

March 2008  
Volume '08/03

# WAES MONTHLY

## Wasatch Avian Education Society

AFFILIATED WITH AFA

### Wasatch Avian Parrot Rescue Group to go Down Under in March Meeting

Next Meeting  
March 08 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
Salt Lake County  
Complex  
2001 So. State,  
Room N1100  
(North Building)  
Salt Lake City

Open to everyone

Media Alert  
February 26, 2008  
For Immediate Release...

**Salt Lake City, UTAH** – Take the opportunity to trek down the Yellow Brick Road along with members of the Utah Wasatch Avian parrot rescue group during its monthly meeting set for 7 p.m. Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008, as it spends an evening reviewing the recent PBS Nature series program *Parrots in the Land of Oz*, which features the numerous species of parrot found in Australia.

This installment in the PBS Nature series premiered in January and is already being described as one of the most visually brilliant and wonderfully informative programs to ever be aired. Wasatch Avian Education Society is a non-profit group dedicated to the saving, fostering and adoption of exotic birds from Utah and across the nation. There is no charge for attending the meeting or sharing with the group a look at this most amazing 60-minute documentary. Continued on page 5

**WAES meetings offer not only educational lectures but also the opportunity to socialize with other parrot enthusiasts over light refreshments.**

#### *President's Letter*

#### **From WAES President - Shawna Augustine**

Spring is approaching and the urge to let my birds outside to get some fresh air is getting me antsy. I've got to make an appointment soon to get them all clipped first. I've let them go all winter long without getting anyone clipped and I've been noticing that some of them can fly a little farther each day. I imagine if they got the opportunity to take off outside, they'd be long gone. How upsetting that would be. I feel terrible for the family I recently spoke with who let their bird out very briefly when something spooked him, and off he flew. I certainly hope the best for them, and anyone who loses a bird this way.

I've heard so many horror stories of birds, even with clipped wings, taking off since I've been a member that it makes me scared to even take the birds outside anymore, but they just love it. So this year, I'm going to get my husband to build an outdoor aviary for our backyard that will be covered with aluminum screen. This will also save me from the worry of the hawks that hover around every now and again. I'm so excited to get started, but there's still too much snow in the backyard to do anything.

I hope you all got the chance to see the video of the macaws in Moab free flying. If not, you can view it at [http://birdcinema.com/view\\_video.php?viewkey=83449d9e\\_dc77e001e2c0](http://birdcinema.com/view_video.php?viewkey=83449d9e_dc77e001e2c0)

If I had my birds trained like this, I would take them everywhere with me. Vacations would be so entertaining, wouldn't they?

Shawna

Introducing the following wonderful birds:

#### **Pilot the Yellow Collared Macaw**

Pilot is a male Yellow Collared Macaw. He was purchased from a pet store and he is terrified of people because of people poking fingers and other items in the cage bars at him, which absolutely traumatized him. He tries very hard to talk. He has lived with one owner for over 10 years. He is used to living with dogs and other birds, which he has been friends with for over 10 years. (Puddles and Tiger) Vet results pending.

Adoption \$250



#### **Puddles the Bare-Eyed Cockatoo**

Puddles is a male Bare-Eyed Cockatoo. He is very loveable and in perfect feather. He was purchased from a pet store over 10 years ago and has only one owner. He is used to living with dogs and other birds, which he has been friends with for over 10 years. (Tiger and Pilot) Vet results pending.

Adoption Fee \$250



#### **Yellow Crown the Yellow Crown Amazon (Who would have guessed?)**

Yellow Crown is a Yellow Crown Amazon. He/she has been in foster care for a couple of months for rehabilitation. He/she has been to the vet twice since being in Rescue and the Doctor said that he/she is back to "whole health and is doing alot better". He/she is a complete sweetheart. Yellow Crown has become a great cage mate with Keiko, yet will now come to individuals easily as long as they both get some attention. ([More on our web site](#))

