

Latitude 41° 53' N Longitude 87° 38' W



Midwest Caribbean Association

Volume 19 Issue 2

### About Party in ParrotDise

Party in ParrotDise, also known as PIP, is the Chicago Parrot Head Club's largest annual fundraiser. This year the benefitting charities are the Alzheimer's Association and the American Cancer Society.



The 2012 event will be held on April 13th and 14th at the DoubleTree Suites Hotel and Conference Center in Downers Grove. The weekend kicks off with a Welcome Party at Cabana Charley's, featuring Mr. Myers on Friday night. Happy Hour with Frank Whiting will be held Saturday from 3 – 5:30 in the Grand Ballroom at the hotel, followed by the main event, Party in ParrotDise, in the same location. The main event will feature South of Disorder and Pirates Over 40 playing together from 7 p.m. until midnight. Details are available at [www.partyinparrotDise.com](http://www.partyinparrotDise.com). There are no admission fees for the Friday night Welcome Party or the Saturday afternoon Happy Hour. However, everyone is charged admission to the Saturday night event, Party in ParrotDise.

Admission to Party in ParrotDise is \$25/person in advance or \$30 at the door. There are a limited number of reserved tables available for the event which include admission for 10 and are priced at \$300 per table. These are only available prior to the event and on a first-come, first-served basis. You may register for the event online through a link at [www.partyinparrotDise.com](http://www.partyinparrotDise.com).

All events are open to the public. Drinks and food will be available for sale during all events.

In hosting Party in ParrotDise, the Chicago Parrot Head Club raises funds through:

1. **Registration Fees**
2. **Prize Basket Raffle Ticket Sales** -- A major source of revenue during the event is the prize basket raffle. The baskets to be raffled off are made up of items donated by club members and others from the community (businesses, friends, etc.). Typically there are 50 - 75 baskets included in the raffle. They are displayed prominently (and beautifully!) in order to generate as much interest (hence, ticket sales and revenue) as possible for them. The baskets are raffled off in a drop-style raffle, which means a guest may buy any number of tickets and drop them into the bag associated with the basket they want to win.
3. **50-50 Raffle Ticket Sales** -- 50-50 raffles will be held during Happy Hour and Party in ParrotDise on Saturday. If possible, another will also be held Friday night at Cabana Charley's.
4. **T-shirt Quilt Raffle Ticket Sales** -- In addition to the prize basket and 50-50 raffles, this year Micky O'Connor is making a t-shirt quilt to be raffled off. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased online during the registration process or at the door.
5. **Donations** -- Monetary donations are accepted as well as donations of items for the prize baskets.
6. **Sponsorships** -- Funds are also raised through "sponsorships" from local businesses. A company sponsorship is a donation of \$100, \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 for which the sponsoring organization receives recognition on the event website and in the event program, along with a corresponding number of tickets to the event. All members work to bring in sponsors and donations from local businesses.



Captain's Logbook, Thirty-ninth Entry: February 15, 2012



Bloody Bill  
The Pirate King



And I wound up in New Orleans for all those years and it was a great place, really a catalyst creatively.



And you find as a writer there are certain spots on the planet where you write better than others, and I believe in that. And New Orleans is one of them.



Places I've lived since then had to have some kind of uniqueness and character about them. And logically Key West, and then Down Island. So, all of that stuff sort of had it's roots in New Orleans and went crazy.



Jimmy Buffett





**Karen Boylen**  
Cruise Director

## The Social Whirl

Greetings from your Cruise Director!

### Friday February 17 Official Club Social: Chicago Express Hockey Game. Game time 7:00 p.m.

It is 20 degrees and there is a new Hockey team in town. The Chicago Express.

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE – while the group tickets have been ordered you can still contact our the Express Sales Manager Randy – at 224-220-3109 tell him you would like to sit with the Chicago Parrot Head Group. Randy will make arrangements with you for payment and to pick your tickets up at will call. Please call him by Thursday Feb. 16.

Tickets are \$11. Game time is 7:00 p.m. if you previously ordered tickets Karen will get them to you. If you want to join us see the statement above. Fridays are \$1 hot dog and \$1 BEERS. Our group will get a visit from the mascot TRAX (don't worry this one is much better trained than the Boylans' dog Trax) and our name will be on the scoreboard. The Express play at the Sears Center in Hoffman Estate located at 5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates.

