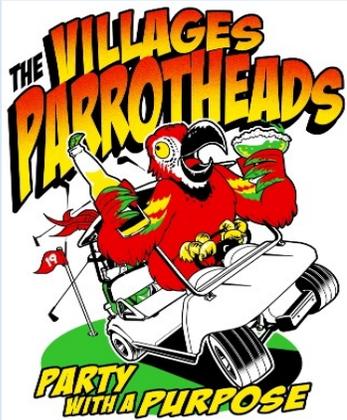


Parrot Talk

April 2020 Edition



President's Corner

Hello Parrotheads – well I know you haven't heard me say that at a phlocking in a while but I assure you that during these difficult times, your Parrothead Club is thinking of you, our members, and of course our community. We will return in full force once this crisis is over, whenever that may be.

I would like to thank some members for all their hard work during the month, starting with Debbie Sobota and Dave Walls who put together a phun trip to Tampa Bay Downs. Also to Sally Bottke who put together a great St Patrick's Day parade lineup even though the parade was cancelled.

A special thank you goes out to Terri Ainsley and the entire basket committee. Over 150 baskets are ready for our basket raffle. And thanks to Maureen O'Connor who let us store the baskets for weeks at her home, and everyone who helped us get all the baskets to our climate controlled storage bin for safe keeping. Thanks to Renie Larson, and her committee for all your hard work in planning our Poker Run that wasn't. We will have our Poker Run/Basket Raffle this year. When – I don't know, and it will be different than in the past, but we will have lots of phun and it will be successful

On March, 25th, we had a drive-by fundraiser to raise funds for our servers and bartenders who are out of work. You came through as usual, as we raised over \$3,300 with more still coming in. These funds will be distributed to the places we frequent.

At this point I usually tell you how excited I am about upcoming events, but, alas, there is nothing planned. Please remember that EVERYTHING is cancelled for the foreseeable future.

Our club ventures will return once this is all over, we are given the "all clear" signal, and our venues are staffed enough to handle us. I urge you to take this seriously. Wash you hands and make wise decisions.

I will keep you informed of developments as I know them. Until then – everyone keep your Phins Up __/__. We will be back doing what we do best, "Partying with a Purpose", as soon as we can.

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Annual Poker Run

We were ready to have the biggest, best, most fun ever Parrot Head Poker Run. Our target was to raise \$20,000 to donate to local charities over the next year. It was a good plan. Then the virus came. We are now working on alternative plans. The When and the Where aren't decided yet because no one knows when we will be allowed to gather in large crowds again. We have 150 gift baskets in storage and we will come up with a way to hold this event as soon as we can. Some of you purchased poker run tickets and won't be able to use them. We will refund your money, if you want your money back. Here's why you may not want to claim a refund. All of the money we raise goes to people in need in Marion, Lake and Sumter Counties. Hungry children and homeless veterans are our two largest target groups. The people in need who live around us are going to be in worse shape this year than last year. They need as much help as we can give. If you want a refund, you will need to send the tickets with a self addressed return envelope to the Village Parrot Heads, PO Box 52, Oxford FL 34484.

Chairperson: Renie Larson (352) 398 2076
Asst. Chair: Kathy Newstat (609) 674 7278

All Club Events and Phlockings Cancelled

We don't know when the pandemic will be behind us. When we are given the all clear signal, we will begin scheduling trips, parties, and get back to being normal as quickly as possible. Until then, stay safe.

Boat Drinks

(Things to do at home while Socially Distancing)

The term "Boat Drink" is from the title & lyrics of the 1979 Jimmy Buffett song "Boat Drinks". The term refers to highly potent (often rum based) drinks which can be made on a boat.

I've asked the ExComm Committee what their favorite Boat Drinks are. Here are their responses:

Mark the Shark Woodland: Mine is easy - I only drink Bud Light - and I drank a lot of it on my boat which was named the "Crystal Shark".

Judy Koch: My boat drink would be a Rum Drink but in "skinny" style to cut the sugar. Rum, lemonade (Crystal Light) a touch of pineapple to give it the taste of the islands with club soda to give it some sparkle in a pretty glass AND AN UMBRELLA, very important!!!

Jaci Burdish: My usual drink it's vodka and soda but my boat drink is a pineapple daiquiri.

Gypsy Ginchereau: Glenlevit 12 with a splash of water.

