



February  
2026

# Western North Carolina Parrot Head Club

## March Phlocking

In the immortal words of Mr. Buffett, "I have found me a home!" Well, we have found us a home. Our monthly meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at The Flying Squirrel in Arden. This month we will see you on March 11, 2026, 6:00-7:30 pm. Social phlockings will be held periodically and ample notice will be given for these fun meet ups!

## Upcoming Elections

Annual elections are just around the corner. If you have an interest or know someone that might be interested in becoming a board member, please send the nominee to John at [john@johnfriday.com](mailto:john@johnfriday.com). Nominations close on March 11 at 5:00 PM. Voting will begin immediately after nominations have been announced. Bring your knowledge and expertise into these very critical roles: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.



Just kidding. Each member gets one vote for each position.

# Flip Flop Hop

The Western North Carolina Down Syndrome Alliance with the help of the Western North Carolina Parrot Head Club, hosted a special evening of music, comradery, food and fundraising. On February 6<sup>th</sup>, this amazing group raised over \$42,000 for the Down Syndrome Alliance!



# National Margarita Day

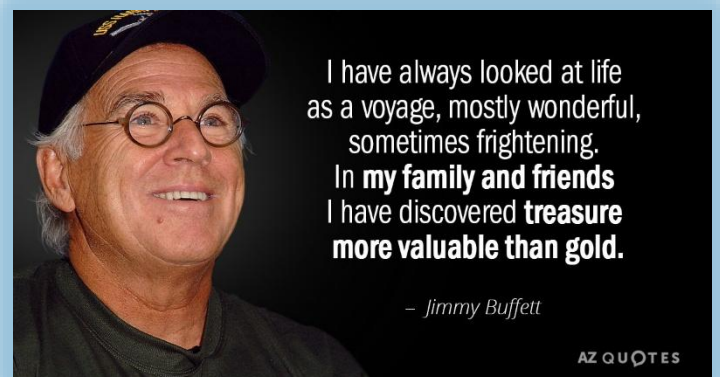
The Parrot Heads were out in numbers at Mills River Brewing on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. The celebration of National Margarita Day was in full swing with a little Buffett music and a lot of margaritas and fun! Our brave little club managed to raise over \$300 through a 50/50 raffle for Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, a local and national organization known for mentoring kids in need. To the tunes of the It's 5:00 Somewhere Band, we danced the evening away.



## Fun Upcoming Events!!

Caribbean Cowboys  
J&M Farms  
March 1, 2026 2-5pm  
Hendersonville, NC

Caribbean Cowboys  
Burntshirt Vineyards  
March 28, 2026 2-5pm  
Hendersonville, NC



# Meet our Member of the Month – Bruce Mangeot

## Where are you originally from?

Dayton, Ohio - Home of Wright brothers

## Where did you move here from?

Cincinnati, Ohio

## Family?

I am one of eight kids. I'm number seven in line.



## Bringing home the bacon

I worked as a mechanic since about 2 years old when I tore apart the family lawn mower, then worked on cars until I got tired of getting cut up on thin sheet metal. I moved into big trucks & heavy earth moving equipment and managed 5 repair locations for a large aggregate company for a few years. I started my business for trucks & heavy equipment repair & body shop, which I owned for over 30 years until I retired in 2018, when my wife asked what the hell are you going to do now to stay out of my hair? That is when I started restoring classic and antique cars which I still do.

## What brought you into the fabulous world of Parrotheads?

I started boating in the late eighties and started listening to some tropical music but it wasn't until I moved my boat to Norris Lake in TN and met a group from Cincinnati ski club and then my future wife, Colleen, that I really got involved with Buffett & Island music.

## What direction would you like to see for our club?

Get more members to keep the party going, and contribute to causes such as veterans and homelessness.

## Buffett Stories (my favorite part!!)

Colleen and I started dating in August & in November we went to Key West. I asked Colleen to be my wife at Buffett's bar. Our wedding had a Buffett theme with a boat gift table and huge Margarita banner. We have enjoyed many of Buffett's shows, music & tropical life style.

# Upcoming

## Beer Brewing with Jim Halula

When: Saturday, March 28, 2pm-4pm

Where: 20 Terrapin Trail, Flat Rock, NC 28731

Pilsner, Lager, IPA...what's your poison?!

Jim has graciously offered to host this event inviting Parrot Heads to learn Beer Brewing. You will have the opportunity to help out as he brews a keg of beer to be enjoyed about a month later. Please note: This is a **MEMBERS ONLY** event!



## Arts for Life

When: Thursday, March 19, 2026 3pm-4:30pm

Where: 12 Old Charlotte Highway, Asheville – Highland Brewing

WNCPHC will again be assisting the Arts for Life group in setting up for their Like a Kid Again event. Arts for Life is celebrating more than two decades of their remarkable impact on the hospital experience for pediatric patients. To volunteer, contact Colleen at [clmavl@outlook.com](mailto:clmavl@outlook.com).

## Bowling for Kids Sake

When: Saturday, April 11 11:00am-1:00pm

Where: Sky Lanes, 1477 Patton Avenue, Asheville, NC

This is a very fun event where our group will raise money for Big Brother Big Sisters. Please join our team in bowling for this great cause. Bowling is not necessary....Just come and hang out. Please contact Lori Halula at [jhalula@bellsouth.net](mailto:jhalula@bellsouth.net) for more information. Registration is required.