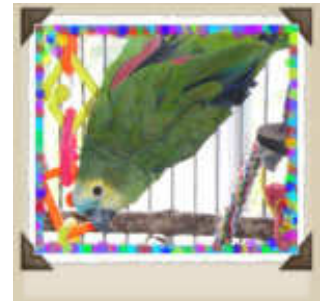
Adoption Fee \$390



#### **Keiko a Blue Front Amazon**

**Adopted!!**

Keiko is a Blue Front Amazon He/she has been in foster care for a couple of months for rehabilitation. He/she has been to the vet twice since being in Rescue and the Doctor said that he/she is back to "whole health and is doing alot better". He/she is a complete sweetheart. Keiko has become a great cage mate with Yellow Crown, yet will now come to individuals easily as long as they both get some attention. Keiko will sit and jibber jabber with you for hours on end and LOVES for you to scratch his head. ([More on our web site](#))



#### **Fern (Fernando) the Peaceful Quaker**

This little Quaker was found in someone's back yard in the springtime. His owner has never been found, but he has been cared for very well. He has seen the vet, and all test results are normal. The home he has been living in donated a nice cage for him, too. We believe he is an adult male Quaker. His favorite toys are a metal measuring cup and the lid to a mason jar. He enjoys Zupreem and Harrison's pellets. He is not hand friendly, and tends to bite. He has a cute little chirp, and is rather quit. He enjoys having other birds around and when you spend time in the room with him. Adoption Fee \$120



### Kiwi the Eclectus

Kiwi is a female Eclectus that comes with a big metal cage and toys. She is 14 years old. She has bitten the lady of the house but not the husband. She shares a cage now with a male Eclectus, and they seem to tolerate each other. They used to be more of a pair than they are now. She laid eggs many years ago, but not in recent years. She had some feather loss but the feathers are slowly growing back in. She says a couple of phrases, but is not often vocal. She says "hello", "who's the pretty bird/girl", and "how are you". ([More on our web site](#)) Adoption Fee \$250



### Brocklin the White Eyed Conure

Brocklin is a White Eyed Conure that is 18 years old. He has personality plus! He is very comfortable being near you, and even on your shoulder, but he does not like to be touched. He is not mean and has not bitten. He will step-up but he is skittish when you want to handle him. Brocklin really enjoyed being near his boy companion that passed away recently. He has been a feather plucker, and shared a cage with this other Conure who was also a plucker. The feather plucking was caused from trauma after the two daughters that were the responsible care takers for the birds went off to college. ([More on our web site](#))

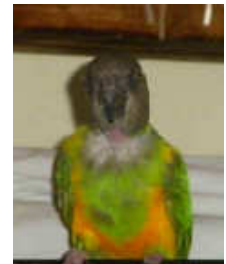


Adoption Fee \$200

### Gizmo the Poicephalous, Senegal

Gizmo is a great bird who likes to sit on your shoulder. He talks some, saying "Hello Buddy", "night-night", "Hello" and whistles and calls often. He will step up to anyone willing to hold him. He does pluck some but wears a collar and doesn't seem to mind it at all. He was donated because his owner has recently passed away. **Foster Update:** *Gizmo is doing great! He is an "awesome" bird. He seems to prefer men, and can deliver a good bite to others.*

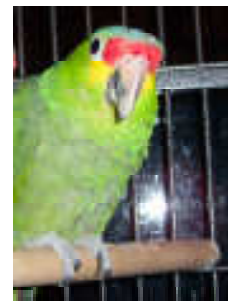
Adoption Fee: \$180.00



### Pepe the Amazing Amazon, Red Lored

Pepe is an unpredictable bird. It is estimated that he is 9 years old. He prefers to remain in his cage and not be handled. He is not friendly and is NOT good with children. He bites very hard. Pepe will step up onto a stick, and then to your hand. He will move out of the way while you change his food and water. He eats Pretty Bird pellets and nearly everything else he is offered. He is not loud, and is rather quiet for an Amazon. He only says "Hello".

Adoption Fee: \$250.00



### Jasper Another Amazing Amazon, Orange Wing

Jasper was adopted from WAES approximately 3 years ago and has been returned to rescue because of lifestyle changes. Jasper is approximately 11 years old, male, and has a couple of deformed toes. He has been on a good diet of Zupreem, seed, and fruits and vegetables. His favorite foods are tomatoes, apples and bananas. He does talk and has been known to be a bit nippy, but he loves head scratches! He is currently not stepping up very well, but the foster family is working with him.

