



**ASA**

A JOURNAL FOR BIRD BREEDING, CONSERVATION,  
RESTORATION AND EDUCATION

November/December 2018



# NEXT ISSUE

**ACTIONS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE**  
**Association for the Conservation of**  
**Threatened Parrots e.V.**

The purposes of the Society are the study of foreign and native birds to promote their conservation and protection; the dissemination of information on the care, breeding, and feeding of birds in captivity; the education of Society members and the public through publications, meetings, and available media; and the promotion and support of programs and institutions devoted to conservation. Front Cover: Blue mutation Red-sided Eclectus (*Eclectus roratus*) Photo Tony Silva. Inside Cover: Spix's Macaw (*Cyanopsitta spixii*) Photo ACTP © 2012-2019 Avicultural Society of America. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced without express written permission by ASA.

Volume 86, Number 6

November/December 2018

# CONTENTS

## FEATURED.....

- 4 PREPARING FOR BREEDING SEASON  
*Tony Silva*
- 18 High Aflatoxin Levels In Wild Bird Feed
- 21 The Humane Inane (sic) Economy  
*Protect the Harvest*
- 28 An Interview with Laurella Desborough  
*Tony Silva*
- 32 Defining a healthy Lory  
*Jordan Daniels*



## FAVORITES.....

- 26 Steve's Photo Pick
- 44 2018 Indices
- 45 Who's Your Daddy?
- 48 Who's Your Daddy? Answer
- 49 Events



## WHO WE ARE.....

- 3 Officers & Staff
- 50 ASA Affiliations
- 50 New Members
- 51 HONOR ROLL
- 51 SUSTAINING Members



November/December 2018

*President's Message*



Greetings, fellow Aviculturists:

This issue is chock full of a variety of useful articles for your reading pleasure.

I must take this opportunity to thank Tony Silva for his continuing support in providing insightful and informative content for this digital publication.

Tony interviews Eclectus maven, Laurella Desborough. Laurella has been an avicultural leader of the highest caliber and has created a non-profit, Eclectus ARC, dedicated to preserving viable gene pools of subspecies of Eclectus and other parrot species. Here's a link to the facebook page: [CLICK HERE](#)

Tony spoke at the 2018 ASA education conference and did not disappoint attendees expecting the latest in avian husbandry and legislative information.

Tony will be our keynote speaker and will conduct an incubation workshop at the 14th annual Avicultural Society of America Education Conference in Miami, Florida. There is more information in this issue but, I will tell you the turnout is expected to be very high. I will provide more 2019 conference information in future issues and hope to see you there!

Yours truly,

Carol Stanley  
President, YOUR Avicultural Society of America

## Officers & Staff

President  
 Carol Stanley 925-698-0191  
 Vice-President  
 Sally Huntington  
 Secretary  
 Kimberly Robertson kroberson@safariwest.com  
 Treasurer  
 Steve Duncan 909-599-7577

### Board of Directors

Sarah Brabbs sbrabbs@gmail.com  
 Roger Bringas rogerbringas@gmail.com  
 Roland Cristo rcristo@sbcglobal.net  
 Sheri Hanna turacoldy@aol.com  
 805-208-1759  
 Susie Kasielke skasielke@aol.com  
 Rick Rosenthal rickatbnb@aol.com  
 Dick Schroeder 760 743.3156  
 dick.schroeder.911@gmail.com  
 Jack Wikoff 909-428-5756

### Aviculture Apprentice Program

Kimberly Robertson kroberson@safariwest.com  
 Director  
 Carol Stanley 925-698-0191  
 Board Advisor  
 Genny Wall 949-859-0861

### Web Master

Steve Duncan 909-599-7577  
 www.asabirds.org

### Legislative Liaison Officer

Laurella Desborough 904-291-9043

### Membership Committee

Sarah Brabbs  
 Steve Duncan 909-599-7577

### Conference Coordinators

Steve Duncan 909-599-7577  
 Carol Stanley 925-698-0191

### Editorial Panel

Susie Christian winged1s@aol.com  
 805-772-2038

Steve Duncan 909-599-7577  
 Sheri Hanna 805-208-1759

Carol Stanley, Art Director 925-698-0191

Lisa Woodworthempleaviaries@gmail.com

### AFA Delegates

Steve Duncan 909-599-7577  
 Carol Stanley 925-698-0191

### Lifetime Honorary Members

Frank Miser Dick Schroeder Steve Duncan

### Conference Raffle Coordinators

Richard Dickinson 623-544-6973  
 408-313-4986  
 rgdickinson@yahoo.com  
 maryd4\_8@msn.com  
 Mary Rose

Avicultural Bulletin [USPS 925-380] ISSN 0567-2856 is published bi-monthly by the Avicultural Society of America, Inc., P. O. Box 3161, San Dimas, CA 91773. Postage paid at Arcadia, California and additional office, Alhambra, California.

The Society year begins the month following receipt of payment for membership: 1 yr. \$25.00, foreign countries, please add \$8.00 to cover postage. Remit in U.S. funds.

The editor reserves the right to edit or reject all material. The material is the opinion of the authors and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or endorsement of the Society, the Avicultural Bulletin, or its editors. Reproduction in whole or part without permission is prohibited.

Disclaimer: The Avicultural Society of America, Inc., the Avicultural Bulletin and its editor assume no responsibility for omission of ads, article material, or advertisers' claims or the quality of their products.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Avicultural Bulletin c/o Steve Duncan, Membership Director P. O. Box 3161, San Dimas, CA 91773.

## ASA Yahoo Email Group

Did you know ASA has an email group? It's easy to join. Email: asabirds-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and you will start getting messages.

## Like Us on Facebook

ASA has several pages on facebook. "Like" them all!

