



November 2014

Chicago Parrot Head News

www.ChicagoParrotHeads.com



From the Captain's Chair

Captain's Logbook

Seventy-second Entry: November 19, 2014

As we board ship upon our return from the keys, our emotions be running on overload! On a high note, we be recognized for our notoriety and strength of conviction, and we didn't even cheat! Ye all have won us the Golden Coconut award and we lead the pack of pirate ships, voted on by a fine collection of captains! Let us raise a glass to our own First mate Sharon for her fine scribblings! Alas, with this comes another award for pillaging the most booty for Alzheimer's AGAIN! Well done me hearties and to our own Bosun Noonan for leading the way! As always, it be because of the shipmates that surround us, you are a fine crew! But even with the highs, comes the lows, and we commit to the deep a few fine sailors. Fare thee well Hugo, John, and Steve. Ye be sailing the night sky now. This is not goodbye, but until we see each other again.

Bloody Bill

The Pirate King

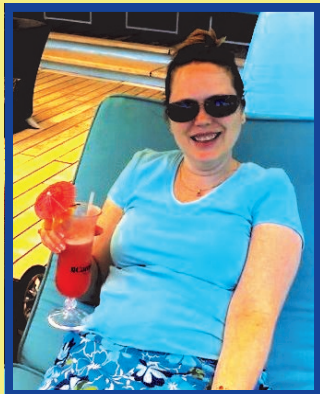
*There is in the lone, lone sea
A spot unmark'd but holy;
For there the gallant and the free
In his ocean-bed lies lowly.
Down, down, beneath the deep
That oft in triumph bore him.
He sleeps a sound and peaceful sleep
With the wild waves dashing o'er him.*



Billy Brehm

Our Pirate King





Racey Tracey - Cruise Director

What a great time we all had at Cocobowl! Now onto all our holiday activities – Tree decorating, cookie baking, and of course our Holiday Celebration at next month's meeting!

Zoo Tree Decorating and Scavenger Hunt – November 23, 10a, Brookfield Zoo. This year will be a PIRATE themed tree.....and....pirate costumes are encouraged!!! Tree decorating starts at 10:00 am sharp! Then....by popular demand, the great Zoo Scavenger Hunt! Will there be return questions to check your memory? Where will you end up? It's a mystery and Google will not help you! BUT.....we will split into 8 random teams (no cheating, this is to also get to know our phellow club members) and then this year it will be shorter BUT harder (insert joke here). The goal is to get as many answered as you can, and the first team to return BY 11:45 at the Sanctuary with the most pieces of 8 wins....and then we have prizes!!! You have limited time on this, so you get as many as you can, and run over by us where kick off for the Bears game is at NOON vs.....who else The Tampa Bay Buccaneers! The Sanctuary is located right around the corner at: The Sanctuary of Brookfield | 3747 Grand Blvd. | Brookfield, IL 60513 | 708.387.2500

Southern Drawl "House" Party – sponsored by Quad City Parrot Head Club – Friday, December 5, 6p, Plumbers and Pipefitters Union Hall, 4600 46th Ave. Rock Island, IL. \$15 at the door. It's a pot luck so please bring a dish to pass, there will be Sloppy Joe's for sandwiches and ice for drinks but you provide your own drinks. This is open to ANYONE not just Parrot Heads, so please pass the word about this invite. There are plenty of hotels just a short drive to the union hall and by the airport as well if you need someplace to stay. Please RSVP to Willy Fink at weldn_willy@hotmail.com

Milwaukee Area Parrothead Association Winter Luau and Toys for Tots Christmas Party – Saturday, December 6, 5p, Center Court Sports Complex (Banquet Hall) 815 Northview Rd, Waukesha, WI. Tickets are \$35 and includes a dinner buffet and music provided by The Boat Drunks and Jim Hoehn. Please bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Local Marines will be on hand to collect donations. Visit www.milwaukee parrotheads.com for more details.

St. MinneSomePlace Parrothead Club Holiday and Member Appreciation (HAMA) party - Saturday, December 6, 2 p.m. – o'dark 30a.m., Featuring Compass Rose Band and Jambo Joe Bones, Members and guests of all Parrot Head Clubs welcome. Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West, 3131 Campus Dr., Plymouth, MN, \$25 advance registration (11/25), \$30 at the door, Group rate at hotel \$89, mention SMP. 763-559-6600. www.st-minnesomeplace.com/HAMA.html Collecting toys for Toys for Tots.

