

Message from the Isle

Midwestern Latitudes ~ Caribbean Attitudes

www.isleofiowa.com

December 2009

Vol. 12 Issue 12



News about the Isle

- * *From the Editor*
- * *Monthly Meetings*
- * *Information on the Phlock*
- * *Photos of the Phlock*
- * *Parrot Head Happenings*
- * *History of our Club*
- * *Club Calendar*
- * *Dis & Dat*

Quarterly Charity

*October, November &
December*

Linn County Veterans Affair

**For more information on the
club go to:**

www.isleofiowa.com

View from the Volcano's Top

Mike "Volcano" Sion - President

As I write this the view is wonderful today on the island - sunny and peaceful. The island pholks are preparing for a very cold winter. We will be gathering presents and food for two families and their children. If you weren't able to get to the last meeting and would like to donate, let Deanna Steggall know.

The Cedar Rapids Holiday Parade is December 5th downtown. As in years past, we will be gathering as a walking unit. This parade has always been a lot of fun for our club and we will be "Dashing Through Downtown" Buffett style! We have always brought our island style Seasons Greetings to the city, and this year we will carry on our tradition.

This season I would ask that we all gather at the Longbranch for our holiday party December 19th and celebrate Christmas and the coming of a New Year. We are such a great bunch of pholks, and when we gather the feeling of joy fills us; especially when we get the chance to see pholks that haven't been able to attend lately.

This season take the time to smell the mistletoe and give your buddy or babe a hug and enjoy this life that is so precious; and smile because tomorrow will bring.....

from the Editor

Newsletter Committee:

Editor:

Deanna Steggall

Assistant Editor:

Sandy Young

Photographer:

Dave Metz

Contribute to the Message from the Isle

Any appropriate articles such as letters, reviews, recipes, Parrot Head related stories, and/or personal experiences, are welcomed and should be e-mailed to Sandy Young, Assistant Editor, at sandy@classicphoto.com. Parrot Head related pictures are welcomed as well, and should be e-mailed to the Editor, Deanna Steggall, at deannajs@q.com.

Deadline for articles in the monthly newsletter will be the 15th of each month. Any articles received after this date will be used in the following month's newsletter.

Message From the Isle is the official publication of the Isle of Iowa Parrot Head Club. Message From the Isle is published monthly for all members of the club and sent to many other chapters and contacts nationwide. The views expressed in the Message From the Isle are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Isle of Iowa Parrot Head Club, its members, or Board.



For more information on our international organization of Parrot Head Clubs, please go to the Parrot Heads in Paradise, Inc. (PHIP) web site at www.phip.com. You can read their quarterly newsletter, TradeWind Times, and be kept up-to-date on Parrot Head Clubs across the country and internationally.

Isle of Iowa Parrot Head Club
PO Box 11172 ~ Cedar Rapids, Iowa ~52410-1172

Monthly Meetings

Make it to Third Base!

Sandy Young

Fast Facts:

What: One Particular Harbor
Where: 3rd Base Brewery, 500 Blairs Ferry Rd. NE, CR
When: November 4, 2009
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Did the double entendre catch your attention? Then read on. With Christmas right around the corner, it's a busy time, but you really should make it to our One Particular Harbor this month as the club members have interesting things to talk about. We will be at the 3rd Base Brewery (formerly Cedar Brewing) on Blairs Ferry Road, right across from Rockwell Collins.

For those of you who missed our November monthly meeting, we will have information on the Adopt-A-Family program and some paper gift cut-outs for you to take with suggestions for gifts for our two families. Our two families are single moms with four kids EACH, so they really need our help. The gifts will be due at our Christmas Party on December 19 at the Longbranch Gold Zone Bar area. Of course, money is also appreciated!

For you new members, One Particular Harbors (OPH) are social get-togethers where Parrot Heads can visit and relax in a casual atmosphere and get to know one another better. They start around 5:30 p.m. and officially go until 10 p.m., but some Parrot Heads have been known to linger longer.

As always, the board welcomes any ideas you may have for a location for the One Particular Harbors, whether indoors or in the summer at our outdoor picnics. You may contact any board member with your ideas. The indoor establishment should be a place large enough to hold between 20-30 people and have food available as well as drinks.

So far we've been batting a thousand (pun intended) on good places to gather, so join us for some holiday cheer and you won't be disappointed!



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Information on the Phlock

Christmas Party – Location Change!

Deanna Steggall/Sandy Young

Fast Facts

- **Where:** Longbranch Gold Zone Bar area, 90 Twixt Town Rd. NE, CR
- **When:** December 19, 2009
- **Time:** 6 p.m.

