

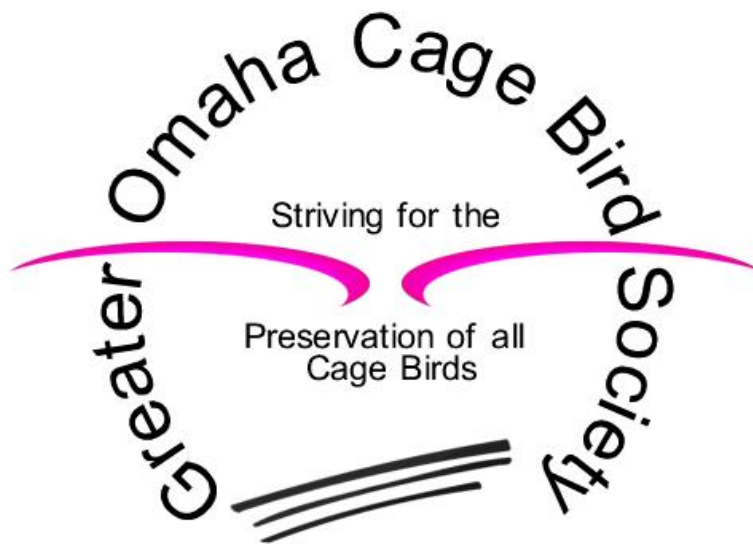
GOCBS NEWS LINE



Important Info Inside:

Fall Bird Fair
September 18, 2011

September 2011



2011 GOCBS Officers		
President	Rick Kling renotoo402@cox.net	(402) 933-5686
Vice President	Michelle Mutchler-Burns gopack8763@aol.com	(712) 322-1448
Treasurer	Marcia Delehoy plbs@qwestoffice.net	(402) 453-5235
Membership	Ginger Bostwick glbostwick@cox.net	(402) 932-5866
Newsletter	Elsa Ashelford pandora1641@yahoo.com	(402) 309-0683

2011 GOCBS Officer Trustees		
	Karen Sward	(712) 352-3646
	Vance Delehoy plbs@qwestoffice.net	(402) 453-5235

Adoption - Placement	
Michelle Mutchler-Burns (Iowa)	(712) 322-1448

2011 GOCBS Fair Coordinator		
Rick Kling	renotoo402@cox.net	(402) 933-5686

Presidents Letter - September 2011

Dear GOCBS Members,

What a year it has been for our club. Now it's September and time for our next big event. Our fall bird fair is this month on the 18th which means there will not be a meeting this month.

