



This newsletter  
Devoted to pet bird  
Enthusiasts is  
Published monthly by  
The Rainbow Feathers  
Bird club of Michigan  
A 501(c) (3) club

March 2016  
Volume 19 Issue3

## Bird Droppings



### UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

March 20<sup>th</sup> — Third Sunday  
April 24<sup>th</sup> ----- Fourth Sunday  
May 22<sup>nd</sup> -----Fourth Sunday

#### RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

- Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
- Support scholarships for avian vet students
- Yearly Bird Fair
- Club Library for members
- Grooming available
- Avian rescue/relocation programs
- Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
- Monthly newsletter
- Periodic Service projects
- Field Trips
- Educational Programs upon request
- Make-it-take-it workshops

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

#### Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers:

President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

Email – [sweettweeters@comcast.net](mailto:sweettweeters@comcast.net)

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – [splafchan@twmi.rr.com](mailto:splafchan@twmi.rr.com)

Secretary– Kathe Cote 313-728-2211

Email – [gardenfrog1967@yahoo.com](mailto:gardenfrog1967@yahoo.com)

Treasurer and Membership Secretary –

Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – [sweettweeters@comcast.net](mailto:sweettweeters@comcast.net)

Board of Trustees –

Mary Perva- 517-618-7008

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email – [susanhdixon@hotmail.net](mailto:susanhdixon@hotmail.net)

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email- [bigduke@comcast.net](mailto:bigduke@comcast.net)



**ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.**

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail [sweettweeters@comcast.net](mailto:sweettweeters@comcast.net)

# EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is now doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month for publishing in the current month's newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff Livonia, MI 48150 or email to [splafchan@twmi.rr.com](mailto:splafchan@twmi.rr.com).

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.



## **MONTHLY SNACK LIST**

**We have decided to stop soliciting for snack volunteers for our meetings and make the format a potluck venue. The reasoning for this is twofold; there have been very few members signing up for snacks and many members just bring dishes and desserts without signing up. So from now on our meetings will be a potluck fair, YUM!!**



## **CLUB WELFARE**

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at [bigduke@comcast.net](mailto:bigduke@comcast.net) if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.

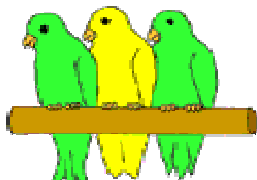
## **FROM THE PREZ:**



Wasn't February's meeting awesome we had so many in members there and added a large number to our flock. I really like the fact that our flock keeps growing and everybody keeps having fun. That is the key

## **BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE**

- ❖ Ask owner's permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
- ❖ Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
- ❖ When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.



to our club is to have fun we are all just a bunch of birdbrains but be glad birds are smart so we are in good company. It was also great to have Steve back after his eye adventure we missed his grays only rule (but do we really listen, naw). We are fast approaching our bird fair June is not as far off as we think and it will be here in no time so we need to be ready. If you can get anything that would be raffle worthy do not hesitate to get it and it does not have to be bird related. We have the donation letters at the meetings so if you know of anything get it. I also have to stress the rules about the kitchen where we meet no birds are allowed in the kitchen by order of the Health Department and this includes birds that can fly and are waiting to be clipped. They must remain in the carrier until they get clipped and can no longer fly. We want to keep meeting there and need to follow the rules set down by the state. Remember the March meeting is on the third Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup> because of Easter being the last Sunday so we hope to see you there. So as we go into the spring and summer seasons we never know who will be inviting us to do a new pet event so watch the upcoming events for new stuff. As always **YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!!!**

Until Next Time  
Your Prez  
Dave



## Voice of the Veep

The meeting in February was great with lots of members and guests. Firstly let me say thanks for re-electing me as VP and all the well wishes for me to get better. As I'm writing this I still need cataract surgery and another surgery to repair a wrinkle in my retina. Ergo, seeing since I can't see this column is going to be short and sweet.

Your VP  
Steve



## **RESCUE UPDATE**

We had three adoptions last month even though the weather was so cold. The birds that went to new homes were two Lesser Jardine's and a parakeet.

