



AVIAN FLYER



JUNE 2023

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ARTICLES, ADS AND PHOTOS
ARE WELCOME
AND ENCOURAGED!

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Summer 2023 starts on Wednesday, June 21! Enjoy!



OUR CLUB IS 70 YEARS OLD!!!

While many bird clubs have come and gone, the Columbia Canary Club has endured! Over the years members have joined that have other birds besides canaries, and some who have no canaries at all, but are bird people just the same. The fellowship is so wonderful that several members have stayed on even when life's circumstances have caused them to have to give up their birds. We have members from a wide geographical area, and thanks to our new meeting location having wifi, and our President Dan Pitney being willing and able to facilitate ZOOM meetings, everyone can attend, no matter how geographically far away they are. Our club has survived because we have evolved, and it shows.

Welcome to our newest members. It is so inspiring to have fresh new experienced folks as well as those eager to learn from them. When it comes down to it, a bird is a bird, no matter what kind you fancy! Speaking of members, check out

page 4 to find out which of our members has made a professional acting debut in the upcoming movie Little Wing, produced by the Awesomeness Studio division of Paramount Pictures (yes, that IS the studio's real name!).

Find out the details for our annual July picnic on page 7. There are also articles covering molt and our favorite subject (NOT) - bird poop—and what it says about the health of our birds.

We apologize for the lack of a newsletter in May, but we were experiencing considerable software and hardware issues at the same time—very frustrating, but (cross your fingers) everything finally seems back on track! Thank you for your patience!

Happy Father's Day to all of our dads out there!

Caleb Coblentz & Beth Murphy
Avian Flyer Co-Editors



2023 Officers

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We had a good meeting in May and took actions you should know about.

Bill Zinke has resigned as a member of our Board of Directors. I want to thank Bill for all the work and service he has provided our club over many years. We are very grateful for all he has done.

We elected Kelly Beaty as a new Board member. Kelly raises finches and has been very active in our club over several years. We look forward to working with her in this new role.

Cynthia Nelson volunteered to host the July 8 CCC Club picnic at her home in Portland. Look for details in this and the next months newsletter. Thank you, Cynthia!

Hector Diaz presented a very interesting program on Colorbred Canaries. He had some great pictures of amazing colors that are current and being developed. Thanks again, Hector.

Our June program will be on raising Ring Neck Doves. Mike and Lou Duyn will be providing us with some great insights into this lovely breed of birds.

Please plan to join us either by Zoom or in person. Remember the Board meeting is 1:30-2:00pm. The Show Committee is 2:00-2:30pm. Then the general meeting starts at 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm. Refreshments will follow. Join us for all or part of the meetings.

Have a great summer! *DAN*

May Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balances:

\$11,871.61 (Checking acct.)

\$844.36 (Savings acct.)

TOTAL- \$12,715.97

Income:

\$85.00 Dues

\$20.00 Donation (Finch nests Dan brought in)

TOTAL- \$105.00

Expenses: None

Ending Balances:

\$11,976.61 (Checking)

\$844.36 (Savings)

TOTAL-\$12,820.97

ATTENTION, please, to those members who use electronic funds transfer (EFT) methods to make payments to the club:

As approved at last month's meeting, we are planning to close out our PayPal account and switch over to Zelle for those members who do not want to pay with a bank check. We are now enrolled and ready to accept payments through Zelle. If you're unfamiliar with it, to get started go to your bank's mobile app or sign in to your online banking site to enroll. Then, to make a payment to the club just enter the treasurer's email address (cynthia.nelson@comcast.net). You will be asked to confirm that you want to send money to the Columbia Canary Club. After confirming, you are prompted to enter the amount you want to send CCC. Funds are electronically transferred to the club's bank account.

Hopefully, many of you are already aware of Zelle and this will be a smooth transition. One of the advantages of this EFT system is that it is a free service provided by our bank, while PayPal had processing charges.

