

Birdy Bytes

Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 16, Issue 10

October 2023

Upcoming Events

October 21st – Community Outreach
Saturday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
PetSense
1620 Main Street NW
Los Lunas, NM 87031

October 22nd – General Meeting
Sunday, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Pumpkin Carving Contest
Private Residence, RSVP Required
Albuquerque, NM

November 19th – General Meeting
Sunday, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Pie Theme Potluck Dinner
Private Residence, RSVP Required
Albuquerque, NM

December 2023 – No Meeting
Merry Christmas!
See You Next Year!

In This Issue

Upcoming Events	1
Bird Words.....	1
Bird Club Biz.....	2
General Meeting.....	3
Hospitality Table.....	3
Meeting Minutes	3
HDBC Hotline	3
Community Outreach	3
Grant Opportunity	4
AFA Conference	4
HDBC Elections.....	4
Next Bird Toy Sale	5
Classified Ads.....	5
Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption	5
Friends of HDBC	6
Facebook Fun	6

Bird Words

Greetings Everyone,

For this month's meeting, we are trying something really different with a pumpkin carving contest. Besides carving pumpkins for Halloween decorations, pumpkins are an excellent source of vitamins and minerals for our birds and us. See page 3 for more details.

October is also the time when we nominate HDBC officers for the next year. Like many birds clubs across the country, we've had members, once very active, move on to other endeavors. We need your help to continue as a bird club. Now is the time to get involved.

If you're not a member, it's never too late. Prorated membership for October-December is a mere \$5.00 for individuals. You also have the option to pay membership dues for 2024 now which will include the rest of 2023 for free.

If you're already a member, thank you and please consider becoming more active in the club. Several officer and committee chair positions are open and ready for your ideas and enthusiasm.

Our partnership with Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM offers new and additional pet bird owners a place to socialize and interact with other birds and bird people. Be a part of the fun because we really are for the birds.

Jennifer Catron



Ready for Halloween?

Bird Club Biz

High Desert Bird Club of NM
2003 Southern Blvd. SE, #102-2
Rio Rancho, NM 87124-3752
www.HighDesertBirdClub.org

Bird Rescue Hotline: (505) 554-0804

General Meetings

Monthly, Usually on a Sunday

Meeting time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location:

Private Residence, usually, but may change depending on weather and availability of space. Location is posted in newsletter and website.

Club Officers

President: Victoria Collier
Vice President: Lauren Forbes
Secretary: Sparky Newell
Treasurer: Carolyn Newell

Committee Chairpersons

Social Media/Publicity: Victoria Collier
AFA Delegate: Victoria Collier
Bird Rescue: Jennifer Catron
Education: Dorothy Newbill
Fundraising: Available
Hospitality: Available
Library: Available
Membership: Available
Newsletter: Jennifer Catron
Raffle: Available
Website: Jennifer Catron

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance (stmt 8/31/23)	\$1,470.44
Revenue	\$0
Expenses (Bank Fee, Refunded Oct.)	\$3.00
Ending balance (stmt 9/30/23)	\$1,467.44

The High Desert Bird Club of NM is a 501(c)(3) educational, public charity recognized by the IRS.

Membership Requirements

Any person interested in cage birds who agrees to support the objectives in the HDDB By-Laws is eligible for membership.

Membership Dues

\$20.00 Individual
\$30.00 Household
\$15.00 Junior (17 or younger)
\$15.00 Senior (60 or older)
\$25.00 Senior Household

Dues are payable in January of each year or at a quarterly pro-rated amount upon joining the Club.

Newsletter Policy

Birdy Bytes is generally issued on a monthly basis. Content from members is encouraged. Content deemed obscene, inflammatory, overtly personal, copyrighted without permission to republish, or insufficiently bird-related may not be published at the discretion of the newsletter Editor.

Newsletter Advertising Policy

Any individual or business that supports HDDB through the donation of money, goods, or services may have a near business-card sized ad published in the newsletter for three months for no cost.

