

Birdy Bytes

Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 17, Issue 11

November 2024

Upcoming Events

No November Meeting

**December 8th – Potluck Dinner and Holiday Party
Combined with BOAF Parrot Rescue
Sunday, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Location: Private Residence
Albuquerque, NM
Please RSVP**

Happy New Year - 2025

**January 19th – General Meeting
Bird Toy Workshop
Sunday, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Location: Parrot Pantry
2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste 11
Albuquerque, NM 87110**

**February 26th – General Meeting
Birdie Hormones Discussion
Sunday, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Parrot Pantry, Albuquerque, NM**

In This Issue

Upcoming Events	1
Words From the Prez	1
Bird Club Biz.....	2
General Meeting.....	3
Meeting Minutes	3
HDBC Hotline	3
Public Service Announcement	4
HDBC Elections.....	4
Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption	5
Parrot Pantry	5
Next Bird Toy Sale	6
Classified Ads.....	6
Friends of HDBC	6

Words From the Prez

Hi Birdie Friends!

It's that time of year again! Time to adjust our clocks, pull out our sweaters, and feast with our loved ones. I'd like to take this time to offer a few reminders.

Turning our clocks back is a great time to change the batteries in our smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. As we start turning on the heat, it's important to know as soon as possible if there's smoke or carbon monoxide in our homes. Changing the batteries in these devices twice a year can keep you, your family and your pets safe.

Thanksgiving is coming and folks will be busy preparing amazing feasts. If you have birds, it's extremely important to avoid non-stick cookware that contains PTFE & PFOA (like Teflon). These are dangerous chemicals that emit toxic fumes that can kill your birds within minutes. Use stainless steel, ceramic, or cast iron pots and pans instead. It is a little known fact that roasting bags and non-stick foil are also toxic for birds. They should not be used. If you aren't sure about your cookware, don't risk it. Contact the manufacturer to find out if it is PTFE/PFOA free. You can also reach out to the club with any questions you may have.

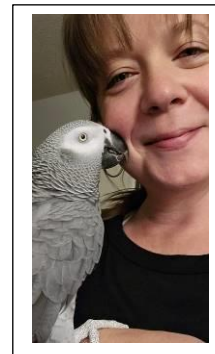
During the holidays, we are often busy cooking and visitors will be coming and going. If your birds are flighted, please be cautious of simmering pots and open doors. Accidents can happen, so it is best to keep your birds caged during busy times.

I hope this information is helpful to anyone new to having birds. Please remember to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Now that all the warnings are out of the way, I'd like to say, we are so thankful for you! We wish you full bellies and even fuller hearts this Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Victoria Collier

Victoria and Gulliver



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:

Birds of a Feather Parrot Pantry
2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste 11
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Club Officers

President: Victoria Collier
Vice President: Sandi Brennan
Secretary: Sparky Newell
Treasurer: Carolyn Newell

Committee Chairpersons

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

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance (stmt 9/30/24)	\$1,358.26
Revenue	\$0
Expenses	\$0
Ending balance (stmt 10/31/24)	\$1,358.26

**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@aol.com, or (505) 235-2803.

Thank you.



General Meeting

No November Meeting

December 8, 2024

Potluck Dinner and Holiday Party

This year we are combining our holiday potluck dinner with Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico (BOAF).

We've also been invited to participate in BOAF's White Elephant gift exchange. If you're not familiar with a White Elephant gift exchange, it's a lot of fun.

Gifts are either something you already have in your home or something new. Gift value cap is \$20. Wrap or use a gift bag for the item to maintain the mystery. Numbers are drawn to select a gift, and a die is used for instructions to trade or retain that gift. Sounds complicated, but it is really fun.

Participation is optional, but please bring a gift if you want to participate in the exchange.

The potluck dinner main dish will be home-made tamales and posole. Bring a side dish or dessert of your choice to share.

We will be meeting at a private residence, so please RSVP to Jennifer Catron at jrcatron@aol.com to ensure we have enough tables and chairs and for location information.

Date: Sunday, December 8, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Location: Private Residence

Meeting Minutes

We received a very nice thank you letter from the Pueblo of Santa Ana for participating in their Environmental Fair. HDBC, BOAF, and Zoo Crew had information tables for community outreach. They estimated around 400 people attended this event.

Our domain name, HighDesertBirdClub.org, was renewed for another year with GoDaddy.com. Cost is \$23.17 to be reimbursed to Jennifer Catron for renewing online.

Membership voted to not renew the HDBC mailbox due to most of our correspondence is

online only. Forwarding address and new contact will be the Treasurer's address going forward. New business cards will be ordered with only the HDBC cell and website address.

