

Alaska Bird News

The Alaska Bird Club



Volume 25, Number 8

Annual Chili Cook-Off

The Club's annual competition to determine which member takes the grand prize for Best Chili Chef of the Year will be held at the March 4th meeting. As you know, this is a solemn and sacred annual test that all members are encouraged to enter. It is a fund-raiser for the club, as well as a back drop to display the marvelous cooks in our group.



Whip together your finest recipe and bring it to the Tuesday meeting for judging. If you aren't quite sure you want to reveal your culinary abilities to the rest of the membership, feel free to bring a side dish or drink.

Start gathering ingredients and get ready for a fun evening.

Recent Educational Events

One of the most important tenets of The Alaska Bird Club is to provide educational opportunities for the parrot-curious and parrot loving public. To this end, members are encouraged to attend events in and around the Anchorage area that allow us to share information and to support other owners.

On February 1st, the Club participated in the 2014 Pet New Year at Alaska Mill and Feed. This annual event highlights Anchorage pet owners and is designed to share information about all types of pets, not just birds. The Bird Club was there, birds in tow, to provide interested people as much help and support

with their birds as possible. Many thanks to Twiggy and Monkey, feathered overlords of Amber O'Neill and Karen Medkeff, for their participation.

The Anchorage Aces hosted another event for pets during their home games on February 21st and 22nd. The Bird Club was there, along with Twiggy and Monkey, to answer questions from possible parrot owners and from members of the public already in a relationship with one or more birds.

These events are fun and educational, both for Club members and the public. We welcome member involvement in these events.

Inside this issue:

Chili Cook-Off	1
Educational Events	1
Club Information	2
President's Perch	3
Adoptable Birds	4-5
Community Rewards Program	6
Pick. Click. Give.	6
Purim in the Jungle	6

[Check out the Alaska Bird Club's Website!](#)

Find out about our latest *Lost and Found* birds, our *Adopt-A-Bird* program and other articles and videos. See what's up and coming and stay in touch at www.alaskabirdclub.org

Club Information

The Alaska Bird Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit incorporated in the State of Alaska.

It meets at 7:00PM on the first Tuesday of every month at Serendipity Adult Day Services in Anchorage. Location: 3550 East 20th Ave (off of Northern Lights Blvd & Nichols St).

The mailing address is:

The Alaska Bird Club
P.O. Box 101825
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1825
(907) 868-9070

President: Garry Wallan

Vice President: Karen Medkeff

Secretary: Carrie Wallan

Treasurer: Jennifer Slaughter

Member-at-large: Herb Lewis

Sergeant-at-arms: David Briggs

Newsletter Editor: Lynne Bush

Adopt-a-Bird Chairperson:

Carrie Wallan

Lost & Found: (907) 351-2762

E-mail the Alaska Bird Club at:

akbirdclub@yahoo.com

For newsletter or article information contact:

lynnebush@clearwire.net

Visit our website:

www.alaskabirdclub.org

We welcome any comments, articles or any ideas for the club or the newsletter. Current issues and extra copies of previous editions of The Alaska Bird News are available at the monthly meetings.

Dedicated to all the current and future bird owners in Alaska.

Permission for the reproduction of any article is granted to not-for-profit organizations only, under the provision that the Alaska Bird News and the author's name are cited in full.

The Alaska Bird News is published by The Alaska Bird Club. The Alaska Bird Club, its members, and directors are not responsible for any claims, services, or information presented. The views and opinions are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of The Alaska Bird News.

The following locations have copies of our newsletter if you need extra. We have also noted the clinics that have avian vets by the ✓

