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**HELLO from the President's Perch**

Looking back, looking forward

I think 2012 was a challenging year for our club in many ways. The banana wind and the bama breeze were blowing in opposite directions, or we were defying gravity. The Prez may have made some Jamaica mistaicas but we did not shoot anyone out of the sky. We need to all find that license to chill in 2013.

A new board has been elected and, yes, the blonde stranger (Eileen) will be back as VP along with jolly mon (Cliff Kline) as a new VP. The smart lady (Deb Motika) will be the new Secretary and “math sucks” (Tim Kraft) will be back as Treasurer. The captain who still thinks he is a kid (yours truly) will be back as President. Tomorrow will come –it usually does—and this board will kick in that second wind and with love and luck we will be making music for money, which is what we do best. Let’s not stop the carnival. So fill up your tin cup chalice with some good red wine or have your favorite boat drink, salute yourself, and get ready for one more trip around the sun.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all of you for your thoughts, well-wishes, emails, phone calls, and prayers during my injury. I also had several members visit me in Ocean City. The way our members always step up to the needs of others truly amazes me. I am blessed in so many ways and have so many friends but nothing takes the place of our Berks County Parrot Head family. You made it easier for me to rehab with all the kind words.

The Berks County Parrot Head Club has been a lovely cruise for me and I want to bring back the magic. If something happened to this club I’d be missing you so badly, and that is my coastal confession.

Thanks for the lovely ride. I love you all! Merry Christmas!

*Denny*

# Remembering Meeting of the Minds 2012

Duane Cahill



*I*t's hard to believe that those of us living on this big round ball have taken another trip around the sun since the 2011 Meeting of the Minds. Yet as we flipped the calendar over to November, we saw that it was time for the 21st annual Buffett-oriented event in Key West.

For those of you who made it in 2011, you'll remember the crowds as phlockers came from all across the land, excited about the news that Jimmy himself was likely to show up for the street festival. This year, having seen Jimmy, more than half of those people stayed home. For the two dozen Berks County Parrot Heads, that just meant more to do and less wait for the bartenders to do it!

Instead of rehashing an article that sounds like every other trip south, I've decided this year to list some of my favorites from the week.

## RESTAURANTS

- *Blue Heaven* – Breakfast here is a must, and the BLT omelet (bacon, lobster and tomato) is well worth the \$20+ price tag.
- *Garbo's Grill* – Let's get this out of the way – it's a food truck. And maybe the best food truck anywhere. The freshest of ingredients, cooked to order and service with a smile makes this an annual favorite.
- *Latitudes* – This beachside restaurant on Sunset Key leans to the upscale. A 7-minute ferry ride takes you from the hustle of Key West to an oasis of tranquility near the sea.
- *El Meson de Pepe* – Just off Mallory Square, great outdoor garden seating, authentic Cuban dishes and one of the best mojitos in Key West.



Photos courtesy Duane Cahill

## BARS

- *Captain Tony's* – Stop in any afternoon, and you'll likely find an up-and-coming solo musician with a guitar and a tip jar. They're usually surprisingly good (and they're working for tips – reward them).
- *Green Parrot* – Home of the best Bloody Mary on the island. It's a necessary start to the day sometimes.
- *Hog's Breath Saloon* – The outdoor stage is basically a big tent under a tree, but the regular entertainment here is top notch.
- *Schooner Wharf* – Still a favorite, despite the fact that I was flagged ordering my third beer of the day. Ask me. I'll tell you the story.

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# 10

## BCPHC Celebrates !!!!

A decade of "partying with a purpose"

Mike Kerper

After a few hours along 222 putting in some work,

doing highway cleanup, the troops were tired. The troops were hungry. The troops were thirsty. Where could they go to fix all three of those problems? What could they do? As is customary after cleaning up road kill and other people's trash, they headed back to 3<sup>rd</sup> and Spruce to relax and enjoy each other's company for a few hours—accompanied, of course, by cold beverages and a hot meal. But this year there was special cause to gather together, for this October marked the tenth anniversary of the club's founding. What better way to celebrate than with a birthday party? Happy tenth birthday, BCPHC!!!



That's right, the Berks County Parrot Heads have enjoyed ten years of "partying with a purpose." Since our inception in October of 2002, we have raised over \$370,000 for local charities. That, my phellow phlockers, is truly something to be proud of and something to celebrate. Our thanks to the wonderful workers at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Spruce for the delicious birthday cake and cupcakes! It was a perfect way to spend a few hours and celebrate our club's success.

