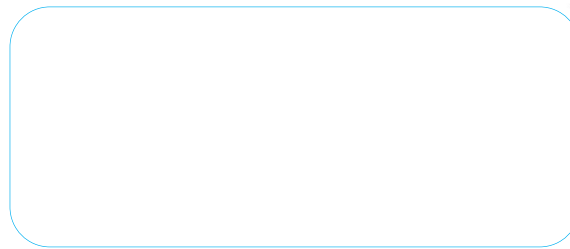


Acadiana Bird Club, Inc.
124 Avondale Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506

Acadiana Bird Club, INC.



APRIL/MAY 2018

ACADIANA BIRD CLUB

DEDICATED TO THE NEEDS OF ALL FEATHERED FRINEDS



MEETING

May 20, 2018

Sicily's Italian Buffet
1214 E. Main St. Broussard

1:00pm

ACADIANA BIRD CLUB, INC 124 AVONDALE DR. LAFAYETTE LA 70506
EMAIL: ACADIANABIRDINC@HOTMAIL.COM WEBSITE: ACADIANABIRDCLUB.COM
WEB GROUP: CAJUN BIRDS@YAHOOGROUPS.COM



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YOUR CLUB'S DISCLOSURE

Acadiana Bird Club, Inc. reserves the right to edit any an all articles, letters, etc.

The officers and board of directors will view any letters sent to the club before being considered for the publication in the newsletter. Any article written and or misinfor- mation are not the responsibility of the club.

Your club will always attempt to put information in the newsletter that is correct and true, unless stated to be a fictional story, or cartoon.

Positive Reinforcement Proves Successful When It Comes To Parrot Training.

Positive Reinforcement Training
(Part 4 of a Series on Enrichment)



Association of
Avian Veterinarians
Advancing & Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship

By: Kenneth R. Welle, DVM, Dipl
ABVP (Avian), University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine;
Adapted from: "Extreme Enrichment for the Modern Macaw,"
Session #137, Exotics Con 2016

Traditionally, parrots have seemed difficult to train. This is perplexing given their intelligence. Part of the reason is likely to be the typical feeding practices for pet birds. Although verbal, physical, social, or even drama based reinforcements may be effective at times, it can be difficult to predict exactly what will motivate a parrot at times. As a consequence, training parrots has long involved less desirable methods that involve coercion and force rather than positive reinforcement. Mostly these techniques were used in good faith, but there is substantial evidence of their negative effects. Parrots become infinitely more trainable when food becomes a valuable

Positive Training Continued on page 6

2018 MEETING DATES

MAY 20 1PM
Sicily's–Broussard

JUNE 24 1PM
South Regional
Library, Lafayette

JULY
NO MEETING

AUG 19 1PM
South Regional
Library, Lafayette

SEPT 29-30
BIRD FAIR

OCT 21 1PM
South Regional
Library, Lafayette

NOV 18 TDB

DECEMBER 19
CHRISTMAS
PARTY



DID YOU KNOW?

The hyacinth macaw, or hyacinthine macaw, is a parrot native to central and eastern South America. With a length of about 100 cm it is longer than any other species of parrot.

Lifespan:

50 years (In the wild)

Scientific name:

Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus

Class:

Aves

Mass:

2.6 – 3.7 lbs

Length:

3.3 ft. (Adult) (Adult)

Hyacinth macaws are the longest parrots in the world, reaching a massive 100 centimeters in length.

Sources: Wikipedia & Arkive.org

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MEETING GROUPS

AFA Delegates Dan Vollmer

Hospitality..... Lucy Menard

Membership Carol Flyte

Newsletter Julie Rabalais

Sunshine..... Zula McFarlain

Website..... Dan Vollmer
Zula McFarlain

Avicultural Society of America
ASAbirds.org

American Federation
of Aviculture
AFAbirds.org

BI-ANNUAL FAIR GROUPS

Advertising

Carol Flyte, Dan Vollmer

Hospitality

Don & Lucy Menard

Fair Chairpersons

Donald Menard 337.937.5113
Dmenard582@aol.com

Table Rentals

Donald Menard 337.937.5113
Dmenard582@aol.com

Raffle Donation Table

Zula McFarlain
Tina & Brett Delaune

MEMBER NEWS

If you have any news such as a member in the hospital or a death in a member's family, please forward the information to:

Zula McFarlain
337.824.5588
zmcfarl@bellsouth.net

or The Club
acadianabirdinc@hotmail.com



WE NEED YOU!

