



**February 2024 Year of the Pirate Edited by Stephen Larson**



# President's Corner

What a month January was to start off our 20<sup>th</sup> year. Our first phlocking at Cane Garden was a huge success with a packed house. Don't forget to bring chairs to the phlockings and get there early as everyone is back now and they will be crowded.

We rewarded many of our top volunteers at our annual Volunteer Appreciation party, and we thank you for all you do for our club. We couldn't accomplish as much as we would have without you. And a special congratulations to our Golden Parrot Award winners. You all definitely deserved to be recognized. A TEAM DRINK to you all!!!

The end of the month saw our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Gasparilla Pirate Invasion of Brownwood Paddock Square by golf cart. Over 100 golfcarts and over 200 parrot heads dressed to the gills in Pirate gear. What a fabulous day this was. Aaaaarrgggh !!!

The month ends with a great bus trip to Kennedy Space center. Thank you to Geri Carrapazza and Sue Mertz for chairing this trip. A phun day was had by all.

February brings us the Rotary Club Chili cook-off on Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lake Sumter Landing Square. We are going for 11 years in a row to win the People's Choice award for raising the most money for charity. This year we have something special. Wear your Pirate gear!!! You will see why. Come out and enjoy the festivities!

We are also having another New-Member Orientation on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Even if you are not a new member – stop on by. Lots of information about our club, Parrot heads all over, and what we do. A must for new members !!

We put out a "Save the Date" for our Club cruise on NCL Epic in 2025. Watch for lots more info on this – it will be EPIC !!

Always READ your emails, newsletters and watch our facebook page – "The Villages Parrot Head GROUP" Lots of STUFF going on and u don't want to miss out!!

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## Wednesday, February 7th Phlocking

We have a real treat for at Cane Garden Country Club in February. The phun starts at 3:00 and goes until 6:30 PM. We have got Tiki Dave, direct from the West Coast to play some trop rock. We've never had him before. You can watch his [video](#). We're expecting a really good Phlocking. See you there!



## Rotary Club Chili Cookoff

The annual Rotary Club Chili Cookoff and Craft Beer Fair is on Saturday, February 3 at Lake Sumter Landing. We've won the People's Choice Award for the last 10 years by raising the most money for charity.

**If you signed up to help, show up!!** The reason we win every year is because we have more people working the crowd, more people handing out chili, more people pushing our \$1 a bag cookies and cold bottled water. The people who have volunteered to bake the cookies, brownies and other similar treats need to package the equivalent of 2 or 3 cookies into see through sandwich bags and deliver them to the booth between 7:00 and 7:30 on the day of the event. Make sure you check in with Elaine Steinbach when you deliver your treats to get your volunteer points. If you can't drop off the morning of the event, please call Gary Steinback to make other arrangements (330) 323 7398.

This year we want to win the prize for the best booth too. Since it is the Year of the Pirate, we plan to decorate our booths in a pirate theme and have as many of our volunteers wear their pirate outfits as possible.

Dale Ross is the Club's Chili Chef with Ken McCreary helping out and Gary Steinback coordinating the volunteer effort.

Even if you haven't volunteered, please show up and enjoy the energy of the Club. In addition to everything else, we will have live music too! It's another Parrott Head Party!

## Sunday, February 18th Phlocking

The month's second Phlocking is at the Belle Glade Country Club beginning at 3:00 and ending at 6:30. Phins Up Shop is Open. Rocky and Michelle will be playing for us and they will do their best to keep the dance floor full of Parrot Heads. Don't miss it.



## Wednesday, February 21st Phlocking

The last Phlocking In February will be at the Havana Country Club from 1 to 3:30 PM. Phins Up Shop is closed. Our entertainment comes all the way from New Jersey. Gary Phillips will be in the house. He's played all the way up and down the East Coast and now he's playing with us. Come out and watch him. You'll be glad you did.





# Club News

## Pub Leap 2024

As this is our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and we intend to celebrate it all year long, we are teaming up with another experience that happens only once every 4 years. Yes – 2024 is “LEAP YEAR” and there will be 29 days in February !!

This year we will be having – not a “PUB Crawl” to celebrate, but we will be having a “PUB LEAP” !! So come out with us on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to Brownwood Paddock Square and LEAP around to your phavorite restaurant, outside bar, inside bar, enjoy the music at the square (It is scheduled to be a new performer called “Hacksaw Hamlin”), and just enjoy the comradery of your club members and the Villages.

