



September
2026

Western North Carolina Parrot Head Club

October Phlocking

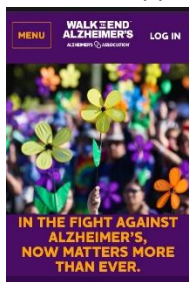
In the immortal words of Mr. Buffett, "I have found me a home!" Well, we have found us a home. Our monthly meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at **The Flying Squirrel in Arden**. This month we will see you on **October 14, 2026, 6:00-7:30 pm**. Contribute your ideas, learn of upcoming events and get to know your phellow Parrotheads! Businesss starts around 6:15 pm.

Join Our Club at the 2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's

Our club is proud to participate in the **2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's** on **Saturday, October 3, 2026**, at **Bill Moore Community Park in Fletcher**. Registration begins at **9:00 a.m.**, with the Opening Ceremony and Walk at **10:00 a.m.** Participants may choose a **0.5-mile or 2-mile route**.

We have eleven members signed up to walk and several to staff the information table but we can always use more!! We have already raised over our goal... \$1,319 in support of the Alzheimer's Association. Every dollar raised helps provide care and support for families while advancing critical Alzheimer's research. Please contact Alice Miller or Julie Lowman,

our co-chairs for this event at willalmill@gmail.com (Alice) or the lowmans@hotmail.com (Julie), if you are interested in volunteering.



2026 Walk to End
Alzheimer's - Asheville,
NC

WNC Parrothead Club has a team set up for the Asheville walk. Please click the link below. You can either donate to our team or join the team, then set up your own page through WNC PHC team and solicit donations.

[Join Our Team!](#) Together, we can make a difference in the fight to end Alzheimer's. We recently had members join our Alzheimer's Team. Are you one of them? If not, please see our [WNC PHC Team Page](#).

As an aside, at the Walk event, we will be preparing a large basket for raffle to raise funds. If you have anything you'd like to donate, please contact Sandy Kayser at pkflamngo@aol.com. Parrothead items, cool knick knacks, bottles of booze. Any and everything accepted.

So Much to Do....and Lots of Time To Do It

Upcoming Events



Arts for Life provides art supplies and instructors to hospitalized pediatric patients and their siblings. It helps distract and brighten days that are often long and painful. On **Thursday, October 1** they will be having their annual fundraiser at Highland Brewing.

Many PHs volunteered to help set up on Sept 30, but unfortunately, we've been informed Highland has rented the room the night before. If you are able to help set up on the morning of October 1, please contact Colleen at clmavl@outlook.com or 828-333-1267.

This is easy work. We also need some volunteers to help break things down afterward at 10:00am. EVERYONE is welcome to come to the free breakfast and program, but we need to register so they know how many to expect. Please contact Colleen.

Schedule:

Set-up: 7:15am -8:15am

Registration: 8:30am-9:15am

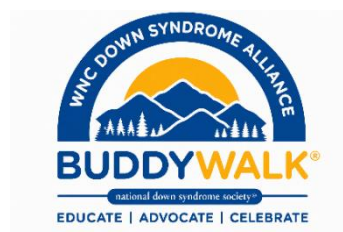
Breakfast/Program: 9:15am-10am

Break things down: 10am-10:30am

Help brighten a child's life. You will be amazed how their artwork will brighten yours!

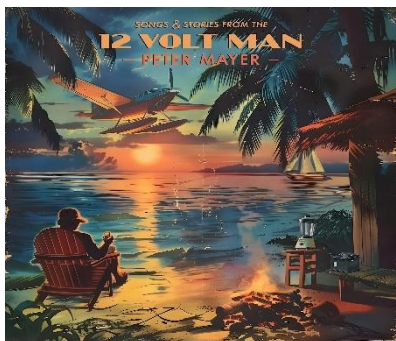
WNC Downs Syndrome Alliance Buddy Walk

The annual WNCDSA Buddy Walk will be held **Saturday, October 10** with registration starting at 11 am and the walk starting at Noon. This walk is rain or shine. Lunch will be provided by Chick-Fil-A, Airport Road. There are many roles for volunteers. Contact Paul Holdredge at holdredgepaul@gmail.com.



Location: Bill Moore Community Park, Fletcher, NC

Peter Mayer Group in Maggie Valley



Peter Mayer will be in Maggie Valley for two nights presenting his 12 Volt Man Tour with his complete band. There will be two opportunities to see this energetic show.