The club Christmas Party is fast approaching! Our get-together will be held at the Longbranch Hotel Gold Zone Bar (rather than Izaak Walton) on Saturday, December 19th at 6 p.m., so change your calendars! This party will take the place of our monthly meeting and there will be no raffle that night – only fun, fun, fun!

This will be a potluck, so bring a dish to share and your own drinks. The club will provide meat and cheese trays, bread, a fruit tray, and cupcakes. Tableware will also be provided.

The gifts for Adopt-a-Family will be collected that night. If you haven't picked up your gift tags, they will be available at our One Particular Harbor on December 5, or please contact Deanna at deannajs@q.com.

We will be having a gift exchange which always proves to be a lot of fun! Guidelines are listed below:

Gift Exchange

To participate in the Gift Exchange:

1. Please sign in when you arrive by writing your name on a ticket provided and place the ticket in a basket located by the front door.
2. When the Gift Exchange begins, a name will be drawn from the basket. This person will go to the tree and select a gift to unwrap. After unwrapping, the person can then choose to keep the gift or open another gift. If the person decides to open another gift, the unwrapped gift is returned to the tree and the second gift will be theirs to keep. NO changing their mind after opening the second gift!
3. The next name drawn will then have the option of taking from the tree the unwrapped gift or opening a wrapped gift. Whatever the choice is, the gift selected is theirs to keep.
4. The third name drawn will select from the tree an unwrapped gift or open a wrapped gift, and the selected gift is theirs to keep.
5. This will continue for the remainder of the names.
6. Swapping of gifts between individuals may occur after the game is completed.

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Information on the Phlock

Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc.

“A help up, not a hand out.”

Deanna Steggall

Every year in December for the Christmas season the Isle of Iowa adopts two families through the Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc., (better known as HACAP) **Adopt-A-Family program**, and this year is no different; because Parrot Heads care about the entire community and are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

We are in need of your help to donate gifts and food and help us distribute these items to the families. Information on the families and gift tags will be available at our One Particular Harbor on December 5. Or, if you are interested in helping out in any way, please let me know at deannajs@q.com or call me at 319-651-9494.

The HACAP Adopt-A-Family Program helps more than 350 families become linked with individuals and organizations wishing to donate food and gifts to families in need. Community action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live.

HACAP's Mission Statement: Helping people develop skills to become successful and build strong communities.

For further information on HACAP please go to their Web site at www.hacap.org.

Holiday Parade – Dashing through Downtown

Deanna Steggall/Sandy Young

Fast Facts

- **Where:** Downtown Cedar Rapids, 3rd Ave. SW/SE
- **When:** Saturday, December 5, 2009
- **Time:** 6 p.m.

Are you able to walk and give out candy at the same time? I know that's double tasking, and if that's too difficult, how about just walking with our club in the Holiday Parade this year? We jest, but seriously Parrot Heads, the theme is “Dashing through Downtown” and should be a great addition to Jimmy Buffett's song “Run Rudolph Run”!!

We have some grocery carts to do the dashing through downtown with, so it will be a lot of fun and you can keep warm while dashing. Please join us!

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Information on the Phlock

Exciting News for the Mini-Mart!

Linda Barger

Fast Facts:

- **What:** IIPHC Logo Watches
- **How Much:** \$35.00

My husband, Terry, and I have volunteered to be the new Mini Mart King and Queen, and the board has approved.

Several years ago the club had watches with the club logo on them. I showed them to the board and they approved to bring them back!

What a great Christmas gift!!

The watches are chrome plated, battery powered with quartz movement, water resistant, have a stainless steel back, and an alligator texture genuine leather watch band. These watches have a life-time limited warranty.

Terry and I have had ours for 8-10 years. In that time the batteries have needed to be replaced and my watch band broke. When I called the company I was informed that I could send them to their Service Department and for \$10 they will completely go over the watch, replace and clean anything that needs it, including the watch band, crystal and battery.

The club will sell these watches for only \$35.00, and you can place orders ahead of time. Please let Terry or me know by e-mailing us at bargerph@msn.com or by calling us at 319-377-4336 (H) or 319-560-4663 (C) and we will reserve them for you. What a deal!!

If you need other Christmas gift ideas, we will have a new order of T-shirts arriving soon. The T-shirts will be \$12-\$15, depending on size.

