



C.A.R.E. Newsletter



A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Fall 2006

www.centerforavianrehab.org

WHAT'S NEW AT THE CENTER

We are constantly changing the products we sell in our retail area so there's always something new for you and your feathered friends!

- 2007 Desk Calendars are now available, with pictures of birds that have spent time at the shelter in the past few years. They are only \$10 each, with a limited printing of 250, so don't miss out! These make great stocking stuffers.
- Swarovski® crystal and sterling silver bracelets with parrot charms and magnetic clasps are only \$32! We have a small selection at the Center,

but special orders are taken. Charms available are almost endless! Also a great stocking stuffer, or a way to treat yourself!

- Parrot-themed check-book covers and home-made cards are on sale in our store. These are very classy, and all proceeds go back to the center. Why not delight an old friend with a handwritten letter and help the birds at the same time!
- We are constantly adding new toys for birds large and small, so stop in!

- As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we now carry Harrison's®, Goldenfeast®, Wing Nuts®, Zupreem®, Avicakes®, and Nutriberries®.
- Online ordering is now available on our website. We are in the process of putting food on there, but the toys are up! In the meantime, if you'd like to place an order including food, give us a call and we can make it happen!



OPERATING PHILOSOPHY

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we strive to keep operating expenses as low as possible. This means that your support – donations, adoption fees, purchases, boarding, volunteer time, etc. – benefits the birds directly. There are no paid employees. Everyone at C.A.R.E. is volunteering their time, in order to help as many birds as possible, and to ensure C.A.R.E.'s long-term success.

HOURS

We'd love for you to visit us!

Monday	1-6
Tuesday	1-6
Wednesday	closed
Thursday	1-6
Friday	closed
Saturday	12-5
Sunday	closed

Please call ahead for boarding, grooming, and behavior consults!

(262) 628-3719

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Happy Holidays to all of our customers, donors, and adopters! Sometimes we forget how the holidays can stress our birds as routines are altered. Don't forget to make sure that your friend is getting adequate out-of-cage time and adequate sleep.

As a reminder, scented objects can be harmful, even fatal, to birds. These include scented candles, plug-in type scented oil containers, and artificial scented pine. Other potentially harmful products include overheated Teflon®, cleaners containing

pine tar (like Pine Sol®), and Febreze®.

If you notice changes to your bird, such as lethargy, drooping wings, unusual droppings, decreased appetite, or heavy breathing, take him to the vet as soon as possible.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

As always, we are in need of reliable volunteers to help us keep the Center in tiptop shape and to keep the birds healthy. We have opportunities in the mornings and afternoons seven days a week (the birds go to bed at 7 p.m. so there is no evening shift).

There is no paid staff at the Center — everyone is a volunteer. Most of you know how much work is involved with keeping a few birds at home healthy and happy. We try to provide the same quality of life to the birds while they stay at the shelter.

We need people to help change papers,

food, and water. To help clean cages and vacuum the bird room. To help cut, drill, and dye wood for the toys we make for the shelter birds and to sell to fund our organization. It's not all hard work, though! While taking care of the birds' physical needs, we also take care of their social needs by spending time and giving them attention.

We are also looking for an experienced handyman to help out a couple of times a month. We always have little repairs that need to be done. If you're interested in giving us 5-10 hours per month, please fill out the Volunteer

Application on our website, www.centerforavianrehab.org. If you have specific questions, please e-mail our volunteer coordinator at care_volunteers@yahoo.com, or leave Sher a message at the Center at (262) 628-3719.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about birds in general, and to improve their lives. If you're thinking about adding to your flock, volunteering is a great way to find that new addition. Having exposure to different birds allows that special bird to choose you as its new forever home.

We are still accepting donations of **USED CELL PHONES**. We have a collection box at the Center, or call us and we can make arrangements to pick it up. All proceeds go directly to the shelter, so if you're lucky enough to get a new phone, we'd sure appreciate your old one!!!

HELPING BIRDS IN NEED

During 2006, we were called upon to help many birds who found us under extraordinary circumstances. Just a few examples of what your donations, adoption fees, and purchases helped to accomplish this year:

- 5 doves left in an 18" X 18" cage when people moved out of an apartment — most likely they were to have been used as dog fighting bait.
- An amazon left behind in a cabin that had been closed for the winter.

- A quaker whose previous owner had released him outside (a kind neighbor rescued him).
- A macaw that lived in filth and was so smelly when we got her that it was tough to breathe around her.
- A quaker with a golf-ball-sized tumor on his chest.
- Two macaws living in a basement with someone coming only twice a week to provide fresh water and sunflower seeds.

- Ten zebra finches living in such small quarters that they began plucking each other.

Thanks for continuing to support us, and to help get the word out about our services. We are in the process of creating a blog (if anyone has a digital camera to donate to help us illustrate our blog, we'd be grateful!) so that we can provide updates of the challenges we face and the successes we have on a more up-to-date basis.

BUDGIES & COCKATIELS

If you've been thinking about adding a budgie or 'tiel to your flock, now might be the perfect time! We have many tame cockatiels and 2 tame budgies (as of the time of the writing). We also have untame budgies and 'tiels that would make perfect buddy birds.

If you've never experienced one of these small gems, you don't know what you're missing. My budgie brightens up the

house with her happy chattering. She keeps us laughing with the way she attacks her toys. One of her favorite pastimes is throwing (disinfected) pinecones out of her foraging bucket. Since these pinecones are bigger than she is, this takes a lot of agility.

Budgies and 'tiels also make great first birds and apartment birds. Every bit a parrot as a macaw, their smaller beaks

are less intimidating, and their vocalizations are less likely to annoy the neighbors! I wish it hadn't taken me so long to realize how joyful these guys are, but now I know I'll never be without one.

