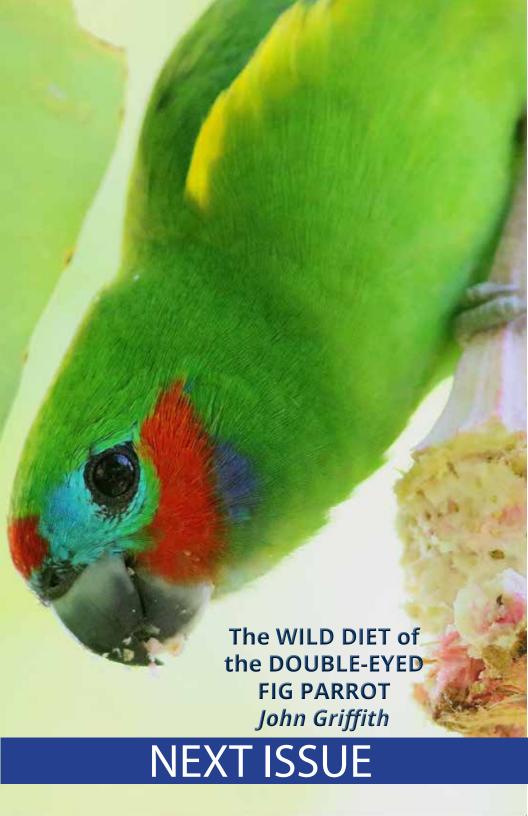


ASA

A JOURNAL FOR BIRD BREEDING, CONSERVATION,
RESTORATION AND EDUCATION July, August, September 2024

Anti-Inflamatory Fruit Laurella Desborough





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 vosmaeri eclectus (Eclectus roratus vosmaeri) Photo: Kirtis McClesky Inside cover: Double eyed fig parrot (Cyclopsitta diophthalma) Photo: John Griffith © 2012-2024 Avicultural Society of America. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced without express written permission by ASA. The Avicultural Society of America e-Bulletin is published quarterly online on our website, asabirds.tv

Volume 92, Number 4

Oct/Nov/Dec 2024

CONTENTS

FEATURED.....

- 4 ANTI INFLAMMATORY FRUITS for Humans and Parrots Laurella Desborough
- The Eclectus Parrots Of Port Douglas
 A Feral Breeding Population

 John Griffith
- 14 A Guide to Incubation and Hand Rearing Lory Chicks Chris Touchton
- 23 2024 Indices
- 24 BLUE MUTATIONS Vs HYBRID CROSSES Linda Rubin
- 29 TAKING YOUR BIRD TO YOURVETERINARIANEclectus Ark/Laurella Desborough





FAVORITES.....

- 49 Birds in Shoes
- Who's Your Daddy?
- 53 Who's Your Daddy? Answer
- 55 Events

WHO WE ARE.....

- 3 Officers & Staff
- 54 ASA Members & Affiliations





President's Message Quarter 4, 2024

As we approach the end of 2024, it's a good time to reflect on the past year and acknowledge the future challenges for the world of aviculture. This year has been challenging for many in the bird community as the post-COVID market has remained difficult while prices of feed and supplies skyrocket. However, aviculture has always been about more than the economics of the bird trade. We are involved in aviculture because we care about birds, bird conservation, breeding innovations, and the continued fostering of a community that values both the passion for birds and the preservation of their natural habitats.

Aviculture is primarily about the joy of raising and caring for birds but also about safeguarding species for future generations. On the other hand, our role as aviculturists has never been more complex and more difficult with many threats from Animal Rights groups, adverse legislation, and misguided public perception of animal-keeping. Whether it's the breeding of birds for the pet trade, breeding rare species in preservation programs privately or at a zoo, participating in conservation efforts, or educating others about the responsibility of keeping birds as pets, we hold a critical place in the public's ability to experience and care about birds in our homes and in the wild.

The avicultural community's collective ability to advocate for ourselves and raise awareness and understanding about the ethical and legal aspects of bird keeping has never been more important. As we see increasing pressures on wild populations and face the challenges of hostile legislation and difficult economic pressures, we must continue to push for responsible aviculture that prioritizes ethical standards for our birds and for other aviculturists.

In the coming year, let's commit to deepening our knowledge, supporting one another, and maintaining the high standards of aviculture that should make our community strong. Whether through attending more conferences, volunteering in local or national bird organizations, or simply sharing our experiences with others, each small step helps to create a better future for the birds we cherish.

Wishing everyone a prosperous and fulfilling year ahead.

ASA President, Steve Duncan





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ANTI INFLAMMATORY FRUITS for Humans and Parrots

Laurella Desborough

While all fruits tend to be rich in disease-protective nutrients, some have received particular attention in the nutrition world for their anti-inflammatory benefits.

Berries. From strawberries and blackberries to cranberries and blueberries, these gemlike fruits are particularly potent in antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activity. Along with fiber and vitamin C, berries possess plant pigment phytochemicals, such as anthocyanins and ellagic acid, which may be behind their health benefits. Studies have linked increased berry consumption with lower risks of heart disease, Alzheimer's disease, and diabetes.

Apples. Maybe it's true what they say about an apple a day. A study of nearly 35,000 women, found that consumption of this fruit—along



with its relative, pears—was linked with a lower risk of death from heart disease. The star components of apples—fiber, vitamin C, pectin, and polyphenols—have been associated, primarily in animal studies, with anti-inflammatory effects and an increase in beneficial microbes in the gut.

Stone fruits. Cherries, peaches, apricots, and plums are all examples of stone fruits. These fruits contain fiber, vitamin C, potassium, and a variety of phytochemicals associated with their colors. For example, cherries have garnered the lion's share of the research among stone fruits. Some studies suggest that cherries can reduce pain and soreness after exercise as well as a reduced risk of gout attacks. The high levels of phenolic compounds in cherries, which have been linked to reduced inflammation, may be behind those benefits.

associated with heart-protective effects.

ial

Pomegranates. Those tiny pomegranate seeds contain big rewards of vitamins C and K, potassium, fiber, and potent phytochemicals such as anthocyanin and resveratrol. These nutrients may be behind

pomegranates.

Grapes. These succulent fruits are bursting with fiber, vitamins C and K, and powerful phytochemicals.

the potential benefits of eating

anti-inflammatory phytochemicals

Though there is little human

research on citrus, the nutrients

found in citrus fruits have been

such as flavonoids and carotenoids.