St. Louis Parrot Head Club Holiday Party – Saturday, December 6, 6p, Featuring the Southern Drawl Band, Maryland Heights Community Center, 2344 McKelvey Road, Maryland Heights, MO. Tickets \$40. BYOB. Collecting toys for Toys for Tots. Hotel info – Quality Inn Maryland Heights, 314-291-8700 (STLPHC). Sunday Morning Bloody Mary Brunch featuring Mike Nash, 9-11a at the Quality Inn Theater, \$10. www.stlphc.org

Peter Mayer, Stars and Promises 2014 – Living Lord Lutheran Church, Bartlett, There will be a free will offering for general admission tickets (suggested offering is \$25.00 minimum). The proceeds from the offering collected will be going to Humanitarian Service Project to buy Christmas gifts and meals for less fortunate children and families. To reserve your tickets, call the Living Lord Church office at 630-830-3630 and ask for Lisa or Carrie. The Church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00AM -2:00PM and Friday from 9:00 am -12:00 pm

The Pirate Hood - Charity Page

Mr. Give Until It Hurts—Bob Noonan



Well my travels are done for a while. I want to thank all our Club members who contributed to the MOTM 2014 basket. I am guessing that it was worth around \$300.00, with all the swag and booze in the basket. Thank you to all who contributed items and money to make this basket a success. Currently, we have not heard who won the Chicago basket.

MOTM 2014 is one I personally will not be forgetting for a long time. No, I was not arrested – our Chicago Club was recognized in multiple ways. During many of the break out sessions, Chicago was mentioned for the many ways we help the Alzheimer's Association and other charities in our area. This year was the first year PHIP recognized Parrot Head Clubs nationwide for participation in local Memory Walks. The Chicago Club was given an award from PHIP at the general meeting for raising more money for Alzheimer's Memory Walk than any other club in the country. I had the pleasure of accepting the award for our Club. Chicago Club status only gets better – later in the general meeting the Chicago Club was awarded the Golden Coconut award!!!! We were told our Club received the most points any club has ever received for the Golden Coconut award. Billy did an outstanding job of accepting the award on behalf of the Club and many of our Club members were at the early morning general meeting to see it. A special thanks to Sharon Klupar for writing our award – winning essay.

Our Baking Day at Misericordia is Saturday, November 29, 2014, Saturday after Thanksgiving. I will have a complete list of members who signed up for this popular event at our monthly club meeting. It begins at 9:00 AM sharp and ends at noon. We will be going to lunch in the area after working in the Misericordia kitchen. I have started a waiting list so if you did not sign up let me know and I will add you to waiting list.

We again will be donating a **tree to Brookfield Zoo** and our Club will be decorating the tree at Brookfield Zoo on Sunday, November 23, 2014. We plan to have the tree completely decorated by kickoff time of the Bears game. More details will be available at the November meeting.

The Alzheimer's Association, Greater Illinois Chapter is in need of volunteers to work at the Union Station charity drive on Wednesday, December 10, 2014. We have many 2 hours shifts available. I will talk more about this at our Club meeting and please contact me to sign-up for a shift.

It is also not too late to make a donation to our Alzheimer's walk team. Further, everyone knows about the sudden passing of our Club member John Motal this month. His wife Jean has asked that in lieu of flowers, people donate to a charity of their choice. The Club has chosen to donate in memory of John to the Alzheimer's Association from the friendship fund.

We are still collecting toiletries and pop tops at every meeting.

Dates to remember:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Club Holiday Party/meeting | December 17, 2014 |
| Music on the Bay – Tampa | January 26 – March 1, 2015 |
| Party In Paradise - Chicago | April 17 – 19, 2015 |
| MOTM 2015 – Key West | November 5 – 8, 2015 |

Bob Noonan, Charity Director Chicago Parrot Head Club
Board Member – Alzheimer's Association, Greater Illinois Chapter

Membership news from Pirate Diva Vicki, Arrr...



Happy Thanksgiving Phriends

November is a month for giving thanks. I am thankful to be involved with a group of people who care for each other and work hard for the charities we support.

Party with a purpose!