Yes – Please wear your lanyards, Parrothead shirts, and hats. We will start anytime after 3pm, and be sure to take in more than just one establishment !! As we celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of being a Parrot Head club !!!

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## Anniversary Party

Our 20th Anniversary Party entitled “A Pirate Ball” is scheduled for Friday, March 1st, 2024 at the La Hacienda Rec. Center from 5 till 9 PM. Music will be provided by the “**Caribbean Chillers.**” A Family Styled Dinner will be provided by Cracker Barrell. Cost is \$35 per person, no refunds.

Tickets will go on sale on January 1st at 12 noon. You must have renewed your membership for 2024 to buy tickets and you must have an average of 5 Parrot Points per person to purchase tickets early (Jan. 1st and 2nd).

If you go to the Club’s [home page](#) and then click on the Anniversary Party flyer (Club Events—March) you will find instructions on how to calculate the points required.

Tickets go on sale on January 3rd at noon for members without 5 Parrot Points.

Flyer is on page 17. Chairperson is Ann Blanchard (352) 750 6287. Assist. Chair is Lee Caron (813) 480 0833.

## Panama City Beach Rendezvous 2024

This party will be the biggest and best yet. There will be some familiar faces, some local faces, and some Rendezvous virgins in the music lineup.

The Rendezvous preparty is on Wednesday, April 17th & 18th and the beach concert starts on Friday and goes until late Saturday night (April 21). You can bring your own coolers and beach chairs and park yourself under one of the Club’s tents and listen to one of the world’s best TropRock concerts. Renee Adams, who is one of our Club’s members will be the emcee --how about THAT!

There are 99 members signed up to attend this year. Most people stay at the condos directly across the street from Sharky’s at the Origins at Seahaven <https://originatseahaven.com>. If you want to attend, don’t put this one off. It will sell out early. All the great events do.

More information at [panamacityphc.org/rendezvous](https://panamacityphc.org/rendezvous)

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## Homosassa Bash 2024

We’re doing it again because we had so much fun last time. We’re taking over the Florida Cracker Riverside Resort on May 2, 3 and 4th to throw a fantastic Parrot Head Party. This years themes is “Growing Older but Not Up!!” and “Dress Like the Old Days” which means hoop skirts, pink ladies jackets, white T-shirts and jeans.

The music line up is Robert France on May 2nd, 6 pm to 9. Friday May 3rd is Dany B from 3:30 to 6:30 pm and Rocky & Michelle from 6:30 to 9:30. On Saturday the 4th Billy D. Williams (Black Country) and we will end the party with Mike & Terrie from 6:30 to 9:30 pm.

You must have a wrist band to participate. They will go on sale soon.

There may be some rooms still available . Call the resort to reserve at (352) 628 2474. If there are no more rooms, as to be put on the waiting list.



# Club News

## Club Cruise 2025

We are going on another fantastic Parrot Head Cruise next year. From February 15 to February 22, you will sail to exotic ports and have plenty of exotic food and drink. The ship is the Norwegian Epic which will sail out of Port Canaveral to Great Stirrup Cay, Ocho Rios, Cayman Islands Cozumel and have two days at sea.

Judy and Larry Turner are putting this cruise together. You can contact Judy at 352 308 7645 and leave a message. YOU WILL NEED TO BE PATIENT. Once they know you're interested, Larry Turner will call you with cabin information. They will also be at the Phlockings at a table to answer your questions. It will be an excellent Parrot Head Adventure! More information is on the Home Page of our Web Site.



## March Travel Survey

In March the Travel Committee is going to conduct a survey at each Phlocking to better understand what types of travel the members are interested in. Central Florida is filled with attractions that lend themselves to day trips. The survey covers destinations (Beaches, Dinner theaters, Shows Shopping, Tours Festivals Sports, etc..), trip time limits and what people are willing to spend. We know that the demand for quality travel is there. Many travel events sell out in a matter of hours. We look forward to getting a better understanding of what trips you would like to take.

## The Landsharks Are Coming Back!!

If you missed their last show, you missed one of the best concerts we've ever had in The Villages. You will get another chance on Monday, April 22nd. They are coming back for two shows at the Savannah Center at 4 PM and 7 PM. Tickets will go on sale this week. Most of your friends will tailgate before the concert, select the 7 PM show, buy tickets as close to the band as possible and come wearing pirate gear. Don't miss out on the fun!!



