

PROGRAM SCHEDULE & INFORMATION



AVICULTURAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA & ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL AVICULTURISTS 20TH ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

MARGARITAVILLE CASINO & RESORT
OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1, 2025

featuring

**PINOLA CONSERVANCY AVIARY
TOUR 2025 SHREVEPORT, LA**



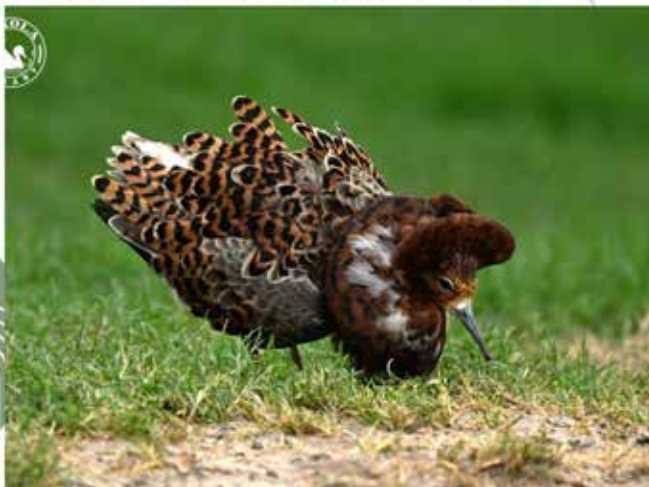
AVICULTURAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA & ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL AVICULTURISTS

P R O G R A M

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – Paradise Theater		
6 p.m.	Registration/Setup & informal get together	Informal get together in Hotel Paradise Theater
Thursday, October 30, 2025 – Paradise Theater		
8:45 a.m.	Welcome	President Steve Duncan
9:00 a.m.	Taylor Hains	Buffon's Macaw
10:00 a.m.	Levi Fuentes	The "Blue Crowned Motmot" Debacle
11:00 a.m.	Dr. Susan Clubb	Psittacine microbiome project & Avian Influenza
12-2:00 p.m.	Lunch	
2:00 p.m.	Jessica Cockrell Pinola Conservancy	Kiwi Case Files: Novel Veterinary Cases in Captive Kiwi Care
3:00 p.m.	Jacob Kraemer Pinola Conservancy	Artificial Incubation of Steller's Eider Eggs at Pinola Conservancy
4:00 p.m.	James Pfarr	Ex-situ Conservation & Private Aviculture
Friday, October 31, 2025 – Paradise Theater		
11:00 a.m.	Zoo Day - Car pool to Pinola Conservancy	Coordinate your ride/drive in the Conference room Be sure to fill out your box lunch order.
12:00 p.m.	Paul Dickson Lunch at Pinola Conservancy	Captive Propagation of the World's Most Complex Bird
Saturday, November 1, 2025 – Paradise Theater		
9 a.m.	Keriellen Lohrman Bird Gardens of Naples	Don't Panic. Evacuation policies and procedures



Enjoy our live stream cameras:
<https://www.pinola.org/live-streams/>



YOU CAN EXTEND YOUR AVIARY
VISIT BY WATCHING PINOLA'S
LIVESTREAMS.



All photos © 2025 Pinola Conservancy Aviary

SPEAKERS

Dr. Susan Clubb

Dr Susan Clubb is Owner/Operator of Rainforest Clinic for Birds and Exotics, Fat Bunny LLC, and Hurricane Aviaries in Loxahatchee, Florida.

She earned a BS in Zoology, and DVM at Auburn University.

Employment includes Pet Farm Inc, an importation company, Parrot Jungle and Gardens Miami, Avicultural Breeding and Research Center, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, bird care instructor. She has worked in avian medicine in over 21 countries.



Consulting veterinarian, Loro Parque 1994-2004, and Loro Parque Foundation advisor 1996 to 2012.

Founding member of the Association of Avian Veterinarians and the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners avian specialty certification, and was adjunct faculty at University of Miami, and University of Florida.

She worked with the World Wildlife Fund to study the US bird trade leading to passage of the Wild Bird Conservation Act of 1992.

Dr Clubb is author or co-author of over 140 scientific papers and book chapters as well as many lay publications, and a frequent conference presenter.

