



Angel Wings

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

October 2014
Volume 9, Issue X

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Angel Toys For Angels

October's Featured Toys



[Spooky Beads](#)

Small - Medium Birds



[Creepy Straws](#)

Medium - Large Birds



[Creepy Curls](#)

Small - Medium Birds

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



Fall Auction Starts 11/8/14

Dear Parrot Toy Angel SUPPORTERS,

Look what you have helped accomplish:

23,000+ toys and supplies have been delivered!

Without you, this would not have been possible. We hope you too are amazed at this huge number, and we want to gratefully acknowledge you. You gave, and we worked hard and delivered. How we wish our job was done. We dream of the day when not another bird is abandoned, mistreated, or malnourished. But the truth is that daily, somewhere, a bird is found in an undersized cage, sometimes in a dark garage, barely surviving.

So, once again we come to the people who have been here, whom we can count on, and ask to support us in our auction. You already know that no money goes anywhere except directly to the birds. We have two major fundraisers a year and they are very important.

There are ways you can help:

- ♥ Do you own or work in a store that is willing to donate something to us? We are non-profit and your donation is tax deductible.
- ♥ Do you have a new item that you think someone might like and bid on?
- ♥ Are you willing to tell your family and friends to support our auction...take a look at our items, think of future birthdays/Christmas that could be shopped for, maybe even a bird you know whose life would be made better by buying one of our auction toys?
- ♥ Can you donate a gift certificate? Starbucks? A movie basket with AMC tickets and candy?

You have been generous, we have counted on you in the past, and now we hope with all our hearts that you stay strong with us and continue with our commitment to help "ONE BIRD AT A TIME".

Please drop us a line at donations@parrottoyangels.org if you would like to help out. Donations being accepted until October 15, 2014.

Auction Preview



Fall Auction will begin Saturday, November 8 and run until Saturday, November 15, 2014. It will only run 7 days, not the usual 10. Mark your calendars!!



ANGEL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

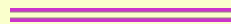


Donate to Parrot Toy Angels by shopping Amazon Smile...see ya there!

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:
Parrot Toy Angels

Get started

amazon smile



Weekly MINI AUCTIONS!!
Bid for the Birds!



Pumpkin Logs
By Toni Fortin

- 1 cup Garbonzo beads (chick peas) soaked, skimmed and cooked**
- 1/2 cup canned pumpkin
- 1/2 cup old fashioned Quaker oats
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. agave nectar (can be left out)
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 cup pecans, finely chopped

Using a food processor, add everything except the pecans. Put pecans in a small bowl.

Pulse until you have a thick paste. With wet hands roll into a ball the size of a large walnut, then roll into a log 3/4" thick by 3" long. Roll in the pecans. Place on cookie sheet lightly sprayed with cooking oil. Bake at 325 for 25 minutes.

Yield: 15 logs

**1 lb. of dry garbonzo beads, soaked, foam removed and cooked will yield 6 cups of beans. When drained and cooled, put into 1 cup bags and freeze. Take them out to go into recipes for cookies, mash and breads.



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](#).

We are here to help, because we care about your bird!!



Fright Night

By Kim Perez

Halloween is a scary time - especially for our pets. Keep in mind that your bird is used to seeing you and your family in the house. They can become easily frightened when Trick-or-Treaters show up at your door every 30 seconds in bright, flashy or scary costumes. Any of the accessories they carry can be even more frightening to our birds. Many costumes now include blinking or flashing accessories which make them more appealing to children and even more frightening for our birds.

I make sure that my birds do not have a straight line of sight to our front door on Halloween. This can be accomplished by moving their cages or putting a blanket over one side of their cage. If you can't do either to accommodate your bird, then I would recommend just sitting outside with the treats. Choose a time that works for you. For us, we sat outside with a large bowl of candy until it was gone and then would turn off the porch light and be done for the evening.

The other thing we always do on holidays is make sure there is a distraction in the house where the birds are. I will play a movie for them - "Rio" is a good choice - and the music and movement can keep them occupied, entertained and distracted from the chaos at the front door.

For birds who are accustomed to having a lot of visitors and you think would not be afraid of the costumes, etc., perhaps they could sit near you and "help" you greet the visitors. This will definitely not be the majority of our birds. For the most part, our birds will need to be protected from the scary aspects of this holiday.



Beak-A-Boo News - Issue X

Yo! Boo is in da house, once again! I had to go to my regular vet check up recently. I was kinda miffed at mom; she said we were just going for a ride. I was all excited, was nice and didn't make a fuss when mom put me in my harness. But when we got there, I knew where I was and I was not amused. I yelled my best "Super Chicken" yell in the waiting room, and I know the world knew the Boo was around! At least I wasn't in a cage like the puppy who was waiting to see the vet too – I hate cages! I tried to beak the vet when he reached for me, but oh, he knew just where to scratch me, and I finally gave in. Wasn't too bad at first, I let him put me on the scale and check out my wings and feet, even let him trim a couple of nails. But he just kept poking and prodding me, looking at all my private parts even, and then he had the nerve to stick me with a needle to draw some blood. I did manage to beak him then! Only fair he should have to give some blood, too!

Seems like all is well in my world, didn't have to take any medicine or wear a collar or any other form of birdy torture those vets can think of, so maybe I won't beak him next time! But then again...maybe I will, just in case!

Mom did make me some yummy muffin treats with punkin and zucchini for being such a good bird, and I'm loving this! :) In fact, I'm gonna run and go eat some of them!