Your treasurer,
Cynthia Nelson



**Calendar 2023
Columbia Canary Club**

June 10 – Meeting & Program

Program—Mike & Lue Duyn:

Raising Ring Necked Doves

July 8 – Picnic & brief meeting

August 12 – Meeting & Program

Elect Nominating Committee

Program – Scott Golden: Raising Turacos

September 9 – Meeting & Program

Nominating Committee Report

Program – Carol Groeneveld:

Preparing Canaries for Show

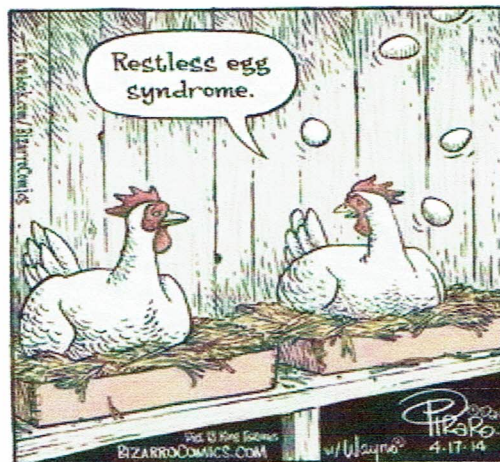
October 14 – Meeting, Program, Election of 2024 officers

Program – Preparing Finches for Show

October 28 – Show & brief meeting

November – No meeting

December 9 – Christmas Dinner & Introduction of new officers



CCC CLUB MEMBER MAKES ACTING DEBUT IN UPCOMING PARAMOUNT PICTURE: "LITTLE WING"

At last month's meeting Beth announced that a CCC club member had a role in the upcoming Paramount picture "Little Wing." Little Wing has been being filmed in the Portland/Oregon City area.

Little Wing follows Kaitlyn a 13-year-old girl who's struggling to come to terms with her parents' divorce. She and her mom Maddie have lost their home and Kaitlyn plans to solve their financial problems by stealing a valuable racing pigeon. Instead, she forms a bond with the bird's owner Jaan who cultivates her love of the sport.

Brian Cox plays pigeon racer Jaan. The Scottish star has acquired a legion of fans thanks to his portrayal of media mogul Logan Roy in hit US series Succession. He plays William Stryker in the X-Men movies and has also starred in Troy, The Slap, The Game, Shetland, The Bourne Identity, Manhunter and Braveheart among many other movies and TV series.

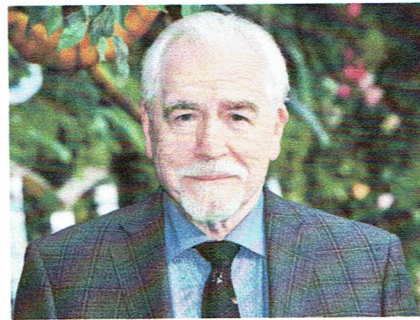
Kelly Reilly plays Kaitlyn's mum, Maddie. Kelly has become a major star thanks to her role as troubled Beth Dutton in the US series Yellowstone. She's also starred in Salade Grecque, Promises, Britannia, Above Suspicion, Sherlock Holmes and Pride & Prejudice.

Brooklynn Prince heads up the cast of Little Wing playing the teenage pigeon fancier, Kaitlyn. The young star has already made her name in Cocaine Bear, Home Before Dark and The Turning. She's also had roles in Settlers and The Florida Project as well as lending her voice to The Angry Birds Movie 2, The LEGO Movie 2, Monsters at Large and Robo-Dog Airborne.

Che Tafari plays Kaitlyn's classmate and friend Adam. He's previously starred in New to This Planet, The Good Fight, Me Time, The Good Place, One Dollar and High Maintenance.

Jadia Ward plays the pigeon racing judge, and has made her professional acting debut in Little Wing.

Little Wing is being produced by Awesomeness (abbreviation of AwesomenessTV). It is an American-based film and television studio as well as a multi-channel based multilingual television network owned by Paramount Digital Studios, a division of Paramount Global.