### Saturday February 25 PHIP Club Event – Island Beach Bash In Rockford.

Sharks on the Rock – one of our fellow PHIP clubs is hosting their annual fundraiser for Special Olympics. There is an opening act followed by TWO fabulous trop rock bands Pirates Over 40 and Johnny Russler and the Beach Bums. Tickets are \$15 in advance and available at [www.islandbeachbash.com](http://www.islandbeachbash.com) The event is held at Giovanni's at 610 N. Bell School Road in Rockford. The venue is located next to a Comfort Inn that is offering a Northern Illinois Parrot Head Rate of \$69.99 for the night (which includes a 2 a.m. continental breakfast.) You must reserve a room by February 15 THAT IS TODAY PULL OUT YOUR PHONE AND MAKE A RESERVATION NOW by calling 815-398-7061. Last year all but three rooms were taken by Parrot Heads.....and in years passed they had to turn people away at the door. So if you know you are going.....get your tickets and reservations.

### Saturday March 3, Official Club Social: Chiditarod, various locations in Bucktown (north side Chicago), NOON-ish till ??????????

Chiditarod - the annual Chicago-based phenomenon that combines elements of the Alaskan Iditarod with Chicago's finest brand of debaucherous social activism. One part food drive, one part pub-crawl, one part costumed race, all parts radtacular. The Chiditarod draws together 800+ people, both participants and spectators, and has raised over 46,000 pounds of food and over \$21,000 in direct donations since its inception in 2006.

Once again we will go as spectators and pub crawl with these diehard athletes. Bring along your drinking money, some non-perishables to give to your favorite teams and a camera to capture the fun. The details on this are somewhat secretive so they are not announced until days (sometimes hours before the race). Keep an eye on the yahoo list, club Facebook page or you can text Karen 708-525-4952 the day of.

Since the location of the checkpoints remains a surprise up until the day of the race, we can't really tell you exactly where to watch. We will say this, however. The race might be contained by: Kennedy Expressway Ave on the East, Lake St on the South, Oakley Ave on the West, North Ave on the North. A great place to watch the race is near the starting line. The race will begin at the corner of Wollcot and Hubbard at 12 noon. Feel free to come on by to congratulate all the participants on their lack of taste as they cross the starting line. Cheer on your favorite dogs and mushers as they make their way towards the first checkpoint. Be there by 12 noon or you'll miss the starting horn. And in case you were wondering - YES, the starting line is EPIC.

### Saturday March 10, Official Club Social: PIP Practice Run - aka Mr. Myers playing at Cabana Charley's 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Myers band – opening band for Jimmy Buffett at the MOTM street fair, PIP Friday night entertainment and all around fun guys are playing at one of our favorite local Tropical Spots. There will be music, dancing and probably some bamboo bombers.....and it just a month and three days until Party In ParrotDise so if you need to perfect your party technique what better place to get in tip top shape. Cabana Charley's is located at 6615 Main St (Seven Bridges Complex), Woodridge, IL.

## Cocktail of the Month - The Sazerac, America's First Cocktail

Is it any surprise that America's first cocktail, the Sazerac, was created in New Orleans, the city that loves to party?

Back in the early 1800's, Antoine Peychaud created the drink in a French Quarter bar and named it for his favorite French brandy, Sazerac-de-Forge et fils. In 1870, the drink was changed when American Rye whiskey was substituted for cognac, and a dash of absinthe was added by bartender Leon Lamothe, and today he is now regarded as the Father of the Sazerac. In 1912, absinthe was banned, so Peychaud substituted his special bitters in its place.

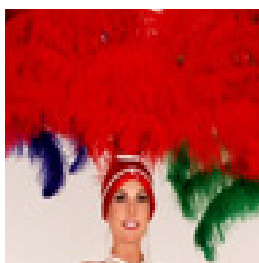
In 1893 the Grunewald Hotel was built in the city, and at this time the hotel earned the rights to Ramos Gin Fizz and the Sazerac. In 1965 the hotel was renamed the Fairmont Hotel.

Today, the Sazerac is best enjoyed in many of New Orleans' finest restaurants and bars, most notably the Sazerac Bar in the Fairmont Hotel, where celebrities, locals, and tourists enjoy the drink.

Recipe from <http://www.neworleansonline.com>

The Sazerac:

- 3-4 dashes of Herbsaint (120 proof)
  - 2 oz. Rye or Bourbon blended whiskey
  - 3-4 hearty dashes of Peychaud bitters
  - One long, thin twist of lemon
  - Sugar cube, water, club soda—optional
- Place Herbsaint in a well-chilled Old Fashion glass. Tilt glass to coat sides completely and pour off excess Herbsaint. Place Rye and Peychaud bitters into cocktail shaker with ice cubes. Shake for 30 seconds and strain into prepared glass. Twist lemon peel over drink and drop in gently.



