

The COCONUT TELEGRAPH

MARGARITAVILLE NOV.-DEC. 1994

VOLUME 10, NO.6

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas in the Caribbean,
Snowbirds fill the air.
Christmas in the Caribbean,
Lots of presents everywhere.
We don't live in a hurry
Send away for mistletoe,
It's Christmas in the Caribbean
We got everything but snow.

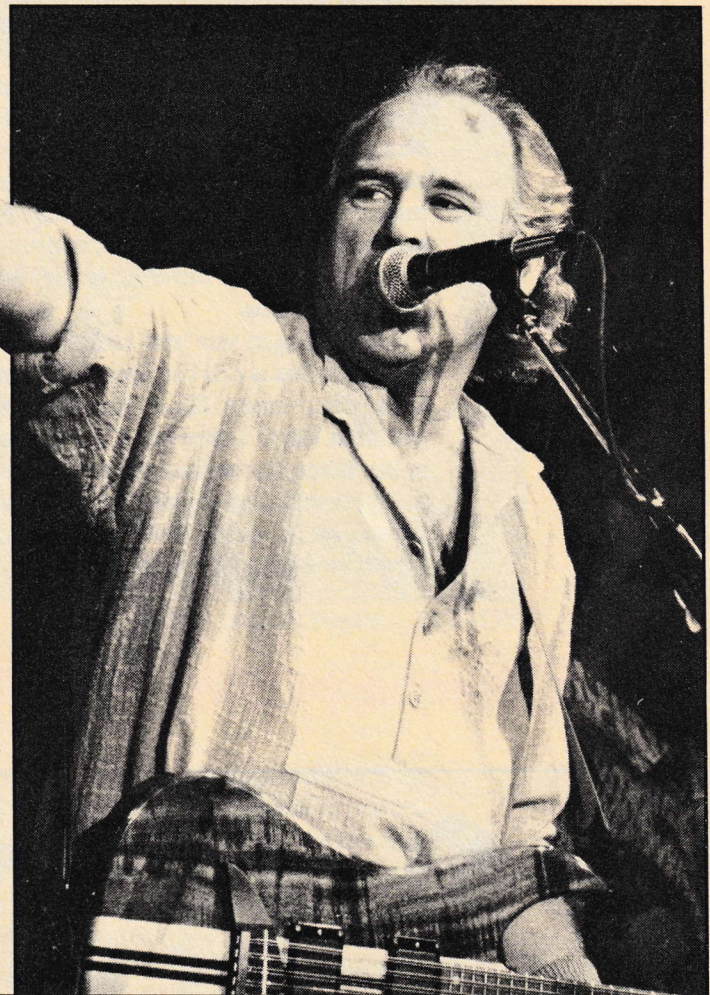


Photo: Scott Ruby

**Troubador
Emeritus**



Gamble Rogers
1937-1991



Dan Jansen
Parrot Head On Ice



The Information
Interstate

Gamble

Fruitcakes, the latest nugget from the 'Ol Buffett Gold Mine, was dedicated to, "the memory of **James Gamble Rogers**, a troubadour and a friend who has gone over to the other side where the guardian angels dwell and has in all likelihood, become one."

Jimmy's respect and admiration for Gamble Rogers is evident, but he's not alone. There have been numerous acknowledgments of his exemplary conduct. The Andrew Carnegie Hero Commission recognized him, the Florida Legislature renamed a beach in his honor, and Gamble has been nominated for inclusion in the Florida Artists Hall of Fame.

Gamble Rogers was born and raised in the part of Florida that is still considered the south, if ya' know what I mean. His earliest influences were guitarists Merle Travis and Chet Atkins, as well as his father, a prominent Winter Park architect, who by purchasing a ukulele for his fourteen year-old son, set in motion the cause that would effect Steve Goodman, John Prine and Jimmy Buffett.

AS A ONE-MAN
THEATER, HE IS
AN AMERICAN
TREASURE WORTHY
OF INCLUSION
IN THE
SMITHSONIAN.

