

Berks County



parrot poop

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Parrot Poop Scoop

HAPPY NEW YEAR from the President's Perch

I took off for a week last year just to recall the whole year. (Actually it was a couple of hours). Before you know it, I was knee deep in the past and realizing life is simply complicated. What happened in 2004?

Well George W. Bush and Denny Lorah were re-elected President. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Reflecting back through the year while sipping on a Sam Adams the BCPHC consumed most of my thoughts. Thinking back through my life, the years and miles, and the tears and smiles, being the founder of this great Club is one of my greatest joys. All of you Parrot Heads really are a piece of work. The way everyone works and the time you birds give to charities is to be congratulated.

In 2004 we cleaned our highway twice to give back to our environment, we raised money for the Berks County Chapter of the American Red Cross, Humane Society of Berks County, American Cancer Society – Berks Unit, won first place in the King Frost parade, and finished out the year with our annual Toys for Tots happy hour. Thanks to all the Marines who joined us.

The New Year brings many events and new charities to our nest. January 30th will be our winter party at Stella restaurant and will benefit Easter Seals Eastern PA. You will want to be there. Plan to attend our monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at 3rd and Spruce Café in West Reading and hear about ongoing events.

My New Year's wish is for everyone to have a License to Chill.

Denny

GROWING OLDER BUT NOT UP



Christmas Island at Third and Spruce

~ Mirthfully submitted by Melissa McCoy (Lou, of course, added this!)



Parrot Heads and Marines. Not the most likely combination to party together. But the celebration on Friday, December 10 at 3rd and Spruce in West Reading for BCPHC's annual Christmas Party was a perfect opportunity for the two groups to combine their efforts for a good cause and a good time.



Young and "not growing up" arrived with enough toys to fill Santa's sleigh. This year, revelers were also greeted upstairs at the Spruce with a few untraditional Christmas decorations ... in blue and brass. The United States Marine Corp joined the party to collect for their annual Toys for Tots drive. A group of ten marines attended the festivities in their dress blues and were honored for their service to the United States and their commitment to needy children. They were also instrumental (who could refuse Marine?) in selling raffle tickets to Parrot Head partygoers and 3rd and Spruce patrons. The raffle also benefited Toys for Tots.



Toys for Tots Campaign 2004

~ by Nestor Holyk

It was a dark and stormy night not fit for man or beast. Even that didn't prevent a great turnout of the Club membership to donate toys for the United States Marine Corp's Toys for Tots Drive at the Third and Spruce Restaurant. The donation drum and numerous tables were overflowing with toys for the needy.

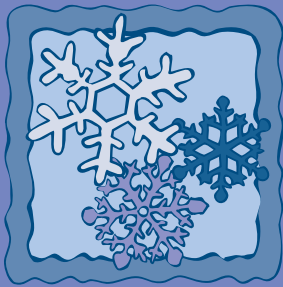
The arrival of ten members of the United States Marine Corps, Reading

Barracks, brought thunderous applause from the restaurant patrons at their arrival. The second standing ovation they received was as they walked down the stairs to walk alongside the Parrot Head version of Santa and his elf selling 50:50 raffle tickets to the first floor patrons. It was positively heart warming to see the emotional greetings, thanks and well-wishing that all the patrons bestowed on the Marines for their service to our country.

The Marines graciously thanked the Club for our efforts in their toy campaign. They also endured seemingly



endless pictures and good-natured jokes from the crowd. It was fitting and just that a Marine held the first winning ticket of three drawn for the raffle. Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.



Attention all Parrot Head Partygoers:

time to break out the coconuts!

There won't be football games to watch so plan on attending the Club's annual Winter Party on Sunday, January 30 from 1-6:00 p.m. at Berks County's newest restaurant Stella*.

Club musician John Hain will be joined by the Mango Summers Band. Stella has planned a fantastic menu of food and drink specials. And as has become tradition, we'll hold our "best dressed for the occasion" contest.

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from anyone on the events committee.

*Stella is located on North Park Road behind VF Outlets.



Winter Party...

While our Club's Winter Party is a great time to get everyone out of winter hiding and into Hawaiian shirts, it's also one of several occasions to "party with a purpose". Through auction item proceeds, raffle ticket sales, and other mon-ey-making ideas, we hope that you open your hearts and wallets for Easter Seals. Remember, our Club's donation will stay in Berks County.