### Happy February Everyone

We have Valentine's Day and Fat Tuesday all in one month - what great reasons to

### Vicki Kerr Membership Diva

celebrate. We also have only one month to get your donations in for Party in Parrottdise, so check your closets and bar for the things you no longer need or want. The committee is working hard to make this the best year yet so help them out by donating your unwanted anything....

Enjoy the winter that wasn't as bad as they all said it would be and dream of the warmer weather soon to come.

Enjoy your birthday's and have one for all of us.

Tom Tanton	February 18
Dawn Marek	February 21
Kurt Rubin	March 3
Eleanore Skopek	March 6
Brian Osowski	March 13

### Support the Bands and Businesses that Support Chicago Parrot Heads!

[www.localfavoriteband.com](http://www.localfavoriteband.com)  
[www.cheesburgerinparadise.com](http://www.cheesburgerinparadise.com)  
[www.margaritaville.com](http://www.margaritaville.com)  
[www.blarneyisland.com](http://www.blarneyisland.com)  
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[www.piratesover40.com](http://www.piratesover40.com)  
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[www.boatdrunks.com](http://www.boatdrunks.com)  
[www.odtapoimi.com](http://www.odtapoimi.com)  
[www.southofdisorderband.com](http://www.southofdisorderband.com)  
[www.gone2paradise.net](http://www.gone2paradise.net)  
[www.flipflopstikibar.com](http://www.flipflopstikibar.com)  
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## Mardi Gras History

The origins of Mardi Gras can be traced to Medieval Europe, though we have no written record of how that really transformed into the current Mardi Gras of today. But the origins of the Mardi Gras we celebrate today -- with Kings, Mardi Gras colors, and brass bands -- are traced to New Orleans.

Although we can trace its history to the Romans, a French-Canadian explorer, Jean Baptiste Le Moyne Sieur de Bienville, landed on a plot of ground 60 miles directly south of New Orleans in 1699 and called it "Pointe due Mardi Gras." He also established "Fort Louis de la Louisiane" (which is now Mobile) in 1702. In 1703, the tiny settlement of Fort Louis de la Mobile celebrated the very first Mardi Gras.

By the 1730s, Mardi Gras was celebrated openly in New Orleans.. but not in parade form. In the early 1740s, Louisiana's Governor The Marquis de Vaudreuil established elegant society balls -- the model for the New Orleans Mardi Gras balls of today.

The earliest reference to Mardi Gras "Carnival" appears in a 1781 report to the Spanish colonial governing body. That year, the Perseverance Benevolent & Mutual Aid Association is the first of hundreds of clubs and carnival organizations formed in New Orleans.



By the late 1830s, New Orleans held street processions of maskers with carriages and horseback to celebrate Mardi Gras. Newspapers began to announce Mardi Gras events in advance.

In 1871, Mardi Gras's second "Krewe" is formed, the Twelfth Night Reveler's, with the first account of Mardi Gras "throws."

1872 was the year that a group of businessmen invented a King of Carnival -- Rex -- to parade in the first daytime parade. They introduced the Mardi Gras colors of purple, green and gold; the Mardi Gras song, and the Mardi Gras flag.

In 1873, the first floats were constructed entirely in New Orleans instead of France. In 1875, Governor Warmoth of Louisiana signs the "Mardi Gras Act" making it a legal holiday in Louisiana, which is still is.

Most Mardi Gras Krewes today developed from private social clubs that have restrictive membership policies. Since all of these parade organizations are completely funded by its members, we call it the "Greatest Free Show on Earth!"

From [www.mardigrasneworleans.com](http://www.mardigrasneworleans.com)

### Margaritaville Locations

Biloxi	Nashville
Cancun	Negril
Chicago	New Orleans
Glendale	Niagara Falls
Grand Cayman	Ocho Rios
Grand Turk	Orlando
Key West	Panama City Beach
Las Vegas	Pensacola
Mohegan Sun	San Juan
Montego Bay	Waikiki
Myrtle Beach	

