 This newsletter

devoted to pet bird

enthusiasts is

published monthly by

Rainbow Feathers

Bird Club of Michigan

A 501(c) (3) club

January 2018

Volume 21 Issue 1

# **Bird Droppings**

CANDLE03

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**:

JANUARY 28th ---– FOURTH SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 25th – FOURTH SUNDAY

MARCH 25th -----– FOURTH SUNDAY

## RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB

Who we are and what we are about

* Non Profit club with members throughout the tri-county area, single bird owners, or just thinking of getting a bird, families, breeders, exhibitors, all are welcome.
* Support scholarships for avian vet students
* Yearly Bird Fair
* Club Library for members
* Grooming available
* Avian rescue/relocation programs
* Monthly meetings with programs of interest to members.
* Monthly newsletter
* Periodic Service projects
* Field Trips
* Educational Programs upon request
* Save molted feathers for craft projects
* Make-it-take-it workshops

And more…….

Come join us and have your feathers preened by other Pet Bird Enthusiasts

CANDLE03

Rainbow Feathers Bird Club Elected Officers: President – Dave Carol 734-422-5981

email – [sweettweeters@comcast.net](mailto:sweettweeters@comcast.net)

Vice President – Steve Plafchan 734-513-0030

Email – splafchan@twmi.rr.com

### Secretary – Kathe Cote 313-728-2211

### Email – gardenfrog1967@yahoo.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary – Tammy Carol 734-422-5981

Email – [sweettweeters@comcast.net](mailto:sweettweeters@comcast.net)

### Board of Trustees –

Susan Dixon 248-330-6938

Email – susanhdixon@hotmail.com

Henry Jedrzejek-734-427-3187

Email – bigduke@comcast.net

Mary Perva – 517-672-9528

Email-maryperva@rocketmail.com

BIRDAY04

**ALL HEALTHY AND CLIPPED BIRDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS TO THE MONTHLY MEETINGS. WE MEET AT THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 6443 MERRIMAN ROAD BETWEEN FORD AND WARREN IN GARDEN CITY. MEETINGS START AT 2:00 PM.**

Anyone interested in becoming a member please contact Tammy Carol @ 734-422-5981 or by e-mail [sweettweeters@comcast.net](mailto:sweettweeters@comcast.net)

EDITORS BULLETIN BOARD

Steve Plafchan is doing the newsletter. All ads and articles will be due the 1st of the month for publishing in the current month’s newsletter. Please send all items to him at 11021 Henry Ruff, Livonia MI 48150 or email to splafchan@twmi.rr.com.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles for the newsletter – this is YOUR newsletter.

Articles and/or pictures copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original publication and author; this needs to be provided to the editor along with the article and/or picture.

Editor reserves the right to approve and/or edit any articles submitted prior to publication.

Ads will be run free for members having a one-time sale (baby birds, etc.). Those wishing to run ads multiple times or for a business must purchase a business membership.

BIRD CLUB ETIQUETTE

* Ask owner’s permission to handle/feed bird(s) and remember to return bird to the owner.
* Wash hands prior/after bird handling.
* When bringing companion birds to club meetings, only bring birds that you have had vet checked and in your possession for at least 30 days.
* Clean up after yourself and your bird(s) before you leave.

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CLUB WELFARE

Please contact Jean Jedrzejek at 734-427-3187 or e-mail her at [bigduke@comcast.net](mailto:bigduke@comcast.net) if you know of any club member who is in the hospital or has lost a loved one.



Monthly snack list

**A few years ago we stopped soliciting volunteers to bring food to our meetings. Instead, it was agreed that the format be a potluck venue. We ask that “Everyone”, please join in and contribute a main dish, veggie, salad, or dessert. Our meetings will be a potluck fair enjoyed by one and all. YUM!!**



**OVER THE RAINBOW BRIDGE**

**Birds come into our lives to**

**teach us about love.  They depart**

**to teach us about loss. A new bird never replaces an old bird; it merely expands the heart.  If you have loved many birds, your heart is very big.**

(Author unknown)

The above poem was submitted by club member Jim Lamb.



