



Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission

JANUARY EDITION

Published monthly by the
Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission
Since 1983

<http://www.cbcbirdclub.com>

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

2008

WHATS NEW AND IN IT FOR YOU?

NEW BOARD, NEW GOALS

2008 MEMBERSHIP FORM INSIDE

The next meeting of the
Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission

Is 7:00 PM **January 17**, 2008

@

Galilean Lutheran Church
3321 Cimarron Blvd.
Corpus Christi, TX 78414

Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission



MISSION STATEMENT

The Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club and Rescue Mission seeks to promote an interest in companion birds through communication with and education of pet owners, breeders and the general public. In addition, the CBCBC&RM strives to promote the welfare of all birds by providing monetary donations for the rescue and rehabilitation of wild birds and by placing abused, abandoned, lost or displaced companion birds in foster care until permanent adoptive homes can be found.



C.B.C.B.C. & R.M.S. Officers

President - Chad Clanton
clctex56@aol.com

Vice President- Joan Latham
jk4latham@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer— Aurora Silva
drsilva27@msn.com
855-8114

Secretary- Jim Barsch
jobkad@stxr.com

Fair Director-Jim Harmon
JimHcctx@aol.com

Newsletter Editor—Kellie Ross
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Photographer--Joan Latham
jk4latham@sbcglobal.net

Monthly Raffle Coordinator- LaVerne Silkwood

Birdladyjl@sbcglobal.net

A.F.A. Representative - Lorie Schwar
lorie_schwar@yahoo.com

Web master and advertising- Jim Harmon
JimHcctx@aol.com

Membership- LaVerne Silkwood
Birdladyjl@sbcglobal.net
991-3138

Head of rescue comm. - Chad Clanton
clctex56@aol.com

Other Volunteers Needed on a regular basis.

HAPPENINGS

Welcome to 2008! Boy howdy, my how things have changed since this time last month. Elections were held last month and we now have a new Board of Directors in place to take us through 2008 and possibly beyond.

The first board meeting for them I'm sure had some first time jitters and confusion but the energy was all good from president Chad Clanton and VP Joan Latham. All through the meeting new ideas and plans were thrown out, think tank style, for all to comment on and then move to the next new idea. Being a past VP I can only wish I was could have put this much enthusiasm into their positions.

The web site is looking fantastic (Thanks Jim) and from what Jim tells me we are getting hits from outside. This bodes well for the Bird Mart scheduled for May. Jim has also taken on the duties of Bird Mart Director this year and, so far, all indications are good for a successful bird mart.

One of the topics brought up was the need to form up a few new committees and get more people involved in our activities. What a great way to be a active member and get to know your fellow bird friends better. Volunteers will soon be needed for the Bird Mart. A new committee soon to be set up will be the Raffle Committee. These people will have the task of going out to various merchants and seeing what we can get on the raffle table. The raffle is where we make most of our money. Some please don't hesitate to sign up and become involved.

Also, lets not forget our monthly appearances at Petco. Joan is always looking for enthusiastic people who want to get the word out about the Bird Club. Also will have had spaces donated to us out at the new County Fairgrounds complex. More on those soon.

2007 was a good year for CBCBC and here's hoping we see continued success into 2009 and beyond.

Joe Ross

The Newsletter can be viewed
In color
on-line at the Club's Web Site

[http://
www.cbcbirdclub.com](http://www.cbcbirdclub.com)

Potty training your parrot

“Although some people don’t believe it, parrots can be potty trained so that they don’t eliminate on their owners. If you want to potty train your bird, you will have to choose a word that will indicate the act of eliminating to your pet, such as “go potty”. (any phrase will do - I use “take a break”, it is a phrase I heard in a movie once and I thought it was classic) You will have to observe your pet in order to identify how it indicates that it is about to eliminate. Your bird may shift around or squat. When you have mastered your pet’s body language, use the chosen phrase at the appropriate time so the bird associates the phrase with the action.

Once your bird seems to associate “go potty” with eliminating, you can try picking it up and holding it until it starts to shift or squat. Tell the bird to “go potty” while placing it on its cage, where it can defecate. Once it’s done, pick it up again and praise it for being such a smart bird! Expect a few accidents while you are both learning this trick, and soon you’ll have a potty trained bird. You will be able to set the bird on its cage about every 20 minutes, give it the command and expect the bird to eliminate.”

From “Why does my bird do that?”

There are a few things I would like to add to the above instructions. First, it is not hard to potty train a parrot, and once they have it they rarely make a mistake. The only thing that could cause a mistake is generally the person. Remember, birds are not designed to be able to “hold” it, so if you don’t offer the bird the chance on a regular basis, the bird has no choice but to “go” anyway. Second, the smaller the bird, the more often they go. The smaller parrots learn just as easily, you just have to know how often to let them go. When I am holding my small parrot, I keep a paper towel close and offer her the chance about every 10 to 15 minutes. Third, you might want to teach your bird to defecate under different circumstances, so they are able to keep their training wherever you are. I know birds who will only go under very specific circumstances, instead of being flexible. Try using different perches like a basket, or paper towel, newspaper, over the trash or sink, instead of just at the cage.