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

Life is what happens to you while you're making other plans.



John Prine, Marvin Gardens, Jesse Goodman, Steve Goodman.

So Gamble Rogers became a guitarist and folk singer. Bill DeYoung writes that, "Doug Gauss, a Tallahassee-based folk singer who had admired Rogers since first hearing him play in a coffee-house in 1964, said he used to watch and listen in awe as Rogers and his buddies - songwriter/guitarist Will McLean, fiddler Paul Champion and guitarist Jim Ballew - made music as the **Salty Dogs**." They later became the **Baffled Knights**, a precursor perhaps to Jimmy's *Order of the Sleepless Knights*, from Last Mango in Paris' "Gypsies in the Palace." The Baffled Knights played in clubs and music festivals from Florida to Canada, and gained prominence as

Rogers

member of the Serendipity Singers in the early 60's.

Music led to storytelling, as the band asked Gamble to be their spokesman. He introduced and verbally set the stage for their songs displaying an early rendition of what was to become his trademark style; steeped in the oral tradition of storytelling and philosophical humor.

When he left the Serendipities he returned south to expand his art some more. "I discovered pretty quickly that the folks in these places weren't terribly interested in art songs or folk songs once you'd gotten "The Wildwood Flower" out of the way. They would talk and carry on among themselves, until I noticed that the longer I talked and had something of substance to say, the more the talking and jabbering would quiet down."

He was probably the best Merle Travis style guitarist since Travis, and played both classics and original material with authority, cleanliness and strength; other pickers would show up in droves just to watch him. But he will be remembered most for his stories.



James Gamble Rogers 1937-1991

Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want.

"He fashioned his onstage persona from great architects of the language that he'd known: equal parts carnival barker, Bible salesman and tent-show evangelist."

Cashbox Magazine writes, "Some people may have a way with words, but Gamble Rogers is a meritorious master of multi-syllabic locution. **Billboard Magazine** stated that Rogers combines "the best efforts of Noah Webster and a good old boy." Never will a 10-cent word suffice when there is a \$100 one in his inventory. "His language, like his tall tales, is Southern Gothic."

"I use the big words not to flaunt them. And really not even to call attention to the story. I'm

really trying to say things as ...correctly as I can. It's an age-old device, whether in oratory or popular storytelling, or speaking in the way of a politician or preacher, that large, colorful words have a way of attracting and focusing attention."

Gamble Rogers died trying to save a drowning man. Perhaps there is someone more eloquent than I who could convey in writing what a selfless act this was, someone more erudite to properly describe the situation, someone placed in a moral dilemma that gave little time for hypothetical discussion, someone, ironically, like Gamble Rogers.

Phi Theta Fruitcakes

The Sports Magic Team was originally created by Master Magicians **Tim Glancey** and **Giovanni**. They saw a unique opportunity when the city of Orlando named their NBA Basketball team the Orlando Magic. Tim and Giovanni approached the Magic with their concept; in-stands activities to keep the fans entertained and motivated during breaks in the action. Needless to say, the Orlando Magic loved the idea.

The Sports Magic Team, under the direction of Tim Glancey, grew to 12 performers. This Orlando based team not only keeps the fans going at every home game for the Magic, but also travels nationwide performing at all types of sporting and special events.

Their props, like the patented Backpack Basketball encourages fans to sink a soft leather basketball into a goal that extends eleven feet in the air from the backpack worn by a Sports Magic Team player. Other props include the Hoop Hat, Catapult Basketball, Jumbo Free Throw and Anti-Gravity Basketball.

The teams universal appeal has propelled them to the top of the NBA's list of recommended half time shows. The Sports Magic Team entertains outside of Orlando and off the basketball court as well. Baseball and hockey fans from Chicago to Miami have cheered the antics of the IncrediBulls, the Bleacher Brigade and the Panther Patrol.

Jimmy Buffett caught the Sports Magic Team several years ago during the NBA All-Star Game in Orlando. He wondered if the concept would work at his concerts. It seemed natural, a Buffett concert is a carnival, and these guys would only add to the appeal. He approached the Sports Magic Team to see if they could create some entertainment ideas to fit in with his tropical theme.

