

September 2008

Volume '08/09

WAES MONTHLY

Wasatch Avian Education Society

Affiliated with American Federation of Aviculture

Lisa McManus *AFA Western Region Director*

Next Meeting
September 13, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Salt Lake County
Complex
2001 So. State,
Room N1100
(North Building)
Salt Lake City

Everyone
Is
Welcomed

*Join the
WAES Chat
Group and
find out
what's
happening*

Our September speaker is Lisa McManus, aviculturist extraordinaire from Aurora, Colorado. Lisa is currently the AFA Western Region Director, and the Events Manager and the Show Committee Chair for the Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture. Caring for birds and breeding birds has been a growing passion for her for over a decade and every day brings new discoveries. The journey continues and still proves to be extremely edifying.

Conures are a main focus, but Lisa enjoys all avian species. Currently she is breeding 15 species of conures, yellow crowned amazons, Hahn's, yellow collared and severe macaws, canary wing parakeets, red and yellow barbets, white belly caiques, timneh greys, meyers, red rumped parakeets, and moustache parakeets.

Education is the top priority. If you would like to learn more about a species or which species might be right for you, or if you are interested in finding answers in other areas, just ask. If Lisa does not have the answer, she will find it.

Continued on page 6

Everyone is invited to join us at Dee's Family Restaurant at 700 E. & 2100 S. after the meeting for further discussions with Lisa. At Dee's, separate checks are not a problem!

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

The American Federation of Aviculture held their annual convention in St. Louis this summer. I had the pleasure of attending it for my second time. Audrey Hollaar has been attending the AFA conventions for several years as she is our State Coordinator and Club Delegate. This year, we planned on donating items to raffle in support of the AFA. We had the first Utah Raffle Table. I'd like to thank Clark Caras and Audrey Hollaar for their generous donations along with Carol Crane who donated a feather mask, which was a beautiful piece of art made of feathers from her and Audrey's birds, set in a lovely shadow box frame. In addition, I'd also like to thank Ronie at Ronie's for the Love of Birds. She donated a canvas bag full of treats for the lucky winner's bird(s) to enjoy. We had many, many Utah items such as books, decorative Utah themed plates, ski gear, back packs, water bottles, aprons, etc., etc., etc. Mary Duma of Miramar, FL was the lucky winner of the Utah Raffle Table, which brought in hundreds of dollars in donations for the AFA.

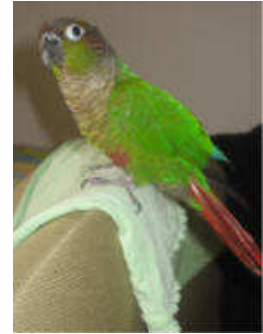
Continued on Page 5

Introducing the following wonderful birds:

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



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



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



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



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



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 normal.

Adoption Fee \$250

**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 normal.

Adoption \$250

**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. Vet results normal.

Adoption fee: \$150.00

**Larry Bird is a Male Ecelectus.**

Larry Bird was formerly the cage mate of Kiwi but they did not get along. Larry Bird 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 normal.

Adoption fee \$250.00

**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 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: 300.00



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. Vet results normal. Adoption fee: 180.00

**Timmy is a Double Yellow Head Amazon**

Timmy has lived in his last home for the past 7 years. He came to them as an abused bird, and he is very skittish of hands and being held. He does not trust any human. Timmy is very quite for an Amazon. He loves to eat just about everything, especially whole fruits, although his main diet is pellets. He loves to chew up wood toys and calcium perches. He enjoys being out of his cage, but does not feel comfortable being held. Vet results pending. Adoption fee: 250.00

**Birdy is a female Mollocant Cockatoo**

She is very sweet and talks some. She is somewhat plucked. She does not like being in a cage. She prefers to be on her stand. She eats pellets, fruits, and vegetables. She can be loud as any Moluccan can. She does need a lot of attention. Vet results pending.