### Club Music Honors BCPHC 10th Birthday



In honor of the club's anniversary, our very own Lou Mancano of *Latitude 24* has penned a new song entitled "Here's to Ten More Crazy Years." The lyrics seem especially appropriate as we embark upon our next decade of helping others. (You can check out the song on the Club's Facebook page or on Youtube).

**"Who could ever 've known that we would touch so many lives / Through wild parties - even pub crawls**

**Somehow each of us survives / Pay homage to our livers, pay homage to our hearts**

**Here's to ten more crazy years / Our Club is greater than the parts"**



# Reflections of a Parade Pirate

Angie Fegley

*Ed. Note: Parade season has come and gone for yet another year, but not before registering another series of great showings by our club float. Many thanks go to all those who participated and a special thanks to all those behind the scenes that make the float such a rousing success. This issue, Angie Fegley treats us to an insider's look at the Womelsdorf parade.....*

*I*t was a beautiful sunny 65 degrees when I pulled into Womelsdorf. Thank goodness I got there early because I was immediately put to work fixing the generator. I had some help from Bryan, Ernie, Ed and Bob. I learned that you never have to worry about generator mechanical problems when these guys are around. Bob has every conceivable tool in the back of his van (have you seen the back of his van? I asked Marilyn if she had a kitchen sink in there and she said "No, but there is a freezer" ---- that's a whole other article!!) and if those tools don't fix it then Bryan will leave and come back with another generator. I must confess I don't know if they fixed the old one or used the new one because I was called away to assist with more pressing work.....



.....Blowing up balloons ! Cordy led a well-choreographed team of balloon workers. Thankfully Shirley and Verna had brought a new pirate who was eager to help...Nate Dog! He turned out to be a four-year-old balloon wonder. Our only worry was where to put the balloons because Nate Dog was holding so many that we thought the little pirate might fly away. Again, Bryan to the rescue...."put them in the bathroom !" Great! Problem solved.....um, until someone had to USE the bathroom. I'm not going to say who it was that squeezed in there but lets just say balloons were popping.

Some last minute adjustments were made and under Marilyn's "Pirate Queen" direction we finally set sail. Joe , Tracey, and Eileen led the band of pirates through the streets of Womelsdorf. Nicholas and Max handed out beads. Linda left behind her clown husband Sam (he really is a clown...did you know that? ) and joined our march. Craig and Janet had the cannons firing!

We were greeted warmly by the enthusiastic crowd! Jimmy was singing; beads, candy, and balloons were flying everywhere! The Womelsdorf parade staff was wonderful! After mentioning our connection to Crime Alert (cha—ching!), I even had two of Womelsdorf's finest wear parrot glasses for a photo. Gotta love Womelsdorf !

When our exhausting ten-minute walk/sail was over (kidding...it was fifteen), we sailed over to Johnny and Hons where we were treated by Bryan and Leigh to fun refreshments. Someone dropped a whole basket of chili fries. After a "ten second versus one minute rule" debate over whether they could still be eaten, they were cleaned up and the fun continued. Thank you Bryan and Leigh.

All good things have to come to an end so we packed up the Leaky Tiki and— at eighty miles an hour —Bob drove us back to our cars. When I got home I took two tylenol and gorilla-glued my heel back on my somewhat authentic looking pleather boots. I'm ready for the next adventure! Can't wait! Thank you to the whole Parade committee... you pirates are awesome! Ahoy!



# Parade Season 2012



Photos courtesy Angie Fegley and Cordie Kemmerer



## There's Trouble on the Horizon!!

### Upcoming Events

*December 4th*

*Toys for Tots (at 3rd and Spruce)*

*December 15th*

*Caribbean Christmas Concert featuring  
Club Trini (at Miller Center)*

*January 26th*

*Cabin Fever Festival (at Crowne Plaza)*

*Mark your calendars and plan to be there!!!*



# Parrot Heads Clean up Everything AND the Kitchen Sink: 2012 Fall Highway Cleanup

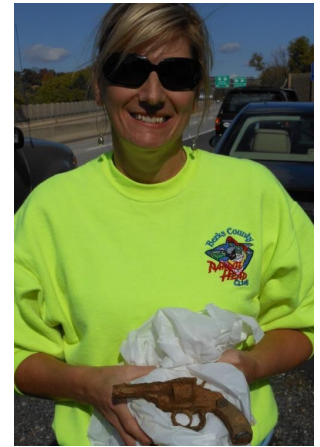
Lou Mancano

*A*nother beautiful fall day greeted the Berks County Parrot Heads

for their semi-annual Highway Cleanup. The tremendous turnout was rivaled only by the excitement in the air as the group gathered on a sunny and warm October 21<sup>st</sup> at the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Spruce parking lot on the Club's 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday. With trash bags, orange vests and canvas gloves in hand, a long line of cars and trucks headed to the mile-long stretch of Route 222 searching for – or should we say “gunning” for - whatever trash and treasures awaited them.