The team now travels with The Coral Reefers

to keep the fans in the Margaritaville "state of mind" before and during the show. The Fruitcakes Tour was their third year. On stage Tim Glancey and Wally Nickel form the frame for the giant T-shirt sling shot. Jimmy still holds the long distance record for launching T-shirts. The Sports Magic Team have become

an integral part of the Margaritaville experience.

Before the concerts Tim and Wally, decked out in their Buffett finest, roller blade through the crowd delighting the fans with parrot head and shark fin balloon hats. Veteran Buffett fans line up for the opportunity to play Palm Tree Backpack; tossing a soft coconut at a palm tree hoop.

Currently there are over 38 performers on the Sports Magic Team nationwide. During a game four of them can rock an arena of thousands. When all of the teams gather together for training, it's outrageous!

*Where
did
these
crazy
guys
come
from?*



Dan Jansen holds the world speed skating record, cruising 1000 meters in 1:12:43.



FAX COVER SHEET
Hamar Village

Village Operations

Tel: 61 07 87 25
Fax: 61 07 87 30

DATE: 2/23
TO: Jimmy Buffett
FROM: DAN JANSEN
FAX #: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES TO BE SENT (Including Cover Page): 1

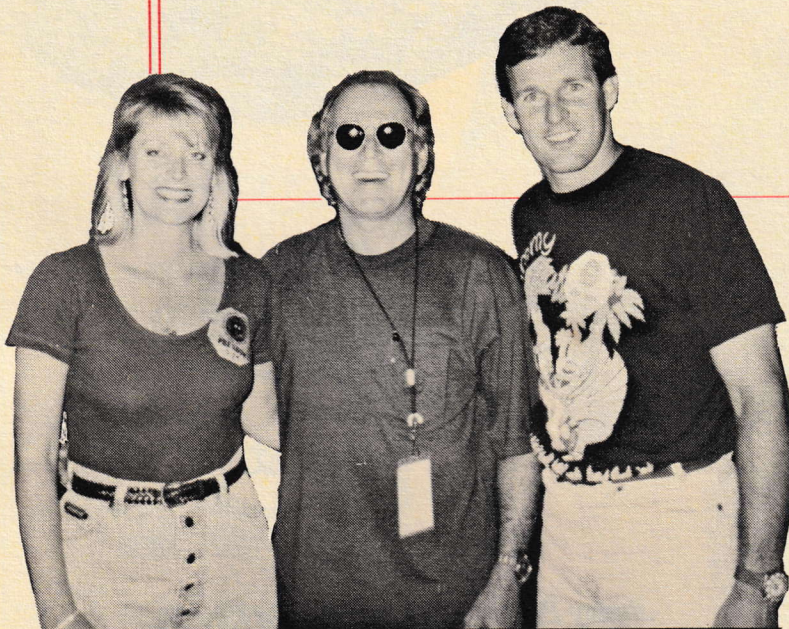
Jimmy,
Thanks a lot for the
fax. As you may have seen, it helped!

Even though they played that "other"
National Anthem for me, it was
still pretty special!!

All my Best!

Dan Jansen

5



Robin Jansen

Frank Bama

Dan Jansen

Robin and I had a great time and really enjoyed the show. Here are some photos - maybe you can put us in the Coconut Telegraph!

Olympic Gold Medalist Dan Jansen, arguably "the best skating sprinter the world has ever known," happens to be an avid Buffett fan. This can be logically deduced: *If Parrot Heads are crazy, and Dan Jansen habitually hurls himself across solid ice at 30 MPH, then Dan Jansen is a Parrot Head.*



Ornament shown actual size. 4" wide X 3.75" at palm trees.

