

# Trader John's Journal



AUGUST, 2001

## Pascagoula Poker Run/Birthday Party

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2001 marked the date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pascagoula Poker Run that ended in a large birthday celebration for the Towns Around Biloxi Parrothead Club. We all gathered at TP Crockmiers in Mobile to register for the Poker Run. With a \$10 registration fee participants had a chance at winning 40% of the pot for the best poker hand or 10% for the worst hand. The remaining 50% went to the Alzheimers Foundation. After registration closed we all headed for the first stop, The Mill. A wonderful location to start the days journey and reunite with our best parrothead phriends from all around the region.

With a very down home feeling, many people enjoyed a game of

shuffleboard while admiring the ceilings that were covered in potato sacks. After all the cards were given out we continued our "Pascagoula Run" to the famous Stateline Bar (Blackwater Saloon). Participants indulged in oysters on the half shell while others played pool. Next we ventured on to the next stop, Castaways in Pascagoula. We hung out on a very large deck where some pholks ate crawfish and crabs, and others indulged in a few games of volleyball. What a wonderful way to wind down the afternoon.

Our final destination was Huck's Cove where we wrapped up the Pascagoula Poker Run. The winning hand went to Danielle Ulmer, and the worst hand winner was Jerry Harper. The club presented a check to the

Alzheimers Foundation in the amount of \$798.90. After all prize money was distributed the celebration of the Towns Around Biloxi 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday began.

Our club band, Rhythm & Rain kicked off the festivities, and the dancing began. There was not a frown to be found on the faces of the parrotheads who gathered. Framed picture certificates were presented to the officers from the past year: John Thornton-Vice President, David Barnes-Vice President, Capt. Jon Bickel- treasurer and Debra Gaberty- secretary. With the sounds of familiar music, the moonlight, and the breeze blowing across the deck: It truly was a magical night. Celebrating 2 memorable years of phriendships, and phun simply cannot be translated into words.

## Letter From Our President

Well Pholks, what a whirlwind summer. We had our Poker Run and birthday party, an Earth Day celebration, the Sauce Boss at the Crawfish Festival, Mac McAnally (and special friend) at the Margaritaville Café, Jim Morris and Sunny Jim at Huck's Cove during their Gulf Coast Highway Tour,

Mobile's Cheeseburger in Paradise Regatta, the Luau in Montgomery, Mobile's Rag Top Run and birthday party, and Montgomery's Riverboat Cruise and birthday party. Each and every event was packed with special parrothead memories. We survived it all to party some more.

This club really knows

how to party, but what impresses me most is amount of good we accomplish while having such a great time. Our contributions to charity, and community and civic services have grown right along with our membership. We really have a



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### OFFICERS

President:: David Barnes

Vice President:: Elizabeth Kommersmith

Treasurer: Capt. Jon Bickel

Secretary: Debra Gaberty

Parrothead at Large: Jackie Jakubik



Remember our website contains: regularly updated pictures, upcoming events, a way to join, information on our officers, our adopted manatee, our adopted band, lots of links, and access to the Hunger Site.

### Trivia

What's the name of Jimmy's yacht?  
The one our past-president John Thornton has a flag from.

# Letter From Our President (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

club to be proud of, Pholks.

I realize that the posting of this newsletter is far later than it should have been, than I wanted it to be, and than the date indicates, but due

to conditions beyond all of our collective control it just couldn't be helped. I truly hope to get the next one out in a more timely manner.

Phinz y'all,  
David

# Earth Day Celebration

Our club was invited to participate in the big Earth Day celebration at the Gulf Islands National Park in Ocean Springs on April 21st. We had 8 members participate in this event which was both entertaining and educational for the thousands of visitors.

Our booth focused on two facets of environmental education. We taught about cutting plastic soft drink rings before discarding them to keep them from becoming hazards to the wildlife should the ever come in contact with them. We

even had a survivor, Lucy; a turtle that is permanently disfigured from growing with a plastic ring stuck around its middle. This was a hands-on demonstration with safety scissors and rings to cut. We had supplementary information available about litter and how long it takes the various forms to degrade.

The other focus of our booth was information about the manatee. We had information about its plight, precautions, and adoption programs. As members and adopters, we used information from the Save the Manatee program.

**Trivia answer**  
*Continental Drifter*  
John had his Navy retirement flag flown over the yacht with a certificate signed by Jimmy to prove it.



Our booth was visited by many children



Elizabeth looks at Lucy the disfigured turtle

# Sauce Boss returns

Our area was lucky once again to have the Sauce Boss come to entertain at the Crawfish Festival on April 21st and 22nd. Several of us made it out to the coliseum to enjoy his show and partake of some bodacious gumbo.



GUMBO!



Mac (above) & Jimmy (below) at the Margaritaville Café.



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## Mac McAnally at Margaritaville Cafe

Talk about a weekend that will be hard to top. May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> was more than just the last weekend of JazzFest in New Orleans. Mac McAnally was scheduled to play at the Margaritaville Café. About 15 of us bought tickets and secured the VIP passes that got us right up at the

stage. On Friday night who should come out to introduce Mac but Jimmy himself. Then, after Mac does a couple songs solo, we were amazed and delighted to see Jimmy come out, pull up a chair, grab his guitar, kick off his shoes, and play the rest of the night with Mac. What

an evening!