- Avicultural Society of America: <https://www.facebook.com/asabirds>
- ASA Conference: <https://www.facebook.com/ASA-Aviculture-Conference-324481397748582/timeline/>
- ASA Bulletin: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/asabulletin/>



YELLOW-FACED PARROTS FROM AFRICA (POICEPHALUS FLAVIFRONS) PHOTO TONY SILVA

# Preparing for the breeding season

*Tony Silva*



Almost every breeder retains part of his or her production each year. These young, on maturity, will form the next generation of breeders. When and how these birds should be treated and then paired is an often-asked question. Because each parrot group has its own idiosyncrasies (maturity age, breeding requirements, dietary changes to induce breeding, etc) it is not possible to over generalize beyond a certain point, but it is important to know the best husbandry method to insure that those youngsters develop physically and psychologically to the point that they can reproduce. Without

this preparation, imprinting, the perception that the bird is a feathered human, depression, plucking or mutilation, mate aggression and even mate killing can all become a problem. These problems can be experienced with parent-reared young but are most common in improperly socialized hand-reared young. But when these hand-reared birds are reared in groups and properly socialized, they display the same qualities as parent-reared young and can become equally as successful future breeders.

Most parrots produce multiple chicks in a clutch. The exceptions







are single egg layers, which include Palm, Red-tailed Black and Glossy Black Cockatoos.

Both of these species require significant energy resources from the parrots to find food and thus multiple young would be difficult to rear.

The vast majority of parrots produce two or more young per clutch. Multiple chicks increase the chances of a successful outcome. These chicks normally segue into flocks on fledging. These flocks include their parents and most commonly others of their kind. The flocks normally travel in pursuit of available food supplies, often migrating through a large part of the specie's range. In these travel sorties, they learn to identify foods, evade predators, find the best roosting locations and comprehend flock cohesion.

While this didactical experience is underway, the birds come in contact with unrelated individuals. It is in these sorties that pairs form. In species like the Yellow-winged Amazon *Amazona aestiva xanthopteryx*, which are easily identifiable by the color of their head and wings (which normally varies from individual to individual), this contact results in young showing strong attachments to each other, as I found during fieldwork conducted in the mid 1980s. These pairs, if they survived to maturity, become the next generation of breeders.

In hand-reared birds, how chicks are treated after they wean is important. If they are hand-reared, they must segue from their human parent to becoming a bird. This is achieved by keeping chicks in same species or at the least similar species groups, which should be continuously exposed to enrichment, which brings the group together and allows interaction. Ideally the young should remain in a group until they reach maturity. Filling a flight cage with fresh branches, palm fronds, some of the natural foods that they normally consume and moving them as a group around a collection replicate many of the natural behaviors. In my collection, we place the young in flights as soon as they are weaned.

To these flights we add branches and enrichment. As the young age, they are moved around; the cages are literally lifted and relocated. This action serves two purposes: it allows me to emulate nature, where the chicks move from area to area in the pursuit of food and in the process come in contact with other species (young are always kept within blocks of aviaries containing breeding adults) and it permits the birds to become familiar with the grounds. This has proved to be very important when a bird escapes.

Pyrrhura conures and Amazon parrots treated to this experience almost always returned. Those that were weaned and placed in a cage that was permanent tended not to

GREEN-CHEEKED CONURE (PYRRHURA MOLINAE) PHOTO STEVE DUNCAN



DOUBLE YELLOW-HEADED AMAZON (AMAZONA ORATRIX) PHOTO STEVE DUNCAN



GOLDEN PARAKEET OR GOLDEN CONURE,[2] (GUARUBA GUAROUBA)  
PHOTO CAROL STANLEY



GOLDEN PARAKEET OR GOLDEN CONURE,[2] (GUARUBA GUAROUBA) PHOTO CAROL STANLEY

SUN CONURE OR PARAKEET (*ARATINGA SOLSTITIALIS*) PHOTO STEVE DUNCAN



CONGO AFRICAN GREY PARROT (*PSITTACUS ERITHACUS*), PHOTO CAROL STANLEY











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

return. They did not understand the topography of the farm.

The same process can be used with parent-reared young. We tend to leave these chicks with their parents for a few months but then remove and place them in a flock. The flocks can then interact and play as they would in nature. This action also allows the young to develop individual personalities outside the shadow of the parents.


While in groups, we observe behavior closely. Invariably one bird will become the dominant individual in the flock. Its boldness will be evident by it being the first to feed, the first to approach the enrichment and the one that has the best perching site. It will also call if a raptor or other potential menace flies overhead. This same behavior is seen in the wild. This individual will teach the others how to behave. In aviaries Golden Conures *Guaruba guarouba* tend to ignore toys and enrichment. The chicks seem to focus their attention on a sibling, whose tail and flight feathers they chew. In an attempt to stop this, I started adding an adult Sun Conure *Aratinga solstitialis* to the group of Golden Conures. The Sun Conure immediately took the lead and the Golden Conure flock members emulated its behavior. This is how I enticed the Golden Conures to destroy the enrichment and not their feathers.

In groups, pairs will become evident. They will feed together, tend to play together and roost

together. As they age, these birds will become the first breeding pairs. I find that chicks that select their future partners are the most successful breeders, displaying the best parenting skills and the highest fertility.

Retaining young that have been produced in the collection is in my opinion the best option to form new pairs. This is because these birds will adapt to your local climatic conditions, your husbandry protocol, and your aviaries. They will, over time, display less mortality and morbidity than pairs acquired from outside sources.

Understanding how to treat future breeders is key to breeding future generations of those species (i.e. white cockatoos, African parrots, etc) whose current avicultural stock consists of wild imports. Without this effort the level of species loss will be significant and future generations of aviculturists will have a poor selection of available species.