Creating solutions, changing lives.

Easter Seals Eastern PA provides critically needed medical and therapy services, support, education and advocacy for more than 2,700 individuals with disabilities – and their families – in eastern Pennsylvania. They help all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay. Here are two examples of how our donation might help individuals with disabilities:

Angelo is a beautiful child with big eyes and a mass of dark curls. Despite

how "angelic" Angelo appears, doctors predicted a less than idyllic childhood for Angelo. He was born prematurely at 32 weeks and spent his first 25 days of life in the hospital. Angelo's parents

were told to expect significant delays in reaching major milestones like walking.

At age four months, Angelo began receiving physical therapy through Easter Seals Eastern PA and each week, a therapist traveled to his home to provide therapy. At

16 months old, Angelo walked for the first time. And it wasn't long after that he was climbing steps and running.

A local foster family has helped to raise over 30 special needs foster children through Berks County Children & Youth Services. Thanks to Easter Seals, they were able to borrow wheelchairs, crutches and other assistive devices. Specialty medical clinics, such as Easter

Seals orthopedic clinic, eliminated travel to Hershey or Philadelphia to get top quality medical care for their children.

While Easter Seals medical clinics and services address children's physical needs, Easter Seals camping and recreation programs address the social needs of children with disabilities by giving them an outlet for fun and recreation.

In order for Easter Seals Eastern Pennsylvania to remain a vital resource for our community and the thousands of people with disabilities they serve in Berks County, they need the support of Parrot Heads and pfriends. Opening your wallet on January 30th at Stella will make a difference in the lives of those with special needs who face so many obstacles each day.

For more information on our Winter Party charity, visit www.easterseals-easternpa.org.

Strange Birds

In this issue of Parrot Poop, we'll learn more about our events committee chairperson, Jodi Blatt.

I was born in Bangor, Maine (air force brat) so that makes me a Mainiac. I married my high school sweetheart Jeff and we've been together for 30 years!

Children: My three sons - Nicholas 22, Zachery 20, and Christopher 17

It's my job: I can't decide what I want to be when I grow up so here goes - mornings I'm a reading aide for K-4th grade. In the afternoon I'm an office manager/bookkeeper for Blatt & Zaffary Electric. All the time I'm a mother and wife.

But I'd prefer my occupation to be: I'm happy where I am now. In the future, who knows?

Interests/hobbies (other than listening to JB): Traveling and then scrap-booking the pictures, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

Where will you go when the Volcano blows? Anywhere warm next to the water. I want to wake to the sun on the water each morning.

Favorite JB song? First choice is "Cowboy in the Jungle". "Desperation Samba" was always a favorite - the new version on "Meet Me in Margaritaville" really cemented it.

Favorite line from a JB song: "Spinning around in circles, living it day to day and still 24 hours maybe 60 good years, it's really not that long a stay. We gotta roll with the punches, learn to play all of our hunches, make the best of whatever comes your way."

How long have you listened to JB? Jeff came home with his first album, (yes I said album!) when we were first married. He said, "you got to hear this guy!"

How many JB concerts have you been to & are any more memorable than others? I've lost count but each seems to have a lasting memory about the friends we have been with.



Have you read any of JB's books and if so, which was your favorite? I've read all of his books and enjoyed "Tales from Margaritaville" the best. It was fun to read about some of the characters you hear him sing about in the songs.

If all your Buffett music was lost or stolen, who would you listen to? Anything depending on the mood I'm in. I have to admit I don't just listen to Buffett music.

Favorite food? Again I have to say anything I'm in the mood for. Although if black beans are on the menu, 9 times out of 10 I'm ordering whatever comes with them!

What do you like on your cheeseburger in paradise? Lettuce, tomato, onion, mustard and lots of ketchup (it has to drip out).

Favorite frozen (or unfrozen) concoction? Raspberry margarita made from Harry & David margarita mix with Responado tequila. And I can always drink a good red wine.

Most embarrassing moment? I really knew I had become a full-fledge waste when Jeff and I were lying in bed one morning in Key West last year and he asked me what I wanted to do that day. I thought for a moment and replied, "Let's lay on the bar and wait for the beach to open!" Of course I meant to say it the other way around but I guess the laid back lifestyle won out.