All of the birds we adopt go to their new homes with cages, toys, water bottles, and pellets. We are able to accomplish this because of the wonderful generosity of the members of this club. Your donations of supplies brought to the meetings and especially your participation in the monthly club raffles has allowed the rescue to send our adoptees to their new homes fully prepared. Thank you one and all. You should all be very proud of yourselves for this; our rescue couldn't do this without you.



## OUT AND ABOUT WITH POOKIE

Things around our home have been quite chaotic the past two months so I must apologize for missing my article last month. What occurred is quite simple although it has been very devastating, I will do my best to explain.

If you read my column in January you know that Steve had been infected with the dreaded Cockamaw virus. This caused Steve to be hospitalized with birdamiteus. (The doctors claimed it was shingles on his face but we knew the true reason). Well, his affliction was far worse than even we had known because his health problems continued to become worse. January 13<sup>th</sup> Steve awoke on a Saturday morning blind in his left eye which caused him to go see an Ophthalmologist. It was determined he had a detached retina in his left eye. After seeing all the doctors and surgeons they determined that they could repair his eye and offered an opinion for the cause. **They are wrong, absolutely dead wrong.** Steve did this to himself about a week earlier.

This is what happened to Steve. Two of the symptoms of advanced stages of Cockamaw Birdamiteus are; Sudden

blindness along with the urge to adopt a Cockatoo! Early in January he brought an Umbrella Cockatoo into our home, we begged and pleaded for him to think about the foolishness of this move. We attempted to reason with him and explained it was because of the Cockamaw birdamiteus virus. It didn't help, he wouldn't listen. All seven of the African Greys in our home joined me in attempting to prevent his plunge into the depths of the dark side but his leap into the abyss occurred on the sixth day of January two thousand and sixteen. That morning there was a clatter and a clunk in the front room followed by a loud squawk, none of us could believe what was just heard! Was it a ghost? No! It was a Cockatoo and by the way our cages rattled when it screamed it was a big one. The noise we heard had to be either a Moluccan or an Umbrella but that notwithstanding the battle for supremacy and the control of Steve and the household has been set forth.

We will have to start retraining Steve, teach the new resident in our home the proper etiquette inside of a Grey household and that we rule the roost around here. Steve will probably learn quickly but I have my doubts about the Umbrella Cockatoo in the front room, after all they are a bit slow.

Until next month  
Chirps and Squawks  
Pookie



# BIRD FAIR

Our annual bird fair is now going to be on Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> and will be at the same location as last year. The location is VFW Post 345 at 27345 Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive) Redford, MI 48239.

We are not going to be able to set up for the fair the night before as we have in years past but we will be getting access to the hall about 6:00 AM. The tentative plan is load a U-Haul® truck the evening before with Cages and stuff at Steve's house. In the morning before the fair starts we will bring in all the cages, raffle items and supplies.

We will need as much help as we can get at 6:00 AM to cover tables, price cages, run electricity and set up the raffle. Hopefully this will mostly be finished by 7:00 AM when the vendors will start arriving. We need help holding doors open and assisting vendors move in at this time. They really appreciate this; it's something that rarely occurs for them at other fairs and keeps them coming back. During the fair we will need help at the admissions desk, assisting at the raffle, rescue tables. Another time when help is needed is after the fair doing the clean-up.

This is our rescue's largest fundraiser of the year, so please; one and all come and make this fair the success of past years. We have rented out a record number of tables this year with many first time vendors. Let's show them what a dynamic group we are by assisting them in every way possible.

Come on out and lend a hand even if you haven't signed up. You don't have to stay all day; any time you can help would be wonderful.

Avast ye Mates



## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Hello everyone I hope all is going fine for you as it is for me but I do have one complaint, what is up with this crazy weather. It will be 60 one day then six inches of snow then back to 60 again. It is enough to give one a headache. It seems especially troubling to all of our pet humans they are constantly complaining about it. So I went to Stella (Mother Nature to you) and said what gives! She told me she has been moody lately and things just keep going up and down, I said yeah we can see that. So I asked her what really is the problem and it turns out that she deals with those same stupid people that we do. You know the ones that would rather get all their info off the internet and they believe it. Those people who think that there is enough world to go around forever and those we run into that think that Sparky, J.B. and I are being wasted by not breeding us. I wish they would just mind their own business I am very happy with the bachelor life I mean I have my friends and don't need the pressure to produce as some have put it. These people have offered big money for any of the three of us but our pet humans will not budge and say there is no amount of money that could buy us from them. I really like being priceless and if more potential parrot parents treated us the same that would be wonderful.

