



# parrot poop

## CONTENTS :

PIRATE PUB CRAWL.....2

SPRING HIGHWAY CLEANUP.....3

CLASSIC ALBUM REWIND

    "BANANA WIND" ..... 4

THE STRONGEST MAN

    I KNOW.....5

QUICK LICKS FEATURING

    THE "SAUCE BOSS".....6

PHUN PHACTS.....7

TRIVIA .....8

FLEDGLING FLOCKERS.....9

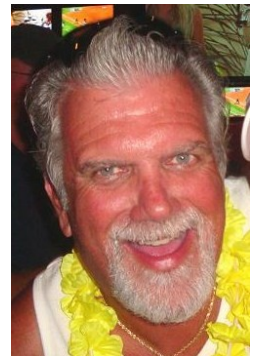
MORE PICS FROM PUB CRAWL.....9

STRANGE BIRDS.....10

UPCOMING EVENTS.....11

COMMITTEE UPDATES.....11

## From the President's Perch



**H**ello everyone! As you read this article the weather outside is heating up and this is the perfect time of year for Parrot Heads. Nothing could be hotter than your Berks County Parrot Head Club. The Golf Outing on June 22nd hosted by our own April and Jimmy G.'s Railroad House Bar is approaching fast and foursomes are sold out. We still have tickets for the Jimmy and the Parrots night time party available.

The Summer Parrot Daze party is all set for July 20th and we are back at the Reading Liederkrantz. This year's charity will be Berks Women in Crisis. We are all looking forward to working with BWIC and their enthusiasm has been outstanding. This could be one of our most successful summer parties. Thanks to Tim and Gerry, all of your non-member friends can now purchase tickets through our website at [berkcountyPHC.org](http://berkcountyPHC.org). Also, please visit our updated calendar of events on the web.

Our Club membership continues to grow with some very friendly and enthusiastic new faces I'm sure you all see at the meetings. Please take some time to show them a BCPHC welcome to our great organization. I have seen some new faces on committees too, and I thank each of you for getting involved.

The continued success of our club is a tribute to each of you who have joined in our mission to help Berks County charities with our "Party with a Purpose" statement. So let's all keep the purpose foremost in our thinking and then we will enjoy the party even more. Again, thanks to all for your commitment to such a great cause, our Berks County Parrot Head Club.

Please have a Blue Sky Summer.

The Prez, Denny



## 2013 Pirate Pub Crawl

Shelley Hamsher

What amazing weather the Berks County Parrot Club had for its annual

Pirate Pub Crawl on Saturday, May 5th! We all gathered at the Crown Plaza Hotel to await the ship that would sail us to our secret ports. After boarding our vessel, Captain Marilyn welcomed us aboard and distributed the maps that would lead us on our adventure. Marilyn and Bob spent months mapping out our spectacular event. Our first stop was Golden Oaks, where we were able to enjoy grog, laughs, and many cigars outside on the terrace. In between the pirate shenanigans, we were even able to recruit a few new members. Before long the pirate horn blew, and we embarked on the next leg of our journey.

Of course, we could not leave without hijacking a golf cart and piling in for a pirate picture. The golfers were most likely relieved when they realized we were not golfing.

Our next stop was the beautiful Bear Creek Lodge. Thank goodness there was no snow, because by then some pirates might have been tempted to ski. We watched as the guests swam in the pool, enjoyed the sunshine, and partied (something which we Parrot Heads are well known for). We could not resist admiring the many weddings taking place at the lodge. In true pirate spirit, we became part of the wedding party and took many pictures with the bride. They were extremely impressed by all the time we have donated to raise money for local charities. I am sure our wench and pirate appearances were deceiving.



Our next port of call was Buckeye Tavern. After admiring the giant bull outside, we enjoyed the many hors d'oeuvres, conversations, and drinks on the patio. Before long, the horn blew yet again and we knew it was time to leave our cozy stop. We all embarked on our last leg of the journey to our homeport. The ride back was filled with laughter, snacks, and of course more grog. When we finally arrived at the Crowne Plaza, our dinner awaited at poolside. Along with the food, drinks, and surprise gifts, we were entertained by the music of Latitude 24. What an amusing day of fun and camaraderie between our pirate friends. Thanks again to Marilyn and Bob for making the 2013 Pub Crawl a truly unique and memorable experience!