BRIAN COX

BROOKLYNN PRINCE



KELLY REILLY

CHE TAFARI

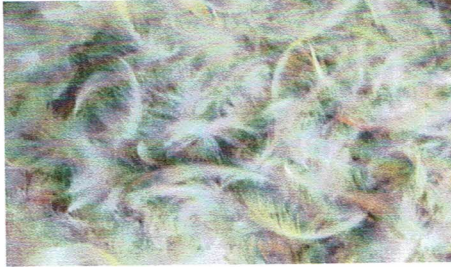


AND OUR VERY OWN CCC MEMBER JADIA WARD MAKING HER PROFESSIONAL ACTING DEBUT AS THE PIGEON RACING JUDGE!

EDITOR'S NOTE: As of this writing Little Wing does not have a published movie trailer. The movie is expected to be released later this year.

Quickening The Molt

by Linda Hogan



With approximately 2000 feathers on each bird, the summer snow is really a mess! It is so light and fluffy that as I try to sweep them up they float away to a clean spot! Thank goodness they can not elude the shop vac!! I can't wait to get this years molt over, can you?

Only fit birds will molt and failure to molt is a sign of illness but the speed at which they molt is dependent not only on their health but also on their age, diet and weather. The later a chick hatches the quicker it will molt. Nature says to these late bloomers, "you have arrived at the party late, now catch up". In my rollers, my best singers are generally the late bloomers, who get weaned only to start the molt and skip the baby twittering.

With feathers being primarily protein, supplying extra protein in nestling food helps speed the process initially. My recipe for molting nestling food was printed July 20th on the blog.

When a broad tract of pin feathers are clearly seen on the top of the head, it is time to cut back on the amount and frequency of protein and increase the carbohydrates in the diet. A small amount of egg containing nestling food should be fed once a day and continue till the molt is finished. After the hens quit trying to nest and showing signs of molting on their wing butts, the hens, like the other birds, get the nestling food once daily. Immediately, their appearance improves better than a trip to the spa!

Its time to increase the portion of carbohydrate in the diet by feeding either regular human oatmeal or steel cut oats. If you are not feeding white bread, this is a good time to feed it once daily to tame the birds, and help finish the molt. Canary seed should be increased and continue increasing in the seed mix and decreasing fattening sunflower pieces for most birds which are shown for type or color.

Refined singers such as German Rollers need the rape seed increased and canary decreased to promote high quality sound at the expense of a quick finish. They also still will need some sunflower pieces and bread to fatten them up for show training.

All additional lighting should either be off or set at no more than nine hours daily. Once song training begins, competition song birds should be on 10.5 hours. Moving up to a maximum of 11 hours per day can be done if necessary for more frequency but some quality may be lost. Day length must be consistent and only moving forward once song training begins.

Falling temperatures signaling the season change is also very helpful. Last night, a cold front came through dropping temperatures from the high of 88 to a low overnight of 56. Great time to open the screen covered windows and let the cool air signal the birds that its time to start getting out their winter coat!

Ducks will start to melt at 90 degrees



How to Monitor Your Bird's Droppings

Most bird owners have heard that it's important to monitor their feathered friend's droppings for signs of illness. However, it can be difficult to determine exactly what is "normal" when it comes to bird poop. It might seem gross, but analyzing your bird's droppings for color, texture, and other factors can go a long way in keeping your pet healthy.

Colors

Healthy bird droppings can display an array of colors and still be considered "normal." Your bird likely consumes many various types of fresh fruits and vegetables, a multitude of different seeds, and a variety of multi-colored pellets if you supplement your bird's meals with a commercially available diet. The food dyes in these pellets, combined with the natural colors of the fresh foods your bird eats, will naturally produce a rainbow of colors in their droppings.

However, if you notice that your bird's poop suddenly changes color, it can be a sign of severe health problems that need prompt veterinary attention.

Textures

The texture of the droppings will also vary based on your bird's diet. However, there are certain things to keep in mind when analyzing your bird's poop to make sure that it's healthy.