New Margaritaville Christmas Ornament

New Design For 1994

Home grown in Key West. Ornaments are individually trimmed and hand painted. Margaritaville Key West storefront etched on white clay, with traditional Christmas Red & Green accents. New ornament comes completely assembled, ready to hang. \$10.00

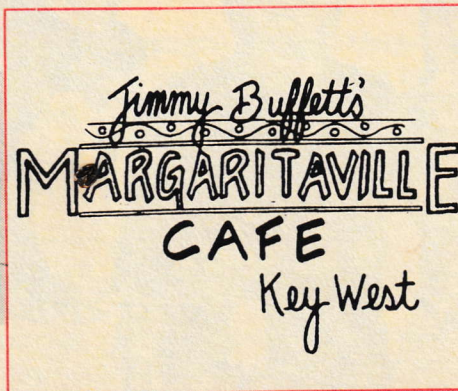
1994 Christmas Coconut

Hand painted holiday greeting. \$16.00



New Margaritaville Long Sleeve

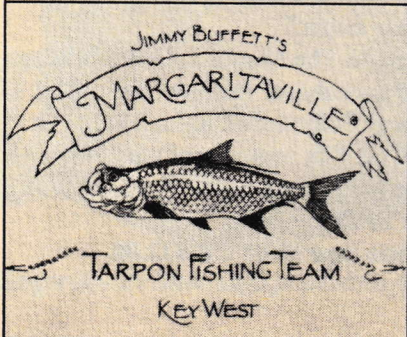
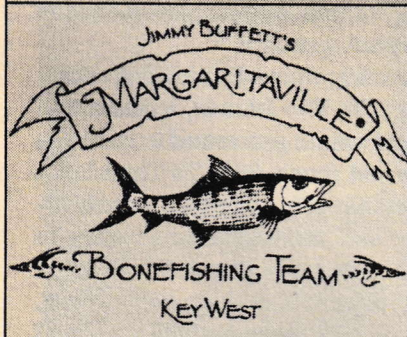
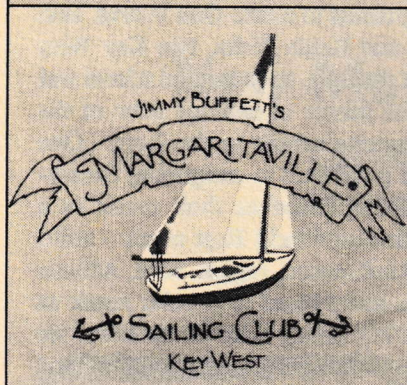
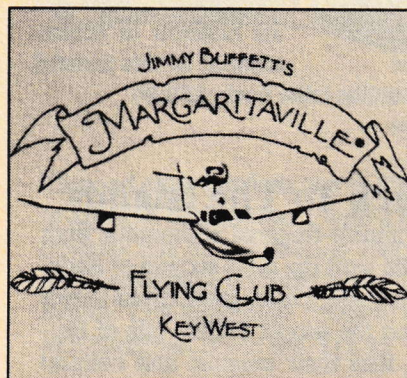
100% pre-shrunk cotton. Garment washed, pigment dyed. Loose fitting long sleeve design with banded waist and sleeves. Relaxed, comfortable crew neck. Available in Mint Green, Aqua Blue, Smoke Grey or Brick Red. Size: L or XL only. \$29.95



Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Key West embroidered on left front chest.

New Margaritaville Outfit T's

100% cotton crew neck Comfort Zone® T-shirt featuring the Club/Team Series. Designs include Flying Club or Sailing Club and Bonefishing Team or Tarpon Fishing Team. New outfit T's are available in Natural only. Size: M,L,XL & XXL. \$17.95



