



April 2024 Year of the Pirate

Edited by Stephen Larson

Editorial Note



This is not the typical news letter. First, it is not complete nor edited, but sent the way I found it. Information that is missing will make it to next month's Newsletter. Second,

this note is not being typed by your editor, rather his son, Scott Larson.

My father, Steve Larson, passed away Wednesday, April 3rd and was not able to complete this before publication. I am going to take this moment to tell you a little about the man who spent countless hours serving an organization he loved.

Stephen Kirilin Larson was born on June 1, 1945 and grew up in Galva Kansas without electricity or indoor plumbing where he went to school in a one room school house. His high school took him on a school trip to the deep south where segregation was a reality of life, which affected his life paths in ways he wouldn't understand for years. He went to college, got kicked out, and joined the Navy before he got drafted. After serving 4 years, he came home and went back to college where he met and eventually married this Delta Zeta girl who is my mother, Renie. He ended up in Detroit as Manager of Minority Supplier Development for Ford Motor Company. In this position, he passionately helped minority business owners gain and maintain contracts with Ford Motor Company and helped establish an entire supply chain policy adopted by industries across the nation, all stemming back to his innate sense of fairness from a high school trip.

Steve was also elected and then re-elected in Michigan to the Canton Township Board of Trustees three times, until he moved out of the district. He offered his home to friends, multiple times, who fell on hard times.

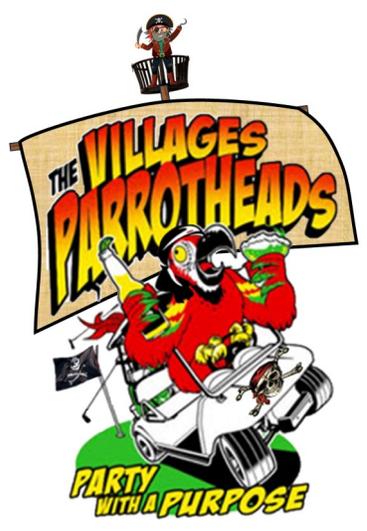
He loved to help people, and he loved to do things that would leave the world a little better.

Now, the Parrotheads. He loved you all more than you will ever know. His involvement in the club began as Charity Trustee. He then was elected to this position of Media Trustee which he took with the seriousness of a New York Times editor. He explained to me, a week before he became sick, just how grateful he was that Marty Guillouma was taking over this newsletter and will be your next editor.

My dad was also a daily blogger, a poet, and a songwriter. His works will be published on <http://steveklarson.com> in about a month. His Celebration of Life is upcoming and will be announced when scheduled. I will close this with his personal closing on his private blogs: Abide.



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President's Corner



We started March off with our 20th Anniversary party – A Pirate’s Ball. What a fabulous time. Thanks to Ann Blanchard who’s ideas just keep on rolling and we also presented Ann with the only “Lifetime Achievement” award we have ever given out. A team drink to Ann and Lee Caron and all who helped make this happen!!

Our March Blood drive provided record results. 305 pints of whole blood and 50 pints of double red for a total of 405 pints of blood. As 1 pint helps save up to 3 people, we helped 1215 people. We continue to be the largest blood drive in the state. Another team drink to Skip Todd, Fran Durr, all the donors and volunteers, and everyone who helped !!

On came the Villages St. Patrick’s Day parade and we had 112 participants. Another record. The streets were also lined with club members and fans of our club who cheered. Thanks to Mr. Al Townsend for coordinating this and to all who made this happen. What a month!!

Let’s continue this record setting pace with our annual Poker Run and Basket Raffle on April 6th. This is where we raise money to help our local charities. A phunday is planned for all so tell your neighbors, family, and friends as everyone is invited. We hope to see you all there. Check out more about this further on in this newsletter and watch your emails.

This month is also our Apri luau on April 26th with a golfcart parade and all of us dressed in Parrot Head style, beachwear, coconut bras, and grass skirts. Show your enthusiasm and be a participant. Watch your emails for more info. This will be a blast!

Lots more going on also so keep your phins up  !! C U all soon !!

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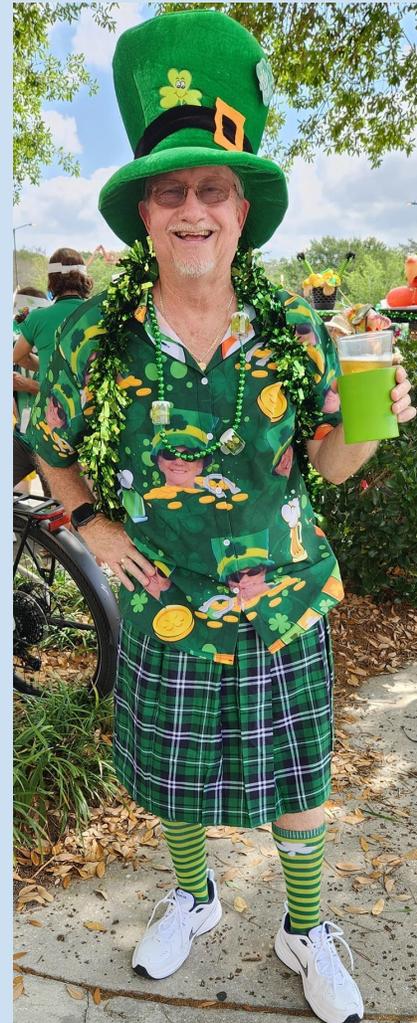
Wednesday, April 3rd Phlocking

April's first Phlocking will be at the Cane Garden Country Club at 3:30 and going until 6 PM. Phins UP Shop is pick up only. Just Mike and Gary will provide the music. Bring a chair or arrive early because this will be a well attended.