October 9 and 10th, 2026 7:30 pm

Smoky Shadows Lodge, Maggie Valley, NC

[Get Tickets Here](#)

WNCPHC HOLIDAY EVENT



Last year, we had so much fun celebrating the holiday season, our club and helping others. So, we are going to do it again!! The Holiday party will be **Wednesday, November 11 starting at 6 pm** (night of regular monthly phlocking). Alice Miller has again graciously offered to host our event at Howard Hanna Beverly-Hanks Realty in Biltmore Park. Mark your calendars!! More details to follow. We will again be collecting unwrapped, new toys for the Marine's Toys for Tot charity. This gives us plenty of time to check out the sales on Amazon!

Peter Mayer Stars and Promises Tour 2026

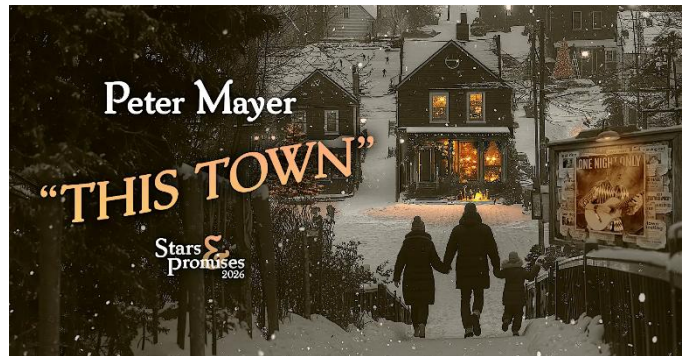
Peter Mayer, Jimmy's lead guitarist, will again be holding his fabulous Christmas show. This will be his 27th year. With each one being better than the year before, you won't want to miss this!

Sunday, December 6, 2026 7:00 pm
Stone Mountain, GA **FREE show!!**

Wednesday, December 9, 2026 7:30 pm
Mooreville, NC (Charlotte)

See link below for tickets and other locations.

[See Event Brite for Tickets](#)



Latitude Blue, A Parrothead Music Festival

Looking to plan your next vacation? Try Costa Rica.

February 11-13, 2007, looks to be a party to keep all things Buffett going!

Check out the amazing line up! For more information, please visit [Latitude Blue Parrothead Music Festival](#).





Nine Club Members Attending
Come join the Phun!!



Caribbean Cowboys Celebrate Buffett Day at Phil's BBQ

Thanks to Phil's BBQ in Black Mountain, one of our most enthusiastic sponsors, for hosting Jimmy Buffett Day on August 29 and the Caribbean Cowboys for some great Buffett music! Phun was had by 12 PHs and we continued the party with another 9 PHs at Phil's on Sept 13 with the Caribbean Cowboys again!

It was a fantastic celebration of the music of Jimmy Buffett, featuring the Caribbean Cowboys!

🎵 🌴 🎧 It was a great night of music, friendship, dancing, Iguana Races, and, of course, plenty of Parrothead phun! A special highlight was having Alex Bradley, a long time member of the club and the Caribbean Cowboys, join the band on trumpet, adding even more island flair to an already incredible evening. What a great way to celebrate the music we love and keep the party going!

