



The Off-Beaten Path

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April 2007

From the Captain's Chair

It is with a sense of deep sadness and sorrow that I announce the passing of Janet Comings.

Janet passed away on April 2, 2007 having strongly battled colon cancer for the last four years.

For those who may be new to the Chicago Parrot Head Club, Janet Comings has been a long time member. I first met Janet and Tom back in the days when Jimmy Buffett played at Poplar Creek before the Chicago Parrot Head Club existed. They organized a group over America Online to purchase tickets through group sales.

Over the years, Janet, Tom and Eric have been great friends. In fact, had it not been for Janet and Tom several events in my life and our club would not have happened. I was too timid to attend my first club meeting by myself and it was Tom, with Janet's blessing, who accompanied me to my first meeting at Hooters in Downers Grove. Janet and Tom also supported me as members of Pilot House Crew during my tenure as club president. Janet and Tom organized a "Flip Flop Blowout

Event" which started at Baderbrau Brewery in Elmhurst. It was at that event where I first met my wife.

Janet Comings has always been a strong person for me. I'll never forget the first Coconut Bowl which was held at the old Fox Lanes in Downers Grove (where Bed Bath and Beyond is now). We were having a difficult time getting people to sign up and I was on the verge of throwing in the towel. Janet, as she did for me many times, talked me off the ledge and many Cocobowls later, you see what has become of the event.

On my last visit with Janet, she expressed her desire that she wanted everyone to be happy. She always thought of others before herself and was completely unselfish in this regard even to the end. I will miss her deeply.

The one Buffett song that comes to mind, which I know was a favorite of Janet's, was Jolly Mom - Janet often referred to herself as the Jolly Mom.

"The night was filled with magic as they bid the sea goodbye

They swam into the heavens -
they stayed up in the sky
And all the island people when
they wish upon a star
See the dolphin and the Jolly
MOM who tell them where
they are... "
Sail on, Janet.

-Scott Henderson

P.S. The one thing that does provide me with some comfort is knowing that in addition to the Chicago Parrot Head Club, Janet and I shared a membership in another club as members of the Christian Faith.

Michael W. Smith sings a song called Friends-

And friends are friends forever
If the Lord's the Lord of them
And a friend will not say never
'Cause the welcome will not end
Though it's hard to let you go
In the Father's hands we know
That a lifetime's not too long to
live as friends.

Please say a prayer for Janet's entire family. No matter how long you have to prepare, the end is sudden and the grief difficult.



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CHARITY PAGE: Party with a Purpose

(AKA GOOD DEEDS FOR THE DAY)

Charity Chair: Kurt Rubin

Toiletries for Woman's Shelters

Recently, we've received requests for toiletries for various women's shelters. We thought it would be a good idea to do one big toiletries drive for our May meeting and disburse them to as many shelters as possible. We'll still be collecting throughout the year. Let's make a conscious effort to bring in a little extra for the May meeting. Email the crew if you have a shelter you'd like to include in this push.

Candy Days for Misericordia

Don't forget, on Saturday, April 28th, we will once again be playing in traffic to raise money for Misericordia. We'll be at our usual corner of Butterfield and Finley Rd. collecting money for this cause. Sign in sheets are available at the club meetings or by contacting Kurt@Chicagoparrotheads.com. Shifts run in 2 hour increments from 9AM - 5PM. **WE ARE IN NEED OF A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS FROM 11-1 AND 1-3,** but any help is appreciated. Happy

Hour to follow at CIP. Break out the grass skirts and wear your best Parrothead attire as we help one of our favorite charities.

Special Olympics

Volunteers are needed Sunday, April 22nd to help with Special Olympics in Naperville on the campus of North Suburban College. Sign up sheets are available. We need volunteers to help pass out medals to athletes after each event. It runs from 8:30a.m. until 3:00p.m. Both shifts are available. Happy Hour is TBA. Any questions, contact Kurt@chicagoparrotheads.com.