Employed as Avian veterinarian (And primates, Anteaters etc) at Vantara Animal Kingdom, Jamnagar, India – Oct 2023 to July 2025 (Off and on)

Now – Semi retired, practicing 3 days a week, still running Rainforest Clinic, Hurricane Aviaries and Fat Bunny- (Selling birds to Petco)- And doing research.

Jessica Cockrell, RVT

Jessica Cockrell has been with Pinola Conservancy for 11 years. Here, she supports the health and welfare of a diverse avian population. While a majority of her time is focused on the medical management of northern latitude waterfowl and shorebirds in a southern climate, her favorite birds of all are the North Island Brown Kiwi. Jessica and the Pinola veterinary team successfully performed two novel medical procedures on two of our kiwi, Rongo and Rangatira, with Rongo's case being published in the Journal of Avian Medicine and Surgery. She is delighted to share her experience prior to, during, and after these successful case studies.



Paul Dickson

Paul Dickson is the former President and Chairman of Shreveport, Louisiana-based Morris & Dickson Company, the nation's fourth largest distributor of pharmaceuticals. Paul has advocated for wetlands conservation over the past 40 years. Now retired from business, conservation is his career of choice. His public conservation work includes efforts through Congress that have created two National Wildlife Refuges in Louisiana, enhancement of Duck Stamp funding for wetlands conservation nationwide and numerous other wildlife habitat enhancements. A lifelong amateur ornithologist, Paul founded the Shreveport Bird Study Group, served on the Louisiana Bird Records Committee, and is an Associate with the LSU Museum of Natural Science. He directs the Pinola Conservancy which includes the Pinola Aviary housing one of the largest captive collections of wetland birds in the world, and supports wildlife research and conservation. Pinola's private wildlife conservation work includes management of 6000 acres of wetland, forest and grasslands where it has banded over 30,000 ducks and hundreds of hummingbirds. Through Pinola, Paul actively engages with and supports several university wildlife research programs and provides wetland education by hosting students, interns and conservation groups. Paul is active with Ducks Unlimited serving on the board of the Wetlands America Trust, as a member of the DU Public Policy Committee, and has been named an Honorary DU Trustee and Conservation Pioneer. He and his wife Beverly have been married for forty years raising four sons. They now enjoy playing with their 11 grandchildren who think its normal for grandparents to have an aviary in their backyard.



Steve Duncan

Steve is a life-long aviculturist, businessman, and nature photographer. His avicultural experience spans over 50 years. He established his commercial bird farm, Avian Resources in 1988. The assortment of birds currently includes turacos, hornbills, doves, kookaburras, pheasants, cranes and a large variety of parrots, many with color mutations. Steve earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona including an internship at the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Steve is an adjunct professor at Mount San Antonio College teaching Aviculture, Pet Shop Management, Reptile Management and Aquarium and Pond Management.



Steve is currently:

President, Avicultural Society of America (ASA)

President, Organization of Professional Aviculturists (OPA)

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Levi Fuentes

Levi Fuentes developed a passion for birds at the age of two. He officially entered the avicultural world at 12, focusing initially on parrots, particularly large macaws. Over time, his interest has broadened to include bird species native to tropical Mexico, Central, and South America.

The 2019 ASA conference further fueled his fascination, leading him to explore all bird species in human care across the United States. Levi keeps a personal record of birds observed in zoos and maintains a detailed list of parrot conservation statuses and population trends. Since 2020, he has also pursued wildlife photography, capturing both wild birds and those in captivity.

Levi regularly contributes articles he has written to the Avicultural Society of America e-Bulletin.



American Federation of
Aviculture St. Louis, MO
8/5/2026 - 8/8/2026

Theme for the 2026
AFA Conference will be
Aviculture Shines Bright.
The Bird will be Sun
Conure.