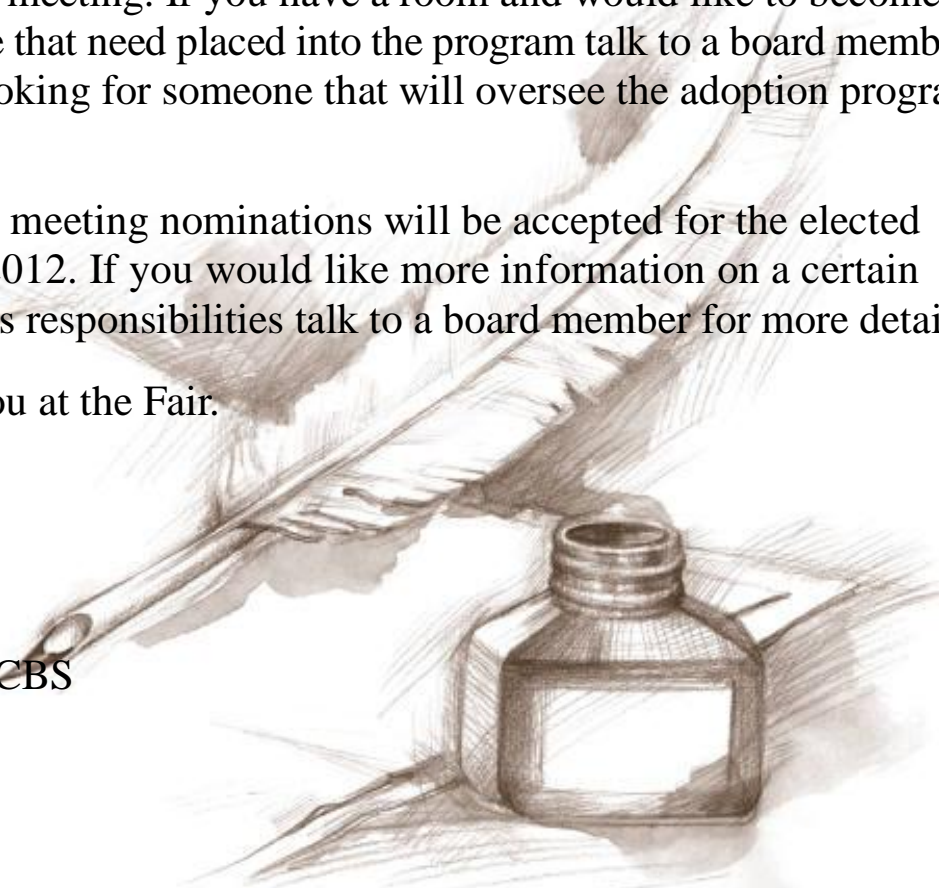
Check out the changes on the website that include our raffle items and the vendors that will be joining us. Volunteers and donations are always accepted by contacting me or any of the board members.

There have been some issues that needed attention and changes that have been addressed by the board recently. The big change is to the adoption program. We have a committee in place to oversee these changes. The goal is to have these changes ready for the club to review in the October meeting. If you have a room and would like to become a foster for those that need placed into the program talk to a board member. We are also looking for someone that will oversee the adoption program for 2012.

In the October meeting nominations will be accepted for the elected positions for 2012. If you would like more information on a certain position and its responsibilities talk to a board member for more details.

Hope to see you at the Fair.

Thank you,
Rick Kling
President, GOCBS



Selecting the Right Bird for You and Your Family

By Don J. Harris, DVM

www.zupreem.com

Exotic birds can be delightful pets - just ask any of the millions of companion bird owners throughout the world who enjoy a rewarding and satisfying relationship with their feathered friends. Creating a long-lasting positive relationship with your bird may be the result of choosing the right bird for you and your family in the beginning. This crucial first step is part of being a responsible pet owner, but it is often overlooked in the rush to acquire a new bird. Identifying what characteristics you want in a bird, and researching different species and their characteristics can go a long ways in helping establish a long and happy relationship. Rarely will one bird fit more than a few of the desired characteristics. You may acquire a bird and expect it to speak, only to eventually realize this particular species never talks. Others may discover that a large colorful macaw is also a large intolerably noisy creature. Many potential owners have expectations that cannot possibly be fulfilled by the species they choose. The best way to obtain the "perfect" pet is to first determine which characteristics are most important to you. Then shop for the bird that fits those criteria. Certain species arise as leaders in a variety of categories, and this list can be used as a starting point in making your choice. Remember, there are always exceptions, so once you have narrowed down your decision to a particular species, look at the parents and gather information from the breeder about an individual bird's behavior.

Some bird owners may want to avoid certain "unpopular" characteristics like those listed below. Others may not see these same characteristics as undesirable. It's up to bird owners to weigh all characteristics of a species or an individual bird to make the best decision. In the end, individuals interested in owning a bird should first decide what they expect from a pet bird. Once this question is answered, an appropriate species can be identified and researched. Only then can the potential for a long and mutually beneficial relationship be realized.

- Appearance: Finches, Macaws, Eclectus, Lories, Toucans
- Speaking ability: African Grey, Amazon, Mynah
- Natural vocalization (song): Canary, Cockatiel
- Intelligence: African Grey
- Social attributes: Cockatoo, Budgie, Cockatiel
- Small size: Canary, Finch, Budgie, Lovebird, Cockatiel
- Low maintenance: Amazon and smaller
- Cleanliness: Most smaller species
- Loud: Macaws, Cockatoos
- Messy: Macaws, Mynahs, Toucans
- Aggressive: Female Eclectus, Male Amazons

www.NeBirdLady.com

Exotic Bird Information, Rescue, Adoption and Sales.