Many of my friends found homes with pet humans from that bird club my pet humans belong to and that is a wonderful thing. I mean if I hear one more time how I should be breeding from total strangers I think I will scream, (oh wait I do that already) Ok scratch that but really butt out. So if you see my or J.B. and Sparky's pet humans, in fact any of the pet humans that my bird club friends have give them three cheers because I'll bet you are priceless to them too.

Cheers  
Captain Morgan



## CLUB T-SHIRTS



Good news! Tracy  
Hilka who is Bella

Embroidery is now going to make our club shirts. The price for t-shirts, including our logo embroidered on it, is \$10.00 for sm. to XI and \$12.50 for 2xl to 5xl. These are Gildan brand #8000 50/50 t-shirts, there are lots of colors.

What you do is go to her website.

[www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb](http://www.sportswearcollection.com/bellaemb)

Then type Gildan in the search box (this will put you on the Gildan page).

Look down the page and find Gildan DryBlend 50/50 T-shirts #8000

Click on the icon and this will open the page with all the colors and sizes.

Choose your size and color(s) and add it to your Cart.

On the cart page there is a place for comments when you place your order, in this box tell Tracy you would like your shirt embroidered with the

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Logo

When she receives your order she will send you a PayPal® invoice

In a short time you will receive your new club shirt in the mail.

If you don't have internet access or a PayPal® account you can contact me, Steve Plafchan and we'll figure out a solution to get you a shirt.

She has many items available (hats, tote bags, etc.) that she can put our logo on if you wish. She has given us a catalog full of things you can order, all the prices are retail and she receives a wholesale price so you will have to talk to her about pricing. (IE prices will be less than what's listed in the catalog.)



## BITS from BABY

HOWDY to all my feathered and non-feathered members, this is your roving reporter Baby with the latest and greatest news.

February's meeting almost broke the record for attendance, there were seventy-one people there, of which fifty-five were members and sixteen guests and nine joined our flock. I am happy to say that I was there this month and enjoyed see all the feathered and non-feathered friends that were there. I hope the weather calms down and gets nicer soon.

We also had forty-five feathered members of which nine were African Greys, nine Cockatoos and ten Macaws, plus seventeen other types of Parrots in attendance.

This year looks like it going to be as busy as last year. The programs are starting to come in faster than a year ago. We have fourteen already booked this year and we are just getting started. Hang on to your feathers guys we are in for lots of fun. That's not even counting events both indoors and outside like Ypsilanti's Festival and The Novi Pet Expo.

Well that all for now.  
God bless, till we meet again,  
Your friend Baby

>< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< >< ><



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

BENJAMIN MACKAY	APR. 1
MARK MAKLENBURG	APR. 2
JEFF ROSENTHAL	APR. 3
SANDY MOSS	APR. 4
MEGAN HOPE	APR. 5
BARB ROSENTHAL	APR. 8
JELENA FONTANA	APR. 9
COURTNEY EAMES	APR. 13
McKENNA LYNCH	APR. 13
SARAH MACKAY	APR. 14
NANCY TEATRO	APR. 16
MARIE KEEHL	APR. 17
ROSEMARY MEDVE	APR. 17
LISA SCHAAP	APR. 17
CHERISH BOUGENOY	APR. 20
TAMMY CAROL	APR. 20
JACK PLAGENS	APR. 22
ALISON SAUVE	APR. 24
MARK GREENWOOD	APR. 25
CARINNE KORANY	APR. 27
ANDREW SULLIVAN	APR. 27