Before I leave, here's your Beak-A-Boo tip of the month: When you've chewed up those yummy wooden toys, hide the shreds in your parronts' shoes. I taught my mommy a new dance that way, and a new trick as well. Now she always checks her shoes BEFORE putting them on!!



BIRDIE STOCKINGS



TIRED 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 custom make your stocking. Not only will your feathers love their own...but they make great gifts for any occasion.

[Order Now](#)

Personalized: \$27.00

Non-Personalized: \$23.00

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, Mom says something called Halloween is coming up, and I remember this from last year. My human family had lots of goodies, and some stuff called chocolate that looked really yummy, but Mom wouldn't let me have any! Why can't I have chocolate?

Signed, Left Out

Dear Left Out, Chocolate contains a compound called theobromine, which is a stimulant, like caffeine. Chocolate can cause birds to suffer heart problems, depression, regurgitation, seizures, liver damage and even death. It's not easily flushed out of a bird's system, and it doesn't take much to make a bird sick. A parrot could easily eat enough chocolate to make them as sick, or sicker, than a human eating 10 pounds of chocolate at once. Ask your mom to make you some nice pumpkin treats for Halloween, and leave those chocolate woes for the humans!



Rikki, My parronts go off to work every day, and leave me home alone. I'm BORED! Any suggestions?

Signed, Yawning

Dear Yawning, Well, first of all you should have lots of different kinds of toys to keep you entertained – things to shred, toss, chew, destroy and explore. It might also help if you had something to watch or listen to while they were gone. My mom sometimes leaves the TV on a cartoon channel or animal channel, and sometimes she puts music on for me to listen to. I love to dance to music, and I love listening to the 'birdy' music when she plays it. Maybe mom can get you more toys and give you something to listen to or watch too?



Rikki, Why doesn't my cage have a swing?

Signed, Swinger without a Swing

Halloween Safety Tips

By Nancy Goulding



I don't know about you, but Halloween is not one of my favorite days any more. Now don't get me wrong. I love the costumes, the candy, the kids, but what it does to my birds and other critters is enough to make me want to pull my hair out. I have tried to put together a helpful list of things that might help make the few hours of goblins and creatures invading the street and doorways easier.

♥ Don't let the birds get into the chocolate! Make sure that candy is secure and away from mischievous birds and other critters.

♥ Don't let your bird fly out an open door!

♥ Shield your bird from the frantic door ringing and scary costumes.

♥ Try to cut off trick or treating at a reasonable time so as to keep your bird on a normal schedule.

♥ If you have birds that are able to look out the window, close the curtain or blinds so the flashlights and Jack-O-Lanterns don't scare them.

♥ Keep birds away from candle flames. (Note: PTA does not advocate the use of candles around birds).

♥ Keep paper decorations away from your birds. Some contain unsafe dyes or strings that birds can get tangled in.

♥ Use common sense when it comes to your bird. It is only one day a year. Maybe it would be best to cage them for a few hours. When it's over take them out. Give them an extra birdie treat and scritch.

After all, it "is" Halloween and we

Dear Swinger, I don't know WHY you don't have a swing. Some birds simply don't care for them and maybe your parronts don't know you want one. Some birds really love to swing and some are scared of the unstable feel of a swing. It's usually pretty easy to determine if a parrot likes swinging just by watching them hang around and play in and around their cage. Simply putting a swing somewhere where they can try it out is easy enough.

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



all could use a treat!

Reprint from October, 2008 Angel Wings



Those Magical Dandelions By Terri White



Spirit, who owns Terri W., enjoying her dandelions

Did you know one of natures most nutritious and antioxidant-rich foods can be found in your own back yard? The dandelion is considered a common weed throughout the word but it has a hidden magic. You can gather the leaves of the dandelion plant and eat them cooked, fresh in a salad, and feed them to your feathered babies. Dandelions are dark greens that are rich in vitamins A, C, D, K, and B complex. They also contain the essential minerals of iron, magnesium, potassium, and zinc. But the magic doesn't stop with vitamins. Studies have shown that dandelion leaves actually contain compounds that promote healthy kidney function, detoxify the liver and even heal gastrointestinal issues by promoting a healthy gut flora and improving appetite. As humans we can eat this tasty treat by gathering young tender leaves in early spring and eating them fresh in a salad. Older summer leaves can be cooked in boiling water similar to familiar greens such as Swiss chard or kale that are purchased at the market. For your finch, parrot or other feathered friend, gather a few fresh leaves each day to serve as a nutritious healthy snack. Remember when gathering leaves to always harvest them from pesticide-free areas. "A dandelion a day keeps the doctor away" AND they can be gathered free in your own yard...now that's magic!

Fall and Winter Foods For Your Parrot By Leigh Anne Stewart

As we transition from the summer heat to the crisp cool fall weather, this is the perfect time to begin purchasing the bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables that the season brings. This is the time when you will find plump beautiful pumpkins, farm fresh apples, sweet potatoes, and a variety of squashes.

When you introduce your parrot to new foods like these, offer them raw first. If they turn their beak up at it, then cook the veggies. For small beaks, try cutting foods up into small pieces, or shred them in a food processor. Fall foods are packed with vitamins and minerals. It is important that your pet parrots get a variety of whole foods in their daily diet.

Once you determine how your birds like the new veggies and fruits offer them twice a day. Also during the Fall season, you will find that produce and farmers markets carry a number of different nuts. You will find Brazil nuts, walnuts, almonds, and hazelnuts to name a few. The veggies and fruits can be bought in bulk and can be canned for later use. The nuts can also be frozen to use at a later date.





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:



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.



All donations tax deductible.

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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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