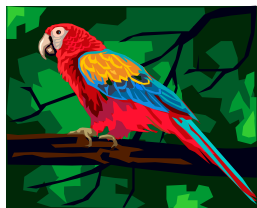




parrot poop

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From the President's Perch

H

ello from the President and welcome



to new members! We are glad to have you in our phlock of Berks County Parrot Heads. Our mission is to contribute to the betterment of the community and environment through a variety of volunteer efforts. We do this by organizing a "Party with a Purpose," which is Jimmy's message to all. In the Berks County Parrot Head Club, we start with a purpose (chosen charity) and then try to raise as much money as we can by having a party that we all can enjoy.

Over the past ten years we have raised over \$380,000 for local Berks County charities, and we are not finished. This year's golf outing will be on June 22nd and will benefit our very own Berks County Parrot Head Angel Foundation. Summer Parrot Daze will be on July 20th at the Reading Liederkrantz and will benefit Berks Women In Crisis. This is a great charity for us to support, so please volunteer to help if you can--and tell all of your friends to purchase tickets.

If you are a new member and I have not yet met you, please make it a point to say "hi" after the March 5th meeting. There are plenty of opportunities for you to help at events or join one our awesome committees if you can spare a little time. A special thanks goes to all of our long time members for your continued support and dedication to this great club. I hope everyone still gets that great feeling of pride when we present those big checks to our charities.

Summer is on its way and I know that makes our Parrot Heads happy!

Growing Older But Not Up,

Denny

2012 Christmas in the Caribbean

Mike Kerper

I am sure I'm not alone when I say that one of my favorite things about the Christmas season



is the BCPHC Caribbean Christmas show. Seeing some of the most talented members of the Coral Reefer Band teamed up with the always energetic Jimmy and the Parrots in an intimate setting where there isn't a bad seat in the venue sounds pretty close to perfect to me. How can you possibly go wrong!?

Returning to our show after a short sabbatical was the Catonsville Steel Drum Band. Seeing high school kids so passionate for the tropical art of steel pans warms my heart and in an odd way gives me a sense of

hope for the generations behind us. This group is always a crowd pleaser and truly gets you pumped for the main event!

The big show this year consisted of head Coral Reefer Michael Utley, master of the pans Robert Greenidge, and "Dangerous Doyle" Grisham on the pedal steel. Mixed among the Reefers was Jimmy and the Parrots and "Big Daddy", band leader for Gary US Bonds. I absolutely love how so many musicians with varying backgrounds and influences can be put on the same stage and produce such an amazing holiday sound. This year, the group decided to close with "Holiday Road," one of my favorite Christmas songs to play at capacity.



A great time was had by all, but unfortunately there were quite a few empty seats this year. This equates to a little less money raised for our charity, Crime Alert Berks, but almost as importantly the experience missed by those not in attendance. So let's all look forward to putting on an even more exciting and successful show next year!!!!

Since their inception in 2008, BCPHC's "Christmas in the Caribbean" concerts have raised over \$54,000 for local Berks Country Charities.

Images from an Evening to Remember Christmas in the Caribbean 2012

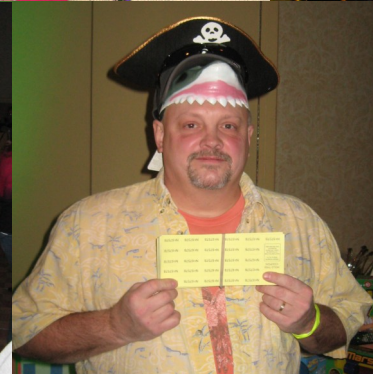


I Think I Got CABIN FEVER!!!!

Lou Mancano

On January 26, 2013, during the coldest arctic blast that Pennsylvania had experienced in over two years, the Berks County Parrot Head Club hosted its annual Cabin Fever Festival. It was 20 degrees, hockey games were on, and the next best thing to flying to St. Somewhere was driving to the Crowne Plaza in Wyomissing to spend a few hours experiencing “where the pace of life’s slow.” Cold boat drinks abounded, and tropical decorations and camaraderie warmed the hearts of everyone there to have some fun while supporting Opportunity House, an organization that offers emergency housing and other important services to the people of Berks County.

