



parrot poop

HELLO from the President's Perch

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I wanted to take off a week last month just to try to recall the whole year. That didn't happen because I was down on the Knees Of my Heart trying to finalize the Christmas in the Islands show at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. Even though it snowed in the morning, it turned into a Rag Top Day by afternoon and the show was on. The Catonville High School Steel Drum band was awesome and Parrotbeach closed the show with a great performance. Thanks to Berkshire Bank for being the major sponsor. The proceeds of approximately \$11,000 benefited Crime Alert Berks County.

Also in 2008 we supported the Animal Rescue League of Berks County, Holly Heilman Cancer Fund, Breast Cancer Support Services, and Toys for Tots. Check out the articles inside the newsletter for more information on these events.

As we closed out 2008 and I thought about all the negative and history making events over the year, I realized more then ever how cool our Parrot Head Club really is. The economy did not affect our efforts to raise money for local charities and we had a record year of giving back to the community.

Several new additions were added to our Pirate Ship thanks to the Float Committee. Old friendships continued to grow and several new ones were created. These are the things that I respect in each of you. Your commitment and effort to keep making the Club better is the reason I am excited to again be your president.

As your prez, for 2009 I am looking forward to our continued success. We have several new parrots on the executive board this year and each comes with enthusiasm and a willingness to make your Club better. New vice presidents are Kris Johnson and Eileen Davies. New secretary is Brandy Lorah, and Rick Gromis is back as treasurer. I am going to enjoy working with them along with the old and new committee chairs.

As a group we have many things to strut our pfeathers about and all of you should be chirping as we say goodbye to 2008. The future accomplishments of our Berks County Parrot Head Club will be unlimited with this pflock of precious birds.

THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS

The Prez,

Denny

Growing Older But Not Up

"Now and then we had a hope that if we lived and were good, God would permit us to be pirates." – Mark Twain

Nibblin' on sponge cake, watching the sun bake, indeed

by Duane Cahill

Despite temperatures well into the 90's, the Berks County Parrot Head Club once again staged an outstanding Parrot Daze event - no, extravaganza - at Fish Pond West on July 19. This was the sixth annual Parrot Daze festival, and each one somehow surpasses the previous.

Over 400 guests partied with a purpose and helped our Club raise over \$25,000 for Breast Cancer Support Services of Berks County. BCSS is a nonprofit organization that provides hope, information and emotional support to women diagnosed with breast cancer and those who care for and about them.

The funds raised at Parrot Daze will be used to provide comfort bags to women at the time of their breast cancer diagnosis. These bags include books, a nightshirt, a soft pink pillow, a relaxing CD and other soothing items.

Featured at the event were two of the BCPHC's favorite bands, Nautical Wheelers and Jimmy and the Parrots. Nautical Wheelers entertained the crowd in the air conditioned comfort indoors from 1 – 4:00 with selections from Jimmy Buffett, Jerry Jeff Walker and also some classic rock thrown in for good measure.

By the time Jimmy and the Parrots were ready to take the stage at 6:00, the temps had cooled down and the outdoor party was in full swing. As usual, the Parrots got the crowd jumping with some of their own original songs and even some Journey augmenting the requisite Buffett favorites.

Other highlights:

Joanne Muzyka donated 18 inches of her waist-length ponytail to Locks of Love, an organization that turns hair donations into wigs for children with long-term hair loss. She raised \$450 in a raffle for the opportunity to serve as her "personal barber" for the haircutting ceremony.

The BCPHC parade float was on display throughout the day and a lot of people got to see it up close for the first time. It really is an amazing spectacle. It's no wonder our Club takes first place in most parades in Berks County!

We signed on 14 new members and sold a ton of Parrot Head merchadise.

The annual auctions were a rousing success as well, featuring items such as an official Margaritaville Frozen Concoction Maker, a Landshark Lager surfboard, and a fishing excursion in Ocean City with Capt. Denny Lorah and first mate Jeff Blatt.

The pièce de résistance came in the form of a last-minute donation which included a private jet with Jimmy and the Parrots to see Jimmy Buffett live in Las Vegas. That item alone resulted in a final bid of \$4,000.

Many thanks go out to all the sponsors and volunteers who made this event possible. From the first planning meeting until the last item went back into the storage shed, this dedicated support team performed whatever task necessary at whatever time to drive the success of the event.

Wonder why we ever go home...





Strange Birds

Eileen Davies



This issue's "coastal confession" is about our Club's sunshine girl & vice president, Eileen Davies. Eileen was born in Monongahela (that's in the United States) and currently resides in Sinking Spring. She has a son Sean (25) and daughter Kristen (21).

