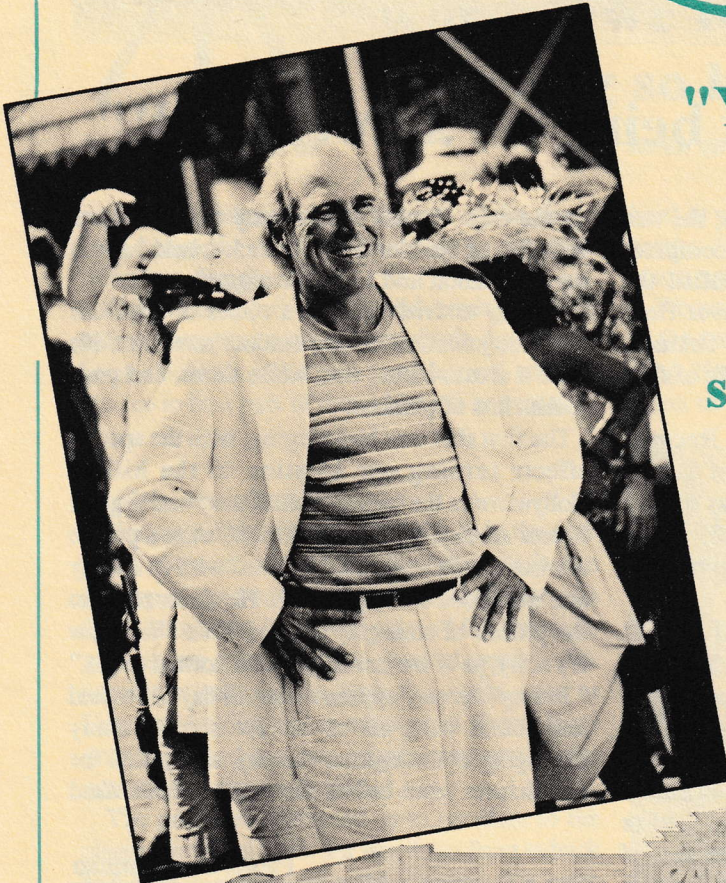


# The COCONUT TELEGRAPH

MARGARITAVILLE JULY - AUG. 1994

VOLUME 10, NO.4



"You know  
it's scary,  
ya'll are  
starting to  
look  
normal  
to me."

Fruitcakes  
The Video

Friends  
of Florida  
Final Bow

Tom Claytor  
Still Up ✈️  
In the Air



Photos: Eric Ilasenko



## the Video

"God, it's great being a Parrot Head!"

exclaimed a contributor to the Internet; the vast system of fiber-optically connected computer bulletin boards. The posted note detailed the experiences of this one particular Parrot Head fortunate enough to not only live near Orlando, FL., but also be able to blow off a couple of days to answer a casting call.

Shellie Erwin at **Margaritaville Records** contacted Scott Nickerson and asked him to recruit Parrot Heads to serve as extras for the **Fruitcakes** video; not a difficult task. These unsuspecting Parrot Heads had no idea what they were in for.

Several years ago the crack staff here at Margaritaville, and more importantly their cars, were sequestered for a night to film scenes for the **Take Another Road** video at the old Islander Drive-In on Boca Chica key. Our cars were necessary for obvious reasons - we were at a drive in movie. Late at night, hot as hell, no food or water; a Margaritian without a cooler full of Double R's is odd, but we assumed we'd be taken care of - maybe some purple passion if you know what I mean. Oh sure, Jimmy was set; ridin' around on that nag sipping Perrier in between trips to the air-conditioned trailer. "Take another road to a hiding place"... I wish. They wouldn't let us leave! Then that persistent itch the following week, a constant reminder of the poison ivy clinging to the back wall of the old concession stand. But enough about me...

The call was put out and Parrot Heads from as far away as Atlanta made the trip to participate, with or without their modems. They mixed and mingled for a couple of days. The following are excerpts from two such minglers and their recollections of their brush with fame.

### Tullymars - Delphi:

Well gang, it was a Major Great Day! Devoted Parrot Heads including representatives from Atlanta, Orlando and Space Coast PH Clubs made

up the cast. Outfits were mostly tropical shirts with lots of blender hats. As luck would have it my companion and I had the biggest outfits.

Jimmy arrived and got a round of applause when he joined us on the outdoor street set. He wore a cream casual suit, white shoes, and pink socks...lots of pinache.