j0109765

**From the prez:**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Ok everybody say it with me, 2018, again 2018 one more time 2018, but you know what, I will still date something 2017 it’s like it is a tradition to do that and we all have done it. I just can’t believe that we are at the beginning of another year where does the time go. I can remember when I was a kid it seemed to take forever for Christmas to get here, now it comes and goes like greased lightning. That is how our whole year has seemed to go almost a blur we were so busy between senior programs, events and a host of other things we did, it all just runs together and when you stop and look back you say “boy we were busy”. I have been told that that is a sign of a healthy club being busy with many events that further our agenda to educate and rescue these incredible creatures. We even did a new event in July and will probably do it again next year plus we were asked to provide the talent for a Buick commercial who knows where that might lead. We may have some rising stars among our feathered friends if they ask us to do another commercial. Year after year what stands out is, well you guys. What I mean is people are always amazed when we do a program or event how we get along and how much fun we seem to have in whatever we do. They also are blown away by how overall friendly we are and that we include everybody no one is left out. This is something that we have always done and will continue to do and that is what has given us the incredible reputation we have. This is something I value and will continue to make a priority to just keep doing what we do best. So, as we close one year and open another let’s not change the way we do things let’s stay just the way we are there is nothing I would change about the club because why tamper with success and it always seems that if there is a better way to do something we seem to find it naturally and seamlessly integrate anyway. So here is to a great 2018 let continue to grow and flourish this is your club your ideas and actions have made this club what it is the best in my book. Here’s to more adventure and I couldn’t be happier to have the best members in the world with me because **YOU GUYS ROCK!**

Your Prez

Dave

P.S. It is also election time so if you want to nominate someone for an office you can do it at the next meeting.

Caged

Voice of the Veep

Happy New Year! Happy New Year!

The Christmas meeting last month was fabulous from the delicious food to the annual Christmas raffle it was tons of fun. I want to thank everybody in the club for their participation in our Christmas raffle and all the meeting raffles throughout the year. This is one of the most generous ways you can help support our rescue and assist our club in paying vet bills and all of you have succeeded in accomplishing this in a big way. Thank you to everyone for the support. Another way we generate monies for supporting the rescue is to stage senior programs at nursing homes, assisted living and independent living facilities throughout the year. The year 2017 was the busiest year for shows and events we have ever had. If memory serves me correctly there were forty senior shows and five other events totaling six days. This year 2017 could very easily exceed last year. I encourage everyone to join us at a show, even if you do not bring your own bird, they are a lot of fun and we can always use the help. Check the Up-coming Events page on the website or in the newsletter to see the dates and times of the show schedule. If you have any questions about attending an event, please feel free to call me (Steve) at 734-513-0030 for more information.

This month is when we hold our annual elections; there is a description of all the offices and the duties of each office holder included in this edition of the newsletter. If you are interested in running or wish to nominate someone feel free to do so. Our annual dues are also payable this month; if you joined the club within the last six months your dues are good for another year. Please check with Tammy if you are not sure what your dues are or if you owe some.

I’ll see you at the meeting

Your Veep

Steve

**Avast ye Mates**

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**CAPTAINS CORNER**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! I cannot believe that it is 2018 already where does the time go? It seems that the older I get the faster time goes by. It seems that was only yesterday we were wowing the crowds, and I do mean crowds at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. It was so much fun and we had three glorious days not like the year before when we had four hours of rain and one very unfortunate incident. Due to our efforts we raised a record amount in donations the most we have ever raised anywhere! We were busy entertaining the seniors at various facilities all over the lower half of Michigan, or so it seemed. Then we took another new event for the Garden City Library’s end of summer reading program a car show and a craft fair. They saw us at the Garden City’s Flea Circus pet adoption event in June of 2017 and thought we would be a great fit for this event. Once again, we wowed the crowd’s as always. Then in November we headed off to the Suburban Collection Show Place where we got to work once again with Jessie James the Bird whisperer and we basically leveled up from just another rescue but now as a feature. We also did Guardians for Animals Pet Expo Which became a one-day event but was very well attended and as always, we had a blast. Now the programs are over and it now time to settle in for a long winters nap and get ready for next year, our fair in June and all the other stuff we do. I will be ready and Sparky, Pookie, J.B. and your’s truly will be ready to wow the public once again. So once again, Happy New Year see you around!

Cheers

Captain Morgan

**Out and About with Pookie**

The phone here at the editorial desk has been ringing off the hook this past month. Yes, I am quite aware that phones do not have hooks any more that is a colloquialism for any of you that are not African Greys and it is to impress upon you that there have been many calls. What are all the calls about you ask? The weather and showers! Is it safe to take my bird outside in this weather? How do I get my companion bird to the vet if it is necessary?