St. Patrick's Day Parade

We didn't know there was a contest. We didn't know there were judges rating all the clubs and organizations in the parade. We were surprised when they announced that the Village Parrot Heads won 1st Place for Best Cart Décor. We had 112 participants. If they gave an award for the biggest group, we would have won that one too.



Wednesday, April 10th Phlocking

We will keep the party going with our second April Phlocking on Wednesday April 10th at the Havana Country Club. The party starts at 1PM and goes until 3:30. Lillian and Gary will be providing the music and filling the dance floor. Make sure to bring a chair if you arrive late and golf carts are better than cars because of the limited parking. See you there!



Sunday, April 28 Phlocking

The last Phlocking for March is at the Belle Glade Country Club. **The Phins UP Shop is open.** Our old friend Danny B is back and he always puts on a great show. He's also the only musician we have that plays the banjo. Come out and listen to his mix of Trop-Rock and Southern Rock. The party starts at 3:30 and goes until 6 PM.



2024 Golf Scrambles

Our 2024 summer golf scramble are always a lot of fun and a great way to meet members of our club. Tickets will go on sale April 1st at 12 noon. \$5 each golfer and you MUST be a 2024 member to participate.

Lil Roe does a great job organizing these scrambles. If you sign up and can't make it you must notify her as there is always a wait list. Flyer on page



Club News

Poker Run / Basket Raffle

Our poker run is only 2 weeks away, on Saturday, April 6th, 2024. ***There have been some changes this year !!***

The picnic tables in the gazebo have been bolted down and can't be moved!! You are welcome to use these seats and add your own to the tables.

The band "Hollywood Knights" will be playing in the parking lot near the tents facing the gazebo. There will be a small dance area on the walkway to the gazebo and the grass area in front of the gazebo.

NO ONE - I repeat - "NO ONE" is permitted to set up their own chairs, tables, or tents at Laurel Manor until ALL the set-up is done !!

We have an abundance of volunteers for this event. This is a good thing and a difficult thing as we had too many and some have been turned away. If you have tried to volunteer and were contacted by one of the captains, then you know your duties. If you signed up or emailed and were not contacted, unfortunately you will not be needed. Please do not just "show up" and expect to be able to volunteer. Thank you so much for your interest and we will have plenty for you to do at another time.

After the basket raffle drawings, there will be 2 boards to post winners. It is recommended that you take a picture of the boards, with your phones, to see if you have won instead of crowding the boards.

Unfortunately, Laurel Manor has told us that the outside restrooms are not useable. This is beyond our control. There are restrooms you can use inside the main building.

There will be no dunk tank this year. Instead, we will have the boy scouts selling hot dogs, chips, and drinks, as well as the "Mystic Ice Cream" truck selling your favorites.

Please tell your neighbors, friends, and family about this as this is how we support our local charities.

Everyone is welcome !! More Reasons to participate:

1. Our Poker Run is our largest fund raiser for local charities each year for over the past 10 years. This is where we get the funds which we donate to help kids that live in the Ocala Forrest, Local Food banks, Veterans helping veterans, and many more local charities, all those who may be a little

less fortunate than we are.

2. Last year we raised just over \$21,000. This where the donations come from when we give out the big checks at our phlockings.

3. This is a Phun day that our members, phamily, phriends, and neighbors can all participate in so let everyone know. And we need your participation.

4. There are 2 portions of our poker run, 1st the Poker run itself: It only cost \$5 per hand to enter. You can purchase as many hands as you like. You can start at any of the locations: Colony Cottage Rec center, Seabreeze Rec center, Havana CC, and/or Palmers CC. We finish at Laurel Manor Rec Center with a Basket raffle/festival. You can also buy a wild card for \$10 at your starting point. Get a card at each station or get all at Laurel Manor.

5. In the Basket Raffle/festival portion, we all get together at Laurel Manor Rec center in a picnic type atmosphere. Bring your chairs, coolers, refreshments, etc.. Our tents will be set up and there will be a basket raffle. There are 2 types of tickets. 6 tickets for \$5 for baskets valued upto \$250, and \$5 a ticket for baskets valued over \$250 . You can put your tickets in the appropriate basket for a chance to win some neat stuff. Tickets can be purchased at Phlockings to avoid the waiting in line at the Poker Run.

7. And did I mention that the "Hollywood Knights" will be playing for us from 1pm-5pm that day? Wow – what a phun day and all to help others.

8. Please remember our Motto – "Party with a purpose" This is both the party and the purpose!!

9. This is a great way to interact and meet members of our club and have a great time.

Please Mark your Calendars and plan to attend.

