

COCONUT TELEGRAPH



Volume 12 No. 3



WELCOME TO YET ANOTHER NEW LOOK FOR THE COCONUT TELEGRAPH

VETERAN SUBSCRIBERS MAY FONDLY RECALL THE SINGLE SHEET OF OLD, LOOK BACK UPON THE FOUR PAGE MONTHLY ISSUES, AND BEMOAN THE SWITCH TO 12 PAGES 6 TIMES A YEAR. BUT CHANGE IS GOOD. THE NEW CT PROMISES TO BE MAILED ON TIME, EASY TO READ AND ORDER MERCHANDISE, AND AS TIMELY AS EVER.

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NOAAHH

What the hell is that?



NEW RELEASES FROM
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Local Parrot Head Clubs

News From the Midwest Caribbean Association

Chicago Parrot Head Club.

Chicagoites have evidently found time between disappointing Cub games to be very active. Last year's accomplishments include a 75 bag-high mound of garbage, bloodletting to the tune of nearly 15 gallons, collecting over \$2500 in MS sponsored walks, in addition to food drives and clothing drives. 1996 events should meet or exceed last years.

The big news out of Chicago was the broadcast of **Jonathon Brandmeier's Showgram** live from the Margaritaville Cafe in Key West. This guy is a very popular broadcaster among Chicagoans, barking out of dashboards from traffic jammed Lakeshore Drive weekdays from 6 - 10AM. Summer concert appearances in or near Chicago find Jimmy singing *take me out to the ballgame* with Harry Carey after chatting with Jonathon Brandmeier on **WLUP - The Loop**.

The station brought 20 winners to Key West for the broadcast by running a variety of Jimmy Buffett related contests. One trip was awarded every day for two weeks. The most bizarre had to be a Buffett song parody, incongruously judged by **Tiny Tim** [yeah, the *Tiptoe Through the Tulip, Miss Vickie marryin' Ukelele Strokin' Pancake Makeup Wearin' guy*]. The lucky winners were joined in the cafe by over 100 Chicagonians who came to Key West to support the winners, the popular drive time DJ, and the friendly employees at Margaritaville.

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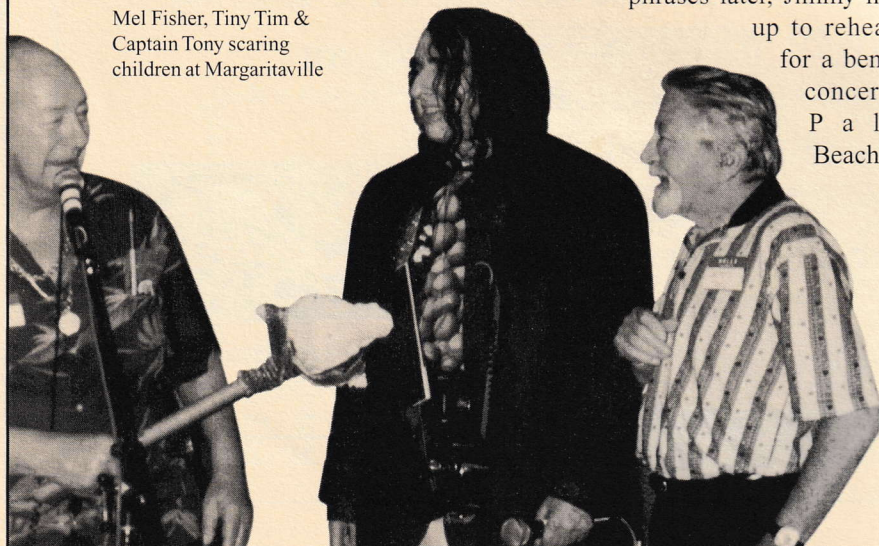
A T-shirt autographed by all celebrities will return to Chicago as a prize in a drawing held to benefit the Alzheimers Association.