Eileen works at the Winedown Café & Winebar in West Reading, and Tailgater's Steakhouse in Fleetwood. BUT, she'd prefer to be a television broadcaster or news anchor OR a pastry chef. (Hmm, that's narrowing it down.) Eileen's first job was an on-air announcer for an AM/FM radio station in Indiana, PA.

Eileen's hobbies consist of gourmet baking, collecting and "researching" new recipes, The Food Network, local theatre and Broadway, and volunteering. (Did she mention her love for BCPHC?)

Fun facts about Eileen:

Where will you go when the Volcano blows: KEY WEST! And definitely back to Hawaii.

Favorite JB song: One Particular Harbour

Favorite line from a JB song: "Come Monday...it'll be alright."

How many JB concerts have you been to & are any more memorable than others: My first concert was at Citizen's Park, we traveled by limousine.

Have you read any of JB's books?: I enjoyed his sister Lucy's Cookbook; "Crazy Sista Cooking"

If all your Buffett music was lost or stolen, who would you listen to: James Taylor

Favorite food: Pasta /anything Italian

Favorite movie: Ghost

Favorite restaurant: In the area; Mom Chaffe's. In Key West; The Banana Café and El Siboney Cuban Restaurant

What do you like on your cheeseburger in paradise: Mustard, light onion, and pickle.

Favorite frozen (or unfrozen) concoction: Red wine! Second choice, Vodka w/ club & cranberry.

How did you get involved in the BCPHC: It's all Michael Gaetani's fault.

What one thing would you like to do in life that you haven't already done: Vacation in Italy; St. Maarten with both of my children.

Where the heck is Margaritaville: Oh, that's easy...it is definitely a "state of mind." It is not where you are, but more importantly, who you are with. Life Is Good!

Mohnton Halloween Parade

by Marilyn Baertschy



This is our newest float pflock member to debut on October 11th at the Mohnton annual Halloween parade. We received a donation of an electrical wheelchair from Joe and Pam's Mobility Express and conduit piping from Fromm Electric. The floats goes forward, backward, spins in circles and, most importantly, drops toys and candy out of the parrot's beak.

The BCPHC won 2nd place and \$250 for our floats.





New Members

Welcome to the pflock. And thanks to the Coral Referrers who will receive 10 Parrot Points!

New Member	Coral Referrer	New Member	Coral Referrer
Lisa Zimmerman	Marylin Baertschy	Bruce & Pamela Smith	
JD & Sandie Krafezek		Christian Lengel & Karen Kolb	
Andrew & Alison Lacey - Brad & Brianne	Denny & Tina	Linda Deblasi	Patty Karr
Nancy Jo Leva		Carol Wagner	
Aaron Rhone	Website	Matt Rowe & Patti Mallozzi	Website
Mark & Amanda Stover	Mike Sexton	Rita Wise	
Dennis & Donna Groff		Tina Schreib	A banner at The Spruce

Did you move to a new cage? If you need to make changes to your mailing or email information, please contact the membership committee.

Our Club has several new board members.
Please reach out to them when you need information or have ideas.

President	Denny Lorah	dennylorah@comcast.net
Vice President	Eileen Davies	EMcD7156@aol.com
Vice President	Kris Johnson	ire2@aol.com
Secretary	Brandy Lorah	blorah@boscovs.com
Treasurer	Rick Gromis	rgromis@berkshirebnk.com



Another trip around the sun

by Avis Nicole Gaetani

What's way better than JUST having a birthday?

Celebrating with all of your parrot head pfriends of course! The BCPHC flew in to the Third & Spruce Parrot Roost on Sunday, October 5th for the club's sixth birthday party. Hops Lorah was also celebrating a slightly older age *wink* but he doesn't look a day over forty.

The party got started with an ever-popular first drink on the house followed by a tremendous buffet of Cheeseburgers in Paradise, pizza and cookies. We wined and dined and then stuffed ourselves with birthday cake. Short of soaking in the sun on a beach chair in the Keys, it's the best kind of day you can ask for in October!

So Happy Birthday to each and every Club member! Let's make this year the best one yet!



In 2008, 218 BCPHC members & friends volunteered over 900 hours. Thanks volunteers! We're silently making noise.

In 25 Words (more) or Less

Committee Updates:



Stars on the Water (volunteer committee) – chairperson Duane Cahill

In the words of Jimmy and the Parrots, "You know we need some volunteers." We have lots to prep for in 2009: Cabin Fever, highway cleanups, a golf outing and of course, Parrot Daze. Want to help organize and staff this craziness? Contact me at duanecahill@verizon.net. Call now and get a free set of ginsu knives!