For more information, please refer to my book. It is available from [www.psittaculture.eu](http://www.psittaculture.eu). If you reside in the USA, you can also contact me for information on the book. 



BLUE MUTATION RED-SIDED ECLECTUS (*ECLECTUS RORATUS*) PHOTO TONY SILVA.

## High Aflatoxin Levels In Wild Bird Feed

*Wild birdseed contained higher levels of aflatoxins and other mycotoxins than any other kind of pet food analyzed in studies done around the world, a new review of those studies reports in an article scheduled for the Dec. 27 issue of ACS' Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.*

Trevor K. Smith and colleagues at the University of Guelph in Ontario point out that mycotoxins are harmful compounds produced by fungi that can grow in cereal grains and nuts used in many pet foods. The compounds are carcinogenic and have other ill effects when consumed at sufficient doses.

The U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and its counterpart in Canada have a legal limit of 20 micrograms per kilogram for aflatoxin in pet food.

"Wild bird feed was found to be the most contaminated among different types of pet foods in several surveys, possibly due to the use of corn, nuts, and seeds as significant ingredients," the researchers said. "Up to one-fourth of the wild bird feed samples were contaminated with more than 100 micrograms of aflatoxin. This presents a potential health threat to the birds."

Among commercial dog and cat foods, the percentage of samples positive for aflatoxin varied from study to study, the researchers found. However, even the positive samples generally had levels of aflatoxin below the FDA limit.

Story Source:

Materials provided by American Chemical Society. Note: Content may be edited for style and length.

American Chemical Society.  
"High Aflatoxin Levels In Wild Bird Feed." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 2 January 2007.  
[www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2007/01/070101113159.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2007/01/070101113159.htm)



## WHEN YOUR CAT BRINGS HOME A BIRD

1. Realize that birds suffering is your fault for allowing a non-native, domestic pet to roam free as if it belongs in the wild.
2. Realize contact with a cat is deadly because cats carry toxic bacteria in their claws and saliva that kills small animals in ~24 hours.
3. Find a rehabber willing to take the bird & treat it with antibiotics for 7 to 10 days.
4. Donate money to help cover the cost of antibiotics, other meds, syringes & food.
5. Reconsider your decision to let your pet roam free.
6. Build or buy a catio so that your cat can still enjoy time outdoors, in a way that keeps both wildlife & your cat safe.

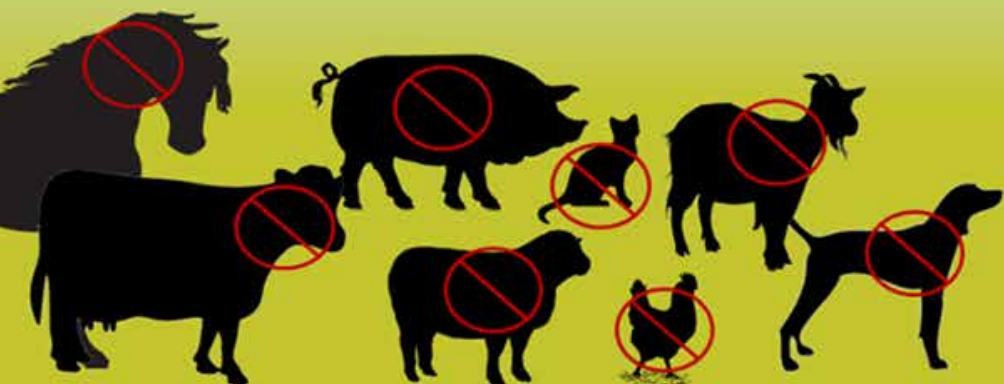




# INANE ECONOMY

ANIMAL RIGHTS EXTREMISM 6.0

How a President/CEO of an Extremist Animal Rights Group  
Plans to Brainwash America



## The Humane Inane (sic) Economy

A Manifesto by Wayne Pacelle, past CEO and President of the Humane Society of the United States who recently resigned under the shadow of harassment.

The HSUS's past CEO and President, Wayne Pacelle, has recently released a new book. While we are against his dogma, we are hoping this book is a big wake up call to Americans. It clearly outlines Pacelle's plan to brainwash people and change everything most of us hold dear, including ruining our economy and way of life.

In the past, The Animal Rights Industry has bombarded people with emotional messaging. They have been working to eliminate animals from our lifestyle in every aspect, from what we eat, to owning animals such as horses, livestock and even companion animals. Now, with the publication of this book, it is clear that the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and its allies are refocusing on a new plan. This plan is centered on convincing society that a vegan lifestyle is best for animals and best from an economic aspect for humans.

He is proposing a society that treats animals like humans, not for a society where humans treat animals humanely. Pacelle claims his "Humane Economy", would allow us to remove our need for animals altogether and instead create new ways for our society to live. In the way he envisions and by his rules.

The radical Animal Rights basic premise is this, "If you use animals, you are guilty of animal cruelty. If we don't use animals, we will be better off as a society." According to Mr. Pacelle, it is only through his so-called "enlightened consumer" (a person that eliminates the use of animals), animals are truly cared for and nourished. This is ridiculous. For thousands and thousands of years mankind has utilized and bred domestic animals; to feed us, for products and for companionship. Because of this, they rely on us for their very survival.

A major question about veganism is its viability on a large scale. Pacelle's, manifesto is completely ignoring the impact veganism has on human health. It also disregards studies that show how wide-spread veganism would damage the economy. Jayson Lusk and Bailey Norwood are researchers who studied the potential impact of vegetarianism on the economy; their study showed that many vegan/vegetarian foods are less efficient to produce than meat. A diet rich in meat is much more efficient for acquiring protein and the other essential vitamins and minerals humans need to survive. They note that, "Livestock can be produced on otherwise relatively unproductive land, whereas fruits and vegetables, along with being

inherently more expensive, require high-quality, productive land; land which, in the U.S. anyway, is relatively rare.”