As usual, the boys in the band – in this case, The Mango Men - put on an excellent show masterfully playing a variety of Trop Rock and classic favorites that entertained the masses. And for their fine performance, no doubt waitresses brought each musician at least two more boat drinks. The Crowne Plaza offered a fine selection of food and beverages as raffles and merchandise sales helped to make for a successful event. Special thanks go out to all of the volunteers and supporters of the BCPHC and Opportunity House who came together to help the homeless, a need that is especially vital during these subfreezing temperatures. The BCPHC should be proud to know that, while it’s impossible to have Mr. Scott beam everyone down to the warmth of the Keys, this event helped many underprivileged people to go to a place where it’s warm, a shelter right here in our own community.





Quick Licks featuring

Matt Hoggatt

Tracey Lutz

Matt Hoggatt took an unusual path to get to the top of the trop rock scene. His song, "Dear Jimmy Buffett," helped him to win the American Songwriter Magazine's contest in 2012 and made him a big hit on YouTube. Ultimately, Jimmy Buffett heard the song and was impressed enough to invite Matt to attend a show in Birmingham, Alabama, where he was unexpectedly asked to perform the winning song. Then Jimmy paid him the ultimate compliment by writing and performing an "answer" to Matt's composition. That answer included a record contract, and Matt recently released his new album from Mailboat Records, "Hotter Than Fishgrease." And now, after leaving a 13-year career as a police officer, he will be able to fully focus on being a musician. Check out Matt's blog on matthoggatt.com to read more about his journey.

PP: You served seven years in the Army National Guard. Thank you for your service! Were you always in the 41st Army Band?

MH: I signed up when I was 19 and joined the Mississippi Army National Guard. I did 6 years with the army band as a brass horn musician. After my enlistment was up, I signed up for another year and served with a military police company as an M.P. I've always been in awe of the military and wanted to be part of something that served my country.

PP: Where is the most interesting place that you've ever performed? I'm guessing that you didn't get to play too much Buffett.

MH: While in the military, we did a summer tour in Bolivia and Brazil. It was there that I got to experience the effect that American music can have on other countries. We were treated like royalty and rock stars, even though we were playing military marches and big band music.

PP: It's been about a year since you were on stage in Birmingham with Jimmy. What has changed the most for you in your day to day life?

MH: When I got on stage in Birmingham I was working as a police officer during the day. I was a detective sergeant for a police department of about 55 officers. I would play at nighttime at local bars and music venues but I didn't have a lot of money. Neither of my former jobs paid a lot. I literally had to sit-in at a gig the night before Birmingham just to have gas money to make the trip. Since then, I'm far from rich...but I do have better gig opportunities as well as a record to sell. I've been able to quit my day job and concentrate on music and writing. The whole experience in Birmingham was a complete surprise. I had been invited to the show, but I thought I'd be in the crowd somewhere. I had no idea I'd end up backstage, then onstage, and absolutely no idea that JB wrote a song about me.

PP: Did you ever expect so much exposure from radio Margaritaville?

MH: I had no idea I was getting radio-play at first, then once I found out, I couldn't tune in except from my computer. When I got sent to Key West to play Margaritaville I was staying at Jimmy's house. I was sitting around his pool, listening to his Sirius XM radio when I hear "Dear Jimmy Buffett" for the first time on the radio. It was surreal.

(cont. p 11)

Interview:

Jim Wharton and the Catonsville Steel Band

Lou Mancano



The Catonsville High School Steel Drum Band's performance at Berks

County's "Christmas in the Caribbean" was quite impressive. This Maryland band performed a mix of tasteful classics and Christmas standards to wow fans at the Miller Center on the evening of Saturday December 15, 2012. On that same evening, Jim Wharton, the band's founder and director and the school's Music Department Chair, and Paul Willeboordse, high school senior and lead pan player, shared some insights into this excellent musical group.