## Travel Committee

The next meeting will be from 1 to 3 PM at the Church-ill Downs Recreation Center (2375 Churchill Downs), on Thursday, February. You need to be a Village resident to attend. We need you to help plan our great trips for the rest of 2023 and then start work on trips for 2024. You will also earn some Parrot Points for just attending the meeting. The reason we have the largest Parrot Head Club in the Universe is because we do things: Cruises, event day trips, all inclusive resorts, weekend getaways, beach outings, etc. This is the Committee where Phun Travel is created. We need people to get involved.

## Dominic Diaz

Last month we had to say goodbye to a friend. Dominic always had a smile, a kind word, a hug for everyone he met. He also played a mean Conga Drum. RIP





# Charity News

## January Food Drive

The Club donated \$277 in January to food pantries.

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## February Food Drive

The food collection for February will be at the Belle Glade Phlocking and will go to the Lady Like Food Panty.

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## January Blood Drive Results

The Club got off to a good start in January. We collected 337 pints of blood and donated 222 hours of volunteer service. The next Blood Drive will be held on March 9 & 10. Mark it on your calendar!



## 2024 February Clothing Drive

What's in your closet that you no longer need? At all 3 phlockings in February we will be accepting donations of men's and women's clothing, as well as accessories, such as shoes, belts, hats, purses and jewelry. All items need to be clean and in saleable condition. Help us expedite our loading and delivering by putting items in plastic bags with ties. Any jewelry should be in a separate zip lock bag.

This drive will support Combat Veterans To Careers (CVC). Several months ago they opened The Restoring Hope Clothing Boutique in Wildwood, adjacent to City Hall. CVC's website is [www.combatveteranstocareers.org](http://www.combatveteranstocareers.org)

CVC helps post 9/11 combat veterans transition from military service to productive civilian careers. The charity helps veterans and their families in the tri-county area with employment, education, housing, mental/physical wellness and Veteran Administration help.

Chair: Bob Williams [bigsky2223@gmail.com](mailto:bigsky2223@gmail.com)

## March Children's Underwear Drive

Friends of SoZo Kids have put out a public request for donations of underwear for children 5 thru 18 that live in the Ocala National Forest. There are an estimated 45,000 people who live in forest and many of them are children. The goal of the Friends of SoZo Kids which is a 501 C.3 charity, is to provide clothing, funds, food and help to the kids that are growing up there. The Charity Committee has decided to help and will be collecting new children's underwear for ages 5 thru 18 and bras and sports bras at the March Phlockings. The kids who live there didn't get there by bad decisions. They got there by bad luck and anything you can do to help make their lives a little bit better is appreciated.

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## 2024 Poker Run

This year's annual Poker Run will take place at Laurel Manor on Saturday, April 6th. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year. The basket raffle provides the funds for the Club's Giving Program each year. You will be seeing lots of information over the next two months. This is one event you don't need to be a Club member to participate in. Mark your calendars, invite your neighbors, and plan to come out and enjoy the music.





# Membership

## New Members

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Barbra Angus      | Bob Marx            |
| Ralph Angus       | Bryan Mick          |
| Ginny Benoit      | Jamie Mick          |
| Jeff Benoit       | Samantha Murphy     |
| Denise Chadwick   | Connie Nowell       |
| Jim Chadwick      | Stephen Nowell      |
| Eric Clemmon      | Abbie Jo Palmieri   |
| Jack Doblosky     | Curtis Richardson   |
| Joyce Doblosky    | Debbie Robinson     |
| Jim Erwin         | Marty Robinson      |
| Trina Erwin       | Mark Santulli       |
| Linda Foley       | Clarke Schneider    |
| Cheri Fultz       | Mary Ellen Schorsch |
| Bette Germain     | Frank Shomilak      |
| Theresa Hage      | Sandi Shomilak      |
| Craig Hamilton    | Veronica Strack     |
| Nancy Hamilton    | Kelly Thompson      |
| Robert Kenyon     | Mary Tropiano       |
| Heidi Kobmann     | Mar Violette        |
| Cheryl Lengyel    | David Votruba       |
| Dan Lengyel       | Susan Votruba       |
| Aimee Leto        | Jean Walsh          |
| Danial Limer      | Bonnie White        |
| Francesca Lindahl | Mary Wright         |

## Sunshine Committee

If you know of a member who has an illness, injury or surgery or someone who is suffering the loss of a spouse or child, please notify Patty Petretti, Chairperson of the Club's Sunshine Committee at [patamus1747@gmail.com](mailto:patamus1747@gmail.com)

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## Member Advocate

Jack Maiz is the Club's Member Advocate. Jack is available to any member who has an issue with the Board, the Club or another member. His job is to find a resolution while insuring member confidentiality. Jack's email is [jmaiz@aol.com](mailto:jmaiz@aol.com).

