



Angel Wings

*A monthly journal for human angels who
make a positive difference in companion
birds' lives.*

November 2014
Volume 9, Issue XI

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Angel Toys For Angels

November's Featured Toys



[Seagrass Roll](#)

Large - Extra Large
Birds



[Ding Dong Dice](#)

Large - Extra Large
Birds



Happy Thanksgiving

[Busy Plate](#)
Medium - Large Birds

Check out all the
[Angel Toys for Angels](#)
now!



Parrot Toy Angels

Fall Auction Starts 11/8/14

only 3 more days!!

Runs until Saturday 11/15/14



ONLY 3 more days....and it'll be here....you've been whispering about it...there's a buzz in the air...you're so excited you can barely sleep! You've made your list...you know that every purchase helps the birds! You've been saving your pennies, nickels and dimes...it's finally almost here! Time to shop!!

The birds are chattering, wondering what they're going to get! Excitement reigns!

But before the bidding begins, we would like to give a huge **"Thank You"** to all of our generous 2014 donors. We couldn't do what we do without your generosity year after year.

Auction Preview

The eBay banner below will be active Saturday, November 8 at 8:00am PDT and take you directly to the auction.



STARTS Saturday, November 8, 2014 and runs until Saturday, November 15, 2014

Have fun...and please bid often!



ANGEL ANNOUNCEMENTS
Watch for upcoming events, news, website updates, etc. here



Donate to Parrot Toy Angels by shopping Amazon Smile...see ya there!



Sweet Potato Pancakes
By Toni Fortin

These take just a few minutes to whip up. You and your fids will both love them. You can double or triple the recipe for humans. I ate mine with powdered sugar and slivered almonds.

- 1 medium sweet potato, cooked and cooled
- 1 egg
- 1-1/4 tsp. coconut flour
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup mixed cranberries and blueberries

Whisk together cooled sweet potato and egg. Stir in the dry ingredients. When mixed, fold in berries. Drop by teaspoon on to hot skillet sprayed with cooking oil. After bottom is



Weekly MINI AUCTIONS!!
Bid for the Birds!



browned turn over and press down. Cook until done. When cooled I used a 1-1/2 inch cookie cutter to cut these out.

My girls gave these a tail's up!



Why buy a Bird Cage from Bird Cages Galore?? Because we do not "just sell" top quality cages at reasonable prices, provide free shipping and a free toy with each cage; we offer first rate customer service and will answer your questions about most bird-related matters. Visit us on the web, browse our selection, join our discussion forum and sign up for our free Newsletter, [The Caged Bird Courier](#).

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Before the Honeymoon is Over
By 'Sana Emberg

Over the many years I've been dealing with birds, I've adopted or rescued my share, for sure. Most of my experience has been with smaller birds, Cockatiels mostly, but also Quakers, Budgies, and Finches. Then a few years ago, we got Boo, our Umbrella Cockatoo, and just recently, Bo, an African Grey.

If there's one thing I've learned from almost every bird we've taken in it's this: There's a special time when you first bring that bird home, and we call it the 'honeymoon'. Most parrots are incredibly adaptable. While its really hard on them to suddenly be uprooted from their old home to a new one, most of them will try really hard to fit in.

When we first bring a new bird home, they get a major vet check, and are isolated from the rest of the birds. This is for the safety of all the birds, in case the new bird is hiding any illness. But this 'away' time serves another purpose as well. It gives us a chance to help the bird adjust to new surroundings and the way WE do things and to gain some confidence. No doubt, things will be different than what they are used to.

With us, a new bird will not be allowed to interact with any of our other birds until we've established a few things: a clean bill of health from the vet, and to learn a few basic

manners. One or the other of us must be able to get the new bird in and out of his/her cage – hopefully with a simple 'step up' command. As long as the bird will return to the cage voluntarily, that's fine. It's important for us, because our birds are out of their cages most of the time, that they need to be easy to get back in so we can answer the door or have visitors without worrying about the bird.

We also work pretty extensively to get the bird used to being handled in ways they will NEED to be handled, for vet visits, etc. Learning to trust a human to touch feet, wings, etc. is an important step, and this time away from the other birds is a great time to work on this.