THE ADVENTURES OF STEVE AND DAVE  
THE  
**RESCUE RANGERS**

IN  
THE WINGED TERROR

Today's adventure is taking the Rangers out to the lovely little city of Ann Arbor Michigan home of the Maize and Blue and lots and lots of Martini bars (no they did not go bar hopping they don't like Martini's). Anyway, there they would pick up their very first Cape Parrot. Now the house seemed to be normal enough nothing gave them a clue to what lurked inside this seemingly quiet abode. They entered and were taken to the kitchen, dining room area where they were greeted by the lady of the house. Strange they didn't see any bird as the lady talked about her virtues as though the bird was right there with them. Suddenly a head poke itself in the kitchen through the bi-fold doors and the husband in a loud voice forcefully asked where the bird was. She pointed up to the curtain rod well above their heads and there sat a beautiful Cape Parrot observing all the going's on below. The husband quickly shut the doors and said I'm not going in there and made a hasty exit. This was the Cape's cue and with a loud squawk began her aerial attack. She first flew at Ranger Steve with feet open like a raptor not a parrot with beak open and head butted him. This sent Ranger Steve ducking for cover under the first thing he could find which was the kitchen table. Next this Cape Parrot set her sights on Ranger Dave and from her Curtain rod vantage point began her attack narrowly missing his right ear. Now Ranger Dave was heading for a spot next to Ranger Steve under the same table

but Ranger Steve was too busy watching out for the bird and had to be forcefully moved over so Ranger Dave could also take cover. As they cowered under the table (don't judge, you guys haven't seen those big feet or huge sharp beak) the lady of the house reached up and exclaimed what a sweet bird she was she without as much as even a small peep put her in the carrier. It was now safe the attack was over and all could now breathe easier even the husband seemed to become 10 years younger when he knew he would no longer have to dodge the terror from the sky. So lucky Ranger Dave would be the one to foster this ball of feathers and beak but a miracle happened after the wing clipping (no repeats of the dive bombing incident) this bird took to Ranger Dave's wife Rangerette Tammy. It was love at first sight and the bird named Georgia had found her new home. Still to this day Rangerette Tammy is the only one who can handle Georgia and basically do anything to her Ranger Dave keeps his distance (Georgia still hates him but to be fair it's all other people but Rangerette Tammy). So this story had a happy ending and the winged terror has been somewhat tamed but the Rangers work is still not done and until there aren't any homeless cage bird they will keep doing what they do for they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!!**

Ranger fans stay tuned for our next thrilling episode A Parakeet in Plymouth!

## **DO YOU HEAR YOURSELF?**

We get all sorts of phone calls and then there are some that make you want ask that question, do you hear yourself? Apparently not these people.



A man called up and said he wanted a big bird to put in his window for all the neighbors to see. He wanted a big colorful one hopefully one of those red ones so as his neighbors passed his house they would see the bird in his window. When I explained that they needed to be interacted with and were not just ornaments. He replied that since they were much less work than a dog, he wanted a bird. I again explained they were as much work as any dog maybe more to which he said no they have everything they need in their cages. I told him they had to be handled and interacted to keep them nice. He wasn't interested he just wanted that show stopper for all his neighbors to see. Well we do not sell furniture so, no bird for this guy.

Another woman wanted one of those big white birds with the crest thingy's. So I said a Cockatoo? To which she replied Yeah one of those and then proceeded to give me a list of what she expected, quiet, not messy and it had to talk. So I asked her what kind of Cockatoo would you be interested in to which she replied "a white one". Well I tried to tell her they are all white which white bird do you want at this point she accused me of being a smart a... and then thought that adopting from us is not such a good idea and she would find her white bird elsewhere.

Another guy wanted a bird that was not to big but not too small not too loud or too messy and it had to be able to ride on his shoulder when he went out so all the girls could see him. Did we have any of those (now wait for it) in stock and when will we getting new shipment in if we don't have any right now.

The best we a gentleman who want a pirate bird, so after talking to him for about 10 minutes he told me what he wanted. One of those birds you always see in pirate

movies perched on the Captains shoulders. Well guy go play pirate somewhere else! These are just a few of the gems we get when we answer the phone and I am sure there will always be more!