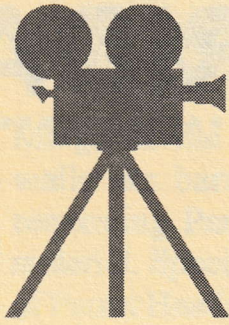
The first shot was him singing, with the special effects turning our location to the hill of *Hollywierd* in the background. Jimmy was in great humor all day, and really showed what a pro he is when the camera ran. He joked with us all day and we ribbed him right back. He commented to the phlock of strangely dressed PH's "Ya know it's scary, ya'll are starting to look normal to me."

Jimmy was very approachable all day. He talked and joked with all of us. He signed many photographs throughout the day, and posed for our pictures when he had the chance. He thanked

Photo: Eric Ilasenko







**"At one point Jimmy was placed on a riser within the crowd. During a practice run we all shouted, 'We're not worthy, we're not worthy'. Jimmy was laughing so hard he nearly fell off."**

everyone for their help at the end of the day. I even heard the crew say how cool he was, and this was a fun shoot.

Conga lines, corn chips, wild driving, cosmic bakers, hot pavement and no shade for 2 solid hours, Bubba's jokes and good humor, and the chance to be a part of this add up to a great day.

#### **Parihd - America On Line**

I find myself driving toward Orlando in the dark hours of the morning with a shark fin attached to the top of the van. Inside are pholks in strange floral costumes. We cruise into a McDonalds to pick up an even stranger dressed person. We somehow manage to find the right gate at Universal Studios and a parking spot. Parrot Head gear is donned and our colorful procession sets out, and it's only 6:30 AM.

The producer instructed us to get close to the camera area and work our way from front to back and side to side to give the illusion of a giant street party, while our very own hero was in front. Yes, Buffett was right in front of us! After a whoop and a holler welcome from us it was time to get to work; dance and be jolly.

The next scene had us dancing down the street with Buffett leading the parade. We found ourselves being directed on how to do a conga line - we're conga line professionals! They want more weaving (all they had to do was supply more boat drinks and we would have been really weaving). I had a chance to talk to Buffett about AOL (America On Line computer bulletin board). He is now aware of us and is excited about AOL Parrot Heads.

For some reason the director likes mine, Kathy's and Eric's hats. He wants us to be in almost every scene. I, for one, feel very honored - tired, but honored.

The crew wanted to get all the scenes with Buffett that they could today, so they worked us

hard. It was hot, with no shade, no seats and few breaks...but it was fun! I have a new respect for actors and performers of any kind.

We were directed to crowd around and dance to the various religions that are depicted in the song. Now we're filming on what appears to be a street in New York, and it's a long street. I am

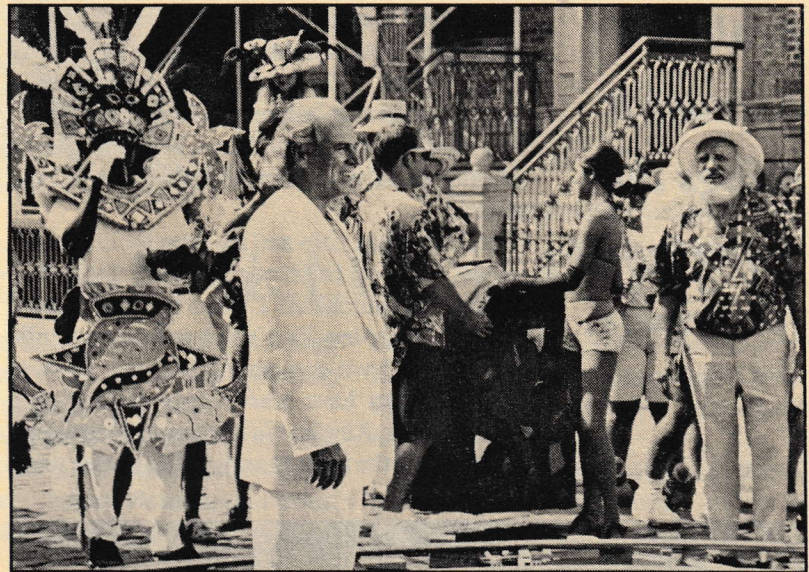


Photo: Eric Ilasenko

going to die. The director decides to film from a golf cart and becomes part of the crowd scene. Make room for the roller bladers and no conga, just dance and dance and dance. Finally the director yells, "That's a wrap!" and we all rejoice.

