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USELESS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BERKS COUNTY PARROT HEAD CLUB

Take something out of your bucket list...and do it NOW!

Hello to all of my Parrot Head Family.

I write this article with a heavy heart even though I have many happy thoughts to share with you. Since the last Newsletter we have lost two trop-rock artists. Yankee Jack, a Key West Favorite lost his life suddenly while driving into Key West for his normal gig at the Bull. I was fortunate to see Yankee Jack in February just a few weeks earlier and remember telling Mark James how good he looked and how happy he seemed. He will be missed by many Key West visitors and friends.

In May at OPP we were all blessed to see Jim Morris as a soloist. It was a great performance and made us all aware of the unique singer/song writer he truly was. He was vibrant, full of life, and the crowd loved his show. Then suddenly only a few months later he passed away on his way to a show out west.

Yankee Jack and Jim Morris will live in the minds of many forever. They now are anchored up in that "One Particular Harbor" in heaven where I know there are guitars and beer and tequila; please don't drink it all.

So as the rest of us sail on to new destinations and create more memories with our Trop-Rock parrot head friends, please take something out of your bucket list and do it NOW. It may be later then we think in our life cycle. What the hell are we waiting on anyhow??

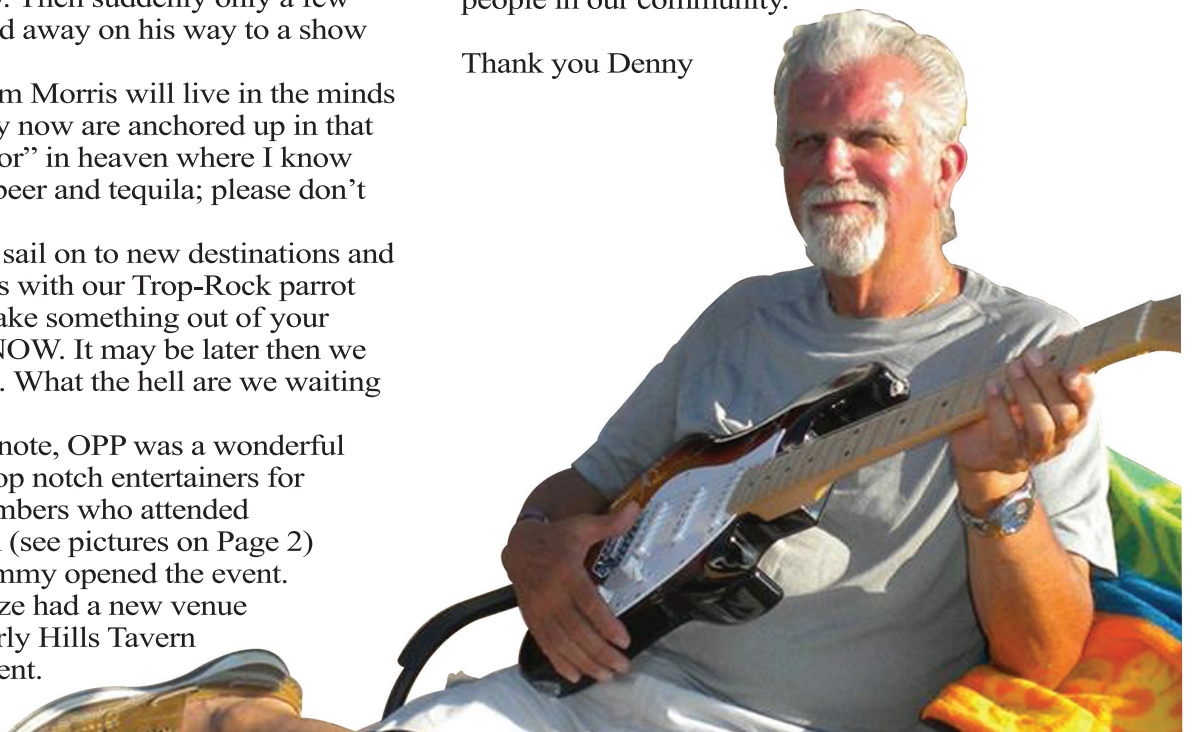
Now on a happy a note, OPP was a wonderful event with non stop top notch entertainers for 3 days. Our Club members who attended enjoyed 3 days of fun (see pictures on Page 2) and our own Dead Jimmy opened the event.

Summer Parrot Daze had a new venue our first time at Beverly Hills Tavern and our first 2 day event.