## UP COMING EVENTS

As of

### March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015

March 8<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
American House Taylor  
25250 Eureka Road  
Taylor, MI 48180  
2:00 PM Set-up  
3:00 PM Start

March 11<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
American House Troy  
2300 Grand Haven Drive  
Troy, MI 48083  
2:00 PM Set-up  
3:00 PM Start

March 25<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Glacier Hills Senior Living  
1200 Earhart Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
9:30 AM Set-up  
10:30 AM Start

April 5<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Whitehall Convalescent of Novi  
43455 W. 10 Mile Road  
Novi, MI 48375  
1:00 PM Set-up  
2:00 PM Start

May 9<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
The Village Rehabilitation Center  
22600 W. Main St.  
Armada, MI 48005  
1:00 PM Set-up  
2:00 PM Start

April 12<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Independence Village Frankenmuth  
255 Mayer Rd.  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734  
11:30 AM Set-up  
12:30 PM Start

May 14<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Maple Village  
6257 Telegraph Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301  
12:30 PM Set-up  
1:30 PM Start

April 16<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Huron Woods – Towsley Health Center  
5361 McAuley Dr.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
1:30 PM Set-up  
2:30 PM Start

May 15<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Walton Woods at Twelve Oaks  
27475 Huron Circle  
Novi, MI 48377  
12:30 PM Set-up  
1:30 PM Start

April 17<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Westlake Health Campus  
10735 Bogie Lake Road  
Commerce Twp., MI 48382  
12:30 PM Set-up  
1:30 PM Start

June 12<sup>th</sup> Rainbow Feathers Bird Club  
19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bird Fair  
\$3.00 Adm. 10AM to 4PM  
VFW Post 345  
27345 Schoolcraft Rd.  
Redford, MI 48239  
10:00AM to 4:00PM

April 30<sup>th</sup> Motor City Bird Breeders  
Bird Fair  
\$3.00 Admission 10 AM to 4 PM  
876 Horace Brown Dr.  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

July 7<sup>th</sup> Bird Show  
Farmington Community Library  
23500 Liberty Street  
Farmington, MI 48335  
1:00 PM Set-up  
2:00 PM Show

\*\*NOTE: We **DO NOT** Have a Booth\*\*  
\*\*at This Event\*\*

July 29<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
American House Stone  
3741 S. Adams Rd.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
12:30 PM Set-up  
1:30 PM Start

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> Society of Canary and Finch  
Breeders Bird Fair  
\$3.00 Adm. 9AM to 3 PM  
Livonia Elks Lodge #2246  
31117 Plymouth Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48150

\*\*\*Our Club Has a Booth at This Event\*\*\*

Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> Senior Show  
Huron Woods – Towsley Health Center  
5361 McAuley Dr.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
1:30 PM Set-up  
2:30 PM Start

Sept. 24th Motor City Bird Breeders  
Bird Fair  
\$3.00 Admission 10 AM to 4 PM  
876 Horace Brown Dr.  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

\*\*NOTE: We **DO NOT** Have a Booth\*\*  
\*\*at This Event\*\*

\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

\*\*\*Our Club Has a Booth at This Event\*\*\*

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

### *\*CANCELTION CONFUSION \**

A few of our scheduled events have been canceled at the last minute by the group staging the event. If you do not regularly participate in the shows but plan on attending please call Steve (734-513-0030) to make sure the event is still a go.



### **PONDERIN’ WITH PACKO**

Things have been interesting for me. Many things have happened.

I’ve been attending the Rainbow Feathers meetings. Listen up Michael. I still have a real problem with you coming into my cage, and making me come out. And I really don’t like that box you put me into. And the ride is so bumpy. You know this makes me car sick. Once we are at the meeting, I’m ok being on Daddy.

At the January meeting something happened that I really, really didn’t like. First that man tried to put a towel around me. That was not going to happen. I took off. I landed on some big guy. I had never met this person. That was better than being toweled.

Oh it gets worse. After they caught me, they did these terrible things. First, they cut my nails. Then they filed the point off my beak. Oh then, the terrible indignity of getting my wings trimmed. Here I'm in this strange place. Then some people I never met torture me. Oh I was really upset by then. Michael held me for a while. He told me that I was a good boy. Well I was so upset. Then he said, "You need to rest for a bit. Go into your box for a while.

Luckily, I didn't get tortured at the February meeting. That one was much more fun, except for Michael catching me in my cage. Excuse me. This is MY private place.