We live here in Michigan and there is no doubt this is the coldest weather we have had in many years. There are precautions your human should take. If you have to go out make sure your companion, human has the car nice and warm and that your carrier is covered with extra blankets. Always have them warm up the car prior to letting them put you inside of it. Another precaution they need to take is to check for drafts on you and your cage. By this I mean if your cage is near a window or a door the window or door should not be left open or used excessively without you being covered. The furnace is also very important to check; if it has a humidifier it should be working. The warm air from a forced air furnace is very dry and can cause itching and dry skin and that irritation may cause feather picking and skin issues. Increasing the number of showers you take even if the humidifier is functioning is beneficial and a nice warm blow dry from a hair dryer is quite nice also.

Last year was one of the busiest years for our club ever and we, the feathered members, handled the challenge quite admirably. We stared in over forty senior shows, three days each at the Pet Expo and the Heritage festival, three outdoor events under our pop-up and the Guardians pet fair. The odds are probably very strong that 2018 will be even busier than 2017.

There was an interesting occurrence in late December; we were contacted by a production company that was filming a television commercial. They wished to have a parrot in their commercial that could talk. I volunteered but sadly the producer chose Ricky the Umbrella Cockatoo over me. Sometimes I just do not understand most humans. We attempted to explain that African Greys were much calmer and predictable but they still opted for Ricky; unpredictable and psychotic.

Humans? Who can figure what goes on inside of their heads?

See you at the meeting

Chirps and Squawks

Pookie

Mil mackaw

REMIND_3

A REMINDER

Our dues are due by January 31st. Checks should be made out to **RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB**. Please pay them at the January meeting or by mail to Tammy Carol at Rainbow Feathers Bird Club, PO Box 1587, Garden City MI 48135.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

DAN ERNST                                    FEB. 19

BEV WILLIAMS                              FEB. 19  
TONY DURANDETTO                    FEB. 20

DEBBIE JAMIESON                       FEB. 20

LACHLAN MILLER                          FEB. 24

DIANE SILAS                                  FEB. 24

NANCY SULLIVAN                         FEB. 25

Annual elections

The annual elections will be held at our January meeting. We will be voting on a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Any member in good standing is eligible to fill any one of these offices. To help you decide who you think would best fill these offices, the following is a brief guide to their duties:

**PRESIDENT:** The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, see that the bylaws are enforced, call such meetings as are needed, and be responsible for the execution of all motions passed by the members. The President shall also be public relations administrator and liaison between the Club and all other groups.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** The Vice President shall assume the President’s responsibilities in the absence or disability of the President, keep constantly informed of Club activities, and shall be responsible for special programs and social events.

**SECRETARY:** The Secretary is responsible for minutes at all general membership and board meetings, reads minutes of previous meetings when requested, keeps a file of all minutes, shall provide copies of minutes for each board member upon request, is responsible for all member notices, and is responsible for all correspondence, both incoming and outgoing.

**TREASURER:** The Treasurer collects all dues and records all moneys belonging to the Club, disburses same under the direction of the President, deposits the funds of the Club in the name of the Club in such bank or banks as may be designated by the Executive Committee, and submits a statement of accounts at each meeting. The books and accounts shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any member. The Treasurer shall be responsible for disbursement of moneys for bird bands.

**TRUSTEE:** One Trustee is elected each year to serve a three year term. A person serving as Trustee is ineligible for other elected office. Duties shall be to serve as coordinators of the Club, assuring a meeting place, acting as assistants to the President, and serve as a grievance committee. They shall conduct an annual audit of all Club records, Treasurer’s and Secretary’s books, etc. The Trustees whose terms of office have not expired shall serve as the election committee and shall conduct the annual elections. The Trustees shall review all absences of officers and shall fill any vacant office by either appointment or special election with the membership.

**2017 a Year in Review**

2017 was a very busy year for us we did a couple of new programs along with the places that we normally go to and new events along with old plus something I would have never in my wildest dreams even think we would do. So, it was a banner year to say the least.

We did a couple of new senior facilities this year all because of all the positive things they had heard from other activity directors at other facilities.

We took part in a new event the end of summer reading program bash. It was a car show and craft fair that went very well. They saw us at the Garden City Flea Circus and asked us if we could be there at this Garden City event as well.

We raised a record amount in donations at the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival raising over $1000 dollars. I was just blown away by that thanks to all our hard work and perfect weather.

We received a donation of $2000 from a trust that we rescued birds from when the care taker was no longer able to do it.

