

# York Area Pet Bird Club

August 2011

NEXT MEETING: August 16, 2011

Adams Elec. Co-Op @ 200 Trinity Rd. York PA 17408

Mission Statement: "YAPBC Dedicated to Teaching the Care, Sharing the Knowledge and Telling of the Love and Joy of Pet Birds"

## President's Message

Hello Bird Lovers,

It's that time of year again when "*Pets- n-You*" will celebrate their anniversary with an open house. Located in Red Lion off the Cape Horn road, the weekend celebration will be held August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. We as a club will be having a table set up to advertise the club, answer questions and hopefully gain some new members. Anyone interested in helping should contact me to let me know which day you can help. Everyone who volunteers is also encouraged to bring their bird(s) along for a day of fun. August 20<sup>th</sup> I will be at the store around 9:00 a.m. setting up and I will be staying until 5:00 p.m. that evening. On Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, I will be there at 11:30 a.m. and staying until 4:00 p.m. We will have handouts to give to customers who stop by our table to learn more about birds and the club.

As for our August meeting, we will either continue the discussion from last months meeting or we may just have a fun movie night. The only way you'll know for sure, is to come to the meeting. We would like very much to see the faces of members who have not been here in awhile.

Please also remember that the club is in existence because of our love of birds and our need to learn about the care they need. They provide us with unconditional love and companionship and coming to the meetings is one way we can return that love.

Randy Grove  
YAPBC President

[www.yorkareapetbirdclub.com](http://www.yorkareapetbirdclub.com)

## YAPBC Minutes July 19, 2011

Minutes & treasurers reports from May & June are approved as presented. Welcome to guests, visitors, and members. Under old business, club T shirts are still available for \$7.00, sizes 1X and larger are also available for \$2.00 extra. See Joan Russin to place an order for T shirts.

Under new business – the club will be participating in an outreach at Pets-N-You in Red Lion in August-date to be announced. Another outreach is available at a church in Hanover on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> for Pet Sunday. Time is from 1 to 4 pm. Sign ups will be available later. Renewing the costs for the club website was tabled for a later date until more information was available. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> bus trip to National zoo in DC is still pending – need people to sign up – cost is \$22.00 per seat – open to public – details to appear in newsletter. August 27<sup>th</sup> trip to Waggoner's gap to observe hawks - looking to carpool – details in newsletter.

Membership raffle drawing winners were Chet & Joyce Fuhrman who were not present – so the pot continues to grow for the August meeting.

Tonight's program is an open discussion regarding vitamins and supplements for our birds titled "Are we loving our birds to death?" Acting Vice President Shirley Rentzel presented a variety of information that raises a lot of questions regarding the variety of information that is available concerning bird health. Considering the fact that there is no regulation for the content or quality of human vitamins and supplements, many questions arise regarding things we could give to our birds. There are some things which avian vets agree on, one is that most avian secondary illness is due to nutritional imbalance in bird diets. The most common deficiencies are vitamins A & D. But the methods of delivery for these missing nutrients vary a great deal, depending on who you talk to. And the needs of individual species cover a whole realm of individual research, many articles are published, both in print media and on the internet. Many questions arise as to the best source of the vitamin you are looking for, dosage for a particular species, should the vitamin or supplement be water or fat soluble, which is the best natural source for the vitamin, is your bird's life style a factor in the need for supplements, and trying to figure out if there is only one deficiency that your bird is dealing with. Vitamins added to drinking water are generally discouraged because they break down quickly and provide nutrients for bacterial growth. So the general consensus is to consult with your avian vet before beginning any addition of vitamins or supplements to the bird's diet, try to provide the needed vitamins in a natural form, rather than something man made, proceed slowly, be patient, and be willing to invest in regular well bird visits to the vet.

Many thanks to Shirley Rentzel for providing us with lots to think about concerning whether or not we are "Loving our birds to death" by not proceeding with caution.

There were 19 people present for tonight's meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Barry B. Berlin

Secretary YAPBC

## National Zoo Bus Trip

Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> is the date that was set aside for a bus trip to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. Our day would include round trip transportation to Washington D.C., free admission into the zoo and a sit down meal (your cost) at a restaurant on the way home. The zoo is of course, home to the giant panda's but it is also the home for many other species of animals such as the giant Pacific octopus, Sulawesi macaques and collared Peccaries.