MS Walk

For those of you not going to Phins to the West, we will once again be manning one of the rest stops along the MS Walk in Naperville on Sunday, May 6th. Get ready to cheer on the walkers as we turn the rest stop into a tropical tiki hut. Let us know if you're participating in the walk itself.

Pirates of the Caribbean

Movie Screening

On Tuesday May 29th (the day after Memorial Day) we will have a

private screening of The Pirates of the Caribbean at World's End at Hollywood Blvd. in Woodridge. Hollywood is donating the theatre to us to raise money for Misericordia. We'll be collecting \$10 per person for admissions as well as hosting a silent auction. For those of you who didn't experience this unique theatre last year for the screening of Dead Man's Chest, let me explain. Hollywood Blvd is a full service bar and restaurant that serves you food and drinks right at your leather executive seat right in the movie theatre. Dinner and a movie and on your way home by 9ish. You can always hang out at the lobby bar afterwards, but that's optional. There is a 1 item minimum purchase in the theatre, but that's part of the reason we're doing this on Tuesday. **HALF PRICE PITCHERS OF MARGARITAS.** Oh yeah, and the food there is really good too. You'll soon see why Chicago Magazine ranked it the best place to see a movie. Come join us for the final (?) chapter in the Pirates of the Caribbean epic and to help a wonderful cause.



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SOCIAL DISTURBANCES: By **Bloody Bill** (ex charity captain, now in charge of "what should we do now?" Stuff)

Alright, pipe down ye rascals! Let's bring this pirate council to order! We got things to discuss! Like what to pillage for fun! By the way, did ye know 'pipe down' is a sailors term, used by seafarers and pirates alike, said to someone who was talking too much? It's derivation (I know, big word fer where it comes from, I'll stick to one syllable words for all ye drop-outs!) is that the last noise at night was the boatswain's pipe, the signal for silence on the mess-decks and lights out. See what ye learn! That's why I'm the captain of this ship! Now keep swabbin the deck! You can listen and work at the same time!

KARAOKE on March 30th at the Prairie Station Pub had a few members show up. We'll look for new opportunities in the future! The **April Kick off the Month Happy Hour** at Trader Todd's was cancelled due to unfortunate circumstances, but we can't forget our friends in the city!

May 11th Kick Off the Month Happy Hour, 6:00 pm! Our port of call will be a downtown location just South of Wrigley Field. Join us for cheap eats and drinks at Trader Todd's! 3216 N. Sheffield in Chicago! Public transportation

access is easy by the red and brown lines at Belmont! Trader-Todd.com. For June, we will be checking out **Pilot Pete's at the Schaumburg airport!** Check the calendar for more details on **June 2nd!**

For a long weekend of socialization, don't forget **Party in Parrot-dise at Indian Lakes, April 20-22.** More details elsewhere in the newsletter!

Hope to see some of you at **Fins to the West** in Laughlin, Nevada, in case anyone wants to do a little field trip from the 4th - 6th! Finstothewest.com

Coming up...and needing something to do? **May 19th at 8:00,** see **The Fabulous Janes at Sideouts Sports Bar.** 4018 Roberts Rd, Island Lake, IL. 847-526-7174. This may also be a location for future events like Beer in Hand volleyball, and the band is awesome! Come check them out!

Our special viewing of the final installment of **Pirates of the Caribbean!** We are working hard with Hollywood Boulevard again, and it will most likely be on $\frac{1}{2}$ price margarita pitcher Tuesday, right after the movie comes out, most likely the 29th of May!!! Get the keets ready!

On **July 7th,** we'll be hosting a **White Sox game outing!** Thanks to Karen Boylan for heading this up! More details on this are listed further in this newsletter!

With it being that time of year, following multiple charity events, we'll be adding more social events, please keep your eyes open, and the ideas coming! We couldn't do any of this without any of you! Interest in the club is going up, up, and UP! I know you will be hearing all about it, but also, please check out our MySpace page at Myspace.com/chiphc! Note that our website now shows the current newsletter .

