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Beaks and Feathers

NEWSLETTER 1ST QUARTER 2012

APRIL 1, 2012

This Quarter's Adoptions

Florida Parrot Rescue has adopted 46 birds so far for 2012 as of March 31st! With close to 130 birds in rescue at this time, we need to keep up this momentum and continue to spread the word to our families, friends, co-workers and anyone else you can think of. Keep in mind we always need new fosters as well, We have approximately 25 birds on the waiting list needing to come into rescue at the moment, and we soon have to close intake due to slowing adoptions and limited room in foster homes.

Remember that our foster/adoption application is available on our website (www.floridaparrotrescue.com) and can be e-mailed after completion to flparrotrescue@aol.com. We begin processing applications as soon as we receive them electronically. Requirements for adoption or foster are as follows: all dogs and cats owned must be up to date on vaccinations, dogs must be on heartworm prevention, all birds owned must have been seen by a vet within the past year with a minimum of an exam and gram stain (not just wing and nail trims). If the vet reference passes, there will be a home interview by an FPR member. Please e-mail if you have any questions!

The following birds were adopted in January, February and March of 2012: Baby (African Grey); Beebes (African Grey);

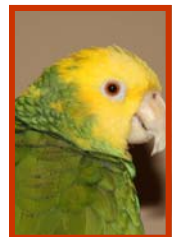
Beeper (Indian Ringneck); Beezer (Moustache Parakeet); Bobo (Yellow nape Amazon); Casper (Goffins Cockatoo); Cosmo (Goffins Cockatoo); Cricket (Peach Face Lovebird); Delilah & Mikah (Pair of Lovebirds); Digger (African Grey); Echo (Green Cheek Conure); Elvis (Umbrella Cockatoo); Goliath (Blue & Gold Macaw); Holly (Umbrella Cockatoo); Ivory (Ring Neck Dove); Julie, Tyke & Articulo (Trio of bonded Cockatiels); Louie (Greenwing Macaw); Loco (Orange Wing Amazon); Lucky (African Grey); Maggie Mae (Greenwing Macaw); Olive Oyl (Dove); Ozzie (Goffins Cockatoo); Paco (Jenday Conure); Peaches (Goffins Cockatoo); Pearl (Cockatiel); PJ & Jazzy (Pair of Cockatiels); Pinky (Moluccan Cockatoo); Pooh (Indian Ringneck); Quimpy (Quaker Parrot); Rainbow (Blue & Gold Macaw); Reno (Green Cheek Conure); Rico (Blue Front Amazon); Rudy (Greenwing Macaw); Sophie (Yellow Nape Amazon); Spike (Quaker Parrot); Squeakers (Cockatiel); Stewie (lesser Sulphur Crested Cockatoo); Sundance (Double Yellow Head Amazon); Tango & Thunder (Pair of Parakeets); Xena (Sun Conure) and Zoe (Moluccan Cockatoo).



Beebes - African Grey



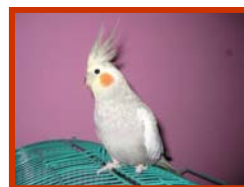
Reno - Green Cheek Conure



Sundance - Double Yellow Head Amazon



Rainbow - Blue & Gold Macaw

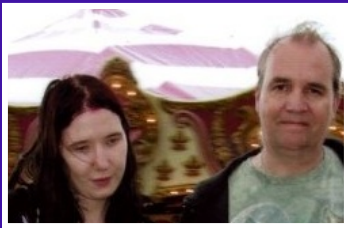


Squeakers - Cockatiel

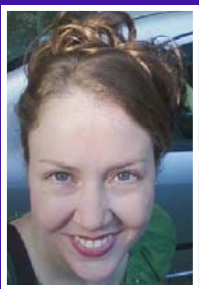
Letter From The Director



Jennifer Underwood James - Co-founder, Director and President of Florida Parrot Rescue, Inc.