Members may have a text ad of up to 50 words and a reasonable number of supporting photos for no cost. Ads run for two months and may be renewed for two-month increments. Members are responsible for contacting the newsletter Editor to renew their ad.

Advertising space may be purchased. A half-page ad costs \$25 for six months. Additional ad sizes and corresponding rates are available.

Newsletter Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any advertisement based on the appropriateness for *Birdy Bytes*.

To submit content for *Birdy Bytes*, contact Jennifer Catron, Editor, at jcatron@Q.com, or (505) 235-2803.

Thank you.



General Meeting

October 22, 2023



At our October meeting, we will have some fun carving pumpkins. Pumpkins cooked or raw make good treats for parrots and toasted

pumpkin seeds are a nutritious snack for birds and people.

Three good-sized pumpkins will be provided if you want to work as a team. If you already have a pumpkin ready for carving, you are welcome to bring it to participate in the fun.

Some very basic carving tools from the dollar store will be available. You are welcome to bring some of your favorite pumpkin carving tools if you wish.

Let's kick off the holiday season with some creative pumpkin carving, friendly competition, tasty snacks, and good company.

We will be meeting at a private residence again, so RSVP is necessary.

Date: Sunday, October 22, 2023

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: **RSVP to:**
 Jennifer Catron
 JRCatron@Q.com

Hospitality Table

Do you like snacks? Do you like to share? HDBC invites you to share some snacks at our hospitality table at each monthly meeting.

Everyone is encouraged to bring snacks when they can. We're very informal about who brings what and when. Donations are always welcome.

Thank you for your support.

Meeting Minutes

The September meeting was a casual meet and greet during the bird toy sale at Inez Park. Lots of bird toys and goodies were available. No business was conducted.

The wind did apparently kick up during the afternoon and a shade tent and toy shelves got mobile. Exciting times.

HDHC Hotline



Only a few calls were received for September and October.

A couple of calls regarding wild birds, one call from a person seeking to adopt an African Grey parrot, and one call to donate a cockatiel-sized cage.

Callers with wild bird concerns were referred to the New Mexico Wildlife Rescue and On a Wing and a Prayer. Callers looking to adopt or donate a cage were referred to Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico.

Community Outreach

Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM and HDHC are invited to participate in a Fall Adoption Fair and Animal Education at PetSense in Los Lunas, NM. There will be other rescues and educational organizations participating.

If you would like to help staff our table, please reach out to any bird club officer.

October 21, 2023, 10AM – 2PM

PetSense
1620 Main Street NW
Los Lunas, NM 87031



Grant Opportunity

PetSense is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tractor Supply Company. Like many corporations, they offer grant money to non-profit organizations.

Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM (BOAF) volunteer, Diane Saunderson, accepted the challenge to submit an application on behalf of BOAF.

As you might imagine, there were many applications. We didn't make the cut this time, but another parrot rescue in Tennessee did which gives us hope for better luck next time.

Here's a link if you want to vote for one of the ten finalists to receive grant funds. [Rescue Your Rescue Contest | Tractor Supply Co.](#)

Thank you Diane for your hard work and effort.



AFA Conference

The combined AFA (American Federation of Aviculture) and the ASA (Avicultural Society of America) annual Educational Conference wrapped up on October 1, 2023.



The schedule was full of interesting presentations, a vendor hall, and bird show conducted by the ASA.

It was a great opportunity to learn about new legislation that affects us all, updates on bird care, network with other bird people from other bird clubs, and make new friends.

Next year is the 50th anniversary of the AFA. The golden anniversary is a notable milestone and promises to be a special conference. The conference will be held in Costa Mesa, California, on September 4-7, 2024.

HDBC Elections



It's that time of year again to nominate and vote for HDBC officers for the next year. In October, nominations are collected and accepted. In November, members vote for the candidate of his or her choice.