Citrus. Oranges, grapefruit, lemons, and limes are famously rich in vitamin C. They also contain fiber, potassium, calcium, B vitamins, copper, and





The ECLECTUS PARROTS of PORT DOUGLAS A FERAL BREEDING POPULATION John Griffith

How often have you heard the quote "they will never survive" or "a hawk will get them"? This is the story of how aviary escapees became a feral breeding population of Eclectus Parrots at a tourist haven in North Queensland.





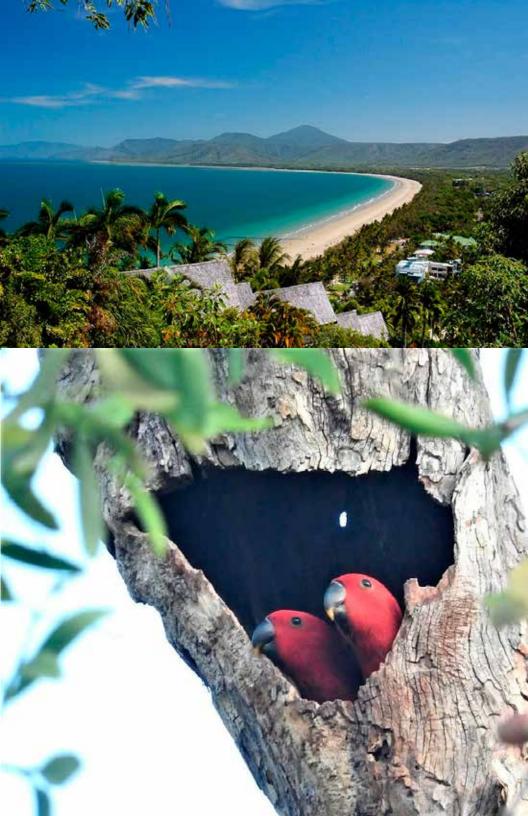
The Wildlife Habitat

Situated at Port Douglas, North Queensland, the award winning Wildlife Habitat claim to be a leader in eco-tourism and conservation. This immersion wildlife exhibit has five distinct habitats. Woodlands, Wetlands, Rainforest, Savannah and Nocturnal, which are set over 8 acres of land to provide an interactive, and educational native wildlife experience.

The Wildlife Habitat at Port Douglas have maintained a successful breeding flock of Eclectus Parrots since the 1990's. This was part of their mixed and varied collection of birds and animals. During Cyclone Yasi a large hole was torn in the shade cloth structure that housed these parrots.

Contaminating our wild population

There are nine recognised subspecies of Eclectus Parrot which include the nominate race Eclectus roratus roratus. The feral population around Port Douglas appear to be descended from the New Guinea subspecies E.r.polychloros. The Australian subspecies, E.r.macgillivrayi occur 800 km north on Cape York Peninsula along the coastal strip between the Pascoe River in the north and Rocky River to the south.









Eclectus Parrots rely on a variety of fruit to survive. These are produced by the different rainforest trees, shrubs and vines. The coastal delta known as the Laura Basin is the natural barrier that separates the northern rainforest species of Cape York Peninsula from those found in the Wet Tropics area that extends from Cooktown south to Paluma.

The Laura Basin is a flood plain consisting of eucalyptus woodlands and expanses of treeless grassy flats that extend for around 200 km. To date the northern species

have never crossed this natural barrier and vice-versa.

References; Bureau of Meteorology. Parrots of the World by Forshaw & Cooper. Trip Advisor.

About the author

Who Am I? My name is John Griffith and I have been interested in birds (particularly Parrots and Finches) all of my life. I started keeping birds as a lad in the late 1960's.

During the late 1980's I realized



that Aviculture was losing subspecies of our Australian Parrots so in 1990 I started to specialize in keeping and breeding the subspecies of parrots unique to Far North Oueensland where I live.

I am a carpenter by trade and worked for most of my life on remote communities throughout Cape York Peninsula, the Torres Strait Islands and Western Queensland.

In 2012 I met Fulbright Scholar, Christina Zdenek who was doing her honors degree at the time on Palm Cockatoos at Iron Range. That started a working relationship (as a volunteer) with her and other PHD students from the Australian National University that were also studding Palm Cockatoos on Cape York Peninsula. For the last four years I have worked as a volunteer with the RARES unit (under the guidance of Dr Steve Murphy) at the University of Queensland helping with rot recovery and research on Australia's rarest raptor, the Red Goshawk.

These days I run a small tour business that specializes in Cape York Peninsula and across the Top End of Australia.

I should add that for the last 25 years I have been interested in what birds (in particular parrots) feed on in the wild and how this can relate back to how we care for our captive birds.



A Guide to Incubation and Hand Rearing Lory Chicks

Chris Touchton All photos copyright Chris Touchton

I have been day oneing Lories (and occasionally other parrot species) since 1990. I incubator hatch about 98% of my babies at this point. When you day one it is best to have the formula a little thinner when feeding just hatched chicks, this is only for the first couple of days. When I say thinner I just mean runny, I dont mean transparent. I fill the crop as full as it will get and try to add a little more.

When parents feed they stuff the chicks so full, sometimes I dont see how they are sitting up right. I use Zupreem Embrace Plus handfeeding only (no nectar added). I feel that it is a more refined (therefore more easily digested by the Lories weak gizzard). I do not mix nectar in until I am weaning a Lory. They need protein



Grumbach incubator



Stella lorikeets (Charmosyna papou stellae) chicks

and some fat when they are developing/growing. They do not need carbohydrates (energy) until they are weaning.

I also feel that because candidae is a yeast and yeast feeds on sugar there is no good reason to add nectar until weaning when the babies then need energy food. I start handfeeding around 7-8 am. The ones that are days old should be getting food every two to three hours. The last feeding of the evening is 10pm. My theory is the parents upon waking up in the am and leaving the nest have to forage for food then get back and feed chicks.

They can not forage for food before dark or after dark. Most pairs retire for the evening about 15 to 30 minutes before dark (yes there are some that dilly dally up until dark). So I see



A bunch of Lory chicks. These birds are put together just for a short time because of cleaning their bins.

absolutely no reason to feed through out the night. The best case scenario is dark around 8:30 to 8:45pm (summer only of course) crops empty within hours. No more intake until next am. If a chick cannot make it through the whole night with out

eating I do not think it should be saved. There is something wrong with it. Say you are able to raise it up (by feeding around the clock) to what end?? A substandard chick that will expire prematurely a little down the line from some problem?



