

THE PARROTHEAD PERIODICAL OF WESTERN MASS (PPWM)



WINTER 2008 Edition

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Western Massachusetts Parrothead Club

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President's Message - Keith & Maryanne Watson

In 2008, the Western Mass PHC will be turning 10 years old - can you believe it?! We swore we would be resting on a beach somewhere before we saw the club turn 10, but guess we're just having too much fun.

We'd like to take a moment to recognize some folks who have lent their time, energy and positive spirits to make this club run smoothly this year; we could not have done it without them....

Rick & Karen - what can we say, you've been there all year for us, and we do appreciate your letting us lean on you a lot - what you've done for us and the club this past year can't be put into words. We want to say Thank You for lending your ears, brains, and positive attitudes all year long, as well as your organizational skills, good wishes and helpful advice too. You two are truly very valuable assets to this club.

Tanya - We know you have to take some time off right now to organize your wedding, but we hope you'll be able to join us once again sometime soon. Not only to take over the treasurer's post again ☺, but just to lend us your smile, laugh, and creativeness. We wish you well in your new adventure, and hope to see you soon.

Barb & Scott - You two are super. You embraced this club and our members like we've known each other for years. Always treating everyone with respect, and opening your home to all of us this summer too, thank you. We've learned a lot from you two, and look forward to this friendship continuing to grow.

Allison - Our space guru. Your spirit is contagious. We thank you for taking on many projects, lending a hand whenever asked, and your willingness to always help. We wish you the best in the coming year with your school and work, and look forward to still seeing you at many of the upcoming events.

Lastly, To Each of our Club Members, Thank You. So many of you have stepped up to the plate this year to chair an event, lend a hand, donated your time and money too - we really do appreciate all you've done this year, and are looking forward to a fun, crazy 2008.

We feel fortunate to have each of you in this club, it has been a pleasure working with you all year long, and for the past several years. We have plenty in store for 2008 and beyond and hope you will all continue the journey with us. With our Phins Raised high in your honor,

Keith & Maryann

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	Page One
Upcoming Events	Page Two
Past Events	Page Two
Convention 2010 Update	Page Three
Buffett News	Page Three
Recipes & Concoction	Page Four
Notes & Tidbits	Page Four
Musical Spotlight: Tropical Soul	Page Five
Picture Pages	Page Six

The Western Mass. PHC will be hosting the MLB's Pitch, Hit & Run contest.

This competition is open to boys and girls Free of charge who are between the ages of 7 and 14 (age is determined as of July 17, 2008). Ours is the area competition, with the winners of each category moving on to the regional and hopefully we'll see them at the 2008 MLB All Star Game. The competition will take place April 12, 2008 at Nathan Bill Park, Plumbtree Road in Springfield. All participants must be pre-registered in order to participate. There are four age groups 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14. Participants from each age group will have the chance to compete in each of the three categories, Pitching, Hitting, and Running. They may choose to do one, two or all three of these. The registration will take place from 10am-11am, with the competition starting precisely at 11am. We encourage everyone to register early - bring your brothers, sisters and friends too. This is a contest for everyone that emphasizes on the Fun element of baseball. So come on out & have some fun. Registration forms will be available for download on our web site soon www.wmphc.com, or you can email mkwatson@wmphc.com Good Luck! Rain date is April 13th

2008 WMPHC Board of Directors:

President:	Keith & Maryann Watson
Vice-President:	Karen & Richard Feldeisen
Secretary:	Karen Feldeisen
Treasurer:	Maryann Watson
Social Director:	Barbara Simpson
Membership Director:	Scott Simpson
Web Administrator:	Richard Feldeisen

GOOD NEWS: We are officially a 501c4 classification.

Past Events:

Check out our New & Improved
Website: www.wmphc.com

Brightside Angels – Monday, November 26, 2007

Chairperson – Allison Pratte – We had nine members working the Brightside Angel booth at Ingleside Mall and we sold \$227 worth of merchandise. Thank you for all your help!!!

RMH Gift Wrapping Party – December 14th, 2007

Chairperson – Nancy & Frank – Our club supported 19 children with stockings and gifts and each family got a bag full of food. Maryann passed around a nice letter from the Ronald McDonald House thanking our club for their generosity and for their friendship to the house.

Club Meeting – January 21st 2008 – Holiday Inn – Holyoke

We had eleven members in attendance. We collected donations for the convention basket (Karen), the baseball fundraising basket (Maryann & Keith) and soda tabs for the Ronald McDonald House (Julie & Josh) and food for the local food bank (Julie & Josh). Thank You all for your generosity. We also toured the Holiday Inn!! *(See write up on page 3)*

Upcoming Events - Mark your Calendars:

Feb. 29th - March 2 - New England Clubs Annual Convention in Newport Rhode Island hosted this year by the Ocean State Parrot Head Club (PHC) - our turn to host it is 2010. All the New England clubs get together to break up the winter with great music, lots of partying and large raffle prizes too - money raised goes to the selected charity Cystic Fibrosis.