I went by on my way to work to find the cafe packed, upstairs and down. I passed on a Bloody Mary, choosing instead the Key West sunrise special Cafe con Leche. I lingered around the entrance for a while, recalling that in many northern cities the early morning talk radio position is a powerful one. Someone pushed Brandmeier's "fool button" - he was working hard. The driver left for the airport to pick up Tiny Tim - as good an excuse as any to get the hell out of there and back to work.

Never say die Key West celebrities, **Mel Fisher & Cpt. Tony Tarracino** were there and provided live interviews. Around 9:30 Brandmeier took a call from the bar owner. The Chicago contingency loved it. A couple of questions and Jamaica Mistaica

phrases later, Jimmy hung up to rehearse for a benefit concert in Palm Beach.

Mel Fisher, Tiny Tim & Captain Tony scaring children at Margaritaville



Basking In The Basin

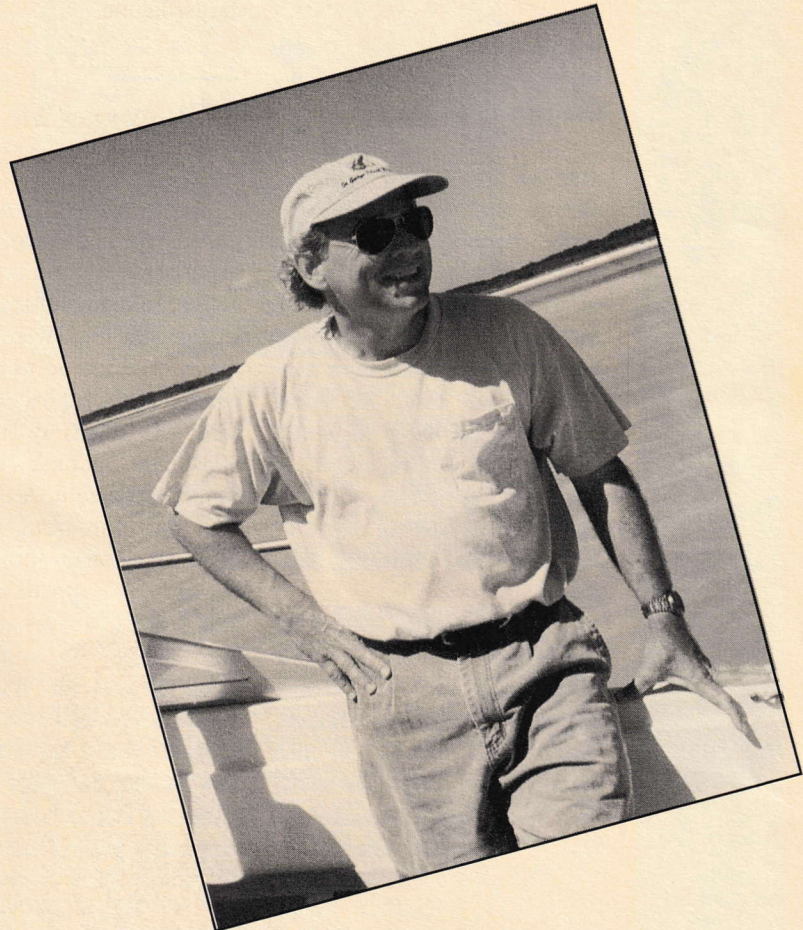
From Palm Beach to the Bahamas to Haiti,

Jimmy cruises the Caribbean Basin

Recent forays from the swampy peninsula have taken JB and company through the Bahamas, a broken chain of marl and mangrove geographically splattered east and southeast of Florida, and into Haiti. Now the Bahamas are a great place to swim, snorkle, fish etc., and many other picturesque islands form the vast curve insultating the Caribbean Sea from the Atlantic, so what the hell was Jimmy doing in the mother of all Third World countries? U.S. Ambassador Swing is a Parrot Head and invited Joe Merchant's pursuer to Port-au-Prince. They met and had a dinner party with the Mayor of the Caribbean seaport. They were also there to interview a choreographer to work on *Don't Stop the Carnival* and to check out locations for a [still being talked about in very early discussion too premature to even think about] possible movie version of *Where Is Joe Merchant?*