Wishing all of you a wonderful holiday where we get to stuff ourselves like the turkey. And because I care about each of you I'm declaring that there are no calories in any food and drink between now and the first day of 2015.
Wishing everyone and Safe and Happy Holiday



Happy Birthday to:

Marty Kuklinski
Tara Tuttle

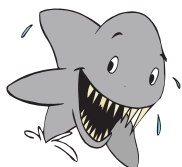
11/24
12/6

New Members: (Sorry we missed you last month)

Anna Mitchell 10/31
Bill Mitchell 11/7

If I have missed your birthday let me know please

Membership Diva
Vicki Kerr



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Time For a Golden Coconut

In a secluded cove, the warm water is a beautiful turquoise and *when the coast is clear*, you can see *stars on the water*. This is my *one particular harbor*. This is my new home in the *Banana Republic*. Who am I? Why I'm little Margarito and like the rest of my fellow *beautiful swimmers* here, I'm a manatee. Oh, I'm very thankful to be here because if it weren't for my ParrotHead friends, I might not have lived after my tangle with a boat propeller! You know, it was one of those guys who thinks he's *a son of a son of a sailor*, had a few too many *boat drinks*, and came too close to the seaweed beds.....and OUCH! I didn't know what hit me. When I woke up, I was bandaged and in a pool with a *big top* tent to keep me out of the sun. I was very sore and very mad but happy to be alive! But enough about me, let's make *changes in latitudes*, *changes in attitudes* and let me tell you about my ParrotHead friends.

My adopted parents are a great group of people who volunteer their time and raise money for numerous organizations and charities, while having lots of fun. The year starts off with lots of planning for their biggest fundraising event of the year. I heard through the *coconut telegraph* that this event was full of pirates, gypsies and fun-loving individuals decked out in their finest tropical apparel. Some looked like *fruitcakes*, but all danced to the rhythm of steel drums and had fun with basket raffles, 50/50 raffles as well as a silent auction. They had *a lot to drink about* because their efforts raised \$10,000 for Alzheimer's Association and a cancer research program.

***Time For a Golden Coconut* (cont.)**

They also support a local home for disabled children and adults through volunteer hours. It's not always easy collecting money at a busy intersection during inclement weather dressed in grass skirts and coconut bras! Why, some of them look like *barefoot children in the rain*, but everyone is always smiling and helped collect close to \$3,000! When this home has its big fundraising festival, the ParrotHeads also volunteer by manning the beer tent. Boy, they serve a lot of beer and *come Monday*, some of them are sporting a "beer elbow". No worries, those elbows work just fine again to volunteer hours baking cookies or packaging baked goods, which this home sells to support their day to day operation and continued growth. My ParrotHead parents are proud to have helped this organization raise money to build a new wing to support some of their aging population.

Zoom! Zoom! Next, my ParrotHead parents went to a NASCAR event and sold NASCAR items before the race, raising \$400 in support of a charity, which works with hospitals to provide baby blankets, resource information and support groups to parents with special-needs children. They also held a crazy bowling event where everyone decorated their lanes and put on silly attire, raising over \$2,200 for this charity. Let me tell you, you never saw so many bowling balls *defying gravity* as you did that night!

Like all good ParrotHeads, my ParrotHead parents take part in the annual Alzheimer's Walk. Last year, they had numerous members lace up those tennis shoes and don their tropical best, raising over \$12,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. Why some were even seen wearing *scarlet begonias* and *fins* in their hair!

Next, they moved on to the *Far Side of the World* pub-crawl to celebrate the club's 20 year anniversary. Complete with passport lanyards, members journeyed to Ireland, Greece, England, Germany, Mexico, and *beyond the end* was the good old USA. Each stop required a check in with immigrations and a stamp for their passport. The club's crew did an awesome job putting this fun-filled event together as a thank you for its members hard work over the years. It was such a success, that the crew will *bring back the magic* and do it again this year.

My ParrotHead parents like to help the environment and have 6 highway clean-ups scheduled this year. They keep that stretch of road looking beautiful for the community. What a nice *piece of work*! When they aren't collecting garbage from the highway, my ParrotHead parents collect ink cartridges for recycling for cancer charities, pop tops for Ronald McDonald House, PJs for our wounded service men and women in hospitals, canned goods for the food bank, items for care packages for the troops overseas, and money for Wigs for Kids, a tornado relief fund, a local children's hospital, women's and veterans shelters and of course, Save the Manatee. They also bought t-shirts and donated money to Save a Vet, which is an organization that pairs retired military service dogs with disabled veterans.