ANCHORAGE

Alaska Mill & Feed

1501 E. 1st Avenue
(907) 276-6016

Alaska Pet-ography

9130 Elim Street
(907) 868-1680

Chester Valley Veterinary

1571 Muldoon Road
(907) 333-6591

College Village Animal Clinic ✓

Dr's Basler & Nicholson
2036 E. Northern Lights Boulevard
(907) 274-5623

Diamond Animal Hospital ✓

Dr. Doty 24-Hour
(907) 562-8384

Hillside Pet Clinic ✓

Dr. Bluestone
Dr. Fredrickson
2101 Abbott Road, Suite #1
(907) 344-7913

Petco

8621 Old Seward Highway
(907) 365-550
3090 Mountain View Drive
(907) 277-3826

Pet Emergency Treatment Center

2320 E. Dowling Road
(907) 274-5636

The Pet Stop ✓

Dr. Riley Wilson
1921 W. Dimond Boulevard
(907) 522-1006

The Pet Zoo

901 E. Dimond Boulevard
(907) 344-2966

VCA Alaska Pet Care

3900 Lake Otis Parkway
(907) 562-PETS (7387)

VCA Alpine Animal Hospital

12531 Old Seward Highway
(907) 345-1515

VCA E. Anch Animal Clinic

2639 Boniface Parkway
(907) 337-1561

EAGLE RIVER

Ravenwood Veterinary Clinic ✓

Dr. Cuthbert
11525 Old Glenn Highway
(907) 694-9665

The Pet Zoo

12046 Business Boulevard
(907) 622-2966

WASILLA

All Creatures Veterinary Clinic

Mi 7.4 Palmer-Wasilla Highway
(907) 376-6016

The Pet Zoo

1481 E. Parks Highway
(907) 357-7335

PALMER

Far Country Animal Hospital

2701 N. Liahona Drive
(907) 746-7297

North Star Animal Hospital

840 S. Cobb Street
(907) 746-7387

Palmer Veterinary Clinic

Mi 39 Glenn Highway
(907) 745-3219

The Pet Zoo

10201 E. Palmer-Wasilla Highway
(907) 746-0056

FAIRBANKS

Mt. McKinley Animal Hospital

800 College Road
(907) 452-6104

President's Perch *by Garry Wallan*



Hello, everybody! I'm Garry Wallan, your 2014 bird club President. I'm looking forward to another year of Alaska Bird Club activities, events, learning, and hilarity. We have an ongoing educational process through our monthly meetings, and an active Adopt-A-Bird program which always needs volunteers to help us get potential adoptees in touch with people who need to re-home their birds. Join us! Help us! Make the potlucks memorable!

Shifting gears a bit, on a recent trip to California, I was treated to a brief encounter with some of the wild parrots who have taken up residence there. As I got out of the car at my daughter's apartment, I heard a familiar screech from high up in a nearby tree. Just as I focused on the source of the noise, I watched four conure-sized parrots take wing, yelling as they left.

There are various parrot flocks all over California, comprised of birds that have escaped from homes, pet stores, and quarantine facilities. The climate there and abundant food sources have allowed the parrots to reproduce and increase their flock sizes and strength. They face many dangers that would never have been encountered in the original rain

forest habitat, but the survivors pass along their strengths to new generations, and they thrive.

Many feel that these parrots represent "invasive species" but the other side of that coin is that they fill a niche, are not competing with local birds to any great degree (different nutritional needs), and provide a source of food to higher-level predators and scavengers. In some cases, these birds' original natural habitat has been nearly, or totally, destroyed. We should be ecstatic that they are here, surviving, and making babies!

These are not the weak little "a draft will kill them" birds of urban myth, but strong, wily urban survivors that have not only found a home in California, but in many United States locations. It's just my opinion, and I may be wrong, but we should be taking steps to protect these flocks and help them build their populations in their new habitats.

Comfy Clawth

Blankets for Birds

See www.comfyclawth.com for Alaskan made bird blankets that can be used to train your parrot to be towed in a safe and comfy environment.

ebankets@comfyclawth.com



Bird Toys Galore

Cage Supplies

Shower perches

Cotton Boings and Perches

(907) 868-8058

Pick.
Click.
Give.



PickClickGive.org

Thank you to any and all who offered
a charitable contribution to The
Alaska Bird Club through
Pick. Click. Give.
Your thoughtfulness is appreciated!

Birds Available for Adoption

See www.petfinder.com for details



Sarge is a DNA sexed **female Senegal parrot hatched on 6/01/08**. She was purchased from PETCO about 4 months after she was weaned and she has had the same owner since. She has been to the vet for well bird exams several times and has had bloodwork in the recent past (normal results) and she has no health/behavioral issues (feather plucking etc). Her leg band has been removed and she has an AVID microchip.

Sarge has been on Zupreem natural pellets and occasional fresh vegetables and fruit since she was weaned. Her favorite veggies are red bell peppers, carrots, and peas. She enjoys bananas and slivered almonds as treats. Sarge can be rather talkative and greets most people with a "Hi" when they enter the room. She makes several interesting noises and mimics a few household appliances as well as a persons sneeze. Sarge has been housed in the same room as a Sun Conure for most of her life. She does not get along with him.



Chic Chic Scarlet Macaw

Chic Chic is a close to 30-year-old, pretty mellow, scarlet macaw. She has a small, clear vocabulary. Chic Chic "dances" to music with a good beat, and a lot of the time displays rhythm, too! She started plucking her chest at about 10 when her first owners separated her from and then sold her "mate." (They thought both were boys at the time.) She is pretty much bald-chested, full-time. She lived with her new scarlet buddy, until his death 9 years ago. If not another macaw buddy, then she primarily prefers male humans, but occasionally feels a female is acceptable. Thought the best placement would be with another "buddy" macaw, but she might potentially be a pet bird again with the right person, (most likely a man,) and a lot of work. Although she is well cared for, she lives a pretty boring life, as she doesn't play much with toys, chew much, or connect with other non-macaw parrots. For more information about her, contact 696-6800.

Birds Available for Adoption, continued...

PeeWee Conure

PeeWee is very vocal, his wings are not clipped, and he was allowed to fly around our apartment, although he's pretty lazy and would only occasionally fly. He likes to hang out on our shoulders and enjoys being in the shower. He has on several occasion bitten me fairly hard on my ears, but never my husband. He has a pretty large cage that would go with him, as well as all his toys and any food that we have left."