Red and Blue Lories, (Eos histrio) CITES I species which is very rare both in captivity and in the wild

I incubate in a Grumbach incubator, then when I see them up in the aircell I move them to the brooder. I keep the day old chicks in a Havabator forced air incubator (the 1583 model with the large window) I keep that incubator (as a hatcher/brooder) at 37,2 – 37,8 °C. I want the chicks body to be concentrating on growing not trying to keep warm. Parents bodies are I think over 39°C? They are in this unit until they are approximately 5 to 7 days old.

Keep the brooder with high humidity – simple as a cup of water placed inside. Their skin will peel if the humidity is too low. Then they are moved into the AVEY brooder. This unit has two shelves the top shelf is 36,7°C and the bottom shelf is 35,6 – 36,1°C. The door is left a little ajar on this unit for more

air movement which helps with their growth. Keep the humidity up at this stage too.

At 12 to 14 days old I move them out into bins (new bins for every group) that are now housed "open air" on heating pads set on low (no two hour auto shut off heating pads!!!) The ambient air temp is anywhere from 25 – 28 °C in this room. The chicks coat of down comes in much faster after being exposed (no they are not shivering) to the open air.



Dusky Lories (Pseudeos fuscata)



Blue-eared Lories (Eos semilarvata), also very rare species kept in the author's facility



I use O-Ring Syringes with center or side tips (luer slip) (dont get the screw tips (luer lock) they are not precise enough unless you are attaching a tip) they have a much more smooth fluid disbursement. The one time use syringes (monoject types the ones with the black rubber plungers) are lubed with oil. They are meant for one time. Some people use them until they cant move. I find two things wrong with this first they are lubed with oil.

Where is that oil going? Second you will hit a (dry/tough spot) and the syringe will need extra force to continue the

disbursement. Then all of a sudden it hits a lubed spot and you now get a much larger faster flow going into the chicks mouth/esophagus/trachea potentially aspirating it. Parrots can not cough anything up out of their lungs (hence the reason they aspirate on food or are candidates for aspirgillious). So the odds of getting anything out of their lungs is quite small.

The only way I have been successfully with aspiration was to get the chick up side down asap. I hold it and sling it hoping gravity will help out(do not let go of course). I know this





is going to sound stupid but if they are partially aspirated if you do mouth to beak suction when they are emitting a noise that helps too (suction only on chick's exhale).

I have saved some and have lost some to aspiration over the years (I day one over 200 chicks a year so the odds are that it does happen I hate it.) Feed a just **hatched chick** just after their first defecation (this one is a very dark green) their body will now draw nutrients from the crop digestive system as opposed to the yolk. Sometimes if you feed prior to that dark green defecation the yolk can go rancid with in the body.



If the chick was out in the nestbox and you dont know if this has occurred turn the chick up side down and look at the back end if you dont see a black line it has already occurred (fecal matter in the large intestine). Their skin in the belly/abdomen area is a a bit transparent at this age. To day one a chick hold the chick in your left hand (only if you are right handed of course) on its back (gently securing the head between your thumb and pointer finger) if you have any trouble holding on to the chick, place the chick in a tissue on its back and that will secure it in that position for you while in your hand.

For some reason they prefer to feed on their backs (with me and with the parents) at this age. With the syringe (I use a 1 to 3 cc for day ones then bump up to 5cc on 7 to 16 day olds ending up with 10 cc until weaning) in your right hand come in from the right (chicks left) angling the tip down and to the left. Dispense slowly. If the chick slows down prior to being full or doesnt have a feeding response at the beginning of feeding, squirt out a little of the mix from the syringe into a cup or sink.

That usually gets you down into a little warmer fluid because it looses heat in the tip quite





Red lory (Eos bornea)

guick. Like I said earlier you will feed the formula a little thinner. I mix my cup of food up when feeding as per directions then draw the food into the syringe from the top level of the mixed solution (which tends to be a little thinner). Definitely try and stretch the crop when feeding (by feeding just a little more when you think the bump is just slightly slack) Make the crop tight. By the time I am weaning most of my Lories (rainbow and eos)are 15 to 20 ccs. The larger types are taking 20 to 30 ccs. I find they eat better as adults.

If a chick comes in from the nest cold NEVER feed a chick that is physically cold. Warm the chick up first then feed. Do not use food to "warm it up" ever. You can aspirate a **lethargic** chick. By the time they are about two weeks old they start to prefer feeding while they are sitting in an upright position. Fostering/breeding tidbits on fostering (Lory to Lory) I would try and keep the age of the eggs with each other with in days (two days from the last egg that the incubating/foster hen laid).



Chattering lory (Lorius garrulus) fallow mutation



They will do three eggs within the same age range.

If you try four or more you probably will lose the whole clutch-one egg rolls out and dies she rolls it back in then another rolls out and dies etc. If the ages are too far apart she may think the eggs are no good and cancel the clutch. If the pair is breeding get the eggs out of there. Most of the Lory species are interchangeable. Just be careful if you put a larger specie in with a smaller species (or vise versa) the growth rate will be guite different and the larger specie even though younger may get the bulk of the food and bump the other kid off.

If you have a good pair and they are going to lay but your egg eating pair has laid you can take each egg as it is laid (make sure the egg is not warm from her sitting). After the egg is laid they cool down then the hen sits and the set point is activated and the incubation period has started. If you can get the cooled or just laid egg you can store it for several days in a room temp dark place. Then when the good parents lay you can put the egg under them-as soon as the first egg is laid.

The fostering method usually takes two pairs to incubate one egg trashing pair's eggs, because the foster parents lay two eggs also. It is very funny to see a pair mating and when

other pairs see or hear that they get in the mood. I like to place prolific pairs next to or near others to inspire them. Chronic egg/chick trashing behavior is very hard to correct. Rarely after trashing clutch after clutch after clutch will they will settle down. I just day one everyone to avoid having that problem at all. It's not fair to the chicks. At least I am not trying to kill them.

