

NIPS Hosts 6th Annual Avian Seminar

Proceeds to benefit bird research and conservation efforts.

By Rachael Brugger

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Courtesy Sheryl Robinson

Seminar attendees can participate in a raffle to benefit avian conservation and research. Vendors will also sell cages, toys, food and more.

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Speakers from the 2007 NIPS Avian Seminar were Dr. Branson Ritchie, Dr. Peter Sakas, Tim Sullivan, Dr. Jean Dubach and Jason Crean.

The Northern Illinois Parrot Society (NIPS) will be hosting its 6th Annual "Flying into Knowledge" seminar on Saturday, September 27, 2008, at the Centre at North Park in Franklin Park, Illinois.

The all-day seminar will feature lectures geared toward bird owners and breeders looking to expand their knowledge on pet birds and wild parrots.

"It's also a chance to meet other bird-loving friends from around the country," said Sheryl Robinson, NIPS president. "At the present time, we are the only club in the area to host an educational seminar of this type."

Lecture topics will range from understanding pet birds to parrot conservation. Presenters include Sally Blanchard, bird behavior consultant; Jean Pattison, aka "the African Queen," breeder of African bird species; Steven C. Latta, Ph.D., assistant director of conservation and field research at the National Aviary; and Peter S. Sakas, DMV, Niles Animal Hospital & Bird Medical Center.

Tickets cost \$80 per person and include lunch, according to NIPS. All proceeds will benefit a variety of avian research and conservation projects as well as rescue organizations, all to be selected after the conference.

To register for the event, visit the NIPS website or contact Sheryl Robinson, NIPS president and seminar coordinator, at seminar@nipsparrot.org or 847-254-0591.