Pocket Crew Neck

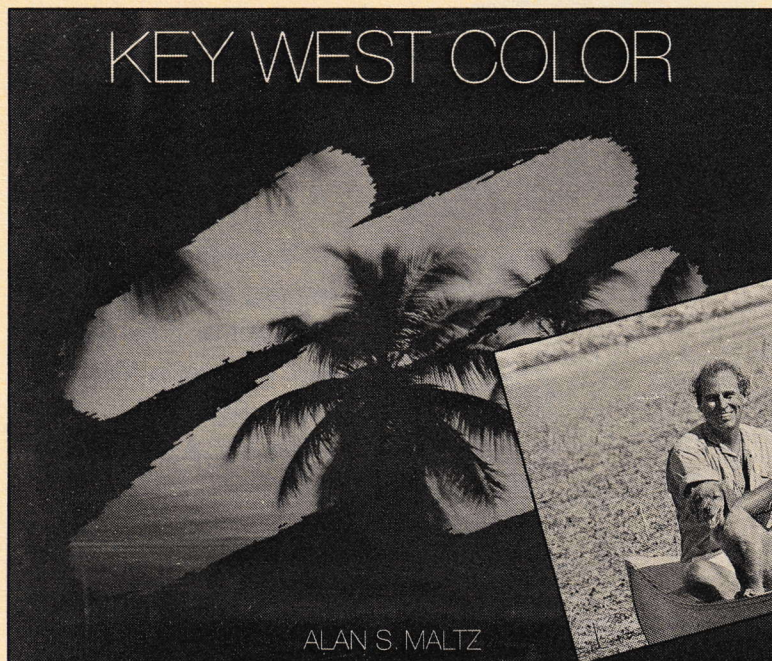
Embroidered cool shark escaping from the pocket of 100% cotton crew neck T-shirt. Available in White, Ash Grey or Royal Blue. Size: S,M,L & XL. \$19.95

Call Toll Free 1-800-COCOTEL

Long Sleeve Denim

100% cotton, durable double-stitched classic denim shirt. Comfortable and casual double-button open cuff. Embroidered margarita glass spilling out of left front chest pocket. Denim Blue only. Size: S,M,L & XL. \$45.00





From the solitude and serenity of fly fishing on the crystal clear waters to the inundation of the sights and sounds at the annual Fantasy Fest Parade, the experience of Key West is a visually sensual one.

Although Key West is rich in history and internationally renowned for its natural beauty and charm, **Key West Color** is the first book of its kind to celebrate all aspects of life in and around this 1 x 4 mile island city.

Award winning photographer Alan Maltz captures Key West and its rainbow of eccentricities in this tasteful coffee table book. **\$50.00**

Songs for the Daily Planet

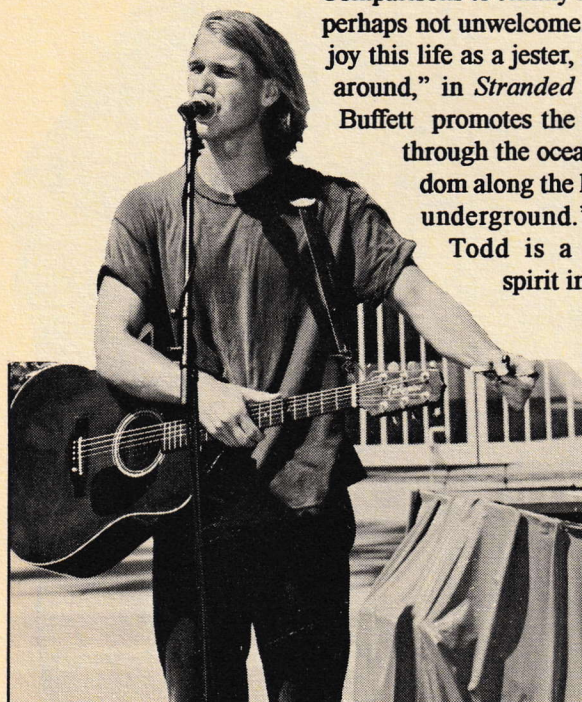
Margaritaville Records continues its assault on the popular music front with the release of *Songs for the Daily Planet*. This release marks the first effort of **Todd Snider**, Margaritaville Records' latest addition. His debut album due out this fall on Margaritaville Records/MCA, is a humorous travelog commenting on the current state of the world as seen through the eyes of a 20-something study in contrasts.