Thanks to Jimmy G and April for their generosity and amazing staff for all of their efforts in record breaking heat. Our Club was amazing in adapting to a new facility and a difficult heat and sun environment. Tents and misters were purchased that morning to make our guests as comfortable as possible. Our members and our volunteers never doubted we would make the event successful. Jimmy and the Parrots provided great tunes and had people dancing in the heat. Then the night cap was provided by Dead Jimmy who entertained those of us who stayed to the end.

Nice job to all from BVNA, our charity and to the many sponsors who continue to support the Berks County Parrot Head Club and all of our local Charities. I am very proud to be the Prez of our club and being a part of so many great events with so many passionate people in our community.

Thank you Denny



COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP and VOLUNTEERS



As of July 24th we have 176 members. We had a membership table at Parrotdaze with ½ price memberships and got 6 new members and handed out a few membership forms. Welcome bags filled with Parrothead goodies are still being distributed to new members along with their Parrothead badges.

The membership committee is combining with the volunteer committee until the end of the year and will take on the additional responsibilities of the sign in sheet at the meetings, keeping track of the points, and setting up volunteers at our 2 major events.

At our two day Parrotdaze event we had over 70 volunteers helping with our 50/50 boards, Chinese auction, silent auction, membership table, merchandise and Gate – all to benefit the Visiting Nurses.

August 16th we will have a Tiki Party to thank the committee members for all their work.

SPONSORSHIP

**YOUR
NAME
HERE**
**THIS
SPACE
FOR SALE**

The Sponsorship committee would like to thank everyone who helped with getting sponsors for our Summer Daze 2016 event. A huge thank you goes out to our Major Sponsor UGI Energy Services. We would also like to Thank our Key West VIP Sponsors: Customers Bank, Jimmy G's Beverly Hills Tavern, Land Display, MJ Reider, Tina's Salon & Yoders Plumbing. As well as our Cheeseburger in Paradise sponsors: Colonial Electric, Fromm Electric, Jack Yost and our Annual Ticket Sponsor: David's Cleaning.

Our committee continues to look for ways to improve and always welcomes new members, or feedback. Our Goal is to continue to raise more and more money for our charities with every event. Asking people for money is not a requirement to join the Sponsorship Committee. All we look for are ideas and enthusiasm.



PETER MAYER STARS & PROMISES / DEC.8

DOUBLETREE HOTEL, PENN STREET READING, PA



BCPHC CABIN FEVER FEB. 25 2017

DOUBLETREE HOTEL, PENN STREET READING, PA

GOLF TOURNAMENT JUNE 27, 2017

CHAPEL HILL GOLF COURSE, DEAD JIMMY



2016 Phlocking raises over 11,000 dollars for charities.

See you May 5th -7th 2017
The Princeton Double Tree
South Brunswick, NJ

At Right: Berks County Parrot Head Club's own Dead Jimmy Opens 2016 show. Will Kimbrough gives another stellar performance.



PARTY LIKE A PIRATE

2016 Parrot Daze

Feelin' HOT! HOT! HOT!



By Debbie Hartranft

We knew this would be like no other previous event. New Venue. New Charity. New Opportunities. What we didn't know is that Mother Nature was going to provide us with a New Challenge: A Record Setting Heat Wave. But Parrot Heads are always up to a new challenge! Days leading up to the event found us scurrying around to rent industrial fans and buy handheld misting fans. The morning of the event found us buying large tents to provide much-needed shade for our much-appreciated sponsors.

We were feelin' hot, hot, hot. But despite the heat, it was as successful as ever. Final totals are not in but thanks to our sponsors and guests, we raised a good amount of money for Childhood Immunizations for Berks Visiting Nurses Association on July 23 and 24, 2016. Throughout the day there were ample opportunities to win prizes and support the good cause. 50/50 raffles, Landshark merchandise raffles, Autographed guitar raffle (signed by Jimmy Buffett, Toby Keith, Alan Jackson, Kenny Chesney, George Strait and Clint Black), Jello



shots, Landshark beer specials, Chinese auction, silent auction, and the ever-popular Landshark Races. Activities included Beer Pong, Corn Hole Tournament, and Scavenger Hunt.

Music was provided by Jimmy and the Parrots and Dead Jimmy both days as we were surrounded by sand, live music, a tropical outdoor bar and good friends (were we really in Reading, PA?). Rob

Gouger and Tracy provided wonderful photo opportunities for our guests as they were dressed as a parrot and wench. Mr. David C. Perry drew amazing caricatures of our guests who were willing to donate to the cause.

The two-day event was memorable in everyway and we thank everyone who participated and helped raise money for another Berks County Charity! ■



MORE PHOTOS on page 5

TROP ROCK

What
is

By Tammy Camp



What is Trop Rock? A music genre is the easy answer. From there, trying to define Trop Rock gets a little more difficult because it's more than just the sounds of music. It's music that creates a vision, a state of mind, gives off a certain vibe, it's the back drop for a laid back lifestyle and the songs typically provide an escape from the everyday.