For one thing, the dropping should be neither too wet nor too dry. A good rule of thumb is that the poop should be close to mimicking the consistency of toothpaste, for lack of a less disgusting analogy. Be on the lookout for droppings that are very dark or seem "tarry," as this can be a sign of internal bleeding, which requires immediate veterinary care.

Odors

In general, your bird's droppings should produce little to no odor. Poop that seems overly smelly can be indicative of infection, intestinal problems, or other types of illness. This is not to

say that you should get down and sniff your bird's droppings; that can be harmful to your health. Rather, pay attention when your bird uses the bathroom, and see if there seems to be any noticeable scent wafting around the cage. If your nose detects something that's just not "right" about the odor, it's probably a good idea to contact your bird's vet for an evaluation.

Presence of Liquids

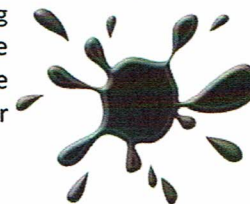
Unlike mammals and other types of animals, a bird's droppings are not normally solid. Rather, there should be a fair amount of liquid present in a healthy bird's waste, as a bird's anatomy does not have a separate mechanism for eliminating liquid waste from their bodies.

Instead, urine and feces are expelled at the same time. The urine in bird droppings normally presents itself as a white-colored, pasty liquid and usually comprises around 30 to 50 percent of the volume of the droppings. While this can vary slightly without being cause for alarm, you should definitely report to your avian veterinarian if you fear that there is too much or too little liquid in your bird's waste.

Size and Amount

As one might expect, the volume of a bird's droppings will be relative to the size of the bird producing them. In other words, small birds will produce smaller droppings, and larger birds will produce larger ones. Depending on the diet, slight variations in what is a normal amount of droppings for any given bird are to be expected, but any drastic change in the size or frequency of your bird's poop should be noted and reported to your veterinarian.¹ If you are worried about how often your bird poops, you can add a blueberry to their diet. This addition will turn your bird's poop blue, and you can measure how long from feeding time it takes for a blue poop to result.

Again, paying attention to your bird's droppings when cleaning out its cage will give you the best idea of what fits inside the normal range for your particular bird.



CCC ANNUAL PICNIC ON JULY 8TH!

I, Cynthia Nelson, am looking forward to hosting the picnic this year at our S.W. Portland home. Feel free to arrive between 11:30 and 12:00 to mingle awhile and perhaps get a garden tour before we sit down for lunch around 1:00. I'll provide a couple options for the main course; please bring a side dish or dessert of your choice. We are a bit short on chairs here-bring a folding chair if you're able to (a couple card tables, or similar, would also be much appreciated!).

Our address is 3414 S.W. Maricara Street, Portland. We are the first house on the street (gray with the rose arbor). There is some curbside parking available but, if needed, people can park at the church directly across the street from our house.

What am I forgetting?? We can discuss this more at our June 10 meeting.

I look forward to talking more with you all at the picnic!

Cynthia Nelson



Bird Dad Awards

Birds that go beyond the call of daddy.

Celebrate the hardest-working feathered fathers out there! These great bird dads don't fly away when the chicks hatch.

Best Builder:

The male house wren is serious about nest-building, because it's what helps him attract a mate. He starts constructing a few nests at once, and his female partner chooses the most promising one and finishes it.

Best Incubator:

Northern flicker fathers do the heavy lifting when it comes to keeping the eggs warm. Their incubating duties leave them sitting on eggs all night long and half the day as well.

Best Provider:

While a snowy owl mom is busy with the nestlings, the dad brings food to keep everybody fed. If it's been a particularly good year, he may leave a large stockpile of dead lemmings and other rodents around the nest.

Best All-Around Parent:

Not only do male sandhill cranes help with nest-building, incubation, and feeding their young, but families stick together through fall migration, winter and the beginning of spring migration. Young cranes learn and benefit from both parents.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Don't feel bad if your particular bird wasn't included. This list just covered wild birds!



Giardia and Other Intestinal Protozoal Infections in Pet Birds

by Hillary S. Stern, DVM

Your bird has been diagnosed with a protozoal infection. Protozoa such as Giardia are microscopic parasites that live in your bird's intestines. Protozoal infections are common in small parrots such as budgerigars, lovebirds, and cockatiels.