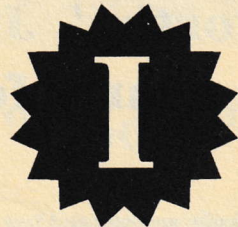
I sit here at my computer recalling the events that took place just 3 to 4 hours ago. I met a lot of great pholks and wish I could take them home with me...but I have only so many icepacks to go around. I have swelling of the joints, pain in muscles that I didn't know I had. I suffered heat stroke and fatigue, would I do it again...Yes. God it's great being a Parrot Head!





# FRIENDS OF FLORIDA

*Change is inevitable. It's also healthy because it brings the opportunity for growth.*



In 1986 a development boom threatened to destroy Key West's last natural areas and laid-back ambiance. As a response Jimmy Buffett, joined by other concerned residents, formed Friends of Florida; a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving Florida Keys wetlands. Over the years we have raised funds together to support initiatives to save the Key West Salt Ponds, the Key Deer and other endangered species, and natural offshore islands. We have awarded small grants to worthy conservation efforts; the construction of a freshwater pond at Indigenous Park in Key West, seed money for land purchases, emergency legal assistance, and environmental education in local schools.

With Jimmy's help and the wonderful support we've received from our Coconut Telegraph Friends who purchased T-shirts and participated in our annual New Year's Eve at Margaritaville contest. We have accomplished much. Most of the salt ponds have been acquired, and Little Hamaca Park, Key West's last tropical hardwood hammock is the islands only public nature park.

FOF is setting up a fund to continue the maintenance of the park for the next seven years to assure it will remain beautiful. FOF has also commissioned sets of computer maps of the Key West salt ponds that detail plans for future acquisition of remaining private, undeveloped parcels for restoration and public use.

Endangered species, especially Key Deer have been a major concern. We took legal action to help stop building in deer habitat, including a road across Big Pine Key, and funded staff to expedite state land purchases. A letter from our chairman led to the lowering of speed limits, improved signage and other safety measures to protect Key Deer on A1A.

Recently our fundraising efforts have focused on protecting the Backcountry National Wildlife Refuges. Working with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service we have helped identify and appraise important bird nesting islands, and established a fund to purchase private holdings for addition to the Refuges. We supported legal action against the state for allowing monkey breeding facilities to destroy two offshore islands; one of which is an endangered species habitat, and posted "no trespassing" signs on turtle nesting beaches.

While FOF has played an important role at a critical time in Keys history and made many long lasting contributions, the time has come to dissolve the organization, and for us to pursue our activities in new ways. Change is inevitable. It's also healthy because it brings the opportunity for growth. Friends of Florida has always been a small group, and now life changes are taking several directors out of the keys. Jimmy's needs for an organization are changing too as he expands his horizons in establishing a major national foundation. With your help we have made a difference. Thank you for your continuing interest in protecting Florida's natural environment, and best wishes from your Friends.

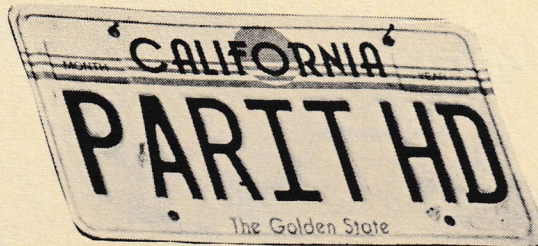


*Jimmy, Sunshine Smith, Henry Morgenstern & Joan Borel in Little Hamaca Park.*



# MARGARITAVILLE

Margaritaville in New Orleans needs your help. Their walls are bare. They need some character, and are requesting Parrot Heads pitch in with Buffett related material. Specifically license plates. The resourcefulness of Parrot Heads with their vanity plates is amazing. Many states are represented in the Key West store, and it's hoped that the New Orleans store will soon be laden with leftover tags from across the country. Send plates to Margaritaville, #1 French Market Place, New Orleans, LA 70116.



From the Cincinnati Post

## Anti-Parrot Heads Get Own Party

5

Believe it or not, there are plenty of people in Cincinnati for whom the Parrot Head syndrome is a gigantic bore.

The Diner on Sycamore is offering a haven for these folks, starting about 6 P.M. on each of the three nights of Buffett's concerts at Riverbend - a "No Parrot Heads" party.