Chloe Welstead, CAS

(402) 450 - 2059



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Saturday 9am to 1pm

Questions welcome! Just stop in, or call and ask.

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Ask about our GOCBS Member Discount

PICNIC

The GOCBS Summer Picnic was a lot of fun and had a great turn out of people. Vance and Marcia DeLehoy hosted the picnic at their home near Fort Calhoun. There were lots of burgers and brats to go with tons of side dishes and desserts.

Rick Kling was only able to drop off the food and drinks before he had to be back at work, so we were unable to hold a short meeting to get the Fair lined up, but it was on our minds! The drinks really hit the spot when the sun decided to show up. There was plenty of shade available and a pleasant breeze. It was really nice to sit in the shade, kick up your feet, relax and talk with friends.

Chloe Welstead brought her baby Timneh African Greys and Orange-winged Amazons. She also brought the eight baby Budgerigar Parakeets that she is hand feeding for Elsa Ashelford. Elsa took photos and videos of the babies being fed. You can see the photos posted on the Facebook page for the club.

A huge THANK YOU to Marcia and Vance along with everyone else that helped set up, clean up and everything in between.

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Sign up now to start receiving the latest email news and updates:



www.GreaterOmahaCageBirdSociety.com

Bloodwork is Important in a Post-purchase Veterinary Exam

By Don J. Harris, DVM www.zupreem.com

All too often a bird owner with a recently purchased bird either does not take the bird to a veterinarian for examination, or if they do, the most important part of this exam is not preformed.



What is crucial in a post-purchase evaluation is the blood work. Because birds are great at hiding physical signs of illness, blood testing is mandatory in assessing the health of avian patients. The veterinarian may scrutinize a bird and look for any physical abnormalities, but even the healthiest looking birds can be hiding disease. Sometimes, blood tests are the only way to accurately uncover hidden health problems.

Many illnesses display no external signs until the end when the bird is at death's door. By then, it is often too late to resolve the problem. Most problems can be addressed if detected early, and bloodwork is the key to early detection.

Bird owners should ask that blood tests be performed on their bird, even if the veterinarian doesn't suggest it. In fact, if a veterinarian doesn't discuss lab tests in the face of avian illness, another veterinarian should be sought. If the results are negative, the owner will have peace of mind knowing the bird is healthy. If the results suggest a problem, action can be taken to treat the condition. Blood work can also provide a baseline that can be helpful in future evaluations of your bird.

I recently became aware of a pet owner who took her bird to a veterinarian for a post-purchase exam. The veterinarian checked over the bird, did a culture of the bird's throat and vent, and recommended bloodwork. The new bird owner decided not to do the blood tests.

Continued on page 14

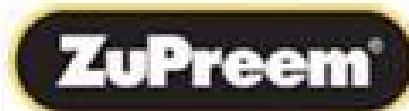


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Hope to see you at the Fall Bird Fair!

September 18, 2011
10 am to 5 pm

Mid-America Center
One Arena Way
Council Bluffs, IA

Disclaimer: The content provided by Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society in our newsletter is for educational purposes only and is in no way intended to be substitute for professional services or professional advice. Unless otherwise indicated, the statements found in this newsletter are either derived or quoted from printed materials and express the opinions of other bird handlers, trainers, or bird owners. All techniques or information recommended or documented in our newsletter should be considered the view of others and we will not accept responsibility for actions you take due to materials found in this newsletter. By making use of the content found in this newsletter, our newsletter readers agree that it is his or her sole responsibility to determine the suitability of the content and holds harmless the Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society, the editor, or any other person associated with Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society or this newsletter in any way. Any questions about this "Disclaimer" should be addressed to the president of Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society. Contact the president of the club and your questions or concerns will be answered as quickly as possible.

**Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society
2011 Bird Fair Table Contract Form**

CONDITIONS:

1. Set up time will begin at 6 AM. Tables need to be set up and ready for business before 10:00 AM. Business hours will be from 10-5 for the public. If you need to close and leave earlier than 5, please advise a GOCBS vendor coordinator or a GOCBS officer. Tear down must be completed by 6:30 PM.
2. No other fund-raising activities are allowed other than those supporting GOCBS.
3. **Flight Feathers must be trimmed** for birds that will be on display outside of cages. **Expenses incurred to retrieve loose birds are the responsibility of the vendor and must be paid at the time of retrieval. Failure to comply may forfeit in participating in the remainder of the fair and suspension / refusal of any future fairs.**
4. GOCBS reserves the right to refuse applications for table rentals.
5. Space assignment for the fair will be done arbitrarily and at the discretion of the GOCBS officers. **Your assigned space must be cleaned at the end of the day. All large trash and boxes must be taken to the designated area.**
6. GOCBS will not be held responsible for any taxes or fees associated with the sale of livestock, merchandise, or supplies. Tax papers need to be turned in to the state by the designated date.
7. Neither GOCBS nor any representative of GOCBS will be held responsible for any damage, injury, or loss of any property (personal property, livestock, or equipment) however it may be caused.
8. **No un-weaned birds can be sold. All birds must be weaned.** If found to be in violation GOCBS can take immediate action to include the following: Immediate removal from the fair. Suspension / refusal to participate in any future fairs.
9. All birds are to be kept in the area assigned by GOCBS.
10. Sold birds should be provided a care sheet that provides current diet, future recommended diet, and any other care instructions. You should also give contact information to the new owner for any questions after the sale.
11. Due to limited space, there will be **no parking on the loading / unloading ramp.** Unloading will need to be limited to the street or the parking lot.
12. Prices for an eight foot table will be \$45.00. Prices for an eight foot space will be \$45.00. All payments must be in by Sept. 12, 2011.

AGREEMENT: In consideration of the sum of \$45 per table and the sum of \$45 per space, Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society (GOCBS) will lease _____ tables and/or _____ spaces, to (your name) _____ at the bird fair to be held at Mid-America Center, One Arena Way, Council Bluffs, IA, 51501 on September 18, 2011.

Failure to abide by these rules will result in immediate removal from the fair.

I agree to the conditions stated above. Payment included in the amount of \$_____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

TERMS OF PAYMENT:

Please return this agreement and a check or money order made payable to GOCBS in the amount appropriate for full payment of table rental to: Rick Kling, 3604 N 45th Street, Omaha, NE, 68104 Phone (402) 933-5686.

Please describe what you will be displaying on your table, to help with our process of table assignments, describe any special requirements that you desire (electricity, etc.): *Use reverse side if needed.*

Come to the Plattsmouth Public Library. Meet several live parrots and visit with members of the Greater Omaha Caged Bird Society (GOCBS).

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1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
PLATTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY
402-296-4154

Saturday, September 24, 2011
from 1 pm - 2 pm.

A presentation on Basic Bird Care and a Question & Answer session will be given by Plattsmouth native Chloe Welstead. She is the Nebraska State Coordinator for the American Federation of Aviculture, a Certified Avian Specialist and Certified Aviculturist. She is a member of the Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society.

Her guests will be a two month old Orange-winged Amazon Parrot and a two month old Timneh African Grey Parrot.