Hope to see you all in St.
Louis Missouri.
afabirds.tv

Jacob Kraemer

Jacob Kraemer is Director of the Pinola Conservancy Aviary. Jacob has served in this position since 2009 overseeing substantial growth and success of the aviary and accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. He has over 38 years of aviculture experience, with a primary focus and passion for waterfowl successfully overseeing the captive breeding of 130 species of waterfowl and over 300 species of birds. He has achieved breeding successes with many rarely kept birds, breaking propagation barriers and establishing protocols for others to follow. Under his direction, Pinola Conservancy Aviary provides public and private waterfowl collections with valuable species for display and breeding, maintaining genetically diverse, sustainable captive populations. Jacob oversees the day-to-day operations of Pinola Conservancy, managing the husbandry and breeding program, staff, permits, and bird distribution logistics. He serves the aviculture community in the US, Europe and Singapore with bird transfers and association participation. He lectures frequently at meetings, hosts seminars, serves the Waterfowl and Shorebird Taxon Advisory Group steering committees of AZA, is a board member of the International Wild Waterfowl Association and a past board member of the American Pheasant and Waterfowl Society. Jacob and his wife, Emily, have a 12-year old daughter, named Lilyana, who is turning into quite the aviculturist herself!



Taylor Hains

Born and raised in Southern California, Taylor has a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Biology from Columbia University with a thesis on hybridization of scarlet macaw (*Ara macao*) subspecies in a captive population in Costa Rica. He worked at the American Museum of Natural History for this project.

He completed a Master of Science in Environmental Science & Policy at Johns Hopkins University in 2021, with a thesis on genomic management of Blue-headed macaws (*Primolius couloni*). He is now pursuing his doctoral degree at the University of Chicago and the Field Museum studying chromosome evolution and conservation genomics in parrots.



Loro Parque

Teneriffe Spain

September 14-17, 2026



Keriellen Lohrman

President, Bird Gardens of Naples

The Bird Gardens of Naples is a non-profit organization primarily focused on education, the welfare of captive birds, and the conservation of wild species. We consider ourselves to be an avian resource center; providing public education, adoption placement, veterinary recommendations, and sharing our husbandry/conservation experience with inquiring bird owners since 2011.



Birds are wonderful beings with lifespans of up to 100 years, complex emotional needs, and remarkable intelligence. Our public education efforts seek to provide a glimpse into the remarkable lives and personalities of our feathered friends.



James Pfarr

Aviculture in its many forms has been a prominent passion within my life. I have been breeding and actively engaged in aviculture for over 45 years. As such, having benefited with growing up in the Golden era of bird keeping and the product of an avicultural family, this directly shaping my life and future.

My grandfather was a geneticist, APA, NPA judge, along with being an author, so from the earliest of times, as one could expect, evaluation and critiquing has been front and center for my avicultural endeavors. This was further extrapolated, along with my intrigue for museum research and attention to detail by Joann Watson, my godmother, head taxidermist for the San Bernardino County Museum. As my world expanded, two other global icons worked endlessly to smooth my edges, Warren Myers and Charles Sivelle. Warren was one of my grandfather's closest friends, while Charley gave me my first subscription to the APWS.



As an author, having a predisposed dedication for conservation, with emphasis on natural and historical taxon representation, provided a platform of change with how published research works and guides related to phenotype identification are being produced. This has been a driving force for my ambitions, simultaneously dictating my breeding Ideology, philosophy, methodology for ex-situ conservation.

Under the sculpting of the above, being the “bricks and mortar” for the vision I have dreamed of, ARICC has formed. Avian Research Institute Conservation Center is the largest private Galliforme, Columbiforme, genomic retention and breeding center in the USA.



TJ Pluid

T.J. Pluid is a dedicated aviculturist with extensive experience in both zoological and private facility settings, as well as serving on the Board of Directors for the Aviculture Society of America and the American Pheasant and Waterfowl Society. His career includes being a primary bird keeper at the Reid Park Zoo in Arizona, and AZA accredited institution, where he played a key role in bird care and management. Raised in North Idaho, T.J. was deeply involved in private aviculture, specializing in pheasants, quail, grouse and waterfowl. Currently at the Florida Avian Conservancy working with rare species including Ocellated Turkeys, Pygmy Geese, Turacos, tropical pigeons and doves, and South American Passerines.