To date however, no one has contacted me saying they would like to go.

According to the bus company, we can basically have our choice of what size bus we need. The price quote of \$22.00 per person given earlier is for a 55 passenger bus. The smallest bus or "mini coach" seats 26 passengers but would increase the price per person to around \$29.00 per person.

We have until Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> to either reserve and pay a deposit on a bus or cancel the trip.

If we do go, the price per person would have to be paid by Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> because of the closeness of the trip date. The tour company has been wonderful in working with me on this but we need to decide if we are going or not so that the bus company is not holding a bus for us that another group could use.

If you are interested in going, you may contact me by either e-mailing me at [yapbcpresssecretary@comcast.net](mailto:yapbcpresssecretary@comcast.net) or by phoning 717-683-4707.

Kim  
YAPBC Press Secretary

At the meeting when this was discussed there seemed to be a lot of interest yet nobody said they want to go. Kim went to a lot to set up this trip. Don't wait any longer to get ahold of her. We always have a good time on bus trips so don't miss out.

# O

On Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, the members of the YAPBC will carpool to Waggoner's Gap for a day of bird watching. As one of two premiere raptor watching sites in the state, Waggoner's Gap is maintained by the Pennsylvania Audubon Society and is 10 miles north of Carlisle.

As part of the Kittatiny mountain range, Waggoner's Gap is located on the "Blue" mountain and offers two places to watch raptors from. The rocky overlook at an elevation of 1,464 feet is considered the best spot. This area allows watchers to see raptors in flight from both sides of the ridge. The trees also block human watchers from the raptors sight, therefore bringing them in close and not scaring them away.

So save the date and contact Randy at [tworandy1977@aol.com](mailto:tworandy1977@aol.com) or 717-318-2278 for all of the details such as time and departure location.

Tiko says “Don’t squawk your weekend away!  
Come help your fellow club members answer questions and  
promote the club at the  
“Pets-n-You”  
Anniversary Celebration.”

It promises to be two days of fun filled activities so shake your tail feathers and come on out and join us!  
And don’t forget to bring along the most important member of your family.....your Bird of course!

# PET’S -N- YOU

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Anniversary  
Celebration  
Saturday  
August 20  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
And  
Sunday  
August 21  
11:30 am to 4:00 pm  
Let Randy know if you will be willing to help

Big white elephant sale!  
August 27 from 9 to 4  
Rentzel’s Bird Farm  
2241 Craley Rd.  
Windsor Pa.

Free clothes, free shoes, free books!

Reproduction quilts, reproduction butter bowls, reproduction plates, reproduction dolls,  
and reproduction baskets.

Some Pfaltzgraff dishes, a few Christmas things, bird cages, New England square grand  
piano, and lots and lots of just other stuff!

## YAPBC Event Schedule

### 2011 Officers and Appointed Positions

President: Randy Grove  
E-mail: [tworandy1977@aol.com](mailto:tworandy1977@aol.com)  
717-318-2278

Vice President: Shirley Rentzel  
717-246-7708

Secretary: Barry Berlin  
717-235-5217  
E-mail: [sparrowsrun@verizon.net](mailto:sparrowsrun@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Joan Russin  
E-mail: [jar69607897@aol.com](mailto:jar69607897@aol.com)  
717-755-8518

Greeter:

Newsletter: Gene Shue  
717-767-5049  
E-mail: [yapbcnewslettereditor@comcast.net](mailto:yapbcnewslettereditor@comcast.net)

Press Secretary:  
Kim Aldinger  
E-mail:  
[yapbcpresssecretary@comcast.net](mailto:yapbcpresssecretary@comcast.net)

Webmasters: Sue & Dan Nelms  
E-mail:  
[suzie71@aol.com](mailto:suzie71@aol.com)

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### Bird Adoption Referrals

Gary White (717) 938-1522 and Shirley Rentzel (717) 246-7708 have agreed to try to find homes for unwanted birds. They both said they would not take homeless birds but would try to find them homes. They are trying to find an adoption group, stay tuned.