How did you get involved in the BCPHC? We were friends with Denny & Tina and when they brought up the thought of starting a Club, we were all for it.

What one thing would you like to do in life that you haven't already done? Travel to as many places as I can and do or see something new at each location.

Any insights or inspirations to pass on? Work will always be waiting for you but friends, family, and adventure come and go all the time. Take the time to enjoy the things you can't keep or control in your life. Don't end up with regrets in the end.

Where the heck is Margaritaville? As close as our bar in the basement for 4 o'clock happy hour on a Friday - to Delaware on the weekends - or anywhere there's someone to party with.



Parrot Heads at Wrigley Field?

According to a recent article in the Chicago Sun-Times, "the Chicago Cubs are desperate for cash not subject to Major League Baseball's revenue-sharing edict, and are exploring the possibility of holding rock concerts at Wrigley Field."

"Singer-songwriter Jimmy Buffett, a diehard Cubs fans who has already sung the national anthem and "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" at Wrigley, is the likely opening act. He played at Fenway Park last season."

Sources said the Cubs have not begun formal negotiations with Buffett but he's definitely their top choice because team officials believe his crowds are a lot tamer than the hardcore fans who would be drawn to a rock concert. (hmm?)



Golf Outing



Golf balls have turned into snowballs, but the Cancer Society work goes on! On August 27, 2004, the Club took the party to Perry Golf Course, and the purpose was to benefit The American Cancer Society – Berks Unit. The first annual tournament was a success raising \$1,212. Sixteen foursomes birdied and bogeyed (and double bogeyed?) their way through the course. Congratulations to Bill Love, Dave Voellaer, Tim Kutz and Brad Paere who took first place with -10 for a score of 60. Also, congratulations to the longest drive winners on #1, Rich Hawk for the men and Elysia Hawk for the women and straightest drive winner on hole #8, Mike Franco.

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a catered dinner as Jimmy Buffet CD's played in the background for an awesome evening! Special thanks to J.R. and Tracie Koch for working with the events committee to organize the event. Mark your calendars now for tournament #2 on May 20, 2005 at Perry Golf Course. With a little love and luck, the 2nd annual is sure to be even bigger and better!



The Club's 2nd highway cleanup was held on Sunday, October 17, 2004.

"And The Winners Are" ...

This was the newspaper headline in the *Hamburg Item* followed by: FIRST PLACE - "Parrots of the Caribbean", Berks County Parrot Head Club.

If you missed the annual King Frost Parade on October 30th, it was a great time and the warm, balmy weather was perfect for our Caribbean theme. Receiving a check from the Hamburg Jaycees for \$200 also helped warm our charity coffers.

The float project began in September with making papier-mâché coconuts and palm trunks from carpet tubes. Treetops were made from patio umbrella veins and some "fluffy green stuff" thanks to Jim "the Dumpster Diver" Behrle. We also assembled a bamboo tiki bar (the most used item on the float), a smoking volcano, signs, torches, banners, and 1-1/2 tons of sand. A generator supplied the electric for all the tree lights, spotlights and sound system. Parrot Heads of course needed (required?) a cabana tent with a porta-potty and filled coolers to keep all the pirates from dehydrating on the long parade route!

Everything was erected on a 40-foot flatbed trailer the evening before and the day of the parade. We finished minutes before lineup time and the start of the parade. After 366 total man-hours, the fun really began. We had lots of

cool pirates and wenches, hula girls, and even a cheeseburger-guy. We handed out chocolate coins, leis, and beads to the happy crowd of parade watchers while John and Patty Hain performed live from our float.

Many thanks to everyone that marched in the parade and contributed their time and personal items for the float. Thanks also to Denny for all the supplies, Berkshire Bank for a \$300



donation, and Rod Reigel and LSR Excavating for the use of the truck and trailer. We built the entire float on \$300 with some additional items donated by the builders.

A special thanks and GREAT JOB to the float committee: Bill Lutz -you're awesome, also Jim Behrle, Bob Beissel, Ted Knepp, Bob Baertschy, and Donna Lutz. Also contributing their time and talent were Trudy Behrle, Marilyn & Jim Baertschy, Larry Homsher, Dawn Knepp, Chuck and Corey Dugan, and Todd & Cindi Fiucci.