Diet changes are best handled at this time as well. Most of the birds we've taken in have been stuck on all seed diets but we're amazed at how well *most* of them adjust to a better diet. Bo is a prime example. She was fed a cheap 'Parrot Daily Diet' basic seed/nut mix, but by the third day we had her, she was eating fresh veggies and grains as well, and she hardly touches her 'diet' food any more. I figure in a couple of weeks we'll do away with that entirely. She even enjoys jumping on the scale for us now :)

This is also the best time to learn any bad habits or quirks the new bird might have, and work on nipping them in the bud. From our experience, most parrots are on their best behavior for the first few days, weeks or even months when you first bring them home. Use that time wisely to help your new bird get settled in, nip any bad habits in the bud, show them around and let them know what you expect from them. Chances are, by the time the 'honeymoon' is over, everyone will be getting along fine. There will always be exceptions, some birds are so traumatized by something in their past life that they may never be 'Happy' birds, may never want to trust a human again, but it's worth a try!



Beak-A-Boo News - Issue XI

Yup, Boo is here again, and boy, have I had a big month! Mom and Dad took me to see my favorite wheeled people once again, and my favorite dog named Benny. I always get to give Benny the treats mom keeps in her pocket - Benny's dad gives me treats, too! And of course, I get lots of scratches from my favorite people. I could visit there all the time!

A couple of days later, Mom and Dad took off (without me, grrrr) for most of a day, and you know what? They came back with a new bird! I heard it, but I didn't get to see it for a while. My daddy kept disappearing into the other room and I could hear the new bird talking and squawking. Darn it, I wanted to play too! This made me crazy for a few weeks, but one day Mom introduced us. I really wasn't impressed because she's smaller than me, and grey with a red tail, not pretty white like me. But she's okay, at least she talks! I still hate it when mom or dad play with her and not me, but they

BIRDIE STOCKINGS



TIRE D of sad little faces glancing at the mantle? Little eyes wondering "Where oh where will Santa Birdie leave my presents?" Light up those faces now with our [Birdie Stockings](#)

"Stuffed" Stockings also available. Each stocking will have 20+ footers included. Ready to hang! Personalization is also available.

Please allow 2 weeks plus shipping time to

almost always take turns with us. It's more fun when they go to work, Bo and I can talk to each other and keep each other company, so it's not soooo bad having a new bird in the house, I guess!

Mom's Note: Overheard yesterday...

Boo: Hello! *squawk screech*
Bo: Shhhhh!
Boo: Love the Boo!
Bo: What???
Boo: Shhhh! Love the Boo!
Bo: NO! Bad Bird!
Boo: No, Good Boo Boo!
Bo: Okay, rub my head!
Boo: No! Go to sleep! It's bedtime!
Bo: Nope! It's dinner time!
Boo: Good, I'm hungry!
Bo: Eat your veggies!



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Stuffed & Personalized: \$43.50

You can find all our Birdie Stockings at:
[Stockings](#)
or, drop us a line if you don't see your birdie.



Rikki Sez

Rikki will try and answer frequently asked questions here.



Rikki, I have a new macaw foster. What should I put in his cage?

Signed, New Mac Daddy

Dear Mac Daddy, Every bird is different, but when it comes right down to it, there's not a lot of difference in the basics a bird needs. ALL birds need perches of different sizes and materials, dishes for food, water and treats and toys to keep them busy and entertained. The only REAL differences between a big bird like a macaw and a smaller bird is size, durability, and safety. Perches need to be bigger, heavier, more durable and more varied for a bigger bird. The same goes for toys, food, and water dishes. Also, if the bird is a 'foster', the place you are fostering for should tell you about the bird including: what he likes, any special quirks, if he is fearful of some things, etc. Good luck with your new friend!

Simple Ways to Prepare Your Parrot For Fall and Winter

By Leigh Anne Stewart

When the weather begins to turn cool or down right cold, there are a few things you can do to keep your parrot comfortable and healthy.

One of the first things that you can do is purchase or make a cage cover for your parrot. A blanket will work as well. This will keep the parrot away from cold drafts during the night. Many parrot owners cover the cage as a habit every night. Many birds like this type of solitude at bedtime. It helps if you position your parrot's cage away from windows and drafts.

This time of year you will find an abundance of fresh fruits, vegetables and nuts. When you parrots eat these things, this will ensure that



Rikki, I just got my new parrot, and she loves to bathe. I worry that she might get cold after a bath. Can I use a blow dryer to help her get dry?
Signed, New Parront

Dear New Parront, I don't think it's a good idea to blow dry your new parrot. First, a blow dryer CAN be too warm, and really dry out their feathers and skin - just look at what it does to YOUR hair! Secondly, a lot of blow dryers have Teflon coatings on the elements, and you could literally be blowing toxic fumes right at your bird. It is better to make sure they are in a warm place before they bathe (I know, sometimes we choose the darnedest times to bathe!) and provide plenty of time to dry before being tucked in at night.