I will close the logbook on that note, we've survived this nasty squall line and turned up into the winds toward warmer latitudes. Though thar be several ports in our wake, and several more on the horizon, our final destination is coming soon. The port of indecision, Southwest of Disorder, and-Margaritaville. Stow those lines Lads, let fly the mainsail, There be pirates afoot, and those pirates be us. Beware Chicagoland, the Chicago Parrothead Club is coming, join us or face the consequences.....



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Attention Parrotheads We Have Announcements!!

Club By-Laws

By unanimous vote at both last month's club meeting and online. The Chicago Parrot Head Club officially has it's first set of ratified by-laws. Thank you to everyone who took the time to read through them and give us their input and of course, vote on them. A copy of the by-laws will be available on the club Yahoo page.

New Meeting Day and Location!!!

Start Time: 7:30 PM as always...**BUT we are switching to the 3rd Wednesday of each month. May 16th will be our first date at the new location.** Where is that? McNally's Irish Pub located at 122 S. York St., Elmhurst, IL 60126. McNally's has welcomed us to Elmhurst and is providing us with a private room. They have great food and drinks. There's ample parking in the 3 story garage directly behind the pub and train access is only one block away. This is a new adven-

ture for the improvement of our club! New members welcome. Come early and/or stay late to socialize!

Janet Comings Scholarship Fund

As many of you know, a quarter of this year's proceeds from Cocobowl is being given to the Janet Comings Scholarship Fund benefiting York High School seniors. Janet was an 84 graduate of York HS. Her wishes for the scholarship were that the student need not be on the A honor roll. Janet even said there are plenty of scholarships for straight A students. While grades will be important, it will also be based on a student possessing a strong desire for their future, a good social outlook and a high moral character, much like Janet herself. The club will be accepting any donations you would like to make to this scholarship fund and we will be presenting a check in the near future. Our hearts go out to Janet and the

whole Comings family. She had a huge hand in bringing the club to where it is today. I'm sure we all thank her for helping make the very first Cocobowl happen. So please help give back for someone who gave so much.

PHIP/Club Tickets

If you requested tickets to the July 21st Jimmy Buffett show at Tinley Park, your request has been filled! The price is \$126. each. We accept cash, checks, Visa and MasterCard (with a 2% convenience charge). You can mail a check to the club at P.O. Box 6313, Villa Park, IL 60181. All ticket money **MUST** be turned in by the club meeting on Wed. May 16th. Failure to pay for your ticket(s) by this deadline will impact your future ticket privileges. Please remember that tickets obtained through the club cannot be sold, given or transferred to anyone, unless that person is also a member of the Parrot Head Club. Our club will award



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Announcements continued...

all tickets for our club, based on the Parrot Points system. Those with the most Parrot Points will receive tickets closer to the front of our section. Please understand that the exact location of our tickets (section, row and seat) will not be known until a week or two before the concert. As we get closer to the concert, I will make arrangements for ticket pick up, either at the July club meeting or a happy hour. If you have any ticket related questions, please see Barb.

Party in Parrot-Dise!

It is time to Party in Parrot-Dise! This weekend (April 20-22) is full of parrot head activities at the beautiful Indian Lakes Resort in Bloomington, IL.

Thursday night: join us for Johnny Russler and the Beach Bum Band! They will be playing from 7-10PM at the very cool Cave Bar! Then kick it up a notch!

Friday night: join us in the

Atrium for a Tiki Welcome Party, featuring Frank and Dave. Then, it's time for Johnny Russler.

Saturday: we'll be poolside for a reggae party with Todd Donnelly of Mr. Myers. In the evening, it's off to see our very own South of Disorder band!