Amanda Bryant & Ron Stanions



Miranda Rose Hippias Adkinson



Nicole & Jake Bennett

Dear friends and supporters,

As I sit here relaxing after cleaning my African Grey's cage for what feels like the gazillionth time, I think, how did I get here? How did I get from a person who "wasn't really a bird person", to one who has a bird as a member of my family? As I have said before, when I started the rescue, I had very little knowledge of birds and was scared to interact with them. That all changed when I realized there was no real option in the Tampa area other than pet stores. Seeing a horrible situation in which a man's 30 birds were sold to a pet store when he passed away and then being at a veterinary clinic where several of them were treated and were in such poor conditions that they died, was a very enlightening experience to say the least. I am a person of action and moved forward with what you know now as Florida Parrot Rescue.

I know that all of you reading this, whether you are self proclaimed "bird people", or you are just interested in birds and maybe considering a new addition to your family, came to this rescue because you want to help in some way. Every bird that is adopted allows us to save another. Every new foster parent allows us to save more birds. Every event we attend, every time our Facebook or website is shared, every time an order is placed in our retail store. All of these things HELP SAVE LIVES. If you are reading this and are looking for a way to get more involved, we can help. We are so appreciative of all of you!

Lastly, I want to take a moment to thank the Tampa Bay Parrot Heads. This group has kindly chosen us as one of their charity's and has gone out of their way to hold events to raise money to help the rescue. If you have a chance, check out their website or Facebook and help give them our thanks!

Yours,

Jennifer U. James

Volunteers of the Month

JANUARY

Amanda Bryant & Ron Stanions are co-volunteers of the month for January. They have stepped up on many occasions to foster large birds. On one particular occasion, they took a very special Blue & Gold macaw into their home, Goliath, who came to the rescue with an acute infection in his wing. The infection was so severe that the wing had to be amputated. This type of surgery is very serious for birds, it involves major stress to the heart & other organs & the recovery period is long as well as dangerous. Amanda & Ron had to keep vigil to monitor Goliath's recovery. There were many vet follow up visits & lots of special care. They bonded so well with this little angel that they adopted him. Congratulations Amanda & Ron!

FEBRUARY

Congratulations to Miranda Rose Hippias Adkison, our February Volunteer of the Month! Although Miranda is a full time teacher and has several birds of her own, she still finds time to foster for FPR. She has also helped many times in transporting birds all over the state of Florida.

As if that were not enough, she has also stepped up to be the Foster Coordinator for Northern Florida, a position within the rescue which requires determination, dedication and a lot of hard work.

Thanks for all of your tireless efforts and for always making it about the birds.

Miranda, you are a true asset to this rescue!

MARCH

Nicole and Jake Bennett are once again named as co-volunteers of the month for March. Nicole and Jake not only foster several special needs bird, but they drive great distances to bring birds into rescue and to make sure they get to the veterinarian they need. They also attend community adoption events all over the Tampa Bay area and frequently purchase promotional items for the rescue with their own funds. Thank you Nicole and Jake for your continued hard work and dedication to Florida Parrot Rescue, the birds in your care and to the other members of the rescue who you continuously support with your positive attitudes!

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Saturday 04/07/2012
 1st Annual Easter Pug Craft Sale
 9am-5pm
 intersection of Glenn Haven Blvd &
 Hwy 54
 Wesley Chapel, FL

Saturday 04/21/2012
 Petco Adoption Event at the Carrol-
 wood PetCo 10am-4pm
 13127 N. Dale Mabry Highway
 Tampa

Saturday 04/21/2012
 Exotic Pet Amnesty Day 10am-2pm
 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recrea-
 tion Center
 1601 East Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
 Blvd.
 Plant City

Saturday 4/28/2012
 Fashion, Feathers & Fur Fundraiser
 7pm-11pm
 located at the Keel & Curly Winery
 in Plant City
 Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, Dessert, a
 show & a silent auction to benefit
 Florida Parrot Rescue, Pit Stop Pit
 Bull Rescue, the Florida Boxer Res-
 cue and the Humane Society of
 Tampa Bay

Saturday 06/16/2012
 Petco Adoption Event at the Carrol-
 wood PetCo 10am-4pm
 13127 N. Dale Mabry Highway
 Tampa

As always, thank you to the veterinary offices that work with FPR for their generous discounts and support: Country Chase Veterinary Clinic in Tampa, Timberlane Animal Hospital in Plant City, East Orlando Animal Hospital, The Exotic Bird Hospital in Jacksonville, the Lake Howell Animal Hospital, Animal Hospital of Pensacola, the Weston Road Animal Hospital, Broward Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital, Blue Pearl Veterinary Specialists and Ark & Bark Animal Clinic in Palm Bay.