You can find more information at the OSPHC web site <http://osphec.com/2008convention.aspx>

March 22- Springfield Falcon's Hockey Game vs. Hartford - \$10 for club tickets. Contact MK for tickets. Don't miss out - this will be a PHUN time!

April 13th - MLB's Pitch, Hit and Run contest - we're hosting this event at Nathan Bill Park, Plumbtree Road in Springfield. *See Page 1 for more details.*

April - TBD - Next Club Meeting - to be Announced Shortly!!!

May 3rd - Special Olympics Area Games at Holyoke High School. We cook and serve lunch for all the participants, coaches, and parents - last year was 1500 people. Claire Bailey is the Chairperson for this important event but it is truly a group effort to make it come into fruition!

June 28th - Party at Barb & Scott's house to benefit Children's Miracle Network. Party starts at 3 PM and continues into the evening with a nice viewing of Easthampton's Fire Works (which you can see at their house). We have a "new" local Tropical band making their grand debut at this function. Suggested donation: \$10/pp and \$25 family. Includes Music, Food and Fun!! Bring Family & friends!

Mission: Party for a Purpose!!

BACARDI RUM CAKE

Printed from COOKS.COM

- 1 c. chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1 (18 1/2 oz.) pkg. yellow cake mix
- 1 (3 3/4 oz.) pkg. instant vanilla pudding
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 c. cold water
- 1/2 c. Wesson oil
- 1/2 c. Bacardi dark rum (80 proof)



Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour 10 inch tube pan or 12 cup Bundt cake pan. Sprinkle nuts over bottom of pan. Mix all ingredients together and pour over nuts. Bake 1 hour. Cool. Invert on serving plate. Prick top. Drizzle smooth glaze evenly over top and sides. Allow cake to absorb glaze. Repeat until all glaze is used.

GLAZE:

- 1/4 lb. butter
- 1/4 c. water
- 1 c. granulated sugar
- 1/2 c. Bacardi dark rum

Melt butter in saucepan. Stir in water and sugar. Boil 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in rum. Optional: Decorate with whole maraschino cherries and border of sugar frosting or whipped cream. Serve with seedless grapes dusted with powdered sugar. YUMMY – we made this at the holidays and it was BIG Hit.

Tid-Bits from the Flock!!!!

Wedding Bells will be ringing for Julie & Josh May 10th 2008

Upcoming Birthday's:

Keith (Feb 26th); Mina (March 1st); Jane (March 5th); Jim (April); Margaret (April 5th); Sarah (April 24th – Sweet "16"); Allison (May 15th) – **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU**

Scotch & Bab's Social Plans *(Anyone and Everyone are Welcome to join us in any of our Excursions! We always have fun!! Come join us!)*

- ✚ *Green Beer Social - March 17th at 6 PM at Opa-Opa's in Southampton!*
- ✚ *Pre-Falcon's Game Happy Hour - March 22nd at 5:30 PM at JT's Sport Bar - 1373 Main St. Sfld.*
- ✚ *Margarita Nite - April 11th - School Street Bistro - Westfield 8 pm. Dancing to Changes in Latitude.*
- ✚ *Post Pitch Hit & Run Refresher - Sunday April 13th - Texas Roadhouse - Springfield*
- ✚ *Post Special Olympics Celebration - Sunday May 3rd at J.P.'s Sports bar - Holyoke*
- ✚ *Cinco-De-Mayo Happy Hour - On The Boarder - West Springfield at 6 PM*
- ✚ *MetroPHC Summer Fest at Bridgeport Marina - Featuring Jim-Morris - all day party by the Sea June 7th*
- ✚ *Jim Morris & the BB Band - June 8th - Southwick Inn*

DISCLAIMER: THESE ARE NOT CLUB EVENTS BUT SCOTCH & BAB'S SOCIAL CALENDAR AND WE BELIEVE THE MORE THE MERRIER!!!

Claire writes: I'm planning a visit to Alaska in July to Visit Marilyn and Frank. I'll be home just short of a week and then take off for Maine for my daughter's wedding. My daughter, Nikki, is getting married August 16th in York beach Maine....a small wedding....immediate family and a few close friends. It's at a resort on York Beach Harbor. We're staying "on site" right were the wedding will be - it's called Dockside. Have a GREAT trin Claire and send our

Save the Date **NOVEMBER 22nd** -
our 10th Anniversary Party.