Pool Party!!

Mark your calendars - We are having a "POOL PARTY" this year on Sunday afternoon, August 25th at Seabreeze. This will be very limited. We are only allowed 125 people. Volunteer points will be used/needed to purchase tickets. Information to follow in May.



Homosassa Bash

Here are some important notes about our Homosassa Bash May 2, 3, 4. If you are going, please read.

You MUST purchase a wristband. Remember - you MUST have and wear a wristband to attend, even if you come just for the day, and they will be checked. Wristband sales help pay for the entertainment and bbq. If you haven't purchased yours yet, you can purchase your wristbands online now for \$40 each online. We are also selling T-shirts for Homosassa and you can order them online also at the same site as the wristbands. (wristbands are at the bottom after the T-shirts) You do not have to purchase a t-shirt but you MUST purchase a wristband. We will have wristbands at Homosassa but please allow our volunteers to enjoy themselves also, and purchase yours before the weekend. You can pick up your wristbands and ordered/paid-for shirts from Lee and friends at the Phlockings in April. I will announce when they are available.

Both the Homosassa "Florida Cracker Riverside Resort" and "MacRaes Resort" are SOLD OUT. There is a waitlist. Please contact Lee Caron to be put on the waitlist. There will be cancellations. If you decide to cancel, please contact Lee caron first before you contact the resort.

As our theme is "Growing Older But Not UP", we will have a theme party on Saturday night while Mike & Terrie are playing. Our coordinator with the wild mind is Ann Blanchard who is asking everyone to dress up in 50's, 60's & 70's attire. This means hoop skirts, leather jackets, jeans, white t-shirts, Pink ladies jackets, T-birds jackets, even 70's disco leisure suits and afros will do. Let's all participate and have fun with it !!

Here are some notes:

---- I would like to bring 8 - 10 green club tents.

---- **We will need help bringing tents to Homosassa on Thursday and returning them and back to the Villages on Sunday.** If you can transport a tent or two, I will be asking for people to help at a later time. *Please don't let me know now - I will forget.* We are hoping to load tents

on Thursday morning at 9am from the storage building on CR466a. Everyone seems to forget about transporting tents back to the Villages on Sunday morning and I am stuck loading my vehicle to the brim with others taking my personal belongings in their car. Please don't forget us.

---- You are welcome to bring your own tent and set it up in our **"Tent City"**, if there is room for it. There is limited room in the Courtyard and we do reserve dance space

and space for the entertainment. However, please remember we are all one big club and if you set your tent up, it becomes part of our **"tent city"** and you can not tell people that "this is my tent and you can't sit here" It must remain there until the entertainment is done Saturday night.

---- Here is the bottom line: If we don't get volunteers to bring tents to and from Homosassa - we won't have any !!

---- We will need help setting up the grounds and tents on Thursday and breaking tents down on Sunday morning.

---- Bring your own chairs, food, snacks, and refreshments.

---- There is no "Pot Luck" dinner this year. Instead, we will be providing a Barbeque on Friday afternoon between bands. This is included in the price of the wristbands. Exact menu and time to be announced.

---- Please remember - you get 1 parking spot per unit no matter how many people are staying in that unit or how many bedrooms it has. If you have more than one vehicle, you may be charged for parking.

---- There are restaurants in the area. There are a few you can walk to but most, you have to drive a short distance. Many people have asked about a water taxi. We have not been able to secure one. Sorry, just can't find anyone who wants to do it.

----- **Don't forget your bug spray and sunscreen !!!**

---- Please feel free to decorate your balcony, porch with Parrothead Paraphernalia !!!

---- We are looking forward to a great time. **Please remember our code of conduct and be respectful to everyone at all times.**



Club News

The Landsharks Are Coming Back!!

If you missed their last show, you missed one of the best concerts we've ever had in The Villages. You will get another chance on Monday, April 22nd. They are coming back for two shows at the Savannah Center at 4 PM and 7 PM. The Tailgate Party starts at 4 PM in the far NE corner of the Parking lot off El Camino Real. It's BYOB and bring some snakes to pass. There are still some good seats for the 7 PM show. You can also come dressed as a Pirate. It should be a ball! Don't miss this one.



April Luau

We had so much fun at our Gasparilla Day golf cart parade and festival that many members have asked us to do another one before many members head north for the summer.

As it will soon be too warm to wear our Pirate costumes so we wanted to do something similar but different. So we have decided to once again celebrate the life and songs of Jimmy Buffett with an April Luau!

It will be two months from today on Friday, April 26th, 2024. So there is plenty of time to get ideas to: Decorate your golf carts - Parrot Head and Luau style. Get out your grass skirts, coconut bras, crazy hawaiian shirts, leis, crazy hats, etc. It will be like a tailgate party and luau all in one !!

For those who wish to decorate your carts and participate in the parade, we are going to do it a little different. We will all meet at the Eisenhower rec center lot and then parade to Brownwood Square. The direct route is to

be determined yet. Then we will cause havoc and mayhem while driving around the square before we park and wander around the square to our phavorite establishments. Time and more details to phollow !! So mark your calendars and plan to join us !!