This inane model would have disastrous effects. The types of changes “The Humane Economy” is advocating would cause a major shift in food production that would be impossible for farmers to adapt to. There is no doubt the immense costs of a dramatic switch would be passed on to consumers. It will severely burden the very people the HSUS is trying to convince a “Humane Economy” would benefit. It would have an even more dramatic impact on low income families who are having a hard time feeding themselves as it is.

If Pacelle’s plan becomes a reality, all Americans would struggle and domestic animals would cease

to exist. That doesn’t seem very humane to us.

<http://www.protecttheharvest.com/>

Our Mission: Inform. Protect. Respond.

- INFORM and EDUCATE Americans about the activities of animal rights groups, anti-agriculture groups and other non-governmental organizations that threaten agriculture, animal welfare, our traditions, and way of life.
- PROTECT our freedoms and way of life by supporting agriculture, land use, hunting and fishing, animal ownership, and animal welfare.
- RESPOND to laws, regulations, or misinformation that would negatively impact animal welfare, animal ownership, restrict our rights, and limit our freedoms.







Wisdom, world's oldest known wild bird, is a mother again at 68

<https://news.mongabay.com/2019/02/wisdom-worlds-oldest-known-wild-bird-is-a-mother-again-at-68/?fbclid=IwAR3JKwPIYha7CYPS1hdQReBOzC5QGQCyTEAvSDi8C7zxCdTXXZMIWxaiDs>



**HOMES**  
for Animal  
Heroes

A National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA) Initiative

<http://www.homesforanimalheroes.org/>

Homes for Animal Heroes is the first and largest nationwide network for rehoming research dogs that supports biomedical progress and all of the heroes who make it possible. It's time for transparency and time for us to share our love for animals and people...with the world. Thank you for supporting our vision of truth!



-DIY TUTORIAL-  
*Bird Bath*



Do it yourself birdbath

[https://www.homestoriesatoz.com/outdoor/diy-bird-bath.html?fbclid=IwAR1dUqFEed-8C6ASDWhJWxv69kugDBeEPed7AVQf\\_M0ZfdZnMEOjGVXZBT48](https://www.homestoriesatoz.com/outdoor/diy-bird-bath.html?fbclid=IwAR1dUqFEed-8C6ASDWhJWxv69kugDBeEPed7AVQf_M0ZfdZnMEOjGVXZBT48)



Every Year, This Penguin Swims 5,000 Miles To Visit The Man Who Saved Him  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=614849128975216>

## How long can pet birds live?

[https://www.petplace.com/article/birds/general/the-life-span-of-some-common-pet-birds/?fbclid=IwAR2BbO\\_44K-40i4gQQ5R5c1Xf2361xHczKkZw0UI33dWuJpV5CUwrT1-eQQ](https://www.petplace.com/article/birds/general/the-life-span-of-some-common-pet-birds/?fbclid=IwAR2BbO_44K-40i4gQQ5R5c1Xf2361xHczKkZw0UI33dWuJpV5CUwrT1-eQQ)



### 52-million-bird fossil found with feathers still attached

[https://www.foxnews.com/science/52-million-bird-fossil-found-with-feathers-still-attached?fbclid=IwAR39o559cry3vFWxhCOgOWjBYbRmrcbtFbNstLP0A\\_BR0QAO8gFQsDtHoZc](https://www.foxnews.com/science/52-million-bird-fossil-found-with-feathers-still-attached?fbclid=IwAR39o559cry3vFWxhCOgOWjBYbRmrcbtFbNstLP0A_BR0QAO8gFQsDtHoZc)

### *Steve's Photo Pick*

Vulturine Guinea Fowl (*Acryllium vulturinum*), are native to the dry savannah scrubland of east Africa where they often congregate in flocks of two dozen or more outside of the breeding season. During breeding season, they are more disbursed and often seen only as pairs or trios with a single male that can become quite territorial. Males are slightly larger and tend to stand more upright than females, but the sexes are otherwise the same in appearance. The diet is mainly seeds, roots, berries, and other plant matter, but they will also take insects and other small prey. They spend most of their time on the ground including nesting on the ground with clutches of eggs numbering from 12 to 20. They do roost up high in trees so high perches are necessary in an aviary as well.





# An Interview with Laurella Desborough

*Tony Silva*

In my pursuit to have highly respected aviculturists share their experience, I formulated a series of questions for them to answer. The question and answer follows. This is the first in a series of interviews. The first person interviewed is Eclectus expert Laurella Desborough.

Laurella Desborough January, 2019

## **Describe for me your first encounter with birds?**

As a toddler about 2 to 3 years old, my parents bought a dozen Rhode Island Red chicks and gave me the responsibility of raising them, (with guidance and oversight, naturally). I raised them all. Each year my parents did this until I reached school age. Living on a farm, I was also exposed to the many different wild birds in the Midwest, which I enjoyed observing.

## **Tell me what motivated you to become an aviculturist?**

I have loved birds my entire life. After raising baby chickens, later I kept and raised barn pigeons. By the time I was a teenager, I had fancy pigeons and racing pigeons. In those days pigeons were ordered from another state and sent by train...and arrived at the local train station in a wooden box. My father insisted I had to build my own aviaries. So I learned how to use a

hammer and a saw and nails to do this. After college when I married, I kept a small flock of racing pigeons for years. During the seventies I read about the plight of parrots worldwide and I decided to quit my teaching job and focus on making sure that parrots did not go extinct. So, I helped organize and create a local bird club, Contra Costa Avian Society, and purchased my first parrots...orange wing amazons. The goal was to breed parrots, help inform others about parrots, raise funds for conservation projects, and do whatever else might be needed to save parrots.