Protozoal infections alter the intestinal environment, interfering with the absorption of vitamins and nutrients, and with the digestion of fat. Infected birds often show symptoms of malnutrition. Providing your bird with an optimal diet is an important part of eliminating protozoal infections. It is also important to treat any other diseases your bird may have, as these could be weakening your bird's immune system, making it more difficult for him to eliminate these parasites.

Birds showing symptoms of protozoal infection may have chronic or intermittent diarrhea, lethargy, or poor appetite. Dry skin, itching, and feather picking can also occur. However, not all infected birds act sick. In fact, asymptomatic carriers are very common. In addition, protozoa are shed in the droppings irregularly, so a negative fecal sample does not mean that a bird is not infected. If one bird has been diagnosed with a protozoal infection, it is important to treat all birds in the household who come into contact with your infected bird, or who have shared perches or toys with your infected bird.

Protozoal parasites can form cysts, which are shed in the feces of infected birds. These cysts are infectious and are easily spread to other birds if ingested. Cysts can survive in the environment for several weeks. All cages should have grates to prevent access to droppings, and cage papers should be changed daily. In addition, a thorough disinfection of your bird's cage, toys, and play areas is an integral part of eliminating a protozoal infection.

Medication alone will not prevent your bird from getting reinfected from his environment. While treating your bird with the medication prescribed by your veterinarian, clean and disinfect non-porous cage, toy, and dish surfaces at least once a week. Effective disinfection can be performed as follows: first, thoroughly wash surfaces with a mild dish soap, and rinse well. Then, apply a dilute bleach solution (one part bleach to 32 parts water) and allow 10-20 minutes of contact time. Finally, rinse thoroughly with water to remove all traces of bleach. Remember that while bleach is an effective disinfectant, it is also a respiratory irritant and should never be used around your bird. Porous surfaces, such as wood toys or perches, cannot be effectively disinfected, and should be replaced.

Protozoal cysts can also survive on your bird's feathers, and be reingested during grooming. Follow your veterinarians recommendations concerning bathing or showering your bird while he's on medication.

The sensitivity of protozoa to antiparasitic medications is variable and difficult to predict. It is therefore imperative that your bird be retested after treatment to determine if the treatment was successful. Because reinfection can mimic resistance, appropriate cleaning and disinfecting must be instituted in conjunction with treatment. If the environment is not adequately cleaned, relapses are common.

People can also get Giardia infections. People usually become infected with a different type of Giardia than birds do. However, it may be possible for you to get Giardia from your bird. As a precaution, wash your hands after handling your bird or cleaning his cage. People who are immunosuppressed, such as those with AIDS or those on chemotherapy, should avoid contact with infected birds.

IT'S NOT UNHEARD OF FOR A DOG TO KILL A SWAN. BUT CAN A SWAN KILL A DOG?

The answer is yes, if the dog isn't very large and the swan is sufficiently motivated.

A cocker spaniel was swimming in the duck pond in Bushy Park, Dublin, Ireland, near a group of swans and cygnets when an adult swan broke away and attacked the dog, killing it.

"[Swans] are fiercely protective parents and they see a dog as a predator," explained Niall Hatch of Birdwatch Ireland.

In Ireland the most common swan type is the Mute swan, which are largely well accustomed to humans, whom they associate with food. By comparison the migrant Whooper and Bewick's swans are unlikely to interact.

Male Mutes grow up to 20 kilograms in size, about as large as possible for a flying bird, and they can strike out with their wings. Before doing so, however, they will hiss a warning to steer clear, generally in defense of their cygnets or nests.

Mr. Hatch said his organization receives about four to five reports every summer of swans being killed by dogs but he has never heard of it happening the other way around.

Not only are swans a protected species, but it is a criminal offence under the Wildlife Act to interfere with them during the nesting season. The dog's owner was allowing it to swim in the pond containing the adult swans and their cygnets. The dog was swimming directly toward them when attacked. Witnesses reported that the swan lifted up its wings and beat down on the dog "with one wing and then the other".