Listed below are items we have in stock:

- Hats - \$5 (Only 3 in stock!)
- Purple and Navy Tanks - \$5
- Lt. Blue Long Sleeve T-Shirts - \$5
- Men's and Ladies Polo Shirts - \$10
- Bottle Koozies - \$2
- Black Cups – 10 at \$1 each
- Flashing Glasses - \$2.50
- Pirate and Parrot Door Mats - \$15
- Picture CD's of the Club - \$1
- Tiki Idols - \$1

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Information on the Phlock

MOTM Floridays 2009 Wrap Up

Charlotte Skinner
Director of Conventions, PHIP
<http://www.phip.com/MOTM.asp>

Well, we are back from the Island, and having to come back to the real world really "STINKS".

I'm still in a bit of a fog. I really hope everyone had as much "fun" as I did. When looking out into the crowd from the big stages all I could see was Parrot Heads dancing, singing, smiling, and laughing.

To the PHIP Inc. Board of Directors, thank you for your confidence and support.

Special thanks to all our sponsors: Margaritaville Tequila, LandShark Lager, Margaritaville Key West, Radio Margaritaville, Casa Marina Resort, Big Pecker Wines and FireFly Sweet Tea Vodka.

Many thanks to all my Committee Chairs and to everyone who signed up to volunteer. It's you who help things run so smoothly during MOTM. We could not do it without you. "The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers."

To all the entertainers and bands. Thank you so much for being a part of MOTM 2009 "Floridays". The Trop Rock music was flowing on the beach at the Casa and the Margaritaville Street Fest.

Oh my, if you did not get the chance to sign up for the Goodie Bag Stuffing this year, way too much "fun" was had by all who were there. How can you not have "fun" with the Calypso Nuts? I can't wait to see the pictures of the "Nascar Musical Chair".

Wednesday, by the Sun Sun Bar, we started the entertainment earlier than past years. It was the official start of Trop Rock music flowing on the beach at the Casa. They had Tall Paul & Crowdaddy, Brent Burns, 12 Volt Band, Kelly McGuire and Tropical Soul. The crowd was unbelievable from 11 a.m. to 12 midnight!

THURSDAY...OMG!!!! It was the best day ever! Registration with Brent Burns, shopping in the registration area, meeting all the entertainers/bands, buying raffle tickets, shopping in the Mini Mart and more. Trop Rock to start the day out by the Sun Sun Bar. Jim Hoehn, Bob Karwin and John Reno performing.

The first ever MOTM Sunset Cruise was a HUGE success with Jerry Diaz and Kelly McGuire, even though Mother Nature made a visit. That little rain did not stop the party at the Casa for long.

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(cont. from pg. 7)

The surprise act was from Style Pasifika who brought you all a little Island entertainment. Club Trini (Michel Utley, Robert Greenidge), Coral Reefers--Peter Mayer, Nadriah Shakoor, Doyle Grisham and Tina Gullickson along with Ilo Ferreira and the Boat Drunks put on one of the best shows I have ever seen in a long time. They were "AWESOME"!!!!

You folks just amaze me. You all moved over to the Sun Sun Bar for John Frinzi & Friends. It was slammed out. Chairs everywhere, even out in the walkway. Glad no one fell in those wading pools. You all stayed until way after 1:30 a.m. What a great way to end Thursday night!

By the time Friday got here I realized I was on the best "HIGH" ever from all the excitement coming from all of you.

Friday was the Margaritaville Key West Street Fest. What a great afternoon on Duval Street. The street was packed out and the Trop Rock music flowed through the street with PHINS, Jerry Diaz & Hanna's Reef, and Howard Livingston & Mile Marker 24. Thanks to Margaritaville Key West and Paradise Charitable Foundation.

Congratulations to all the winners of the 2009 Trop Rock Music Awards on Friday night. All the entertainers and bands that we all love and support were there, presented by the Margarita M.A.F.I.A.

Saturday Beach Bash...This is the day we all find out who will be the "Last Man/Woman Standing". There were way too many to count...dancing, singing, smiling, and laughing. I kept clicking my red slippers sending Morse

Code to Mother Nature to please turn down the fan a notch or two, and it worked! The show went on and the afternoon of Trop Rock music was amazing! Sunny Jim Band, Jim Morris & The Big Bamboo Band, and Jimmy & The Parrots.

OMG...."Little Feat" rocked the beach!!!! Everyone in the crowd had their "Happy Feats" a dancin'. Their performance was AWESOME!!!!. Their special guests on stage with them - Larry Lister (Boat Drunks), Ilo Ferreira and Amy Lee - just topped the night off. Little Feat is a legend and they now are placed in the "History Lesson" of all Meeting Of The Minds!