## **What do you feel is your greatest avicultural accomplishment?**

The main achievement was to decide very early to focus on one main species, eclectus parrots. This focus involved studying them in depth by keeping, breeding and raising a large number of these birds along with maintaining records on their behavior and development. It also included visiting museum collections in order to recognize specific eclectus subspecies in order to breed pure subspecies. I rather immediately discovered that those who had eclectus parrots did not always know what subspecies they had in their aviaries.

**Who was your mentor and why?**

I have had several mentors. Anna Freidrickson was the one person who shared with me the information she had learned about breeding and raising eclectus parrots at a time when these birds were extremely rare in the US and very little was known about them. Dr. Brian Speer is a good friend who was instrumental in providing information about veterinary medical issues re parrots and who examined hundreds of my eclectus. Dr. Luis Baptista was a good friend who provided access to the California Academy of Science and entre to the New York Museum of Natural History which enabled me to spend days studying a large collection of eclectus parrot specimens collected in the late 1800s and early 1900s from their lands of origin.

**What changes have you witnessed relative to bird keeping? What is good and what is bad?**

In the eighties and early nineties there was a tremendous interest in the keeping and breeding of many different parrot species. There was an interest in learning HOW to incubate eggs, HOW to raise chicks, HOW to manage breeding pairs of different species, and HOW to maintain healthy birds in an excellent aviary situation. A lot of information was desired by many and shared by experienced individuals at national avicultural

conferences and seminars. The agenda and the interest was all focused on very positive goals and shared interests, including on raising funds for conservation projects and research projects on avian health, diseases, and behavior. Bird clubs were created where noted speakers were invited to share information. The general attitude was upbeat.


During the nineties, after the massive propaganda campaign put forward by the animal rights organizations ended up with the passing of the Wild Bird Conservation Act in October 1992, the attitude about exotic birds was mixed, with knowledgeable serious individuals who saw the need for breeding rare and common parrot species, and those who were against the keeping of exotic birds for any reason. By the late nineties there was the recognition that money could be made not only in raising birds but also in “rescuing” birds. This led to the birth of the rescue movement, which included the anti-breeder segment we see in action today, along with many pro-breeder rescue groups.

What is good is that there is a significant number of serious professional aviculturists who love birds and work to propagate them, to inform others about exotic birds, to work on conservation projects, and to work together to fight for the rights of others to keep and breed exotic birds. This is very importat because these people understand that preventing

extinction of species requires using all the tools in the toolbox, which includes protecting habitat, conserving species in the wild and breeding species in aviary facilities. What is bad is that there is a significant number of serious dedicated individuals and organizations that are working to restrict, regulate and eliminate the keeping and breeding of exotic birds. These are the animal rights organisations who believe it is better that birds go extinct than be bred by humans. Their propaganda has been accepted and promoted by many in the rescue movement. These animal rights groups have made legal inroads at the local, state and federal level regarding the keeping, breeding and sale of exotic birds in the USA and in other countries.

### **What advice can you give someone entering aviculture?**

First, I would recommend that a person entering aviculture seek out the professional organizations and join them: American Federation of Aviculture, Avicultural Society of America, Organization of Professional Aviculturists and read their publications and attend their conferences. Second, the new aviculturist most likely has seen some birds which interested them. In order to learn the most about those birds, it would be good for that person to find several individuals who have spent years working successfully with that species and study their methods of

keeping and breeding those birds. Lastly, I believe that the most important tool that this new aviculturist needs to develop as a skill is OBSERVATION of the birds. Observation requires careful attention to small details of the bird's appearance and behavior. It must be noted that making assumptions about the meaning of behavior is not a good idea, especially making assumptions that would be relevant for human or animal behavior, since birds are quite different. Keeping notes can be quite helpful in all of the above activities. 



## Build a better mousetrap

(click on photo)



## Defining a healthy Lory

Jordan Daniels

How can we tell if our lorries are healthy? If they are getting a good amount of nutrition, stimulation and if they are ill? There are several signs to look for in your bird(s) that distinguish a healthy looking, vibrant bird from one that is ill/ malnourished, or vitamin deficient.

Look for birds with orange to deep red colored beaks (doesn't apply to lorries with black beaks). This is the easiest way to tell if a lory is missing something, whether it is diet or illness related. Lorries with pale to almost transparent beaks, that should be orange/red, are questionable. This is called "light beak syndrome".

Here is an excerpt from The Hancock House Encyclopedia of Lorries and Lorikeets by Rosemary Lowe:

*"A red lory which had been fed mainly on apple sauce was described by Casmier (1989). This unfortunate bird had five owners in the two years after she sold it as a pet. His feather condition was appalling. He had no tail feathers, his wing feathers were frayed and badly clipped, he was bare of feathers around his cere, eyes and his thighs and legs were bare. His beak was pale yellow blending into white on the tip. She bought the bird back and fed him only Nekton-Lori. In less than four weeks he began to grow feathers and his beak started to turn orange."*

*Look for birds with orange to deep red colored beaks (doesn't apply to lorries with black beaks). This is the easiest way to tell if a lory is missing something.*

Lories often suffer from diseased livers. It is important to identify the underlying issue, and treat appropriately. Ingestion of toxins, infection, or a bad diet over a long period of time are most likely the causes. Iron content in Lory Food


should be no higher than 70ppm. I've seen brands with over 100ppm, which is way too high. Lories cannot store iron and this severely affects their liver and kidneys. Other causes can include cancers and metabolic diseases (diabetes, visceral gout, and fatty liver disease).