In my experience, potty training my birds was much easier than it was my dogs. Potty trained parrots never fail to make a good impression, and it is nice not to have to worry about your clothes all the time. It is one of the best first steps you can take to socializing your bird, as people are much more willing (and interested) in holding your bird if they know they are not going to get their shirt decorated. For me, I just love surprising people with my beautiful, smart companions that can learn most anything I can figure out how to teach them!

Fun Fact: In China, families (especially the elderly) bring their pet birds together for singing practice. All across the far east, these birds are prized companions. Kept in decorative cages, their owners take them for walks, visit restaurants, and gather to keep company with other bird owners.

How to manage your bird's excessive territoriality

By Liz Wilson, CVT

In the wild, a parrot's territorial instinct is extremely strong, because he must protect his territory from invasion. You may also see this territoriality in action in your companion bird. When your bird drives everyone away from his turf, he is exhibiting excessive territoriality, and if unchecked, this behavior can become a serious problem that threatens your bird's future as a companion animal.

Some bird enthusiasts feel parrots should be allowed to be territorial around their cages, but most behavior consultants disagree. It is also not fair to assume that your bird must be at your every beck and call, coming out for interaction whenever it suits your schedule. Just as children are allowed privacy in their own rooms, parrots should have the right to decline human interaction. Experienced caretakers recognize this through careful observation of psittacine body language, and they respect a bird's privacy by not approaching during these times.

Excessively territorial companion parrots act like they outrank everyone in their flocks. To resolve this misunderstanding, you should establish nonaggressive controls by patterning your bird to respond to simple commands like "up" and "down." Daily training sessions should happen in a neutral room, or in an area the bird doesn't consider his own, and on a neutral perch such as the back of a chair.

Once the bird is responding to commands, you can start moving the training perch slowly out of the neutral area and into the area of your bird's cage. By moving a few inches at a time and then working again on the

commands, you can make certain your bird responds correctly. Then, praise him for his good behavior. Once in view of your bird's cage, training may become more difficult, but with patience and consistency, most birds will respond again to the commands.

When the cage is finally reached, you can step the bird into it with the "down" command, then immediately pick it up with the "up" command. Repeating this several times will teach your parrot that the commands also work in and around his cage. Repeat this process on the cage top and on any other of your bird's favorite hangouts.

Once your bird is trained, and he wants out of his cage, he must step onto the hand when you say "up." Do not just open the cage door and let him come out on his own, or he might conclude that he is in control again. Continue to use the commands every day, to remind him that the rules are still in force.

By following these easy training techniques and handling your parrot in a firm, loving, unaggressive and consistent manner, you can keep control of your headstrong bundle of feathers and maintain a mutually loving relationship.



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Minutes



Board of Directors Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

CBCBC & RW Board Meeting Minutes Jan. 3, 2008

7:35 p.m. Meeting called to order by Chad Clanton. Members present were Aurora, Chad, Joan, Jim B., Jim H., and Laverne.

Secretary – minutes printed on back of agenda from 12/06/07 were read and accepted as written.

Treasurer – Aurora reported that the club had a beginning balance of \$6,266.52, income of \$1012.00, expenses totaling \$126.40, for an ending balance of \$7,152.12. Calendar sales have generated a total of \$2005.00 to date.

Vice President – Joan expressed a desire to form several committees this year to help increase club exposure to the public, stimulate participation among members, enhance fund raising, and increase attendance by members at meetings.

Rescue – The adoption application for the Quaker Parrot “Connor” by Jay Pinney was reviewed and accepted by the board. Final approval will be voted on by the general membership at the January meeting.

Hospitality – Joan will be conducting a “Meet and Greet” at PETCO each month thru out the year, any member who can spare a couple of hours on a Saturday afternoon is welcome to staff our table. The club will also have a table at the Home and Garden Show in Robstown on Jan. 26 & 27, as well as the South Texas Sport and Outdoor Show on Feb. 9 & 10 also in Robstown. Please mark these dates and try to put some time aside to support your club.

Membership – Laverne stated we had 14 single, 9 family, 8 lifetime, 2 vendor, and 3 commercial so far for 2008.

Old Business:

It was agreed that additional board meetings will be required to get the by laws updated, in addition to the monthly meetings. All club members are invited to assist in this process. Once the updates are completed, the board would like all members to have copies as well as post them in our online website.

A delegate will be needed for the AFA; Chad volunteered to act as our delegate since he’s already a member.

We still have calendars to sell and encourage members to continue their efforts in meeting our sales goal. The Dec. meeting raffle earned \$135.00 thank you to all that contributed.

New Business:

Raffle tickets for the baby Sun Conure to be hand raised by Jim Harmon will be sold at a bargain price of \$2.00, a cage will also be included as part of this prize package.