Steve Larson: My boat drink is simple, a splash of dark Rum and a healthy portion of coke. I may have that backward.

Rob Ainsley: Pitcher of red Sangria

Johnny Ward: A Caribe Sunset (4 different types of rum and some orange and cranberry juice).

Barb Beil: My go to drink is a Cuba Libre (fancy name for rum & coke) but my boat drink is a Margarita!

Marsh Herring: I like a Bloody Mary with extra celery and extra olives. It is a healthy drink that can be consumed in large quantities without guilt, however not without effect!

Member's Memoirs

Particia Marshall Crocker tells us how she and Stephen are getting though the isolation:
"Steve and I are doing quite well with this quarantine. I have been marking the days off on the wall and Steve has been putting up girly posters. He's also learning to play blues on his harmonica (actually we don't have a harmonica, just some wax paper and a comb). Later today we are planning to tattoo each other...gotta have those tats! The cats seem a little worried, they caught me googling cat recipes. I'm just kidding, I really googled stew recipes and asked if I could substitute beef for kitty. I didn't know cats can read! Steve isn't used to me cooking every day. I wear a hair net and make him carry a tray up to the counter to be served, he also has to use plastic silverware so he doesn't have a weapon. We are trying to convert our beds into bunks...adds to the ambiance. Once we figure out how to do it we will let everyone know. Spending every single second together and then having to listen to him snore all night could lead to violence. We are open to suggestions!



Donation to Project SOS

The Club and Paraday Financial raised \$4,000 at our Hootenanny Hoedown. Project SOS was the designated Charity. Last year our donation was used to fund a scholarship for a child who is the daughter of a veteran so that she could attend college. This year, due to the coronavirus crisis, our donation will be used to provide food and housing to families who have lost their jobs. The following letter is from Gary Kadow, the managing director of Project SOS

Dear Members of the Villages Parrot Head Club,

I am writing this letter to say thank you for the very generous donation of \$4,000 that you recently made to Project SOS-Support Our Soldiers, Inc. Ninety-eight cents of every dollar we receive goes directly to help those we serve, and nobody in our organization is ever paid or reimbursed for their time or expenses. Within our tri-county area there are children in need of nutritious food, decent clothing, proper medical and dental care, and an opportunity for a better education, yet our government continues to send millions of dollars overseas while those who served this country live in poverty. Our mission is to care for our US military and their families here at home, it's that simple, and you have helped us to do just that. Rest assured that your donation will go directly to help our military veterans and their families who are currently living at or below the poverty level by providing for their daily needs to survive in the forest.

During this time of crisis in our nation the needs of our Veteran families are greater than ever. Their children will no longer get the free breakfasts and lunches that they are used to having with our schools closed, and many of our Veterans that had finally found employment have now been affected by layoffs for an indefinite period time. Our goal is to help them get through this time of crisis by providing for their basic needs of food, clothing, a safe place to live, and medical care for their families. Your donation will help us meet those needs and more.

Project SOS — Support Our Soldiers, Inc., often works quietly in the background carrying out our mission with little fanfare or publicity, however, every once in a while, someone like you learns about us and steps forward to lend a much needed hand. The gift you have given us not only inspires us to continue our work, it also literally saves lives.

Every single day in this nation an average of 23 U.S. Military sadly take their own lives out of a feeling of desperation and hopelessness. Your very generous gift will help change that. If you would like to know more about Project SOS, please visit our website at: www.projectsosusa.org. Once again thank you for thinking of our veterans and their special needs.

Sincerely yours,
Gary Kadow



Membership

New Members in March

Carl Bohms	Chuck & Cindy McKinley
Debbie Boyce	Geneva & George Mock
Bill & Noreen Casino	Linda Moretta
Grace & Keith Drake	Cheryl Mullins
Pete Duva	Kathie Niesen
Deborah Fisher	Cheryl & Ron Pinkham
Charles Fleck	Christine & Ron Poulton
Joe Hargett	Diana Sharer
Don & Kathy Henderson	Diana & Mark Smothers
John Holmes	Denny & Kay Stock
Ed Majchrzak	Melanie Sutton
Abby & Tad Matley	Jeff Thomas

Clique Corner

All Clique Corner gatherings are cancelled until further notice. Once we have the all clear, we'll be gathering again.

The Cliques are not Club functions. They are gatherings of Club members with common interests.