In classic "livin' my life like a song" fashion, Richard Morris, owner of the historic Olafson Hotel happens to be the leader of a popular Haitian rock group, **Ram**. The mayor of Port-au-Prince is also a popular folk singer on the island, so it's no surprise that the dinner party becomes an impromptu concert with Jimmy Buffett singing along in Creole.

And what did you do last weekend?



The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

IT BEGAN IN 1970, WHEN 300 MUSICIANS ENTERTAINED A CROWD HALF THAT NUMBER IN NEW ORLEANS' HISTORIC CONGO SQUARE. TODAY, NEARLY 10,000 MUSICIANS, COOKS AND CRAFTS PEOPLE WELCOME MORE THAN 400,000 PEOPLE EACH YEAR FOR A 10-DAY FESTIVAL THAT COULD HAPPEN NOWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD. IT IS BOTH A ROLICKING, SPIRIT FILLED CELEBRATION AND A PROUD SHOWCASE OF THE AUTHENTIC HERITAGE OF LOUISIANA AND NEW ORLEANS - THE CRADLE OF JAZZ, RHYTHM AND BLUES, GOSPEL AND ZYDECO.



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Jimmy was one of the 400,000 attending the Jazz Fest this year. He was in town to perform at the Margaritaville Cafe in a benefit concert for the New Orleans Artists Against Hunger and Homelessness, but who can visit the Big Easy in late April and not go to the historic Fair Grounds Race Course? It's easy, even for Jimmy Buffett, to get lost in the middle of 12 stages, marching brass bands, a folk crafts village and a myriad of Cajun, Creole and Caribbean culinary delights.

This year's Jazz Fest started on April 26th, and Jimmy was through the gate early. Appearing that Friday were the **Iguanas**, and the head of their record label joined them on the Ray-Ban stage to perform a song from their new release *Super Ball*. He found his way to the Phish stage and caught the entire show. A couple of members reciprocated the following night at Margaritaville. [Phishing buddies?]

That night Jimmy hit the French Quarter. Jimmy's relationship with New Orleans began with his grandfather, "we'd come over as kids and meet his ship and then come into town," and continues today as a favorite entertainer. His first professional appearance was in a Bourbon Street bar called the Bayou Room. All told Jimmy spent nearly four years making a living on (literally) Bourbon Street. "I re-

member one day waking up here [the Mississippi River bank] rather early in the morning with my performing clothes on from the night before, and tourists were taking pictures. I thought, boy, I've really made it in show business now."

Tourists still take pictures, but the circumstances are markedly changed. Jimmy was seen at Cafe Brazil where he took the stage and joined New Orleans' own **Iguanas** in a set. Coasting on the caffeine filled air of the French Quarter, Jimmy proceeded down Decatur Street to the House of Blues.

The Margaritaville Cafe in New Orleans is a great place. The Storyville Tavern offers intimate entertainment around the grand piano, and the restaurant is gaining a reputation for its food and service. Big stage, nice room - oversized doors open completely allowing the outside in. But the House of Blues is...well, the House of Blues. Good food, great Bloody Mary's and a terrific sound system. Jimmy made his way down the walkway and up the old wooden steps into Jake & Elwood's place. His old friends **The Neville Brothers** were on stage and after a couple of refreshments Jimmy cashed in on the *Money Back Guarantee*.

Friday bled into Saturday, a New Orleans ritual in which bloodshot eyes slowly focus as you sip a thick, steaming hot cup of French Roast

and shake off the vestiges of Friday night like so much powdered sugar on a Cafe Du Monde donut.