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## Club Historian

Did you know that we have a Club Historian? We do! Her name is Jean Howlett and she has been collecting Parrot Head articles, pictures and memorabilia for nearly a decade. For our newer members, it's a history of our Club's growth. For the members who have been with the Club for a longer time, it's a stroll down memory lane with many of our friends who are no longer with us. Her books are available at some of our phlockings and special occasions. If you're interested in looking at our Club's past, contact Jean at 352 571 4689 or email her at [a1944jean@gmail.com](mailto:a1944jean@gmail.com)

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## New Members Orientation Meeting

Based on the positive feedback from the new members who attended the last Orientation Meeting, we are setting up the next one for February 22, 2024 at 10 AM at the Bonifay Country Club. It is an opportunity for new members to learn about where the Club has been, and where it's headed. There are lots of reasons to be optimistic about the Phun events coming in 2024 and the ways we improve the lives of those in need who live around us. See you there!



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## Renew for 2024

If you have not renewed for 2024, you have been removed from the Club's email list, will receive no further notices and are now unable to purchase tickets to Club Phun events. You will miss the opportunity to attend 36 Phlockings with live music, raise your glass in team drinks, and dance in the always popular conga line. It's not too late. You can go to our website and renew today. Now is the time!





# Membership

## Help Wanted

We are a club run by people who volunteer. We need people to step up and help. Listed below are the positions available:

**Attendance:** Volunteers are needed for Phlockings at Palmer, Havana and Belle Glade. Contact Jaci Burdash at [jl2500@gmail.com](mailto:jl2500@gmail.com) to volunteer.

**50/50:** Volunteers needed at all Phlockings. Contact Debra Warren at [Warrendeborah7@gmail.com](mailto:Warrendeborah7@gmail.com) if you can help selling 50/50 tickets.

**Membership Table:** Volunteers needed to staff the Membership Table at 1 Phlocking each month. Contact Johnny Ward at [johnnyward300@yahoo.com](mailto:johnnyward300@yahoo.com).

**Assistant Newsletter Editor:** If you can write creatively and have Microsoft Publisher, you can help put this award winning newsletter out each month. Please contact Steve Larson at [sklarson01@gmail.com](mailto:sklarson01@gmail.com)

**Trip Managers:** Each day trip the Club makes requires someone to make sure the people who purchased tickets get on the bus before we leave and back on the bus before we come back home. In return, you get to sit in the front of the bus and make a bunch of new friends. Go to a Travel Committee meeting (see page 4) and get involved. You will be glad you did!

**Security:** The Club has a small group of members who are available to assist members, maintain order and watch the cash and merchandise at our events. We have an opening for another person. If you are interested, please contact David Walls at [dmwalls2001@yahoo.com](mailto:dmwalls2001@yahoo.com)

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## Corporate Sponsor Club Discounts

Several of our Corporate Sponsor are now giving discounts to Club members. **Lake Sumter Dryer Vent Cleaning LLC** is giving a 10% discount, **FertiGator** is giving members \$25 off and our newest sponsor, **Pedego Electric Bikes** is giving a 10% discount on all Pedego accessories when you show them your Parrot Head lanyard.

## February Drink of the Month

Ren and Gypsy's livers are taking a month off so I will fill in the schedule with a drink suggested by Mark the Shark. February is the month to try a Blue Lagoon. It's half sweet, half sour and 100% refreshing with only three ingredients.

- ◆ One Ounce Vodka
- ◆ One Ounce Blue Curacao
- ◆ Eight Ounces of Lemonade

Pour over ice, tune in Margaritaville Radio and enjoy.



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## New Members

Welcome Frank and Sandi Shomilak. They moved from New York last July and are now Villagers and Parrott Heads. Frank was a Supervisor for the New York State Dept. of Transportation and Sandi has retired from the position of Communications Manager for the Suffolk County Police Department. They joined the Club because of their love for Jimmy Buffett, his way of life and the reputation of our Club. Frank's favorite song is Cheeseburger in Paradise and Sandi loves A Pirate Looks at Forty. Please greet them at the next Phlocking.





# Membership

## From our Web Master

Welcome to 2024! Some exciting events are coming in the next couple months, and event information will be maintained on the website for your reference. Phun Times! Here's a curious fact, there have been over 10,000 website hits in the past 4 months.