Mr. Wharton's recollection of "the early days" began with a dinner he and his wife were having at a restaurant in Ocean City, Maryland back in 1988, listening to and thoroughly enjoying the calypso sound of the Baltimore Trinidad and Tobago Steel Band. Jim later wrote a grant proposal to start a high school steel band and the Baltimore County Public Schools eventually gave him the money. Wharton recalled, "I purchased the 'starter set' from Phil Solomon [an instrument maker from Pittsburgh]. I showed some of my band students the new instruments and they were hooked! We rehearsed for a few months then performed in the Spring Music Department Concert, also featuring the bands, orchestras, and choruses from CHS." Wharton continued, "Once the band became good enough to present concerts off-campus, we began asking for donations for our performances to help cover costs. Our budget includes transportation costs, tunings, replacing equipment, and purchasing music."

(cont. next page)



The Steel Band is currently an inspiring extracurricular ensemble that Wharton and Chris Gnagey, a music teacher, lead at rehearsals three days a week for two hours each day. The band had begun with only four pieces in 1991 and has since grown into a complex twenty-five piece steel pan orchestra. It has become so popular at the school that at this year's tryouts 45 students attended open rehearsals, and 21 of them auditioned for the six open positions. Wharton said, "Since the talent level was so high at the auditions, I ended up taking eight kids for the six positions." Willeboordse added, "While some students have musical backgrounds on other instruments, none have experience on pans before tryouts." He eagerly explained that there are several types of pans that range from bass



through soprano. "The lead drum has 26 pans on it representing two chromatic scales. Some bass pans only have three notes per drum." This accounts for the bass pan players standing amidst four drums to cover the 12 notes of the scale.

Mr. Wharton takes pride in that CHS was the first school steel pan program in the state of Maryland. He said, "Nowadays in Baltimore County alone, there are three high schools, two middle schools, and several elementary schools with pan programs." The popularity and enthusiasm surrounding the band has led to the recent building of the Pan Yard at Catonsville High, a room used not only for practice, but to display the many newspaper articles and special awards received by the band since their inception. Jim said that currently "the band presents thirty concerts a year including community festivals, conventions, schools, retirement communities, and churches."



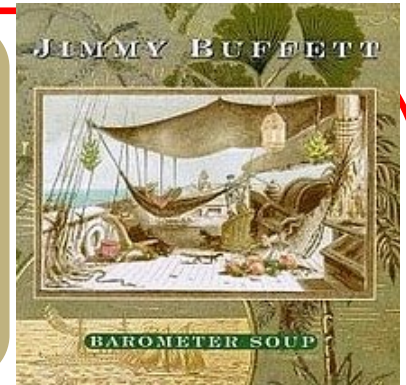
Over the years, the students have had the opportunity to work with steel drum greats, such as Andy Narell, Ray Holman, and Ken "Professor" Philmore. Some former students, such as Chris Aschman, Andy Stack, and Andrew Broadwater, have gone on to professional musical careers, incorporating steel drums into their repertoires. Of course, on this evening, the great Robert Greenidge of Jimmy Buffett's Coral Reefer Band, got to hear their performance, and I'm sure he was as impressed as the rest of the audience at the Miller Center. Our hats go off to Mr. Wharton and to the talented young musicians at Catonsville High.



Did you know?: The "father" of the steel pan may well be Elliott "Ellie" Mannette, a Trinidadian who invented the now-standard concave dish design and a host of other pan instruments.

Trivia :**Back to Basics!!!!**

Lou Mancano



Okay Parrot Heads! Here are ten questions about the life and music of the king of Margaritaville. Let's find out who is worth their salt, salt, salt!

1-Jimmy Buffett's first #1 album was what?

- A. *White Sport Coat and Pink Crustacean* (1973) B. *Coconut Telegraph* (1981)
 C. *Songs you Know by Heart* (1985) D. *License to Chill* (2004)

2-Which one of these movies did Jimmy Buffett appear in?

- A. *Charlotte's Web* B. *Eragon* C. *Hoot* D. *Night in the Museum*

3-Which book written by Jimmy Buffett was NOT on the New York Best Sellers List?

- A. *A Salty Piece of Land* B. *Jolly Mon* C. *A Pirate Looks at Fifty* D. *Where is Joe Merchant?*

4-Who was Jimmy Buffett's co-writer of the book Jolly Mon?