Rikki, My mom says I'm a 'perch potato' and she keeps taking me out, trying to make me 'do trick' and rearranging my cage!!! Why does she do this? - Not a Tuber
Signed, Not a Tuber

Dear Not a Tuber, It really is important that you get some exercise, just like it's important for humans. Your mom is only doing this so you can live a long, healthy life, so humor her a LITTLE, okay? Beak a few toys, dance for her a bit, and maybe she'll stop re-arranging your cage so much. But make sure SHE has to work out with you!

Do you have a question for Rikki?
Please send it to The Editor at
editor@parrottoyangels.org



they are getting the vitamins and minerals they need to keep a healthy body.

For those living in the northern states, your parrots will need to have a humid environment when the household heater is running. Purchasing a humidifier is an easy fix. This will help your parrot breathe easier, and it keeps the skin and feathers in good condition. For those living in the warmer southern states, you may find that in your climate, your parrot may not need the extra humidity.

This is a great time to take your parrot to the vet for his annual checkup. Your vet may want to do a blood panel to make sure your pet is in tip top shape. Also if you have any concerns, talk to your vet about ways to help protect your parrots during the fall and winter seasons.



How to Stuff Your Parrot on Thanksgiving

1 Turkey
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Corn Pudding
Cranberry Sauce
Green Beans
Hot Rolls
Stuffing
Relish Tray
Sweet Potatoes
Pumpkin Pie and Whipped Cream
Hot Coffee

Get up early in the morning and have a cup of coffee. It is going to be a long day so place your parrot on a perch nearby to keep you company while you prepare the meal.

Remove parrot from kitchen counter back to perch. Prepare stuffing; remove parrot from edge of stuffing bowl. Stuff turkey and place it in the roasting pan, remove parrot from edge of pan. Have another cup of coffee to steady your nerves.

Remove parrot's head from turkey cavity and re-stuff voided area. Prepare relish tray; remember to make twice as much so that you will have a regular size serving after the parrot has eaten his fill. Remove parrot from kitchen counter. Prepare cranberry sauce; discard berries accidentally flung to the floor. Peel potatoes, remove parrot from edge of potato bowl. Arrange sweet potatoes in a pan and cover with brown sugar and mini-marshmallows. Remove parrot from edge of pan and replace missing marshmallows.

Brew another pot of coffee. While it is brewing, clean up the torn filter and old coffee grounds from around the pot. Pry coffee bean from parrot's beak. Have another cup of coffee and remove parrot from kitchen counter.

When time to serve the meal: Place roasted turkey on a large platter, cover beak marks with strategically placed sprigs of parsley. Put mashed potatoes into serving bowl; rewhip at last minute to conceal bite marks and footprints.

Place pan of sweet potatoes on sideboard; forget presentation 'cause there is no way to hide the areas of missing marshmallow. Put rolls in decorative basket, remove parrot from side of basket along with beaked rolls, and serve what is left. Set a stick of butter out on the counter to soften - think better of it and return it to the refrigerator.

Wipe down counter to remove mashed potato foot tracks. Remove parrot from kitchen counter and carve the pie into serving slices. Wipe whipped cream off parrot's beak and place large dollops of remaining cream on pie slices. Whole slices are then served to guests, beaked-out portions should be reserved for host and hostess. Place parrot inside cage and lock the door. Sit down to a nice relaxing dinner with your family - accompanied by plaintive cries of "WANT DINNER!" from the other room.



Angels Wanted!!

Have these stories got your toymaking talons twitching? Do you want to help make a difference in somebirdie's life? Come join our ranks! We have Angels from all different backgrounds and walks of life, and there's always room for another generous heart.

Click here for: [Angel Application](#)



Click to join Parrot Toy Angels Yahoo! Group:



Join our Group

Not a toy maker? Come join our Facebook Group:

Help Us Help the Birds...

Our Angels generously donate their time making toys for our needy feathered friends. Quality toy-making supplies are expensive and shipping charges are outrageous. That's why we need your support to help keep us going. Every dollar amount, large or small, is gratefully accepted. Donations are tax deductible.

We also welcome donations of toymaking parts and supplies. A receipt will be issued for every donation. Contact us at [Parrot Toy Info](#) for further information on donating.

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While PTA at all times tries to ensure any information provided in this newsletter is accurate, all articles are submitted by volunteers, and we are not avian professionals and make no claim as to the suitability of featured products, food, or toys for your particular bird. PTA strongly recommends that you ensure that all toys are safe, that you make sure your bird is fed a well balanced diet, and that you always provide continuing medical care through your avian vet.

Do you have a question or comment? Perhaps you have an idea for our newsletter, or simply want to share a story on how an Angel has touched your life. Drop us a line at: editor@parrottoyangels.org



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