

# Squawk 'n Talk



October 2020



## Greetings from the Presidential Perch!

The Gateway Parrot Club meetings are currently cancelled and we will resume our monthly meetings based on guidance by St. Louis County and the CDC. Please continue to stay safe and follow guidelines, such as, wearing face masks, social distancing, hand washing, and the use of hand sanitizers, etc. to stay healthy.

### Zoom Party!

Several people attended a Zoom bird toy making party led by Robin Shewokis Sullivan with 'The Leather Elves' on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We reviewed the contents of the Boredom Buster Boxes we received containing leather, natural cork, and different shapes and colors of wood. During the Zoom party we made toys for our feathered kids and received many more ideas for additional toys to make after the Zoom party. Some of the attendee's had their birds help make toys. We were able to see the toys they enjoyed and see cute, entertaining birds. We were able to catch up with some of our Gateway Parrot Club friends that we haven't seen for a long time. Thank you Robin for many ideas for future bird toys. <https://theleatherelves.ecwid.com/>

See the article below for information for the AFA – American Federation of Aviculture's Online Conference via Zoom in mid-October.

Please let us know your suggestions for topics of interest for our Monthly Newsletters. The primary mission of the Gateway Parrot Club is education.

Stay well and take care.

Renee Davis  
October 2020

**You Don't Want to Miss:**

**American Federation of Aviculture (AFA)**

**ZOOM Conference**

**Oct. 17-18, 2020**

**\$25.00 total for 2 Days of 12 Online Seminars!**

**Check out speaker list at:**

**[www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org)**



## **AFA 2020 ZOOM Educational Conference:** **"Celebrating Aviculture with Social Distancing - No Masks Required"**

Our 46th annual educational conference was cancelled due to COVID-19  
Our 1st ONLINE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE will launch Friday, Oct. 16th  
Oct. 16th Icebreaker | Oct. 17th 10am - 6pm | Oct. 18th 10am - 6pm  
This "first flight" AFA Zoom educational conference is only \$25  
\$25 includes: Friday icebreaker, all Saturday and Sunday presentations.  
Stayed tune for more details. Sign up at the link attached to this feed or  
go to [www.AFABirds.org](http://www.AFABirds.org)



Speaker list: Dr. Scott Echols, Dr. Jason Crean, Dr. Caroline Efstathion,  
Dr. Ranier Niemann, Hilla Nieman, Robin Shewokis, David Skidmore,  
Mindy Patterson, Laurella Desborough, Erik Peake and more speakers to be announced...



American Federation of Aviculture, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization  
[www.afabirds.org](http://www.afabirds.org) | [Convention@afabirds.org](mailto:Convention@afabirds.org)