Here at Trop Rockin' Magazine we're immersed into the Trop Rock community, but we couldn't possibly create a conclusive definition. Trop Rock means something different to everyone.

In an attempt to create a well-rounded explanation of our favorite genre, we reached out to our friends and Trop Rock professionals to find the best answers to "What is Trop Rock?"



DK the DJ

Dennis "DK" King is the host of "Island Time Radio Show," the longest running Trop Rock radio show. Now

in his 16th year, Dennis is still dedicated to promoting Trop Rock music each week and tells us his take on Trop Rock:

Trop rock music is more a state of mind than it is a musical genre. Trop rock can be rock, country, jazz, reggae, power pop etc. etc. It's really more about the vibe and the message of escape. It's almost always a happy positive message too which appeals to many like myself. Over the years, the artists have found many different and creative ways to express this vibe, and they continue to do so. Just one of the reasons I love it so.

Dennis "DK" King
Island Time Radio show,
www.itrshow.com



Harry Teaford

Harry is the station manager of Radio A1A, a Trop Rock internet station broadcasting from the

Florida Keys. Harry, a life long musician and broadcaster, shares his explanation of Trop Rock:

Usually a day doesn't pass without an opportunity to describe 'Trop Rock' to a curious Radio A1A listener on social media or answering inquiries on our website contact page. Indie artists/promoters of all types of music and those submitting music to be considered for Radio A1A air play receive this standard response: We regret to inform you that your music does not meet our criteria for inclusion in Radio A1A 'Trop Rock' programming.

What is 'Trop Rock' you ask? Close your eyes. Listen closely. If the music offers sensations of the sounds of wind in

the palms, water lapping against the dock, the soft smell of the salt air, the warmth of the sun on your face, the wonderful feeling of relaxed beach chair bliss, the urge to wear funny cloths and lead a conga line, it's 'Trop Rock'.

Harry Teaford

www.RadioA1A.com



Don Middlebrook

Don Middlebrook is an accomplished and award winning Trop Rock singer/songwriter.

He's recorded over 15 albums during the last 25 years and travels across the country performing at Parrot Head events, festivals and Trop Rock house concerts.

The Trop Rock genre of music is probably the only genre that is purely a

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

singer-songwriter platform. Like Jimmy Buffett, a true Trop Rocker sings of his adventures, his travels, and the characters he meets along the road, always the with a tropical sun-drenched backdrop. A few libations thrown in with a little humor keep Trop Rock light, but deep; funny, but always stimulating one's thoughts of escapism.

I personally, as a Trop Rocker, have never written a song that was not based on actual fact. Just as Jimmy Buffett's core of great songs came out of his life in Key West, a true Trop Rock songwriter lives the adventure -then writes the song. Other genres, like country, will have cubicles full of songwriters writing songs for singers that never "lived" the song. A true Trop Rock song is built from real life stories of adventures in quest of tropical destinations.

One of Trop Rock's greatest strengths is that it is supported by Parrot Heads, who party with a purpose and raise millions of dollars to better the world. Trop Rock is truly the only genre that works on a charitable stage. Trop Rock music

and Parrot Heads make the world a better place by promoting charitable service. No other musical genre can make that claim. A painting on the wall is still just a painting on the wall. A love song is just a love song. They may stimulate, but don't necessarily change the world. Trop Rock music, with the support of the Parrot Head Nation, is an art form that truly does change the world - one drink at a time.

Don Middlebrook
www.donmiddlebrook.net

**Tammy Camp**

That's me, the editor and publisher of Trop Rockin' Magazine.

After years of attending Parrot Head Club events who hired amazing Trop Rock entertainers, I wanted to find a way to connect the Trop Rock community, thus began TropRockin.com.

I'm a firm believer that Bertie Higgins is the first person to coin the term "Trop Rock" back in the mid-80's. It's not that Trop Rock music wasn't already flowing out into the world, it's just that Bertie Higgins finally gave it a name (read our Bertie Higgins interview online or the full Trop Rock history).

To me, Trop Rock music is all about the tropical lifestyle. Talented singer/songwriters create the lyrics and the music, which comes together in a tropical-beach-island feel. But, not every song a Trop Rocker writes and sings is tropical, but somehow we still accept those songs as Trop Rock. There is no absolute. Mostly, the music creates a good feeling and it's often fun. Through concerts, events and festivals this close knit community comes together and it's Trop Rock music that's in the center of this tropical lifestyle we love.