We need More Junior Mints (sponsorship committee) – chairpersons Dave & Sherrie Hallowell

The sponsorship committee is working hard with even more enthusiasm this year. Our motto: 2009 is gonna be fine. Keep up the good work. Thanks to all who support.

Parrot Poop (newsletter committee) – chairperson Dot McGlenn Imbody

Tell us some juicy news or share your photos – and you'll earn Parrot Points for doing so. Anything fit to print is appreciated. Do you like to write short articles? Join our award-winning newsletter committee!

Pfeeding Pfrenzy (merchandise committee) – chairperson Tina Shenk

Pfeeding Pfrenzy is excited about our Cabin Fever Festival ~ Check out our new merchandise on the Web or at our events. THANK YOU to everyone that have and continue to contribute merchandise to our many auctions. Get involved and have fun by joining our committee. We meet the second Monday of every month.

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

Happy New Year everyone! This year will again be filled with opportunities for Parrot Heads to come help a worthy cause or just hang out with your buds and relax to some great music. Our events calendar is full so check out the list of events for the year or log onto our Web site to plan the good times in 2009!

Changes in Attitude (charity committee) – chairperson Gary Kraft

Charity selection for our three 2009 fund raising events is complete, but we're always looking for new, worthy charities to support. Submit nominations to Gary Kraft or any Charity Committee member.

If the Phone Doesn't Ring (membership committee) – chairperson Cheryl & Joe Bean

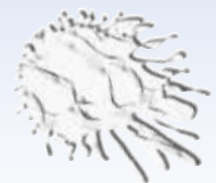
Happy New Year Parrot Heads! Don't forget to renew your membership. We have 141 renewed members, 5 renewed 'keets and 2 new members bringing the total membership to 148 and it's only January!

Take the Weather With You

Have you been traveling to the Far Side of the World? Or maybe Southeast of Disorder?
No matter where you go, Take the Weather With You AND your BCPHC wearables!



Jeff and Jodi Blatt remember to wear their Club attire while visiting their son, Zach (PHC member) at his job at The Pirate's Cave on the island of Providenciales, Turks and Caicos.



BIG Preconcert Tailgate Party

by Janice Kraft

Forty-four Berks County PHC Jimmy Buffett fans boarded a bus on June 14 and departed for the Blue Route where they met three other buses and Jimmy and the Parrots' van. The goal was to travel as a caravan to Citizens Bank Park and have a giant preconcert tailgate party. Rhonda Bastian, founder of the Lehigh Valley PHC, envisioned this for several years and it was finally coming to fruition.

Our bus arrived first at the designated spot followed shortly thereafter by Parrot Head Clubs from Carbon County, Quakertown, Tristate and Lehigh Valley. We arrived in Lot N at approximately 11:00 a.m. Within 30 minutes our tent city was erected to protect us from the sun, the cheeseburgers and hot dogs were grilling, and the beer and margaritas began flowing. But the best was yet to come.

Jimmy and the Parrots entertained us for over three hours on a very hot and humid afternoon with all of the energy they usually display. And this was just the beginning. We still had the Big Guy's concert that evening. After a powerful thunderstorm rolled through the area and delayed the concert for about an hour, Jimmy Buffett and his band performed a great concert to a very wet crowd!



Here's what people were saying:



"The tailgate party was a huge success and it was nice to share the fun with our neighboring Clubs. The heavy rain actually felt good after being in the hot sun all afternoon. Another great concert and memory for our Club!" *Denny Lorah, Founder and President, BCPHC*

"I had so much fun planning this major event with all of the members of the other Clubs. Everyone worked so well together to get the job done and what an awesome day it was for all! I believe we had about 400-500 people at our party. Our goal was to have THE party of the venue, and I think we definitely succeeded. My only question now is: How do we top it for next year?" *Rhonda Bastian, Pfounder of Lehigh Valley PHC and event organizer*

"The preconcert, food and Parrot Head camaraderie were awesome. Jimmy and the Parrots provided the entertainment for five clubs in the parking lot. The asphalt made the temperature a little more than uncomfortable during the day, but the rain certainly cooled things off at concert time. Buffett did a wonderful job of making up for lost time by playing without breaks right up until 11:00 p.m." *Kathey Cahill*

