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ISSUE 18

FALL 2009

## HELLO from the President's Perch

I cannot believe that 2009 has gone by this fast. Thanksgiving has passed, and we're on our way to Christmas. December 5<sup>th</sup> will be the second annual Christmas in the Caribbean show at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. This year's show will feature Jimmy and the Parrots with special guest Nadirah Shakoor from Jimmy's Coral Reefer band. This will be an awesome show and one you do not want to miss.

The annual Toys for Tots party is coming fast and will be on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Spruce. We expect many of our local Marines to be there and this happy hour has become a club favorite for many of us.

Even though 2009 has been somewhat of a challenge for many local charities as well as individuals, your Berks County Parrot Head Club was busy raising money as usual. In January, we had a wonderful Winter Cabin Fever Festival at the Reading Country Club. The golf outing in May was one of the best yet, thanks to JR Koch, Family Guidance, and the record number of foursomes who played that day. Summer Parrot Daze was a huge success for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The Pirate Ship continues to be a sensation, winning several first place parade awards. Please congratulate yourself and a special thanks to all for a great year in a difficult environment.

2009 also saw several changes in our club committees and their responsibilities. We have a new Newsletter chair, Duane Cahill, who has also taken over the website. Please check it at [berkscountyparc.org](http://berkscountyparc.org). Shawn Guevin has become the Membership chair and is working with his committee to make some necessary changes. Scott Kauffman is the new Volunteer chair and Sam Beam has taken over the Sponsorship committee.

As we look forward to our 8<sup>th</sup> year I think it is absolutely amazing that we will go well over \$250,000 in contributions to Berks County charities. And we have made the environment better by cleaning the Highway two times each year.

Please take a few minutes over the Christmas holiday to honor our military and our fallen soldiers. Their sacrifices allow us to Party with a Purpose. Thanks to all,

*The Prez*

The average man will bristle if you say his father was dishonest, but he will brag a little if he discovers that his great-grandfather was a pirate.



# 2009 Meeting of the Minds

Duane Cahill



Kohly looks like he could get used to this lifestyle.

“The overcast skies couldn’t dampen the enthusiasm of the club and stories of the trip are still being told today”

Jodi Blatt taking care of Diane Rhode. Or maybe it’s the other way around—you can never tell with these two.



The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Minds took place November 5-8 at the Casa Marina Resort in Key West. While the overall attendance for the event was far lower than in recent years, the Berks County Parrot Head Club showed up in force with a record 43 members attending.

Island music is undoubtedly the focus of the event, featuring many national artists such as Kelly McGuire, Jim Morris, and Club Trini – all of whom can be heard on Radio Margaritaville. They were joined by BCPHC favorites John Frinzi and Jimmy & The Parrots, and the Saturday night show was headlined by Little Feat.

Meeting of the Minds is the centerpiece of the week, however the local contingent of Parrot Heads found a multitude of other ways to spend their time on the island as well. If you’ve ever traveled in a large group, you know how it’s easy to get paralyzed while everyone decides on what they want to do – and soon you’ve done nothing.

Not this club. While there were events in which almost everyone participated, there were also ample opportunities for each group, couple, or individual to get away and do his/her own thing.

On Tuesday night, many BCPHC members decided to head down the world-famous Duval Street to check out the local scene. Duval is a 15-block street that runs from the Gulf of Mexico on one side to the Atlantic Ocean on the other, and is the location of many of Key West’s famous restaurants and bars.

The first stop was The Bull, the last of the old-time Duval Street open air bars. Inside, the club discovered Mustang Sallie and her guitar, playing a mixture of rock, blues, and feel-good music. The group enjoyed the show so much that they stayed much of the night in the Bull. Sallie’s show allows for a significant amount of audience participation, and the BCPHC was more than happy to oblige, remembering the old adage that “What happens in Key West—never happened”.

