

the rest being normal Pacific Parrotlets. For the last two years he has had regular pet store customers in California and New York.

He is happy to make enough money from the birds so he can reinvest in new unrelated stock for making up more pairs. He gets \$500.00 per bird for his Blues and 95% of the pairs produce four to five babies per clutch. Clay avoids buying proven pairs because he feels they can be thrown off by the move and sometimes do not produce for him. He prefers to pair young birds and let them bond, growing up together. This method has been the most successful for him.

The parrotlets' diet is a wonderfully varied one and I am sure this is a big factor in their breeding success. They are fed 50% fresh food, 25% enriched Tiel seed and 25% Roudybush Breeder Crumbles. The fresh diet is two or more different types of greens a day along with a sprouted mix. Bell peppers, grated carrots, broccoli, chayote squash, frozen vegetable mix, apples, and oranges are just a few items that make up his birds' cuisine.

It seems to me that so many of us who are passionate about birds are at least 50 years old and I notice so few young people involved with birds on their own. There are always the kids that tag along with mom or dad to bird marts and club events, but will they ever be as absorbed in birds as their parents were?

It does my heart good to see a youngster sincerely "into" bird keeping, strictly on his own. The future of aviculture truly lies in the hands of our youth. To find a 16-year-old having good success with breeding mutations and marketing them equally well, really makes my heart happy.

Way to go Clayton! 

*Susie Christian, with over 20 years of psittacine breeding experience, now lovingly tends her flock of Eclectus and Rose-breasted Cockatoos in paradise by the Pacific Ocean. She has been a regular contributor of art work, photography, and articles for Watchbird Magazine since 1995.*

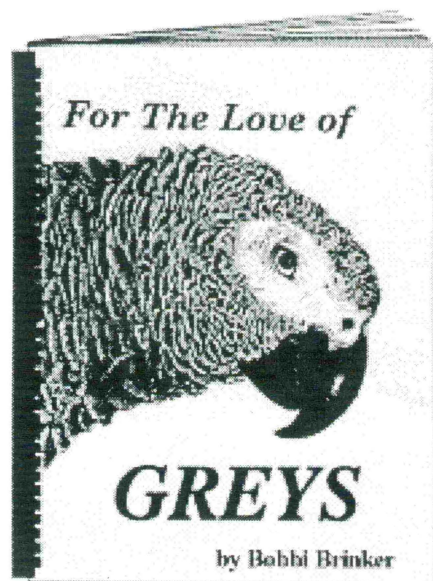
*For a closer look at Christian and her feather-crew, check on line at:*

<http://members.aol.com/Eclectusville/index.html>

## Ex Libris

*Book Review  
by Carolyn Swicegood  
Hollywood, Florida*

**FOR THE LOVE OF GREYS**  
by Bobbi Brinker, 49 photos or illustrations, 130 pages, soft cover, 8 1/2 x 11 inches, US - \$30 includes shipping; outside US - \$35 includes shipping,  
Publisher - Companion Birds Press



**T**he information about African Grey Parrots shared by the author goes well beyond simple description. She offers clear and relevant direction regarding all aspects of the care and breeding of African Grey Parrots. Her love and respect for these birds is obvious throughout the book.

This extensive collection of thought-provoking articles on the Grey Parrot

species represents the author's years of observation and experience with breeding, and hand-raising Greys. The reader gets the distinct impression that the offering of information represents a sincere educational effort. The book is filled with sound, practical knowledge and deep convictions about the best way to manage African Greys.

Geared toward all audiences associated with African Greys, the articles cover a wide range of topics such as The Egg, From One Breeder to Another, Life After Weaning, Bringing Your Baby Home, and The Adolescent Grey. Detailed information is provided on diet, average weights, wing clipping, and managing stress in African Grey Parrots. There is something for everyone in this excellent book and no stone is left unturned.

Although the title, *For the Love of Greys*, leads one to conclude that this book is exclusively about African Greys, it is sure to become an important guide and reference for owners of all parrot species. I highly recommend this "must own" book for the novice and expert alike.

Author Bobbi Brinker has been breeding and hand-raising exotic parrots for over 10 years. She is well known for her contributions to the education and ongoing support of pet owners and fellow breeders, and her writings are widely distributed nationally and internationally. Bobbi's book-order information and her many educational, species-specific, Internet bird mailing lists can be found online at <http://www.Parrottalk.com>. Her book can be ordered toll-free by calling;

1-877-84-Birds (24737). 