Mother's Day w/Trop Rock Junkies

How would you like to spend Mother's Day hanging out by the pool listening to the Trop Rock Junkies? You can. The bus leaves for the Compass by Margaritaville Hotel Bradenton at 10:45 from the Walmart parking lot, Wedgewood Land. Cost is \$33 per person, no refunds. The Trop Rock Junkies play from 2 until 5 PM and then we'll get back on the bus and be back to the Villages around 8 PM. You will need to bring a chair for pool side. No coolers,, drinks or food are permitted. There is food service and a bar for the pool area.



Tickets go on sale April 1.

Chair person: Bonnie Walls 904 505 1681

Assist. Chair: Theresa Ellis 317 250 3508

Travel Committee

The next meeting will be from 1 to 3 PM at the Churchill Downs Recreation Center (2375 Churchill Downs), on Thursday, March 14th. You need to be a Village resident to attend. We need you to help plan our great trips for the rest of 2023 and then start work on trips for 2024. You will also earn some Parrot Points for just attending the meeting.

Tampa Bay Rays Baseball

On Saturday, July 13th the Tampa Bay Rays are hosting a Margaritaville Night at Tropicana Field when they take on the Cleveland Guardians. Tickets are \$70 per person which includes the bus ride, driver tip and tickets to the game. The trip also includes plenty of time to visit Ferg's famous Sports Bar which is right next to the stadium. The bus will leave the Walmart Parking lot (466) PROMPTLY at 11:30 and return after the game. No glass on the bus and no refunds.

Chair person is Ellen Dill (978) 833 1418

Asst. Chair is Ellen McLees (732) 814 5741



Another Daytona Beach Weekend!

YES!- The Aku Tik Best Western has been completely renovated after the hurricane that passed through in 2022.

We have reserved the weekend of **Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, September 26th, 27th, & 28th**, with a Sunday Funday on the 29th.

Music is being worked on but we have already booked the Trop Rock Junkies and more.

Free drink Happy Hour 4pm-5pm each day!

Tiki Bar, Olympic pool, right on the Beach !!

Room rates are from \$119 through \$169 a night and **you can only get these rates by contacting "Charles" at the front desk at 386-252-9631.**



Do not use the Best Western 800 number or book online - You will NOT get these rates.

Rates are good for a few days before and after our weekend !!

When you call, ask for "Charles". He may be overwhelmed so if he says he will call you back, he will. Please be patient !!

You will NOT be able to request a specific room number. The types of rooms are: Ocean front, Ocean view(pool side), and city view(parking lot side). There are 5 floors. Some have queen beds and some king. There are some with a kitchenette and a few handicapped accessible.

You will need a wristband to attend. Wristbands will pay for the bands and you MUST purchase a wristband. Prices will be determined when we finalize the entertainment.

You will need to book a room by May 31st so there is plenty of time. On June 1st we will open it up to other clubs if we are not sold out. There are 132 rooms so there should be no problems.

Lots more info to follow so stay tuned !!

Club Cruise 2025

We are going on another fantastic Parrot Head Cruise next year. From February 15 to February 22, you will sail to exotic ports and have plenty of exotic food and drink. The ship is the Norwegian Epic which will sail out of Port Canaveral to Great Stirrup Cay, Ocho Rios, Cayman Islands Cozumel and have two days at sea.

Judy and Larry Turner are putting this cruise together. You can contact Judy at 352 308 7645 and leave a message. YOU WILL NEED TO BE PATIENT. Once they know you're interested, Larry Turner will call you with cabin information. They will also be at the Phlockings at a table to answer your questions. It will be an excellent Parrot Head Adventure! More information is on the Home Page of our Web Site.



Travel Committee Survey

To better serve the Parrot Heads Club, a survey was developed and conducted by the Travel Committee to determine member interests. On the survey were different venues with examples, time period and cost. Members were asked to score each category as not-interested, interested, or very interested. Also on the survey was solicitation of members interested in serving as trip leads, and member suggestions for trips. Surveys were handed out and collected at the February phlockings.

General rule of thumb is you need 30-50 surveys to represent a population (membership) with some degree of confidence. We collected 216 surveys making this a very successful effort. The top 4 venues where membership expressed interest were Dinner Theaters, Boat Cruises, Festivals and Shows. Membership also expressed more interest in shorter trips than longer, and less cost. 20 members expressed interest in leading trips, and 31 trip suggestions were offered.

The survey provides a valuable framework for discussing trips, and not everything was as expected. We really do appreciate the membership expressing their interests and welcome Village members to attend our travel committee meetings at 1-3pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Churchill Street Rec Center. So gather your ideas and we'll see what phun we can plan for 2024!

Margaritaville Article

Imagine yourself at a crossroads. Your musical aspirations seem like a distant mirage, your bank account mocks you with its emptiness, and the all-consuming darkness of despair threatens to swallow you whole. That, my friends, was the bleak reality Jimmy Buffett faced. But amidst this crushing low point, a spark ignited within him.