Many were exposed to Todd's music last summer as he opened, in spirit if not in person, for Jimmy Buffett; several songs were aired prior to the Iguanas taking the stage. Those fortunate enough to have found their way from the parking lot parties were treated to a preview of *Songs for the Daily Planet*. Todd's tongue-in-cheek look at his generation, "hears to livin' on dad as long as you can," was a particular favorite. *My Generation*, even without the G-G-G, is quite far removed from the more recognizable 25 year-old youthful proclamation. Todd sacrifices political correctness for humor as he characterizes the plight of the much maligned X Generation.

Comparisons to Jimmy Buffett are inevitable, and perhaps not unwelcome. Bubba proclaims, "I enjoy this life as a jester, seems to keep be moving around," in *Stranded On a Bar*. "Like Jimmy Buffett promotes the idea of personal freedom through the ocean, I like the idea of freedom along the highways and through the underground." Barefoot and scruffy, Todd is a reflection of the free spirit in us all.

Songs for the Daily Planet is delivered with the irreverent attitude that sets Todd Snider apart from the conformity of today's music.

Cassette tape \$10.98, CD \$17.00



Back To The Islands

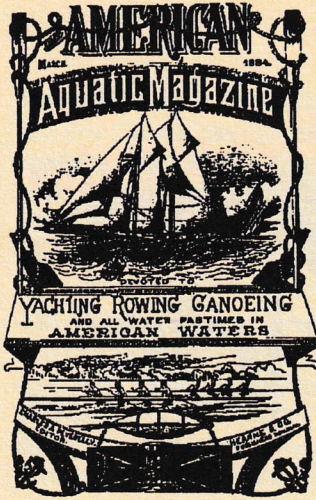
A nimble-fingered keyboardist from the working class section of Rochester, NY and a loose jointed bass player born on the proper British Isle of Bermuda fuse their musical and cultural backgrounds to create **One World**. Bob Boyd and Keith Ricks, two Key West music veterans, have merged talents and musical genres to produce some of the best entertainment in the keys. **One World** is difficult to categorize, Bermudian Ricks describes their music as a variation on World Beat music - third world influenced, reggae, soca, African music, and a blend of popular music as well. "It's taking a lot of the forms we play live that generate excitement, and putting it to tape with original songs and an original approach."

Succeeding their self-titled first release is **Back To The Islands**, a celebration of island sounds guaranteed to make you get up and dance. **Back To The Islands** is predominantly socalypso; a combination of soul and calypso. Soca may be the ultimate party music. It's insistent dance pulse comes from a throbbing, hypnotic bass, stomping bass drum, and stabbing horns."

Back To The Islands is **One World's** salute to socalypso. Recorded and mixed at Jimmy Buffett's Shrimptoat Sound in Key West, this new release truly is music from the islands.

Back To The Islands

Cassette tape \$9.00 CD \$12.00.

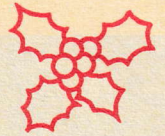


**1995
Mariner's
Book of Days**

This and other fun facts can be found in the **Mariner's Book of Days**. A desk calender with a difference. Serves as both a daybook and an information source for the curious mariner. Right-hand page is a week of days with entries from maritime history. Left-hand page contains facts and folklore from the rich traditions of the sea. **\$12.95**

From a letter by Tom Cringle in the first edition (1872) of *The Aquatic Monthly and Nautical Review*:

We sadly need good and intelligent descriptions of new yachts and alterations of old ones. Elaborate descriptions of upholstery and mahogany fittings are all very well, but we want to learn the peculiarities of the yacht, whether in model or rig, height and position of spars, area of canvas, weight of ballast and other information which will readily suggest itself to anyone conversant with the subject.



Margaritaville Carry All

New Margaritaville Cool Pack

Cool Pack features 2 insulated compartments. The top compartment is 3" high X 12" wide. Convenient for snacks or sandwiches. The bottom compartment measures 6" X 12", plenty of room for ice and drinks. Cool Pack is constructed of tough vinyl, high quality zippers, and is fully lined and insulated. Fully adjustable cloth strap is 4 feet long and allows a variety of carrying lengths. Purple and Emerald body with black adjustable strap.