([Update on our web site](#))

Adoption Fee: \$250.00



**Damon the Cute Crimson Bellied Conure**

Damon is a green cheek conure about 10 years old, he loves to go exploring and visiting people throughout the house. He is a very adventurous eater (he loves berries, bananas and oatmeal) but mostly he eats Zupreem and a variety of seed, he loves being spoonfed! Damon is afraid of large groups of people (he gets right in his cage and doesn't want to come out) but he is quite friendly in smaller groups. He knows how to step up and he loves doing the dishes with his foster mom. He also loves to take baths. I just put out a lukewarm bowl of water, and he jumps in and has fun. He also loves to eat mandarin oranges.

Adoption fee: \$180

**Milo Moluccan Cockatoo the One to Watch!****Adoption Pending**

Milo is a Moluccan Cockatoo. She was born on a farm in Havre, Montana and is 7 years old. She began to pluck about 5 years ago when the owner's daughter was born. Through the years they tried all the resources available to try to keep her from plucking, but haven't been successful. There were various changes in the family and, Milo had begun to bite more and squawked at what seemed to be non-stop. They had been working with a veterinarian and tried everything they could. The veterinarian recommended WAES. Vet results pending

**Little Bird - Senegal**

Little Bird is close to 22 years old. She has been in her latest home for 7 years. She is pretty much a one-person bird. She is very loving with her "mate" but has a vicious bite with those who are unlucky enough to not be 'the love of her life'. Little Bird has a wonderful repertoire of calls and whistles. She can mimic telephone ringers and makes Star War sounds. She says 'pretty bird' in several voices and will on occasions say 'what's up?'

She has plucked as long as we know of. She does not have a cage. She had some health issues.

Adoption fee: \$150.00

**Hannah - Blue and Gold Macaw****Adopted!!!**

Hannah was approximately two when she came to live in her most recent home and was there for 6 years. She has always been a curious and very, very smart girl. She talks quite extensively and understands a great deal. Her vocabulary includes: Hannah-Banana, Come on, hurry up, right now; I love you, pretty bird. She teases Little Bird by saying 'pretty bird' over and over until Little Bird begins shrieking then Hannah says to Little Bird: "Stop it, you brat". She sometimes sounds like a bad opera singer. Hannah is wary of being handled and does bite. Her foster home is working with her and she had some health issues. She has been to the veterinarian.

**Larry Bird is a Male Ecelectus.**

Larry Bird was formerly the cage mate of Kiwi but they did not get along. Kiwi has been plucking but his foster mom is putting him thru Madeleine's re-feathering program.

Larry is very companionable and would like you to spend a good bit of time with him. He doesn't play with toys much. He enjoys his food. He responds verbally to female voices

Vet results are pending.

Adoption fee: pending



Tikki is a Blue and Gold Macaw

Tikki is a 20 year old Blue and Gold Macaw. (We do not actually know if she is male or female). She/He loves loves bananas, oranges, apples, applesauce, peanuts, all nuts and cooked sweet potatoes. She bites due to some bees getting into her cage and stinging her on her face. She scares easily. She loves to be rubbed on her head. She can be gentle but if scared she will bite. She does talk. She says, sugar, pepper, Tikki and stop it. Due to family circumstances she has been alone a lot and she has been plucking and moody. Vet results Pending Adoption fee: pending



Zoey is a Cherry headed Conure

Zoey has been alone a lot. We do not know if it is a male or female. She had a attachments to the a grandson of the owner and has not bitten him. She tends to bite other people. When approached she chatters a lot and is very happy to have company but mostly she is quiet. She does not want to step up or come to us but she will hang on the side and flaps her wings to get attention. She was on a mainly seed diet with some fruit. She likes peanuts. She is getting pellets and vegetables. She is starting to eat a little of it and had taken melon orange/mandarin orange apple from my hand. Adoption fee: pending



Bart is a Nanday Conure

Bart is a cute fellow. He is friendly to his foster mother but still a bit shy of the rest of the family. Once he knows you he likes having his head rubbed and will take food from your hands. He does bite. He can be loud. He likes his swing and chew toys and loves his mirror. All test results is in normal ranges. He'd make a lovely pet in the right home

Adoption fee: pending



From page one

Traditionally in America and elsewhere around the world we are most familiar with parrots that are kept in cages and domesticated in home aviaries. Yet, in Australia for tens of millions of years, parrots have thrived from the mountains to the seashore. Often in flocks numbering in the thousands and include species we here at home are used to seeing only individually or at the most in breeding pairs.

