

Message from the Isle

Midwestern Latitudes ~ Caribbean Attitudes
www.isleofiowa.com



December 2010

Vol. 13 Issue 12

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Quarterly Charity
*December, January &
February*
Alzheimer's Association

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

www.isleofiowa.com

Words from our President

From Deanna's Window on the World
Deanna "Diego" Steggall - President

This is the time of year where giving is really in the forefront of everyone's mind. The time of year when our world begins to turn white and the anticipation of things to come fills all of our hearts. Children start to think about whether they have been naughty or nice and hope that they will receive that much wanted present they are dreaming for.

With all the joy of the season it is also a reminder that there are those out there that do not have the basic things in life that sometimes we take for granted. They do not have a home in this cold weather to call their own, their food is nil to none and the clothes are not enough to keep them warm. It is a perfect time to reflect on our own lives and to be thankful for the things we have and to know that many times our lives are not so bad or could be so much worse.

It is this time of the year that makes me even more proud to be a member of the Isle of Iowa Parrot Head Club. The Board has begun to put together our year end report for PHIP and I have a chance to mull over all the wonderful things this club does. The charities we donate to and the difference we make in many people's lives. As a personal testament, I have recently started working at the Madge Phillips Shelter (Waypoint) and I can tell you that all the donation that we give whether it be food, clothing, cleaning supplies or school items; are greatly appreciated by so many people. This time of year winter items like gloves and hats are treasured items. So thank you for all that you give and all that you do to make a difference in our community, it does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated!

Our Club Christmas Party is December 11th at the Fairfax Legion and will be not only a time to rejoice in all of the things our club has done this past year to help and improve the lives of those around us but also a time to thank each and everyone of you for giving your time and money to our causes.

Continued on Pg. 2

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

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.

Jimmy Buffett's song "An Attitude of Gratitude" sums it all up. If you have not had a chance to listen to this one, I highly suggest it. It is on a Marlo Thomas album called "Thanks and Giving All Year Long."

As Jimmy Buffett says

*"An Attitude of Gratitude when pushes come to shove,
Eliminates combatatude and changes fear to love.*

An Attitude of Gratitude Hooray for what's o.k.

Say thank you with a infactatude it's a brand new day"



So, continue to give to our community, to your family, your friends and yourself. We all can make a little difference in this world and make it a brighter place to live for all of us! I thank and appreciate all of you!!!

As always remember to *SMILE*, It's contagious and makes the world a brighter place!

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
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Monthly Meetings

Christmas Party

Deanna Steggall

Fast Facts

- **Where:** Fairfax Legion Hall, 216 Main Street, Fairfax
- **When:** December 11, 2010
- **Time:** 6 p.m.

The club Christmas Party will soon be upon us! Our get-together will be held at the Fairfax Legion Hall on Saturday, December 11th at 6 p.m., so mark 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. The club will provide table service and cupcakes. As the club's Christmas present to everyone, each club member will receive one drink ticket upon arriving at the party.

The gifts for Adopt-a-Family will be collected that night.

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, opening a wrapped gift or taking a gift that another member unwrapped. Once a gift has been taken one time that gift cannot be taken again.
4. This will continue for the remainder of the names.

Adopt - a - Family

If you picked up a tag for our Adopt - a - Family please bring it to the Christmas party wrapped with the tag attached.

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Monthly Meetings

The Time to Make Friends is Before You Need Them

Sandy Young

Fast Facts:

What: One Particular Harbor (OPH)

Where: City Beat, 304 3rd Ave., SW, C.R.

When: December 1, 2010

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

No, I didn't think that headline up, but it certainly holds true. So, come on out to our OPH the first Wednesday of the month and make some new friends and touch base with some old friends, as well as help plan the upcoming Holiday Parade this Saturday.

Where we're having OPH this month, City Beat, it is always a fun and casual place and has excellent food, plus good drink prices. Believe me, after having been in Florida I think Iowa might be the cheapest place to drink!

For you new members, One Particular Harbors 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 please come when you can and stay as long as you want.

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.

Next month, on January 5, 2011, we will be heading to the Starlight Room at 3300 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, for our One Particular Harbor.

Website Committee

Deanna Steggall

The Board is very thankful to all the hard work that Bob and Karen Randklev have put into our club website. This job can be very time-consuming. With that being said, Bob, Karen and the Board all agree that having a committee to help with all the duties would be a great idea. We are looking for people who can donate a little bit of time, creative energy, and a passion for our club to keep our wonderful website moving forward! If this sounds like something you would be interested in please contact Gordy Smith at crparrots@imonmail.com.

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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 one or 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. It is our plan to adopt a large family with four or more children.