Thank you all for your support by attending the 18th Annual Meeting Of The Minds 2009 "Floridays". Without your support there would not be a convention. Yesterday is over our shoulders. "I could go on for hours telling stories...but I guess you had to be there." - *Jimmy Buffett* It's time to close the history book for 2009, and time for me to start looking into my bag of tricks.

The Order of the Sleepless Knights will now assume the throne.

The 19th Annual Meeting Of The Minds 2010 "GYPSIES IN THE PALACE"

November 4 - November 7, 2010 Hope to see you all again at the end of the road!

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Information on the Phlock

MOTM 2009 Toy Drive

Todd Peppenhorst
Floriday's Toy Drive Chair

Parrot Head clubs across the nation and borders please stand up and give yourselves a huge round of applause or pat yourselves on the back. The Salvation Army told me this was the best toy drive they had in the last three years! And, you guessed it; I could not have done it without all of you wonderful Parrot Heads from all our gracious regions.

It was my first chair position to hold for MOTM. I have to admit that when I arrived on Wednesday and heard there was a package waiting for me at the Casa, I knew the Toy Drive was in the hands of the right people. Yes - Parrot Heads!

Thursday morning came quickly and I was excited to get to the Casa. I felt almost as excited as the numerous kids who we will have put smiles on the faces of this Christmas season. When I arrived, the first toy box I was given was the one which I was told about, and to my excited eyes, I realized it traveled from San Francisco to Key West. Hats go off to the Latitude 38 PHC for the furthest received toys. This just confirmed that Parrot Heads are the best people! Parrot Heads are so much more than party-goers; we are helpers, donators, charitable contributors, and the people my parents should have raised me after.

When Saturday arrived and I got to look at all those boxes of toys the Enthusiastic Loving Parrot Heads (ELPHS) had provided I knew it was a success. Then the final touch was added when Miss Barbara, a spokesperson for the Salvation Army, gave her touching speech during the general business meeting.

As the Toy Drive concluded and we made several trips to load toys into the box van, the driver stated how shocked he was with the amount of toys us Parrot Heads had donated.

With all this being said, I thank each and every Parrot Head and club for their kind donation. Just remember that with your help some child will have the excitement of unwrapping gifts on Christmas. Thanks again to all the ELPH's!

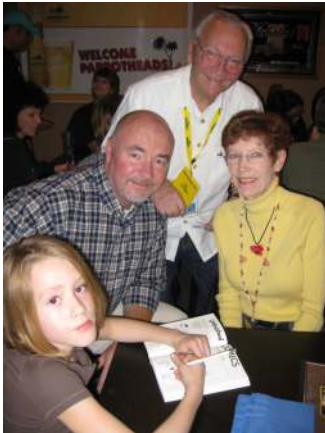
Tidbits to Ponder

Take risks. If you win, you will be happy; if you lose, you will be wise – *Author Unknown*

- * You will always miss 100% of the shots you don't take – *Wayne Gretzky*
- * Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark; professionals built the Titanic. – *Author Unknown*
- * When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so that at the end you are the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying. – *Author Unknown*
- * Be yourself; everyone else is taken. – *Author Unknown*
- * Nobody really cares if you're miserable, so you might as well be happy. – *Cynthia Nelms*

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Photos of the Phlock



Pictures from the
November Monthly
Meeting!

A great time was had
by all who attended!



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Photos of the Phlock



Pictures from the Halloween Party

What a great event!



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Photos of the Phlock



More great pictures of the
Halloween Party



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Parrot Head Happenings

Condolences

Our condolences go out to the family of Bob Randklev in the loss of his father, Thomas Allan Randklev, 66, on November 27, 2009. Please keep Bob, Karen, and their children Lindsey and Derek and the rest of his family in your thoughts and prayers during this most trying time.

Eight Ways to Have a Great Day... EVERY Day!

Reprinted with permission from Dr. Alan Zimmerman's Internet newsletter, the "Tuesday Tip."

Submitted by **Steve Robe** – IIPHC Board Treasurer

Get PHYSICAL.

1. Take a few deep breaths throughout the day. It not only calms you but re-invigorates you.
2. Get busy living. Don't sit around waiting for life to happen. And don't sit around wallowing in the grief of yesterday. Life is too short for long pity parties.
3. And if you're feeling overwhelmed or burned out, just remember ... for fast-acting relief, try slowing down.

Put some RECREATIONAL fun in your day.

