



VOLUME 01 | MARCH 2024

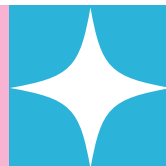
# Newsletter

STAY IN THE LOOP WITH UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS!

## AT A GLANCE

- Next Monthly Meeting April 10th 2024 Beverly Hills 6pm.
- Summer Parrot Daze will be here before you know it. Save the Date 24 August 2024. Beverly Hill Tavern., Jimmy and the Parrots will be the musical headliner.
- Angel Fund distribution and letter of thanks
- Chris and Erin's Dominican Adventure - Thank you Barry Sangrey and Karen Bish for the Donation in the Dominican Republic at Summer Parrot Daze 2023
- MOTM 2024

## Prez Article



A summary of 2023

I want to personally thank all of our members for your part in making 2023 another successful year for our Berks County Parrot Head Club. Summer Parrot Daze was a great event with an outstanding Charity: The Reading Public Library Foundation. Their Board and our Board and members worked together to create themes and activities to support many fund-raising opportunities. Thanks to Jimmy G and April for combining their Golf Outing with Summer Parrot Daze, and a special thank you to Scott and Kasey Schaffer who blended the Golfers and Parrot Heads together for a wonderful day. Music by the Caribbean Sunset Band was enjoyed by all who attended. This year's Summer Parrot Daze is August 24th and Hanna's Hope Ministries is the Charity. It will back at BHT with Jimmy and the Parrots. Save the date.

Several of our members and nonmembers participated in the Spring and fall Brandy Rae memorial Highway cleanup. This was our 20th year of giving back to our environment. Thanks to all who volunteered.

The Stars and Promises Christmas Concert was the best attended show of all time with 300 tickets sold. Peter and the band put on a amazing concert that many people are still talking about. This year's Concert will be December 15th at the Doubletree. Save that date.

The year came with some unexpected sad news, the passing of Jimmy Buffett, the man that brought us all together. His memories and the memories he created for all of us will live on forever. The love he had for life and fun was contagious to many Parrot Heads and fans. I learned a lot from his style and I am not alone. Watching him throughout his life and the never-ending smile was admirable. But most impressive, he was the same happy person making others happy in the face of death. The night before he died, he said to MAC “It was a hell of a ride, Keep the party going”. So, we must continue to “Party with a Purpose” and help our local Charites. Life is all about memories and not about dreams.

Thanks to Joanna Sockel for taking the lead on the Jimmy Buffet blood drive sponsored by our parent organization PHIP.

As we move forward, our club needs some Committee heads

Chris Ernst is doing a nice job with sponsorship; I am sure he would like some help.

Lori Carman is doing well with Membership.

We need an Event Chair to work on activities and table favors or decorations for

Summer Parrot DAZE.

Volunteer Chair to coordinate with our members and the Charity the needs for the Event.

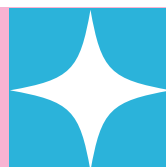
Newsletter, Deb has put a lot of effort into getting the Newsletter started and would love to have member help with supplying photos and articles.

So, if you have an hour or more a month your help is needed. Of course, the board and I will help you along the way. Please reach out to me with any help you can provide no matter how small. Your thoughts and ideas will make our Club stronger. I look forward to continued success this coming year.

Proud to be your President,

*Denny*

# Save the Dates 2024



- Peter and Brendan Mayer at Beverly Hills Monday July 22nd
- Scott Kirby at Beverly Hills Wednesday August 14th
- Summer Parrot Daze August 24th
- Stars and Promises Concert December 15th 2024 Doubletree Hotel

# Angel Fund Update



**Latest Angel Fund Distribution and a thank you letter from the recipients.**

Another grant was made through the Berks County Parrot Head Club Angel Fund. A total of \$1926 was paid to cover driving lessons and driving exams for 16-year-old twins who live in the Governor Mifflin School District. They live in a single-parent household and their parent is blind. The family is completely dependent on the charity of others to meet their transportation needs. The children actively sought out employment and saved their own money to obtain permits and a vehicle but could not afford to pay for appropriately supervised driving lessons. The children being able to drive will assist the entire family in meeting their daily needs which will be life-changing for this family.