On Wednesday, many club members did the tourist thing, feasting in Margaritaville and shopping the streets of Key West. Another group rented a couple of vans and headed up the keys to visit some of the locals’ bars and clubs that your typical tourist will never find—Hogfish Bar, Geiger Key Marina, Boondocks, and No Name Pub, to name a few.

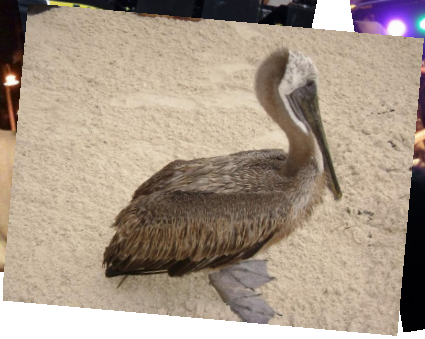
That night, several gathered at Pat Croce’s Rum Barrel to watch the Phillies take on the Yankees in Game 6 of the World Series. Needless to say, the results of the evening were disappointing to most of us, but nobody was going to let that ruin our trip.

Thursday brought Club Trini at the Casa and on Friday, the annual street fest - this year featuring Howard Livingston and Mile Marker 24.

The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly Saturday’s cruise to Little Palm Island. Bryan and Leigh Gentry arranged and sponsored the trip on the 104-foot “Golden Touch” to the private cay 28 miles from Key West. 37 Berks Parrot Heads enjoyed the “Gumby Slumber” beverages and lunch on the beach.

During the seven-day trip, the weather provided about six hours of sunshine. The overcast skies couldn’t dampen the enthusiasm of the club though and stories of the trip are still being told today. And while the countdown to next year isn’t on the website just yet, ask Kris Johnson. He’ll tell you exactly how many days we have before next year’s trip.







# I will clean for gumbo



The BCPHC cleanup crew shows off their accomplishments

“... the weather cooperated, with the temperatures reaching the low 60s and the sun shining for the better part of the afternoon.”

It was a late October Sunday afternoon when eighteen Parrot Heads met at Applebee's in Wyomissing facing the mission to clean the litter from the stretch of PA-222 that has become our biannual environmental project.

The motorists along 222 seem to always (never?) be willing to advance the cause of the club, giving us plenty of trash to pick up every time we run a cleanup, and this day was no exception.

The cleanup crew filled over 30 bags of trash from the two-mile stretch of highway (one mile in

each direction), with several “odd” items found along the way and saved for the post-cleanup contest at Applebee's. We were fortunate in that the weather cooperated, with temperatures reaching the low 60s and the sun shining for the better part of the afternoon.

At the celebration, several items were brought forth for the prize for best/oddest/strangest item. The winner was Paula Kline, who discovered the remnants of somebody's illicit party—a syringe and an empty bottle of Jacquin's blackberry brandy.



## BCPHC Charities

Over the course of the last seven years, and thanks to your generosity, the Berks County Parrot Head Club has donated over \$225,000 to help support the following charities.

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ALS of Greater Philadelphia              | Holly Heilman Cancer Fund             |
| American Cancer Society of Berks County  | Humane Society of Berks County        |
| American Red Cross, Berks Chapter        | Hurricane Katrina PHIN Fund           |
| Berks Animal Rescue League               | Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation |
| Berks County Family Guidance Center      | Locks of Love                         |
| Berks Enduring Freedom                   | Make-a-Wish Foundation                |
| Berks VNA Childhood Immunization Program | Olivet Boys & Girls Club              |
| Breast Cancer Support Services           | Opportunity House                     |
| Children's Alopecia Project              | Reading Public Museum                 |
| Crime Alert Berks County                 | Safe Haven Family Visitation Center   |
| Easter Seals of Eastern PA               | Scleroderma Foundation                |
| Habitat for Humanity                     | Toys for Tots                         |

# Membership/Renewal Form



## Berks County Parrot Head Club

### IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ!!!

*It's renewal time again! Current memberships will expire on December 31, 2009. In order keep information current, **all payments must be accompanied by a completed renewal form.** Additional forms are available online at [www.berkscountyphc.org](http://www.berkscountyphc.org).*

### Membership Renewal From

Couple (\$25)    Single (\$20)    Additional Family Member(s) under 21yrs old (\$5/person)

Member Name1: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name2: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Birth date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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

Are you interested in joining a committee?    Yes    No

If yes, please check the committees you are interested in.