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**August (8/16/11)** Annual birthday bash

**August (8/20/11)** Pets -N- you 9 am to 5 pm

**August (8/21/11)** Pets -N- you 11:30 to 4 pm

August 27<sup>th</sup> trip to Wagner's Gap to watch the fall migration of wild birds

**September (9/20/11)**

**Sunday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** bus trip to the National Zoo in Washington D.C.

**October (10/18/11)**

**November (11/15/11)**

**December (12/4/11)** Christmas party 5 to 7 pm  
Lyndon Diner

### Refreshments Needed

Do you enjoy the refreshments that are served during the break? If so, why not volunteer to bring something good to share?

If you'd like to donate but are unsure what do bring, contact Shirley Remtzel (717) 246-7708 Thanks and see you at the next club meeting.

## **Veterinarians in the YABPC Area**

The following is a list of vets whose services have been satisfactorily used by club members. Our membership is widely spread throughout Pennsylvania and Maryland and we hope this list will be of assistance to you, should your bird be in need of well-visit or emergency care.

### **Ani-Care Animal Hospital**

Randon Feinsod, DVM  
2740 S. Queen St.  
Dallastown, PA 17313  
(717)741-1320  
Fax (717) 747-1462

### **Carlisle Small Animal Veterinary Clinic**

Dr. Curt Barnett, DVM  
Dr. Pamela Jennings, VMD  
25 Shady Lane, Carlisle, PA 17013  
(717) 243-2717  
Hours: M - Thurs (9am - 7pm); Fri. (9am - 5pm);  
Sat. (9 am - 12pm)

### **Community Animal Hospital**

400 S. Pine St., York, PA 17403  
(717) 845-5669  
Hours: M - F (7am - 6:30pm); Sat. (8am - 2pm)

### **Dover Area Animal Hospital**

Dr. Richard D. Greenwalt D.V.M.  
5030 Carlisle RD.  
Dover PA.17315  
(717) 292-9669

### **(718) Feather, Scales & Tails**

Dr. Thomas Ryan, DVM-ABVP-Av.  
Dr Heather Bowles, DVM ABVP Dipl. Avian  
330 - 140 Village Rd., Fairground Village  
Westminster, MD 21157  
(410) 876-2044  
Hours: M - F (8am - 7pm); Sat. (8am - noon)

### **Fallston Veterinary Clinic**

Dr. Donald Zantop, DVM ABVP Dipl. Avian  
Dr. Beth Rodney, DVM  
Dr. Vivian Ho, DVM  
2615 Belair Rd., Fallston, MD 21047  
(410) 877-1727  
Hours: M - F (7am - 6:30pm); Sat. (7:30am - noon)

### **Smoketown Veterinary Hospital**

Dr. John Hall, DVM  
2497 Old Philadelphia Pike, Smoketown, PA 17576  
(717) 394-5542  
Hours: M - Th (7am - 8pm, Fri. 7am - 6pm); Sat.  
(7am - noon)

### **Waynesboro Veterinary Clinic**

Dr. Deanna M. Becker, DVM  
29A Philadelphia Ave., Waynesboro, PA 17268  
(717) 762-0221  
Hours: M, T, Th, & Fri. (8am - 6pm); Wed. (8am -  
6pm); Sat. (9am - noon)

### **Disclaimer:**

The YAPBC does not promote or endorse any vet or business listed on this page. These listings are merely for your benefit in seeking medical care for your bird(s).

## **Bird Sitting**

In your home by an  
experienced, qualified, Certified Avian Specialist.  
York & areas.

For details and rates call:  
Gary L. White, Sr.  
(717) 938-1522

## Members Discounts

The following businesses offer a discount to YAPBC members. Present your membership card at time of purchase.

### **All About Pets - (717) 244-4099**

2953 Cape Horn Rd., Red Lion PA 17356  
10% off most store items

### **Birds of a Feather - (877) 406-2313**

1514 E. Chocolate Ave. Hershey, PA 17033  
10% off to YAPBC members

### **Feathered Fitness - (717) 792-4885**

4085 W. Market St., York PA. 17404  
[www.featheredfitness.com](http://www.featheredfitness.com)  
10 % off, Excluding birds  
(orders must be received by phone or e-mail for discounts).