Photos courtesy Shelley Hamsher

# Spring Highway Cleanup

Lou Mancano

Not more than fourteen hours after a “Cuatro de Mayo” pub crawl, a group of “never say die” Berks County Parrot Heads hit the road again — this time for a Cinco de Mayo Highway Cleanup. In the spirit of the holiday, the group met at noon outside of Wyomissing’s On the Border restaurant and headed to the Club’s mile-long stretch of Route 222. As much as this event is a community service, it could also meet criteria for a college sociology project. The roadside trash and treasures just might represent a cross section of people that live and pass through our county. What was learned?



The first thing I found on this Mexican holiday was an unopened game called “Donde Esta Wally? Juego” – or for the non-bilingual Parrot Heads out there, a “Where’s Waldo? Game.” I soon found several other labels and pages from periodicals printed in both English and Spanish; another clue to a multicultural society. As I continued my quest for Waldo, I quickly came across multiple empty beer bottles and cans, broken wine bottles, empty food containers, cigarette butts, and cigar wrappers. Could this mean that this is a county of people who enjoy eating, smoking, and drinking? Perhaps. But what else? I headed down the highway and began to find many empty energy drink containers. One after the other - Red Bull, 5-Hour Energy, Monster, Full Throttle, and the list goes on. So it seems that the inhabitants of this county become fatigued from eating and drinking beer and wine, but then need to boost their energy. But why? I believe the answer lay on the other side of the highway where I found three quite interesting items in close proximity - a Penthouse Forum Magazine, a pack of vitamins called “Men’s All Night Long”, and, you guessed it, a pack of Cialis. I now understood why the populace requires so many energy drinks! While I never found Waldo, I learned that this is not only a society that enjoys eating, smoking, drinking, and sexual behavior, but also – according to Deb Motika’s Highway Cleanup winning item – one that loves gay men.

Immediately following the ceremonial Parrot Head photograph of volunteers and trash in front of the highway’s concrete wall, these county residents headed over to The Railroad House for plenty of food, beer and wine. Hmmm, they appeared to be getting fatigued. Did energy drinks and other activities follow? Only the cleanup crew knows for sure!



Photography courtesy of Lou and Mary Ann Mancano

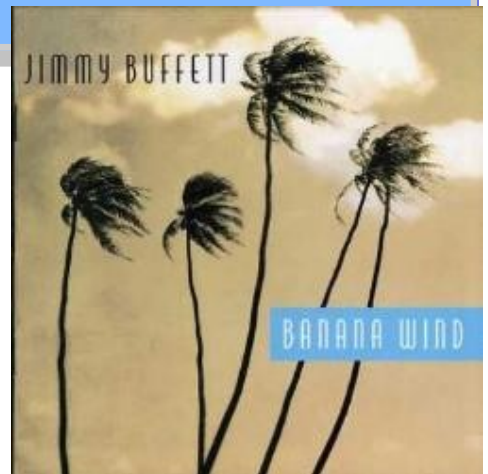
## Classic Album Rewind

### Remembering "Banana Wind"

Chuck Dugan

(Editors note: Here is the second installment of "Classic Album Rewind," a repeating feature article to give club members the opportunity to reflect on and review past Buffett albums. This issue we welcome Capt. Chuck's review of a Buffett CD classic. If you would like to share your thoughts, comments, or critical evaluations of a Buffett CD, we welcome your participation!)

I have to admit that I was not always a Buffett fan, but all I had ever heard was Cheeseburger and Margaritaville. In 1997, I bought a boat and started spending time in marinas. As anyone who's been to a marina can attest, you hear a lot of Buffett coming from the boats. The more I heard, the better I liked his music. Of course, the first album I bought was "Songs You Know By Heart." That's probably true of the majority of his fans, at least after 1985. "Banana Wind" was the first of Buffett's studio albums that I bought. It's his 21st studio album and it was released in June of 1996, one year after "Barometer Soup." It peaked at #4 on the Billboard chart and has since been certified platinum.