We welcomed a lot of new members in 2017 so our flock keeps growing!

Finally, Through the Novi Pet Expo a person saw us and gave our information to a production company resulting in providing birds for Buick commercial. We took three Cosmo, Ricky and Tuna and it was Ricky who stole the show. So, I looking forward to seeing the commercial and watching Ricky shine.

Yes, it was a great year and 2018 looks to be just as busy for us but we know how to shine like 100 suns. To use the words to an 80’s song “our future’s so bright we have to wear shades!”

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Even Though the holidays are over their memories still linger and some of those are not the nicest of memories. It seems that people think that giving a live animal to an unsuspecting relative is a good idea and their calls proved that they all needed to be on Santa’s naughty list.

A woman calls and needed an African Gray immediately because some of her family members would be visiting family out of state and she wanted to get her nephew a present he would remember. Since they were celebrating Christmas early she wanted to make a grand entrance with the coolest present she could think of and she was SURE he would love it. First problem was this was the part of the family that would be spending Christmas out of state so I told her springing a pet on them was a bad idea because who would watch it while they were gone. Second this was something they had no idea they were getting so was she really sure they would want this? She said I’m sure he will love it and I said but you don’t know that for sure and what about his parents do they want this in their home. The biggest problem was he is 15 soon to be 16 and at that age they soon lose interest and move on to the next thing. I told her we do not adopt during the holidays for that very reason. She had some very colorful words for me and hung up. Sadly, she was not the only one; we had numerous calls for Parakeets and or Cockatiels for young children as desperation gift when they could not think of anything else. I was called all sorts of wonderful names that surely got them off the nice list and all used the phrase “oh I’m sure they’ll love it”. I had to point out that by the end of January into February we will end up with a cage full of those birds they were so sure they would love.

One woman also said to me “well it’s just a Parakeet if she kills it oh well” I really made her extremely angry with my response. I guess if I made them that mad that they had to use that kind of language with me I was doing something right and its better they were mad at me than having a poor forgotten and neglected bird stuffed in a back room. I think next time they should get them gift cards!

**SAFETY FIRST**

It is so beautiful to see a bird in flight in the wild but at a club meeting not so much. There are way too many hazards that could injure and even kill our feathered members. Hazards such as all the Crockpot’s that contain very hot food or the trays of hot food that get brought to the meetings could severely burn a birds feet should they land in it or even on the hot lids. Also there are many birds that do attend the meeting with their pet humans and do not tolerate the sudden invasion of their space when a bird flies onto their pet human. Macaws and Cockatoos can cause some major damage to a smaller bird that decides to fly and land within chomping distance. There is also the issue of the kitchen, birds must stay out of the kitchen due to health department regulations and if our club got caught by the church with a bird, no matter how it got there, in the kitchen they could ask us to meet somewhere else. So please keep all flighted birds in their carriers even those waiting for a wing clipping or harnessed, this is mainly for the bird’s safety. Plus you never know what the reaction of a person or another bird might be when getting that sudden uninvited guest on their shoulder or play stand. So only clipped or harnessed birds are allowed at the meetings, thank you for your understanding and remember this is for the bird’s safety.

**Attention Kroger and Amazon Shoppers**

We have registered our rescue in the KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM and the AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM. These programs will donate a portion of the proceeds from registered shoppers to our non-profit rescue every time they purchase something. We are encouraging everybody who shops at Kroger® and/or Amazon to do so. Here is what you have to do.

**Kroger Shoppers:**

You must have a “Kroger Plus” card. If you don’t have one, they are available free by asking for one at your neighborhood Kroger store service desk.

You then have to register for the program by going on-line to Kroger.com and create an account or sign onto your account if you have been to this site before.

Once you have an account you click on the “EDIT KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS” tab and select Rainbow Feathers Bird Club and Rescue or our club’s NPO number “52206”. Once you have successfully registered you will see: Rainbow Feathers Bird Club and Rescue on the right side of the information page. When you shop at Kroger your support will also show at the bottom of your cash register receipts.

If you have been using your phone number when shopping at Kroger and don’t know your “Kroger Plus” card number you can call 877-576-7587 to get your card number.