Webmaster efforts in January have been spent on updating webpages for the new year (sponsors, charities, calendar, year-end reports, etc), cleaning up 2024 member emails, and starting the new year with a clean slate. Regarding emails, and especially for snowbirds who don't want to receive emails when up north, it is recommended members do NOT mark email as SPAM but rather unsubscribe using the link at the bottom of the email. When emails are marked as SPAM, the member's email is given a "SPAM Compliant" status and no further emails from the Villages Parrot Heads Club are forthcoming. Because of SPAM laws and email provider fines, reinstating the member's email is a rather involved manual effort, requires email recipient written consent, and takes time. So, rather than marking email as SPAM (which often happens by accident), simply unsubscribe by clicking on the email preference link at the bottom of emails. It achieves the same purpose, and reinstating an email with unsubscribed status can be done with a simple click of the mouse by the webmaster or board members.

## Barb's Trivia Question:

Each of the following Buffett songs were chosen for the soundtrack of a movie except one. Choose the song that was not used in a movie,

- a) Ragtop Day
- b) Turning Around
- c) Take it Back
- d) Don't Bug Me

## Volunteer Positions Outside the Club

**Approved Clubs:** Parrot Points are given to members who volunteer at approved charities. To be an "approved charity" the organization must be a not-for-profit registered with the State of Florida and be willing to track the hours worked each month and report them back to our club. Following are the charities that are approved at this time:

**Wildwood Soup Kitchen:** If you're interested in helping feed people, go to [wildwoodsoupkitchen.org](http://wildwoodsoupkitchen.org) and fill out an application and put on the form that you are a Parrot Head for more information contact: Barbara McManus: (352) 299 6494 and/or

Email: [barb.mcmanus@yahoo.com](mailto:barb.mcmanus@yahoo.com)

**The Villages Regional Hospital:** Contact Gloria Counselman (352) 751-8176 or email her at [tvrvhpo@centflhealth.org](mailto:tvrvhpo@centflhealth.org)

**Cornerstone Hospice:** If you are interested email Heidi Gamet at [hgaumet@cshospice.org](mailto:hgaumet@cshospice.org).

**Operation Homebound:** This is the Meals on Wheels program for The Villages and surrounding areas. For more information, please call 352-689-1023, or email [OHB@northlakepc.org](mailto:OHB@northlakepc.org).

**Best Buddies International:** This charity is dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of people with disabilities, such as Downs syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy and traumatic brain injury. If interested email [centralflorida@bestbuddies.org](mailto:centralflorida@bestbuddies.org) or call (407) 898 0787

**Shepard's Lighthouse:** This charity helps homeless women, mothers and their children get back on their feet by providing temporary shelter and training. They have 4 positions on their Board of Directors open. If you can spare a couple of hours a month, you will find this a rewarding way to help people in need. Contact Kathie Niesem (847-641 3287) or email at [katcarl@prodigy.net](mailto:katcarl@prodigy.net) for more information.