"It was only our second Buffett concert and Gene and I were still pretty much in awe at what some people do to 'tailgate'. We thought Penn State fans were creative but Parrot Heads beat them by a mile. The entire day was great... rain and all!" *Judy Blimline*

"In the words of our Loyal Leader, 'If we get any cooler, we're going to be investigated!' And in my words, the fellowship, the fun, the food, the beverages, the ENTERTAINMENT, the overall atmosphere of the day, even our experience with the rain, made the Buffett Concert 2008 a memory to last a lifetime! I am so proud to be a BCPHC member!" *Eileen Davies*

"It was too hot to drink." *Duane Cahill*



More Fun:





2009 Cabin Fever Festival

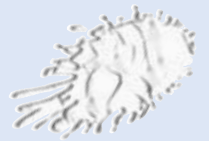
Sunday, January 25
Reading Country Club
1-6:00 p.m.



Join the Club for great music by Havana Budda. We'll also have fun food, refreshing beverages, raffles, auction items, and more.

Thanks to our sponsors:

Major sponsor – Third & Spruce Café
Gold sponsor – Heffleger Kitchen Center



Safe Haven Family Visitation Center

Proceeds from our Cabin Fever Festival will benefit the Safe Haven Family Visitation Center. Safe Haven provides opportunities for children to have safe, conflict-free visitation and exchange programs. With a high incidence of domestic violence in our community, the money from our Cabin Fever Festival will allow the Safe Haven Center to remain open even after federal funding runs out in August 2009. And, if additional federal funding can be secured, the proceeds from the Cabin Fever Festival will allow Safe Haven to expand services and hours of operation so that additional families can be helped.

Safe Haven background

In 2002, the County of Berks was awarded a two-year \$198,000 planning grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) running from September 2003 through August 2005. As part of the grant planning process, team members went to national training and site visits of other supervised visitation centers; we developed a collaborative working relationship with our community partners; developed policies and procedures; conducted focus groups with the help of the United Way; sponsored local training; and began an Advisory Board.

In 2005, we received a one year \$175,000 award with instructions to complete planning and then implement our program. The Safe Haven Supervised Visitation Center at 777 Court Street was opened the summer of 2007.

In 2007, we applied for and were awarded a two year \$200,000 continuation grant for the Safe Haven program. This grant runs through August 2009. With the 2007 grant award, the County is subcontracting out the day-to-day operations to Berks Advocates Against Violence (BAAV). We will be applying for additional grant funds in early 2009.

In addition to the OVW grant awards, the project received a small Target grant to help with operating costs. BAAV applied for and received a bingo license and a small games of chance license to assist with fundraising as part of the overall sustainability plan. Bingo was promoted at the Goggle Works every Wednesday night between February 2008 and September 2008, but unfortunately not enough people attended to make the fundraising effort worthwhile. BAAV is also selling tickets to a February 2009 Reading Royals game and plans to sell Reading Phillies ticket booklets in 2009 as additional ways to raise money for the center.

SERVICES

In the 18 months that Safe Haven has been open, over 200 supervised visits and 12+ safe exchanges have been conducted. All of these visits and exchanges have been safely conducted due to well trained staff and a high level of security at the center.

SECURITY

The center has four security cameras and a monitoring console at the receptionist desk. One parent enters through the front door, and the other enters through the rear door. The waiting room for the parent bringing the child for the visit has a steel door that can be locked from the inside; an intercom allows them to communicate with the receptionist from the safety of their waiting area. Visiting parents must leave all items in a locker in their waiting area and they are "wanded" with a metal detector wand before visiting with their children. The visiting parent must arrive 30 minutes before the visit and remain in the center for 30 minutes after the visit to allow the other parent and child to safely arrive and leave. In case of an emergency, the staff have silent panic alarms that go to a security monitoring company who immediately notify local police to respond to the center. If you'd like to know more about Safe Haven, visit their Web site www.baav.org/visitation.htm.

Let's support Safe Haven in true Parrot Head pfashion at our Cabin Fever Festival event. Together, we can all help our community become a more peaceful place.

Annual Golf Tournament Raises \$5,000 for Holly Heilman Cancer Fund

by Janice Kraft

The annual BCPHC golf tournament took place on May 16 after being postponed a week due to rain. Sixteen foursomes turned out to help out the Holly Heilman Cancer Fund and compete for prizes at Perry Golf Course.



The winning team, with a score of six under, consisted of Chris Kline, Jeremy Jefferson and Tim Kraft shown here with tournament organizer, JR Koch.



