	64

National Capital Bird Club 2004 Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Would you like to be published in the roster? _____

Membership Type: Individual \$20.00 Family \$25.00

(If you are joining after June, your annual dues are one-half the above amounts for the year.)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

If family membership, names of other family members: _____

Types of birds you own: _____

Are you a: Pet Owner Breeder Other _____

List any other societies, clubs, or bird magazines you subscribe to: _____

How did you hear about NCBC? _____

List the topics you would like to see covered by speakers or articles: _____

Would you consider volunteering on a committee for special projects or serving in a leadership position? Yes No

Would you be willing to serve as a guest speaker or do you know someone who would make an interesting guest speaker on pet bird-related topics? Yes No
 If so, who? _____

ANNUAL DUES ARE PAYABLE ON JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR

Mail your check, made payable to NCBC:

4615 Harvard Road, College Park, MD 20740-3752

Meetings are normally held the first Sunday of the month

At the McLean Government Center, 14537 Balls Hill Rd., McLean, VA

CLUB INFORMATION

President

Kelsie Holtje 240-876-1741
iowehp@aol.com

Vice President

Kitty Miller 703-914-1050
Silvia Tennison 301-474-1833

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.



CLASSIFIED AD RATES:

Ad Type	Member	Non-Member
Line Ad	Free	15¢/word - \$ 3 min.
Bus. Card	\$3	\$ 5
1/4 page	\$5	\$10
1/2 page	\$8	\$15

DONATE USED MAGAZINES:

Please donate your old magazines to the Club Librarian when you are finished with them. The club resells these at bird marts and it really helps out in raising money.

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

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Wed, Fri & Sat 10-6

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15, 2004 (7pm-10pm)
Indonesian Parrot Party & Auction

Dr. Stewart Metz, MD
Sponsored by Phoenix Landing

Parrot Conservationist
Hilton, Arlington Towers
950 N. Stafford Street
Arlington, VA

<http://www.phoenixlanding.org/seminars.htm>

May 23, 2004 (9am-4pm)

Mid-Atlantic Bird Mart

Tysons Corner VA. Westpark Best Western Hotel

Contact John Long at 703-771-9678 or

johndori@earthlink.net

June 19, 2004 (1pm-3pm)

Ask the Experts (Phoenix Landing)

Speaker: Dr. David Crum, DVM

[more details to follow]

<http://www.phoenixlanding.org/seminars.htm>

August 29, 2004 (9am-4pm)

Mid-Atlantic Bird Mart

Tysons Corner VA. Westpark Best Western Hotel

Contact John Long at 703-771-9678 or

johndori@earthlink.net

September 18-19, 2004

Sally Blanchard

Sponsored by Phoenix Landing

[more details to follow]

<http://www.phoenixlanding.org/seminars.htm>

November 20, 2004

Liz Wilson

Sponsored by Phoenix Landing

[more details to follow]

<http://www.phoenixlanding.org/seminars.htm>

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Address Correction Requested