4. Look for the humor in everyday situations. For example, if you show me a man that has both feet firmly planted on the ground, I'll show you a man who can't get his pants off.
5. Look for the craziness in everyday platitudes. As they say, "Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he'll eat for a lifetime." But in reality, sometimes you teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day long.
6. Don't watch life from the sidelines. Get involved and make the most of it ... starting now.
7. Grow up without growing old. Or, in the words of **Jimmy Buffett**, grow older but not up.
8. Always remember, no one is in charge of your happiness except you.

This is only eight ways out of 48 ways to have a great day. Stay tuned for more in the next newsletter!

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History of our Club

10 Years Ago

Susan Freundt - Founder

December 1999

The annual club Christmas Party was held at Third Street Live! The food was provided by the Alzheimer's Association in appreciation for the club being the Top Team and having the Top Individual Walker in September's Alzheimer's Walk.



Check presentation to the Iowa City Crisis Center. Thank you Bart and Michelle for standing in for the Board and presenting the check!!

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Club Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Place
One Particular Harbor	12/2	5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.	3 rd Base Brewery Blairs Ferry Rd. NE, CR
Holiday Parade	12/5	6 p.m.	Downtown CR
Newsletter Deadline	12/15		
Christmas Party	12/19	6 p.m.	Longbranch Hotel Gold Zone Bar area
Winter Begins!	12/21		
Christmas Day	12/25		
New Year's Eve	12/31		Make 2010 the best ever!!
One Particular Harbor	1/6	5:30 p.m. – 10p.m.	TBA
Monthly Board Meeting	1/19	6:30 p.m.	Longbranch Hotel Gold Zone Bar area
Monthly Meeting	1/21	6 p.m.	DC Riverwalk 411 1 st Street SE, CR

Dis & Dat

Contact the Club Board Contacts

President – Mike Sion 319-378-3641, president@isleofiowa.com
Vice President – Keith Wright, 319-573-5153, vicepresident@isleofiowa.com
Secretary – Deanna Steggall, 319-651-9494, secretary@isleofiowa.com
Treasurer – Steve Robe 319-351-3474, treasurer@isleofiowa.com
Social Director – Laurie Sexton 319-651-4473, socialdirector@isleofiowa.com
Membership Director – Karen Mahannah 319-389-2795, membershipdirector@isleofiowa.com
Member at Large – Kaye Moeller, memberatlarge1@isleofiowa.com
Member at Large – Jim Roman 319-213-0585, memberatlarge2@isleofiowa.com
Member at Large – Doris Olson, memberatlarge3@isleofiowa.com

Monthly Board Meeting

The monthly Board meetings are scheduled for the **Tuesday before** the monthly membership meeting, and will start at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

These Board meetings are open to all members, not just Board members. Come and join us as we discuss the business of our club and plan upcoming events, etc. It's a great chance to help the club and to become more involved.

For the location of this month's Board meeting, please see the Phlock calendar. You can also visit us online at: www.isleofiowa.com.

Join the Listserv

To join the Listserv, visit our Web site at www.isleofiowa.com and enter your E-mail address on the Listserv box found on the Homepage. The Listserv is limited to club business and events only and is the fastest way of getting the latest information about the club, and to keep track of events' dates or changes

Join the Coconet

isleofiwacoconet@yahoogroups.com. This is the Isle of Iowa Parrot Head Club's open communications group for non-official discussions of club members. The only limitations of this group are no profanity, no defamation of character, no indecent photos or comments, and no illegal activity. Other than that, members are free to advertise, discuss non-club events, or whatever those members wish to communicate. Please keep in mind that common sense, kindness, and courtesy shall rule.

To join the Coconet, go to <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/isleofiwacoconet/> and sign up. The existing Isle of Iowa Listserv mentioned above will still be used, but limited to club business and events only please.

If you have questions about the Listserv or Coconet, contact the board President listed under **Contact the Club** on this page.

December Birthdays

Lou Ann Anderson - 2
Deb Ptacek - 8
Mary Jo Doyle - 10
Carol Winetroub - 12
Deb Worden - 17
Jack Vasquez - 19
Steve Robe - 20
Holly Stineman - 24
Garry Joseph - 25
Jimmy Buffett - 25
Steve Flock - 31
Karen Randklev - 31

January Birthdays

Chrisann Overman - 1
Bob Randklev - 8
Carlotte Bonar - 13
Kathy Mullen - 15
Joe DeLory - 17
Dave Metz - 24
Denise Manard - 27

**Be sure and attend
the monthly meeting
in the month of your
birthday to get your
free birthday
drink!**

New Members

Judy McCalley
Mary Moore

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