Tammy Camp
Trop Rockin' Magazine
www.TropRockin.com

Today and for the foreseeable future, the Trop Rock music genre will continue to grow. More artists are entering the genre, more internet radio stations are playing the music and the grassroots style house concerts have taken off, filling up Trop Rock artists calendars. Each day, Trop Rock music is reaching new fans, making people smile, easing pains and bringing people together.

So, "What is Trop Rock?" It's music genre. Trop Rock may not be so simple to define, but one thing we know... it's the music we love the most. ■

We saw you at Parrot Daze



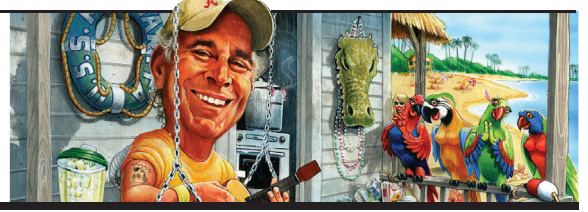
MORE PHOTOS on page 8



PETER MAYER
STARS & PROMISES *

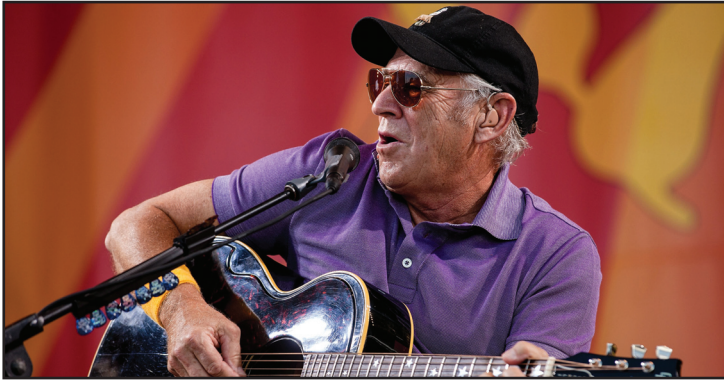
DEC 8
DoubleTree
DOWNTOWN
READING, PA

WHAT'S UP WITH JIMMY



BCPHC • SUMMER 2016

2016 TOUR DATES as of publication date



Date	City	Venue
Aug 13, 2016	Atlantic City Beach	Atlantic City, NJ
Aug 18, 2016	Bangor, ME	Darling's Waterfront Pavilion
Aug 20, 2016	Mansfield, MA	Xfinity Center - MA
Aug 23, 2016	Burgettstown, PA	First Niagara Pavilion
Aug 25, 2016	Wantagh, NY	Nikon at Jones Beach Theater
Aug 27, 2016	Camden, NJ	BB&T Pavilion
Sep 1, 2016	Omaha, NE	CenturyLink Center Omaha
Sep 3, 2016	Elkhorn, WI	Alpine Valley Music Theatre
Oct 13, 2016	Morrison, CO	Red Rocks Amphitheatre
Oct 15, 2016	Las Vegas, NV	MGM Grand Garden Arena
Oct 20, 2016	Sacramento, CA	Golden 1 Center

Don't look at me. Jimmy said it.

Quotes in the key of Jimmy



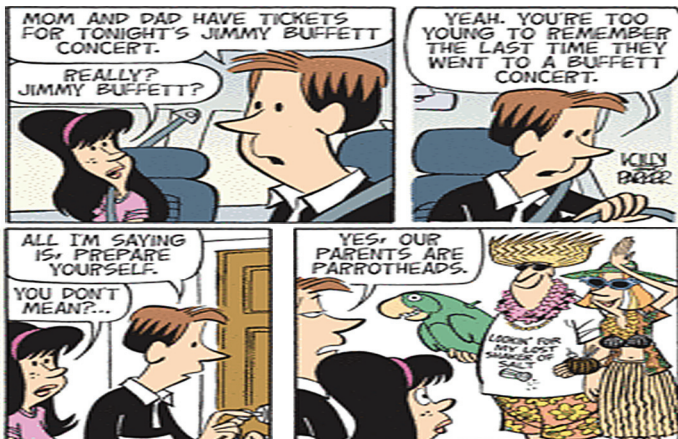
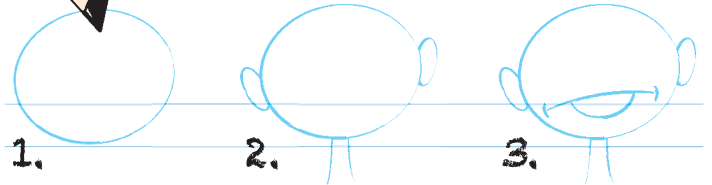
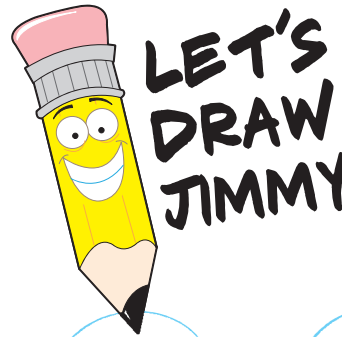
"IS IT IGNORANCE OR APATHY? HEY, I DON'T KNOW AND I DON'T CARE."