*Click below to go to
Florida Avian Conservancy*



LA PET FAN

**BIRD SUPER
SHOW**

**Get Ready to Fly
High with the Bird
Super Show!**

Chris Touchton

My name is Chris Touchton. I've been breeding parrots since 1989. After several years of having many parrot parents destroy their eggs or chicks I bought an incubator in 1992. I figured at least I wasn't trying to kill them like the parents were.

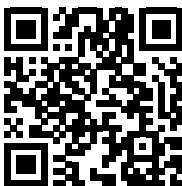
I have successfully incubated, hatched and hand-raised many parrots in a wide variety of parrot species.



This presentation is based on 32 Years of information gathering/ researching and good old daily trial and error on this subject.

This presentation is on how to incubate, day one handfeeding (on up) and more importantly trouble shooting the problems that plague us on this subject.

People all the time are contacting me to trouble shoot what's going wrong with their incubation or handfeeding chicks. I've solved many problems over the phone from their description and from photos. This power point is a compilation of trial and error with not only my experience but experience with others and cherished guidance of my Avian Veterinarians.



Visit [Eclectus Ark's Etsy](#) page and see all the bird treats and food they offer. Your bird will thank you!



John York

John York has been watching birds since he was conscious. Starting with a couple budgies at the age of six, he has raised pheasants, doves, finches and even softbills until 2019. Since the turn of the century (a phrase chosen to make him feel old), he has enjoyed traveling to different parts of the world to look at birds. Watching birds in their often precarious environments has given John a unique perspective on aviculture and its intersection with birds that are not in aviaries.



EV Voltura, PhD.

Dr. EV Voltura has had a keen interest in birds, especially parrots, since she was about 10 years old and has pursued the study of them for most of her life. EV graduated from Texas A&M University (TAMU) with a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences (Veterinary Pathobiology Department) in 2022. Her doctoral work focused on the health and conservation of parrots with a strong focus on nutrition and the dietary habits of both wild and captive parrots. EV is currently working as an NIH IRACDA Postdoctoral Researcher at the Schubot Center for Avian Health at TAMU. In this position, she leads new studies related to parrot health and nutrition. She and her partner are the guardians of 9 parrots (3 macaws - Casey, Cosmo, Sofia, 4 black headed caiques - Addie, Louli, Petri, Mango, a black lory - Laila, and a black capped lory - Jett Jett), 2 cats, 2 horses, and a tripod Irish Wolfhound.



Parrot Festival

<https://www.parrotfestival.org/>
January 23 - 25, 2026
Houston Double Tree Hotel



Bringing the Experts to You

Have an event you would like us to cover?



ExoticAnimalFoundation.org

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS



Margaritaville Resort Casino (Conference hotel)
777 Margaritaville Way Bossier City, LA 71111



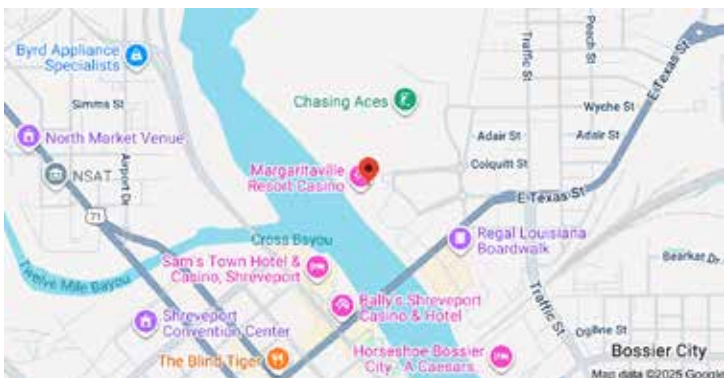
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Dive into the wonders of the aquatic world at the heart of Downtown Shreveport – the Shreveport Aquarium.



This mesmerizing attraction is home to nearly 1,000 animals representing 300 species. Encounter sharks, seahorses, turtles and more up close. Don't miss the chance to hand-feed stingrays and interact with moon jellies, sea stars and anemones. The Shreveport Aquarium offers both.

STARBUCKS inside Kroger at
2830 E. Texas St., Bossier City, LA 71111 Head south on S. Airline Dr. from E. Texas St. Turn right onto E. Texas St. The Starbucks is on your left in the Kroger parking lot.



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