Join the Wasatch Avian group as we watch images of thousands of Cockatoos flocking to farms and ranches in the Australian interior. Along with the story of a specific breed of parrot that has actually learned to use tools in mating and nest building rituals.

This evening with Wasatch Avian will prove that there are no bird-brains here as the information gleaned will show parrots have well-developed brains, which are 6 to 11 times bigger than those of reptiles of the same size. You'll come away from the night knowing that these wonderful birds, wild or domestic, are capable of learning and mastering complex social behavior and aspects of speech and communication.

Following the viewing of the documentary on a big screen in the Salt Lake County Commission Chambers members of Wasatch Avian, some with their own Parrots of Oz will share stories and experiences of their own home flocks and companions.

Then we'll throw another shrimp-on-the-barbie and enjoy refreshments and door prizes that more often than not are bird-related and themed. Attendees will be given the opportunity to make donations to KUED Channel 7's and the furthering of its PBS series here locally in the Salt Lake City market.

For more information about KUED7 please call (801) 581-3284 or go to: <http://www.kued.org/page.php?area=contact>.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION About WAES contact**

Peggie Carpenter at [peggieann67@yahoo.com](mailto:peggieann67@yahoo.com) 801-814-2585 or Clark Caras [chcaras@utah.gov](mailto:chcaras@utah.gov) 801-201-9276

## THROUGH A BIRD'S EYE

A friend asked me, how does a bird see? It seemed he wanted something more than the obvious, through his eyes, so I told him what I knew. But in thinking it over, I wanted to know more and thought perhaps you might wonder the same thing.

Birds have a highly developed sense of vision, about the best in the animal kingdom and much better than humans. They see much more of the color spectrum including ultraviolet and the areas of plumage to reflect ultraviolet. This is important in recognizing food and danger and is helpful in mating rituals. They see each other very differently than how we see them.

Birds' eyes are large in proportion to their body size. They have little movement within the eye socket so they move their heads to compensate for this. Their eyesight varies in the emphasis of certain features, depending on the lifestyle of the different species.

There are three avian eye shapes – flat, globose and tubular. Diurnal birds, those that are awake during the day such as doves, pigeons and parrots, have flat eyes. This gives a short front to back axis, the image that falls on the retina is small, giving lower visual acuity. Their eyes are set to the side of the head, which does give a wider field of vision, but with little overlap that would give a three-dimension effect or depth perception instead of binocular vision where both eyes are focused on the same object and move in coordination with one another. Somewhat like having two different television screens set to different stations. However they have better peripheral vision that allows them to detect danger from a wider field of vision.

Globose eyes are more rounded and the birds have a wider head with the eyes set apart and facing forward, such as raptors, canaries and finches. This increases their visual acuity or focusing quality. They have enormous accuracy at long distances and can accurately judge the speed of moving objects.

Nocturnal birds of prey, such as owls, have advanced depth perception and motion detection capabilities. They have a tubular shaped eye, which allows a large retinal image to be formed, and they can quickly focus on objects at varying distances.

I hope this gives you a little better understanding of the vision of birds

*Lisa McManue, AFA Western Region Director*

*My website: [www.scottieparrots.com](http://www.scottieparrots.com)*

It's For The Birds... Contest for New Avian Group's Logo Announced

Wasatch Avian Education Society is inviting you to get wild and let your creative side go free in creation of a new logo for the group dedicated to the rescue and adoption of parrots and other exotic birds. The sky is the limit with this one - every pun intended. Open to one and all, the winning logo will then be prominently featured on Wasatch Avian's much visited web site, its letterhead, business cards, and posters used in advertising its monthly meetings. Polly wants a cracker and a new logo, so now's the chance for 15-minutes of fame that could turn into the beginning of a long career in marketing. Open to one and all the contest begins March 1, 2008 and close June 5, 2008. A panel of judges will then choose a winner from the submissions.