***Time For a Golden Coconut* (cont.)**

During the holidays, my ParrotHead parents support the local zoo by purchasing and decorating a really big Christmas tree. Let me just say, it's VERY colorful and will *bring you back to the island!* After the decorating is done, it's time to go on a scavenger hunt through the zoo. All the teams are randomly selected so members get to meet new people. Did you know that a manatee is a pachyderm? Well my ParrotHead parents discovered that one on the hunt. They also collect unwrapped toys and donate them to a local store. This store sponsors a program that sets aside a section of the store for the donated toys. The parents of underprivileged children can go to the store and hand-pick out toys for their children, making it a very special time at Christmas. What a great idea!

My ParrotHead parents are a busy bunch. When they aren't occupied with fundraising events and volunteering, they arrange and host numerous house concerts, which support our local favorite trop-rock bands or some of those favorites who perform in Key West. Often, several club members like to be *gypsies in the palace*, taking a road trip to attend and support events sponsored by other ParrotHead clubs.

They also had loads of fun taking a tour of a new distillery making rum and blue agvae sprits owned and operated by two brothers who love the Caribbean. My ParrotHeads walked into the main room and what did they see? A pirate flag and a Conch Republic Flag!! And wait..... is that Buffett playing on the CD player?

It's like they were made for each other! In return, my parents just about bought out their stock of bottled rum and blue agavae. Well after all, they needed something to put in their *tin cup chalice!*

I have a *costal confession*. I think my ParrotHead parents are pretty amazing! They not only take care of me but they take care of others, raise money for charities, donate items, as well as hours and hours of their time. Why last year they raised over \$25,000 for charity, donated 793 hours in 2013 and 397 hours so far for 2014, welcomed 25 new members in 2013 and 20 so far in 2014, bringing the membership total to 217. They had to find a new location for their monthly meetings due to this growth. They average 59 members each month at the club meetings. The old meeting place was becoming so small they couldn't even get a *pencil thin mustache* between tables! So far this year their numbers look even better!! Maybe I'm biased, but I think my adopted ParrotHead parents sure deserve the Golden Coconut Award! You couldn't find a harder working, more dedicated fun loving group with hearts as big as *Jimmy's dreams*.

Well, *it's 5 O'clock somewhere* and that somewhere is here! So I'm off to see the lizard and Buck Butt the turtle to share in a nice seaweed dinner or maybe *I will play for gumbo!* Yum! Here's hoping you catch a *banana wind*, go around the volcano and sail on sailors!

Special Thanks and much appreciation to:

Sharon Klupar, Author of the winning 2014 Coconut Award Essay

Pics by Jim McGing



MOTM 2014







Sharon Klupar-Secretary



Karen Levang-Evinger -Treasurer

The Chicago Parrot Head club is a Not For- 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. Any general questions regarding our club, contact

billy@chicagoparrotheads.com -or- write us at
MCA/CPHC, PO BOX 6313, VILLA PARK, IL 60181

The Chicago Parrot Head Club newsletter is a monthly publication. If you have any information on an upcoming event you would like published, or a review of a current event, please contact Joe Klen - No later than the second Friday of the month.

joeklen@comcast.net



Joe Klen-Communications Director

... Continuation from Cruise Director - Racey Tracey !

A couple options for island music...

November 22 – Todd Donnelly, Key Lime Cove, Gurnee, 6-10p

November 29 – Todd Donnelly, Key Lime Cove, Gurnee, 6-10p

November 29 – Johnny Russler & the Beach Bum Band (trio), Just One More, Joliet, 6p

December 12 - Todd Donnelly, Bahama Breeze, Schaumburg, 5-11:30p

December 13 - Todd Donnelly, Bahama Breeze, Schaumburg, 4-11:30p

December 19 – Todd Donnelly, Pier 290, Williams Bay, WI, 9-1p

December 27 – Tropixplosion, Blue Chip Casino, Michigan City, IN, 7:30-11p

Go to www.MusicOnTheBay.org for details, room information (PH rates through 2/1/15) and to register. All charitable contributions will benefit Shriner's Hospitals for Children.