"Margaritaville", a vibrant melody pulsating with the carefree spirit of a tropical paradise, bloomed from the ashes of his struggles. The song wasn't just catchy; it was a manifesto for escaping the daily grind, a sonic vacation for a weary soul. It felt destined for greatness, a song that would soundtrack countless beach getaways and

singalongs. However, the road to paradise rarely runs smoothly. In a surprising twist of fate, "Margaritaville" wasn't met with open arms. The initial reaction from the music industry? A resounding "no thanks." This seemingly insurmountable rejection, however, only adds another layer to the incredible story of "Margaritaville," a song that rose from the ashes of despair to become a billion-dollar phenomenon.

Buffett's journey to musical stardom wasn't exactly a walk on the beach. In the late 1960s, he toiled away in the clubs and bars of New Orleans as a struggling musician. Seeking a change of scenery, he headed north to Tennessee to try his luck in country music. But the music scene of the 70s had different plans. Hard rock and disco dominated the airwaves, leaving Buffett, with his mellow sound, feeling like a relic of the past. Desperate for a hit, he decided to take a break, hoping the beach would clear his head. Unfortunately, the trip turned into a comedic disaster. He lost his flip-flops, sliced his foot, and worst of all, ran out of salt for his margarita. Fueled by this string of misfortunes, Buffett channeled his frustration into a song. However, the target wasn't himself, but the tourists swarming Key West, Florida, where he had an apartment. In a burst of inspiration, he wrote the lyrics in roughly six minutes. Excited to share his creation, he rushed the track to producer Norbert Putnam. Little did Buffett know, his "terrible idea for a song" was about to change his life. His Signature Paradise Laid Down The Groundwork For An Empire Despite Putnam's initial reservations, Buffett wouldn't give up on his song. In 1977, "Margaritaville" hit the airwaves, marking a turning point in Buffett's career. The song skyrocketed to number eight on the US singles chart, becoming his first and, arguably, only major mainstream hit. He established "Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville", a retail store in Key West, selling merchandise that captured the song's carefree spirit. The store's success proved the song's resonance, and Buffett saw an opportunity to expand. What began as a single store blossomed into a network of retail locations, restaurants, and even hotels and resorts. Today, "Buffett's Margaritaville" is a billion-dollar business is a testament to the enduring appeal of the song's laidback, island vibe.



Charity News

March Food Drive

The Club donated \$ 360 to the Lake Pan Food Pantry in March.

April Food Drive

The food collection for April will be at the Havana Phlocking and will go to the the Wildwood Food Pantry

2024 March SOZO Kids Clothing Drive

March 8 and 9 Blood Drive





Membership

New Members

Sunshine Committee

If you know of a member who has an illness, injury or surgery or someone who is suffering the loss of a spouse or child, please notify Patty Petretti, Chairperson of the Club's Sunshine Committee at patamus1747@gmail.com

Member Advocate

Jack Maiz is the Club's Member Advocate. Jack is available to any member who has an issue with the Board, the Club or another member. His job is to find a resolution while insuring member confidentiality. Jack's email is jmaiz@aol.com.

Club Historian

Did you know that we have a Club Historian? We do! Her name is Jean Howlett and she has been collecting Parrot Head articles, pictures and memorabilia for nearly a decade. For our newer members, it's a history of our Club's growth. For the members who have been with the Club for a longer time, it's a stroll down memory lane with many of our friends who are no longer with us. Her books are available at some of our phlockings and special occasions. If you're interested in looking at our Club's past, contact Jean at 352 571 4689 or email her at a1944jean@gmail.com

New Members Orientation Meeting

The next New Member Orientation Meeting will be held at 10 AM at the Bonifay Country Club on April 11th. Flyer o page

Welcome



Membership

Help Wanted

We are a club run by people who volunteer. We need people to step up and help. Listed below are the positions available:

Attendance: Volunteers are needed for Phlockings at Palmer, Havana and Belle Glade. Contact Jaci Burdash at jl2500@gmail.com to volunteer.

50/50: Volunteers needed at all Phlockings. Contact Debra Warren at Warrendeborah7@gmail.com if you can help selling 50/50 tickets.

Membership Table: Volunteers needed to staff the Membership Table at 1 Phlocking each month. Contact Johnny Ward at johnnyward300@yahoo.com.

Assistant Newsletter Editor: If you can write creatively and have Microsoft Publisher, you can help put this award winning newsletter out each month. Please contact Steve Larson at sklarson01@gmail.com

Trip Managers: Each day trip the Club makes requires someone to make sure the people who purchased tickets get on the bus before we leave and back on the bus before we come back home. In return, you get to sit in the front of the bus and make a bunch of new friends. Go to a Travel Committee meeting (see page 4) and get involved. You will be glad you did!

Security: The Club has a small group of members who are available to assist members, maintain order and watch the cash and merchandise at our events. We have an opening for another person. If you are interested, please contact David Walls at dmwalls2001@yahoo.com

Himalayan Golf. Score keepers needed on April 2 for the putting contest. Contact Carol O'Neal (352) 205 3770

Corporate Sponsor Club Discounts

One of our Corporate Sponsors are now giving a discount to Club members. **Lake Sumter Dryer Vent Cleaning LLC** is giving a 10% discount, Contact information on Page 12.