### **Graham's Parrot Toy Creations - (717) 424-2318**

[www.grahamsparrottoycreations.com](http://www.grahamsparrottoycreations.com)  
10 % discount to all bird club members  
(orders must be received by phone or e-mail for discounts).

### **Pet Tails - (717) 285-2494**

3695 Marietta Ave., Silver Springs, PA 17575  
10% off bird items

### **Petco - (717) 699-2825**

905 Loucks Rd., York, PA  
10% off bird related merchandise, excluding birds

### **Pets N You (717)246-1981**

673 Lombard Rd., Red Lion, PA. 17356  
at Rout 24 in Cape Horn Square next to Weis  
You have to fill out a card for them to put in their computer and then you will be able to receive a discount.

### **PJ'S Pet Shop - (717) 664-3446**

109 Doe Run Rd., Manheim, PA. 17545  
10% off bird items

### **Rentzel's Bird Farm - (717) 246-7708**

2241 Craley Rd., Windsor, PA 17366  
10% off excluding birds

### **TacoBird, Inc. - (301) 498-3543 or (301) 9227713**

Cheshire Court Jessup, MD 20794  
[www.tacobird.com](http://www.tacobird.com)  
10% off bird items

### **Village Pet Shop - (717) 637-1734**

1150 Carlisle St., Hanover, PA  
10% of

### **York Pet Supply - (717) 741-1751**

Pauline Dr., York PA  
10% off most store items  
Type to enter text



**KATIE HORNE**  
count on katie  
for all your real estate needs!

Office: 717-718-2148  
Toll Free: 800-750-2606 Ext. 148  
Home: 717-845-1616  
908 S. George St., York, PA

**MORGAN COLLINS**  
REALTORS

# Bloodwork is Important in a Post-purchase Veterinary Exam

By Don J. Harris,DVM

All too often a bird owner with a recently purchased bird either does not take the bird to a veterinarian for examination, or if they do, the most important part of this exam is not preformed.

What is crucial in a post-purchase evaluation is the bloodwork. Because birds are great at hiding physical signs of illness, blood testing is mandatory in assessing the health of avian patients. The veterinarian may scrutinize a bird and look for any physical abnormalities, but even the healthiest looking birds can be hiding disease. Sometimes, blood tests are the only way to accurately uncover hidden health problems.

Many illnesses display no external signs until the end when the bird is at death's door. By then, it is often too late to resolve the problem. Most problems can be addressed if detected early, and bloodwork is the key to early detection.

Bird owners should ask that blood tests be performed on their bird, even if the veterinarian doesn't suggest it. In fact, if a veterinarian doesn't discuss lab tests in the face of avian illness, another veterinarian should be sought. If the results are negative, the owner will have peace of mind knowing the bird is healthy. If the results suggest a problem, action can be taken to treat the condition. Bloodwork can also provide a baseline that can be helpful in future evaluations of your bird.

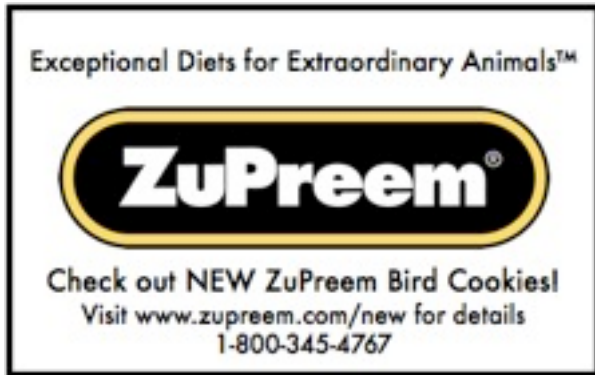
I recently became aware of a pet owner who took her bird to a veterinarian for a post-purchase exam. The veterinarian checked over the bird, did a culture of the bird's throat and vent, and recommended bloodwork. The new bird owner decided not to do the blood tests. Everything appeared okay—until the bird died two days later. A necropsy showed the bird had *Aspergillus* fungus throughout its abdomen. Had the new owner consented to blood tests for her bird, the fungus would have been detected.