Thank you to the members of the Tampa Bay Parrot Heads for their continued support of, and dedication to, Florida Parrot Rescue!

If you would like to advertise in our newsletter, please e-mail us at flparrotrescue@aol.com Thank you!!

Thank you Zupreem for your donation!

Make Nutritious Nuggets

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of Your Bird's Diet

Veterinarians recommend feeding 80% high-quality nuggets so your bird gets the right balance of vitamins and minerals he needs every day.

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Healthy Food Choices for your Parrot: Soaks and Sprouts: A Nutritional Powerhouse

by: Michelle Magnon

Michelle is from Tucson, Arizona and has shared her home with parrots for over twenty years. She enjoys coming up with new healthy recipe ideas for her flock of six pampered parrots: Aztec the Blue and Gold Macaw, Apollo the Umbrella Cockatoo, Einstein the African Grey, and the three conures; Paulie, Tiki and Marigold. Michelle has recently agreed to be our columnist for "Healthy Food Choices for your Parrot" and we are very excited! We can't wait to see what she will cook up next!

Soaking or sprouting seeds and grains are an easy way to provide your parrot with fresh live food that is similar to what they would be eating in the wild. All birds, from finches to macaws, benefit from and enjoy eating these. There are different sizes and types available for every size of bird. By soaking dormant seeds they germinate and are brought back to life again. Sprouts are like little vegetable plants packed with antioxidants, vitamins, minerals, essential amino acids and protein. Did I mention that not only is this one of the healthiest additions to your parrot's diet, but it's also one of the least expensive too?

Start easy, seeds and grains germinate and are ready to eat after just a rinse and overnight soaking. You can also continue to repeatedly rinse and drain them for a day in order to sprout root tails on them.

Some popular options to get you started:

wheat	buckwheat groats
oats	sunflower seeds
spelt	short grain brown rice
barely	sesame seeds
millet	amarath
quinoa	corn kernels



Sprouting,
day one

I must add that soaked almonds are a really special treat and it might be difficult for you to stay out of them yourself. I could never eat a plain dry almond again after having them soaked. Just soak overnight, rinse in the morning and they are ready to eat. They are fantastic, really, try it!



Sprouting,
day two

How to get started:

- Buy your seeds and grains from a health food store. Human-grade organic ingredients are safer, fresher and much better quality.
- Just use a very small amount at a time. A little spoonful of seed goes a long way, and you want to make small amounts so you use them all up quickly when they are fresh and most nutritious.
- Start by inspecting for any damaged broken seeds and toss them out. Put your seeds into a strainer and give them a good washing by running lots of fresh water through them. The fine mesh stainless steel strainers work really well.
- Now put them in a clean glass container with plenty of cool fresh water. They will expand, so add enough water to cover them completely. Soak for 6 to 9 hours. I prepare them just before bed and they soak overnight.



Sprouts by jar in order: 1st - combo quinoa, millet and wheat berries; 2nd - mung beans; 3rd - almonds; 4th - corn; 5th - buckwheat groats; 6th - lentils; 7th - garbanzo beans; 8th - brown rice

- The next morning give them a good rinsing and drain them well. You now have nutritious, live, germinated seeds. That's it, it really is that simple. Grains and seeds can be fed after just a simple soaking that bring them to life.
- You may also choose to let them grow just a little further until they visually sprout. Rinse and drain very well at least three or four times a day until you see little buds of white sprout tails. This usually takes a day, maybe two.

Of course you can also toss some onto your own salad, sandwich or wrap. They are good in baked breads and in soups too. Just save some for the birds as this was supposed to be for them!

Helpful Hints:

You can just use plain glass jars or bowls. Small mason jars work well. Glass is preferred over plastic, since glass can be cleaned and sanitized thoroughly.

Don't cover your sprouts, they need fresh clean air during the entire soaking and sprouting process. Also keep them in a cool spot and out of direct sunlight.

Be sure to let your sprouts dry out before putting them in the refrigerator so they will keep nicely. Only make what you will be able to use that day or only store them in the refrigerator for a day or two at the most.