🎵 🎸 🎵 #KeepThePartyGoing #NationalJimmyBuffettDay #TheCaribbeanCowboys



Thank you to our Sponsor

701 NC HWY 9,



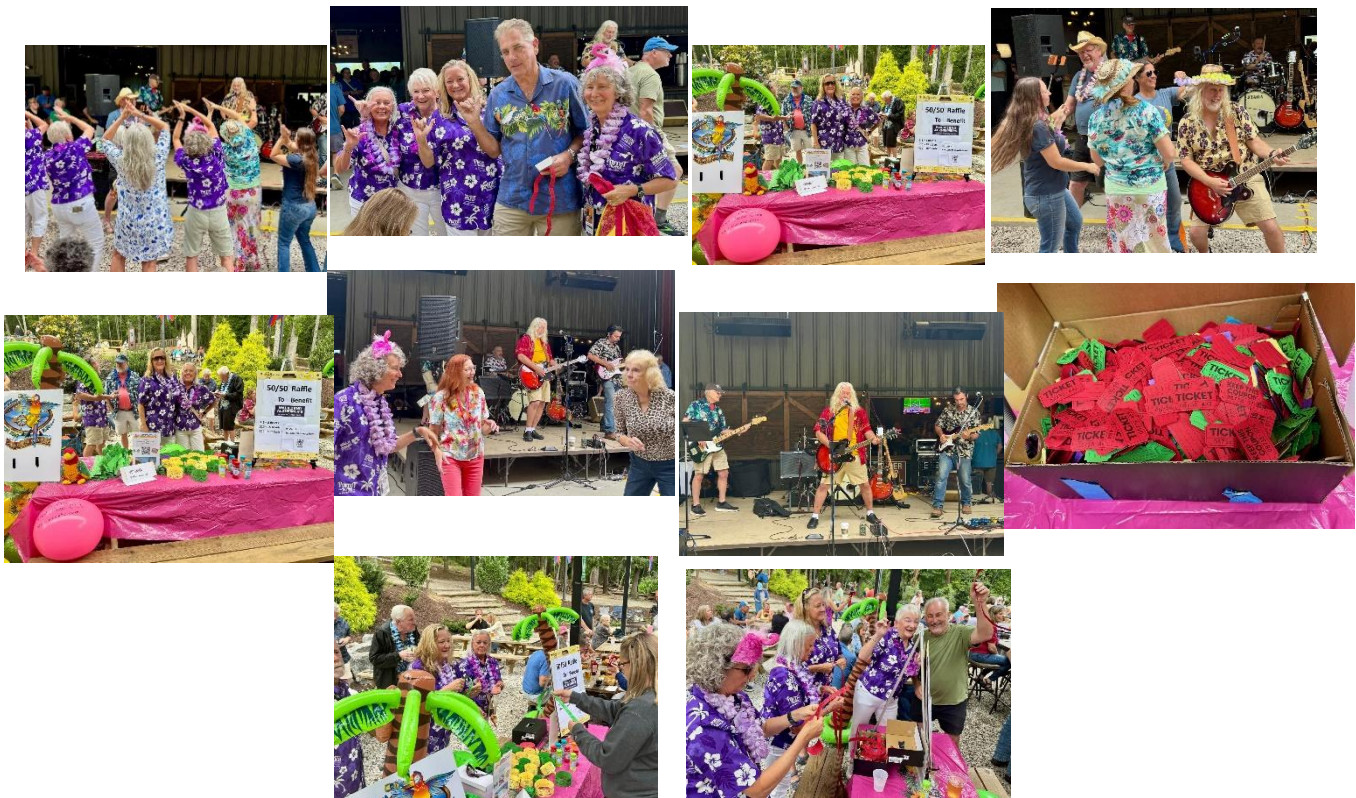
BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

Heading up to Mills River Brewing for the Labor Day Weekend Show.....

(you sang that, didn't you? I did!)

On September 7th, Our club gathered at Mills River Brewery for a fun afternoon of music, friendship, and giving back. The 5 O'clock Somewhere Band took the stage and kept us entertained! We had 24 members in attendance!!

Our 50/50 raffle was a huge success, raising over \$650 for our Walk to End Alzheimer's ♥️ 🐦
Good music, great friends, and making a difference—now that's a party with a purpose!



Welcome to our New Members!

Wilkommen, Howdy, Aloha, Bienvenido, Bienvenue, Hi There!
So glad you have joined our Phlock!

Jenni Sartor
Bill Sartor
Colleen Claxton
James Bayslinger



Sue Alden
Kim Poorman
Scott Poorman

Brookings Bash 2026

by Juie Lowman

September 6, 2026, four Parrotheads had the best time at the Brookings Bash in Cashiers, NC!

🎵❤️ Great music, including Jammy Buffet and other talented performers, beautiful mountain scenery, and lots of laughs and dancing.

Even better, it was all for a great cause—raising money for Habitat for Humanity of Transylvania County. What a fun afternoon supporting an organization that does so much for that community! Good friends, great music, and a great cause—doesn't get much better than that!



21st Annual Boatyard Beach Bash

by Colleen Mangeot

On Saturday 19, 2026, four PHs and three relatives of PHs attended the 21st Annual Boatyard Beach Bash in Annapolis MD to raise money for the Annapolis Maritime Museum's educational programs for children, helping them learn more about marine life and biology.