Saturday night we were treated to Mac with a different accompaniment. His buddy, Duncan Cameron, from Sawyer Brown played with him. The only problem with these up-close and personal gigs is that they have to end. What a Wild Weekend! I'll never forget it.

## The Gulf Coast Highway Tour

Imagine the delight and surprise to hear that Jim Morris and James "Sunny Jim" White, both well known singers/songwriters in their own right, were planning to team up for a "Gulf Coast Highway Tour". Through their tour manager, Mark Friedman of Migration Music, club leaders of the parrot head clubs along their proposed route were contacted. The clubs were instrumental in setting up the actual dates and venues of the tour. We hooked them up at Huck's Cove in Gautier for June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and talk about a wild eve-

ning. They were recording at each place they played to compile a live CD. They must have had as much fun as we did, since the back of their CD cover features us doing the "Biloxi Bobsled" during their Huck's performance. Jim Morris called it a 'stuck conga line'.

After finishing on stage that night, the Jims joined us in partying until Huck's shut down. We then took them with us to Capt. Jon's boat where the partying continued for a few more hours. This added a little challenge to the task of moving the

whole process over to Mobile the next afternoon to do it all again (minus the after-party-party). But we were up to the challenge, and a great time was had by all.



CD back cover featuring the "Biloxi Bobsled"

## Regatta in Mobile

Many of our club members participated in the Coastal Alabama PHCs 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cheeseburger in Paradise Regatta June 9, 2001. Members of the Buccaneer Yacht Club held the captain positions while the crew for their boats was chosen at random from the parrothead volunteers. After we set

sail, all boats raced a pre-set course in Mobile Bay with the top three boats being awarded a collection of prizes. After all boats arrived at port, the grills were kicked off. Then after a lunch consisting of Cheeseburgers and all our favorite toppings, we were ready for the party.

Not only was this another par-

rothead gathering but also a sad farewell to the Coastal Alabama's official band "Tropical Steal". David Waugh, and Thomas Edwards played into the night before the duo split to seek gigs separately. The Towns Around Biloxi's famous dance, the "Biloxi Bobsled" was represented and the conga line went on forever.

## Luau in Montgomery

It was a luau weekend in Montgomery Alabama July 20-21, 2001. The Isle O Bama parrothead club hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Luau at the Keys. The pre-party was kicked off on Friday night as phriends arrived from towns all around including Birmingham, Mobile, Atlanta, and our group (of course).

On Saturday "The Keys Bar and

Grill" provided a ton of crawfish and pig that had been roasting for 18 hours. We all had a great time both days as we heard from the band "Parrot Tales", and IsleO'Bama's own "Island Time Bob". Jeff Pike and his band "Vertical Smile" wrapped up the weekend with an awesome performance. What better way to spend the weekend but with great food, great dancing, and all of our best phriends!!



Group shot outside "The Keys"



## Towns Around Biloxi Parrot Head Club

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Members of



## Rag Top Run

Mobile's club had their Rag Top Run and Birthday Party again this year with (naturally) a lot of support from our club. The Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> run started at the FloraBama and

ended at Traders on the causeway at Mobile. The birthday party took place there with great entertainment by Sunny Jim White. What a time that was.



Sunny Jim at Traders

## River Boat Cruise

Several of us participated again in Montgomery's IsleO'Bama Parrot Head Club's River Boat Cruise and Birthday Party again this year on Aug 11<sup>th</sup>.

The spiked melon was quite a hit on the cruise, but the frozen t-shirt contest was the highlight of the birthday party the followed at the Marina.



Spiked melon juice



Parrot Tales was the band at the Marina



Frozen t-shirt contest



Vince and Tina relax on the couch at the Marina

## Upcoming Events

On Sept. 29th we'll have our 3rd Annual WRANPS Charity Volleyball Tournament at the Ocean Springs Yacht Club. This is a great event and our club's biggest solo fundraiser of the year. Don't miss it.

The weather should be perfect Oct. 20th for our "Down Around Biloxi Beach Bonfire". Bring a can of food for donation to 12 Baskets food distribution center.

"Decade on Duval" is the theme for MOTM 2001. It's happening Nov. 1-4, 2001 in Key West, Fla. Our club has about 15 members going.

We don't normally have a Christmas party, but this year a general parrothead Christmas party is coming together with Coconut Dave (David Waugh) playing at Pitcher's, the Holiday Inn bar at Tillman's Corner. Bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.

Our big party of the year is coming New Year's Eve. We're taking over Wet N Wild Beach Club in Biloxi, bringing in great entertainment (Coconut Dave, Joe Bennett, and who knows), providing munchies, playing games, giving door prizes, and toasting the new year with champagne and margaritas. It's

a don't miss party.

Don't forget to make plans for MOTM 2002, Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2002, Key West, Fla.

Keep in mind that we meet every other Wednesday and gather every Wednesday for Parrot Head Night. We have a great band in Rhythm & Rain and have a lot of PHun supporting them. A look at our website will let you know where and when the next meeting is and much more.

Visit Rhythm & Rain's website to keep up with their schedule. It's linked.

[www.rainontheinternet.com/rnr/index.html](http://www.rainontheinternet.com/rnr/index.html)