Most birds will love sprouts even if it is a new food for them. If your bird is stubborn about trying new foods, typically your food on your plate is more enticing to them. Share with your bird and eat with them to get them to try new healthy foods.

Cautions:

Don't forget about or neglect your growing sprouts. You're making fresh live food. You don't want to grow mold or bacteria in your sprouts. Rinsing very well and draining very well each day is crucial to the well being of your sprouts. Always wash your hands before handling sprouts. Sprouts should smell fresh and earthy, never foul or sour smelling. Toss them out if there is ever any question about their freshness.

As an extra precaution, you can give your sprouts a rinse with white vinegar or grapefruit seed extract during your rinsing. Or sometimes I spray my sprouts with some apple cider vinegar just before feeding them to the parrots.

Once you feel comfortable and confident in sprouting you may want to sprout some legumes too. This includes garbanzo beans (chick peas), adzuki beans, mung beans and lentils. Legumes are not safe to eat when raw. You must be sure to sprout them until you see the root tails, this can take three or four days. Also be sure you are sprouting something that is actually safe and okay for parrots to eat. There are toxic beans that should never be sprouted so don't experiment with something that you don't know for sure is safe for parrots.

Getting more information:

Sprout People is my favorite sprouting site. They have a wealth of information and step by step instructions for every kind of sprout. They even have detailed instructional videos. I highly recommend them for anyone who is interested in sprouting.

Sprout People
<http://sproutpeople.org/>

Sprouts section for birds and other pets
<http://sproutpeople.org/seeds/critter.html>

Sprouting Seeds for Pet Birds by Patricia Sund
<http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-diet-and-health/bird-nutrition/sprouts.aspx>

Rainbow Parrots Sprout Mix
<http://www.rainbowparrots.com/sprouts.php>

Ordering Bird Sprout Mixes
<http://totallyorganics.com/t-seeds.php>

Bird Supplies Sprouts
<http://www.birdsupplies.com/organic-sprout-mix/>

Directions for Sprouting:
<http://abirdsbestlife.wordpress.com/2011/04/15/imagine-the-sproutabilities/>



Sprouts mixed with cereal



Sprout salad



Preparing bowls with nutritious foods for the fids!



Sprouts mixed into chop (for a chop recipe, see previous newsletters)



More sprout salad



Sprouts with beans

PARROT APPROVED!



Our house guest Ka-buki enjoys adzuki sprouts



Apollo the cockatoo enjoying a nutritious meal with sprouts



Our house guest Happy trying out some sprouts with fresh veggies



Aztec the Blue & Gold Macaw enjoying fresh veggies with sprouts

Critical Nutrition Issues for Companion Birds

By: Cora Cashman

As with humans, nutrition plays a crucial role in how birds will develop from birth, as well as how their health will be maintained throughout their lives. The consequences of poor nutrition have reared their ugly heads in many horrible abuse and neglect situations, and unfortunately many of these cases are irreversible.

Individual bird species require certain nutrients, protein, vitamins, glucose etc... Since each species is designed differently, their respective formulas for these nutrients can vary. For example, bird seed is an acceptable entrée for part of the parakeet menu. However, macaws and cockatoos should have very little seed in their diets, treats only is the rule. These species require a mix of pellets with an assortment of vegetables, nuts and fruits. Lorikeets however, have a very specialized digestive system and feed mainly on flower nectar and pollen. My point is, that it requires research on the part of the bird parent to make sure their birdie gets the correct nutrition plan.

Like your mother has probably told you many times, you need to eat your carrots to maintain good eyesight, she was right! Individual vegetables and other foods such as grains, dairy, meat etc.... have nutritional properties that aid in specific body functions for humans; bird anatomy is no different. Fortunately for us bird parents, we have commercial bird food that eliminates the need for us to develop complicated formulas to

keep most species of birds healthy. However we still need to supplement their diets with fresh fruit, nuts and veggies, but that balance will depend on the species of bird. It is easy to obtain the information you need through consultation with your birds veterinarian.