- Membership                       Events                       Sponsorship
- Volunteers                       Merchandise               Newsletter

**Make checks payable to: Berks County Parrot Head Club or BCPHC**

**Mail to:**  
Berks County Parrot Head Club, Attn: Membership  
P.O. Box 6167  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Renewal forms are also available on our website at, [www.berkscountyphc.org](http://www.berkscountyphc.org)

# Dinner and Drinks

Avis Gaetani



Macadamia Nut-Crusted Tilapia with Pineapple Salsa

“Bring out the bright colors in the middle of the winter to warm up even the dreariest slush day.”

Banana Boat Drink

With the keys being 1400 miles away and nearly a year ahead, that tropical vacation you're longing for may feel further away than ever. Wipe away those tears with your Sloppy Joe's shirt sleeve and get to staging! Bring out the bright colors in the middle of the winter to warm up even the dreariest slush day. Decorate your table with flowers, turn up the heat, turn on some Jimmy, put on your flip flops and start cookin'! I suggest starting with the Banana Boat Drinks so you can make more later if you (oops!) drink them before dinner is ready.

## Macadamia Nut-Crusted Tilapia with Pineapple Salsa

The macadamia-nut crust adds a nice crunch, and the pineapple salsa has just the right balance of spicy and sweet flavors.

### For fish:

- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 cup crushed macadamia nuts (almonds work nicely as well)
- 2 tilapia fillets (about 3 to 4 ounces each)

### For salsa:

- 1 cup finely chopped fresh pineapple (canned pineapple will increase the sweetness and make the salsa more saturated)
- 1 tablespoon minced red onion
- 1/2 jalapeño, seeds removed, minced
- 1/4 cup minced cilantro
- Salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Put flour, egg, and nuts in three separate shallow dishes. Dredge each fillet first in flour, then egg, then nuts. Place on oiled baking sheet. Bake 12 to 14 minutes, until golden brown.

While fish is baking, make the salsa. Combine pineapple, onion, jalapeño, and cilantro. Season with salt and pepper. Serve with fish. The fish is done when it is opaque and flakes easily with a fork.



## Banana Boat Drink

- 2 oz Midori Melon liqueur
- 1 oz banana liqueur
- 1 oz Blue Curacao liqueur
- 8 oz pineapple juice
- 1 banana
- 1 slice pineapple

Place the banana into a 12-oz glass, and add cracked ice. Combine the other ingredients in another glass and pour over the ice. Add the pineapple slice and enjoy.





# Strange Birds

Scott Kauffman



Our featured Strange Bird this month is our newest Committee Chair, Scott Kauffman, who answered the call two months ago and graciously agreed to chair the club's Volunteers Committee.

Scott was born & raised in Berks County and is a graduate of Governor Mifflin High School. He currently resides in Wyomissing with his lovely wife Cindy and their two dogs (a Chocolate Lab & a Yorkie). They have two married sons and three—soon to be four—grandchildren.

He worked in the computer industry for 30 years and is currently working as a Sales Executive for Lasting Image Promotional Products Co. during the day and at Sears Home Appliance Center on nights & weekends.

He enjoys golfing, hunting, fishing, eating and spending time with his wife at the Pagoda or their condo in Myrtle Beach. He is also on the board of Crime Alert Berks County and has served as a volunteer on various community events and projects.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT SCOTT

**Favorite Jimmy Buffett song:** Come Monday

**Favorite line from a JB song:** "Why don't we get drunk and screw?"

**How many JB concerts have you been to, and was one any more memorable than the others?**  
Two - both in Atlantic City.