# Coco-Nutz



## President

Mark, The Shark, Woodland  
markthesharkdj@gmail.com  
(609) 929 9455



## Vice President

Lisa MacLeod  
PHLisaMac@gmail.com  
(301) 332 1123



## Volunteer Trustee

Jaci Burdash  
jlb2500@gmail.com  
(312) 209-9090



## Secretary

Kathi Purdy  
phpurdy22@gmail.com  
(352) 792 4024



## Events Trustee

Judy Koch  
parteeapar11@aol.com  
(352) 350 6567



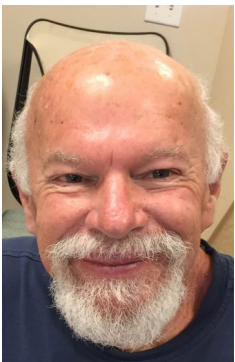
## Treasurer

Barb Beil  
bbeil48@hotmail.com  
(847) 609 5304



## Charity Trustee

Marsha Herring  
mherr424@comcast.net  
(412) 260 7475



## Membership

Johnny Ward  
johnnyward300@yahoo.com  
(609) 226 9175



## Media Trustee

Stephen Larson  
sklarson01@gmail.com  
(352) 255 9582

# Appointed Positions



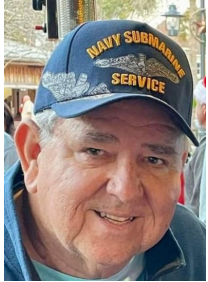
## Webmaster

Alan Shimp  
Alan.shimp@verizon.net  
(540) 226 9390



## Phins Up Shop

Jim Dieleman  
Hawkaye0089@aol.com  
(352) 255 3179



## Security

David Walls  
dmwalls2001@yahoo.com  
(904) 506 1156



## Blood Drives

Charles 'Skip' Todd  
skip0358@gmail.com  
(352) 446 9424



## Sunshine Committee

Patti Petretti  
patamus1747@gmail.com  
(516) 749 3723



## Music Coordinator

Sandi Senator  
ssenator@comcast.net  
(585) 781 4452



## Club Historian

Jean Howlett  
a1944jean@gmail.com  
(352) 571 4689



## Member Advocate

Jack Maiz  
jmaiz@aol.com  
(352) 205 6911



## Elections

Kevin Fuller  
kfullerfla@gmail.com  
(516) 317 1560



## New Member Coordinator

Judy Turner  
jturner2833@yahoo.com  
(352) 308 7645



## Parade Coordinator

Mr. Al Townsend  
alphie1013@me.com  
(215) 620 9835

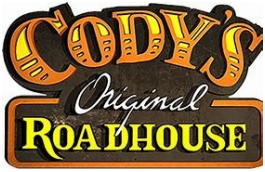


## 50/50 Coordinator

Deb Warren  
Warrendeborah7@gmail.com  
(919) 812 9597



# Please support our Corporate Sponsors



Cody's has been a Corporate Sponsor for over 10 years. Without their support, we could not hold the Charity Fund Raisers our Club is known for. Cody's Original Roadhouse is a fun, casual, family friendly Roadhouse that serves "Just plain Good Food". You won't go home hungry or broke.....You'll just go home happy!



The Cane Garden Country Club is our newest venue. They have a great reputation for food and friendly service. Their location reflects the changing demographics of our Club's membership.



Havana Country Club hosts our Lunch Phlocking each month. Havana is proud to offer one of the best dining experiences in the Villages. They specialize in fine steaks, fresh seafood and pasta.



When we decided to hold a Sunday Phlockings each month, Belle Glade invited us to use their space and we gladly accepted. They invite you to come in they promise to serve up what it takes to make you happy.



Our philosophy is based on our goal to empower you to live "your life, your way" via an information-rich culture. We are dedicated to maximizing the living benefits of life insurance and annuities to establish guaranteed income for life

Safe Harbor Financial &  
Insurance Services LLC  
[www.jmaizsafeharborllc.com](http://www.jmaizsafeharborllc.com)  
352-205-6911

Jack Maiz is a Club Member and the owner of Safe Harbor Financial & Insurance Services LLC. He specializes in Medicare Planning for Veterans on Tricare and Eligible Seniors, age 65 and over. He also specializes in Fixed Guaranteed Annuities. You can visit his website at [www.jmaizsafeharborllc.com](http://www.jmaizsafeharborllc.com) or call him at (352) 205-6911



Owned by Club member Scott Larson, the Lake-Sumter Dryer Vent Cleaning LLC does just what the name says. Each year there are over 15,000 house fires caused by lint filled dryer vents. This local business can make sure your house isn't one of them. Call for an appointment at (352) 787 5202 or visit

Trivia answer c written about the America's Cup sailing race.

# Please Support Our Corporate Sponsors



At Securennet Financial, we understand the need for a personalized approach. We work with you to create a retirement strategy that fits your unique retirement needs - a strategy designed to help you reach your goals. Steve Schneider, the owner and CEO, along with many employees are full-time residents of The Villages and several are members of The Villages Parrot Heads Club. We work where we live and are proud to have many friends as clients. Feel free to contact us, to answer any questions regarding retirement, financial or tax needs.



Diane Smallwood is a Realtor with the Keller Williams Cornerstone Agency capable and ready to help you buy or sell a home. She is also one of the Club's favorite entertainers in Retro Express and Caribbean Chillers. Diane can be reached at (352) 787-4325 or emailed at [DianeSmallwood@kw.com](mailto:DianeSmallwood@kw.com). Her website is [www.dianesmallwoodrealty.com](http://www.dianesmallwoodrealty.com)



Pedego Electric Bikes—Trailwinds Village is proud to be a Corporate Sponsor of the Villages Parrot Head Club. Owners Jeff and Sharon are villagers and long-time Parrot Heads. They are passionate about bringing Pedego's FUN colorful e-bike line-up to the recreational lifestyle of The Villages and look forward to many opportunities to partner with like-minded Parrot Heads to create FUN and serve our community. You are invited to stop by the store (off 466A—between Lowes and Publix) - most likely Buffett will be playing, Introduce yourself and take a bike for a spin. It's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.