About the Author

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

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



2024 Indices

2024 Quarter One		2024 Quarter 3	
4	Conspecifics & Interspecifics In a private avicultural setting. T.J. Pluid	4	First Documented F2 Great Blue Turaco T.J. Pluid
21	"The African Queen" Jean Ekhart Pattison - Memories and	12 28	Breeding Softbill Song- birds Roland Cristo An ill bird
	Moments		Tony Silva
44	Guam Rail Association of Avian Veterinarians (AAV)	32	NEW BLOOD NEW BLOOD Garrie P. Landry
		2024 Q	uarter 4
202	4 Quarter Two Greater Vasa Parrots - Life in the Fast Lane	4	Great reed warbler Gubernata cristata) Lou Megens
16	Steve Duncan Breeding with the Tree	16	Jurong Bird Park Farwell Jonathan Beilby
	Pippit Lou Megens	17 18 20	2022 Indices Wayne Andrews Aviaries Crow Box
24	PBFD, Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease Crisis	23	Joshua Klein Annual Parrot Conservation Status Levi Fuentes
0.5	Tony Silva	25	Old Bird Price List Tony Silva
26	Scarlet Tissue Stain Scott Echols, DVM	26	Papillamas in Blue and



BLUE MUTATIONS VS HYBRID CROSSES

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Written Permission Required for Author's Reprint Here we have a Normal Yellow Nape Amazon, Amazona auropalliata (left), compared to the Blue mutation of the Yellow Nape Amazon, again, Amazona auropalliata (right). This color of blue is the first Blue mutation we looked at; it is without any Dark Factors (0 DF), and is the equivalent of the (Sky) Blue Budgie shown three posts down. Because the Blue mutation eliminates the psittafluvin pigments, we only see Blue (Green - Yellow = Blue). Any yellow color on the nape and/or head is eliminated and becomes white.

I will now take this opportunity to clarify the confusion there is between a color mutation, and a HYBRID. A color mutation is only a variation in color, or pattern, within the SAME species. A hybrid is the result of a breeding between two DIFFERENT species.

For example, a Blue Budgie is a color mutation of the Green Budgie, and both birds are the same species - Budgerigars. However, a Yellow Nape Amazon, Amazona auropalliata, bred to a Red-lord Amazon, Amazona autumnalis, produces



Yellow-naped amazon (Amazona auropalliata)

a cross between both types of Amazons that is NEITHER species; instead, it is a combination between the two. The young are neither Amazona auropalliata, but nor are they Amazona autumnalis. It is anyones' guess as to what the young will look like. For example, which parent will they favor? What will their phenotype (physical appearance) look like, and will all siblings from this nest, or future nests, be uniform in appearance? Are there other hidden genes from either species inherited in the genotype (i.e., all genes within an individual)? And, are they even capable of producing offspring themselves? On the other hand, we do not have these problems with color mutations of the same species. The only variation between sibblings might be their color or pattern, or whether they will carry a mutation In hidden form





Blue mutation Yellow-naped amazon (Amazona auropalliata) Photo: Barbara Brady-Smith

as an autosomal recessive? We know all siblings will look like their parents, and reproduce, because they are all the same species.

In my opinion, a hybrid breeding is detrimental to conservation because it robs the population of the opportunity to grow and strengthen its gene pool with more individuals that are 100% the same species.

Breeding Normal colored Yellow Napes, or Blue colored Yellow Napes, add to the gene pool, because both can reproduce Yellow Nape Amazons. Hybrid breedings detract from the gene pool because they cannot replicate either species of the

About the Author

Linda S. Rubin is a writer. editor, speaker, and panel judge with more than 45 years experience breeding, exhibiting and judging parrots. After penning a column for ACBM, Linda began working as a US contributing columnist for Cage & Aviary Birds (UK), freelancing for overseas magazines, BIRD TALK and BIRDS USA, writing as a columnist for BIRD TIMES and BIRD TALK's website BirdChannel.com; working as senior editor at Cockatiel & Parakeet World and as a technical editor for other author's books. She's been a speaker in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Toronto, and other major conferences and national shows around the US. Linda is the author of Ultimate Parrot Guide, and Multiple Bird Households (TFH Publications), and is currently at work on a new edition of Cockatiel Genetics Made Easy! as a companion workbook to a 50,000 word manuscript on the breeding genetics of color mutations in cockatiels. Follow @Linda S Rubin on Facebook for future announcements.



Genus Profile:

Moluccan king-parrot (Alisterus amboinensis ssp.)

Levi Fuentes



Alisterus_amboinensis_-Brevard_Zoo-8b.jpg: Scott Hamlinderivative work: Snowmanradio, CC BY-SA 2.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Another Species Profile requested by Chris Touchton for the Moluccan king-parrot.

Moluccan king-parrot

(Alisterus amboinensis ssp.) The Moluccan king-parrot is a medium-sized (13 to 14 inches long) Old World parrot in the Alisterus genus, which includes the king-parrots. Its closest relatives are the Australian king-parrot (A. scapularis ssp.) and the Papuan king-parrot (A. chloropterus ssp.). Other close relatives include members of the Polytelis genus (such as the superb, regent, and Princess of Wales parrots) and the Aprosmictus genus (including the olive-shouldered and crimson-winged parrots). Below is a list of the six recognized subspecies, their habitats, and distinctive characteristics: Halmahera king-parrot (A.

a. hypophonius): Endemic to Halmahera in the North Moluccas, this subspecies has deep blue wings and lacks pink edging on the tail.

Sula Islands king-parrot (A. a. sulaensis): Native to the Sula Islands (Mangole, Seho, and Taliabu), it displays a variable green band across the mantle and has no pink tail edging. Banggai Island king-parrot (A. a. versicolor): Found on Peleng in the Banggai Islands, this subspecies resembles the nominate but is smaller in size. Buru king-parrot (A. a. buruensis): Endemic to Buru in the South Moluccas, it resembles the Sula Islands subspecies but has a dark grey beak and pink tail edges.

[NOMINATE] Ambon king-parrot (A. a. amboinensis): Found on Ambon, Boano, and Seram in the South Moluccas. Salawati king-parrot (A. a. dorsalis): Native to the West Papuan Islands and northwest New Guinea, similar to the nominate but without pink tail edges. Habitat and Distribution In the wild, Moluccan kingparrots inhabit the canopy and understory of primary and secondary tropical lowland rainforests from 650 to 4,950 feet (200 to 1,510 meters) elevation. They prefer undisturbed primary forest, especially on islands with poorer soil, and are sensitive to habitat disturbance. For example, on Buru, they are found exclusively in primary forests between 3,600 to 4,900 feet (1,100 to 1,500 meters), while on



Halmahera, they occupy forests with poor soil quality.

Aviculture and Care

According to Tony Silva's Psittaculture: A Manual for the Care and Breeding of Parrots, Alisterus parrots should be grouped into two: the Australian A. scapularis and the Indonesian/New Guinean A. chloropterus and A. amboinensis. He notes that "Alisterus amboinensis hens may become aggressive toward males when the young fledge, necessitating separation," and that some A. amboinensis may produce double clutches. In breeding, the Moluccan and Papuan king-parrots generally incubate 3-4 eggs for 21 days. Chicks are born with white down, which is soon replaced by charcoalgrey down. These young birds are active from a young age, moving short distances to feed. Sexual maturity is reached at approximately 30 months, though hens have been known to lay as early as 12 months and males to fertilize eggs as early as 23 months. For best housing, the Alisterus genus thrives in aviaries measuring 6.5 feet high by 10-13 feet long.