The album contains thirteen tracks, including the "hidden" track, and does a great job of taking the listener to the islands to feel the warm breeze on your skin. The title track is an instrumental that makes me think of island drinks and sandy beaches, and is always a mood enhancer for me. "Jamaica Mistaica" tells the true story of Buffett getting shot at in Jamaica when his plane was mistaken for a drug running plane. It's become one of my favorite Buffett songs. On "Overkill," Jimmy takes a shot at the music and film industries, and the song has a nice blend of horns and steel drum. "Desdemona's Building A Rocket Ship" further explores a character from one of his novels, "Where is Joe Merchant." Since I haven't read that one, I can't explain the song, but I like it anyway. Desdemona's also mentioned in "Fruitcakes," which leads me to believe that Jimmy's based her character on a real person he's known. Almost all of the songs give you a slow breezy, feeling but "False Echoes" is a serious piece, written about Jimmy's father and his struggle with Alzheimer's disease. The song is over nine minutes long (although listed at 15:54 because of the hidden track) and shows just how good a songwriter Buffett can be when he puts his mind to it. "Tree Top Flyer," the hidden track, is a Stephen Stills song that seems a good fit for Buffet and his Frank Bama persona from his books and TV appearances.

All-in-all, I think "Banana Wind" is one of the better Buffett studio albums. It has a true Caribbean feel and some of the most clever lyrics he's written. If you close your eyes, you can almost hear the wind blowing through the palm trees, while you lie in the tropical sun with a margarita in your hand.

## The Strongest Man I Know: The Quest to save Mike

Avis Gaetani

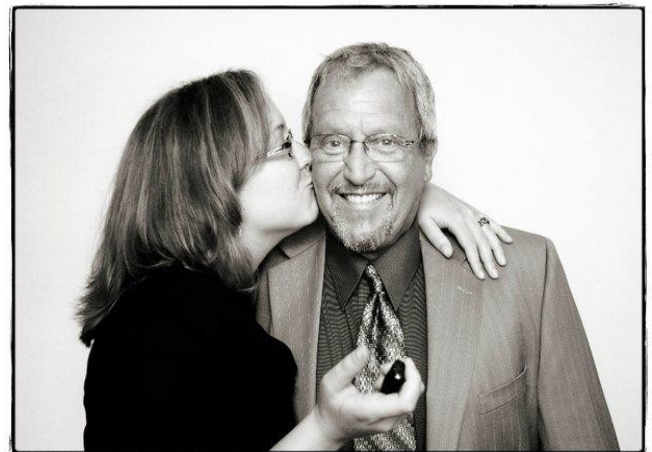
*To the readership: Mike Gaetani is one of us. He's been a member of the BCPHC since the early days and has contributed a great deal to our success. His daughter, Avis, sent us this letter to let us all know about the ordeal he faces every day with his failing kidneys. The staff of the Parrot Poop joins with Avis in asking our readers to come to Mike's aid in whatever way they can. We should never forget that the Club doesn't just exist to do good in our community; we are also a family and in times of need, families pull together. If you can help Mike in any way, please contact the staff of the Parrot Poop or the club leadership and we will get you in touch with Mike's family. — The Editor*

*You* might just be the person who gives me the gift of having my father walk me down the aisle on my wedding day!

My father is the greatest man I have ever met. He would pick me up and throw me through the air at the pool when I was little. I'd catch my breath and swim right back over begging for him to do it again. When we went on family vacations, he'd be up at 3 A.M. ready to hit the road. The van was all packed and, like a child, he just couldn't wait to get to the beach. And, no matter when I call him, he is always there with the right directions to get me around construction on the highway. He sings... loudly. He raises his voice when he debates my silly liberal point of view. And once, for my birthday, we got tickets to an Eagles game and we had to walk DOWN to find our seats! He knew what that meant to me and just smiled as I cried during the kick-off. You might know him as a friend, as a cousin, as a crazy parrot head... but no matter how you know Michael Gaetani, I bet you love him. We all love him. But this past year has been hell. I saw the strongest man I know cry.

My father's kidneys are failing. Both of them. And I am not able to give him one of mine. I'd give him anything he needed if I could. He has given me far more than I could ever repay. But all I can do is what I do best, write. We need to find my father a kidney donor. I know, this is an insane quest. I've been doing the homework and I know how hard it is to find someone to donate an organ. And the extremely reputable (\*\*cough\*\*) "Black Market?" Well, let's just say I can't really afford what I found and leave it at that. My dad is already on all of the waiting lists for donors. They say it should be maybe five years if he's lucky. Luck? We're running out of that. Right now, he goes to dialysis three days a week. For four hours they cycle his blood through a machine so all of the impurities can be removed. This is an amazing piece of machinery; but, this machine is the only reason why he is still alive.