Other than this excitement, I've been spending much time outside my cage. I've been squawking up a storm. Mommy is calling me Squawky Bird. Well, I want attention.

Something good happened this month. Both Rambo, and me, received some new toys. I destroyed some of my old ones. They were unfixable. Daddy has figured out that both we birds need toys that are a little smaller. We are Mini Macaws. So now Rambo gets Conure size toys. I get toys that are called Parrot toys. The macaw size ones are too big for me.

Other than this I'm getting along well with Rambo. In the morning we call each other. We do this until the food is served. I better stop here. You know me. I could ramble on all day.

Packo.

seems that I now have to share the spotlight with Packo. How dare he take attention from me.

I can share the glory with him. After all, we Macaws are the stars of the Rainbow Feathers meetings.

The meeting have been interesting lately. There has been many new people attending. And some we have not seen in a while are attending. Also, there have been some of our feathered friends showing up. We have not seen these buddies in quite a while. And the food has been really good.

Packo and I have been getting along very well. We have started a morning routine. Packo always gets up first. He starts squawking the second Daddy opens his curtains. Then after bringing in the newspaper, Michael gets me up.

Naturally, I have been calling Michael long before this. He does not get to sleep in. I want my breakfast. So I get fed first. We both squawk until the food is served.

Two interesting things happened this month. The first was this. Miss Lanah, and Alexandria, came over to see me. Daddy told me they came over to see him. We all know they came over to see us birds. I let her hold me. She didn't trust Packo enough to hold him. We were real good while they were here.

The second thing that happened was really special. Both myself, and Packo, got some New Toys, because Packo destroyed a few of his old ones. And Daddy bought a few extra toys. He is taking these apart, so we can share them. These will be fun.

Daddy tried to fix these. Packo did a good job on them. That worked out best for both of us.

The toy Daddy bought for me is great. It has a little bell on the end. I figured out how to tear it apart quickly. Well, Michael fixed that part. I can't get the clapper out



## Rambling with Rambo

Well, Things have been rather slow around here. One thing that has me frosted is this. It

now. But I figured out how to remove the whole bell. I can remove it faster than he can put it back on. It is so fun having him come in every few minutes. Oh, since the bell is small, I can really throw it. I try to throw it way under my cage, or under that chair. Well, I better stop here. As always, (Try to) Be Good, Have Fun, and remember Macaws Rule.

Rambo.



## How to tell if your bird is sick

By Don J. Harris, DVM

Birds in the wild instinctively hide illness in an attempt to avoid predators that prey on sick or injured birds. Pet birds are also just as effective in hiding illness as their wild counterparts, and it is up to bird owners to recognize subtle behavioral and physical signs that may indicate their birds are sick.

### Behavioral signs may include:

- Sleeping later in the morning than usual
- Sleeping more during the day
- Irritability
- Unusually compliant or passive
- Sitting on the bottom of the cage
- Picking at food and/or not eating at usual times
- Eating less overall
- Vocalizing less
- A change in the voice or hoarseness
- Different breathing pattern
- Making unusual sounds when breathing

### Physical signs may include:

- Coughing or sneezing
- Discharge from nostrils (nares)
- Matted eyes
- Eyes are dull and closing excessively
- Matted feathers on the face and head
- Diarrhea
- Black stools
- A change in the white part of the droppings to another color such as red, yellow or green
- Weight loss—can you feel or see the breastbone?
- Unusual swellings, especially around the eyes
- Irregular discoloration of the feathers
- Feathers are “fluffed up”
- Random or generalized loss of feathers
- Scaling or crusting of skin
- Increased temperature of feet or beak

Any of the signs listed above, or any other unusual signs, may indicate your bird is sick. You should take immediate action by making an appointment with your avian veterinarian. Waiting even one day to resolve the problem can jeopardize the long-term outcome of your bird's health.