The down payment will be made to reserve the hall for the May Bird Mart, and a date will be decided on for another Bird Mart in the fall.

It was voted on and passed to begin Board Meetings at 7:00 p.m. rather than 7:30 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.



Minutes

CBCBC General Meeting



CBCBC & RM General Meeting minutes 12/20/2007

Meeting called to order at 7:18 PM

President – Lorie welcomed everyone and recognized visitors.

Secretary – Debbie apologized for being unable to print the agenda, minutes from last meeting and the ballots for the vote due to computer problems. She asked members to suggest any necessary corrections to last month's minutes which were available in the newsletter. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written, it was seconded and the motion carried.

Membership – LaVerne reported 2 new memberships. She also reminded members that dues for 2008 will be due at the end of December. All members who have paid their dues by the January general meeting will be included in the new directory for 2008.

Rescue – Chad reported that a home visit had been made to the Majek household and that the board had approved their adoption of Frito, our 50 year old Double Yellow Headed Amazon that had been in rescue for several months. Members voted and agreed to approve the adoption. The Majeks have been fostering Frito, so they will take immediate custody. It was reported that the board had made an agreement to allow the adoption of Phoenix the cockatiel by Patricia Lopez due to her length of membership in the club. The membership voted and agreed with the board's decision. Patricia will take custody after the holidays.

Newsletter – Kellie is beginning implementation of the emailing of the newsletter to those who wish to receive it by email rather than U.S. Postal services. If you did not receive a newsletter, please let her know so she can ensure that you are on the proper list. Only 12 newsletters were printed which saved a great deal on printing costs and postage. Kellie can be contacted via email at Kellieross@sbcglobal.net or at 993-2241. Let her know if you prefer to have your newsletter delivered via email or postal service.

Calendar Committee and Hospitality – Joan has been working at Petco every weekend in December to try to sell calendars. She will be calling for volunteers to help her in January. We still have a lot of calendars to sell so members are encouraged to please check out as many as possible and try to sell them.

Treasurer – Aurora reported that the October balance was \$6,101.24. The club had an income of \$632.00 and expenses of \$466.72. The new balance for November is \$6,266.52.

Old Business:

Our Club has been offered a free table at the The Home and Garden Show which will be held on Saturday and Sunday, January 26 & 27 at the new fairgrounds in Robstown. Debbie Clanton has faxed all of the required information to the necessary people.

New Business:

Elections were held to fill new Executive Board positions. It was recommended that the slate be approved as written and the membership voted to accept the slate of officers. These members comprise the new Executive Board as of Jan. 1, 2008.

President – Chad Clanton

Vice President – Joan Latham

Secretary – Jim Barsch

Treasurer – Aurora Silva

Mart Director – Jim Harmon

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 and the raffle of donated items was held.

Trinity Counseling ASSOCIATES

6262 Weber Road, Ste. 210
Corpus Christi, TX 78413

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Greencheeks for sale:

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1 male turquoise G.C. conures, \$495 (these 2 not related)

1 female turquoise/pineapple G.C. \$395

3 male, 1 female yellowside/turquoise \$275 each

(Female related to the 3 males)

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normal appearance) Offers on multiple birds considered

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elke47@sbcglobal.net or deryl44@sbcglobal.net



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Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission

Membership Application

Dues are due in January each Year and new applications are pm-rated monthly The Club meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm at:

**Galilean Lutheran Church
3321 Cimarron Rd.
Corpus Christi, TX 78413**

Membership Dues Per Year:

Single Member (1 adult vote) \$20.00
Family Member (2 adult votes, same household) \$35.00
Commercial Member (1 adult vote, ¼ page ad for 13 months in newsletter)\$50.00

New Member Renewal Amount Paid: \$ _____
Date _____ Sponsored By: _____
Type of Membership: Single: Family: Commercial:

Name: _____ Birthday : _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Birds you breed _____

Pet Birds _____

Specialties _____

What do you not want published on Club roster: Address Phone _E-mail

What subject would you like to know more about?

- Bird Behavior Bird Taming General Care Bird Safety
- Bird Training Human/Bird Bonding Medical/Health
- Bird Grooming How-To's Aviary Design: Other:
- Bird Breeding Breeder Profiles Avian Nutrition

Please mail completed application and payment to:

**Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission
P. O. Box 6023
Corpus Christi, TX 78466**

Please tell us how you heard about our club: Bird mart Friend
 Handbook American Classifieds: Newspaper Web site:
Club table at PETCO: Other (Please list): _____

Thank You!!

Box Office Box 6023
Corpus Christi, Texas
78466



The Coastal Bend Companion Bird Club & Rescue Mission

SPRING BIRD-MART

May 2008

Shriners'

Al Amin Pavilion

2001 Suntime Rd.

I - 37 Exit # 7

Corpus Christi, Texas

Contact Chad Clanton

clctex56@aol.com