So I have a few requests. One, keep my father in your thoughts and/or prayers and give him a call sometime. He would love to hear from you. Two, please consider becoming an organ donor. One donor's gifts can save eight lives, give sight to people who are going blind, and help heal burn victims. Three, if you or anyone you know is interested in the most altruistic act of life, please consider becoming a living donor. Living donation is difficult. It is major surgery. You will have a nasty ole' scar. But you can tell all your buddies you got it in a Harley accident like my dad always does. And you will forever be the person who saved my father's life. The person who gave me the gift of having the strongest man I know walk me down the aisle on my wedding day.



## Quick Licks w/ Bill "Sauce Boss" Wharton

Tracey Lutz



There is no mistaking that Bill Wharton means business as he

takes the stage and lets out his Florida swamp scream that raises the hair on the back of your neck. He is not Bill on stage; he becomes the Sauce Boss. Jimmy Buffett sings about him in *I Will Play for Gumbo*:

*The sauce boss does his cookin' on the stage,  
Stirrin' and a singing for his nightly wage.  
Sweating and frettin' from his head to his toe,  
Playin' and swayin' with the gumbo  
Prayin' and buffetin' with the gumbo*

We caught up with the gumbo cooking, slide guitar playing, blues singer and song writer recently and put a number of questions to him:

**PP: How does the Sauce Boss fit in with the Parrot Heads?**

**BW:** *He came to see us one time and it was pretty cool. We were playing at Margaritaville in New Orleans and he and Michael Utley and a bunch of fellows from Margaritaville Records came in. I had no idea they were there. We had a great first set. I'm liking the New Orleans thing, everyone is really into the music. So, we finish the set and the whole group started coming towards the stage and they got elbowed out by a covey of young, Sauce Boss autograph seeking women. After all of that calmed down, Jimmy finally came up and said "Hey Boss." I said kind of shaking, "Hey, hey Boss." Then he said "This is the best bar band I have heard in a long time." I asked, "Can I quote you on that?" Jimmy said that everyone wants to be him, but then he said, "I would rather open up a bait store and be you." That's a direct quote! Gives you a little perspective doesn't it? It's a lot of work being Jimmy Buffett, and he does an amazing job at it.*

**PP: You've got incredible energy.**

**BW:** *It's like a living, breathing thing. Like Jimmy, I feed off of the crowd. It's not just me up there, it's everyone, and it all works together – we're all doing this together. It's a thing that you feed. It's a lot like sour dough. I've been cooking with sour dough lately. You've got to have the Mother. Oh, I've got the Mother!*

**PP: How many shows do you do a year now?**

**BW:** *Over 100. I really don't even know.*

(cont. next page)



## Quick Licks w/ Bill Wharton (continued from pg. 6)

**PP: Do you have a favorite type of event to do?**

**BW:** *I like different events for different reasons. I adore a big crowd! We have played every conceivable event. We've done the Roman Amphitheatre in the South of France. A laundromat in Tallahassee, Florida. We haven't been back to Paris in a long time. The Blues aren't what they used to be in the 90's. It was big back then. I've been playing Margaritaville for over 20 years. And in Key West, the Green Parrot was always my local bar after I got done playing in Margaritaville. There was a time when my money was no good anywhere on the Island (everything was free). I would end up at the Parrot at like, 4am, after wandering around the graveyard somewhere – man, I'm glad those days are gone. It's hard living. It's physically exhausting. But I have no plans on slowing down now.*

**PP: You have been married 46 years. How do you manage that with all the travel?**

**BW:** *Ruth goes with me; New York City, Key West, Paris... In the dead of winter, Rust Belt Tour, she stays home.*



**PP: You have been playing music for a long time. What would you be doing if you hadn't gone down this path?**

**BW:** *Well, I went to school and got a degree in English Education from Florida State University. I was certified to teach English. However, I never got a gig because I was always playing music. I came from a teaching family so I thought I could do it.*