Feather condition is another important detail. Dull and discolored feathered lories, as well as plucking can be signs. Some breeding pairs will pluck their mates and even their own chicks. I have a pair of green nape lories, where the hen plucks the male around the neck and head. She does this when nesting in order to line the nest box. His feather color and beak color remain vibrant. A lory plucking out of nowhere is either stressed or irritated. Plucking around the crop area and constant scratching can be signs of a fungal infection. As an example, a friend had a lory that was in perfect feather, then started plucking his feathers out from irritation around the neck and crop. The bird became inactive, and lethargic. He then later ended up perishing, as it was too late. No necropsy was done, but after speaking with a few that have experienced this before, they say it was most likely a fungal infection. It is wise to keep a "first aid kit" of meds, or "war chest" as Chris Touchton (largest lory breeder in the US) calls it, on hand.

The liquid nectar and even dry powder food need to be changed twice daily or serve only what the

birds will consume in a few hours. This is because lories are highly sensitive birds, and are easily susceptible to bacterial and fungal infections. Sanitation is just as important when keeping lories. I use stainless steel bowls because they're easy to clean, they are safely run through the dishwasher on high heat daily, and ready to use the next day. Cages should simply be washed down with soap and water, or diluted bleach with water. Rinsing/scrubbing thoroughly can prevent infection.

Lories are very active and hyper birds, so some sort of stimulation is recommended. Natural, non toxic branches and leaves such as eucalyptus and bottlebrush are great stimulants, depending on where you live and what is readily available. As far as toys, I cannot emphasize enough to only use BIRD SAFE toys. I've heard of too many stories about birds getting tangled in rope toys and even consuming the fibers. Natural is the best way, if possible. Following these easy tips can ensure that your lory will have a healthy, long lived, and happy life ahead.

Below are photos of birds with abnormalities. A few are mine that I managed to turn around. They are compared to the "before" photos, and are examples of what would be considered a healthy lory. The melanistic Stella (male) is not mine, but from another person who purchased the bird that way, and didn't know the cause. 



**Before (three months ago)**

**Bleached out color on feet**



Today (feet have darkened to their natural coloring)

**Red/coral color**



Dull

**A changed diet  
brought normal beak  
color back**

**After**





**Dull beak and feather color**

**This bird was on  
nothing but a pellet  
diet**



Normal  
beak color



Vibrant  
feathers



**Normal**





Avicultural Society  
14th Annual Education Conference

Hosted by  
October 30 to November 1, 2014

Conference: Marriott  
Guest Rooms: Conrad

Hotel link: <https://t.me/ASABirds>

More information:  
<http://asabirds.org/conference/>



**Keynote Speaker**  
**Tony Silva**

Society of America  
Education Conference

Zoo Miami

November 2, 2019

Marriott Hotel, Miami, FL  
Courtyard by Marriot

[nyurl.com/ASAHotel](http://www.nyurl.com/ASAHotel)

**January/February 2018**

- 4 MALEO *Husbandry And Conservation At The WCS - Part I of III*
- 26 Searching for Scarlet Macaws (Guacamayas Rojas) in Chiapas and Belize *Joseph C. Witt*
- 18 Steve's Photo Pick
- 31 Who's Your Daddy?
- 34 Who's Your Daddy? *Answer*
- 35 Events
- 3 Officers & Staff
- 36 ASA Affiliations
- 36 New Members
- 37 HONOR ROLL
- 37 SUSTAINING Members

**March/April 2018**

- 4 MALEO *Husbandry And Conservation At The WCS - Part II of III*
- 18 Steve's Photo Pick
- 31 Who's Your Daddy?
- 34 Who's Your Daddy? *Answer*
- 35 Events
- 3 Officers & Staff
- 36 ASA Affiliations
- 36 New Members
- 37 HONOR ROLL
- 37 SUSTAINING Members

**May/June 2018**

- 4 MALEO *Husbandry And Conservation At The WCS - Part III of III*
- 26 Steve's Photo Pick
- 39 Who's Your Daddy?
- 42 Who's Your Daddy? *Answer*
- 43 Events
- 3 Officers & Staff
- 44 ASA Affiliations
- 44 New Members
- 45 HONOR ROLL
- 45 SUSTAINING Members

**July/August 2018**

- 4 BREEDING SOFTBILLED SONGBIRDS *Roland and Ilana Cristo*
- 34 Steve's Photo Pick
- 59 Who's Your Daddy?

- 62 Who's Your Daddy? *Answer*
- 63 Events
- 3 Officers & Staff
- 64 ASA Affiliations
- 64 New Members
- 65 HONOR ROLL
- 65 SUSTAINING Members

**September/October 2018**

- 4 PHOTOGRAPHER IN OUR MIDST *Photography of Dot Rambin*
- 52 Temperature tolerance in parrots: highs and lows *Tony Silva*
- 4 Steve's Photo Pick
- 56 Book Review - Psitticulture
- 61 Who's Your Daddy?
- 64 Who's Your Daddy? *Answer*
- 65 Events
- 3 Officers & Staff
- 66 ASA Affiliations
- 66 New Members
- 67 HONOR ROLL
- 67 SUSTAINING Members

**November/December 2018**

- 4 PREPARING FOR BREEDING SEASON *Tony Silva*
- 18 High Aflatoxin Levels In Wild Bird Feed
- 21 The Humane Inane (sic) Economy Protect the Harvest
- 28 An Interview with Laurella Desborough *Tony Silva*
- 32 Defining a healthy Lory *Jordan Daniels*
- 26 Steve's Photo Pick
- 45 Who's Your Daddy?
- 48 Who's Your Daddy? *Answer*
- 49 Events
- 3 Officers & Staff
- 50 ASA Affiliations
- 50 New Members
- 51 HONOR ROLL
- 51 SUSTAINING Members
- 66 New Members
- 67 HONOR ROLL
- 67 SUSTAINING Members