Conservation and Status

The Moluccan king-parrot is currently listed as "Least Concern," though populations are decreasing. As a CITES Appendix II species, international trade is permitted with an export permit from the country of origin. The species is rare on Halmahera and limited to primary forest on

Taliabu, with approximately 5,000 individuals on the latter. Although trade pressures are limited due to high post-capture mortality rates, there are concerns over unbalanced trade quotas. Systematic surveys and monitoring are needed throughout the species' range to ensure sustainable management.

I would love to read anyone's experience with this species, be it as an aviary bird or as a pet (though it is a rarity in U.S. aviculture).

About the Author:

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.





Tony Silva As posted on Facebook





Video by Muhammad Ali Walay and taken on Luba Island in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

In 2016, the World Parrot Trust began a push to "save" the African Grey. Their solution was to elevate the species to CITES 1, effectively banning trade, including in captive bred specimens as the breeders would require registration with CITES, a process that is complicated and lengthy. Nothing was done to protect the habitat, stop the harvest of birds for their feathers and dried heads used as fetishes, educate the masses or provide a means of survival for former parrot catchers. The video attached was provided by a friend Muhammad Ali Walay and taken on Luba Island in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The fear mongering that the species was on the brink of extinction is clearly disproven by birds even living near an industrial area. When we support NGO groups, we need to investigate their true objective: is it conservation or making money?



TAKING YOUR BIRD TO YOUR VETERINARIAN

Eclectus Ark Laurella Desborough

Unless you have an emergency situation, call and schedule your bird for the first appointment of the day in order to avoid potential contact with viral diseases from previous vet clients.

- 1. Make sure your avian veterinarian will allow you to be present in the exam room with your bird for all procedures. Note that birds taken into back rooms without owners can die of stress!
- 2. In preparation for the trip to the vet clinic, plan to place your bird in the travel kennel only at the last minute in order to reduce the time spent in the kennel which may cause stress to the bird.
- 3. Please note the band number and name of your bird for the vet records. Take along any important documents, such as weight charts and photos of questionable feces.
- 4. If you have questions, write them down before you go and take along a note pad to write down the answers to your questions and to write down veterinary comments about your bird.
- 5. Once in the exam room, ask your immediate questions BEFORE the vet touches the bird so that the time handling

the bird is not interrupted or extended by your questions.
6. When the vet is examining or handling the bird, do not talk to the vet as that distracts and lengthens the handling time which increases the bird's stress.

- 7. If the vet is doing something that seems extremely contrary to the health of the bird, ask the vet to stop and to explain the procedure. This is YOUR bird. 8. After the exam and procedures are completed, ask any other questions. Request a report of the bird's test results and condition be emailed to you for your files. Do keep these files on your bird. 9. NEVER LET AN AVIAN VET **GIVE AN ECLECTUS PARROT** A VITAMIN SHOT. Eclectus have died from vitamin shots administered by vets. Man made vitamin A is a serious problem for these parrots. 10. Do not have your eclectus parrot's wings clipped UNLESS IT IS CRITICAL for the bird's health. Wing clipping very often leads to feather chewing as the bird attempts to fix the cut feathers.
- 11. If you have a new bird, basic information about the bird's health can be obtained by the CBC blood test and report. This blood test should be done early in the exam process.
- 12. When you have a SICK bird, it is critical that the following tests are done: CBC blood test, swab of throat and a separate swab of the cloaca and cultures





ECLECTUS ADULT MALE TAIL FEATHERS

Eclectus Ark

These feathers are all from the blue eye ring subspecies... aruensis, polycholoros and solomonensis. You can see the great difference in the size of these feathers, with the aruensis being the largest. The arus and the vosmaeri are the largest eclectus AFTER the very largest, the Australian Eclectus roratus macgillivrayi. The Aussie bird is about the same weight as the aruensis...500 and into 600 grams but the aru is a stockier bird and the macs are a longer bird...including a longer tail! Note that the aru tail feathers have a lot of yellow but also can have red, orange or pink in the adult tail feathers. To my knowledge this is the ONLY male eclectus with other

colors in the tail tip besides yellow.

Also note, one of the major problems eclectus breeders have is identifying the male vosmaeri eclectus. Based on the strong yellow and amount of yellow in the tail tip of the large males, some breeders think those birds are vosmaeri!!! BUT the MALE VOSMAERI ECLECTUS HAS THE LEAST AMOUNT OF YELLOW IN THE TAIL TIP...and it is a very light lemon yellow, never rich yellow.

Another means of identifying aruensis males versus vosmaeri males is EYE COLOR. Aruensis males have reddish to orangish eyes, more red if in the sun a lot. Vosmaeri males have amber colored eyes. Amber is almost a straw color, not yellow nor gold.

Right now pure vosmaeri eclectus are rare in the US due to the failure to properly identify males...or cross bred females! So, this information is critical for preserving the pure vosmaeri eclectus.





Good News From San Diego Zoo

Good news takes flight! After over two decades of being extinct in the wild, 5 'alalā raised by San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance have been released on Maui for the first time ever.

Known as the Hawaiian crow, these extraordinary birds are essential to Hawaii's ecosystems, helping to regrow forests and support native wildlife, while also being cherished cultural symbols known as aumākua, or family guardians, in Hawaiian tradition.

This introduction is a hopeful step forward for nature, culture, and community—and shines a light on all that can be achieved through collaborative conservation. Soar into the full story by clicking on photo:





Mike Lubbock was born on January 17, 1944 in Taunton, Somerset, England. Raised on a rural dairy farm, his adventurous spirit and love for nature became evident at an early age. Encouraged by his mother, Mike collected and raised mammals and birds throughout his youth while attending Kestrels School in Exmoor.

After graduating from Pangbourne Nautical College, Mike's career began in 1961 as a volunteer at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust in Slimbridge, England, where his natural aptitude for the care and propagation of waterfowl quickly earned him employment as an aviculturist. Mike would

eventually hold positions as Curator and Director of Aviculture at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. It was here that he also met his wife, Ali, in 1974.

