

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 5

WAES Newsletter

www.wasatchavian.com



February's Guest Speaker



Patti from Great Basin Wildlife Rescue will be coming to speak at our February meeting. She will be bringing some different species of birds of prey that they have rehabilitated to release back into the wild.

Great Basin is a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center in Mapleton that focuses on the rescue and rehabilitation of birds of prey and black bear cubs. Various wildlife species are injured or orphaned every day, particularly because of our impact within their environment. Great Basin offers safe rehabilitation and release of wildlife back into their natural habitats.

***** Please leave your pet birds at home for this meeting, as Great Basin will be showing us different birds of prey.*****

February Club Meeting

Saturday February 14, 2015
@ 7:00PM

Salt Lake County Complex
2001 S. State Street
Room N1100 (North Building)
Salt Lake City, UT 84190

Our meetings are free and open to the public. Come and enjoy our presentations, conversations with other parrot enthusiasts, snacks, and a donations table to benefit our birds in foster care.





Message from Our President

I hope everyone is enjoying our warm weather. Take advantage of it and give your birds some much needed natural sunlight!

In January we brought into rescue 2 birds, Jenny an African Ringneck, and Larry Bird, a Congo African Grey.

We adopted out 4 birds, DJ a Timneh African Grey, Zazu an African Ringneck, Kasuku a Congo African Grey and Paco a Mexican Red Headed Amazon.

We also adopted out Max, a MRHA. Unfortunately, Max is coming back to us and needs a foster home. Max is positive for Avian Herpes and will need to be the only bird in the home. Avian herpes is species specific, so you do not need to worry about yourself or other pets. Only birds are at risk. If you can help, or know someone who can, please let us know.

See you at the meeting,

Layna Scheunemann



Valentine Fruit Cake

You can use toothpicks or carrot sticks to stick fruits on, just cut off the sharp part of the toothpick. Make sure to avoid using seeds or pits of fruits, as they are toxic to birds (example: pits and seeds of apples).

Featured Birds in Foster Care



Larry Bird ~ CAG Adoption Pending

- \$300.00 + \$30 Membership Fee
- DNA Sexed Female 17 years old
- Comes with cage & toys

Larry Bird is active and vocal. She started plucking after the owner moved to a new home. Larry also recently lost her doggie friend. Vet check pending.



Tazha ~ Moluccan Cockatoo

- \$435.00 + \$30 Membership Fee
- Male 18 - 19 years old
- Comes with cage

Tazha is a friendly bird, and likes to take apart his toys and reassemble them. He talks and laughs, and likes to swing on a rope. He enjoys being outdoors and loves his baths. He will chew his wing and tail feathers. Vet check showed slight anemia, but otherwise normal.

Jenny ~ African Ringneck

- Adoption Fee Pending
- Female 10+ years old
- Comes with cage

Jenny is hormonal and unpredictable right now. She responds well to rewards, and with some attention and patience, Jenny could be a great bird. Vet check pending.



Do Birds Need Vaccines?

With all the attention on vaccines for people, we investigate what vaccines parrots may or may not need.

February 9, 2015 <http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-health/do-birds-need-vaccines.aspx>

The recent measles outbreak in Disneyland has started a national discussion about vaccines and a parent's right to choose. The pet world is no stranger to this debate, but unlike the numerous vaccines for cats and dogs, parrots really only have one: the Polyomavirus vaccine.

But, as it turns out, your parrot might not even need it.

"Birds only need the [polyomavirus vaccine] in certain circumstances," said Laurie Hess, DVM, Diplomate ABVP (Avian Practice), owner and medical director of Veterinary Center for Birds & Exotics in Bedford Hills, N.Y. "Polyoma is a virus that we used to see a lot more of, but really the only [parrots] that tend to need it in my opinion — and I would bet in many avian veterinarians' opinions — are ones that are breeders or they're going to be in pet stores around a lot of other birds."

That's something that Larry Nemetz, DVM, owner of The BIRD Clinic in Orange, Calif., agreed with.

He said that he sometimes has people coming into his clinic, asking for the vaccine, but he always recommends testing first. "How do you know bird isn't already sick?" he said, "Birds, like people, can carry diseases all the time. And if a bird already has polyoma, the vaccine won't work."

Who Needs To Be Vaccinated?

Younger birds, macaws and caiques are some of the birds that are the most susceptible to polyoma, according to Nemetz. But, again, that doesn't necessarily mean you need to vaccinate your bird.

Hess says vaccinate, "If [your bird] is going to be exposed to a lot of birds regularly who have unknown health profiles." But if your bird is sitting in your house, she said, "it's not like they're going to get polyoma."

Basically: If you're going to board your bird, vaccinate. After you test your bird for polyoma, of course. (And if the facility your bird is going to board at doesn't recommend polyoma vaccines or even testing, run!)

History Of Bird Vaccines

Vaccines were used more back when birds were still being imported into the United States, Nemetz said. However, veterinarians no longer need to vaccinate for two main reasons: birds stopped being imported when the Wild Bird Importation Act of 1992 passed in the United States, along with the diseases being eradicated.

Which doesn't mean diseases don't still pop up now and then, according to Nemetz. "We used to vaccinate against canary pox, but unfortunately the vaccine is no longer produced," he said. Every summer in California, he sees cases of canary pox in canaries.

WAES Facebook Group!

We now have a Facebook group for all WAES members. We hope every member who is on Facebook will join, and those who are not on Facebook will consider setting up a basic Facebook page and join. This page is the place to post questions, concerns, pictures, stories and WAES events. I feel this will bring the members together and help us to become a more cohesive community. This is a closed group for WAES member and volunteers.

To join go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1526411097630609/>

~Layna



Happy Valentine's Day

Wasatch Avian Education Society

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