# Who's Your Daddy?



PHOTO CAROL STANLEY

**Stumped? See answer on page 48**



**HOMES**  
for Animal  
Heroes

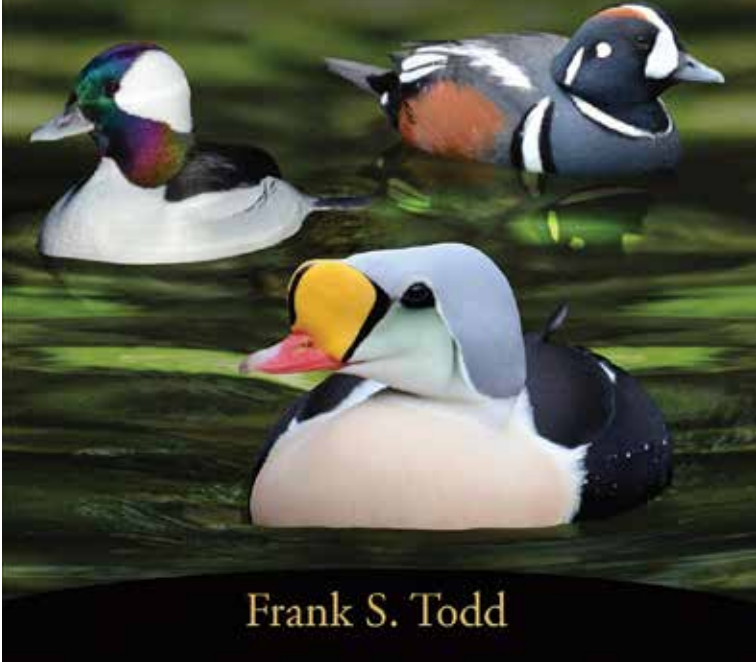
A National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA) Initiative

**<http://www.homesforanimalheroes.org/>**

Homes for Animal Heroes is the first and largest nationwide network for rehoming research dogs that supports biomedical progress and all of the heroes who make it possible. It's time for transparency and time for us to share our love for animals and people...with the world. Thank you for supporting our vision of truth!

# NORTH AMERICAN DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS

## IDENTIFICATION GUIDE



Frank S. Todd

In honour of our friend, colleague, and author, Frank Todd, Hancock House is pleased to commit a percentage of all revenues of books sold through our website to the Frank Todd Memorial Foundation to continue to promote the work Frank spent much of his life striving towards- wildlife conservation and education.

Link: <https://www.hancockhouse.com/collections/ducks-waterfowl/products/north-american-ducks-geese-swans>

## PLEASE DONATE NOW

Help us keep Frank S. Todd's memory alive by continuing the tradition he started with the first Avicultural Society of America Educational Conference. Frank developed the conference and, for many years, arranged for speakers from around the world to attend and make presentations.

Your donation will allow ASA to continue the tradition and help with travel expenses for our conference speakers. <http://asabirds.org/frank-s-todd-memorial-fund/>





Organization  
of  
Professional  
Aviculturists

***Fighting for your right to  
keep birds!***

**Join or donate**

OPA  
PO Box 673  
Lakeland FL 33802

OR

paypal  
opabirds@gate.net

Video: <https://youtu.be/ppHhY3-YVcM>



WHITE CRESTED LAUGHING THRUSH PHOTO CAROL STANLEY

## Who's Your Daddy?

From page 46, Answer: *White-crested laughingthrush (Garrulax leucolophus)*

White-crested laughingthrush (*Garrulax leucolophus*) is a member of the family Leiothrichidae. It is a highly social and vocal bird found in forest and scrub from the Himalayan foothills to Southeast Asia.

Its scientific name *Garrulax leucolophus* comes from Latin *garrire* "to chatter", in reference to its very vocal nature, and from Greek *leukós* "white" and *lophos* "crest".

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Having personally kept this species, I can attest to what delightful birds they are in the aviary. CS 

# EVENTS

## 2019 EVENTS

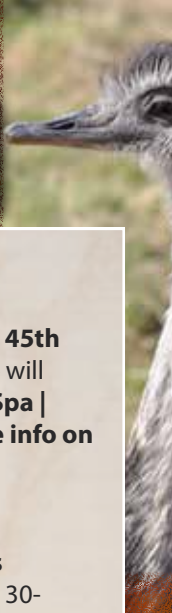


**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF AVICULTURE - AFA's 45th Annual Educational Conference and Avian Expo** will be held **August 8th – August 10th B Resort and Spa | 1905 Hotel Plaza Blvd. | Orlando, FL 32830** More info on [www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org)



**AVICULTURAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA - ASA's 14th Annual Education Conference** October 30- November 2, 2019. Hosted by Zoo Miami. Conference activities: Marriot Hotel Miami. Guest room are at the Courtyard by Marriot in Miami. Watch for more details online at [www.asabirds.org](http://www.asabirds.org)

Let us know of your avicultural event to be posted on our Events page at:  
[info@asabirds.org](mailto:info@asabirds.org)



## ASA MEMBER CLUBS

Central California Avian Society  
PO Box 5067, Fresno, CA 93755  
www.ccasbirds.com

Long Beach Bird Breeders  
6444 Spring St # 132  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
longbeachbirdbreeders@gmail.com

Contra Costa Avian Society  
P.O. Box 23115 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
www.contracostaaviansociety.org

Orange County Bird Breeders  
www.ocbirdbreeders.org

Acadiana Bird Club  
480 Almonaster Dr Youngsville, LA 70592  
acadianabirdinc@hotmail.com

Fort Worth Bird Club  
P.O. Box 1712 Keller, TX 76244  
fwbc@fortworthbirdclub.com