Gathering of Friends Meets for a few drinks at various establishments. Want to join in? Contact Skip Todd at <skip0358@gmail.com>

The Chic Clique Come join fellow Parrot Head Females for "ladies night out". This group of ladies who just like to get together occasionally for a fun event, such as a movie night dinner with the girls, paint parties, etc. Email Gypsy Ginchereau at <gypsygewells@gmail.com> to be added to the list.

Get Acquainted Clique For new members and unattached members interested in making new friends and getting together to jointly attend Parrot Head parties, events or trips. Meets the first Phlocking each month at 3 PM at Palmer CC. way around in back, prior to the Parrot Head Phlocking. Show up or send an email to Jaci Burdash <jlb2500@gmail.com>.

TropRock Ukulele Society If you like Jimmy Buffet music and you'd like to learn how to play the Ukulele, the meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Canal Street Recreation Center. From 12:30 to 1PM there is a lesson for people just starting and the jam session is from 1 to 2 PM. You are never too old to learn how to make music. Contact Stephen Larson for information (352) 255 9582.

Membership Renewal

If you didn't renew by March 31st, your membership has expired.

Three ways to renew:

1. Online (**Best Way**). <https://villagesparrotheads.com> and click on the "Membership Renewal" button and follow the directions. You can get your 2020 sticker at the next Phlocking you attend or....
2. Mail in with a \$20 check made out to the Village Parrot Heads, PO Box 52, Oxford FL 34484 or....
3. You can renew at any Phlocking at the membership table, when we start to have Phlockings again.

After you renew, simply stop by the Membership table to pick up your new sticker. if you choose to renew at the Phlockings, thank you in advance for your patience. We will process you as quickly as we can.

"It takes no more time to see the good side of life than it takes to see the bad. "

Jimmy Buffett

How to greet other Parrot Heads when Social Distancing.

Jimmy says to make a fin, go left, go right and go forward.





Member Profile

Our Parrot Head Profile for this month features our new head of security, Ken McCreary.

Ken and his wife Krissy have lived in The Village of Osceola Hills for the last three years now. After moving twelve times when he worked for the government he plans on staying in this village that has provided great friends, an active social group, and a great convenient location.

Ken grew up and went to college in West Virginia where he met and married his lovely wife. As a DEA agent the family moved quite a bit including his first post in Chicago, Thailand, Bangkok, New York City, Buffalo NY, Washington DC where he was on the executive staff of the DEA, and finally New Jersey. Two of their three children were born while they were stationed overseas and the third was born in Buffalo.

Ken and Krissy heard about the Parrot Head Club very soon after moving in and it seemed to offer everything they were interested in; they like to be active and volunteer, so it seemed like a natural fit for them. He says it's such a fun group of people that you can't help but have PHUN with them. Besides the Parrot Heads they are also members of the West Virginia Mountaineer Club, the Osceola Hills Social Group, The Three Rivers Club, and Ken is in three championship golf leagues, and golfs with Krissy about once a week too.

Volunteering is an important part of Ken's life and he has given a lot of his time to our club as the co-chair of the Chili Cook-off, which take many months of preparation. Ken will now be forming a team of four or five people to help with security to give more people an opportunity to participate. You will also see Krissy at the Phlockings working in our Phin shop.

What Ken likes most about the Parrot Heads are the people. He says people make an organization and there are a lot of good solid people, good minded people, in our club. He also enjoys the PHUN we have together!

Ken notes that it can be a little overwhelming for new members because our club is so big and some of the Phlockings are pretty crowded but he would advise them to hang in there. He suggests that new members try sitting at a different table each time to meet new people and volunteer for some activity and it will help them get integrated into the club.

Club's Executive Committee



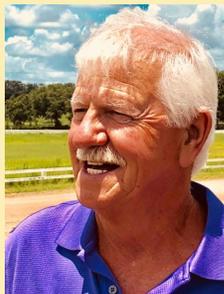
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Appointed Staff Positions



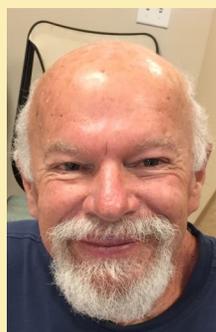
Security

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wken@aol.com



Member Advocate

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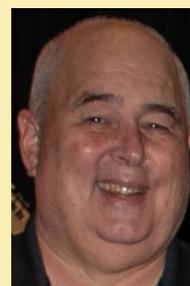
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