**PP: Did you ever see any classroom time?**

**BW:** *I did some substitute teaching, but I was a bit radical for the system at the time. I was a little too free style. But I still feel like a teacher. Whether it's making gumbo, or playing guitar, or spinning a tale on stage, it's just me. It's poetry in the parking lot.*

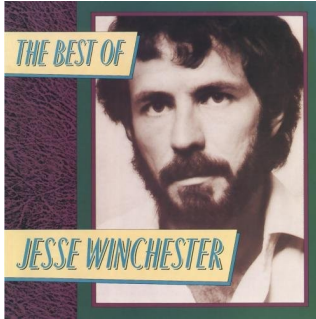
At a Sauce Boss show, you are not just listening, you are immersed in the music, the lyrics and those huge blue eyes. He feels the music deep in his soul and one can't help but be pulled into his passion. All the while, gumbo is steaming in a huge kettle – yep, everyone eats at the end of the show. This is one performance not to be missed.

There is much more information and recipes on [sauceboss.com](http://sauceboss.com).



### Did You Know that:

Although everyone knows what "gumbo" is, the origin of the word itself is cloaked in some mystery. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the word "gumbo" may stem from an indigenous African word for okra, one of the key ingredients. Also, gumbo is generally not deliberately cooked to be spicy. Most gumbos are actually very mild, but cooks (and eaters) are always permitted to season to personal preferences.



Trivia :

Who wrote it?

Lou Mancano



*Every Parrot Head knows that Jimmy Buffett is a great songwriter. He also has a knack for*

*recording excellent songs written by other artists. Match the Buffett recording with the songwriter. Note that all choices are writers who have had at least one song of theirs recorded by Jimmy Buffett. (For the answers, turn to page 9.)*

1. *Why Don't We Get Drunk*

- a) Michael Smith      b) Bobby Holcomb      c) Marvin Gardens      d) Matt Betton

2. *Biloxi*

- a) Will Jennings      b) Jesse Winchester      c) Frank Loesser      d) Michael Utley

3. *Stars on the Water*

- a) Rodney Crowell      b) Bobby Holcomb      c) Art Neville      d) Ralph MacDonald

4. *Brown Eyed Girl*

- a) Dave Loggins      b) Steve Goodman      c) Mac McAnally      d) Van Morrison

5. *Coast of Marsailles*

- a) Michael Utley      b) Tom Corcoran      c) Keith Sykes      d) Diana Haig

6. *Ballad of Spider John*

- a) W. A. Ramsey      b) Bobby Holcomb      c) Will Jennings      d) Marshall Chapman

7. *Rhumba Man*

- a) Jesse Winchester      b) Harry Daily      c) Deborah McColl-Berry      d) Michael Smith

8. *California Promises*

- a) Dan Fogelberg      b) Steve Goodman      c) Brian Wilson      d) Ralph MacDonald

9. *Everybody's Talkin'*

- a) Jay Oliver      b) Will Jennings      c) Fred Neil      d) Frank Loesser

10. *Lovely Cruise*

- a) Diana Haig      b) Michael Utley      c) Timothy B. Schmidt      d) Jonathan Baham

Scoring :

7-10 You know your composers!    5-6 Almost an expert    3-4 Consult those album jackets    0-2 So you thought Jimmy did them all?





# More pictures from the Pirate Pub Crawl 2013



## Phledgling Phlockers: Welcome to the Club!!!

Dave and Jennifer Bednaz



Anna Smith

### Answers to this issue's Trivia quiz

1. C Marvin Gardens
2. B Jesse Winchester
3. A Rodney Crowell
4. D Van Morrison
5. C Keith Sykes
6. A W.A. Ramsey
7. A Jesse Winchester
8. B Steve Goodman
9. C Fred Neil
10. D Jonathan Braham



# Strange Birds

featuring **Joe Lutz**



Our “strange bird” for this issue grew up on a dairy farm in northern Berks County. Joe joined the Army right out of high school and spent four years as a Special Forces Green Beret. While in the Army 10th Special Forces, he was an Airborne Instructor and a mountain phase/survival instructor at West Point. Since then, Joe served as assistant fire chief for a local fire company for 19 years and is the owner/operator of a tri-axle dump truck. After bringing home a ukulele from Hawaii, he is trying to teach himself to play. In 1990, Joe met his best friend, Trixie, and married her six years later. They have been enjoying their parrot head moments together ever since. PS: Joe is not his real name! I guess we’ll have to ask him!!!!