P D S M S N N L N Y Q M N N P  
 E A A N U O A E A H Y F I U E  
 G Y N C A S I B G R K T A S N  
 M R N A V E O R T R S S G N S  
 N A A E M G L L O E I W A A A  
 C A G N E A E R W H A L R G C  
 A A U T D B C Y O I C R A E O  
 S N N J E T E I K W X O F H L  
 H O A A N K U I T R E O A O A  
 M Q C V G A K R A Y U N L M A  
 S H T P T I S E K Q B S L I R  
 N A M Y A C D N A R G E S B B  
 N A S H V I L L E V C R A B H  
 E L A D N E L G N L K Y W C O  
 L O R L A N D O G A C I H C H



## Concert Tickets...Rules, Regulations and other Regurgitations!

As of press time we do not have a concert date, however as Ferris Bueller says "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." That being said here is what you need to know so you don't miss when Jimmy comes to town. If you are a member in good standing you are eligible for one ticket to the Chicago Toyota Park concert.

Rob Fitzpatrick is our club's ticket coordinator. Please make sure you are checking your club emails daily or more often in the next few weeks so you don't miss the announcement. If you are not on the club Yahoo Email list, make sure a crew member gets you on the list. If you do not want to be on the list but want tickets make sure Rob has an alternate email or phone number to contact you. If you are vacationing in the upcoming weeks and want tickets, talk to him ahead of time and see what we can work out. In other words, Rob is NOT a mind reader. Give him a way to contact you.



**Rob Fitzpatrick**  
**Your Friendly**  
**Neighborhood Ticket**  
**Coordinator**

Concert venues put aside a block of 300 tickets at each concert for PHIP clubs. The concert for Chicago has several clubs that we share these tickets with. Your friendly neighborhood ticket coordinator works to assure all clubs get their fair share and ticket requests are made. In the event there are not enough tickets to fill all the requests our club will revert to our point system. Every effort will be made to inform you of a denied request prior to the ticket sales to the general public.

The PHIP tickets must be requested the same date tickets go on sale at the Evil Ticket Empire (boo! hiss!)® so our club will have a deadline two days prior. And just like purchasing them through the Evil Ticket Empire (boo! hiss!)®, once we request them, we (YOU) are financially obligated to purchase them.

What we can assume: I know you should not assume, but the timing of these things means we have to rely on past experiences. The last several years the Chicago Concert has been announced in late January or early February and tickets have gone on sale the following week. The Chicago concerts have been on Saturday in late July or August at Toyota Park in Bridgeview Illinois. We have paid in the \$150 range for the tickets and they have been in section B2 starting around row 10. Being this is at the stadium of the Chicago Fire, obviously there cannot be a concert on home game which are planned for July 14, August 4, August 18, and September 15.

What you need to know: There are guidelines for tickets. If you want them explained in detail visit [http://www.phip.com/Leaders\\_Tickets.asp](http://www.phip.com/Leaders_Tickets.asp). Basically here is the cliff notes version: Each member in good standing is eligible for ONE ticket. These tickets are for use by PHIP members only, they cannot be resold for higher than what you paid and absolutely, positively under NO circumstances can be sold on eBay, craigslist, or other ticket broker sites. Once you commit to purchasing the ticket and the deadline for ticket requests has passed the ticket is your responsibility. If you find yourself stuck with an extra ticket let the club know. The ticket coordinator WILL TRY to hook you up with a parrot head in a need of ticket, but all transactions at that point are your responsibility.

What you need to do: Make sure you have a way to be kept informed of when the concerts are announced and ticket deadlines as they come up. Start looking at your calendar, budget and any other issues that factor you're your ticket buying decision. That way once a date is announced you can decide. . Once ticket sales for the public are announced, you need to decide if you are going contact Rob Fitzpatrick at [buffettchicagotickets@gmail.com](mailto:buffettchicagotickets@gmail.com) and let him know if you need a ticket. Yes we are only given a short time and little info to make these decisions and I understand this can be unfair but it is not our rules...hate the game not the players. In all reality if you did not belong to a PHIP club you still would have only a few days from announcement until the sale date at the Evil Ticket Empire (boo! hiss!)® to decide. The only difference is we don't have convenience fees, to hassle with slow internet connections and we get to sit with our friends.

Evil Ticket Empire (boo! hiss!)® is a copyright of your Editrix.

## Scenes from a House Party

Jim and Liz Whaley recently hosted a house party for Hugo Duarte and the Frozen Gringos. With a full house, the show lasted 5 hours. Thanks for an amazing night of music.



The Full Sail Frozen Gringo Band



Woody Jenkins



Jeff Pike and Hugo Duarte



Hugo with hosts Liz & Jim Whaley

Photos courtesy of Ron Horne and Carol Eichelberger

## 2012 Crew

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