How Our Club Operates

by Stephen Larson,
Newsletter Editor and longest serving member of the
Coco-Nutz.

This is a reminder of how this Club operates and is able to bring so many opportunities for the members to have Phun. We are designated by the IRS as a 501c7 Social Club. We are chartered by the Parrot Heads in Paradise which is the organization that controls all the Parrot Head Clubs on planet Earth.

We have a Board of Directors elected by the membership that we call the Coco-Nutz. You can find who they are, what they are responsible for and how to contact them in the monthly Newsletter. We also list the appointed positions within the Club on the following page.

All travel, all the parties, all the gatherings come before the Coco-Nutz and are debated. Decisions are reached, motions made, and votes taken. This is the way almost all organizations are run. Nobody is paid a dime for being on the Coco-Nutz or for being appointed to carry out recurring tasks. We are an all-volunteer Club.

Mark the Shark is the President and presides over the meetings but does not have a vote. His job is to implement what the Coco-Nutz have voted to do. Problems, constructive criticism, suggestions about events and trips should be taken to the Coco-Nutz because they are the ones who made the decisions. We also have a Member Advocate (Jack Maiz) who is available to mediate more serious issues.

We believe we have the best, most active, and largest Parrot Head Club in the Universe. We're good, but we're not perfect but we do the best we can. It's a full time job for Mark the Shark and a part-time job for everyone else. We do it because, well, we love being Parrot Heads and hope you do to.





Membership

From our Web Master

There is a cycle in webmaster activity over the year, beginning in September with a surge in membership renewals, followed by the holidays leading up to the new year where webpages need to be updated and prior year memberships expires. Seasonal residents come and the activity really picks up as new memberships surge, and now we're closing in on April and May when the seasonal residents leave. Today, there are a host of activities in April to maintain on the website, but new memberships and email issues have dropped off. For anyone interested in being a webmaster, below is a graphic showing membership activity over the past 7 months. Here's a fun fact – since October last year, the webpage had over 16,000 hits or roughly 100 hits per day.



Volunteer Positions Outside the Club

Approved Clubs: Parrot Points are given to members who volunteer at approved charities. To be an “approved charity” the organization must be a not-for-profit registered with the State of Florida and be willing to track the hours worked each month and report them back to our club. Following are the charities that are approved at this time:

Wildwood Soup Kitchen: If you're interested in helping feed people, go to wildwoodsoupkitchen.org and fill out an application and put on the form that you are a Parrot Head for more information contact: Barbara McManus: (352) 299 6494 and/or Email: barb.mcmanus@yahoo.com

The Villages Regional Hospital: Contact Gloria Counselman (352) 751-8176 or email her at

tvrhvpo@centflhealth.org

Cornerstone Hospice: If you are interested email Heidi Gamet at hgaumet@cshospice.org.

Operation Homebound: This is the Meals on Wheels program for The Villages and surrounding areas. For more information, please call 352-689-1023, or email OHB@northlakepc.org.

Best Buddies International: This charity is dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of people with disabilities, such as Downs syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy and traumatic brain injury. If interested email centralflorida@bestbuddies.org or call (407) 898 0787

Shepard's Lighthouse: This charity helps homeless women, mothers and their children get back on their feet by providing temporary shelter and training. They have positions on their Board of Directors open. If you are interested please contact Kathie Niesem (847)-641 3287 or email at katcarl@prodigy.net for more information.

Barb's Trivia Question:

Name the two instrumentals that were released by Jimmy and the Coral Reefer Band:

1. Reggae Accident
2. Dixie Diner
3. Morris' Nightmare
4. Banana Wind
5. Barometer Soup

Answer on Page



Membership

Passing the Torch

This edition will be my last one. I've been publishing the Newsletter for around 5 years and it's time to let someone else step up and carry on. If you're a creative writer and want to know everything that's going on in the Club, it's a dream job and one that I've enjoyed. I will remain on the Coco-Nutz because the Media Trustee is responsible for the Website and the Newsletter and can delegate who the Editor and Webmaster are. I'm also the Plan B is needed.

I would like to introduce the new Newsletter Editor. Meet Marty Guilliouma. She retired to the Villages from Colonial Beach Virginia where she worked as an Engineer for the Navy for 28 years. She is a mega Jimmy Buffett fan having attended over 30 of his concerts. Her favorite song is "Come Monday".

Coco-Nutz



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Media Trustee

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Appointed Positions



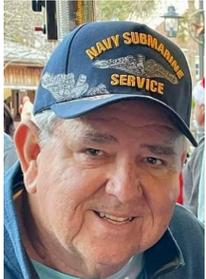
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Elections

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New Member Coordinator

Judy Turner
jturner2833@yahoo.com
(352) 308 7645



Parade Coordinator

Mr. Al Townsend
alphie1013@me.com
(215) 620 9835



50/50 Coordinator

Deb Warren
Warrendeborah7@gmail.com
(919) 812 9597



Please support our Corporate Sponsors



Cody's has been a Corporate Sponsor for over 10 years. Without their support, we could not hold the Charity Fund Raisers our Club is known for. Cody's Original Roadhouse is a fun, casual, family friendly Roadhouse that serves "Just plain Good Food". You won't go home hungry or broke.....You'll just go home happy!