The line up of musicians was beyond belief. We were warmed up with John Frinzi, John Patti, and Coral Reefer Doyle Grisham. That was followed by the Scott Kirby Trio. That was followed by the Floating Collective, Brendan Mayer (son of Peter Mayer), Erin McAnally (daughter of Mac McAnally), and Mick Utley (son of Michael Utley) – aka the Coral Reefer kids. As the sun started to set, Nadirah Shakoor blew us away with her amazing voice. A conga line got everyone going. Finally, the Peter Mayer group took the stage. And yet, another conga line.....after all is one really enough??? At the end of the night, the entire cast came up on stage for several Buffett songs. I have failed to mention the other pieces of the evening....food and drink were included! Bruce and Colleen's sister-in-law downed more than a dozen oysters! We won't mention how many drinks.

It was worth the 8 hour drive (even with the price of gas). What more can I say. 😊



Member of the Month – Trevor Gwilliam

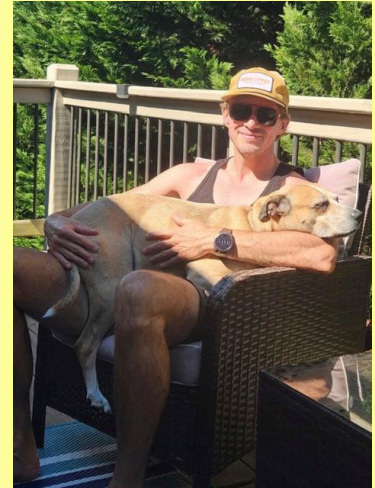
Where are you originally from?

I grew up in Pittsburgh PA. I love all things Pittsburgh sports, but I definitely do not love the weather. As soon as I finished school, I headed south to live some Floridays. I am a true halfback at this point and have lived in Asheville for over fifteen years. You will still catch me on an Allegiant flight to the Sunshine State every few months.

Family

It is just me and my dog Porter up here.

When I was growing up, my friends always laughed at our tropical painted fence lined with pink flamingos and a Bahamian flag out front. My parents would sit outside sunbathing in the one patch of sun on a fifty-degree day, blasting trop rock for the whole neighborhood. They are Parrotheads in southwest Florida now, and I clearly inherited the trait.



Bringing home the bacon

I am the brewing planner at New Belgium Brewing and have worked there for eight years. Beer is kind of in my DNA. My family had a beer and a shot bar named Trevor's Tavern when I was a kid. I used to crawl around the pool table and feed quarters into the jukebox, usually landing on Bob Marley before exploring anything else. I turned out fine, mostly.

What brought you into the fabulous world of Parrotheads?

I guess I started as a Parakeet, but now I am a full-blown Parrotman. Songs You Know By Heart practically had a hole worn through it in my little yellow Walkman growing up. I probably listened to Cheeseburger in Paradise ten thousand times before I turned ten.

When I turned twenty one, the Hemisphere Dancer was parked at Universal CityWalk near where I lived. My friends and I hung out there eating peel and eat shrimp and drinking Landsharks weekly. Later on, I spent a lot of time chasing Barefoot Man concerts around the Abacos and got completely hooked on the trop rock culture. Reggae is always on my stereo, but Jimmy and the Coral Reefers have a special place in my heart.

What direction would you like to see for our club?

There is a huge audience of people who love Jimmy's music and the lifestyle, so I would love to see us get more exposure around the area. Bringing in younger folks will help keep the mission alive. I would also love to see some entertainment make its way into the meetings. Music, stories, anything that brings the vibe to life.

Buffett Stories:

I never met Jimmy, but I am pretty sure I saw his boat floating around the Caribbean once or twice.

My last Buffett show was around 2008. After drinking twelve volt margaritas in the parking lot and lounging in a kiddie pool, we snuck about forty-five mini bottles of rum into the show. Jimmy came out solo to open with Boat Drinks, which felt perfectly ironic. I did not drink coconut rum for a few years after that night, but it was absolutely worth the memory.

The surprising healing power of Jimmy Buffett's music

By Samuel J. Abrams

Published: Aug 4, 2026, 9:00 p.m

Samuel is a professor of politics at Sarah Lawrence College, a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a scholar with the Sutherland Institute.

To anyone who knows me, it is no secret that I am a Parrothead.