- A. *Mac McAnally* B. *Tina Gullickson* C. *Savannah Buffett* D. *Michael Utley*

5-Jimmy Buffett attended what college?

- A. *Mississippi State* B. *SMU* C. *Miami University* D. *University of Southern Mississippi*

6-Of the top money making concerts in 2006, where did Jimmy Buffett's rank?

- A. *number 1* B. *number 3* C. *number 5* D. *number 7*

7-What country star did NOT sing on Jimmy Buffett's cover of "Hey, Good Lookin"?

- A. *Tim McGraw* B. *Kenny Chesney* C. *Clint Black* D. *George Strait*

8-Jimmy Buffett was born in what state?

- A. *Mississippi* B. *Florida* C. *Louisiana* D. *South Carolina*

9-Who is said to have coined the term "Parrot Heads"?

- A. *Gordon Lightfoot* B. *Keith Sykes* C. *Timothy B. Schmit* D. *Jerry Garcia*

10-Which of these Buffett songs is an instrumental? (Hint: It begins with a "B")

- A. *Banana Wind* B. *Banana Republics* C. *Barometer Soup* D. *Boats to Build*

Scoring : 9-10 White Lightning! 7-8 151 Rum 5-6 Sangria Wine <5 Bud light



More images from Cabin Fever 2013!!!!



Committee Updates: In 25 words (more) or less

Stars on the Water (Volunteers Committee) - Scott Kauffman *"Thank You" to all of the volunteers that helped at Cabin Fever. So many people helping makes each volunteer's time commitment shorter, allowing more time to enjoy the event while still helping our charity. Thanks again for your support.*

We Need More Junior Mints (Sponsorship Committee) - Sam Beam *The next sponsorship meeting will be on March 19th at the Crowne Plaza 7:00pm. We will be still looking for new members to help us for Parrot Daze. We are hoping to make this the best event ever, but we still need help. Thanks to all who helped to make the Cabin Fever event successful.*

Parrot Poop (Newsletter Committee) - Rich Leiby *We welcome ideas for new columns and invite everyone to volunteer to write for us!!! Contact any of the team if you are interested!*

Pfeeding Pfenzy (Merchandise Committee) - Tina Shenk *Our committee is excited about the new and fun merchandise that we will have available for our Parrot Head members. We are also looking forward to "Summer Daze" and we are always in need of items for our auction baskets. We appreciate all your donations!*

Party With a Purpose (Events Committee) - Tracey Lutz *Join us for our 1st Happy Hour of the year at Klinger's on Carsonia, Sunday, March 24th from 2pm - 5pm. Enjoy our own Latitude 24 trop rock band along with drink specials and good company.*

Changes in Attitude (Charity Committee) - Gary Kraft *The BCPHC Angel Fund and Berks Women in Crisis have been selected as our next two event charities. Both welcome and need our support!*

If the Phone Doesn't Ring (Membership Committee) - Sue Standefer *The newly reorganized membership committee decided to hand out goodie bags to new members with leis for them to wear to their first meeting. We are in the process of drafting a welcome letter. The next meeting is Thursday, March 14th at 6:30. If you need more information contact Susie.*

We're not famous—yet (Marketing Committee) - Debbie Hartranft *The newly formed Marketing Committee is seeking members and your input! Our first task is to find out what the internal marketing needs are for our club. Enhancing communications has been the first identified need. If you have any ideas or would like to join our efforts, please contact us.*



Strange Birds

featuring **Molly Dickerson**



This month's "strange bird" was born in Bedford, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland.

Molly graduated from Solon High School and also attended Kent State University. She has been married to her husband, Bill, for 20 years and has two step sons who are currently both living in Ohio. Molly been as an outside sales representative in the medical industry and art industry, but she is currently taking a sabbatical from the working world.