Possible conditions or diseases that may be diagnosed through a complete blood analysis include:

- Infections
- Parasites
- Reproductivity
- Malnutrition
- Metabolic disorders such as liver or kidney disease
- Vitamin deficiencies such as Vitamin A deficiency

Bloodwork is the veterinarian's first and most important tool in evaluating patients. It is an internal view of the bird's overall health. Depending on the results of the initial bloodwork, other diagnostic tests may be warranted to fully diagnose the extent or the cause of any abnormal findings.

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**August 27 and 28, 2011:** Philadelphia, PA – Exotic Bird Fair and Expo, Kings Catering, 4010 New Falls Road, Bristol, PA 19007. Show times are as follows: Saturday – 10:00 to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday – 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. Admission: Children 9 and under free, Adults \$6.00

**September 11, 2011:** Toledo, OH – Exotic Bird Fair Expo, Lucas County Fairgrounds, 1406 Key Street, Maumee, Ohio 43537 10 – 4 p.m Adults \$3.00, children under 9 are free.

**September 25, 2011: Medina, OH - Exotic Bird Fair Expo,** Medina Fairgrounds 735 West Lafayette Road. 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. Adult Admission \$3.00 For more information contact Rus at (419)685-2412

October 29, 2011 Chester County Bird Show and Mart at the School of Church Farm on Business Route 30 in Exton, PA from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.



**Parrot Lovers Cruise**

[www.parrotloverscruise.com](http://www.parrotloverscruise.com)

Sailing Oct 30 - Nov 6 out of Tampa, FL on the beautiful

*Norwegian Star*

See website for details

*Nothing Like It Anywhere for the Parrot Lover*

## Positive Reinforcement – It Can Work – But Ya Gotta Pay Attention!

By Chet Fuhrman

I had been living with my Greenwing Macaw, Sierra, for about two years. He was about four years old and going through his first hormonal escapade. One evening I had asked him to "step-up" to get him out of his cage. He 'exploded' into the doorway with ALL of his feathers standing up. After I talked to him for a few seconds he laid his feathers back down. The second time I asked him to "please step up" - he looked OK. When I reached for him he bit my finger really hard, cleaning the skin off the top of my right index finger many layers deep - then lunged for my face. I pulled back and said, "I guess you really don't want to come out right now" and started to close the cage door. He latched onto the door frame with that huge beak to prevent me from closing the door - still in full fluff. He would NOT let go! I gently pressed on the door with my knee, while trying to grab one of his toes to distract him. After a minute or two, he relented and I was able to lock the door. Boy, was he upset! The finger healed, but it still amazes me how fast and accurately these big birds can strike.

The next day when I tried to get him out of the cage, he 'exploded' through the doorway again! This time I was ready for him and stepped back, but did not attempt to pick him up. He ran to the top of his cage and violently hacked at me. Meanwhile, Celeste, my Blue and Gold Macaw, was screaming at him to "stop it". He started down the side of her cage and they went beak to beak, reaching for each other's toes. I ran for a towel (a thick one) as Sierra went back to the top of Celeste's cage. I just kept calmly saying, "Back in your cage", "back in your cage" as I used the towel to "herd" him to his doorway, then inside the cage. This time, I was in control and slightly amused. (Nobody got hurt, cuz I was paying attention.) I played with his toes, his tongue and his beak, carefully (through the cage bars) - off and on, the rest of the day. I wanted to let him know that I was not intimidated by him. When he played gently, I praised him!