"INDECISION MAY OR MAY NOT BE MY PROBLEM."

— Jimmy Buffett

KIDS

ARE PARROTHEADS TOO!



Jimmy Trivia

1. About what group of people was the song 'Nautical Wheelers' written?
2. According to Jimmy, what did he hit after falling asleep while driving in the last verse of "Life Is Just A Tire Swing"?
3. The song "Grapefruit-Juicy Fruit" was about an experience of Jimmy's at a drive-in theater. According to him, what movie was playing?
4. What song made #234 on the Songs of the Century?

Answers:

1. Square Dancers 2. A telephone pole 3. Payday 4. Margaritaville

STRANGE BIRDS

DR. LOU MANCANO

BCPHC • SUMMER 2016



I grew up in a blue collar Philadelphia neighborhood, worked my way through school playing keyboards, met and married Mary Ann, and we

moved to Berks County in 1989. We have two grown children both currently living and working in South Carolina. I've spent my family medicine career in clinical teaching and delivering care to underserved populations, and have worked for Reading Hospital for the past 15 years. I love playing music and, after a 20 year hiatus to focus on family and profession, I'm now playing with two bands, the trop rock Latitude 24, and 6T Proof, playing Motown and soft rock classics of the '60s and '70s

How & why you joined the club?

I was at the Sovereign Center in 2009 and saw an advertisement for an event called Christmas in the Caribbean at the Scottish Rite. Mary Ann and I attended, and since the members seemed like such a cohesive and fun group, we took an application and joined the next month.

Where will you go when the volcano blows?

Somewhere along the Gulf Coast of Florida

What is your favorite Buffet song?

One Particular Harbour

What is your favorite line from a Buffet song?

"Still time to start a new life in the palm trees." I sometimes think about making that move, maybe even before retirement.

How many Buffet concerts have you attended / and favorite?

Six. My favorite was when we got to witness Jimmy Buffett and his band playing at the 2011 MOTM on Duval St.

If all Buffet music was lost what would you listen to?

1960s and '70s soul and Motown, because it combines melodies, harmonies and arrangements like no other musical style.

How long have you listened to Buffet?

I've listened to Buffett for 20 years, but, since playing with Latitude 24, I've listened more closely and learned to appreciate more of the lesser known songs.



Favorite Movie

Animal House, with the Blues Brothers being a close second.



What do you like on your cheeseburger?

Tomato, lettuce, and ketchup, and when I want to really live on the edge, add mushrooms and bacon.

Favorite Food?

Grilled seafood with a good salad.

What is your favorite Trop Rock Venue?

Probably Schooner Wharf in Key West.

Where is your Margaritaville?

When I'm playing music and watching people listening and having fun, my mind goes to Margaritaville. I'd like to go there more often. ■



CABIN FEVER

FEB 25 2017

at the DOUBLETREE HOTEL Downtown Penn Street, Reading

THE FINAL WORD

Parrot Daze Photo Booth



USELESS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Useless and Important Information is a publication of the Berks County Parrot Head Club, a non-profit organization based in Reading, Pennsylvania. The club's mission is to promote friendship and organize social activities for people who share a tropical spirit, an affection for island music, and the desire to contribute to the betterment of the community through a variety of volunteer and charitable efforts and functions.

The BCPHC was chartered in 2002 and is affiliated with Parrot Heads in Paradise, the national organization governing all Parrot Head clubs across the United States. This publication is produced by the staff of the club's newsletter committee and is a vehicle to exchange information about club activities and social events. Any opinions expressed in the articles are those of the authors alone and not necessarily those of the BCPHC or its leadership. The images, articles, and graphics in this newsletter are the property of the BCPHC and may not be reproduced in any way without the permission of the club leadership.

Anyone who wishes to help further the mission of the organization is invited to join and participate. More information can be found on the club website, located at

www.berkscountyparrothead.club

THE BOTTOM LINE



Prez. Denny Lorah, on behalf of the BCPHC, presents a check to Doug Graybill, for Veterans Making A Difference. Veterans Making A Difference helps the many homeless Vets in Berks County.

it's all about the charity