Article reproduced with permission from Zupreem®

Quality by Mother Nature  
Original Corn Bean Mix®: Noodles-n-Nuts®  
Rainforest Rice Puddin®: Pollypasta®  
Kung Fu Yum®  
For Birds of all Sizes



The Industry Pioneer of Quality  
Broad Natural Low Fat Nutrition®

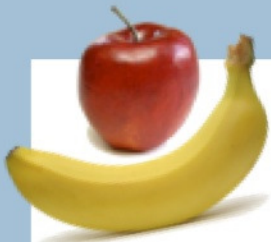
### All at a Cost Less than Seed

Because **Crazy Corn**® expands and seed is 60% waste! We've made it easy to prevent the most common cause of bird death- malnutrition from a seed diet. Cook ahead monthly, freeze baggies, keep some in the fridge to serve instantly. Superior breeding, lustrous feathering. Self-weans chicks. Shining health. Generous chunky fruits, veggies, whole grains, exciting herbs, pastas, beans, legumes, melon seeds, nuts, and more! Ecstatic birds!

**1-800-BIRD YUM**

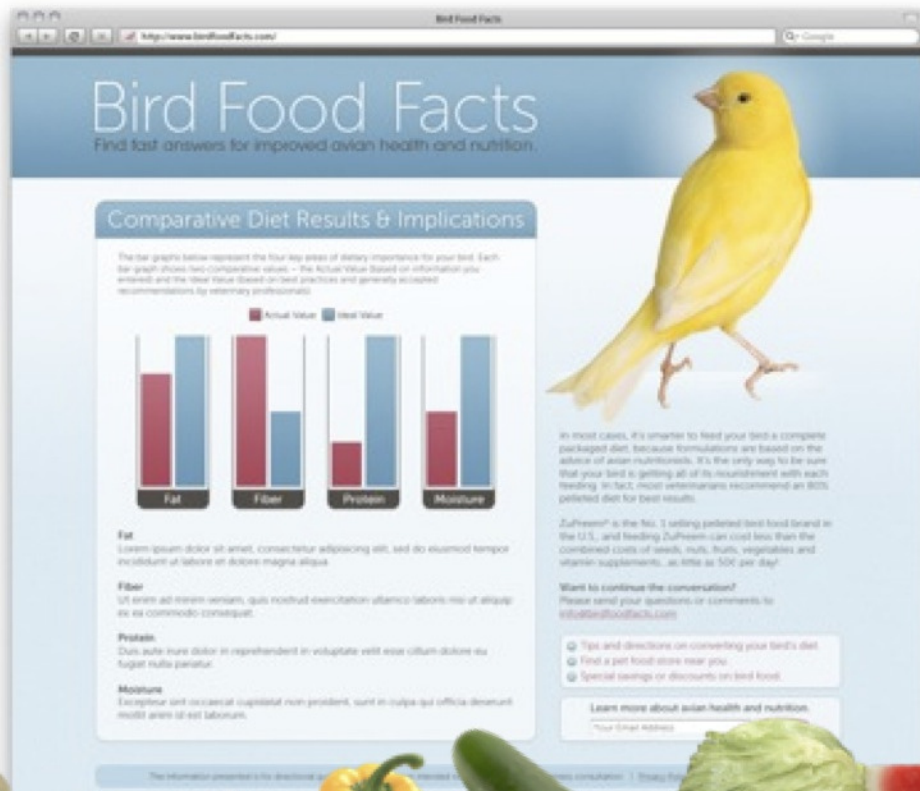
in California (818) 503-4YUM. Fax (818) 765-4895

SPECIAL BREEDER PRICING



# What are you really feeding your bird? Visit [BirdFoodFacts.com](http://BirdFoodFacts.com) to find out.

How nutritious is the food in your bird's food cup? To find out, visit [BirdFoodFacts.com](http://BirdFoodFacts.com). This website offers an objective nutritional analysis based on protein, fat, fiber and moisture. Choose from hundreds of food items most common in a companion bird's diet.