Julie writes: I brought the food donated at January's meeting to Open Pantry's Emergency Food Pantry in Springfield. We donated 28lbs. of food! Thanks everyone

Musical Spotlight - Tropical Soul

The first time Scott and I met Tropical Soul it was a MOTM - 2007. The band is from Pennsylvania and we automatically made friends with their "groupies" from the Amish PHC. Tropical Soul played at the street fest and it was incredible. The second time we got to see Tropical Soul was in January at Winter Meltdown in Manassas Virginia. Again, the performance was outstanding and the crowd loved them. Good things come in three, right? Well, they are playing at the New England Convention in Newport the first weekend of March, so, they were the perfect band to spot light in this edition of our newsletter. Below is an interview with Rand Zimmerman, enjoy! Also, check out their website at: <http://www.tropicalsoul.net/>

Q. How did Tropical Soul come into formation and when?

A. Tropical Soul (TS) originally was Dennis and another partner, Al Anderson. This was circa 1998 and lasted just short of 2 years. Al left for personal reasons and I came into the picture in November of 2000, now going on 8 years!

Q. Who have been strong musical influences on your music?

A. We both have had different influences and they have been many. Dennis, I believe, would be influenced by Jimmy, James Taylor, Dan Fogelberg, Jackson Browne, Paul Simon, Beatles and many others of the soft rock, singer songwriter genre. I have a bit more diversity in my influences and there are too many to really relate here but I'll give you the big ones: Van Morrison, Eric Clapton, Gordon Lightfoot, Eagles, Steve Cropper, BB King, Little Feat, Steely Dan, The Stones and a whole lot of folk, blues and jazz musicians.

Q. Where do you get your inspirations for your song-writing?

A. Essentially, it comes mostly from our lives. But, also from others and what we see around us; and even fantasies of what we'd pretend to see or experience. Kind of child like as we both are big kids at heart. But ultimately, it takes some imagination, crafting and hard work to put together a good song. Hopefully we are able to do that, from time to time.

Q. What was the most exciting gig you have played?

A. I can safely say that every time we open the motm street fest in Key West is certainly a high point of our career. We are always honored to be asked, feel very fortunate, as it's one of the highlights of the 4 day festival. We are proud to be doing it again this November.

For me personally I'd have to say the next best gig was when Dennis, Scott Bryan and I played on a tri maran, under full sail, off Key West, for a crowd of about 100 friends and fans. It was a beautiful evening and everything was just perfect and magical. We try to never forget how fortunate we are to be able to do it for all of the great people we've met and will meet!

Q. We purchased your latest CD, No Plans At All after seeing you at MOTM - can you tell me what went into making that CD?

A. We basically spent our summer of 2004 working on "no plans at all". Scott Bryan got us started on the "good foot" by throwing in one of the most amazing performances any of us have ever seen on his percussion tracks on Dennis' song "bahama mama". He really gave us some good major for the whole album by just being there and guiding us through the initial recordings. Scott's one of our favorite people on the planet, and my personal favorite musician. All kinds of good and not so good things happened along to pick us up, and bog us down. Fortunately, the long length of time involved gave us "more time" to work on the production and mixing, and I'd like to think that we were able to make it a little more "perfect". Ultimately, we were pretty happy with the album and hope that there is at least another one still in us, coming soon!

Q. What is your favorite song on that CD? If you have one?

A. I like Dennis' song "no plans at all". I think it's one of the best songs that Dennis has written and perfectly captures our attitudes for how we'd like to fantasize our world to be. Just another day in paradise where the adventure of every new moment unfolds to the rhythms of "whatever."

Q. Where lies in store for Tropical Soul in the future? Any "new" news coming down the pike?

A. We would really like to do a "live" album. We are currently discussing who would be on it certainly Scott), and where it would be recorded, when we could do it, and what material would be on it. We'd probably want our original songs to fill most of the dozen or so tracks and add then a few "brand new" originals, as well. This year, we will have more opportunity to travel and hope to get out across the country more than before. We are setting playing dates in May for a 2 week trip to Florida, right now. Also, it looks like we are heading to Canada, for the first time, this summer. And, of course, we're really Excited about our first sojourn to Rhode Island to play for all of the good people there! This year looks to be a big one, and even though our credo is "no plans at all", you might say that we are busy and excited, MAKING PLANS!



Polly's Picture Page Collage



The Western Massachusetts Parrot Head Club (WMPHC) is a non-profit social organization made up of folks who enjoy Jimmy Buffett's music and philosophies. We are a member of the National organization of [Parrot Heads in Paradise](#). In the traditions of [PHIP](#) we provide support and assistance to several charities, organizations and community causes throughout the year. We like to say we "Party for a Purpose". For more information on our club please visit: www.wmphc.com

Disclaimer: The Western Massachusetts Parrot Head Club is not attached to Jimmy Buffett or his businesses, name or lyrics; HK Management; MCA Records; Island Records or Margaretville Record.