**Have you read any of JB's books?** No

**If all your Buffett music was lost or stolen, what would you listen to?** Pink Floyd, Rush, Led Zeppelin.

**Favorite food:** A good steak, baked potato, salad and a beer.

**Favorite movie:** The Godfather (all of them).

**Favorite restaurant:** Shady Maple Smorgasbord.

**What do you like on your cheeseburger in paradise?** Mayo, lettuce, tomato and onion.

**Favorite frozen (or unfrozen) concoction:** Jack Daniels and water.

**How did you get involved in the BCPHC?** I went to high school with Denny and when he started the club, he asked Cindy and me to join. We were "too busy" at the time, and then three years ago he approached us again. And how do you say "no" to Denny?

**What one thing would you like to do in life that you haven't already done?** Travel to Germany

**Any insights or inspirations to pass on?** Make your spouse your best friend.

**Where the heck is Margaritaville?** Anywhere you want it to be. It's a state of mind. Not a place.

## Happy Birthday to the BCPHC!!

Diane Renninger

Did you know in October 2002, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 7286.27 - its lowest in five years? And the NASDAQ hit a six- year low at 1114.11?

You are probably wondering, did anything good happen in October 2002?

The answer is YES. The Berks County Parrot Head Club formed on October 1, 2002 and just celebrated its seventh birthday. Time flies when you're having rum!

This year's birthday part was held at Third & Spruce Café. (a special thanks to John & Peggy Woodward). Over 40 Berks County Parrot Heads gathered for fun, food and laughter.

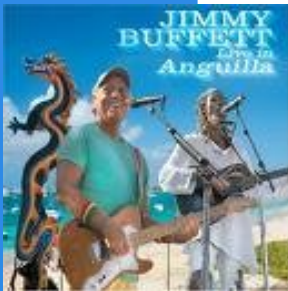
I am sure every year when you celebrate a birthday you think back over your life and wonder: what did I accomplish?

Well, the BCPHC has had a lot to drink about! Since 2002 the club has donated over \$225,000 to numerous charities, kept highways clean, marched in parades and provided an opportunity for people to form new and lasting friendships.

Thank you BCHPC for an awesome seven years. Take a drink, take a drink, take a drink to number eight!

“Since 2002 the club has donated over \$225,000 to numerous charities, kept highways clean, marched in parades and provided an opportunity for people to form new and lasting friendships.”

How many of these Buffett songs can you name?



## Buffett Night at Reading Phillies

Chuck Dugan

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the club held our annual “Buffett Night at the Reading Phillies”. Unlike last year’s game, it was a clear night, with no rain delays. The ticket price included a buffet meal and beverages, along with the chance to see the R-Phils in action.

Several ‘keets took the opportunity to cool off in the pool during the game, in which the Phils beat the Erie Seawolves.

The good guys were behind early, but rallied by way of the long ball for a 6-4 win. Havana Budda provided the “Buffett” part of the night and several members remained to enjoy the music and libations after the game.

## Trivia

Rich Leiby

The following are all phrases or lines Jimmy sings in his songs, but the catch is that he sings them in a foreign language. Can you name the songs the following lines come from by their English translations? For one additional bonus point, name the language the original line is in.

“Miss, would you like to dance?”

“I want to dance in Mexico”

“Grass grows on the memories”

As always, answers can be found on our website at <http://www.berkscountypbc.org>



# Jimmy Buffett Plays Atlantic City

Dot Imbody



There wasn't time to be a beach bum when Buffett came to the Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City on Sunday, August 24. Parrot Heads pflocked to the beach bars and celebrated all things Buffett. And the BCPHC contingent was in the center of all the action. There were rum drinks, coconut bras and grass hula skirts—and that was just Shawn Guevin!

Many of our club faithful started our festivities on the boardwalk watching the John Frinzi Band play in the 100 degree heat of the day. Heck, we still boogied on the dance floor sand (and dodged seagull poop!)