The group picked up a plethora of cans, bottles, paper, plastic, cardboard and tire remnants – everything and the kitchen sink— yes, a kitchen sink. In addition, sitting along the highway was a six pack of Corona Extras and an unopened pack of Newport Menthol cigarettes. Why go back to the Spruce when they had all they needed to drink and smoke along the highway? The Club might have considered a roadside party, but Jodi Blatt had other ideas! She slowly produced a pistol, albeit an unloaded and rusted one, that she found in the roadside weeds. There must have been quite an untold story there, one that will remain a mystery! The lady holding the gun thought it best that they get the show on the road and get back to town before sundown. The group listened and quickly “shot” the ceremonial Parrot Head Club photograph on the concrete wall over forty bags of trash and two 1-800-Got-Junk signs.



Photos courtesy  
Lou Mancano.

(Missing from photo are  
Sam and Mike Kerper)

## Committee Matters: In 25 words (more) or less

**Stars on the Water (Volunteers Committee) - Scott Kauffman** *Our next event where we will need volunteers is our Cabin Fever Party in January. Please complete the Sign-up forms at our monthly meetings or email me if you are interested in helping. Thanks go to everyone that volunteered.*

**We Need More Junior Mints (Sponsorship Committee) - Sam Beam** *We have started working on Cabin fever with the major sponsor and several other sponsors on board. We hope to have tickets available for cabin fever available at the Christmas show.*

**Parrot Poop (Newsletter Committee) - Rich Leiby** *We are always seeking new correspondents, and we welcome (beg for) photographs from events. Please contact Rich if you are willing to help.*

**Party With a Purpose (Events Committee) - Tracey Lutz** *The Toys for Tots party will be held during our December general meeting on the 4th. Then on to Christmas in the Caribbean Show at the Miller Center on Dec. 15th. Shake the January chill at our Cabin Fever Festival on January 26th. The committee will also be coming up with some new Happy Hours for the New Year.*

**Changes in Attitude (Charity Committee) - Gary Kraft** *The following charities have been selected for up-coming events: Opportunity House-2013 Cabin Fever, Berks Women in Crisis-2013 Summer Daze and Mary's Shelter-2014 Cabin Fever.*

## Remembering MOTM 2012

(continued from page 3)

### ENTERTAINMENT

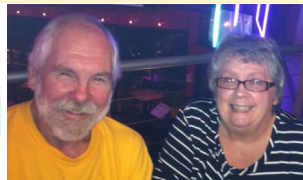
- *Homemade Wine* – These southern rockers have exploded onto the scene in the last 12 months, and had huge followings at the Casa, the Smokin' Tuna, Captain Tony's and Schooner Wharf.
- *Southern Drawl* – Another Knoxville group playing a lot of Skynyrd, Marshall Tucker, and Allman Brothers, in addition to the requisite trop rock stuff.
- *Kristie Bobal* – For those of you who have seen Tall Paul with Crowdaddy, this is Paul's wife. She has a set of pipes on her, and she's easy on the eyes, too.
- *Jimmy and the Parrots* – Mainly because I think Krissy and MBR would hurt me if I omitted them from this list.



With so much going on in such a relatively short timeframe, it's easy to get yourself lost in all that is taking place in Key West. My advice is always – start the day slowly, and make sure that you still have plenty of energy for the end of the day. While there is always something happening in Key West, there is no better time for a Parrot Head to be there than during Meeting of the Minds. See you there next year!



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



Kathy and Gary Atkinson



Verna Hoover



Jeff and Shelley Hamsher

## Trivia

### Lines you Know by Heart

Lou Mancano

**O** kay Buffett fans, Jimmy titled his 18th album, Songs You Know by Heart, because he must have assumed any Par-

rot Head worth his salt, salt, salt, should know these lyrics. This album was his first "greatest hits" compilation and includes all of "The Big 8" songs that Buffett has played at almost every concert. So you say you're a hard core Parrot Head and know all the lines by heart? Here's the challenge: Name the song from the Songs You Know by Heart album that contain the following lyrics.