Some phun phacts about Molly:

Favorite Jimmy Buffett song : *Baby's gone shoppin'*

Favorite Jimmy Buffett song line: *"I'm lookin' for a smart woman in a real short skirt, smart woman who knows how to flirt."*

Favorite place to be while listening to tropical music: *On a beautiful tropical island someplace while the sun is shining, drinking something very refreshing.*

How many concerts have you been to and was one more memorable than the others? *I've lost count – but several concerts. My most memorable concert was the first time I ever saw him back in the 80's at an outdoor amphitheater in Cleveland, sitting out on the lawn with a bunch of fellow crazy Parrot Heads.*

If all your Buffett music was lost or stolen, what would you listen to? *An assortment of different artists, including Johnny Cash, Jack Johnson, Phish, Nora Jones, Sheryl Crow, Bonnie Raitt, the Rolling Stones, and Frank Sinatra.*

Favorite coral reefer, other than Jimmy: *Mac McAnally - Guitar*

Favorite food: *I like lots of different foods...maybe a shellfish pasta dish of some sort.*

Favorite movie: *Caddy Shack*

Favorite restaurant: *Donatello's Restaurant – Tampa, FL.*

Drink of choice: *A Margarita, a Limoncello Martini, a vodka-club w/ a splash of cranberry juice and I love a nice glass of white or red wine—it all depends.*

How did you get involved in the BCPHC?: *Through our friends, Leigh and Bryan Gentry. We've been members for 5 or 6 years and have gone to Meeting of The Minds (3) times.*

What's on your bucket list? *A Mediterranean cruise.*

Any insights or inspirations to pass on? *Live, love, laugh and count your blessings.*

Where the heck is Margaritaville?: *Last I knew, Key West...but it could be wherever you want it to be.*

Quick Licks featuring Matt Hoggatt (cont.)

PP: I heard you on the Bing and Bong Show live before a concert. What was *that* energy like backstage before Mr. Buffett and Mr. Utley went on in front of thousands of screaming Parrot Heads?

MH: The best way to describe it is organized chaos. People really come to life and take on character.

PP: Can you define a Parrot Head and do you have a favorite Parrot Head moment? We can be a little bit crazy at times - it's fun to let the feathers fly!

MH: Parrot heads have become something so much more than just Jimmy Buffett fans. They are a lifestyle, a character, a person, and a fan all wrapped into one. Add into all that the fact that many parrot heads are members of clubs that help charities and you have something that goes much deeper than just a fan. Being a parrot head is about escapism, fun, and responsibility Monday morning when you return to work. But during the show....there are no rules, but to let your feathers fly.

PP: You really have gotten to do what so many singers/songwriters and wanna be's have dreamed of - perform on stage with Jimmy Buffett. Is it everything you thought it would be?

MH: It was way more than I thought it would be. I still have things in the works, and much more planned to do. As long as people want to hear me or read what I have going on...I'll keep doing it. Beyond all that though, it's a real honor to work with such professional people who have such good hearts. It makes me feel at home.

PP: Your new album, "Hotter Than Fishgrease", has been getting a good response from Parrot Heads. How's it going?

MH: Its going great...I'm in the process of lining up gigs in new places so I can help promote the record. It's not likely to end up playing on your local FM radio station...but neither is a lot of the great music of the world. I'm happy where it's at, and I look forward to spreading some Fish Grease around the world.

PP: It's been reported that JB was in Key West recording some new tunes for "Songs from St. Somewhere." Any chance you might have some input on the album? Will we see you on stage for the tour?

MH: You never know!

PP: What's next?

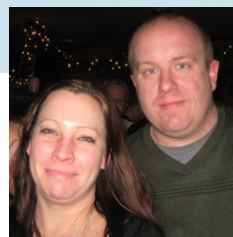
MH: I'll be going, doing, seeing, being, singing, writing, meeting, and living!

—*—



Phledgling Phlockers Welcome to the Club!!!

Sandy Reinhard

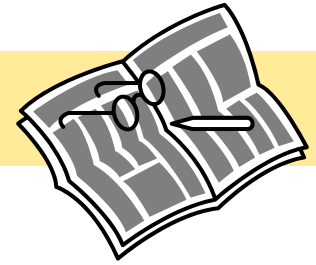


Jana and Josh Spess



Kathy and Mark Beard

.....and just a few final words.



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 solely as 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

<http://www.berkscountyphc.org>



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