There is nothing more rewarding than having a healthy, well nourished and happy bird companion. These are the birds that maximize their abilities to provide love, entertainment and joy to their owners and they have the most beautiful feathers and most developed intelligence. Good nutrition promotes a general feeling of well being in a parrot as well. Conversely, there are dire consequences to the unfortunate birds who are deprived of the essential nutrients needed to maintain health and life. Here are just a few of the common problems resulting from poor nutrition:

- Lowered resistance to disease (communicable and otherwise)
- Atherosclerosis
- Obesity
- Rickets (softening of the bones due to deficiency of vitamin D, magnesium, phosphorus or calcium)
- Poor feathering
- Liver disease
- Kidney disease

Very recently our rescue lost a beloved Blue and Gold macaw named Yoyo. He was a young macaw (under 20). Considering that macaws have possible lifespans of 60-80 years plus, he was very young to have passed. Unfortunately, most of his needs were neglected

prior to coming into rescue. He came in with most of his feathers missing; he was very distraught and neurotic. Although he was well cared for in his foster home, the effects of his neglect were irreversible and he passed while in the care of FPR. The necropsy revealed that he had liver disease, this was particularly sad because of his young age, but it really came as no surprise because he was sustained on an all seed diet for quite some time, which of course is inappropriate for a macaw. In learning about the correct nutrition for your parrot you should also note the foods that are bad for them. Many parrots will eat just about anything (that is unless you want them to eat it of course). Some items are just plain common sense like alcohol and caffeine. Other undesirable foods for parrots include:

- Chocolate
- Uncooked beans, rice
- Avocados, rhubarb, eggplant, fruit rinds - can be toxic
- Dairy products
- Onions and garlic have high sulfur content
- Foods high in fat and sugar such as potato chips, cookies and candy
- Fruit pits and seeds can be toxic (apple seeds contain small amounts of cyanide, enough to poison a parrot.)
- Peanuts - toxins/fungus

This does not mean that your parrot cannot enjoy a tasty helping of your food as a treat, just avoid the foods that

are bad for them. Many birds enjoy cooked pasta and rice as well as scrambled eggs (ewwww, yes, I know, but it is a great source of protein and also calcium if you grind up the shells in the eggs). Some also really love herbs! If you have any questions or concerns about your parrot's diet, please speak with your veterinarian. Make sure you also check out the section of this newsletter titled Healthy Food Choices for your Parrot. Of course you are more than welcome to also contact Florida Parrot Rescue for additional guidance. After all, that's why we're here!



Yoyo the Blue & Gold Macaw. Rest in Peace little man, you will suffer no longer.



FLOCK TO THE FURRIEST & FEATHERIEST NIGHT OF FASHION!

Announcing the 2nd annual ***Fashion, Feathers and Fur 2012!***

WHEN: Saturday, April 28th at 7:00pm

WHERE: Keel & Curley Winery; Plant City, FL

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT: Florida Parrot Rescue, Florida Boxer Rescue, The Humane Society of Tampa Bay & Pit Stop Bully's Rescue

sponsored by Dr. Christy Layton, owner of Timberlane Pet Hospital & Resort, Sister's and Company and Charles & Jennifer Closshey

Fashion Show featuring local celebrities and adorable adoptables (cats, dogs & birds) from local rescue groups

Master of Ceremonies – Chip Carter – Fox 13

Silent & Live Auctions (see list below for items that have been donated so far!)

Delicious Heavy Hors d'oeuvres & 1 drink included

Cash Bar

Local Celebrity Chef Desserts

Only 300 tickets will be sold. Individual tickets are \$50, or you or your business could be an official sponsor. Don't forget that we also need more donations for the silent and live auction! Theme park tickets, trips, hotel stays, art work, jewelry, gift certificates to local businesses, pretty much anything can be auctioned! So let us know if you can donate by e-mailing us at flparrotrescue@aol.com

ITEMS DONATED FOR SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS SO FAR (thru FPR only):

Cruise for two courtesy of Sherry Leybovitch with www.cruisesforu.com

Flight for one in a WWII T-6 Texan airplane courtesy of pilot Syd Jones

Native American Squash Blossom Necklace courtesy of [iTagsale™](http://iTagsale.com) and Lorry Burgar
a \$100 American Express Card

2 art prints courtesy of Kim Lorang with Visual Winds

Several Jewelry items courtesy of Sherrie Mullineaux, owner of Samantha's Treasure Chest