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Fall Bird Fair Sneak Peek

Some of the Vendors alphabetically:

A Bird Toy	Birds Only Toys
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Harmonic Pets	Klump Critters and Cages
Nebraska Bird Lady	Nebraska Exotics
Parrot Chest	Paul Lucht Feed
Swards	

Some of the raffle items:

Assorted Sizes of Bird Toys
Baby Blankets
Book: Alex & Me by Dr. Irene M. Peppererberg
Digital Camera
Light Sticks
National Geographic Book: Bird Coloration
Piggy Banks
Tame Budgerigar Parakeet in cage
Variety of Sizes Bird Food

Avian Related Links

G.O.C.B.S.

www.greateromahacagebirdsociety.com

Drs. Foster & Smith
www.drsfostersmith.com

Exotic Pet Vet
www.exoticpetvet.net

ASPCA
www.aspca.org

Bird Talk
www.birdchannel.com

Consider These Factors Before Purchasing a Bird

By Don J. Harris, DVM www.zupreem.com

Purchasing a new bird is an act that requires much forethought and planning. Some potential bird owners research a new car purchase with far more diligence than they do a new pet. But, because some parrots live as long as 50-60+ years, impulse buying may have repercussions that last for decades-much longer than a new car. Here are a few aspects to consider when purchasing a bird.

- Does this particular bird fit your lifestyle? Does the species enjoy a busy and noisy environment with a lot of people interacting, or would it do better in a more quiet more isolated environment?
- If it is a large species, is there enough space in your home for a large cage?
- How much time can you devote to a pet? Does the species demand a lot of care and attention? Is it a "high maintenance" species that needs a lot of one-on-one interaction, or is it happy to be left alone for periods of time?
- Does this bird have the pet characteristics you want? If it is important to you that your bird talks, choose a species with high speaking ability, such as an African Grey, Amazon or Mynah. If cleanliness is important, check out a smaller species. If intelligence is important, you can't beat an African Grey.
- What is the average life span of this species? Life spans range from 10-60+ years, depending on the species. Do you want a bird that may outlive you?
- Where are you purchasing your new bird? Was it bred locally? Is the breeder available for questioning? Is the dealer in a fixed location where you can locate him or her should you need follow-up advice or if a problem arises?
- Is there a guarantee? Be suspicious of anyone who doesn't offer some assurance of the bird's health.
- What are the nutritional needs of this species? Certain species of birds have special nutritional needs. Can you meet them? What kind of diet is the bird currently eating? Is the bird already eating a balanced diet or will it need to be converted to a new more nutritious one? Older birds on seed diets can be difficult to convert, but may encounter health problems if not switched.
- Is the bird healthy? There is no way to answer this without a complete post-purchase veterinary exam. Schedule an exam with your avian veterinarian immediately after purchasing your new bird. Don't wait.
- Is your home ready for your new bird? Is the caging suitable? Is it situated in the correct location in the home? Are the perches arranged correctly? Are there toxic plants or substances harmful to birds in the household that may need to be removed? If your new bird is joining other birds in your family, do you have a plan on how to quarantine the new bird until you have a post-purchase veterinary exam?

Everything appeared okay until the bird died two days later. A necropsy showed the bird had *Aspergillus* fungus throughout its abdomen. Had the new owner consented to blood tests for her bird, the fungus would have been detected.

Possible conditions or diseases that may be diagnosed through a complete blood analysis include:

- Infections
- Parasites
- Metabolic disorders such as liver or kidney disease
- Vitamin deficiencies such as Vitamin A deficiency
- Reproductivity
- Malnutrition



Bloodwork is the veterinarian's first and most important tool in evaluating patients. It is an internal view of the bird's overall health. Depending on the results of the initial bloodwork, other diagnostic tests may be warranted to fully diagnose the extent or the cause of any abnormal findings.

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Funny Bird Video Contest On Facebook

On Facebook, search for the Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society Group page. You will be able to get to the event named Funny Bird Video Contest.

The direct link to the video contest event is:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/event.php?eid=175682999168287>



I'm ready for my
close-up shot!

Add your favorite bird video or a link to the video directly to this Facebook Event! Please limit the videos to 2 to 3 minutes long.

.....

The winners will be announced during the Fall Bird Fair at the Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs, IA Sunday, September 18.

....

Everyone is eligible to enter their own video & try to win, but the winners must be able to pick up their prize (or have a representative) at the Fall Bird Fair Sunday, September 18, 2011.