That sentence would have surprised the younger me and occasionally still does in my middle age. I grew up liking Jimmy Buffett's music, but I never really understood his fans. In my teens, they struck me as a little odd: the Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts, the frozen drinks, the beach balls, the endless search for Margaritaville and a missing salt shaker. The songs were fun and quirky, but I wasn't sure I wanted to be part of the culture.

Then came 2020.

That spring, my family was living in New York City as COVID-19 swept through the country. Ambulances screamed through our neighborhood day and night. Hospitals overflowed. Every trip outside felt unsettling, and so many people that we knew were sick and some tragically died. It was during those dark weeks that my wife and I suffered the unimaginable loss of our daughter. Like so many families, we were grieving while the world itself seemed to be unraveling.



Eventually, we packed our son into the car and drove south to Virginia, hoping warmer weather and open space might help us breathe again. Every day in Virginia, I searched for parks and playgrounds where he could run and laugh and be a little boy while the rest of the world seemed frozen.

The moment a child starts carrying, not just receiving

The sun, the fresh air, the open skies and the beaches helped me beyond words. And on one afternoon, Jimmy Buffett's version of "Southern Cross" came on the radio. The song hit me hard and totally unexpectedly; I certainly knew the song, but its lyrics about heartbreak, healing and finding spiritual clarity through a long-distance voyage took on an entirely new meaning for me.

The song uses the literal navigational star constellation of the Southern Hemisphere as a metaphor for finding inner direction and eventually peace after a painful episode in life. As the song wound down, I pulled the car over and cried.

Looking back at that moment, I realize now that "Southern Cross" was so powerful then because it spoke of heartbreak without surrender and of acknowledging loss while still believing there were better days ahead. I needed to hear that message in 2020, and with that old song, I started listening to "Radio Margaritaville" on SiriusXM. Soon, it became the soundtrack to our drives.

The songs were often delightfully ridiculous. Pirates. Beaches. Cheeseburgers. French croissants. Fishing. Escaping to islands that probably existed only in Buffett's imagination.

The jokes were the easy part. But what kept me in the car was the perspective underneath all of them and Jimmy's overarching messaging in his work: gratitude that sounded earned rather than assumed.

Listeners called into the station from across the country with stories of illness, loss, family, recovery and hope. They laughed and cried on the air, and they checked in on one another afterward. Before long, I found online groups full of people I had never met who somehow knew exactly what so many of us were carrying through those lonely months.



Kenny Chesney, from left, James Taylor, and Mac McAnally perform a tribute to Jimmy Buffett during the 39th Annual Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024, at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse in Cleveland. | Chris Pizzello, Associated Press

The community astonished me. They didn't gather because they agreed about politics or shared the same careers; they gathered because they shared joy and wanted to enjoy life with family and friends.

I realized over those months that I had spent so many years thinking that Jimmy Buffett wrote songs.

What he actually built over five decades was a community — one with a standing invitation to show up, be generous, and enjoy yourself in the company of strangers who often became lifelong friends.

When the pandemic finally faded, I wanted my children to experience the world that had given so much to me. So we took our family to Key West.

My son had spent countless hours listening to Buffett in the car during those years, and in Key West the songs came alive. We wandered Duval Street, stopped for brunch at the La Te Da Hotel, saw Jimmy's recording studio, and had to visit the famous Captain Tony's bar.

As we walked toward the famous saloon, my son suddenly stopped. He looked up at the awning, turned to me with a huge smile, and said, "Dad — this is Captain Tony's!" He had connected the lyric to the place.

For years, the song had lived in our car. Suddenly it had an address and was a real place. It wasn't just another restaurant in Key West; it was the almost sacred place where Jimmy Buffett would sing many years earlier. Watching him make that connection was one of the great joys of the trip.

By then, our family had changed. Our daughter grew up with Buffett playing in the background. She knew "Margaritaville" and she knew "Fins," and she knew that whenever one of Buffett's songs came on, Dad was going to sing along whether anyone wanted him to or not.

She knew I loved him; she just never knew why.

A few nights ago, after baths and bedtime routines, my daughter climbed into bed with a brand-new “Little Golden Book” about Jimmy Buffett that had just arrived in the mail.

“Daddy,” she asked, “will you sit with me while I read it?”

She is just learning to read, carefully sounding out words one syllable at a time. Every few sentences she stopped, asked me how to pronounce a word, then beamed when she got it.