Adoption fee: pending

**Junior is a Moluccan Cockatoo**

He is a good bird. He is a 15 YO dna sexed male M2 with a shy/skittish personality until he gets to know you. He is not to be around small children as he is back in foster care due to attacking the 2 YO of his last adoptive home. He has a scissor beak that must be groomed every 4-6 weeks and walks on the sides of his toes due to his nails, at some point, not being trimmed. He is a good eater once he is comfortable and will allow most adults to hold him. He does not like tattoos/moles/freckles and will bite at them trying to remove them from your skin. He was known to attack the arm of the previous adoptive family's friend due to tattoos on his arms. As with all cockatoos he loves the sound of his own voice. He is very loud in the am and then again in the pm. [\(More on our web site\)](#) Adoption fee: pending

**Apollo is a sun Conure**

Apollo, sex unknown. Apollo was very plucked and it might be that Zeus plucked him. His feathers are still recovering. He self mutilated and has recovered. He loves his seed mix and also enjoys fruit and vegetables particularly fruit. He eats Pretty bird pellet as well. Pretty Bird pellets is one of his staple foods. He has a more quiet personality. He is attached to Zeus but they need to be kept apart due to Zeus being more aggressive. Vet results pending. Adoption fee: pending



Continued on page 7



President's Message Contintued
 We had three days packed full of lectures, and a wide variety of topics to chose from. I enjoyed both Madeleine Franco and Mark Romansky from SNPERRS speeches, in addition to many others. I enjoyed attending the parties and meeting author Mattie Sue Athan, the African Queen Jean Pattison, and Terri Jones, founder of the Arcadia Bird Sanctuary, and many other wonderful people. We spent an afternoon at the St. Louis Zoo, and although it was a rainy day, it was completely worth getting soaked for. It is certainly an amazing zoo. At each of our club meetings, there is material for the AFA set out, including membership forms and Watchbird magazines. I encourage everyone to join the AFA, and to consider attending the annual conventions. I look forward to attending next year.
 Shawna Augustine



American Federation of Aviculture annual convention in St. Louis

THE PARROT AND THE EGG

By Lisa McManus [Http://www.scottieparrots.com](http://www.scottieparrots.com)

The process of avian reproduction is fascinating. There are several things that trigger the reproduction process: increasing length of daylight, an increase in temperature and humidity, and an increase in the availability of fresh foods. These factors cause hormones to be released and the process begins.

When the female is willing, she will crouch down, drop her wings and raise her tail. The male will either climb onto her back or stand next to her with one foot on her back, curve his tail under hers so that their vents are together. They both push out their cloacal area and the male drops his sperm onto the tissue of the female's cloaca. This is referred to as the "cloacal kiss". The sperm travels in to the cloaca and up into "storage tubes" and can be stored for a limited time before being released as the yolk passes by, completing fertilization. Multiple fertile eggs can be produced from only one mating. Most species of parrots lay eggs every 24 – 48 hours until they have laid the complete clutch.

When fertilized, the egg (ovum) becomes a developing embryo. It takes about 24 hours for the embryo to pass through the oviduct. On this journey, over the course of about 3 hours the egg receives a coating of albumen. During another hour shell membranes are deposited. The egg now passes into the uterus where the "calcareous shell" is added and then it passes in to the cloaca for laying.

As the embryo develops inside the egg, the yolk provides nutrition and blood vessels develop and carry the nutrients to the chick. In parrots, incubation is 18 to 29 days depending on the species. When the chick is ready to hatch and it begins to breathe, the lungs start to function, the shunt in the heart that had allowed blood into the lungs, now closes causing the blood to bypass the lungs, and the twitching abdominal muscles draw the yolk sac into the abdomen. As the chick begins breathing the air in the air sac, the neck twitches and the egg tooth penetrates the shell and begins the pipping process. The chick must keep twitching and turning all the way round the eggshell before it can hatch. From the beginning of pipping to the complete hatch can take from 24 to 72 hours.

Not every egg laid from a mated pair of birds will necessary be fertile and not every fertile egg will necessarily hatch. There are so many variables that can affect the outcome and nature is certainly in charge.