This is YOUR CLUB.
The Bird Fair is a large undertaking. Our groups always need assistance so if you can give a little of your time please contact the person in charge. We would love to see you at our next meeting!



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DAN VOLLMER
PRESIDENT
ACADIANA BIRD
CLUB, INC.

We just finished having our Spring 2018 bird fair. During the fair I received a lot of positive feedback from our vendors. Some SOLD OUT the first day and others the second day. Some highlights from some our vendors are below.

Vendor 1: Sold 183 small birds. Had 6 left.

Vendor 2: Sold out. Two Amazons for \$950 and \$850 each.

Vendor 3: Sold out. Love birds and others.

Vendor 4: Sold out. Cockatiels and others.

Vendor 5: One of the best fairs in years - over \$15,000 in sales for Saturday only.

Last Fall fair was \$12,000 for Saturday.

Returning Vendor 6: Came back after two years and sold everything:

Rosebreasted Cockatoos, Meyer's parrots, Senegal parrots,
 Sun Conures, and Greencheek Conures.

The two baby Rosebreasted Cockatoos sold for \$1,500 each.

New Vendor 8: Higher sales than the one in Atlanta, GA. Sold toys.

New Vendor 9: Sold out. Love birds and others.

We kept the same advertising mix from the last Fall fair because of its success. LUS sponsored our two banners, which we did not have all last year. We had over 50% more people attend the first day compared to last year's Spring fair. Many vendors were thanking us for the great job we did getting people to the fair and they were spending money. One vendor asked me what we did to get all these people to the fair? His comment was that he never had over \$1,000 in sales before the Fall of 2017. He had \$1,200 in sales for the Fall of 2017 and \$1,900 for this last Spring one. He has not missed a fair in years.

We are still challenged with getting vendors to our fair. We advertised on Facebook giving away free tables (paid for by Standard Title) if you had a bird for sale or show valued at \$500 or more. Only one took the offer (returning vendor 6 above). When I would see ads for bird(s) that qualified and called, the bird(s) were sold or they did not return my call. There is such a high demand for birds that many breeders have a waiting list for their birds and really do not need to sell birds at our fair.

Dan Vollmer
 President
 Acadiana Bird Club Inc.

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MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2018

The Board of Directors of Acadiana Bird Club, Inc. met at South Regional Library, 6101 Johnson Street, Lafayette, LA 70506 on January 28, 2018.

Present: Zula McFarlain, Dan Vollmer, Donald & Lucy Menard, Ivan Fruge' and Carol Flyte

January 28, 2018 minutes were read by everyone. Donald made a motion to accept the minutes. Zula seconded the motion.

The treasurer report was given for January 2018. Zula made a motion to accept the treasurer reports. Ivan seconded the motion.

Sound System: Dan found a system for \$289 from Amazon. Ivan suggested to check at Best Buy, Dan will check at Best Buy then purchase the bust deal.

Carol talked to Lee about setting up the tables for the fair on Friday. He will get a friend and set up for us.

We are still looking for a caterer for the fair. Dan will try calling Yolanda, to see if she will do the catering again.

Banners for placing over the street by LUS are taken care of. They will be at Ambassador & Westmark and Ambassador by Service Chevrolet Dealer near Bertrand. We're not advertising in the Quik Quarter this time. Our advertising will be: Banners, Digital signs and facebook.

Ivan mentioned that the Bird Talk Magazine is coming back.

Meeting was adjourned, and we enjoyed delicious snack that Lucy made.