"It's not that we have anything against Jimmy Buffett," said general manager Lisa Cilensek. "It's just this strange phenomenon of these perfectly normal people acting like fools for three days."

Party decor will include "dead parrots," she said, and the price of margaritas will be raised.

The staff will be wearing T-shirts bearing anti-Buffett sentiments that were sent to the Over-the-Rhine restaurant by some anonymous sympathizers, Ms. Cilensek said.

I had to check this out. Surely this wasn't the same Cincinnati that inundates the Coconut Telegraph phone

lines and mailbox demanding to know all things Buffett. I called Ms. Cilensek, or Lisa, to get the real story.

She reiterated that she has nothing against Jimmy, but rather Cincinnati's reactions to Jimmy. Newspaper articles, televised "Buffett sightings" by some

Live Update-Cam Action-News Story At Six Reporter, even some radio time for songs other than *Come Monday* or *Margaritaville*.

"It was all done in fun as a response to everyone else's over-reaction, in fact it was hard to find parrots to decorate - all the stores were sold out!"

The only complaint came from a buffeted Riverbend employee; "She was upset when she arrived and heard Buffett being played, she thought it was going to be a real Buffett slam."

Ironically, the Diner on Sycamore posted above average sales for the three anti-Parrot Head parties. And no, they were not responsible for the obscene banner flown over the Riverbend Amphitheater, "Are you kidding?" Lisa said, "that costs money!"

For our geographically limited readers, Cincinnati is in Ohio; a state just to the left of Pennsylvania and way right of everywhere else.







### Margaritaville Boat Flag

From Windy Creations, with or without a boat this flag looks great. Margaritaville Store logo embroidered on one side of 14" X 20" flag. \$26.00

### Margaritaville Windsock

Our colorful windsock measures 60". Margaritaville Store logo embroidered on 18" top. Six bright streamers measure 42". \$31.00

### License Plates

Standard size metal license plates patterned after official Florida Manatee plates. \$1.00 from each sale is contributed toward protecting manatees. License plates are \$8.00 each.



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Shark head holder keeps a grip on your favorite beverage. Soft, pliable rubber holders are \$6.25 each.



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100% combed cotton Outer Banks® golf shirt. 2-button placket, stitched sleeves and extended tail. Cool and comfortable. Available in Mint Green, Forest Green, Pink or Royal Blue. Size: S,M,L,& XL. \$35.00

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### Don't Stop The Carnival

Herman Wouk's farce about oncoming middle age, and the desperate, doomed attempt of one man to arrest the sands of time. Paperback is \$14.95

### Buffett Books

#### Where Is Joe Merchant?

"A tribute to Buffett's story-telling skills and his essentially sunny, mafia-influenced world view." Hardback book is \$19.95, Paperback \$5.99

#### Tales From Margaritaville

Seven months on the New York Times Best Seller list. Paperback \$5.99

#### The Songs of Jimmy Buffett

Songbook containing 21 songs from Jimmy's first 4 MCA releases. Contains piano, vocal and chords. \$13.95

#### Songs You Know By Heart

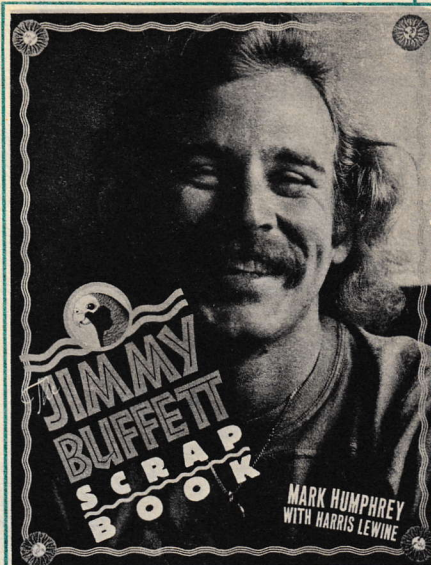
From Jimmy's greatest hit(s) album of the same name. Contains piano, vocal and chords. \$13.95

*Special Guitar Tab Edition \$16.95*



### Margaritaville Short Sleeve Cotton Fleece

Bulky 100% cotton fleece with embroidered Margaritaville Cafe logo. Off shoulder sleeves supplement oversize design. Features 2-button placket with collar and banded sleeves. Available in White, Yellow, Moss Green, Purple, and Royal Blue. Size: L & XL only. \$38.00



### The Jimmy Buffett Scrapbook

An unauthorized biography by unauthorized authors that we are unauthorized to authorize. Although we were not involved in the book, it would seem a bit elitist not to offer it to Parrot Heads. It is with this in mind that we unauthorizedly offer this book for sale. Oversize paperback book is \$17.95



"I was watching the Cubs game and eating a fried shrimp platter at Bobalou's when Rudy Breno burst through the door like Geraldo Rivera on a drug raid. I had met Rudy at the Chart Room Bar in Key West, and I wasn't a fan."