Throughout the weekend, the Chicago Parrot Head Club will be hosting the silent auction and raffles to benefit Alzheimer's Association and Misericordia. This is the 1st regional phlocking for the Great Leaks Clubs so come out, meet some new phriends, listen to some awesome music and support some great organizations. What a way to Party with a Purpose! If you have any questions about Party in Parrot-Dise, please let me know! To make reservations, please contact the hotel directly at 630-529-0200. If you can't spend the night, there are entertainment only packages. Hope to see you there! Barb

LET'S GIVE A HUGE WARM PARROT HEAD WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

Frank & Cindi Lucinda

They're Growing Older But Not

UP!

4/17 Dennis Meade
4/18 Cathy Slawkin
4/20 Stephen Park
4/21 Lori Ooms
4/25 Tom Keatin
4/26 Mike LaGioia
4/29 Kurt Gugora
5/3 Dan Day



YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD PILOT HOUSE CREW

Mike Bresnahan- President
Mike@chicagoparrotheads.com

Ed Wilmot- Treasurer
Ed@chicagoparrotheads.com

Doreen Warner- Communications
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Micky O'Connor- Membership
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Travis Noparstak- Member at Large
Travis@chicagoparrotheads.com



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UP COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	April		Todd solo at Cabana Charley's Sycamore 17	Todd solo at Bahama Breeze Schaumburg 19	Party in Parrot-Dise 20	Party in Parrot-Dise 21
Party in Parrot-Dise and Special Olympics 22	23	24	25	Mr. Myers at Blu Razz South Elgin 26	27	Misericordia Candy Days 28
OD TAPO IMI Durty Nellies 29	30	May 1	Todd solo at Cabana Charley's Sycamore 2	3		Fins to the West Mr. Myers at Cabana Charley's 5
Fins to the West MS Walk 6	7	8	9	10	KOTM at Trader Todd's 11	12
13	14	15	****New meeting place at McNally's ***** 16	17	18	Fabulous Janes at Sideouts Sports Bar 19
Mr. Myers Durty Nellies 20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Www. Mrmyers.com

Www.piratesover40.com

Www.beachbumband.com

Www.boatdrunks.com

Www.odtapoimi.com

Www.matthall.net

Www.southofdisorderband.com

Www.a1a-live.com

Www.northbeachclub.com/downers

Www.cheeseburgerinparadise.com

Www.margaritaville.com

Www.blarneyisland.com

Www.phip.com

SAVE THESE DATES!!!!

May 4

Blarney's New Year/ Antioch with Mr. Myers

May 16

Toiletries drive-bring your items to the meeting!!

May 29

Pirates of the Caribbean screening

June 3

OD TAPO IMI Kane County Cougars Game

June 8

OD TAPO IMI Millennium Park

June 30

OD TAPO IMI Crystal Lake Gala

July 7

White Sox Game/Beach Bash

July 21

Buffett in Tinley Park

July 28

Buffett at Alpine

Save this date!!!

Saturday, May 5th South of Disorder is putting on a local show at Tailgaters Sports Bar & Grill at 431 W. Boughton Rd, Bolingbrook, IL 60440

(630) 679-1994. Tickets are \$5 and are available for pre-sale at Tailgaters. Visit our Yahoo group for more info.



MCA/CPHC
PO Box 6313
Villa Park, IL. 60181



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Notice: *If there is a date next to your name, and it matches the date of this newsletter, it's a sign! It's a sign that your membership is due for renewal. Please submit your dues within the next 30 days to keep your membership in good standing. The other number on your label indicates the number of points you have accumulated for the current year. If you need more information or have a question about points, please see Micky O'Connor.*

The Midwest Caribbean Association/Chicago Parrot Head Club is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to assist in community outreach programs and to provide for its members a means of social interaction for people interested in Jimmy Buffett's music and tropical spirit. Annual dues are \$25 for a single member, or \$35 for a couple or household. For more details, call the Club Hotline at 630-729-3156 or write to MCA/CPHC, P.O. Box 6313, Villa Park, IL 60181. You can also email us at club@chicagoparrotheads.com, or visit our website at www.chicagoparrotheads.com. WELCOME!