

Birdy Bytes

Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 18, Issue 10

October 2025

Upcoming Events

October 26th – General Meeting
Sweet Pepper Jack-O'-Lantern Carving Competition
Sunday, 3:300 PM – 5:00 PM
Location: Parrot Pantry
2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste11
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Nov-Dec – Date to be Determined
Combined Meeting Potluck Meal
Dish Theme is Crock Pot or Pies

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Bird Words

Greetings Everyone,

We've had a change of plans for our monthly meeting activity. Instead of a foraging trip for piñon pine nuts, we are planning an indoor event. This year's piñon pine nut crop is very low. It's not uncommon for some years to have a low yield, plus we've also had a very dry summer which didn't help. Maybe next year there will be a more abundant crop.

Let's try something new: a sweet pepper Jack-o-Lantern carving competition. Dorothy found this idea on one of the social media pages and it looks like fun. We'll have bell peppers and sweet small peppers for carving and stuffing with chop and treats for our birds.

Some chop stuffing will be available and everyone is encouraged to bring some of their own favorite chop or treats if you have something your bird favors. We had a pumpkin carving contest last year and it was great fun. Bring you carving tools and creativity, and let's see what we can create for our birds.

October is also when we nominate bird club officers for the next year. Our election will be held at the next meeting in either November or December. See Page 4 for more information.

Let's enjoy this year's harvest season together and with our birds. See you at the meeting.

Jennifer Catron
Editor



Bird Club Biz

High Desert Bird Club of NM
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: Dorothy Newbill
Vice President: Susan Carolus
Secretary: Sparky Newell
Treasurer: Carolyn Newell

Committee Chairpersons

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

Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance (stmt 8/31/25)	\$1,331.26
Revenue	\$0.00
Expenses	\$0.00
Ending balance (stmt 9/30/25)	\$1,331.26

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

Thank you.



General Meeting

October 26, 2025

Sweet Pepper Jack-O'-Lantern Carving Contest

Change of plans for the meeting activity this month. The Piñon pine nut crop this year is so low it likely would not be worth the time and effort. Maybe next year will be better.

Last year we carved pumpkins. This year, let's carve sweet peppers and fill them with treats for our birds. Bell peppers and small sweet peppers (for the littles) will be provided. Some chop and stuffings will be available.



Everyone is encouraged to bring chop or treats, and carving tools of their choice. Chop items can include vegetables, dried fruit or nuts. The group will decide on the most appealing and attractive pepper creation for first, second and third place. Winners can select a prize from the HDBC prize bin.

This looks like fun and let's see what we can create for our birds.

Date: Sunday, October 26, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Parrot Pantry

**2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste 11
Albuquerque, NM 87110**

Members, guests and birds are always welcome. Tell a friend.

Meeting Minutes

No business was conducted for HDBC. No minutes.

HDBC Hotline

We had a call asking for bird sitting contacts or referrals. Directed the caller to ParrotDisse Boarding, LLP ([Facebook](#)). They are friends of BOAF.

A few calls were about injured wild birds. Referred those calls to wild bird rescues as appropriate.



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.

I tried being normal once



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.

PSAs

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.



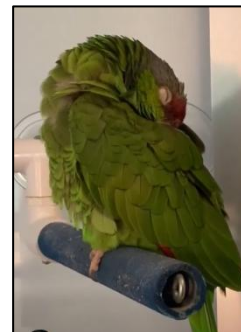
Seasonal Changes

Daylight savings time is right around the corner on the first Sunday of November.

As we set our clocks back one hour, our birds also feel the change in season and weather.

This is a time of year when our birds require more sleep, especially cockatoos. Our bird friends with the fancy head feathers need about 10 hours of sleep each day. It really helps them adapt to the time change and may even quell some of their excess vocalization.

Doesn't everything seem nicer when you're well rested?



Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption



A variety of birds are 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.

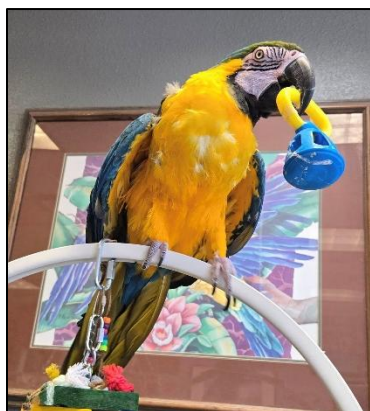
Every year, the adoption process is paused from November 15th through January 15th. This is to discourage the gifting of birds as Christmas or other holiday presents.

If an adoption is already in progress prior to November 15th, 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.birdsofafeathernm.org/>

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



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:

Monday – Saturday 10AM – 6PM
Sunday 11 AM – 3 PM

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 in 2026

If you missed the bird toy sale in September, you can still find some of Tina's fine bird toys and perches at BOAF Parrot Pantry.

Thank you, Tina, for bringing so many wonderful bird toys, perches, and accessories all the way from Phoenix Arizona. We appreciate you.

Mark your calendar for the next sale on March 28, 2026. It's on a Saturday (one day only) in Inez Park, Albuquerque.

If you have a questions for Tina regarding bird toys or a custom-size perch, you can find her on [Facebook](#), call, or email her directly.

Tina McClendon, (623) 341-3375
Email: CreationsJT@aol.com

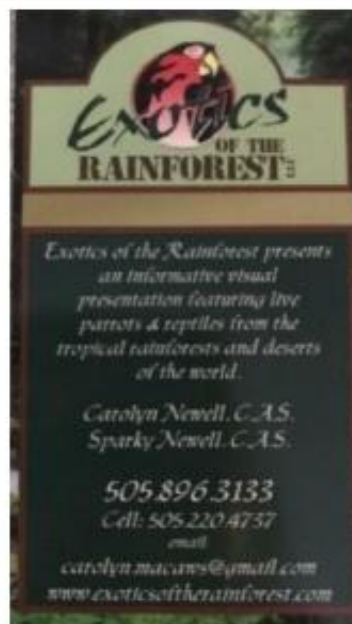


Classified Ads

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.

Friends of HDBC



Facebook Fun