1. Warm beer and bread they said could raise the dead
2. Now he lives in the islands, fishes the pilings, and drinks his Green Label each day
3. But the money's good in the season, helps to lighten up her load
4. I feel like I've drowned, but I won't wear a frown
5. Haul the sheet in as we ride on the wind
6. Cut my heel had to cruise on back home
7. And now you're off on vacation
8. Visions of good times that brought so much pleasure
9. Your voice sounds so wonderful
10. Oh, I could be anyone I wanted to be
11. My pickup gets me where I please
12. Any old place here on earth or in space
13. No time to count what I'm worth




**Scoring:** 12-13 Memory like a steel guitar, I mean, trap 10-11 Lyrics-meister! 8-9 Bone up! <8 Can't understand his accent



# Christmas in the Caribbean

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Jimmy and the Parrots

*Jimmy Buffett's*  
**MARGARITAVILLE**

Doyle Grisham  
photo courtesy of Kreative Moments Photography  
www.kreative-momentsphotography.com

Club Trini

bands sponsored by



*Club Trini and Doyle Grisham*  
*with Jimmy and the Parrots*

**Saturday, Dec. 15 • 7 p.m.**

**Miller Center, Reading**

Miller Center box office: 610-607-6270 [www.racc.edu/millercenter](http://www.racc.edu/millercenter)

[www.berkscountyPHC.org](http://www.berkscountyPHC.org)

**Tickets on sale NOW! ORCHESTRA TICKETS \$45.00**

pre-party @ the Peanut Bar 4:00 to 6:30 pm

**BALCONY ADMISSION \$40.00**

After party at Crowne Plaza - tickets \$20.00

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# Strange Birds

featuring **Bob Rhode**



This may be Bob's first appearance as a strange bird, but he is no stranger to the club. In fact, he is a charter member and was in on the initial founding meetings back in 2002. His first job was as a soda jerk here in town but after coming home from the Army, Bob landed a job with the Conestoga Telephone Co. in Birdsboro in 1969. He is happily retired (since February of 2011) but his wife, Diane, is still at her job as a dental assistant in Kenhorst.

Here are some fun facts about Bob:

**Favorite place to be while listening to trop rock:** *At home, with my earphones on.*

**Favorite Coral Reefer:** *Mac Macanally*

**Favorite JB Song:** *Tin Cup Chalice (and many more).*

**Favorite JB Line:** *"Breathe in, breathe out, move on..."*

**How many shows have you attended?:** *Approximately ten, give or take.*

**Most memorable JB show:** *1999 at the Mann Music Center, our first concert. We got the tickets from a co-worker who couldn't go, and we loved the show and the tailgate. We've been to many shows since but you always remember your first time!*

**Have you read any of JB's Books?:** *Yes, "Where is Joe Merchant" and "Salty Piece of Land."*

**What would you listen to other than JB:** *Jim Morris and Kelly McGuire.*

**Favorite Movie:** *Anything with Clint Eastwood in it.*

**Favorite Restaurant:** *G.N.A.*

**How do you like your cheeseburger?:** *Lettuce, onion, tomato, and bacon.*

**Favorite frozen/non frozen concoction:** *Beer, or a rum and coke.*

**How did we end up at BCPHC?:** *Diane and I were members of the Tri-State PHC before the Berks County club got started. All of their events were in Philadelphia or the New Jersey area and we didn't want to make the drive. We heard that Denny was starting the Berks County club and so we went to his home at Maple Grove for the first meeting.*

**What's on your bucket list?:** *A trip around the world.*

**Where the heck is Margaritaville anyway?:** *Anywhere my friends are!*



# Berks County Parrot Head Club

## Membership Renewal

The Berks County Parrot Head Club was established on October 1, 2002. Over the years, we have raised more than \$370,000 for various Berks County area charities. Thank you for your continued support of the club!

### Membership Renewal Application

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$20)

\_\_\_\_\_ Couple (\$30)

**Member Name #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member Name #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**List any changes below:**

**List any changes below:**

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family member names and birthdates: \_\_\_\_\_

(under 21 years of age) \_\_\_\_\_

Any interest in joining a club committee? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If so, which one? \_\_\_\_\_ We'll ask the committee chair to let you know about their next meeting.

To renew by mail, send us this completed form, along with a check, to:

**Berks County Parrot Head Club (BCPHC), PO Box 6167, Wyomissing, PA 19610**

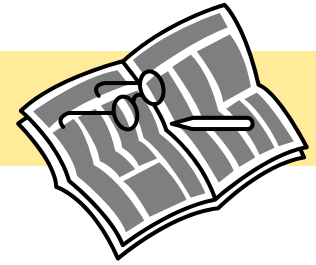
**Visit our club website for details on upcoming events!**

[www.berkscountypbc.org](http://www.berkscountypbc.org)

*Note: This contribution is not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes.*



.....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 become a member and participate. More information can be found on the club website, located at

**<http://www.berkscountyphc.org>**



**Berks County Parrot Head Club**  
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