It's not too early to form the 2005 float committee and start thinking of a theme and ideas for next year's parade. We have a big job ahead to keep our first place bragging rights.

~ by Brenda Beissel





The second birthday party for the Berks County Parrot Head Club was a big success. 75 people partied at Denny and Tina's to celebrate our second year of "Partying With A Purpose". The weather was a bit better than last year and John Hain worked his magic for those of us in attendance. Let's toast to another year of making a difference while having fun!



Jivia

Jivia is the Parrot Poop column where we feature Jimmy Buffett trivia questions. Answers to these questions and previous Jivia can be found on our Web site www.BerksCountyPHC.org.

- 1) On the front cover of "Before The Beaches", Jimmy is sitting on the hood of an old Packard. What does the license plate read?
 - a) Goin South
 - b) Flying Lady
 - c) Highway Lady
 - d) Mrs Bojangles
- 2) On the cover of "A1A", what brand of beer is resting on the arm of the beach chair?
 - a) Heineken
 - b) Budweiser
 - c) Michelob
 - d) Corona

- 3) On the cover of "Somewhere Over China", on which continent are Jimmy Buffett's feet firmly planted?
 - a) China
 - b) Europe - one foot western ,one foot eastern
 - c) North America
 - d) South America
 - e) Africa

Fill in the song titles:

One Particular _____
 Jolly _____ Sing
 Everybody's Got a ___ in ___
 Fruit _____
 He Went To _____
 Delaney Talks to _____
 _____ of a _____ of a _____
 Christmas in the _____
 _____ Chalice
 If the ___ Doesn't _____ ,It's _____

Web site squawkings



www.BerksCountyPHC.org

Our Web site is regularly updated with Club information. Meeting locations and times are listed, as well as information concerning special events like monthly Club happy hours and the winter and summer parties. There is a Business Directory for information about services that are provided by the entrepreneurs in our Club. We encourage Club members to look there first when choosing someone with which to do business. Also, if you know of a Buffett-related Web site, send it to us and we'll place it on the "Cool Links" page. Check out our site and feel free to send any suggestions or comments to chdugan@comcast.net.

Club T-shirt sightings

BCPHC members are sporting their Club attire at some interesting and famous landmarks. Send the Parrot Poop your Club shirt photos taken at your favorite latitude.



Denny & Tina opt to schmooz each other instead of the Blarney Stone at Blarney Castle in Ireland.



Jeff and Jodi Blatt show the Blarney Stone their BCPHC t-shirts.

"A Coastal Confession: An Evening With Jimmy Buffett"

On Wednesday, December 8th, a group of BCPHC members joined other Parrot Heads at the Imax Theatre in King of Prussia for a live simulcast of Jimmy Buffett from New Orleans' Mahalia Jackson Theatre of the Performing Arts. The event was Jimmy's opportunity to plug his new book, "A Salty Piece of Land."

Jimmy, along with his "beach band" (smaller group of Coral Reefers), would sing a song or two, read passages aloud from his new book, explained where he was while writing his book (which took five years), gave interesting tidbits about the characters, spoke about his background, and then took questions from the audience – even from the satellite locations. The Mahalia Theatre audience was limited to residents of Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Alabama and the Florida Panhandle.

The evening was charming, relaxing, and I'm sure everyone walked away with a new story about Jimmy Buffett and his life.

According to Mailboat Records, they are planning to release a DVD from Buffett's recent concert/book reading in New Orleans. Look for it early 2005.

You too can be a Parrot Head!

New members contact – Sue Gromis at sign4sue@att.net

or go to: www.BerksCountyPHC.org

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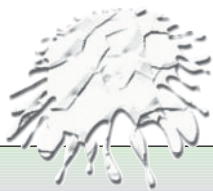
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New-Membership List

Welcome new members of the pflock.

John O'Connor
Clarissa Smith
Donald and JoAnne Ulle
Kimberly Convry
Tom and Rose King

Jim and Linda Martzall
Brett and Stacey Riegel
Brent and Kristine Collinson
Vince and Nancy Salvatore
David Renninger

Merrill and Gail Renninger
Russ and Joan Smith
John and Lou Zmroczek

Did you move to a new cage?

