

Article from "The Mickaboo Bird Rescue Companion"

<https://mickaboo.org/newsletter/apr19/>

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Featured Volunteer: Carolyn DeBuse

By Shauna Hill



Carolyn and Harpo

An important part of Mickaboo's outreach efforts is participation at local community events where folks can learn more about Mickaboo, meet some of our volunteers, and see some of the birds available for adoption. It takes a lot of planning, organizing, and work to pull off these events but it's a way to meet people who might otherwise never hear of us. Many have found their next feathered friend after attending one of these events. This newsletter features one of our volunteers who works tirelessly to have Mickaboo represented at some awesome events in Davis, CA. Let's meet Carolyn DeBuse and see what she has been working on.

SH: Carolyn, tell us about yourself.

CD: My career is in agriculture and more specifically the study of fruit and nut trees. I currently work for the USDA Clonal Germplasm Repository as the horticulturist in charge of the stone fruit collection (peaches, cherries, apricots, plums and almonds). Much of the work involves working in the orchard and greenhouse. I enjoy being outside, working with my hands and caring for the trees.

I have always had a love of nature and hold a special love for birds. My time outdoors spent working, hiking, or kayaking always includes bird watching. Birds are wonders of nature. Having a pet bird in my life seems only natural. I am also an avid backyard chicken keeper and have 4 fluffy hens in our coop. I find they are the best yard art in the world!

SH: How did you become involved with Mickaboo and are you fostering or have you adopted any feathered friends?

CD: I became interested in Mickaboo when my husband and I lost our beloved cockatoo, Mabel, to a disease. We decide to add another feathered friend to our family but did not want to go to a breeder or shop. Our veterinarian at Roseville Bird and Pet Clinic introduced us to Mickaboo. We went to an adoption fair, took the bird care class, and soon were visiting fosters. Then we adopted Harpo. Harpo, a Goffin's Cockatoo, came to live with us in 2009. He is now 28 years old and very happy with his life. Just ask him! Since then I have volunteered at Mickaboo events in the Sacramento area and have organized a few adoption fairs at the Davis public library.

SH: I understand you are working on some Davis events. Can you tell us about those?

CD: I am working on three Mickaboo events currently; UC Davis Picnic Day, an evening pet talk at the Vacaville Town Library, and an Adoption Fair at the Davis Library.



Carolyn with Mabel

First there is [UC Davis Picnic Day](#) on April 13th. Picnic Day has very little to do with picnics. It is a huge open house for the UC campus. Students, parents and the general public fill the campus to see demonstrations on science, insects, cows, arts, veterinary medicine and dachshund dog races. We have a tent in the large field by the ARC where the dog events are held, sharing the field with other animal rescues and information booths.

The second event is the "[Tail Spinners: Pet Talk](#)" on April 30th, 6:30-8pm. There will be two speakers: a vet tech from the Medical Center for Birds and myself with other volunteers for Mickaboo.

The last and largest event is the Davis [Adoption Fair](#) and Bird Care [Class](#) on May 4th at the Davis Public Library. It's an all-day event with the adoption fair occurring 11:00 am-2:30 pm, followed by the class at 3:00-5:00 pm.

SH: Wow, lots to look forward to! To our volunteer folks who read this and are looking for a way to help out and share the word about Mickaboo, these are great opportunities to do so. I have had the privilege of helping out at a number of events and they are always time well spent, leading to folks taking the next steps to foster or adopt some of our birds just waiting for a home. To our readers who are not yet volunteers, please feel free to come out and meet our team at these events and others. You may see more about our public events on our [events page](#).

Thank you, Carolyn, for all your hard work on these events. We hope you have a great turnout.