Finches

There are about 16 finches here that need good homes. They are zebra finches. they lived in the hallway of an elementary school for a while and have been displaced due to student allergy concerns. The current foster home would love to adopt them out as one group, but would be fine letting them go in smaller groups.

If you're interested, please contact the Alaska Bird Club at akbirdclub@yahoo.com or call 907-868-9070.



Quakers and Cockatiels

A pet shop in Soldotna closed down, leaving a room full of free-flighted quakers and cockatiels needing homes. Some of the birds are missing toes and feet due to the free-flight situation (landing on bigger birds' cages). These birds need homes ASAP.



Yoyo is a **32** year old *hand fed male* baby, born in **1982** with only one owner. He prefers men over women and has a good vocabulary, no profanity.

His cage is his territory. Always left out. His wings are not clipped and he doesn't scream, but can be noisy.

Yoyo is good with dogs and children. He grew up with my sons, but that was a long time ago.

His diet is varied, seeds, veggies, fruit, a little pasta & cheese. At one time he was trained to fly to me, but, again, that was a long time ago. Prefers his cage. If he flies off, he can be picked up to go back to his cage or he will fly back on his own.

Support TABC Via Community Rewards Program

There is a simple and painless way to help our club earn funds for our outreach programs. Fred Meyer allows their customers who have personal Rewards cards to link their card with a qualifying community group. Sign up for the Community Rewards Program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Alaska Bird Club at <http://fredmeyer.com/communityrewards>. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number 80283.

Every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you help The Alaska Bird Club earn a donation. You still earn Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today. If you don't have a Rewards Card, they are available at Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer's store.



2014 Pick. Click. Give.

Pick.
Click.
Give.

From now until the end of August, you can donate a portion of your Permanent Fund Dividend to one or more Alaskan non-profit organizations. If you signed up on-line, you are probably already aware of this program. If you wish to participate, go to the PFD website at <http://www.pickclickgive.org> where you will be guided through the process of donating any amount you choose to a worthwhile program.

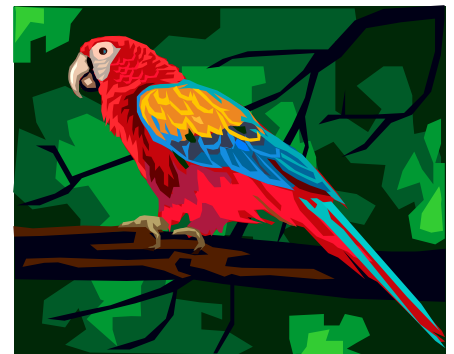
The Alaska Bird Club is one of many excellent non-profits you can choose to support. Please, Pick. Click. Give. generously.

Purim in the Jungle

The Alaska Jewish Campus has a Purim event each year. This year's theme, Purim in the Jungle, should be especially fun. They are looking for exotic birds to attend the event and be on display or perform for attendees.

Purim in the Jungle will be held on Sunday, March 16th, 2014. As always, the club would love for any and all members to attend, parrots in tow. There is a small core group of members who make a consistent effort to provide public outreach such as this one. Your help, and especially your attendance, is always welcome.

Coordinate with any member of the Alaska Club Board if you wish to participate. You know you want to show off your feathered friends to the public and help spread useful information about parrots and pet birds with interested people. Please, get your bird into the public eye. Help the Club educate parrot-interested people!



Parrot Behavior Consultations

Need help with any of the following?

Aggression

Excessive screaming

Inappropriate vocalizations

Feather Destructive Behaviors

Diet

Environmental Enrichment

Contact Karen Webster
to schedule your consultation today:

929-BIRD (2473) or

akpeac@gmail.com.

P E A C

(Parrot Education & Adoption Center)

www.akpeac.org

NUTS 2 U !!!

Via Diamond Nut Company

Low Prices/Bags or Loose!

Call Michael at 315-5417

wmichaelstanton@gmail.com



Almonds or Brazils \$2.50/pound

Walnuts \$2.50/pound

\$.25 of every pound donated to the Bird Club

Pick.Click.Give

WE CAN MAKE GOOD THINGS HAPPEN ALL OVER ALASKA



Do You Have an Article or Idea for the Newsletter?



The Alaska Bird Club welcomes your input. If you have an article or an idea for an article, please contact Lynne Bush at lynne-bush@clearwire.net.

We also accept advertisements if you have parrot-related items for sale.



David Jensen Photography

(907) 868-1680 - 9130 Elim Street - Anchorage, AK 99507 - www.davidjensenphotography.com

- * *Day-to-Day Blog*
- * *Monthly Web Specials*
- * *Portrait Galleries*
- * *Tour the Studio*

Find us on Facebook!



David Jensen has been the Alaska Bird Club volunteer judge for several years now.



The Alaska Bird Club
P.O. Box 101825
Anchorage, Alaska
95510-1825



Place
Stamp
Here