# The Waterfront Restaurant That Shares A Unique Bond With Jimmy Buffett

**Sean Pagnotti**

Mon, February 23, 2026 at 8:03 AM EST

3 min read

Key takeaways Powered by Yahoo Scout. Yahoo is using AI to generate key points from this article. This means the info may not always match what's in the article. Reporting mistakes helps us improve the experience.

The late Jimmy Buffett was an icon, not just within the music industry, but also as a known foodie. Whether it's referenced in song lyrics in which Buffett waxed poetic about [the time he ate a cheeseburger in paradise](#), or the brand name of his many restaurants and resorts named after one of his most successful hits, the Mayor of Margaritaville [has a legacy in the culinary world](#). This is furthered as the island rock star was often seen at Louie's Backyard, a waterfront restaurant in Key West, Florida. Buffett's first steps at the establishment predate his music career, but he would make his way back even after hitting chart-topper status. In addition to Buffett, Louie's Backyard also shares a bond with many other celebrities.

Prior to touring grand arenas, Jimmy Buffett moved to Key West following a trip with fellow musician Jerry Jeff Walker in the early 1970s. During the time Buffett called the island home, his house was a short distance from the newly established Louie's Backyard, leading him to frequent the 700 Waddell Avenue restaurant. Overtime, Louie's became more than Buffett's favorite spot to kick back, it also served as the stumbled upon bar referenced in the lyrics of "Trying to Reason with Hurricane Season." Near the end of Buffett's legacy, the singer allegedly made a stop back to Louie's during his 2023 Second Wind Tour, likely to not only take in his old stomping grounds, but also to share his favorite hangouts with his wife.

## Jimmy Buffett is among many celebrities connected to Louie's Backyard

A shot of Louie's Backyard outdoor signage among palm trees and the beach - Donna Gross / Facebook



Jimmy Buffett's connection with Louie's Backyard is also shared with other famous faces. Louie's was the wrap party venue for the film adaptation of novelist Thomas McGuane's "Ninety-Two in the Shade." The Key West restaurant also played host to the likes of artist Russell Chatham and poet Jim Harrison, who also hung with Buffett. LGBT icon Tennessee Williams also became intertwined with Louie's as, according to Buffett (via [Keys Weekly](#)), Williams dated a worker there. It's also said that Buffett and close friend Hunter S. Thompson would pal around at Louis Backyard, even renting the aforementioned Key West apartment to the father of gonzo journalism. Though it has never credited itself [as a fusion restaurant](#), Louie's also boasts a legacy with the genre as the stomping grounds of Chef Norman Van Aken, one of the pioneers of the New World cuisine movement.

Even without its celebrity-laced history, it's easy to see the draw to Louie's Backyard. It's rated one of the best restaurants in Key West with several menus throughout the day which, among other delicious selections, feature locally sourced, fresh seafood. Admittedly, it can be a bit pricey at an average of \$40 to \$50 per dinner entree. However, given Louie's overall legacy, and that it was the 2025 recipient of Key West's Bubba Award for Best Waterfront Dining, it's likely worth a visit on your next trip to the Florida Keys.

# Get Your Inner Chef On!

## Wastin' Away Again in Margaritaville!

### Margarita #1

- 1.5 oz Blanco Tequila
- 1 oz Fresh Lime Juice
- 0.5 oz Agave Nector

Garnish with the zest of 1 lime and sea salt purposefully dusted.

Prepare a rocks glass with a salt rim. Add all ingredients to a cocktail shaker. Add ice and shake passionately. Strain into the salted glass over ice. Garnish with lime zest.

### Margarita #2

- 2 oz Blanco or Silver Tequila
- 1 oz Cointreau, triple sec or to be special, Grand Marnier
- 1 oz Freshly squeeze lime juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp Agave nectar or simple syrup (optional)
- 1 cup Ice cubes
- 1 T Coarse salt for the rim

Lime wedge for garnish

Prepare the glass. Rub a lime wedge around the rim of a rocks or margarita glass, the dip it into coarse salt to coat.

Mix the cocktail: Fill a cocktail shaker with ice. Add tequila, orange liqueur, lime juice and optional sweetener. Shake, shake, shake Senora for 15-20 seconds until the shaker is frosted.

Serve: Strain the mixture into the prepared glass over fresh ice. Garnish with lime.

## **WNCPHC info...**

### **WNCPHC Member Facebook Page**

Remember, we now have a group page for WNCPHC news and comments for our members. This is a private group, so search groups in Facebook for WNCPHC member, and request to join. If you have issues connecting please email [secretary@wncphc.com](mailto:secretary@wncphc.com).

Facebook Member Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/304555399057155>

### **Updates will be on Facebook Page (both public and member)**

Local happenings & band dates spring up at the last minute, so we'll keep Facebook posted, with most events on our webpage [event calendar](#)

The [Western North Carolina Parrothead Club](#) is a chapter of PHiP. (*Parrot Heads in Paradise*) ---> Their website: [phip.com](http://phip.com).

On the page, find other chapters in map.

--> If traveling, stop by and see if they have something going on.

Event calendar shows major events for clubs. They are just starting to fill this. Check back often for updates.