Arizona Seedcracker Society Inc  
P.O. Box 26899 Mesa, AZ 85214

Finch Society of San Diego County  
4256 10 Ave San Diego, CA 92103  
www.finchsocietyofsandiego.com

## The Foreign Bird League

The Premier Foreign Bird Keeping Society in the UK  
Founded 1932

Overseas membership for 2012 £1800 (to be paid in sterling)

Please visit our website to download a membership form and check on the latest membership fees.

www.foreignbirdleague.com

## ASA Affiliations

The Avicultural Society of America is proudly affiliated with:

American Dove Association  
American Federation of Aviculture  
LoryLeague.org  
National Animal Interest Alliance  
National Finch and Softbill Society  
Zoological Association of America

## New Members

Nancy Forrester  
Key West FL

Chester Moore  
Orange TX

John Gregory  
Alexandria, VA

Denise DeGood  
Amana, IL

Feray J Baskin  
Bloomington IN

Lori Gaskin  
Goleta CA

Denise Knight-Trevor  
Brentwood, CA

Karen Kurd  
Dubuque, IA

Margaret Yorio  
Poway CA

Christopher Marley  
Salem OR

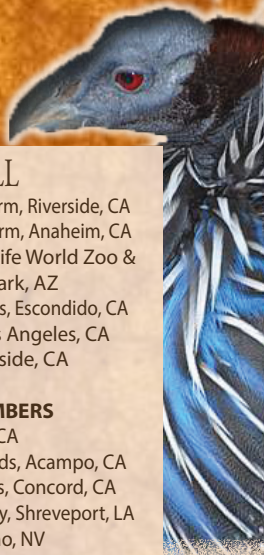
Jan Faresielli  
Escalon, CA

Wendy Hanson  
Hudson, WI

Paul Lepiane  
Ojai CA

Beau ParksValley  
Center, CA

Adam Whisenant  
Atlanta, GA



## AVICULTURAL SOCIETY of AMERICA HONOR ROLL

### PATRON

- Diane Bock**, Pacific Palisades, CA  
**Pamela Bompart**, Jefferson City, MT  
**Roger Bringas**, Mutations Unlimited,  
 N. Hollywood, CA  
**Mike Chiaromonte**, Consolidated Seed & Pet  
 Inc., Buena Park, CA  
**Bill Coleman**, Carpenteria, CA  
**Jennifer & Alex Culp**, Huntington Beach, CA  
**Caroll Daunis**, Fallbrook, CA  
**Sheldon L. Dingle**, editor, author, Alhambra, CA  
**Steve Duncan**, Avian Resources, San Dimas, CA  
**M. Jean Hessler**, graphic artist, Huron, OH  
**Clint & Marcelle Hufford**, Fountain Valley, CA  
**Jerry Jennings**, Emerald Forest Bird Gardens,  
 Fallbrook, CA  
**Dave & Tammy Kramer**, DJ Feathers Aviary, Fairfax, VA  
**Mitsuo Kuribara**, Sayama City, Japan  
**Ivo Lazzeroni**, West Covina, CA  
**Bruce Leach**, Leach Grain & Milling Co., Downey, CA  
**Wendy Maclean Soderman**, Huntington Beach, CA  
**Sigie Meyer**, El Monte, CA

- Frank Miser, Jr.**, Magnolia Bird Farm, Riverside, CA  
**Frank Miser, Sr.**, Magnolia Bird Farm, Anaheim, CA  
**Connie & Mickey Ollson**, Wildlife World Zoo &  
 Aquarium, Litchfield Park, AZ  
**Dick Schroeder**, Avian Enterprises, Escondido, CA  
**Wm. N Smith**, C.T.C., Inc., Los Angeles, CA  
**Helen Teunissen**, Riverside, CA

### CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

- Lori Ables**, Trona, CA  
**Eric Antheunisse**, Cedar Hill Birds, Acampo, CA  
**Laurie Baker**, Feathered Follies, Concord, CA  
**Sarah Brabbs**, West Branch Aviary, Shreveport, LA  
**Earlene Douglas**, Reno, NV  
**Scott Karlene**, Bloomfield, MI  
**Phyllis Levine**, Seal Beach, CA  
**Julie Murad**, Elizabeth, CO  
**Mary Nogare**, Snoqualmie, WA  
**Michele Raffin**, Los Altos, CA  
**Natasha Schischakin**, Houston, TX

## ASA SUSTAINING Members

- Joe Carvahlo**, Shingle Springs, CA  
**Terry Clare**, Vista, CA  
**John Del Rio**, Del Rio Aviaries,  
 Idaho  
**Madge Decker**, Long Beach, CA  
**Richard Dickinson**, Sun City, AZ  
**Bob Ervin**, Alta Loma, CA  
**Lauri Grigg**, Houston, TX  
**Gene Hall**, San Diego, CA  
**Sherilyn Hanna**, Exotic Endeavors,  
 Moorpark, CA  
**Richard Heebner**, Worcester, PA  
**Sally Huntington**, San Diego, CA  
**Tiffany Latino**, Roseville, CA

- Linda & Bill Nichelmann**, Citrus Heights, CA  
**Wade Plouvier**, Jacksonville, NC  
**Arnold & Debbie Schouten**, Port Angeles, WA  
**Carol Stanley**, Rancho Cordova, CA

# Magnolia Bird Farm

OWNER  
FRANK MISER



8990 Cerritos Ave.  
Anaheim, CA  
714-527-3387

(closed for vacation first two  
weeks of July)

**We Buy Birds**  
**We Ship Birds**

COMPLETE BIRD  
SUPPLIES

Open 9 to 5 Daily  
Closed Sunday,  
Monday, and  
holidays

TWO  
LOCATIONS!

12200 Magnolia Ave.  
Riverside, CA  
951-278-0878  
(closed for vacation first  
two weeks of August)