If you need to make changes to your mailing or email information,
please contact the membership committee.



In 25 Words or Less **Committee Updates:**

Changes in Attitude (charity committee) – chairperson Mike Mountz

The Charity Committee is extremely happy to have Easter Seals Eastern PA as the recipient of our Winter Party efforts. Our combined efforts truly make this a successful event. It is the committee's plan to propose two charities to the general membership to choose as the beneficiary of this summer's Parrot Daze event. Thanks to all the committee and Club members for their good works.

If the Phone Doesn't Ring (membership committee) – chairperson Sue Gromis

No report.

Party with a Purpose (events committee) – chairperson Jodi Blatt

The committee has been busy scheduling events for 2005. We have tried to plan something for each month to help keep the Parrot Heads in Berks County out of trouble. Busy Parrot Heads are happy Parrot Heads! It would be great to see some new faces at the events. Come out and have the time of your life! Make sure you post the newsletter events calendar in a prominent location so you don't miss any dates.

Pfeeding Pfrenzy (merchandise committee) – chairperson Tina Shenk

For the winter event ~ our committee is phlurrering around collecting merchandise and donations for the silent auction and the raffle table. Stop by the merchandise table and check out our new Parrot Head items - BCPHC caps are here!

Stars on the Water (volunteer committee) – chairperson Diane Renninger

Calling all volunteers! The winter event and winter happy hours are just around the corner. Now is the time to be a star on the water. There are many people in the world who know how to party, but it takes a Parrot Head to give it purpose. Please contact Diane Renninger at drenninger@reinsel.com to sign up now.

We need More Junior Mints (sponsorship committee) – chairperson Norm Heilenman

The Winter Event is a great opportunity for local businesses to support a great cause and at the same time reach all the members of the Berks County Parrot Head Club and their friends. Any committee member has information on sponsorship opportunities designed for all size businesses...and remember the Winter Event is Sunday, January 30 at Stella to benefit Easter Seals Society, Berks Division!

*It's Five
O'Clock
Somewhere*



a.k.a. Upcoming Events:

Winter Party to benefit Easter Seals Eastern Pennsylvania

Sunday, January 30 – 1-6 p.m.

Stella – 220 N. Park Road, Reading – behind VF Outlets

Club musician John Hain and the Mango Summers Band will be singing all those songs we know by heart.

Food and drink specials and "best dressed for the occasion" contest

Cost = \$5

February Happy Hour – check our Web site for date and location

Scavenger Hunt – Pascagoula Run

Saturday, April 2

Interested scavengers must sign up for this event by the

March membership meeting on March 1st at 3rd and

Spruce Café

More information will be available at that meeting and on our Web site.

Highway Clean-up

Sunday, April 24 – 1:00 p.m.

Meet at Applebee's. Recovery party afterwards.

Award for most unusual item of trash.

2nd Annual Parrot Head Golf Outing

Friday, May 20 – 1:00 tee-off: Perry Golf Course

June Happy Hour – check our Web site for date and location

3rd Annual Summer Parrot Daze

Saturday, July 16 – 12:00 p.m.: Fish Pond West

Captain Quint – 6-9 p.m.

More details will follow!

August Happy Hour

Sunday, August 21 – 4-7 p.m.: Tiki Bar

3rd Birthday Party – members only

Saturday, September 10 – 4-10 p.m.

Denny & Tina's

Highway Clean-up

Sunday, October 2 – 1:00 p.m.

Meet at Applebee's. Recovery party afterwards.

Award for most unusual item of trash.

November Happy Hour – check our Web site for date and location

King Frost Parade

Saturday, October 29

We must defend our 1st place finish!

Toys for Tots Happy Hour

Saturday, December 10

Check the Web site for more information

General Membership Meetings –

3rd & Spruce Café, West Reading - upstairs

1st Tuesday of every month

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

Join Club members for dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Mark these dates for next year and plan to be present for the time of your life!

For more information on these and other events scheduled after the publication of this issue of Parrot Poop, go to www.BerksCountyPHC.org.

Growing Older But Not Up



Please celebrate birthdays recently past and future.