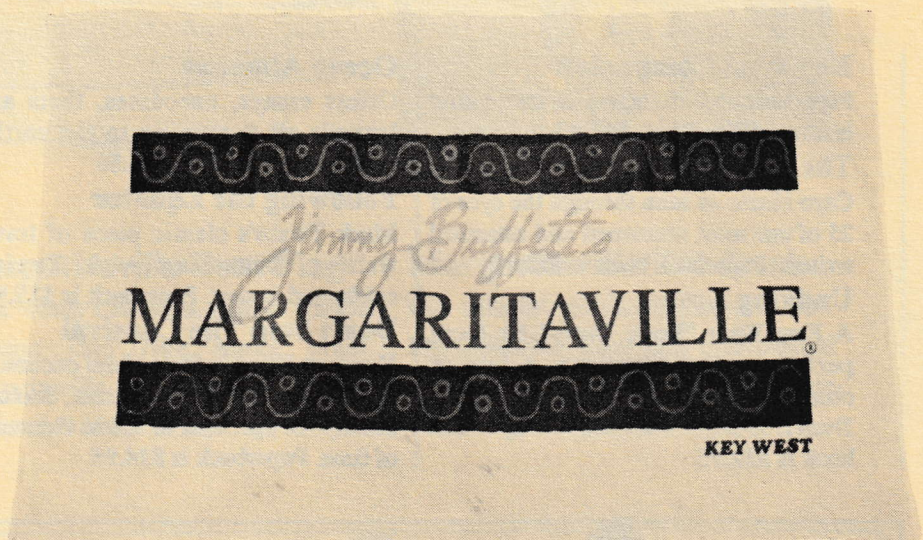
*Jimmy Buffett*  
**Where is Joe Merchant?**

### **Bobalu's Southern Cafe T'**

100% cotton crew neck T-shirt. Mint Green shirt with Orange lettering. Authentic shirt from one of the lower key's finer dining establishments. Size: S,M,L& XL. \$14.95



*Frank Bama's favorite*

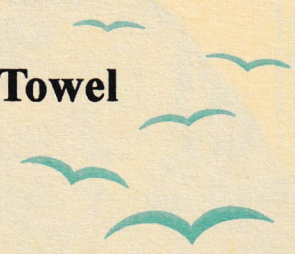


### **Margaritaville Beach Towel**

Heavyweight, absorbent cotton beach towel measures approximately 3' X 5'.

Deep Blue with Mint accent borders surround Pink Jimmy Buffett and matching Mint Margaritaville & Key West. Works in fresh or salt water.

**\$21.00**



### **MARGARITAVILLE CARRY ALL**

**Beach Bag, School Bag, Travel Bag**

Attractive carry all made of durable, heavyweight canvas. Lengthy double-stitched reinforced straps allow shoulder or hand carrying. Full cut canvas bag is 17" deep and 14" across. 10" deep front pocket features colorful embroidered Margaritaville logo. Off-White canvas body accented with Jade Green straps and bottom panel. \$32.00





## New Margaritaville Camp Shirt

### Short Sleeve Cotton Camp

Full cut, durable 100% combed cotton shirt. Pre washed, made in USA. Margaritaville embroidered above left front pocket. Soft, casual and comfortable. Available in Natural Off-White or Classic Denim Blue. Size: S,M,L & XL. **\$38.00**

*Color shading within the garment, wrinkling and irregularities are characteristic and serve to enhance the desired look of the garment. These effects are not to be considered as defects.*



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## MARGARITAVILLE CREW NECK T-SHIRTS

Designs available exclusively through Margaritaville. 100% cotton available in White, Black, Ash Gray, Purple, Yellow or Jade. Size: S,M,L& XL. **\$14.95**



**Margaritaville Cafe**

**Parrot Head Club**

**Margaritaville Store**



Thomas Claytor  
24 May 1994  
Stellenbosch,  
South Africa

Dear Jimmy,


This place is a long way from there. So far, I have flown 46,000 miles, but I'm still plugging along. The power of a dream can be an amazing thing. The dream I dream the most these days is what it will be like to get home. There are many friends and memories that I carry with me on this trip; sometimes they are all I have, but they keep me going. When things get tough I remember, "I'm going home - and home is east."