During his early years at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Mike earned extra money as a dancer on the 1960s British television show "Discs-a-Go-Go", where he performed alongside fledgling rock and roll acts like the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, and Tom Jones. While dancing paid the bills, his dedication and talent for bird conservation continued to grow at the Wildfowl Trust. In 1975, Mike was invited to



Buckingham Palace to advise Queen Elizabeth II about her flock of Red-breasted Geese on the palace grounds, and would make regular visits over the next few years as Her Majesty's avicultural advisor.

Mike's determination to save waterfowl led him on a series of global adventures, and he would embark on more than 20 conservation expeditions during his career. In the Hawaiian Islands, he assisted in a program to save the endangered Hawaiian Goose, which would eventually result in the recovery of the species. In Spain, he spearheaded efforts to save the White-headed Duck, restoring the population from a mere 30 individuals to nearly 3,000 birds today. During expeditions to Iceland, Australia, Patagonia, Alaska, and Botswana, he collected eggs that would contribute to breeding programs for several waterfowl species. Mike has provided expertise and support for the conservation of the critically endangered Brazilian Merganser, established North America's captive breeding program for the endangered White-winged Duck, and helped to boost dwindling populations of White-faced Whistling Ducks and Bahama Pintail in Trinidad.

In 1981, Mike, Ali, and their son, Brent, moved from England to the United States and founded Sylvan Heights Waterfowl in the mountain town of Sylva, North Carolina. The family and facility relocated to Scotland Neck, North Carolina in 1989, where it has grown into the world's largest collection of waterfowl species. Throughout his career, Mike has sought to share his knowledge and experience with the next generations of aviculturists and conservationists. Mike and Ali have welcomed hundreds of interns, volunteers, and students from around the world to Sylvan Heights and into their home, where Mike would relate stories around the dinner table of his expeditions, brief dancing career, and visits with Her Majesty the Queen. The opening of Sylvan Heights Bird Park in 2006 was a realization of the Lubbocks' desire to share their extraordinary birds with the rest of the world.

Mike's innovative aviculture techniques and dedication to waterfowl conservation earned him numerous accolades. He achieved 17 world first breedings and 15 North American first breedings, an induction into the International Wild Waterfowl Association Hall of Fame, and received the Jean Delacour Avicultural Award. In 2023, Mike Lubbock and his wife Ali were each recognized by the highest civilian honor given in North Carolina: The Order of the Long Leaf Pine. In April 2024, Mike was awarded the prestigious honor of an



MBE (Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by King Charles III to acknowledge his outstanding services for Global Wildlife Conservation of Water Birds.

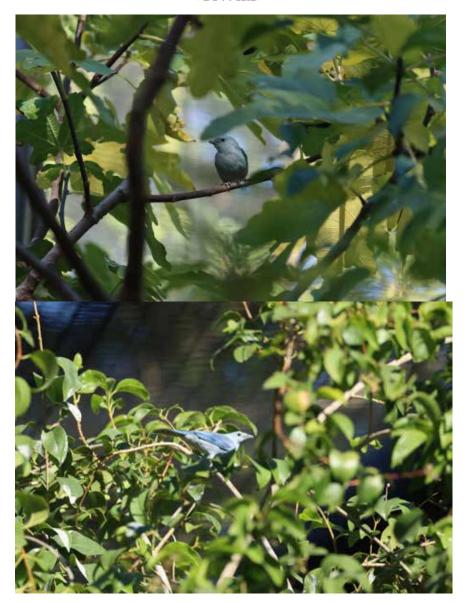
When Mike wasn't breeding birds or traveling the world, he would still likely be found outdoors. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and birder, as well as a single malt Scotch whisky aficionado.

Mike dedicated his life and career to the care and

conservation of the world's birds. He has left a lasting legacy through his tremendous contributions to aviculture, through the many people he mentored, and through Sylvan Heights Bird Park, where his work will continue to inspire future generations of conservationists. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and the many people from around the world with whom he so willingly shared his knowledge and passion for birds.







Reid Park Zoo

The blue-grey tanager's native range extends from Mexico to the Amazon Basin. In Trinidad and Tobago, the bird is known as the blue jean because of their beautiful blue feathers. They are primarily frugivores, feasting on fruits like papaya, but they will also drink nectar and eat insects. Reid Park Zoo will soon have a new breeding pair. The female tanager in the South American Aviary and has already learned to come to bug tosses, which is one of the ways the zoo keepers are able see every bird in the aviary.





Family, friends—and a great many animals—are mourning the passing of Renee Dea Weber (Rischar). She came into the world 18 January 1965 at Antelope Valley Hospital in Lancaster, CA, and left it on 5 October 2024 at Antelope Valley Hospital due to complications from congestive heart failure. She left the world in the same place she entered it, and she left the world a better place than she found it.

She leaves behind a loving family, including a husband, two children, a daughterin-law, two grandchildren, four brothers and sistersin-law, two stepbrothers and a stepsister, three brothers-in-law, a mother and father-in-law, nieces, nephews, a grand aunt, many cousins, grandnieces and grandnephews, and a host of beloved friends she regarded as family. She was preceded in death by her two parents and two stepparents, an older sister, a granddaughter, and a range of cherished pets, most notably dogs Harley and Noodle, and cats 8-Ball, Homey, and KB.

Renee Dea Weber January 18, 1965 — October 5, 2024

Renee loved to travel. In addition to living in California, Hawaii, New York City, and Australia, she traveled extensively around the US, as well as to Japan, France, Spain, Italy, Monaco, Canada, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica, and Columbia.

In addition to building a family business with her husband, Craig, she worked as a docent at the Exotic Feline Conservation Center in Rosamond, CA, caring for endangered cats: tigers, leopards, jaguars, jaguarundis, Pallas's cats, margays, ocelots, caracals, fishing cats, servals, lynx, and many others. Passionate about animals and animal welfare, she was also engaged in animal rescue.

A warm, joyful person who loved music, conversation, family, and friends, Renee was always up for an adventure of one sort or another. Her most distinctive quality was her sense of humor, which was supported her beautiful smile, and a quick and contagious laugh. Renee loved to laugh. A giving person by nature, as an organ donor, Renee continued to give beyond her passing.

Instead of cards or flowers, please consider donating time or money to animal causes, adopting a shelter animal, or providing a little support to someone who has. She'd love that.

A celebration of life will be held at a date to be determined.