**Amazon.com Shoppers:**

Instead of going to amazon.com go to smile.amazon.com this is a mirror website and it will have your shopping history, wish list and all account information. Under your account tab you will be able to change or select your charity. Select RAINBOW FEATHERS BIRD CLUB for our rescue to reap the benefits. **Remember to bookmark smile.amazon.com and always use this site for shopping on Amazon for our rescue to receive the donations.**

 

**REMEMBER WE VOTE THIS MONTH!**

**UP COMING**

**EVENTS**

**As of**

**January 5th 2018**

**\*\*\*\*2018\*\*\*\***

Feb. 24th Canary and Finch Breeders

Sat. Bird Fair

Livonia Elks Lodge #2246

31117 Plymouth Rd.

Livonia, MI 48150

$3.00 admission

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

\*\* Our Club Has A Booth At This Event\*\*

March 16th Senior Show

Fri American House

24400 Middlebelt Rd

Farmington Hills,  MI 48336

Set-up 1:30pm

Start 2:30pm

April 21st Senior Show

Sat Huron Woods

Towsley Health Building

5361 McAuley Dr.

Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Set-up 1:30pm

Start 2:30pm

 April 27th Senior Show

Fri Oakmont Parkway

36725 Utica Road

Clinton Twp. MI 48035

Set-up 1:30pm

Start 2:30pm

May 16th Senior Show

American House

1660 S. Venoy

Westland, MI 48186

Set-up 1:00pm

Start 2:00pm

June 10th Rainbow Feathers Bird Fair

Sun VFW Post 345

27345 Schoolcraft Rd.

Redford, MI 48239

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sept. 22nd Senior Show

Sat Huron Woods

Towsley Health Building

5361 McAuley Dr.

Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Set-up 1:30pm

Start 2:30 pm

Sept 8th Canary and Finch Breeders

Sat. Bird Fair

Livonia Elks Lodge #2246

31117 Plymouth Rd.

Livonia, MI 48150

$3.00 admission

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

\*\* Our Club Has a Booth At This Event\*\*

Nov. 3rd Senior Show

Sat Huron Woods

Towsley Health Building

5361 McAuley Dr.

Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Set-up 1:30pm

Start 2:30 pm

PET EXPO

Nov. 9th 2pm to 8pm

Nov. 10th 10am to 8pm

Nov. 11th 10am to 5pm

Suburban Collection Showplace

46100 Grand River

Novi, MI 48374

We will be setting up on Thursday Nov. 8th

most likely around 9:00 am.

Please remember no birds will be allowed

through the front door.

**\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\***

There has been some confusion from the loyal readers of Bird Droppings as to which events they are allowed to bring their own bird(s) to. As a point of reference and for future information please we want everyone to be aware that when you see the line:

\*\*\*Our Club Has a Booth at This Event\*\*\*

following or “Educational Show” preceding an event listing it means we are attending the event in an official capacity representing our club and rescue. At these events all club members are welcomed to bring their feathered companions with them. Also please note that our space is very limited at some of these events but don’t let this stop you from joining us, we will find a way for you and your birdie buddy to fit in and enjoy the fun.

 Rescue Update

Our rangers have been working overtime on rescue runs. Foster homes have also been doing extra duty with fostering and adoptions. In short it has been a busy, busy month!

Here is a brief recap of our latest adoptions:

A Quaker Parrot, two African Grey parrots (Remington & Toby) and Malachi an Umbrella were adopted last month.

All of these adopted birds went to their new homes with cages, food and toys. We are able to do this because of all of you, our members. It is your generosity and participation in our monthly raffles that has allowed us to be so successful. Thank you, thank you! Every one of you should be proud of the great job you’ve done. We couldn’t do it without your support.

 **Bits from Baby**

HAPPY 2018 EVERYONE!!

HOWDY to all my feathered and non-feathered friends, this is your roving reporter Baby with the latest and greatest news.

December at the Christmas Party there were sixty–seven people there and ten guests of which two joined our flock.

Now for the feathered members there were twenty-nine in attendance, Six Macaws, eight African Grays, and five Cockatoos plus ten other parrots.

Well get ready for another busy year of fun at all the events both indoors and outdoors. The calls are coming in hot and heavy already. Cannot wait to work with you all again this year.

See you at the next meeting.

Well that's all for now.

See you at the next meeting.

OH yes (HOPE EVERY ONE HAS A GREAT 2018 and GOD BLESS).

Well that's all for now.

See you all at the January meeting,

  God Bless.