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From page 1

Scottish Terriers have been a part of Lisa's life for over twenty years. There is nothing cuter than a Scottie puppy! And their obstinate and independent ways suit Lisa perfectly.

Lisa will speak about the importance of the AFA in the lives of parrot owners, the contributions AFA has made to aviculture, and provide a current legislative update. AFA memberships will be offered at a special discounted price. If you have been waiting for a sale, take advantage of this one-time opportunity!

Lisa is currently the AFA Western Region Director, the Events Manager and the Show Committee Chair for the Rocky Mountain Society of Aviculture, the Recording Secretary for the International Conure Association, and the proprietress of Preening Polly, a mobile avian grooming service.

Zeus is a Sun Conure

Zeus, sex unknown. Zeus is a feisty little guy and will nip at you but can be very affectionate as well. He loves seed mix, fruit, and vegetables. He does need a lot of fruit and Pretty Bird pellets is one of his staples. Vet results pending.

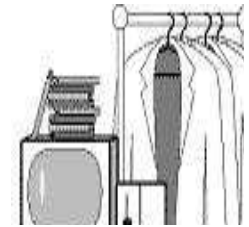
Adoption fee: pending

**WAES Rummage Sale**

WAES is sponsoring another YARD SALE in conjunction with Madeleine Franco. The sale will be Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 6 & 7, 9am - 3pm at Madeleine's home, 1846 S. 1200 East in Salt Lake City.

Please feel free to bring any items you wish to contribute to Madeleine's home. Also come to shop. We will have furniture, draperies, linens, house wares, lots of sporting equipment (hiking, hunting, scuba, rock climbing, etc.), backpacks, electronic equipment, automotive, clothing, and many wonderful treasures. Madeleine can be reached at:

MadFranco@aol.com or 801-463-0300.



Our WAES rescue group was fortunate that we took part in 2 successful parrot rescue incidents during the last month.

We received a report that there was an African Grey sitting on a woman in Cottonwood heights deck. Chase went out to try capturing the Grey but he eluded capture and fled to a tree. We located a KSL advertisement for a lost African Grey in that area. We succeeded in contacting the owners who went to the location and the Grey flew down to them.

We also got a call on a found Macaw in Rose Park. Dennis and Audrey went out to get the parrot. This Military Macaw was extremely exhausted and hungry. He took some parrot mix and this Macaw stuck his head in the bowl and kept eating. We again found a advertisement for a lost Military Macaw in the vicinity of Rose Park. We contacted the people who came out to see and fetch the Macaw. They and the parrot were very happy to be reunited. This parrot kept his head in the food bowl for almost 2 hours eating resting and having a few sips of water. This parrot was lost for 5 days and clearly did not have much to eat and was pretty much giving up with a hawk staking him when he was found.

We were very happy to be involved in what turned out to be stories with happy endings. When parrots do get lost it is often hard to find them and to get them back home safely. Advertising and getting the word out about lost or found parrots and contacting a rescue group that can help coordinating effort to get these parrots back home helps to resolve these situations.

As most parronts know parrots are very ingenious and good at getting out. Some can figure out any lock and when the opportunity presents itself, they will go exploring but will not know how to get home. Making sure cages are secure and parrots are clipped helps to prevent this type of situation that often does not end happily. Please try to keep parrots safe and protect them against their own curiosity and their adventurousness.

Susan Kelley
WAES
Rescue Director

President – *Shawna Augustine*
 Vice President – *Clark Caras*
 Secretary – *Gayle Chellis*
 Treasurer – *Audrey Hollaar*
 Fundraiser – *Danielle & Robert Blanch*
 Public Relations – *Peggie Tackett*

2008 Officers

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

For contact info. Please visit web site address below

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 Utah State Coordinator: Audrey Hollaar, a.hollaar@utah.edu 801-363-8086.
 Western Region Director: Lisa McManus, conurecare@comcast.net 720-936-4016.

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

Putting out a newsletter is quite a job as anyone who has done it knows. Thank God for the PC. Also, I'd like to thank Audrey Hollaar for her work to make this a much better newsletter.

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/>

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