In Loving Memory of Carol McGregor Pettis (August 28, 1948 - February 1, 2024)

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted
Matthew 5:4

We celebrate the life of a remarkable soul, Carol McGregor Pettis, who peacefully passed away on February 1, 2024. Carol's life was a tapestry woven with threads of love for family, a passion for plants and animals and a wealth of enduring friendships. Carol was born at the Great Lakes Naval Hospital in Illinois where her father served in the Navy. Her formative years were spent in Berkley a vibrant university town. The McGregor family moved to the top of Grizzly Peak when her father taught Navel Science at UC Berkeley. Her time in Berkley was marked by the enchantment of Tilden Park, its trees, Merry Go Round and ice cream cones, all laid a foundation for Carol's enduring connection to the city she held dear. It was during these years that she developed a fondness for nature, cultivated by her surroundings in Berkelev.

Carol was an excellent student and rose to any academic challenge, as long as it didn't involve a kitchen. She particularly enjoyed writing. She was a gifted writer and regularly made notes on themes and ideas that she would later explore.

As a testament to her academic prowess, Carol pursued her studies at UCLA, graduating with honors and a degree in History. Her insatiable curiosity led her to a career at the state of California's Employment Development Department, where she dedicated herself to helping others expand their employment opportunities.

serendipity smiled upon Carol as she crossed paths with her future husband, Bill Pettis. Their immediate connection blossomed into a remarkable 45-vear marriage, marked by shared interests in music, singing, animals, and travel. The couple discovered a surprising twist of fate - they both shared a mutual friend, to Carol, a psychology professor, to Bill an admissions director, lim Croxton, a connection that further solidified their bond and resulted in more than four decades of Thanksgiving visits and shared family meals. Carol and Bill shared an extraordinary love for animals, which eventually led them to ranch life the Sacramento Valley. Their days were filled with the joy of horses, horse shows and The State Fair, as well as dogs, birds, and cats, surrounded by cherished friendships all of which generated friends locally and across the nation. Carol was a note taker; note taking that she summarized each month produced a wealth of information for her to produce three books. A children's book The Bear in A Box, Carol McGregor Pettis' Family History Vol 1-3 and Animal People, All started as "ideas to self" and ended up as largescale productions. Carol started family genealogy research in 1971, before

the availability of computer access. It

was, mail a letter, ask for information.

or search microfiche or if local, search

dusty paper documents in her pursuit

improved, she updated her work and

Her book Animal People is the soul of

made any needed corrections.

who Carol was.

of family genealogy. As computer access

During a retreat at Highland Springs,



Same-sex foster parents raising flamingo chick at San Diego Zoo

Click on photo for full story

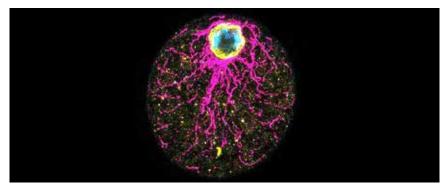


A same-sex flamingo pair are raising a newborn chick together after rare feat

Click on photo for full story

Two male flamingos named Arthur and Curtis successfully hatched an egg together at the Paignton Zoo in southwest England. (Wild Planet Trust via CNN Newsource)



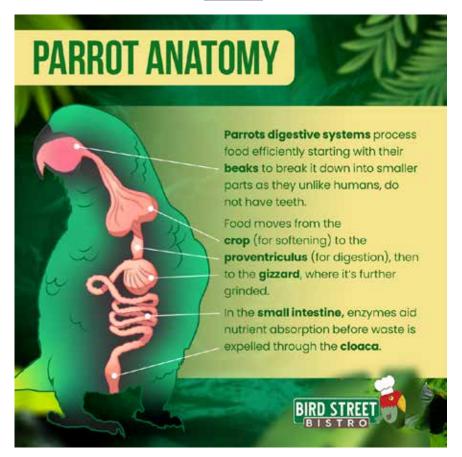




Scientists Reveal a Shocking Solution to The Chicken or Egg Paradox Click on photo for full story













FUNDRAISER FOR THE ECLECTUS PARROT DNA PROJECT

The Eclectus Ark is participating in a special DNA sequencing project under the direction of Taylor Hains, University of Chicago. This project requires the samples from live birds or dead specimens in order to put the physical sample thru the DNA sequencing process. Since we have spent a great deal

of time in museums studying collections of wild caught specimens which were identified at the time, this has enabled us to accurately identify live birds in our flock and birds in the possession of other individuals, as well as in zoo collections. So, we will be submitting blood samples from live eclectus subspecies: E. r. aruensis, E. r. biaki, E. r. polycholoros, E. r. solomonensis and E. r. vosmaeri. There are costs associated with the work of the DNA sequencing, so we are requesting donations from the avicultural community to the Eclectus Ark in order to fund the project. Donors to our non profit organization who indicate they want an IRS letter will receive one. We are seeking \$3000 total for this project. Donors can send checks to Eclectus Ark, P O Box 1606, Claremore, OK 74018-1606 or send a gift thru PayPal to eclectusark@gmail.com. Or send money thru GoFundMe HELP ECLECTUS ARK CONTINUE THEIR MISSION. All donations are appreciated! If you have questions or comments: please email Laurella.desborough@gmail.com Thank You!

QR code to GoFundMe HELP ECLECTUS ARK CONTINUE THEIR MISSION



Laurella Desborough

I have a cute story about bathing birds. A friend who operated a bird store sold an amazon to a lady who called him a couple months later saying she wanted to return the bird because it was so unhappy. He asked why. She said that the bird was trying to commit suicide! He asked how. She said every morning when she put fresh water in the cage the bird would go over and put its head in the water. This person did not know that the bird was trying to bathe.



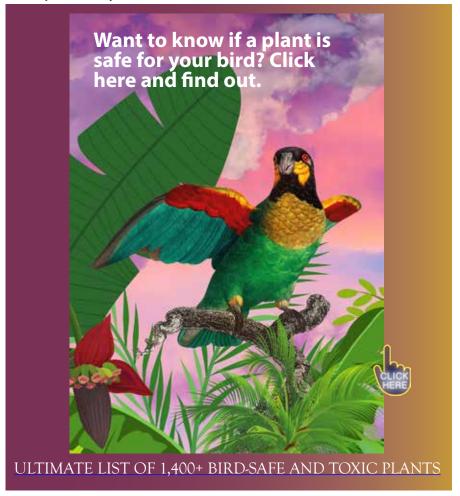
Shipper's Certification and Journey Declaration

YOU MUST HAVE THIS 2 PAGE FORM PRIOR TO SHIPPING LIVE ANIMALS AT DELTA CARGO.



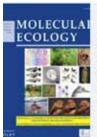
Click on the logo above to access the form on Delta's website. You must fill out completely and take with you to the cargo counter. You will not be able to ship without this completed form and Delta is not your friend. They will not give you one to fill out at the cargo counter.