She read about the little boy who explored the Gulf Coast. She read about the guitar. She read about the years spent driving from town to town before anyone knew his name. She read about the Coral Reefer Band, Margaritaville, and the man who wanted to tell stories and bring people together.

Somewhere in the middle of the book, I started becoming emotional. Not because Buffett had died; not because I was remembering a favorite musician.

As she kept reading, I wasn’t hearing Buffett’s story — I was remembering my own during those tough times. Driving through Virginia with my son, trying to outrun grief one playground at a time. The strangers who became friends over a shared love of his music. Standing in Key West, watching my son’s amazement as songs became places.

Without realizing it and without me anticipating it, she had handed me the music that carried me through grief and she did it in the voice of a little girl learning to read.

Parents spend years wondering what their children will inherit. We hope they’ll inherit our faith, our values, our love of family, our gratitude. But they also inherit quieter things: favorite books, familiar songs, places that become sacred because someone they love first loved them.

Then, every so often, something extraordinary happens. Your child hands it back to you.

My daughter finished the last page, closed the book, and smiled. She had no idea why I was crying. Someday I’ll tell her. But for now, I’m grateful that she knows the songs, that she knows the joy behind them and that she has become part of a story that began long before she could read. For years, Jimmy Buffett’s music helped carry me; a “Little Golden Book” helped my daughter carry it back.

Fins up.

Upcoming Music Events

John Friday (solo)
Frog Level Brewery (Frogtoberfest)
September 26, 2026 1-4 pm
Waynesville, NC

The Caribbean Cowboys
Trailside Brewery
October 3, 2026 6-9 pm
Black Mountain, NC

The Caribbean Cowboys
Burntshirt Vineyards
October 4, 2026 2-5 pm
Hendersonville, NC

John Friday (solo)
Woodfin Tavern
October 8, 2026 6-8 pm
Woodfin, NC

Laurel Canyon East
Antler Village at Biltmore Estate
October 9, 2026 4:30 – 8:30 pm
Asheville, NC

The Caribbean Cowboys
Champion Hills Country Club
October 10, 2026 All day!
Hendersonville, NC

John Friday (solo)
Bill's Creek Music Festival
John's set will be all **TropRock** music
October 10, 2026 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Lake Lure, NC

The Caribbean Cowboys
Trailside Brewery Halloween
October 31, 2026 6-9 pm
Hendersonville, NC

The Caribbean Cowboys
Burntshirt Vineyards
November 1, 2026
Hendersonville, NC 2-5 pm



Get Your Inner Chef On!

Pumpkin Soup

**Courtesy of The Margaritaville Cookbook by Olaf Norstrom
From "I Wish Lunch Would Last Forever" in
Tales from Margaritaville**

It's almost officially fall! Let the leaves tumble and the pumpkin spice take over the grocery store shelves!

Leave it to Bubba to remind us that pumpkins are not something reserved for goblins and Pilgrims, but are a common vegetable in the islands. Calabaza, the West Indian or green pumpkin, is not the same as the North American pumpkin, but almost as large. Though it's okay to use our more familiar pumpkin in this recipe, you'd find a flavor more like calabaza if you substitute a butternut or Hubbard squash.

Yields 4 Servings

Ingredients:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2 lbs soup bones | 1 garlic clove |
| 4 quarts water | 1 green pepper, seeded & whole |
| 8 oz pickled pork (optional) | 2 lbs pumpkin, peeled & seeded |
| 2 scallion stalks | 1 lb yams, peeled |
| 1 sprig thyme | 1 Tbl ginger root, peeled & minced |

Instructions:

1. In a large pot, place the soup bones, pork, and 4 quarts of cold water, then cover and bring to the boil.
2. Once the meat in the pot has cooked, add the scallion, thyme, garlic, green pepper, yams, and pumpkin. Cover and bring to the boil. Cook until the pumpkin and yams are tender.
3. With a slotted spoon, remove the cooked pumpkin from the pot and allow to cool for 5 minutes.
4. Reduce the heat and allow the pot to simmer.
5. Puree the cooked pumpkin pieces in a food processor, then return to the pot.
6. Remove and discard the green pepper.
7. Stir, taste and correct the seasoning with salt and pepper.
8. Divide the minced ginger among the heated soup plates, then ladle the soup.

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.

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.

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.