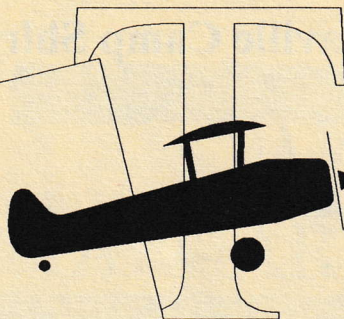
For the past 3½ years I have been able to raise funds by working the plane on conservation projects along the way. I am proud to have done this, but it has been a long time. If I am ever going to get back home, I realize I am going to have to try to raise some outside funds. I want to get moving and spend more time writing, filming and photographing instead of scraping for funds.

**National Geographic** has made a one-hour film of the trip which will be on TV this fall. Also this fall, the footage I have been shooting for them will begin to appear on **Explorer Journal**. I have recently received a letter from Bill Graves, the editor of the magazine, so maybe, if I'm lucky, something might happen there.

You have been very kind to mention me in your Coconut Telegraph, it somehow makes me feel less lonely during the lonely spells. I still have 4 continents to go - a long way - but if I make it back, I'll buy you dinner. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TOM 



## Tom Claytor Still Up In The Air

### Travelling Tales

From an article by Jackie Nel  
appearing in *Getaway Magazine*

Fear for me is the unknown. Once I'm in a situation and it's happening I'm all right, but fear is before I make the decision; to fly into the storm or turn around and go back."

So says adventurer Tom Claytor of his six-year, seven-continent expedition.

"I'm going to places that we're not meant to go and seeing things that we're not meant to see, especially as they relate to conservation

"I started from home, Philadelphia, on 2 December 1990. I went through Canada to Greenland, my favorite place. It's very extreme, dark 24 hours a day, 40°C below zero. Then to Iceland, the Faroe Islands, down through Europe and into Africa. I've been into 25 countries so far in North, Western and Central Africa.

"I seek out bush pilots and writers. My network for this trip is bush pilots. They tell me how to fly through an area, through thunderstorms; tell me where to get gas; teach me about the politics of the different countries.

"I also seek out writers. The two challenges for me were flying, especially over the North Atlantic in midwinter, where I'd even have to drain the oil at night then heat it over a stove to put it in warm in the morning. But what scared me more was writing. I've worked on several films for National Geographic but this will be my first book.

"Writing is very soothing. If I'm lonely or worried I'll start to write and it's as though someone's there to listen. I write in notebooks but I generally compose things on my computer."





He obviously has to travel light; what does he take?

"Tools. The airplane comes first, before me. I do maintenance on the plane myself. It's a Cessna 180, a single-engine plane.

"I take recording equipment. I bought a used computer from a missionary in Mali; that really saved me. My video equipment belongs to the National Geographic Society.

"And I take my tent. In the bush it keeps the lions and hyenas from sniffing your face in the middle of the night, and when I clear customs I can drop it in some remote part of the airport and no one bothers me.

"I travelled with Larry Norton, a wildlife artist, for a year, from Morocco to Zimbabwe. He's doing illustrations from my book. We never fought once, even though we were in some very difficult situations.

"Algeria was difficult. They thought that bush pilots were pilots for George Bush - that we were spies - and there were all of these hassles at the airport."

To sum up the magic of flying Tom says, "You get a different perspective, it's like travelling over a map. But after flying high for a while you start to feel removed. It's good to get back in touch with the land, follow the course of a river, feel the heat from the jungle coming through your cabin.

"That's why this plane is so nice; I can land on beaches, roads and bush strips. That's the point of this trip. There's always dark, remote spots between places, and that's where I'll go."

**Tax-deductible contributions to the project are essential. They can be made to The Bush Pilot Expedition, The Explorers Club, 46 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021. All contributions are highly appreciated and will be acknowledged in the author's book.**



National Geographic Explorer is pleased to announce the premier of "Flight Over Africa" to be broadcast in 2 parts on Sunday, September 11th and September 18th on cable station TBS.