We are in need of your help to donate gifts and food and help us distribute these items to our family. Information on the family and gift tags will be available at our November Monthly meeting as well as our December One Particular Harbor. 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 Board thanks you in advance for your help and support.

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.

A Parrot Head?

"I aspire to have dignity, but I don't have any. Dignity holds you back. It seems like baggage that keeps you from having fun in life." ~ Ted Danson

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Information on the Phlock

Iowa Soldier Care Packages

Deanna Steggall

The Isle of Iowa Board, at a suggestion from members of the club, has agreed to form a committee to collect and distribute items in care packages for Iowa soldiers away in combat areas. It is our plan to have these packages ready to ship for Valentine's Day.

We are looking for names of family and friends who are currently deployed to receive a care package. We are also looking for people to be on the committee and those wishing to help with donations.

The Isle of Iowa wants to make sure our soldiers know how much we appreciate their dedication and service to our country!

Please contact anyone on the Board if you'd like to participate in any way. Your help will be most appreciated!

Blues 'n' Buffett Chili Challenge

Deanna Steggall

Fast Facts

- **Where:** Marriott Hotel, 1200 Collins Rd. NE, CR
- **When:** Sunday, February 27, 2011
- **Time:** 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

I know you may think it is a little early to be thinking about the Chili Challenge, but before you know it the date will be here and we will wonder why we didn't start planning earlier. Therefore, the Killer Committee has solved that problem for you and we are planting the seed. It is time to start planning for the Chili Challenge!! Sunday, February 27, 2011 is the big day and we are looking for contestants to make wonderful chili, volunteers, and people to come and enjoy the event with us.

The Killer Committee is already hard at work behind the scenes putting the details together for the 11th Annual Blues "n" Buffet Chili Challenge. There will be a sign-up sheet at our November Monthly Meeting for both volunteers and contestants. For now, mark your calendars and start practicing your chili recipes!

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Information on the Phlock

Tidbits to Ponder

Authors Unknown

It is what it is, but it will become what you make it.

Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.

Offering good advice may be noble and grand, but it's not the same as a helping hand.

A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.

Holiday Parade – Holiday DeLight

Deanna Steggall

Fast Facts

- **Where:** Downtown Cedar Rapids, 3rd Ave. SW/SE
- **When:** Saturday, December 4, 2010
- **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? This is the 27th Annual Holiday Parade and they are asking all participants to light up the streets with their lighted entries. Come dressed as Pirates and let's take over downtown in Pirate Head Style!



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Information on the Phlock

Shark Bites from MOTM 2010

Sandy Young

I went to the business meeting during MOTM 2010. I was actually sober – it was in the morning. These are “shark bites” from the notes I took:

- In 2009 we raised \$2.8 million.
- Over 18 years we have raised \$19.2 million.
- There were 53 applicants for the scholarship fund. Second place \$3,000 and first place \$5,000. First place was to a Parrot Head who had to drop out a couple of years ago because of the death of his son, and is going back to school.
- Out of your dues \$1 goes to PHiP for scholarships, member discounts at Avis, etc., MOTM, with more coming – i.e. Costco discounts.
- Wesley House, one of MOTM's charities, handles all of the keys in Monroe County. They take care of kids 0-23 years of age who have been abused or neglected. Wesley House also has foster families. They handled 350 cases last year, providing 23 new homes through adoption. They provide preschool and after school programs and also work with teen parents.
- Regarding the Blood Drive, since 2000 MOTM has served 2619 patients, including 66 units donated last year serving 190 patients. This year they surpassed that by Parrot Heads donating 91 units as of Saturday, November 6 and still counting!
- The Salvation Army provided 418 backpacks for school and toys for 300 families in Key West, thanks to PHiP.
- From the Bloody Mary party this year, \$1,000 was raised.
- The new Board for PHiP has not changed this year.
- Raffle charities will be decided in the spring for next year.
- Over 12 years, Margaritaville has given the Cancer Foundation of the Florida Keys \$200 million.
- The Golden Coconut Award for 2010 went to the Galveston Bay Parrot Head Club. Peggy Wright accepted the award. Congratulations!

Information on the Phlock

One Particular Harbor - November 2010

Deanna Jackman-Steggall

A big thank you to everyone who came out to City Beat for our One Particular Harbor!



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Photos of the Phlock



MOTM 2011



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Photos of the Phlock



The Cedar Island Band CD Release Party at Toucan's



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Parrot Head Happenings

Cedar Rapids Downtown Districts Calendar of Events 2010

Save the Date! Holiday Fire & Ice Festival
Saturday, December 4 @ 3:00 PM

For more information on what is happening in Cedar Rapids, go to: <http://www.downtowncr.org/Events/>

What I Discovered in Florida Sandy Young

Ponce de Leon may not have discovered the Fountain of Youth in Florida, but after having been down there for a few weeks, this is what I “discovered”.

