

Birdy Bytes

Newsletter for the High Desert Bird Club of New Mexico



Volume 19, Issue 1

January 2026

Upcoming Events

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

January 18th – General Meeting

Bird Toy Workshop

Sunday, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Parrot Pantry

2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste11
Albuquerque, NM 87110

February – General Meeting

Date TBD

Sunday, 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Location: Parrot Pantry

2325 San Pedro Drive NE, Ste11
Albuquerque, NM 87110

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Words from the Prez

Happy 2026! The year of the Fire Horse.

The Horse represents energy and forward movement, encouraging bold decisions and personal growth.

This new year I would like to ask that you look towards your bird's future. Make plans for him/her in the event that you can no longer care for them. This is so very important for you and them.

If you plan on having a family member inherit your pet, remind them, educate them and make a plan to help support them. If you plan on leaving your Feathered Friend to a rescue or sanctuary, call them and discuss what that looks like. Give the rescue a heads up so they are aware and prepared for your pet and of course discuss monetary support.

Rescues are overwhelmed with the pets, presents and hoarding situations. Many will welcome your loved ones; they just want to be prepared.

Making decisions for your future is important. These are all very tough conversations to have with family, friends and ourselves. But we have to be prepared for our futures. See Page 5 for an upcoming seminar on estate planning for your pets.

This year is the best year to make a change and do things you have always wanted to do! See new places, make that move, buy that car!! Spoil your birds, give them all the wood to chew, maybe a new cage or a different diet. Do what makes you happy! My happiness is my growing family and sharing my home with my birds.

Thank you for being a part of this great bird community!

Happy New Year.

Dorothy Newbill

Luca
Birdie Ambassador
Legacy Bird



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 11/30/25)	\$1,331.26
Revenue	\$0.00
Expenses	
Domain name renewal	\$23.19
Tracfone renewal	\$140.37
Replacement cell phone	\$53.87
Ending balance (stmt 12/31/25)	\$1,113.83

**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

January 18, 2026

Bird Toy Workshop

Let's start the New Year sharing holiday stories about our birds and assembling some fun toys for our and rescue birds.

Bird toy parts and foraging items are available and ready for assembly. Everyone is encouraged to bring additional items for making bird toys or to refresh some existing toys you may already have.

Join us for some bird-toy making fun. Members, guests, and birds are always welcome. Tell a friend.

Date: Sunday, January 19, 2026

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Parrot Pantry

**2325 San Pedro Dr. NE,
Suite 11
Albuquerque, NM 87110**

Meeting Minutes

The potluck dinner was delicious. The party and white elephant gift exchange was so much fun, no club business was conducted.

Incumbent club officers all agreed to serve for another year. No other candidates were nominated.

HDBC Hotline

A few calls were received. One for a lost bird, one for a surrender, and one for an injured wild bird.



Callers were directed to either BOAF or wild bird rescue as appropriate.

HDBC Trivia

Way back in 2008, a newly-formed bird club brainstormed and voted on a name for its newsletter. Thirty-four suggested names were recorded. We know the winner, but who remembers some of the suggestions?

Here's the list of suggested names for our Birdy Bytes newsletter. Imagine the possibilities.

Beak Blurbs
Bird Alert
Bird Call
Birdhead Bugle
Bird is the Word
Bird Lips
Birds Eye View
Birdy Bulletin
Birdy Bytes
Bite Me
Cage Bird Clarion
Chatter Call
Cheep Talk
Cheep Thrills
Feather Fancy
Feather Flash
Feather Talk
Feathered Friends
Featherhead News
Flight Way
Hiss and Hers
Hiss and Squawk
Hoppy Birdy
Parrot Parley
Read My Beak
Squawk and Beaks
Squawk Talk
Tail Feathers
Tail Tales
The Hatchling
The Quill
The Screech
Tweet Talk
Winged Words

Birdy Bytes won with seven votes. Runner up was Read My Beak with three votes, and Featherhead News and Tweet Talk each had one vote. Gotta admit, a newsletter called "Bite Me" would be funny.

Bird Rescue, Foster, and Adoption



Birds of a Feather Parrot Rescue of New Mexico (BOAF) officially reopens the adoption process on January 15, 2026.

Quite a few birds were surrendered during the adoption hiatus, especially budgies. All kinds of birds found their way to BOAF from Zebra finches to Macaws. All are looking for a new person in their life and a kind and loving home.



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](#)

Legacy Planning for Your Pets Seminar



AN EVENING OF CARE, LEGACY & COMPASSION

Join us for Dinner, Drinks & an Educational Presentation:

- Legacy Planning for your pets
- Charitable Giving Tax Strategies while making a meaningful impact
- Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs) and RMD Charitable Giving



TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026 @ 6:00PM

BRAVO ITALIAN KITCHEN
2220 Louisiana Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Please RSVP to Melinda at 505-930-7221

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-five 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