## Some phun phacts about Joe:

**Favorite Jimmy Buffett song :** *Far Side of The World*

**Favorite Jimmy Buffett song line:** *“I’m just trying to get by being quiet and shy in a world full of pushin’ and shovin’.” (The Wino and I Know).*

**Favorite place to be while listening to troprock music:** *On a boat in Belize.*

**How many concerts have you been to and was one more memorable than the others?:** *Not enough – the next one will always be the most memorable.*

**If all your Buffett music was lost or stolen, what would you listen to?:** *Steely Dan*

**Favorite coral reefer, other than Jimmy:** *Mr. Utley*

**Favorite food:** *Lobster Tail*

**Favorite movie:** *Blazing Saddles*

**Favorite restaurant:** *Garbo’s Grille food truck in Key West.*

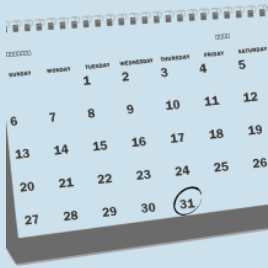
**Drink of choice:** *Bombay Sapphire & Tonic (“CumaGin”)*

**How did you get involved in the BCPHC?:** *Was a member of another club & life brought me here.*

**What’s on your bucket list?** *Sail the Society Islands – After that, the list is way too long.*

**Any insights or inspirations to pass on?:** *Don’t forget to let the kid inside you come out & play.*

**Where the heck is Margaritaville?:** *I know it when I’m there.*



There's More Trouble on the Horizon!!

## Upcoming Events!

<b>Golf Outing</b>	<b>Chapel Hill Golf Course</b>	<b>June 22nd</b>
<b>Parrot Daze Party</b>	<b>Reading Liederkrantz</b>	<b>July 20th</b>
<b>Reading Phillies Float</b>		<b>August 11th</b>
<b>Buffett Concerts:</b>		
<b>Mansfield Mass.</b>		<b>June 22nd</b>
<b>Camden</b>		<b>June 25th</b>
<b>Pittsburgh</b>		<b>July 18th</b>

## 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 with our Spring Highway Clean-up. Our next big event is Summer Parrot Daze. We will need our usual number of volunteers to help make this event successful once again. If you plan to attend, please commit some of your time to volunteering.*

**We Need More Junior Mints (Sponsorship Committee) - Sam Beam** *Sponsorship is now accepting Patron donations of any amount. We will be making a program book with all the donors listed. Send checks made out to "Berks Women in Crisis."*

**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 P frenzy (Merchandise Committee) - Tina Shenk** *Lots of great items are going to be available on the auction tables. We now have a huge selection of lanyard and hat pins....designed and created by "Pfeeding Phrenzy." Check out the merchandise table at Summer Daze!*

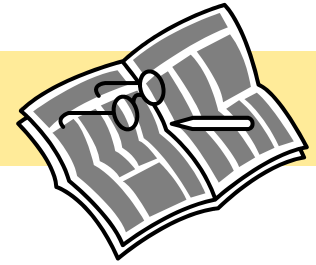
**Party With a Purpose (Events Committee) - Tracey Lutz** *Check out this newsletter and the website for upcoming events.*

**Changes in Attitude (Charity Committee) - Gary Kraft** *Come out and support Berks Women in Crisis at Summer Daze in July. We'll be looking for new charity nominations this fall.*

**If the Phone Doesn't Ring (Membership Committee) - Susan Standefer** *We will provide new members with an introduction and light pin in the beginning of their first meeting. Guests will be greeted by a hostess and all events will have a membership table. At the present time we have 186 members.*

**We aren't famous—yet (Marketing Committee) Debbie Hartranft** *Thanks to those of you who responded to our survey. There were great suggestions from you! Parrot Daze poster is complete and we're working hard on new projects. Let us know if you have any suggestions for anything we can do to help our mission!*

.....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>**



**Berks County Parrot Head Club**  
P.O. Box 6167  
Wyomissing, PA 19610