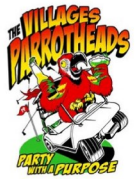
StreetRod has been a Club sponsor for several years. They support our annual Golf Outing, food drives and our annual Poker run. They sell one of America's highest quality golf carts. They would like to show you what the StreeRod experience is with a test drive driving is believing. Call [\(352\) 751-3953](tel:3527513953) to get a test drive and see the difference between your cart and a Streetrod



The First Responders of Station 44 host our Blood Drives. We appreciate the space and the support.



# Parrot Head Travel Committee



2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month, 1pm - 3pm

- ✓ Nov 9, 2023
- Dec 14, 2023
- Jan 11, 2024
- Feb 8, 2024



Be creative, bring your festive ideas, and earn a volunteer point!

## Cruises



## Day Trips



## Overnight Destinations



Churchill Street Recreation  
 Center, 2375 Churchill Downs  
 Note: Village ID is required to attend  
 (Sorry - Village rules, not ours)

# 2023 Villages Parrotheads Club Annual Report

Once again, it is my honor to submit The Villages Parrothead's Club's annual report highlighting major club events undertaken by our members. We are fortunate and proud to have the world's largest Parrothead club membership of 1058 members in 2023, and our membership is very generous and active as you will see. In this annual report, I would like to highlight just some of our activities.

2023 saw a rise in corporate support for our functions and fundraising activities. This resulted in donations by these corporate sponsors to help with our fundraising activities as well as the use of their facilities. With the help of these corporate sponsors we were able to hold a few major fundraisers at a local restaurant. We were able to raise and donate **\$2,000** to Patriot Dogs for Veterans, **\$4,425** to Wildwood Middle School, **\$2,000** to Operation Shoebox, and **\$1,000** to the Ocala SPCA.

Over the course of the year, we hold three (3) Phlockings each month where our members gather, listen to music, and enjoy the comradery of each other's company. One phlocking each month is designated as our Food Pantry Donation Phlocking. At our Halloween party we also ask for donations of cash and/or gift cards to help the hungry. I am happy to announce that we were able to donate **\$10,663** in cash, gift cards, and in-kind donations to help the local food banks feed the hungry.

Also, at each phocking, we hold a 50/50 raffle with all the proceeds going to our charities. This year we designated all the money raised in October and November to be donated to Hurricane and Natural disaster relief. We were able to donate **\$2,500** to the Lone Palm Foundation, which is an organization of Parrot Heads helping Parrot Heads when a disaster strikes.

In February, we participated in the Rotary Club Chili Cook-off and raised **\$2,800** for their charities. We won the People's Choice award for the 10th year in a row. This is awarded to the club that gets the most donations for their charities. We are very proud of this accomplishment and are gearing up to make it 11 years in a row in 2024.

In April, after a few rain outs, we were able to hold our Golf Cart Poker Run and basket raffle. My outlandish goal, once again, was to reach \$20,000. I am happy to say that we not only reached that goal but surpassed it by raising over **\$21,000** for local charities. Because of this we were able to donate **\$300** to the Sons of American Legion Post #347 for their Golf Tournament, **\$2,000** to Combat Veterans to careers, **\$2,000** to Center Hill Children's Mission, **\$1,000** to It Takes A Village, **\$2,000** to Refuge At Jumper Creek, **\$2,000** to Project SOS, **\$1,000** to Help Agency/SOZO Kids, **\$2,000** to Veterans Helping Veterans, **\$300** to Tri-County Women's Vets and **\$800** to Special Olympics as well as many other charities.

In May we decided to have our first slightly used clothing drive in many years. We collected **266** bags of clothes which were donated to the thrift shops of Shepherd's Light House which helps homeless single women with small children get their lives back together, and the Leesburg Humane Society which is dedicated to the rescuing and caring for abandoned pets and placing in loving homes. The value of these donations was **\$26,623**.

In July, we were asked if we could help out with a charity function for "Angel Wigs of Hope", which is a charity who helps provide wigs and support for women who are undergoing cancer treatment. Well, our

club jumped in and filled the place. Both the hall and the music were donated, and we were able to present a check for **\$5,200** to this wonderful organization.