NORTH BRANCH ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
17630 Twelve Mile Road \* Southfield, MI 48076  
248-557-7773

1449 W. Ann Arbor Road \* Plymouth, MI 48170  
734-453-6930  
Fax: 734-453-7127  
M-F 10-7:30 \* Sat 10-6 \* Sun 12-4

### FASHIONISTA WEAR

Custom Handmade Clothing, Hair and Body Jewelry  
Anything Parrot-ly  
Custom Parrot Accessories  
Cage Covers, Shoulder Capes  
or anything else you might think of  
Text, Message or Call me and ask  
If I can make it I will  
**Lanah Harris**  
1- 734-502-3751

WARREN WOODS VETERINARY HOSPITAL  
29157 Schoenherr \* Warren, MI 48314  
586-751-3350

OAKLAND VETERINARY EMERGENCY GROUP  
1400 Telegraph Rd \* Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302  
248-334-6877

ROOSE ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
Kevin Roose, D.V.M. \* Karen Knight, D.V.M.  
509 W. Ann Arbor Trail \* Plymouth, MI 48170  
734-451-2870

Free discount card available to club members      Open 7-Days  
Ask about our birdie day spa treatment

### DISCOUNT PET & SUPPLIES

Specializing in Exotic Birds & Cages  
1623 Middlebelt Rd. Livonia, MI 48154  
734-513-6060

<http://www.discountpetbirdstore.com/>

### BIRDMAMA'S BIRD SITTING SERVICE

Are you going out of town or on vacation? Do you have a feathered friend that is staying at home? Susan can help you with your problem she will birdie sit your bird(s) at her house. For more information on rates and care specifics contact by phone or e-mail

**Susan Dixon**  
1-248-330-6938  
[susanhdixon@hotmail.com](mailto:susanhdixon@hotmail.com)



**STINGRAY BAY**  
MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:30-9:00

17800 E. NINE MILE RD.  
EASTPOINTE, MICHIGAN 48021

PHONE: 586-778-0547  
FAX : 586-778-2238  
WEB : WWW.STINGRAYBAYOFMI.COM

MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:30-9:00  
SUNDAY 9:30-6:00

SPECIALTY PET SUPPLIES, INC.

SOUTHGATE ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
Keith Cook, D.V.M. \* Elieen Cook, D.V.M.  
13697 Dix-Toledo Rd\* Southgate, MI 48195  
734-284-9122

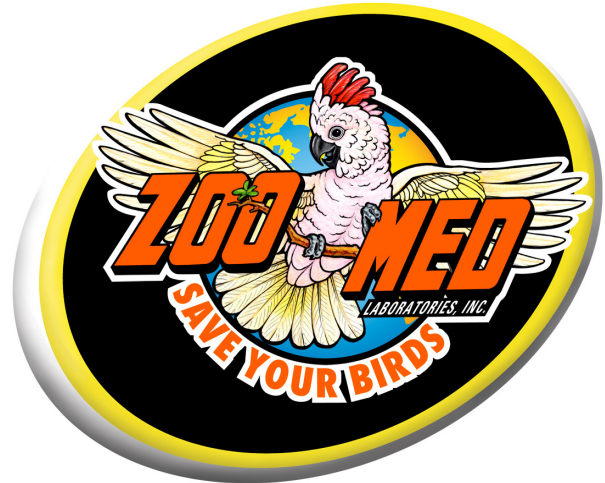


ANIMAL EMERGENCY CENTER  
24360 Novi Road \* Novi, MI 48375  
248-348-1788  
265 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. \* Rochester, MI 48307  
248-651-1788  
Both Locations are open 24 hours a Day  
7 Days a Week  
[www.theanimalemergencycenter.com](http://www.theanimalemergencycenter.com)

UV LIGHTING, HEATERS, VITIMINS AND  
OTHER SUPPLIES for your BIRDS, FISH and  
REPTILES

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT  
[zoomed.com](http://zoomed.com)

**MUGSHOTS and MOUSE PADS**  
Species specific coffee mugs, mouse pads and other parrot  
paraphernalia  
Cheryl Hitter  
734-422-2804  
\*Put your pet's picture on a mug or mouse pad\*



MURALS  
AND OTHER  
CREATIONS  
BY MARY KAY PERVA  
517-672-9528



Veterinary Care Specialists

205 Rowe Road  
Milford, MI 48380  
248-684-0468  
Open 24 Hours A Day 7 Days A Week

Parkway Small Animal & Exotic  
Hospital  
39321 Garfield  
Clinton Township, MI 48038  
586-416-8800

ANIMAL CRACKERS  
1100 N. OLD US 23  
HARTLAND, MI 48843  
810-632-3344