Something noted at the AFA Conference about bird clubs that is kind of sad. When the AFA was formed in 1973, over 300 bird clubs nationwide were affiliated with it. In 2023, only 40 bird clubs remain. Many bird clubs have simply disbanded and no longer exist.

Please consider running for an officer position or working as a committee chairperson. We're a good club with a noble cause. We should continue our mission to educate and promote good and proper care of caged birds.

As a club, we also offer education and community support for current and new bird owners that adopt through Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue.

Serving as a club officer is both challenging and rewarding. It does require some time, but it is not all consuming. The more members we have participate in leading the club, the easier it is.

Responsibilities of club officers are listed in our bylaws. A copy of our bylaws is posted on our website and can be found using this link: <http://www.highdesertbirdclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/HDBC-Constitution-and-By-Laws-062608-Amend-110712.pdf>, under Article VI - Duties and Powers of Officers.



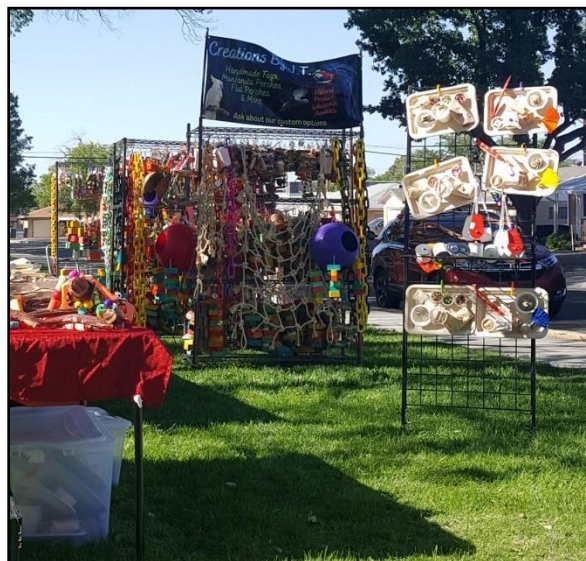
Next Bird Toy Sale

Mark your calendars for the **next** bird toy sale with Creations by JT Bird Toys. Tina always brings a wonderful selection of bird toys, perches and swings for our bird friends.

All the toys and perches are high quality, locally sourced, and made in the USA. Prices are affordable, and she always has something new to keep our birds engaged.

Date: April 6, 2024
Location: Inez Park,
Albuquerque, NM

More details will be published as we get closer to the next sale date.



Recent Bird Toy Sale in September 2023

Classified Ads

Pet Sitting

Sparky and Carolyn Newell, Officers of High Desert Bird Club of NM, and owners of Exotics of the Rainforest, LLC, will pet sit for one bird in our home while you are away for business or pleasure. Forty-three years of experience caring for parrots from Conures to Macaws! We have ten parrots of our own, five Macaws, three Amazons, and two Conures. Located in Albuquerque, NM. Reasonable rates. Call (505) 220-4737.

Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption

A variety of birds are available for adoption at Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico (BFPR). HDHC is partnering with BFPR to help with receiving, fostering and rehoming pet birds.

Every year, the adoption process is paused from November 1st through January 1st. This is to discourage the gifting of birds as Christmas or other holiday presents.

If an adoption is already in progress prior to November 1st, that adoption can continue to completion.

The rescue is at capacity and a waiting list for surrenders is in place for other than emergency situations.

After January 1st, if you are interested in adopting or fostering, please reach out to Dorothy Newbill at (505) 980-6166 or check out their Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/birdsofafeathernm/>.

Their website is:

<https://www.birdsofafeathernm.org/>

Rehoming fees and adoption policy process apply.



Budgies

Friends of HDBC



Avianica

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/avianica/>

Email: dandiconcepts2020@outlook.com

Cell: (480) 734-1583

Facebook Fun

Your chances of getting killed by a cockatiel are low, but never zero