Our club is extremely proud of our blood drives. This year we held 6 blood drives at Firehouse #44. I am excited to tell you that we set a record by collecting **1,970** pints of blood or **246.25** gallons. As one (1) pint of blood can help save the lives of up to three (3) people, we helped save **5,910** lives this year. I am now ecstatic to tell you that we have surpassed Daytona Speedway with blood donations and we are now the leading blood donation site in the state of Florida. Wow – What an accomplishment !!

In September, we held our annual Golf Tournament, and named it the “Rob Ainsley Memorial Golf Tournament” after our beloved Vice-President who passed away this June. We have dedicated our tournament, in his memory, to the Alzheimer’s Association / The Longest Day, for Alzheimer’s research. With the help of our sponsors, our members, and everyone who played and/or volunteered, I am astounded to tell you that we presented a check to the Alzheimer’s Association / The Longest day for **\$62,500**. They informed us that this was the largest single donation they have ever received. A TEAM DRINK goes out to everyone who participated or helped in this endeavor. Hopefully, someday there will be a cure for this disease.

In December, a few of our veteran members held our 4th annual Toys-4-Tots Candy Cane Golf Cart drive-by to help the Marine Corp Toys-4-Tots program. Our members and friends donated \$4,356 worth of toys and cash donations for the kids.

In September, we lost Jimmy Buffett. Our club and the rest of the world have been saddened by his passing. Our club will move on and will grow in his memory. The dedication of our members who step up to volunteer their precious time is unsurpassed, as they always strive to leave the world a little better than we found it each day and it sometimes overwhelms me. We definitely live by our motto: “Party with a Purpose”.

In closing, I would once again like to praise our members who helped raise **\$219,362** in cash and in-kind donations and worked **24,576** volunteer hours. In Florida, the value of one volunteer hour is \$29.41, with the value of these hours being **\$722,780**. **In total, our club was responsible for over \$942,142 in charity work and Volunteer hours which is unbelievable.**

As I stated before these are just some of the many activities our club undertakes. We are always striving to leave the world a little better than we found it.

I am extremely proud of the members of our club who participate and work so hard to make our club the success it is.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Woodland

Mark Woodland

President, The Villages Parrot Heads Club



**AHOY MATES - YOU ARE INVITED TO  
A PIRATE LOOKS AT 20**

**Friday March 1, 2024**

**La Hacienda Rec Center**

**Door open at 5 PM**

**Pieces of 8 (ticket) \$35.00 per person**



**Special Guest:**

**PIRATES ON BOARD**

**"What you going to do with a  
Drunken Sailor"**

**Music By:**

**CARIBBEAN CHILLERS BEST  
TRIBUTE BAND IN THE LAND**

**GALLEY (HARDTACK) 5:30 PM**

**COMPLETE MEAL: Catered by Cracker Barrel  
BYOB**

**Shanty Dance: 6:30 PM**

**Sail off: 9:30 PM**

For Additional Information Contact:  
Chair: Ann Blanchard 352-750-6287  
Assistant Chair: Lee Caron 813-480-0833

Tickets go on sale Jan 1, 2024

**No Refunds.** Visit  
[www.villagesparrotheads.com](http://www.villagesparrotheads.com)  
to purchase your tickets and  
20th year anniversary tee-  
shirts. Under "Quick Links" go  
to "Purchase Event Tickets"



## The Villages Parrot Heads 2024 Clothing Drive



# CLOTHING DONATION

Thanks!



### What's in your closet that you no longer need?

At all 3 Phlockings in February we will be collecting men's, women's and children's clothing to support a local charity.

Accessories are also welcome, such as shoes, belts, hats, jewelry, and purses. Items donated need to be clean and in saleable condition.

Help us expedite our loading and delivering efforts by putting items in plastic bags with ties. Please put all jewelry donations in a zip lock plastic bag.

Donations will be delivered to Restoring Hope Clothing Boutique, a thrift shop supporting Combat Veterans To Careers(CVC). It is located adjacent to City Hall in Wildwood.



CVC helps post 911 combat veterans transition from military service to productive civilian careers. In the tri-county area, CVC helps veterans and their families with employment, education, housing, physical/mental wellness, Veterans Administration help and more.

[www.combatveteranstocareers.org](http://www.combatveteranstocareers.org) for more

information

Cash donations will also be accepted

Chair: Bob Williams [bigsky2223@gmail.com](mailto:bigsky2223@gmail.com) 773-480-7430