Heidi Coldren, sister of Holly and current CEO of the agency, picks raffle ticket winners. Even though the day was quite cold and rainy, BCPHC was able to present a check for \$5,000 to the Holly Heilman Cancer Fund which helps cancer patients and their families with financial burdens and responsibilities.



Kris and Barry



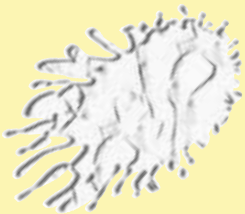
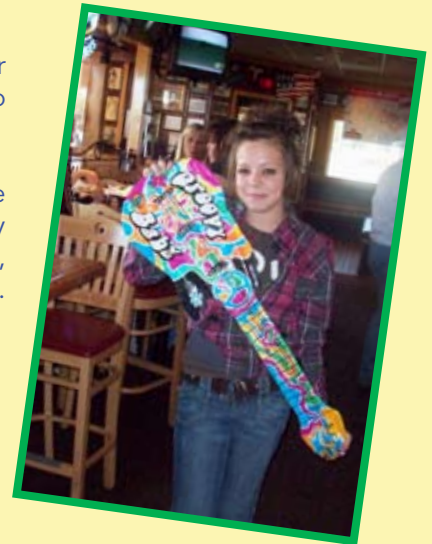
I Will Clean for Grumbo

by Brandy Lorah

We had about 20 volunteers for our Fall Highway Clean-up on October 19th. The highway was messier than usual, but our volunteers did an amazing job and had it spic-and-span in about 90 minutes!

In tradition, we had lots of "most unusual" items found along the highway (some of which were X-rated), but the group chose Kaley Seivart's as the best. She found an inflatable plastic "groovy guitar", which Joanne Muzayka helped to sanitize before the voting began.

Thanks again to all our wonderful members who came out to help.



Rum Coconut Key Lime Pie

from the bakery of Duane Cahill

Prep: 15 min., **Chill:** 12 hours

Ingredients

- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1/2 cup lime juice (fresh....please!)
- 2 teaspoons good rum, more if desired, but don't go overboard
- Coconut Crust (Store-bought or fresh pie crust... if homemade, add a bunch of fresh coconut to it. If bought, sprinkle a coating of coconut onto shell before filling, then spread some more on top of pie.)

Preparation

Beat cream cheese and milk with an electric mixer at medium speed until smooth. Add lime juice and rum, stirring to combine. Pour filling into Coconut Crust. Sprinkle evenly with coconut. Cover and chill at least 12 hours or until set.

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Thank You!

The BCPHC thanks Pemcor for donating a portion of the printing of the Parrot Poop.

Newsletter design by Suzy Rae Design.



It's Five O'Clock Somewhere

a.k.a. Upcoming Events of 2009:

Club happy hours:

Thursday, February 19, 7-10 p.m., Pike Café

There will be more happy hours throughout the year as they are planned, check the Web site for info.

Cabin Fever Festival to benefit Safe Haven Family Visitation Center

Sunday, January 25

1-6 p.m., Reading Country Club

Music by Havana Budda, food & drinks, raffles & auction items, & LOTS of pfun. Check the Web site for more information.

For tickets, contact meandmyboz@aol.com

Biannual roadside cleanup

Sunday, April 26

Rte 222 between Lowe's (on Rte 724) and the Penn Avenue exit in Wyomissing. 1 p.m. – Meet at Applebee's in Wyomissing

Annual Golf Outing

Friday, May 8

1:00 (rain or shine) at Perry Golf Course, Shoemakersville
Contact: JR Koch – JRKoch@col-elec.com
Check our Web site for more information

Parrot Daze

Saturday, July 11

12:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Fish Pond West (100 Swiftwater Lane, Bernville, PA 19526)

Music, food, beverages, raffles and LOTS of fun!

1-4:00 – Jim & Jimmy (from Jimmy & the Parrots)

6-9:00 – Jimmy & the Parrots

Visit our Web site for more information

Contact: meandmyboz@aol.com for tickets

"A Pirate Looks at 7" – Club Birthday Party – members only

Sunday, October 4

12 – 4:00 – 3rd & Spruce Café

Check the Web site for more information

Biannual roadside cleanup

Sunday, October 25

Rte 222 between Lowe's (on Rte 724) and the Penn Avenue exit in Wyomissing. 1 p.m. – Meet at Applebee's in Wyomissing

Toys for Tots Holiday Gathering

Friday, December 11

3rd and Spruce Café, West Reading

6-9:00 p.m. Admission is a toy or \$5 towards the purchase of toys.

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

The next issue of Parrot Poop will be issued around June 2009.



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