  Your friend Baby,

**>< >< >< >< ><>< >< >< >< ><**

**THE ADVENTURES OF**

**STEVE AND DAVE**

**the**

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****

****

It was a bright sunny summer day the kind of day the beckons one to find a shady picnic spot or a good spot on the beach. Yes, it was all a summer day could be but for the Rangers it was a trip to Harrison Township to rescue a Greenwing named Charlie. Charlie’s owners could no longer care for Charlie in the proper way a Greenwing Macaw needed so with heavy hearts they called our heroes to come and get him. When they arrived, they saw a very nice house with flowers that made it very inviting and spoke of a lazy summer day. So, they knocked on the door and were greeted by the wife who took them to where Charlie was. There they saw a beautiful Greenwing Macaw happily hanging out with his owner but when they looked at the cage they both had to do a double take. Here was a cage that was no more than 22 inches by 22 inches way too small for such a large bird but it was the special feature that really caught their eye. The cage top looked as though it should come together to form a pyramid top but it was totally open. The reason was they said, so he could come and go as he pleased and did not feel confined. They only shut him in when they had to go somewhere. Still there was a bigger problem, besides the rust, he had started to bar by bar, to dismantle the cage. So being very diplomatic the Rangers collapsed the cage (it only slid together) and loaded it into the Rescue Mobile packed up Charlie and off they went. It is out of necessity that Ranger Dave has a Macaw cage on hand for just such an emergency and off he went to his foster home. Being a very good bird it wouldn’t be long before Charlie would find his forever home where he still lives like a king today. Mission accomplished objective met time to relax, NO there are still more birds that need the Rangers intervention they cannot rest they have a job to do but they are up to the task for they are the **RESCUE RANGERS!!!!!**

Don’t touch that dial and be ready for our next exciting adventure A Sun Conure in the Country!



**How do you know if your bird is getting the nutrition he needs for a long and healthy life?**

**By ZuPreem Staff**

**What’s the best diet for your bird?**

The best diet for your bird is one that provides a reliable consistent source of balanced nutrition. It’s also a diet that your bird likes to eat and gives him an enjoyable eating experience, while preventing obesity and other nutritionally related diseases.

**Feeding a variety of foods does not guarantee good nutrition**

Bird owners feed their birds a wide variety of foods ranging from seeds to home-prepared foods to commercial diets. Unfortunately, feeding a variety of foods does not always prevent nutritional imbalances. Many of these diets lack important nutrients birds need to maintain their health. Often they are not balanced, providing too much of this vitamin or nutrient, or not enough of another.

**Seed diets can lead to obesity**

Seeds are high in fat and deficient in important nutrients. Even if you supplement a seed diet with a nutritionally complete extruded diet or with fruits and vegetables, your bird will often choose the seeds, leaving behind the more nutritious foods. The simple fact is your bird likes seeds, just as you might like high-calorie, high-fat snacks. Okay for an occasional treat, but a steady diet over time can lead to vitamin deficiencies, obesity-related diseases and possible early death.

**Home prepared diets are not necessarily healthy**

As a labor of love, some bird owners chop, cook and mix special foods for their birds. Not only is this time-consuming, it is impossible to make sure your bird is getting the correct balance of nutrients. Too much iron, too little calcium, improper levels of Vitamins A, D, E and K. How do you know?

**Supplement sparingly with fruits and vegetables**

If your bird enjoys fruits and vegetables, go ahead and serve them, but they should not make up more than 15% of your bird’s daily diet. Fruits and vegetables do not offer all the nutrients your bird needs, and some are high in sugar and fiber, curbing your bird’s appetite for a more nutritious food.

**ZuPreem® Avian Diets take the guesswork out of your bird’s nutrition**

When you feed ZuPreem Life-stage Avian Diets, you know your bird is getting complete and balanced nutrition. From Embrace™ Hand-Feeding Formulas to AvianWeaning™ Diet to adult Avian-Maintenance™ FruitBlend™ Flavor and Natural Flavor Diets, your bird will get the precise nutrition he needs for each stage of his life. Backed by more than 30 years of nutrition research, ZuPreem diets have high-quality fresh ingredients that result in highly digestible and very palatable foods. Food your bird will like to eat and you will feel good about feeding him. Food that will provide all the nutrition he needs for a long and healthy life.

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NORTH BRANCH ANIMAL HOSPITAL

17630 Twelve Mile Road \* Southfield, MI 48076

248-557-7773

ROOSE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Kevin Roose, D.V.M. \* Karen Knight, D.V.M.

509 W. Ann Arbor Trail \* Plymouth, MI 48170

734-451-2870

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