## **Here is the letter we received from the family:**

Beautiful sunrises and sunsets Parrotheads!

I would like to thank you from my mom heart for your generosity with the Angel fund.

I am a single, blind mom of twins. Sometimes life has been easy and sometimes difficult. But someone we all know said... "If life gives you limes, make margaritas."

I believe that it takes a village to raise a family. That family isn't always made of blood.

And when things are not going my way...well..."Breathe in, breathe out, move on."

I kept running into brick walls when it came to getting my kids behind the wheel. But after a month of endless web site searches and fruitless phone calls and asking friends, family and strangers to help...I had to keep saying..."If it doesn't work out, there's never any harm in the fact that you tried."

So, I kept trying and trying. In the mist of all of the grey came the Angel fund. A light of hope. With the kids taking these professional driving lessons, it has made people who originally said no, more comfortable to say yes to taking the kids out.

In 2020 my mom stopped driving. She was limited on her driving as it was but this just made it more difficult. I manage doctor appointments. A typical appointment that would take 30min takes about 4 hours. But this is our lives. When the kids have their license we can grab

something at the store the day we need it! You don't know how important that is. It gives them more opportunities to be more involved and social. It will give them more options as to where to work, instead of just places in walking distance. They have not gotten to the mental state of..."If you ever get annoyed, look at me, I'm self-employed. I love to work at nothing all day."

I try to make their lives easy. But they both worked to pay for their own cars, gas, inspection and insurance. I was determined to help them.

Their lives cant always be..."There's nothing softer than a pile of warm bananas." But we can make it a goal!

Thank you all very much. We wish you good health and blessed days.

Hoping your "Wrinkles will only go where the smiles have been."

"Fins up!"

Bridget, Lydia and Seth

## Summer Parrot Daze-Details being Finalized - STAY TUNED

Summer Parrot Daze will be here before you know it. Save the date Saturday August 24th - Beverly Hills Tavern. Remember to keep thinking about merchandise for the raffle baskets and auction items.

## Chris and Erin's Fabulous Dominican Trip 2023 Summer Parrot Daze Raffle Winning Trip





Toes in the water, ass in the sand. Not a worry in the world, a cold beer (or fruity drink) in my hand!

Gorgeous beaches everywhere! There were plenty of the beach beds or sometimes cabanas to go around. Our favorite beach was Deja View Beach.







A Beach Front Wal-Mart for your shopping convenience 😊

Food was delicious all week! Our favorite 2 restaurants were Simply Gourmet and Bellini. Azul had the best presentation though. There was even a fast-food place at one of the beach areas (so of course we had to try it!).





The only excursion we did was a tour of Puerta Plata. The cable car (or gondola) wasn't working, so we had to drive up the back of the mountain. He first drove us through a poor part of the city where the truck we were in barely fit in the street between the houses. A corner of the truck popped an electrical cord off a house causing sparks to fly and we hit a parked car. The drive alone was an adventure! Driving through that part of town was very humbling. Trash everywhere because they have no where to go with it and can't afford to pay for pickup. Once at the top of the mountain, the views were spectacular! There is a replica Christ the Redeemer statue. The flora and fauna were straight from a Dr. Seuss book and just stunning! On the drive we also passed an elementary school during recess. The kids were so excited to see us drive by!













Erin Loved this sign.

This is Betty. She was much needed since the resort is so large. Driving Betty was like driving a bumper car at an amusement park.

She kept backfiring (due to running on gas instead of electric) and to park her, you often had to bump into the cars you were parking between.



# MOTM 2024



Gulf Shores Alabama <https://motm.rocks> Registration NOW OPEN October 22-27, 2024

## I Have Found Me A Home

MOTM is the annual PHiP convention held annually during the end of October and beginning of November. While previously hosted in New Orleans and Key West, the new home of MOTM is Gulf Shores, Alabama and is always subject to change. It is open to any member of a PHiP sanctioned Parrot Head Club covering several days and nights of friendship, fun, food and great music, with a few optional meetings and seminars thrown in the mix.

## Reach Out



For questions, feedback, article ideas, or story contributions, email [debmo@msn.com](mailto:debmo@msn.com), and we'll

**be in touch.**