- Most times you don't need body lotion.
- Self-tanner and sunscreen are an odd combination.
- Most all the cars are clean and stay clean.
- Percentage-wise, there seems to be more fancy sports cars.
- You never get tired of looking at palm trees or the ocean.
- Money disappears faster, but you don't seem to mind.
- There are lots of quaint and interesting bars.
- Maybe those last two are related to each other?

History of our Club

10 Years Ago Susan Freundt – Founder

December 2000

Gene Mitchell provided the entertainment for the club Christmas Party on the 14th.

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Regional Events

4th Annual

Parrot Heads From Somewhere Other Than Here

Boats, Beaches and Bars Tour



Presented by the Omaha Nebraska Parrot Head Club

February 6-13, 2011

Cruising the Mexican Riviera on the Carnival Splendor



Activities

Silent Auction
Scavenger Hunt
Theme Days
Poker Run/Pub Crawl
Pool Parties
Pre - Cruise Party
Party in every Port
Capt. Josh performances
Prizes and more!



Balcony Cabins 795.00
Ocean View Cabins 695.00
Inside Cabins 595.00

Itinerary:

2/5/10 Pre-Cruise Party
2/6/11 Long Beach, CA
2/7/11 At Sea
2/8/11 At Sea
2/9/11 Puerto Vallarta
2/10/11 Mazatlan
2/11/11 Cabo San Lucas
2/12/11 At Sea
2/13/11 Long Beach, CA

Featuring the music of Capt. Josh

www.capt-josh.com

100.00 per cabin

on board credit!

Prices are per person, based on double occupancy and include **all taxes and fees.**

Price also includes a 50.00 per person donation to the Spirit of Courage.

www.SpiritOfCourage.org

For those who would like to fly into Los Angeles/Long Beach a day early we will have hotel rooms available as well as our annual pre-cruise party on 2/5/11

For information or to book a cabin contact

Terry Oldenburg at Beacon Vacations

Toll Free 1-877-298-9948 Local 712-256-4781

Email terry@beaconvacations.com

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Club Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Place
One Particular Harbor	12/1	5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.	City Beat 304 3 rd Ave. SW Cedar Rapids, IA
Holiday Parade	12/4	6 p.m.	Downtown C.R.
Christmas Party	12/11	6 p.m.	Fairfax Legion Hall 216 Main Street Fairfax, IA
Newsletter Deadline	12/15		
Winter Begins!	12/21		
Christmas	12/25		
New Year's Eve	12/31		
New Year's Day	1/1/11 (neat!)		
One Particular Harbor	1/5/11	5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.	Starlight Room 3300 1 st Ave. NE C.R.

Dis & Dat

Contact the Club Board Contacts

President – Deanna Steggall 319-651-9494, president@isleofiowa.com
Vice President – Gerald Ptacek, 319-551-9006, vicepresident@isleofiowa.com
Secretary – Deb Rassler, 319-213-1048, secretary@isleofiowa.com
Treasurer – Steve Robe 319-351-3474, treasurer@isleofiowa.com
Social Director – Randy Havlik 319-396-5217, socialdirector@isleofiowa.com
Membership Director – Bart Mason 319-930-2833, membershipdirector@isleofiowa.com
Member at Large – Cindy Ek, memberatlarge1@isleofiowa.com
Member at Large – Gordy Smith, 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 6:00 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 the fastest way of getting the latest information about the club, and to keep track of events' dates or changes. Since we are a social group, it is okay to post social events on the one Listserv that you would like to invite members of the club to. With that being said, we would like to remind everyone of a few maintenance issues.

Appropriate Posts for the Listserv are:

1. Club information
2. Club events
3. Personal parties
4. Jimmy Buffett news
5. Recipes

Okay, I think you get the idea.

Things not allowed on the Listserv:

1. Profanity
2. Anything offensive
3. Anything pornographic

If you have ideas, questions, concerns or suggestions for the Isle of Iowa, you can e-mail any member of the Board individually; or – something new – collectively at board@isleofiowa.com.

December Birthdays

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

January Birthdays

Kathleen Nessler - 7
Bob Randklev - 8
Bob Arnold - 13
Charlotte Bonar - 13
Kathy Mullen - 15
Joe Delory - 17
Dave Metz - 24
Carole Ford - 29

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

New/Renewed Members

Check out next month's newsletter for all the new and renewed member list

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