DECEMBER		Cordy Kemmerer	15
Ibi Fryer	1	Dot McGlenn Imbody	18
Donna Smith	3	Rita Gierlich	22
Butch Whitmoyer	10	Danielle Troncelliti	22
Bill Lutz	14	Chuck Dugan	22
Brett Riegel	15	Debbie Boyer	23
Glenn Buchter	16	Stan Owens	24
Cary Shaner	17	Joan Smith	24
Brian Dressler	17	Shawn Guevin	25
Debra Konowal	22	Lee Fredericks	27
J.R. Koch	26	JoAnn McCarthy	27
Keith Imbody	29	Brent Collinson	28
Cindi Fiucci	29	Linda Oxenreider	30
		Holly Cressman	30

JANUARY		APRIL	
Keith Kershner	1	John Zmroczek	4
Dawn Knepp	6	Jerry Bowdren	5
Chris Papada	6	Nancy Vardjan	7
Gail Renninger	9	Ronald Dunkelberger, Sr.	11
Shirley Hess	14	Richard Leiby	11
Jim Fryer	14	Marilyn Baertschy	11
Thomas Boyer	15	Kerri Manmiller	12
Alan B. Carman	17	Bob Baertschy	12
Kimberly Conrvy	20	Matt Vardjan	17
Ann Folk	21	Pat Hain	24
Nestor Holyk	22	Christine Rodichok	24
Ruthann Woll	26	Diane Heilenman	25
		Dana Kintzer	26
FEBRUARY		Linda Cataldi	27
Cathy Jo Leiby	5		
Jeff Blatt	8		
Rose King	9	MAY	
Barbara Lorah	12	Lisa Phillippi	1
Rick Boyer	17	Laura Dressler	2
Kathy Fister	17	Jodi Blatt	5
Terry Manmiller	19	Tina Shenk	7
Judy Hill	19	John Sizer	8
Tom King	20	Carol Fredericks	12
Larry Homsher	20	Cliff Weinhold	13
Rick Wolf	23	Anne Hassel	13
Jim Landrigan	23	Rick Cataldi	14
Helen Stevenson	24	Michael Mountz	14
Keith Krick	28	Rick Gromis	17
		Donna Whitmoyer	20
		Rev. Lance Babbitt	23
MARCH		A.J. Troncelliti	24
Jim Fidler	2	Jim Baertschy	31
Eric Keller	4		
David Gemmell	5		
Dorothy Krick	9		
Sue Gromis	12		
John Hain	12		
Tracie Koch	14		
Bob Beissel	14		
Linda Moyer	15		

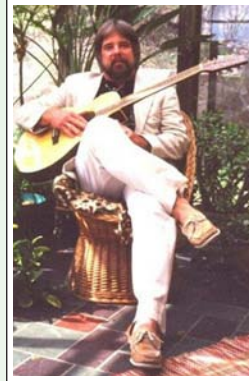
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The Big Birds

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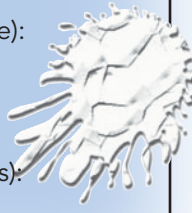
Mike Mountz
mdm@shillingtonboro.net

Events (Party with a Purpose):

Jodi Blatt
meandmyboz@aol.com

Sponsorship

(We need more Junior Mints):
Norm Heilenman
nheilenman@berkshirebnk.com



*It's Five
O'Clock
Somewhere*



a.k.a.

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Membership Meetings -
first Tuesday of every month

**Winter Party to benefit Easter
Seals Eastern Pennsylvania**

Sunday, January 30 – 1-6 p.m.

February Happy Hour – check our
Web site for date and location

Scavenger Hunt – Pascagoula Run
Saturday, April 2

Highway Clean-up
Sunday, April 24 – 1:00 p.m.

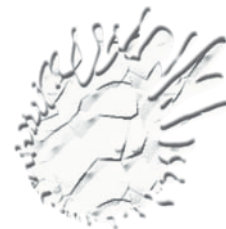
**2nd Annual Parrot Head Golf
Outing**

Friday, May 20 – 1:00 tee-off

3rd Annual Summer Parrot Daze
Saturday, July 16 – 12:00 p.m.

For more details on upcoming events see
page 10 or visit our Web site:
www.BerksCountyPHC.org

The next issue of Parrot Poop will be issued in Spring 2005.



Berks County Parrot Head Club
c/o Lithotech, Inc.
601 Heisters Lane
Reading, PA 19605