Carol Flyte
Secretary

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Positive Training Continued from page 1



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resource and they become food motivated. Certainly other reinforcers are useful as well, but a food treat is generally very dependable, especially when working with a hungry (not starving) bird.

Positive reinforcement training provides a means for owners to communicate effectively with their birds and to allow the bird a degree of choice in what behavior they will exhibit. Undesirable behaviors can be replaced with desirable behaviors that are subsequently reinforced. Although the process of training is relatively simple, the devil is in the details. The ability to read the body language of the bird, developing timing with bridges and rewards, and even presenting cues that do not appear threatening requires practice. The following is another excerpt from a client education handout at the author's practice.

Creating an eager student

- Start a foraging program (see August 2017 AAV Bird Club News Release).
- Limit the favorite food to a small quantity, and use it only for training.
- Break up the food to be used as a reward into small morsels (1/4 inch or less).
- Take away all food for about 1-2 hours before training sessions.
- Stop sessions before the bird loses interest in the treats.



Definitions

Cue: a signal given to the subject (your bird) that tells what behavior is desired

- Verbal (e.g., step up)
- Hand signals

Target: an object that the subject is taught to touch to get a reward.

- Often the trainers hand or a colored stick or wand

Positive Training Continued on page 7

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Positive Training Continued from page 6

Shaping: working through progressive approximations of the desired behavior

Bridge: a signal that the desired behavior was performed and that a reward is forthcoming

- Clickers
- Verbal (e.g., good)

Reward: a tangible reward for the performance of a behavior

- Food treats
- Praise (this is less tangible and therefore much less effective)



Jackpot: an especially large or desirable reward for completion of a complicated behavior, or one that the bird was initially very reluctant to perform.

Process

- Give the cue for the behavior to be taught.
- Use the target to guide the subject to do the behavior, or at least an approximation of it. Alternately the behavior can be “captured” when it naturally occurs.
- Once the behavior or the approximation is performed use the bridge to mark it.
- Give a reward.
- Repeat. As the pupil progresses, require a better performance before bridging and rewarding.
- Use a jackpot to reward a particularly big jump in progress.

Additional training for the owner is strongly recommended. There are many great books, videos, and online resources that can be used to improve training skills. The behaviors that are trained are far less important than the training itself. This is a great activity for clients to engage their birds without stimulating reproductive behaviors. Training some husbandry behaviors can greatly reduce stresses that will occasionally occur for any pet bird. If a bird allows the owner to file the nails daily with a fingernail file, then trimming with a hobby drill will rarely, if ever be required. Training a bird to defecate on cue will make it easier to integrate them into normal household routines. Training a bird to allow gentle restraint in a towel will facilitate veterinary exams or other procedures. Training to drink juice or almond milk from a syringe or other device will facilitate medicating a bird if an illness occurs. For flighted birds, recall is an important behavior to teach. 🐦

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

Return Form & Payment to:
Acadiana Bird Club, Inc.
124 Avondale Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506

Acadiana Bird Club, Inc. was formed to promote the health and well being of all pet and breeder birds. Our goals are the preservation of all bird species through public education on the proper care and breeding of birds. Please join us to help attain these goals.

Dues are \$25 and are non-refundable. Dues are due by February 28th each year.

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

(List all family members involved) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone number (____)____-_____

Birth date: Month/Day _____ Anniversary: Month/Day _____

Membership Type: New _____ Renewal _____

Type of Membership: Family (2 votes) _____ Single Adult _____
 (please note: anyone under 18 must join as a family membership and the membership will be in the parents/guardians name including your name)

Type of birds you own: _____

Can the above information be printed in our membership roster? Yes _____ No _____

The roster is for members only and is not sold or disclosed to anyone outside our membership.
 May your birthday/anniversary be printed in the newsletters? Yes _____ No _____

Pictures are sometimes taken at club functions, if pictures are taken of you and/or your birds can they are printed in the monthly newsletter? Yes _____ No _____

Would you like your newsletter mailed or e-mailed to you? Circle one

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