...

The grand prize is \$50.00 plus a free membership to the Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society and some treats for the star of the video!

We will also award a prize to the 2nd and 3rd place winners!

Prizes will be awarded based off of how many people Like the video on the Event.

Good Luck. If you have any questions, call or email:

Chloe Welstead

(402) 450-2059

info@nebirdlady.com

Meetings & Special Event Dates	
Meeting Cancelled Go to the Fair!	September 18
Fall Bird Fair	September 18
Educational Outreach Plattsmouth Library	September 24
Meeting	October 16
Meeting	November 20



GOCBS meets at 3:00 PM

Hope to see you there!

Our Meeting Location!



Nebraska Humane Society

8949 Fort Street
Omaha, Nebraska

G O C B S W A N T A D S

Want ads are available to members at no cost for five (5) lines. If you are interested in more or are a non-member, the fee is \$5.00 per issue. GOCBS does not guarantee the health, quality, etc. of items listed for sale in these ads. All agreements are between buyer and seller. Verify prices, quantity and species of birds with the seller.

FOR SALE:

Female Red Rump Parakeet, very pretty.

Call Marcia in the evenings at (402) 453 - 5235

FOR SALE:

Two very sweet hand-fed **baby Quaker Parrots** (green split to blue) ready for a forever home. \$150.00 each for more info please contact:

Anna or Bonita at (402) 614 - 1099.

FOR SALE:

Taking deposits now.

Timneh African Grey babies. Hatched in July, they will be ready for their new homes in September or October. \$600.00 each please contact:

Chloe (402) 450 - 2059 or email info@nebirdlady.com

FOR SALE:

Long time local Bird Breeder selling out due to health reasons. Chuck and Monica Sudds of Beakers Aviary near Missouri Valley, Iowa are selling their TWO (2) PROVEN UMBRELLA COCKATOO breeding pairs.

All have been in a closed aviary environment for over 12 years. All have been checked by Dr. Scott McDonald.

For more information call Chuck or Monica Sudds (712) 642-3800

(Not long distance from Omaha)

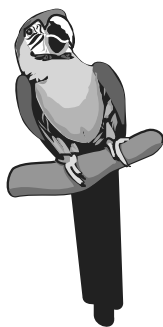
WANTED:

Contact: Joy Yager (402) 690-0682

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- Colored feathers from all species of birds.
- Feathers are used for their tribal gatherings



To place an ad: email: pandora1641@yahoo.com



GREATER OMAHA CAGE BIRD SOCIETY

WHO NEEDS BIRD CLUBS ANYWAY?

If you keep birds as pets or raise them for a hobby, **YOU DO!!** Bird clubs are great resources for anyone interested in keeping birds. All bird owners go through similar experiences, so the sources of information about a variety of subjects can be a big help.

Membership fees are as follows:

	<i>January - December</i>	<i>July-December 1/2 Price</i>
Junior (under 16)	\$7.50/year	\$3.75
Single	\$15.00/year	\$7.50
Family	\$20.00/year	\$10.00
Business Associate	\$20.00/year	\$10.00

Meetings are at 3:00 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month at the Nebraska Humane Society, 8929 Fort Street, Omaha, Nebraska

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO G.O.C.B.S.

Please fill out the following information:

Date: _____ New membership: ____ Renewal membership: ____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

(DON'T FORGET ZIP CODE)

Birth Date: Month/Day (only) _____ (list all names from above)

Home phone: _____ (____ roster or ____ unlisted)

Work phone: _____ (____ roster or ____ unlisted)

E-Mail Address: _____ (for Newsletter)


Pet birds: _____

Birds you breed: _____

**Please bring this to one of the meetings or mail to:
GOCBS, c/o Ginger Bostwick, 4406 State St., Omaha, NE 68112**

Year _____ Pd \$ _____ ca/ck j____ s____ f____ ba_____

Updated May 2011



Greater Omaha Cage Bird Society
3604 North 45th Street
Omaha, NE 68104

