

Avian Care Webinar Series

aspcapro.org/webinars

Bird Housing, Enrichment, and Care

Tuesday, February 5, 3-4pm ET

Normal Avian Behavior

Tuesday, February 19, 3-4pm ET

Managing Behavior Issues in Pet Birds

Tuesday, March 5, 3-4pm ET

Your Chat Moderator



Valarie Tynes, DVM, Dipl. ACVB
Premier Veterinary Behavior Consulting

Your Presenter



Leslie Sinn, DVM, CPDT-KA
Behavior Resident in Private
Practice Training

Behavior
Behavior Solutions for Pets
&
Professor
Veterinary Technology
Northern Virginia Community College

Overview of Avian Care for Shelters

Getting Started:
Introduction to Captive Exotic Birds



Exotic Birds Kept in Captivity

- Passerines
- Psittaciformes
- Columbiformes



Lexicon of Parrots

<http://www.arndt-verlag.com/lexicon.htm>

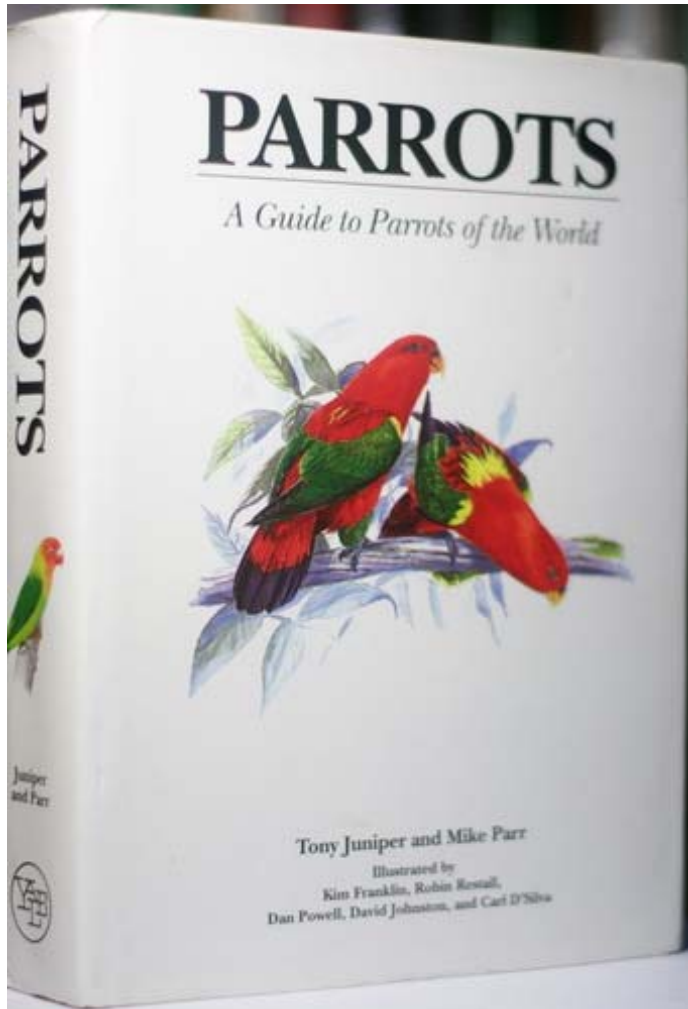


<http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-species/profiles/budgerigar.aspx>

<http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-species/default.aspx>



Books



Parrots: A Guide to
Parrots of the World by
Juniper and Parr

Parrots of the World by
Forshaw

Laws and Parrots

- Endangered Species Act

<http://www.afabirds.org/esa.shtml>

- CITES

http://www.afabirds.org/cites_intro.shtml

- Wild Bird Conservation Act

<http://www.afabirds.org/wbca.shtml>



Native Wild Birds and Domestic Fowl

Native wild birds can legally only be treated by state licensed wildlife rehabilitators

Domestic fowl may include turkeys, chickens, geese, ducks and fighting fowl

May have to deal with larger birds such as ostrich and emus



Key Points

- Species vs. breeds
- Tame vs. domesticated
- Prey animals kept in captivity
- Selection primarily for appearance not behavior (color morphs)