\$19.95



Margaritaville Store logo printed on front.

**It's a Beach Bag
It's a School Bag
Less Filling!
Great Taste!
It's a 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 Funky Margaritaville logo. Off-White canvas body accented with Jade Green straps and bottom panel. **\$32.00**





Hitch a ride..

Info Interstate



I'm hip to computers. I use them everyday. They are indispensable in the workplace, diminutive filing cabinets clinging to thousands of names, inventory and accounting figures, and the next issue of the Coconut Telegraph; looking as dull as Bill Gates' haircut, yet as promising as his bank account. They're referred to as *user friendly*, contain *motherboards*, are initiated by *floppies*, and operated with a *mouse*. Charming. It's all under control, nothing can go wrong [click] nothing can go wrong [click] nothing can...

These magic boxes quickly and silently perform tasks thought impossible a decade ago. Yet every new and improved add-on is archaic by the time you've mastered it. Modems for instance. Modems are attachments that allow computer users contact with the outside world, although the outside world is the same as it ever was, and, I'm speaking from empirical evidence, very receptive to contact.

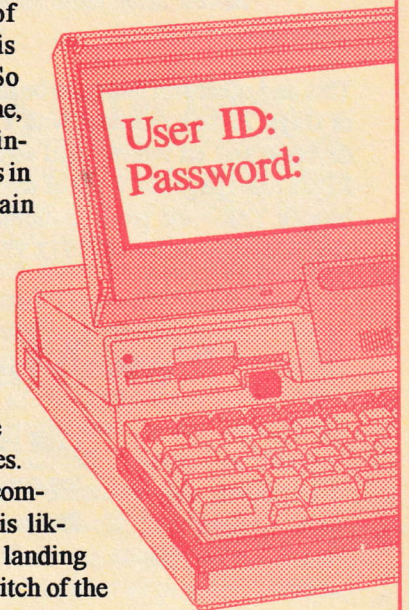
Several years ago a 2400 baud modem was the norm, but in the time it takes to figure out what the hell a Com Port is, a faster, slicker modem is

on the market; one that runs at 9600, which is now obsolete with the introduction of the 14K V.42bis Fax Modem! So you better get one, or you'll be spinning your wheels in the mud of a rain soaked dirt road while your peers are cruising the Information Superhighway, where the sun always shines.

Your recent computer purchase is likened to a house landing on the wicked witch of the east. I will attempt to get you started on the yellow brick road, burdened with twists, turns, and an assortment of odd characters; gathered to either help or hinder your way to the omnipotent man behind the curtain. You will be tested on your journey - stay away from the poppies dude. So curb your dog, sit up straight, use a No. 2 lead pencil, bring plenty of change for the toll booths and gently nudge your way into the flow of traffic on the Information Superhighway.

In January 1992 we became aware of a Parrot Head presence on a newfangled computer service referred to as a bulletin board. The original 100 members registered through Prodigy has mushroomed to thousands of Parrot Heads swapping E-mail and Buffett fun facts on the four major bulletin boards, all offering access to the Electronic Emerald City - Internet.

The popular *Parrot Head Madness* section in Prodigy has expanded to a variety of subjects all



10

A bunch of Parrot Heads trying to E-mail me.



Look in my laptop, what did I see?

Photo: Eric Ilasenko

Parrot Head or Buffett related. To access this particular forum, use *Arts Club* as the "jump" word. When the Arts Club menu appears, select *Music*, then *Music BB*. A new menu appears with a list of *Topics*. At this point select *Other*, then search for Parrot Head in the *Subjects*. Enter, introduce yourself and buy the first round.

The next bulletin board to offer a safe haven for Parrot Heads was **Delphi**. Delphi is the only major online service without a graphic interface. Meaning typed commands instead of "point and click." This forum is managed by GDILLE, CCAMDEN & JMWALLACE, real people with computer ID's. To access this forum simply select *Custom Forums* from the main menu. The Parrot Head Madness forum is #40. Type this as your selection and another menu appears allowing for entrance into a live conference or a list of messages to which you can add or reply. There's usually a live conference in the evenings. This area also offers the best that Delphi has to offer; the easiest, most direct route to Internet. Select **Usenet** and peruse a list of topics compiled by Parrot Heads worldwide.