The winner will be featured with a photo and article in the Wasatch Avian newsletter. They will also be given a free one year membership in Wasatch Avian valued at \$30. Please submit entries via email to [peggieann67@yahoo.com](mailto:peggieann67@yahoo.com) - or mail them camera ready to Wasatch Avian Education Society, P.O. Box 651701, Salt Lake City, Utah 84165

Artwork must be camera ready and can be full color or black and white.

For more information contact Peggy at... 801-814-2585

### WAES Committees

In 2008, WAES has been forming committees to work with board members where needed. While not new this year, we have a Rescue Committee that consists of experienced members and this year we have a new group of members known as the Rescue Squad. The members of this committee are under the support of our Rescue Director, Susan Kelley. Some of the duties for this committee are to conduct home inspections for new foster homes and new adoptive homes, follow-up after a bird has been placed in foster care, making sure vet visits have been made, gathering information and photos of the foster birds to place on the web and newsletters, providing unbiased data on adoption applications to the adoption committee, among many other "fun" things.

The Events Committee is responsible for the WAES picnic including decorations, food, games, etc. This committee is under the support of our Events Director Doug Judd. They are considering having a rummage sale and have an ideal location set for it. We are also working towards setting up committees to help with Fundraising (Danielle and Bobby Blanch) and Media (Public Relations Director, Peggie Carpenter). A final committee is the Web Site Committee, which will be improving the WAES presence on-line, and the WAES site itself. You don't need to know HTML because this committee will be gathering information. If you want to learn HTML or know HTML we can do some of that as well.

If you'd like to help WAES while learning more about this club, if you'd like to make this Club all it can be and apply your talents to improving WAES, this is your opportunity. This club will always be as good as the volunteers that make it up. Do it for your bird. Do it for the hundreds of birds that need rescue. See a board member to find out how to get started.

### The ongoing Saga of **Milo** the *Molaccan Cockatoo*

Milo is very friendly and walked over to greet us after her photo shoot for the newsletter. It is sad to see her feather damage but wonderful to see that she has getting some feathers back and have some down on her chest.

We are all hoping she will continue to improve and in spite of her meager feathers she has found a family eager to adopt her.

We hope to monitor her progress a little longer while her adoption is pending and also give some updates afterwards.



### WAES to Sponsor Utah Raffle Table at AFA Convention

Have you got something that just screams "Utah" buried in your closet? Something that expresses the unique character of our state? WAES has offered to sponsor a Utah raffle table at the AFA Convention to be held in St. Louis the last week of July. We are accepting new and like-new items that will fit on or under a small table (card table or slightly larger). Convention goers will buy raffle tickets, one winner takes all, and all proceeds benefit the AFA. Please bring your donations to any meeting between now and July. Any questions, please contact your WAES AFA representatives Carol Crane [ccc@syptec.com](mailto:ccc@syptec.com) or Audrey Hollaar [a.hollaar@utah.edu](mailto:a.hollaar@utah.edu), or WAES President Shawna Augustine [jellomoons@hotmail.com](mailto:jellomoons@hotmail.com).

President – Shawna Augustine  
 Vice President – Clark Caras  
 Secretary – Alice Mehl  
 Treasurer – Audrey Hollaar  
 Fundraiser – Danielle & Robert Blanch  
 Public Relations – Peggie Carpenter

### 2008 Officers

Special Events – Doug Judd  
 Rescue Director – Susan Kelley  
 Newsletter – Dennis Kelley  
 Website – Dennis Kelly

For contact info. Please visit web site

The website has a new look – and gets updated regularly. Check for the latest news

See us for the latest in WAES: <http://www.wasatchavian.com/>

Want to know what's happening in WAES  
 Join our **CHAT** group in Yahoo.  
 Send an email to:

[Waes-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Waes-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

You don't have to be a member to join  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**  
 Stay up to date in a dynamic club

We now have a Calendar of upcoming WAES events on the WAES web site. To get to it go to the Home Page and click on the Menu/Events then Coming Events

Newsletters can be sent by postal mail or e-mail.  
 The e-mail version is in **color** and no waiting.  
 Please send your e-mail address to:  
[utahparrot@yahoo.com](mailto:utahparrot@yahoo.com)

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 801-424-2589



Please check the address label for **membership expiration date**. Don't forget to renew. We need you!