Flight Over Africa profiles the extraordinary journey of Thomas Claytor, a 31 year-old bush pilot from Pennsylvania, is on a six-year round-the-world adventure which will take him to all seven continents. Explorer's television crew joined Claytor through part of his trip across Africa.

The film follow Claytor to a remote ghost town which once housed diamond miners in the Namib desert, and to a shipwreck along Africa's infamous skeleton coast. We fly with Claytor to locate elephants in Botswana, join scientists in Zimbabwe as they fight to save a rhino wounded by poachers, visit a sanctuary for orphaned chimpanzees in Burundi and fly over the magnificent Victoria Falls.

Produced by Emmy award winning producer, Christine Weber, and filmed by Robert C. Poole, Flight Over Africa will be part of an Africa theme show and will lead off the new fall season on Explorer.

**Keep in touch with Key West and Margaritaville. The CoconutTelegraph is mailed 6 times a year. \$5.00 covers printing & postage. Outside U.S. \$10.00.**

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# Go west, Fruitcakes go west!

1994 Tour  
The Final Lap

A Jimmy Buffett concert is synonymous with instant sell-out. It's also synonymous with prepubescent Parrot Heads, their parents and their parents, posturing and parading in outlandish, garish costumes, spilling from the parking lot into the amphitheater in Anywhere, USA. A Buffett concert is an event, plotted and planned for months in advance, requiring a prodigious amount of time and effort. Jimmy's appearance is definitely the icing on the cake, but the cake, or better yet, the **Fruitcake**, is the fan.

September 20	Houston, TX	The Woodlands
September 21	Houston, TX	The Woodlands
September 23	Dallas, TX	Starplex
September 24	Dallas, TX	Starplex
September 26	Denver, CO	Fiddler's Green
September 27	Denver, CO	Fiddler's Green
September 30	Irvine, CA	Irvine Meadows
October 1	Irvine, CA	Irvine Meadows
October 2	San Bernadino, CA	Blockbuster
October 4	Phoenix, AZ	Desert Sky Pavillion
October 6	San Francisco, CA	Shoreline Amphitheater

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JUST A REMINDER THAT THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MINDS WILL BE HELD IN NEW ORLEANS NOVEMBER 3RD THROUGH NOVEMBER 5TH. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL PAMELA GARGES AT (214) 233-2552.

## The Coconut Telegraph

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LOOK FOR OUR GALA XMAS ISSUE  
COMING IN OCTOBER

BOB HASLETT  
15185 WINESAP DR  
N POTOMAC MD 20878

The following letter was submitted by Dave Strong, a New York Parrot Head known to stray beyond the state line to satisfy his need for the yearly Buffett concert. "While Jimmy was revving up the crowd during this year's show in Pittsburgh, he looked up at the thousands of Parrot Heads on the hill behind the seats, 'You're the Children of the Lawn!' Sing to the tune of *Gypsies in the Palace*.

Hi there, Jim!

Can you hear us shout,  
and singing all your tunes?  
Your face looks kinda fuzzy,  
All lit up by the moon.  
Really wish we had those seats  
Down there by your band.  
We'd jump right up & shout your name,  
It really would be grand.  
We like it here above the roof  
That covers all those seats.  
The stars are out, Orion's bright,  
And we're dreaming of the beach.  
There's Parrots all around us,  
Who could not find a nest.  
They just spread a blanket on the grass,  
And drink themselves to death.  
We're the Children of the Lawn,  
To seats we have no rights!  
We're the Children of the Lawn.  
And we're going wild tonight.  
Left our homes this afternoon...  
Couldn't show up late!  
Drove right down to Pittsburgh,  
To party at the gate.  
We packed up all our coolers,  
Filled them full of beer!  
Just room enough left over  
For fins, the kids, and gear!  
We're the Children of the Lawn  
To seats we have no rights!  
We're the Children of the Lawn,  
And we're going wild tonight.  
Whoa there, Jim what's goin' on  
The concerts ending when?  
We barely got the cooler drained,  
It can't be after ten.  
OK! Everybody off this hill,  
This party's closing down.  
He'll be back here next season,  
He'll be coming back to town.  
*(Refrain)*  
So long Jim. We heard you sing  
Though our heads are not too clear,  
Couldn't find enough to drink  
In the short time you were here.  
Man it sure is great up there  
We really had a thrill.  
If you ever hit the road again,  
We'll be here on this hill!  
*(Refrain)*