Renewal of the HDBC cell phone for another year was approved. Tracfone is the cell carrier. Unused minutes are carried over, but days must be purchased. We buy 365 days each year in November.

Membership voted to not renew our affiliation with American Federation of Aviculture (AFA) in 2025. Reasons included the continued decline and quality of the annual conference, political issues within the AFA, and a perceived poor return on our annual dues.

Nominations were recorded for HDBC officers for 2025.

President: Dorothy Newbill
VP: Jennifer Catron
Treasurer: Carolyn Newell
Secretary: Sparky Newell

Nominations are accepted up to the time the club votes at the next meeting.

Future meetings: November and December will be combined on December 8, 2024. BOAF invited HDBC to combine our potluck dinner with theirs and participate in their white elephant gift exchange.

January 19, 2025, meeting will be a bird toy workshop held at the Parrot Pantry.

February 16, 2025, meeting will be a presentation about coping with birdie hormones; also held at the Parrot Pantry.

Dorothy Newbill gave an update regarding BOAF with anticipated pause on adoptions until January and pending intakes of birds.

HDBC Hotline

All calls received during late October and early November were mostly regarding wild birds.



Callers were referred to wild bird rescues either Wildlife Refuge of New Mexico or Mikal Deese of On a Wing and a Prayer.

Public Service Announcement

As we enter the holiday season, please do not use non-stick cookware. This includes roasters, fryers, oven bags and non-stick coated aluminum foil. All non-stick coatings are extremely toxic to our feathered friends.



Sharing is caring as long as onions, garlic and avocado are not part of the ingredients. These items are also toxic for our birds.

Sweet potatoes and baking pumpkins are healthy treats for our birds. Cooked sweet potatoes without sugar or butter are nutritious, as well as cooked or raw baking pumpkins which can double as a foraging toy.



HDBC Elections



A big, heart-felt Thank You to Victoria Collier, Sandi Brennan, Carolyn Newell and Sparky Newell for serving HDBC this year.

Current nominations for 2025 are:

President: Dorothy Newbill
 Vice President: Susan Carolus
 Treasurer: Carolyn Newell
 Secretary: Sparky Newell

Nominations can be accepted up to the time the membership votes.

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.



**Good Food, Good Friends, Good Naps
 Happy Thanksgiving**

Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption



A variety of birds will be available for adoption at Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico (BFPR). HDBC is partnering with BFPR to help

with receiving, fostering and rehoming pet birds.

The adoption process is now paused until January 15, 2025. This is to discourage the gifting of birds as Christmas or other holiday presents.

If an adoption was already in progress prior to November 11th, 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 15th, the adoption process will resume. If you are interested in adopting, fostering, or volunteering, please complete an application posted on their website at: <https://www.birdsof Feather nm.org/>

You can also follow them on their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/birdsof Feather nm/> for current events and activities at the rescue.



Green Cheek Conures

Parrot Pantry

Parrot Pantry is the place to go for all your parrot supplies.



A wide variety of parrot food, toys, perches, stands, cages, and accessories are available for sale.

No birds are sold at the Parrot Pantry.



Parrot Pantry is part of Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico. The current bird surrender and adoption process will continue under the rescue.

Check out Parrot Pantry with new Sunday hours.

Store Hours:

Tuesday – Saturday 10AM – 6PM
Sunday 11AM – 2PM
Closed Monday

Location:

2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste 11
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 584-1803 (Store Phone)

If you are not already following, check out the Facebook pages for Birds of the Feather Parrot Rescue and Parrot Pantry. Follow these pages for the latest information for both the rescue and store.

[Facebook - Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of NM](#)

[Facebook - Birds Of A Feather "Parrot Talk"](#)

[Facebook - BOAF Parrot Pantry](#)

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 12, 2025
Location: Inez Park
Albuquerque, NM

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

In the meantime, Parrot Pantry also carries a nice selection of Creations by JT Bird Toys.

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.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!



Friends of HDBC

DANIEL LEVENSON, DVM

10141 COORS BLVD NW
SUITE A
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87114
505-890-8810
505-890-8797 FAX
INFO@MYSOUTHWESTVET.COM

Exotics of the Rainforest presents an informative visual presentation featuring live parrots & reptiles from the tropical rainforests and deserts of the world.

Carolyn Newell, C.A.S.
Sparky Newell, C.A.S.

505.896.3133
Cell: 505.220.4737
email: carolyn.macaws@gmail.com
www.exoticsoftherainforest.com

Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico

Dorothy Newbill
Director
505-980-6166

Birdsofafeathernm@gmail.com
WWW.facebook.com/birdsofafeathernm

Creations By J.T.

Handmade Toys,
Manzanita Perches,
Flat Perches,
& More

Natural Products

Ask about our custom options

623-341-3375 CreationsJT@aol.com