

"You all have wings."

As this summer comes to a close Mother Nature has a special event planned, the solar eclipse on August 21. My part of rural Virginia is slated to get an 89% eclipse and this is the first such major event in the USA for many years.

For me this speaks of a special time of change -- time to perhaps reboot something deep within. As I write this, a picture of an old friend comes into my mind - our beautiful Amazon Parrot whose name was Popagolis.

I can see him and many other birds perched on branches and on cliffs in all kinds of different majestic settings, awaiting.

"You all have wings. You all have free choice as to whether to use them or not. Some of you will find yourselves being carried to places you never dreamed possible; others will find their wings help them fly smoothly into their life experience.

None of you are afraid to try out your wings because you have come here to spread them ready for flight. Remember if it has been a long time since you flew, your flight may be a little unsteady. Don't let that frighten you, just relax state your intention to trust sister wind.

The adventure awaits you."

~Popagolis through Patty Summers

In Kinship, *Patty*



And the pelicans went to sleep....

by Jenny, PSAC Office Manager

I experienced a partial solar eclipse in central London in August 1999. I worked on Whitehall, very close to one of the Royal Parks and, along with quite a few of my fellow civil servants, I slipped out of the office for an early lunch break to see the eclipse.

St James's Park, close to both the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace, is full of beautiful wildlife in carefully maintained manmade lakes and habitat. As the moon passed over the face of the sun, I noticed that the birds, including the world-famous pelicans that have been a feature of the park since 1644, began to nest and go to sleep.

As soon as the moon began to move away though, the birds awoke and resumed their normal activity - beginning with a full on dawn chorus. It was pretty special to experience that in the middle of the day and quite a reminder that the natural world has its own rhythm and way of doing things.