# The Delight of Finches

by Dixie Danzeisen

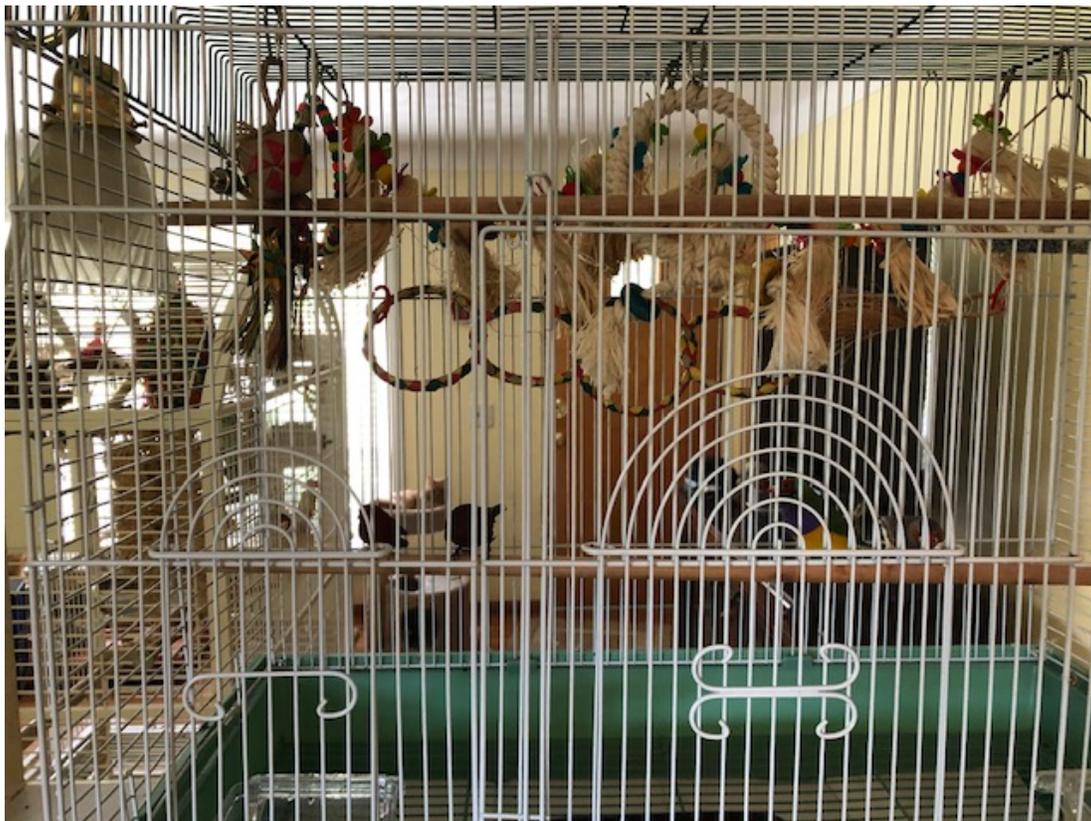
Hello everyone. It is so good to have a way to reach out to you, and so, I would like to share with you the enjoyment that my four finches give to me. Their names are Loki, Lothar the Red, Ben and Jerry, They are beautiful, active little birds. I enjoy glancing at them and seeing their little eyes watching every move I make when working close to their cage, and oh my, how excited they become when they realize I am preparing their food. They bounce around in anticipation for the seed, and the dried and fresh greens. I supplement their diet with Prime vitamins and Goldenfeast Australian Blend. I lightly spray water on the food and then sprinkle on the Prime so that the powder will adhere to the food to ensure the finches will get the benefit of the vitamins.

My first pair were Zebra Finches, Thor and Loki, exceptionally beautiful little birds with loud, well used voices. Next, Lothar the Red and Chunky Monkey, gorgeous Gouldians, joined our family. Their plumage is iridescent, and their voices are soft and pleasing. Unfortunately, Thor and Chunky Monkey died which meant that Loki and Lothar the Red each was left without his original friend. Happily, though, Loki and Lothar the Red have become friends, and will occasionally snuggle as each one did with his original buddy. Ben and Jerry, a pair of beautiful Fire Finches, are the additions to our flock. Ben and Jerry have an exquisite deep, rich red plumage. They are quiet little birds. These four finches get along quite well and are a joy to watch and care for.

Finches enjoy toys that are small and that they can pick on with their little beaks. These include toys with long, soft fibers. They like round swings and chain toys in which they can perch and snuggle. I am including pictures of toys that the finches enjoy. All birds, including our small finches and canaries enjoy enrichment, and we benefit from watching their play.

I hope all of you will stay in good health. And of course, we all have the good fortune and joy of bird companionship.

Check out the photos of my finches, decorated cage (finches enjoy toys as much as parrots), and favorite toys. It's difficult to capture clear pictures of them because they are always on the move.





When I grow up,  
I'm going to join the  
Gateway Parrot Club.

Are you a member yet?

[WWW.GATEWAYPARROTCLUB.ORG](http://WWW.GATEWAYPARROTCLUB.ORG)



# Gateway Parrot Club Buy Sell Trade Facebook Group:



This group is designed to connect members of the Gateway Parrot Club and other parrot owners in the greater metro St. Louis region. It's a way to reach a targeted group of buyers to sell parrot accessories, equipment and parrot related items.

There are MANY buy, sell, trade pages on Facebook. This page is strictly designed to sell parrot related items only. **ABSOLUTELY NO SELLING OF LIVE ANIMALS.**

You do not have to live in St. Louis to join the group. Members can choose to offer shipping for their items, or not. It is up to each individual seller. Buyer will be responsible for shipping fees.

For a comprehensive list of items prohibited by Facebook, please visit the link here: <https://www.facebook.com/policies/commerce>.

Sell your birdie swag here!