A custom cage cover courtesy of Charlene Bebeko by Judy's Stuff

Signed copy of the book *The Parrot Detective: A Pine Island Mystery* by authors Gerald & Loretta Hausman

Two Pairs of cruelty free parrot feather earrings courtesy of Melissa Kendall

Cigar package courtesy of Rebecca & Roger Wilson, owners of Fumar Cigars

One-of-a-kind polymer clay sculpture courtesy of Kathy LaFollett owner of Small Things Clay

a 44" x32" portrait of your pet courtesy of local artist Eryn Stuart

4 upper level tickets to a Tampa Bay Rays Baseball Game

3 dozen BIRDIEBREAD creations courtesy of Gini Hyman owner of Gini's BIRDIEBREAD™ Cones & Muffins

Signed copy of the book *Sweat of the Sun, Tears of the Moon* by authors Syd Jones & KT Budde-Jones

Stainglass vintage mirror courtesy of Bonnie Grafton of Bonnie's Birds

free pest control service from TNT Termite & Pest Control of Valrico (owners Ed & Bonnie Tekampe)

an Adam Hall Autographed Jersey (value of \$250.00) courtesy of the Tampa Bay Lightning

A goodie basket including a \$150 advertising certificate courtesy of the Osprey Observer

Multiple dog & cat food & treat baskets courtesy of Zac & Karen Atwood

A free Pizza every week for one year at Bobby V's Original Westshore Pizza courtesy of Zac & Karen Atwood



**Association of
Avian Veterinarians**
Advancing & Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship

Article written by the Association of Avian Veterinarians and provided by Dr. Terry Readdy, AAV member since 1999, with permission for reprint from the AAV.

The Avian Health Exam

Pet owners are accustomed to taking the family dog or cat to the veterinarian for an annual check-up, but it is even more important for a pet bird to have regular examinations, because birds tend to have very subtle symptoms of disease.

QUARANTINE

Isolation and quarantine of a new bird is the first and most important thing an owner should do. In order to protect other birds on the premises, it is advised that all newly acquired birds be maintained separately for a period of at least six weeks following purchase.

Because many air-borne viruses may be spread from room to room by central air conditioning or heating systems, an off-premise location is preferred. Quarantine is essential for all new birds, even those that are believed to be "healthy".

NEW BIRD EXAMINATION

The second most valuable step for a new bird owner is to establish a relationship with an avian veterinarian, preferably one who is a member of the Association Avian Veterinarians.

An examination of a newly acquired bird within the first three days after purchase is recommended in order to protect the investment of the owner, to uncover and prevent possible diseases conditions, and to educate the owner about appropriate bird care.

Even if the new bird checks out "normal", results of diagnostic tests in the initial patient record provide valuable references for subsequent examinations.

Components of the Exam

HISTORY

Your veterinarian is very interested in what you know about the background of your bird; its age, sex, origin, length of time in the household, diet, and caging.

Even if the bird has been a household pet for a long time, the veterinarian should be advised of any contact, direct or indirect, with other birds.

Examples of indirect contact would be the owner's buying of bulk seed from open bins in a pet shop that houses birds, or visiting other aviaries, bird shows, or bird markets.

PHYSICAL EVALUATION

From an initial, critical observation of the bird in the cage, the veterinarian can determine general body conformation (obesity, tumors), posture, attitude, and character of respiration.

Although many internal problems may not be evident from a step-by-step, hands-on examination, an experienced avian veterinarian will be able to note abnormalities in the feathers, skin, beak, eyes, ears, cere, nares, oral cavity, bones, muscles, abdomen and vent.

WEIGHT

Once a bird has become an adult, the weight should remain relatively constant. Checking the weight occasionally, especially at the annual examination, will give valuable information about your bird's health. A bird's weight should be measured in grams, not ounces, in order to detect small increments of change.

TESTING PROCEDURES

Depending on the bird's history, results of physical examination, species, age, and general condition, your veterinarian may suggest some of the following diagnostic techniques that will assist in evaluating your bird's health. The appearance of the droppings, volume, color, and composition, may help the veterinarian generally assess the bird's health and consider certain disease conditions. Most birds are nervous in the clinic, so their droppings may be abnormally loose there. A fecal sample may be examined microscopically to determine the presence of internal parasites.