When heat exhaustion was about ready to take its toll, we moved inside to sing with Jimmy and the Parrots. Bryan and Leigh Gentry sure know how to throw a soiree! Thank you for your hospitality. What a crazy rest of the afternoon we had singing those songs we know by heart, having a couple of cold cocktails and munching on fun food.

And then we were off to the land of Miss America—the legendary Boardwalk Hall—to see the silver-haired sailor, Peter Pan of the beach, master of brand marketing (sorry, I had to get that in there!) Mr. Jimmy Buffett. There were more Hawaiian shirts and leis than seen at a Magnum PI convention. And most of the BCPHC concert-goers would get a view of them all from our close-to-last row, furthest from the stage seats. Thank goodness for jumbo screens (3D no less) and a love for JB atmosphere!

There's no need to discuss the 28 songs Jimmy played in about three hours because we've all heard about 25 or so of them a million times. But each time is as much fun as the first and Jimmy played them with his normal youthful gusto, frequently cracking jokes and making sure to work in references to Miss America and how he had surfed the day before in a "hurricane" - or was it just a tropical depression moving through?

Buffett performing indoors is definitely not a natural habitat. But he and his 10-piece band, two Reeferette singers, and special guest Ilo Ferreira, perfectly executed a tropical vibe that sent us all back to the casinos happy and humming "Lovely Cruise" for our gambling background.

*"What a crazy rest of the afternoon we had singing those songs we know by heart..."*

## In 25 words (more) or less

**Stars on the Water (Volunteers Committee) - Scott Kauffman** I've only been the chairperson for two months, but boy the club has been busy! We've had volunteers for three parades and a very successful highway cleanup. After the Christmas show, our next big event is Cabin Fever.

**We Need More Junior Mints (Sponsorship Committee) - Sam Beam** The sponsorship committee is looking for new sponsors. Do you have a contact for us? Please help us help the club and advise anyone on the committee if you do.

**Parrot Poop (Newsletter Committee) - Duane Cahill** Thank you for all of your encouraging feedback on the new-look website. The committee hopes that you'll find the changes to the newsletter to be positive as well.

**Pfeeding Pfrenzy (Merchandise Committee) - Tina Shenk** Wait 'til you see all our great Parrot Head merchandise at Cabin Fever! We'll have something for everyone, whether at the purchase table, the silent auction or the Chinese raffle.

**Party With a Purpose (Events Committee) - Jodi Blatt** Our committee is working on events for 2010. We have a lot of members putting in a lot of hours to make sure everyone has a great time. All we need from you is participation and a smile. You can see our 2010 events schedule on the "Where's the Party" tab on the website.

**Changes in Attitude (Charity Committee) - Gary Kraft** The committee has selected a "children's" theme for the Cabin Fever Festival, designating Children's Alopecia Project and BVNA Childhood Immunization Program as benefiting charities. Thanks to all who nominated charities for 2010.

**If the Phone Doesn't Ring (Membership Committee) - Shawn Guevin** It's membership renewal time again. Don't miss a minute of the excitement that will be the eighth year of the BCPHC. Renewals are \$20 per person or \$25 per couple, with an extra \$5 for each family member under 21 years old.



Nadirah Shakoor at Boardwalk Hall in AC on August 24th.

“Get your tickets today, because you don’t want to miss this official parrot head license to chill.”

Marilyn Baertschy, Barry Sangrey and Bonnie Blatt answer the “all hands on deck” call in the Mohnton parade.

## Christmas in the Caribbean Show Lou Zmroczek

If you haven’t yet purchased your tickets to the second annual Parrot Head Christmas show, Christmas in the Caribbean, do it soon. This year’s show will be held at the Scottish Rite Cathedral on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and features Coral Reefer Nadirah Shakoor, who will be backed up by perennial favorite of the Berks County Parrot Head Club, Jimmy and the Parrots.