"That stunned the poor thing. Three or four more slaps and she was gone," one witness reported.

"A swan would see a dog as a perceived threat, as a predator. Any animal will protect their babies," said Eric Dempsey, bird expert. He stressed the birds are defensive, not

aggressive, and will readily lead their young to humans in order to receive food. Any approach to their nest, however, can provoke a response.

"A blow from a swan's wing is similar to getting slapped," said Mr Dempsey, who has himself been on the receiving end while working with the birds.

So, if you have a small dog that you plan to take to the park this summer, choose a park without swans, or keep your dog on a leash!

FUN FACTS ABOUT SWANS:

A swan will mate for life.

Black swans are native to Australia.

A male swan is called a cob, and a female swan is called a pen.

The black-necked swan lives in South America.

Swans begin breeding between the ages of 3-4.

Swan eggs take between 35 and 42 days to hatch.

Swans can fly as fast as 60 miles per hour!

A baby swan is called a cygnet.

Cygnophobia or kinknophobia is the fear of swans.

Swans are highly intelligent and remember who has been kind to them or not.

In 2001, a man in Ireland had his leg broken by a swan when he was trying to provoke it.

A group of wild swans is known as a herd; however, a group in captivity is called a fleet.

There are six different species of swans.

The swan has over 25,000 feathers on its body.

There are no swans living in Africa or Antarctica.



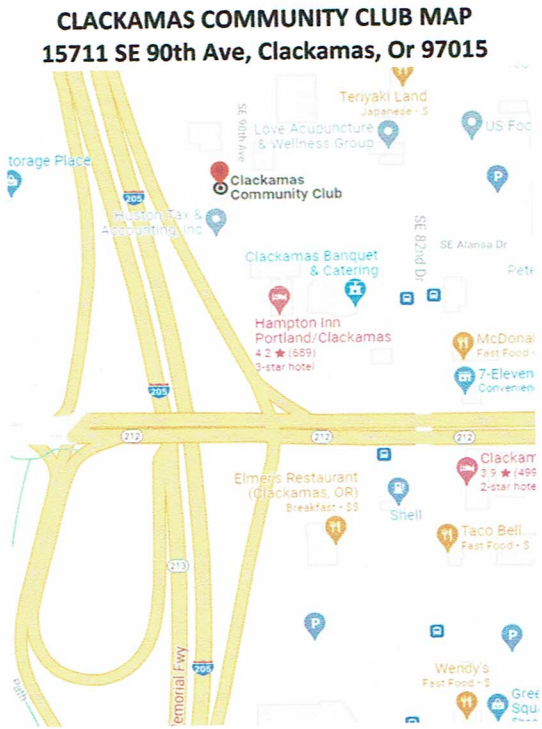
JUNE MEETINGS
 Saturday, June 12, 2023
 at Clackamas Community Center

1:30 Board - 2:00 Show Committee
 General Meeting - 2:30-3:30
 Program: **Mike & Lou Duyn on**
Raising Ring Necked Doves
 Refreshments to Follow

DIRECTIONS TO CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY CLUB

FROM THE SOUTH: I-205 North to Exit 12 for OR-212 E toward OR-224 E/Damascus/Estacada. Use middle lane to turn right onto OR-212 E. Turn left at the 1st cross street onto SE 82nd Drive. Turn left onto SE St. Helens Street. Turn left onto SE 90th Avenue. Destination will be on the left after a right hand curve. Smaller of the two buildings. (Was once a residence.)

FROM THE NORTH: I-205 South. Take exit 12A to merge onto OR-212 E toward Damascus. Merge onto OR-212 E. Turn left on 82nd Drive. Turn left onto SE St. Helens Street. Turn left onto SE 90th Avenue. Destination will be on the left after a right hand curve. Smaller of the two buildings. (Was once a residence.)



Columbia Canary Club
P.O. Box 2013
Clackamas, OR 97015