<http://www.birdwallpapers.com/two-parrots-wallpaper.html>

Basic Avian Facts

- Larger the bird the longer they live (80+ years)
- Cognitive ability of a 2-5 year old child
- Vocalize as part of their social behavior; some learn human words and speech patterns
- High metabolic rates
- Neophobic



Shelter Preparation

- **Locating resources**
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

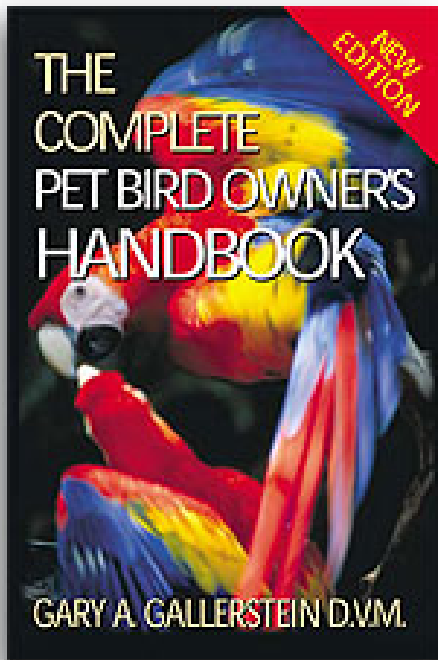
Locating Resources

- Online
- Books
- Courses
- Association of Avian Veterinarians
- Area rescues



Avian Welfare Coalition

<http://www.avianwelfare.org/index.htm>



Books

A Complete Pet Bird Owner's Handbook
by Dr. Gary Gallerstein



Captive Exotic Bird Care: A Guide for Shelters

[http://www.avianwelfare.org/shelter_outreach.
htm](http://www.avianwelfare.org/shelter_outreach.htm)



Courses

American Federation of Aviculture
Fundamentals of Aviculture I & II



Association of Avian Veterinarians

Advancing & Promoting Avian Medicine and Stewardship

Association of Avian Veterinarians



Phoenix Landing

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

Shelter Preparation

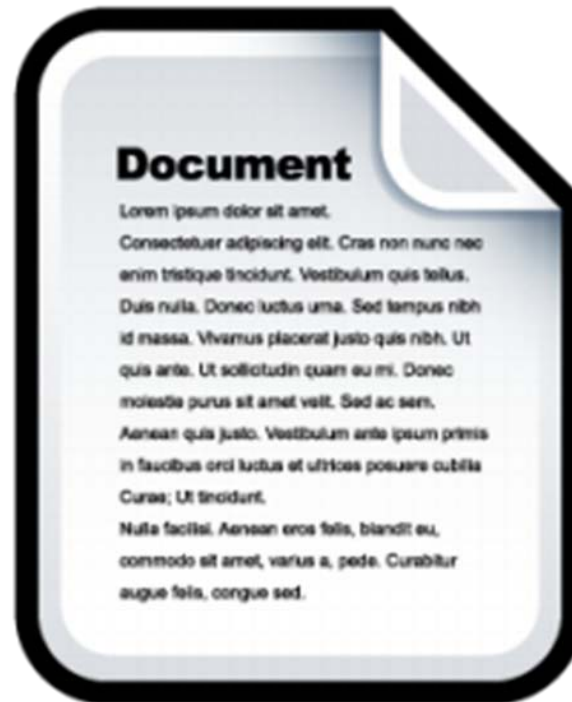
- Locating resources
- **Planning**
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Planning

- Calculate number of birds per year
- Calculate number of birds per event
- Pick a number that seem likely and plan for that number
- Starting point



Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- **Allocating space**
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Allocating Space

- Separate building, room, office
- Quiet and removed from barking dogs and human traffic
- Not in proximity to predators
- Consider foster homes or rescue groups



<http://www.iconarchive.com/show/large-home-icons-by-aha-soft/New-room-icon.html>

Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- **Training**
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Training

- Train sufficient numbers of staff and volunteers on bird basics
- Resources available