The Cane Garden Country Club is our newest venue. They have a great reputation for food and friendly service. Their location reflects the changing demographics of our Club's membership.



Havana Country Club hosts our Lunch Phlocking each month. Havana is proud to offer one of the best dining experiences in the Villages. They specialize in fine steaks, fresh seafood and pasta.



When we decided to hold a Sunday Phlockings each month, Belle Glade invited us to use their space and we gladly accepted. They invite you to come in they promise to serve up what it takes to make you happy.



Jack Maiz is a Club Member and the owner of Safe Harbor Financial & Insurance Services LLC. He specializes in Medicare Planning for Veterans on Tricare and Eligible Seniors, age 65 and over. He also specializes in Fixed Guaranteed Annuities. You can visit his website at www.jmaizsafeharborllc.com or call him at (352) 205-6911



Owned by Club member Scott Larson, the Lake-Sumter Dryer Vent Cleaning LLC does just what the name says. Each year there are over 15,000 house fires caused by lint filled dryer vents. This local business can make sure your house isn't one of them. Call for an appointment at (352) 787 5202 or visit

Please Support Our Corporate Sponsors



At Securenet Financial, we understand the need for a personalized approach. We work with you to create a retirement strategy that fits your unique retirement needs - a strategy designed to help you reach your goals. Steve Schneider, the owner and CEO, along with many employees are full-time residents of The Villages and several are members of The Villages Parrot Heads Club. We work where we live and are proud to have many friends as clients. Feel free to contact us, to answer any questions regarding retirement, financial or tax needs.



Diane Smallwood is a Realtor with the Keller Williams Cornerstone Agency capable and ready to help you buy or sell a home. She is also one of the Club's favorite entertainers in Retro Express and Caribbean Chillers. Diane can be reached at (352) 787-4325 or emailed at DianeSmallwood@kw.com. Her website is www.dianesmallwoodrealty.com



StreetRod has been a Club sponsor for several years. They support our annual Golf Outing, food drives and our annual Poker run. They sell one of America's highest quality golf carts. They would like to show you what the StreetRod experience is with a test drive driving is believing. Call [\(352\) 751-3953](tel:(352)751-3953) to get a test drive and see the difference between your cart and a Streetrod



The First Responders of Station 44 host our Blood Drives. We appreciate the space and the support.



**Sorry but this event
is sold out.**

2024 Himalayan Golf Putting Contest

Where: Himalayan Putting Green at Palmer's CC

When: Tuesday, April 2nd, 2024 - Starts at 2pm

Tickets go on sale Thursday, February 15th, 2024-12 noon

Volunteers Please Arrive at 1:30pm

Cost: \$5 per member (Members only – online only)

What is it: 18 Hole Putting Contest - 2 person teams Alternating shots

What to bring: Putter, Golf Balls, Drinks, Chairs

Cash prizes awarded at the end

Carts are allowed at the putting greens. I

Volunteers are needed!

Contact Carol O'Neal with any questions

(352)751-0035 (352)205-3770





The Villages Parrot Heads
2024 Annual
Poker Run & Basket Raffle
April 6, 2024



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Begin at Any Station*
Stations Open from
10 am - Noon

\$5 each for
Tickets & Scorecards
\$10 each for Wild Cards
Purchase at First Station
Additional Tickets & Cards
@ Laurel Manor

Basket Raffle
Viewing 11 am - 2 pm
Winners Announced
Starting at 3 pm

Gates at
Laurel Manor
Open at 11 am
Volunteers Only Before

Music by
Hollywood Knights
1 pm - 5 pm
BYOE!

ALL SALES
FINAL

\$5 Deal!

HOTDOG, CHIPS & WATER
Noon - 3 pm



*STATIONS 10am - Noon
Colony Rec Center
Havana Country Club
Sea Breeze Rec Center
Cane Garden Country Club
Finish at Laurel Manor

TO DONATE BASKETS OR ITEMS
PLEASE CONTACT:

Eileen Murray (347) 680-0977 or
Dave Erskine (352) 634-4256

Chair - Kathi Purdy (352) 792-4024
Asst. Chairs - Linda Fuller (352) 268-2633
Sue Kermis (585) 576-7622



Parrot Head New Member Orientation



April 11th, 10am

**Bonifay Country Club (on the patio)
1033 Pinellas Pl, The Villages, FL 32163**

Learn



How our club was founded
What is a Parrothead & How did it start
Our volunteer point system
and benefits of volunteering
Parrotheads around the world
Our charities and fundraisers
Our club get togethers
Our club structure
What you can do with our club
And much, much more