If you ship frequently, it might be a good idea to print several of these out and have them in your vehicle, just in case.





Look What ASA member Taylor Hains has been up to. Way to go Taylor!



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Accurate identification of evolutionarily significant units of rare and threatened organisms provides a foundation for effective management and conservation. Up to seven subspecies of the critically ...





Journals

Zinc: Lead's Ugly Cousin





#AAVBirdTales





On May 27, 1784, Mozart bought a starling in Vienna, which lived with him for three years as a pet.

Mozart noticed that the bird, by nature, was very good at repeating the melodies it heard even after very few repetitions. But even more surprising was the little bird's ability to insert personal variations, and it seems that Mozart enjoyed using the starling as a prompter and as a sort of "creative aid" instrument.

One day the bird repeated the 17 opening notes of the Piano Concerto No. 17 in G major, K. 453, which Mozart had composed, with some variations, in particular by inserting a coda on the last bar of the first complete measure and singing a G instead of a natural G in the following measure.

It was the starling's version that became the definitive version of Mozart's concerto.

On June 4, 1787, the starling passed away. For him, Mozart organized a sumptuous funeral and a worthy burial in the garden of his home and dedicated a passionate funeral poem to his friend.

Daily Factfinder





click on graphic to go to website

Everything Birds is a locally owned business. We've been located in the Tampa Bay area for more than 17 years. Exotic companion birds started as a hobby. As I learned about them and lived with them, I have loved their inquisitive, intelligent, and loyal nature, and soon our birds became our passion.

The mission of Everything Birds is to pair individuals and families with the right species for their lifestyle and family dynamics to achieve a satisfying, long-term companionship.

We feel if our customers or a potential bird owner understands and embraces the species they are interested in, then through our guidance, continued education and support they will commit to these creatures for the rest of their lives and sometimes into their children's lives.

For us, the animals are the number one priority because if they aren't happy, healthy and well-adjusted birds then the flock is not in harmony. We offer care and support to our customers through free educational workshops, free grooming, and there is always a free sample to be had somewhere in the store each day we are open.

There is always an impressive variety of birds flying, pecking and waddling around our sprawling, 5000+ sq ft store so come in and find a cuddly baby to hold! The store is also filled to bursting with an extensive inventory of cages, toys, food, treats and every other item imaginable that contributes to making your companion bird happy and healthy.

Prices are always low and beyond reasonable, and our bird crazy staff go out of their way to make sure your every visit is a great experience. If you like birds, you'll love Everything Birds!

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'Once-in-a-lifetime' cardinal photographed by St. Louis Cardinals photographer







Animal Law Unit lead prosecutor Karen "Michelle" Welch and Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares

ANIMAL LAWFARE, INC.: Exposing the Coordination between the Virginia Attorney General's Office with Radical Animal Rights Activists



The only head of the dodo, which went extinct 315 years ago, is in the Natural History Museum in London, where it is considered an invaluable piece of natural history. This specimen offers a unique perspective on the wildlife of its original habitat, the island of Mauritius.

Discovered by Europeans in 1598, the dodo disappeared in the late 17th century due to intensive hunting and the introduction of invasive species. At around one metre tall and weighing between 10 and 17 kilograms, the dodo has become a symbol of extinction and a powerful reminder of the impact of humans on ecosystems.



Ancient history explore

The only head of the dodo, which went extinct 315 years ago, is in the Natural History Museum in London, where it is considered an invaluable piece of natural history. This specimen offers a unique perspective on the wildlife of its original habitat, the island of Mauritius.



Birds in Shoes

Jim Sorensen

My newest, Wren in Winter Holiday Shoes. The wren is the emblem of the Holly King, who dies to bring back the light and the new year. In Ireland, the wren is considered the "King of the Birds" and is celebrated on Wren Day, which is celebrated on December 26th. Wren feathers are thought to bring good luck, especially for sailors, not so much for the bird though. Www.jimsorensen.com for prints and stuff. #wren , #wrenday , #holidays, #wintersolstice , #christmas



Thank you, Jim Sorensen for allowing ASA to share your beautifully creative images!

Who's Your Daddy?

Stumped? See answer on page 53



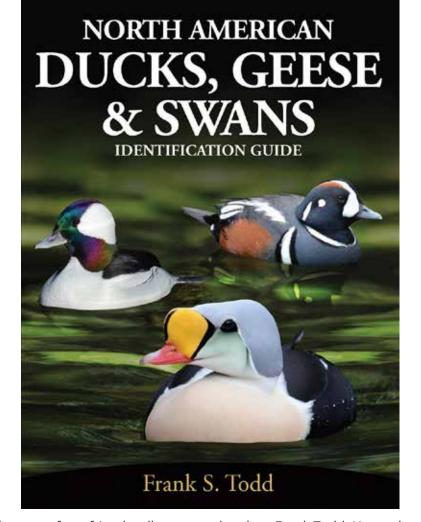
Photo: Patrick Dunn https://www.aveazuldelaosa.com/



A National Animal Interest Alliance (NIAIA) 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!



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. You can purchase Ducks, Geese & Swans of North America: Identification Guide at: https://www.hancockhouse.com/collections/ducks-waterfowl/products/northamerican-ducks-geese-swans

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/



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Great tinamou (Tinamus major) Photo: By Patrick Coin (Patrick Coin) - Photograph taken by Patrick Coin, CC BY-SA 2.5, https://commons.wikimedia.

Who's Your Daddy?

From page 50, Answer: Great tinamou (Tinamus major)

The great tinamou (Tinamus major) is a species of tinamou ground bird native to Central and South America. There are several subspecies, mostly differentiated by their coloration.

All tinamous are from the family Tinamidae, and are the closest living relatives of the ratites. Unlike ratites, tinamous can fly, although in general, they are not strong fliers. All ratites evolved from prehistoric flying birds.

Conservation status: Least concern (IUCN 3.1)

Wikipedia

ASA MEMBER CLUBS

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

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

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

Arizona Seedcracker Society Inc P.O. Box 26899 Mesa, AZ 85214 Long Beach Bird Breeders 6444 Spring St # 132 Long Beach, CA 90815 longbeachbirdbreeders@gmail.com

Orange County Bird Breeders www.ocbirdbreeders.org

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

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

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www.contracostaaviansociety.org

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American Federation of Aviculture
LoryLeague.org
National Animal Interest Alliance
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Organization of Professional Aviculturists
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Zoological Association of America





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