The third day we went through the same scenario, except this time I didn't let him on Celeste's cage. (See, I'm learning) After he was back in his cage, he said, "Bad, bad bird." I kept telling him to be gentle, be a good boy. He was still way out of control, so I kept things light and talked to him through the cage bars. I knew that he was simply being hormonal and hoped he would mellow out soon. (I only used positive terms – parrots do not understand negative words)

Day four was a different story. I wanted to bring the all of the birds into the kitchen for breakfast - they enjoyed that. I put all of the other birds on their "T" stands first, since I wasn't sure Sierra would cooperate. I was hoping he would want to come out, after he saw the other birds in the kitchen. I talked to Sierra and told him I expected him to be gentle, to be my good boy. I carefully opened the cage door and he started to come out. He immediately fluffed, hacked at my face, but missed. Then he said, "Good?" "Good?" I told him, I wanted him to be my very gentle, good boy. (Positive words – telling him what to do) He reached for my hand with his foot and as soon as he "stepped-up" on it, he hit my hand very hard with that massive beak. Eyes dancing with glee, he yelled, "Good?" "Good?" He knew he had me! I swallowed my heart back down and laughed with him. I told him he is being a good boy and he is being gentle. He very gently touched my fingers with his beak and yelled, "Good?" "Good?" I told him he is being a VERY GOOD BOY - then, he proceeded to get very silly. It was a big relief for both of us. 'Breakfast with the birds' was extra special that day.

He still teases me - pretending to go after me - but faking the attack. He loves to play and knows how to play very nicely. I always tell him to be gentle and I praise him when he is gentle. He has become my playful, 'big red bird.' He will set on my back, play with my ears and preen my hair, as I lay across the bed and watch TV. He remains my "Dream Bird." I love him, but I must remember he is a wild animal. He is built to survive in the jungle, with programmed responses that are not always appropriate in my home. He has mellowed with age and consistent loving guidance. I try very hard to remember to praise him - to positively reinforce the "good things" he does – and when possible, ignore the "bad things". Positive reinforcement really does work – but ya gotta pay attention. (Sierra is now 12 years old and I still have ten fingers)

3/17/10



# York Area Pet Bird Club 2010 Membership Form

Please send this form and a check  
(made payable to YAPBC) to:

Joan Russin  
4129 Greywood Drive  
York, PA 17402



Date Rcvd:	_____
Card Rcvd:	_____
Entered:	_____
<b>Club Use Only</b>	

## REQUIRED INFORMATION:

Member(s) Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your phone number kept unlisted?

Yes  No

## OPTIONAL INFORMATION:

If you have a computer, please list your E-mail address:

What type and how many birds do you own?

Do you breed any of your birds?

What activities would you like to see our club do?

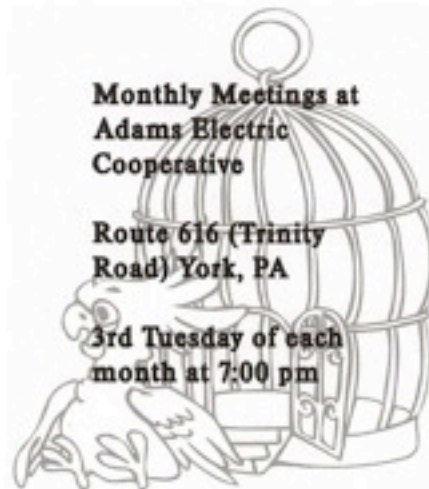
What information do you want or enjoy in the newsletters?

Additional Comments:

**Monthly Meetings at  
Adams Electric  
Cooperative**

**Route 616 (Trinity  
Road) York, PA**

**3rd Tuesday of each  
month at 7:00 pm**



Please circle one of the amounts  
below:

All Previous Members Membership Plan					
Regular Single	\$15				
Family (2 or more people)	\$20				
New Members Only Plan					
		Jan., Feb., March	April, May, June	July, August, Sept.	Oct., Nov.
Regular Single	\$15	\$13	\$11	\$9	
Family (2 or more people)	\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14	

York Area Pet Bird Club  
Eugene Shue  
2518 Danielle Dr.  
Dover, PA 17315

(Return Service Requested)

Meeting starts promptly at 7 pm in the meeting room of the  
Adams Electric Co-op located on Rte 616 South off of Rte 30 West.  
200 Trinity Rd.

Please be considerate and turn all cell phones off during the meeting.



**Adams Elec. Co-Op @ 200 Trinity Rd.  
next meeting August 16  
Birthday party**