Shelter Preparation

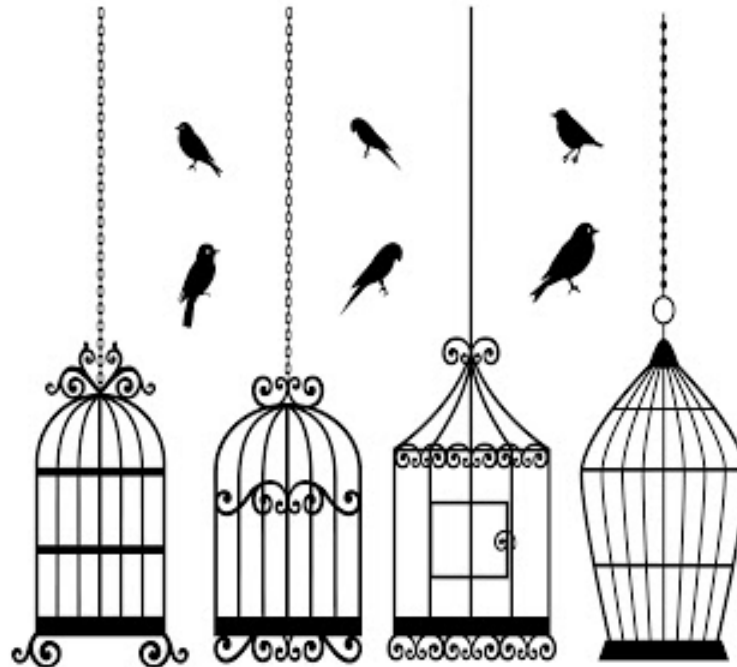
- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- **Housing**
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Housing

- Variety of cages available
- Manufactured for birds (safety & toxicity)
- Suitable for species housed
- Variety of perches, dishes and toys
- Easy to clean



Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- **Nutrition**
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Nutrition

- Providing an appropriate diet can be costly and time consuming
- Seed only diet inadequate
- Complex needs including vegetables, fruits and pellets
- Diet varies with species



http://www.mysafebirdstore.com/FOOD_TREATS-ZUPREEM.html

Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- **Safety**
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Safety

- Toxicity
- Escape
- Physical (shelter) hazards
- Toys and perches
- Human safety



Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- **Veterinary care**
- **Quarantine**
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Veterinary Care and Quarantine

- Qualified avian veterinarian
- Quarantine of new birds
- Recognize signs of illness (hidden)
- Veterinary protocol



Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- **Breeding**
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Breeding

- Inadvisable
- No readily available option for spay/neuter
- May lay eggs even without the presence of a mate
- Behavioral and medical implications



<http://www.completecomputersolutions.ca/petshop/products/birds/>

Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- **Behavior**
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Behavior

- Not domesticated like dogs and cats
- Wild instincts still present
- Affects care and management



<http://www.hedweb.com/animimag/two-parrots.htm>

Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- **Placement**



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

Placement

- Screening should be more intense than for dogs or cats
- Most people NOT familiar with care or requirements of parrots
- 3-4% of population compared to 30-40%
- Requires an adoption process that takes many factors into consideration



<http://www.worldsbestinformation.org/2012/05/5-best-parrots-for-families-with-children/>

Shelter Preparation

- Locating resources
- Planning
- Allocating space
- Training
- Housing
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Veterinary care
- Quarantine
- Breeding
- Behavior
- Placement



<http://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=901>

NO SURPRISES!



<http://umfablog.wordpress.com/2012/01/05/national-bird-day-come-see-some-fowl-art>



Leslie Sinn, DVM

lsinndvm@gmail.com

540-454-9081

Behavior

P.O. Box 116

Hamilton, VA 20159

Facebook:

Behavior-Leslie Sinn, DVM

Avian Care Webinar Series

aspcapro.org/webinars

Bird Housing, Enrichment, and Care

Tuesday, February 5, 3-4pm ET

Normal Avian Behavior

Tuesday, February 19, 3-4pm ET

Managing Behavior Issues in Pet Birds

Tuesday, March 5, 3-4pm ET