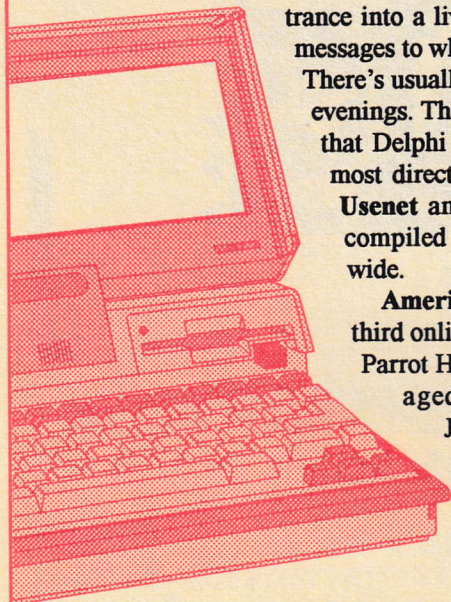
America Online (AOL) is the third online service to be tapped by Parrot Heads. This forum is managed by PARITHD and JDMONT, again real people with computer ID's. I use my copy in a Windows environment, which, I believe, is the norm. This forum

is accessed through the Music Center. Pull down the menu under the Go to command line. Select *Keyword* and type *Rocklink*. When the menu appears select *Music Message Center*. You will find Parrot Heads listed under the *Permanent Artists Collection*. AOL uses folders to maintain data. Browse these folders and get involved. Check out the hours for the Margaritaville Cafe, a real-time chat line.

Compuserve (CIS) is the most recent online service to feature a Parrot Head forum. I have also installed CIS through Windows, which I strongly recommend. Pull down the Services menus, and select go to *Florida+* Forum. The next menu lists *Parrotheads* in it's selections. Highlight it and you're in.

Your journey is complete. Ding-Dong the witch is dead. You may stay and govern Emerald City with your newly acquired skills, or you may pound your fist on your keyboard three times repeating, "There's no Interactive Personal Service like home, there's no Interactive Personal Service like home..." while your telephone bill inflates like a hot air balloon and soars beyond reach.

What a world.



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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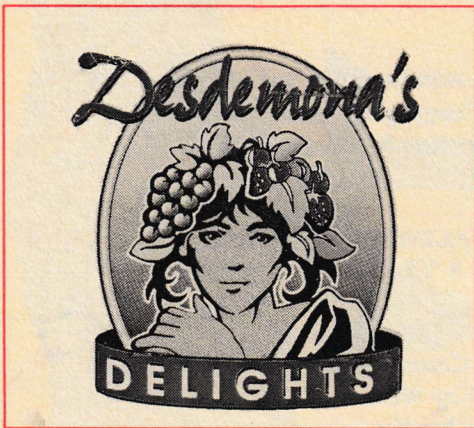
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Desdemona's Delights

Not enough Fruitcakes in the world, heh? Well we got a warehouse full of 'em. Desdemona's delicious rum cake with fruit. Contains Pineapple, Papaya, Coconut...and a little bit of sugar. Muffin is cellophane wrapped and tied off with a colorful ribbon. Makes a great stocking stuffer - just make sure the stocking is firmly attached. \$5.95

Tropical Print Seasonal Sock

100% cotton with White "fur" trim. Stocking measures 13" from loop to heel. \$10.00



Margaritaville 1994 Christmas Shirt

Long sleeve crew neck T-shirt. Bright, colorful holiday design fills the front of a 100% cotton crew neck.

Available in White only.

Size: M,L & XL. \$18.00

Design also available on Margaritaville Christmas Card. Oversize card measures 5 x 8, includes red envelope. Individual cards are \$1.50, set of 20 cards and envelopes, \$20.00

The Coconut Telegraph

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