Ms. Shakoor, a member of the Coral Reefers band for over 12 years, is a talented singer and songwriter in her own right. Ms. Shakoor’s smooth vocals can be heard on albums by Quincy Jones, Madonna, and of course, Jimmy Buffett. On *Nod to the Storyteller*, a CD released by Mailboat Records in 2008, Nadirah offers both her version of several Jimmy Buffett songs as well as one of her own, *Give Henry the Check*. It’s easy to see why she has been described as captivating in concert.

The show will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the Plenty Problems High School Steel Drum Band from Delaware. These talented students will transport you to your One Particular Harbour.

Denny Lorah has tickets for club members at \$30 each. These tickets include a pre-show meet-and-greet reception with Nadirah Shakoor and Jimmy and the Parrots in at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. The reception begins at 5:00 p.m. with light refreshments.

If you prefer, you can contact Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. However, these tickets would not gain you admission to the pre-show festivities.

Berks County Crime Watch will benefit from the proceeds of this year’s show. If you attended last year’s show, you know this is going to be a great time for a good cause. Get your tickets today, because you don’t want to miss this official parrot head license to chill.

## Parrot Heads On Parade



It was a bit of a light year for the Berks County Parrot Head float. Weather interfered with some of our scheduled parades, but we still managed to get out and show the colors in Mohnton on October 10 and then again in Myerstown on November 28.

# You might be a parrot head

Duane Cahill

With my sincerest apologies to Jeff Foxworthy:

- If you've ever gone through three blenders in one summer—you might be a parrot head.
- If you think casual Friday means a grass skirt and a coconut bra—you might be a parrot head.
- If it's 23 degrees outside and you're wearing khaki shorts and a Hawaiian shirt—you might be a parrot head.
- If your Buffett CD collection will not fit in one carrying case—you might be a parrot head.
- If you own any Jimmy Buffett on 8-track or vinyl—you might be a parrot head.
- If your two favorite cakes are Fruitcakes and sponge cakes—you might be a parrot head.
- If you sing "Changes in Latitudes" in your head every time you pass a departure sign in an airport—you might be a parrot head.
- If your Key West and Buffett concert T-shirts take up more than one drawer in your dresser—you might be a parrot head.
- If your friend asks you to put on "Songs You Know By Heart" and you ask, "Which CD?"—you might be a parrot head.
- And finally, if you know exactly how many days until the next Meeting of the Minds—you might be a parrot head.



## We have a new look!

Duane Cahill

Welcome to the first all-green Parrot Poop (eww, that sounds kind of gross, doesn't it?) Instead of paying a design house to do the layout and publishing, the newsletter committee will take on this responsibility beginning with this issue. We're also making the newsletter available via e-mail and on the website in lieu of printing several hundred copies and paying for the postage to mail them out to each member's house every quarter. These two steps accomplish two objectives:

- 1) We become a more responsible organization by reducing our carbon footprint.
- 2) We save a good deal of money (think \$5000 or so) annually that can instead go into the coffers of our charities.

We hope you like our new look and will support our efforts.





# *It's Five O'Clock Somewhere*



## **A.K.A. UPCOMING EVENTS OF 2009-10:**

**Christmas in the Caribbean Show  
featuring Nadirah Shakoor**  
Saturday, December 5, 2009  
Scottish Rite Cathedral

**Toys for Tots**  
Friday, December 11, 2009  
Third & Spruce

**Cabin Fever Festival**  
Sunday, January 31, 2010  
Reading Country Club

**Spring Highway Cleanup**  
Sunday, April 25, 2010  
Applebee's Wyomissing

**Golf Outing**  
Friday, May 14, 2010  
Willow Hollow Golf Course  
Leesport

**Summer Parrot Daze**  
Saturday, July 17, 2010  
Location TBD



BERKS COUNTY PARROT HEAD CLUB  
PO BOX 6167  
WYOMISSING, PA 19610