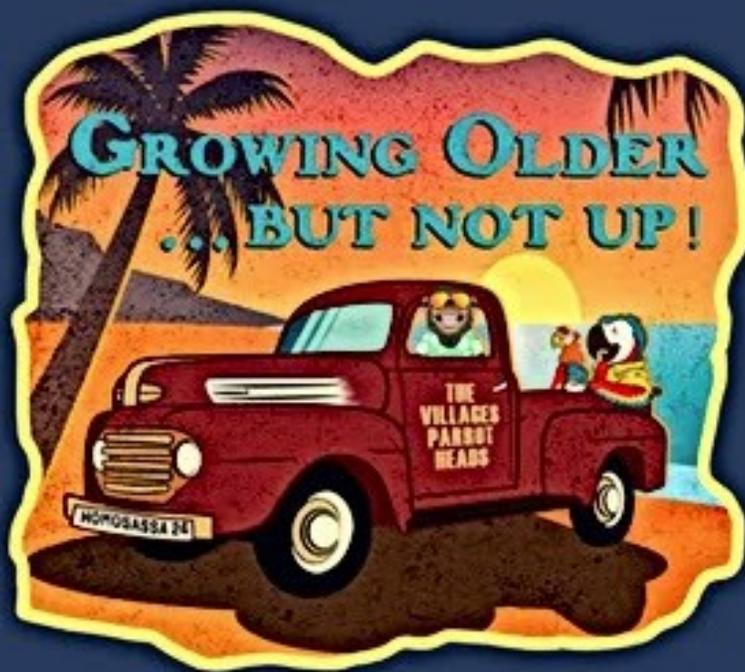
Bonifay
Country Club

EVEN THOUGH WE ARE GROWING OLDER, WE ARE NEVER GOING TO GROW UP -

So we are going to have fun in HOMOSASSA Again! -

Come gather with Phriends for the weekend in Homosassa Springs.

Weekend filled with lots of activities, including music, games, potluck, costume party and parade.



**Wristbands \$40.00 per person
(No refunds)**

Wristbands are required for all activities, entertainment, games and dinner.

If you come for just the day wristband are still required.

BYOB and BYOChairs

You can bring your own tent, but it must be grouped with the Parrot Head Tents.

Parade on Saturday - Dress Olde but not up

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

**Thursday - May 2nd: 6:30 -9:30
Robert France**

**Friday: May 3rd 12:30 - 3:30 Danny
B**

**Evening: 6:30 - 9:30 Rocky and
Michelle**

Food at 4 PM catered by BubbaQues

**Saturday - May 4th: 12:30 - 3:30
Billy D Williams, Black Country**

Evening: 6:30 - 9:30. Mike & Terrie

**Pool Games and Yard Games with
\$20.00 gift card prizes**

HOST HOTEL

**Florida Cracker Riverfront Resort
352-628-2474**

ALTERNATE HOTEL

**MacRae's
352-628-2602**



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

**Chair: Lee Caron @ 813-480-0833
Assistant Chair: Ann Blanchard @
352-750-6287**



Mother's Day - Bus Trip to hang out with the

TROP ROCK JUNKIES

**At the Compass by Margaritaville Hotel Bradenton – By the pool
12324 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL, 34209**

**Sunday – Mother's day – May 12th, 2024 The Trop Rock Junkies play from 2pm-5pm
On the Pool deck**

Pool facilities available – refreshments and meals at the “Compass Bar & Chill” There will be servers.

Bus will leave the Walmart shopping center Wedgewood Ln at 10:45 sharp —(get there by 10:30)

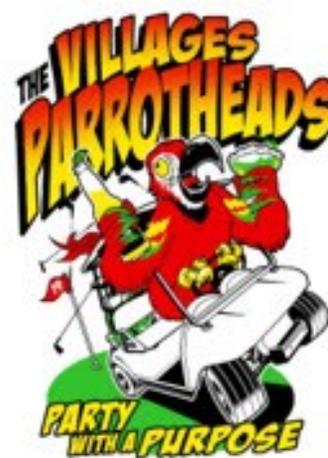
Bus will depart after the show and should arrive back in the Villages by around 8pm.

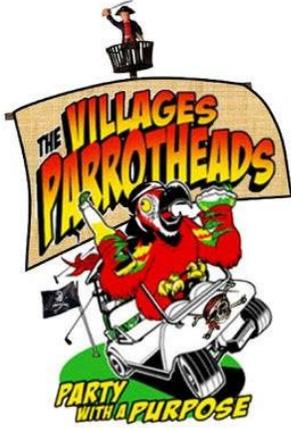
Bring a chair. No coolers, outside food or drinks permitted at the pool area.
(No glass on the bus – Tervis Tumblers permitted)

Tickets are \$33 each and go on sale April 1st – online only – NO REFUNDS !!

Chair – Bonnie Walls – 904-505-1681 bonniewalls@yahoo.com

Asst chair – Theresa Ellis - 317-250-3508 atlastellis@aol.com





2024 PARROT HEAD SUMMER GOLF SCRAMBLES

May 26 - VOLUSIA

June 23 - BACALL

July 28 - BONITA PASS

Aug 25 - SANDHILL

\$5.00 per person per scramble - NO REFUNDS

This is a Parrot Head only event

Lil Roe, Chairman	Kathy Wooldridge, Co-chair
317-431-7030	317-628-8988