CHLAMYOPHILA TEST

Several screening tests are available for the detection of psittacosis or parrot fever. This is important as part of the new bird exam or annual check-up because the causative agent, *Chlamyophila psittaci*, may be transmitted from birds to humans.

BLOOD TESTS

A blood sample might be taken to determine the amount and distribution of blood cells. This information may suggest the possibility of certain diseases, and further tests may be indicated for confirmation. A series of chemistry tests performed on the blood sample may point to imbalances in biochemical functions and suggest the possibility of organ dysfunction. Blood parasites may also be detected.

MICROBIOLOGY

Your avian veterinarian may recommend a culture of the choana (throat), cloaca (vent), crop, or some other tissue/fluid sample to determine abnormal growth of bacteria or yeast. At the same time, antibiotic sensitivity discs may be used to determine an appropriate antibiotic to be used if the bacterial growth requires therapy.

RADIOGRAPHS

X-rays may be used to assess the internal condition of your bird. The presence of old or new fractures, the size and relative relationship of internal organs, the presence of foreign bodies or soft tissue masses such as tumors, and the condition of lungs and air sacs are often evaluated with radiographs. The use of anesthesia may be necessary to produce quality X-rays.

CYTOLOGY

With the use of special stains, a veterinarian skilled in this procedure can evaluate smears of tissues or fluids to assist in making a diagnosis.

VIRUS SCREENING

Some new tests are currently becoming available to screen birds for certain viruses. The detection of viruses is especially important for aviary birds. Some viral agents do not express themselves as clinical disease until the bird is under stress, such as laying eggs, feeding young, or at weaning.

ANNUAL CHECK-UPS

Because owners are often unaware of obvious symptoms in the beginning stages of disease in birds, annual check-ups are advised for early identification and management of potential disorders. Also, new information of interest to the bird owner is continually becoming available.



Finding
Forever
Homes for
Our
Feathered
Friends!

FLORIDA PARROT RESCUE, INC

<http://www.floridaparrotrescue.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/FLParrotRescue>

<http://twitter.com/FLParrotrescue>

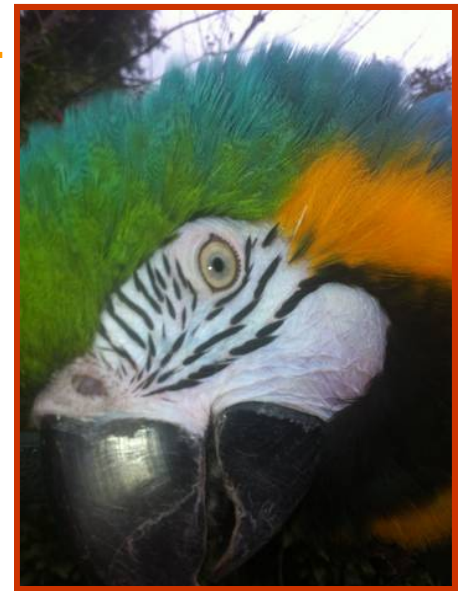
A 501C3 Non-profit, all volunteer run
organization, serving all of Florida!

Phone: 813-516-1759

Florida Parrot Rescue is dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of companion parrots. We strive to educate parrot owners on proper handling and care of parrots. Should someone be unable to keep their bird(s) for ANY reason, we want them to know there is a place to turn, and that they are not alone. It is our goal to provide a safe haven for birds that cannot stay with their owners or birds in need, and then to find those birds forever homes with loving and responsible families.

Adoptable Bird of the Quarter: **KAIRI**

**BLUE & GOLD
MACAW**



Kairi is a young female Blue and Gold Macaw. She loves to talk, she says "hello", "cracker", "pretty bird" and "good girl". Kairi is very affectionate and will step up for anyone, but she LOVES men the most. Kairi steps up, takes treats by hand and for my husband will lie on her back on his lap. Kairi came to us with her chest feathers plucked but already has yellow feathers returning. Kairi enjoys a diet of a variety of fruits, veggies, and nuts with a foundation of pellets and rice with beans. Kairi's trust continues to grow daily but she will require an adoptive family with bird experience to continue to bring out the best in her. She will tolerate being around children, but remember that parrots should never be left alone with kids or handled by them without constant supervision.