Enough about Jimmy. It's your turn now. Head for Margaritaville for the NOAAHH benefit. It's not like a concert, a smaller set, more intimate, but you sure as hell don't want to miss it. Jimmy's appearances at Margaritaville are legendary. He just played the Key West cafe a couple of months ago; closed the place and hit the southernmost streets. Jimmy and a couple of Coral Reefers ended up in Finnegan's Wake, singing Irish folk songs and inviting the house fiddle player to appear on **Banana Wind**.

Anyway, back to Decatur Street. If you were one of the lucky ones to get a ticket, and avoid arrest, you saw a helluva



show - sitting or standing. Jimmy played for two hours raising nearly \$10,000 for the New Orleans Artists Against the Hunger and Homelessness Streetside ticket holders partied to Big Screen Buffett via video projection while the less fortunate hung out in the park on French Market Place watching the show from the back of the video screen, "...these are great seats maaann...heh, who cut your hair?"

The highlight of the evening was an appearance by the legendary **John Kay** of the equally legendary **Steppenwolf**. That was no flashback! If you weren't sure at first, you certainly realized it somewhere during *Born To Be Wild* or *Magic Carpet Ride*. "In the rock n' roll top ten hits of all time this guy has 2 as far as I'm concerned," Jimmy said introducing the mike-swinging icon.

In Key West we have ways to get Jimmy out. In the Big Easy, it's not...easy that is. What Jimmy possesses in talent, he lacks in patience. Rather than sit around, he throws open the upstairs window and starts a Margaritaville Mini-Mardi Gras, showering the crowd with an assortment of retail goods, "C'mon down to Buffett's Bargain Barn - we're giving stuff away!"

Next stop - Fantasy Fest in Key West. Don't let Jimmy near a window

club trini

Greenidge / Utley

"I grew up in Arkansas," Michael Utley explains, "and I was heavily influenced by Memphis soul, and the New Orleans sounds of rhythm & blues and brass bands, which contain many elements of Caribbean and Third World music. That's why New Orleans is often regarded as the northern frontier of Caribbean culture. Robert is from the heart of the Caribbean - the island of Trinidad - where styles such as calypso, soca and zouk have emerged. Our styles and musical concepts meet somewhere around New Orleans. We're really excited about recording together again, and blending our own personal ideas with Caribbean sounds including calypso, reggae, jazz, funk, sambas and more."

Club Trini contains one vocal performance, as the positive message of *Love Is Made Of This* is soulfully conveyed by Nadirah Shakoor. A former member of the pioneering group **Arrested Development**, Shakoor now sings with the Coral Reefer Band.

The Iguanas

Rod Hodges
Derek Huston
Rene Coman
Joe Cabral
Doug Garrison



6 Photo: Rick Olivier

The Iguanas *Super Ball*

The desire for realism is one reason the Iguanas' third release is so exceptional. Recorded in a converted mansion near the old New Orleans shipyards, *Super Ball* has all the Iguanas' trademark musical wanderlust, featuring Tex-Mex, rock, honky-tonk country, surf, Mexican, South American, and whatever other style strikes this talented band's musical fancy. Coupled to these rhythms

is a delicate rhyme that reveals more to the ear on each listen.

According to **Jackpot!**, *Super Ball* catches the best of this soulful quartet, pacing itself much like an all night set. The band's basic ingredient of accordion and boogaloo organ, soulful guitar strums, loping dance rhythms, bongo fun and sensuous saxophones combine to create a festive party atmosphere that just won't quit.

Todd Snider *Step Right Up*

Snider proves his critically folk-rock debut was no fluke. Picking up where Woody Guthrie and the Byrds left off (like an early Dylan with a less corrosive sense of humor), Snider deftly mixes adolescent angst with clear-eyed vision and moves easily from raggedy-ass rhythm numbers to satiric story-songs. One of the freshest writer / vocalists of his generation. **A**

— Alanna Nash, *Entertainment*

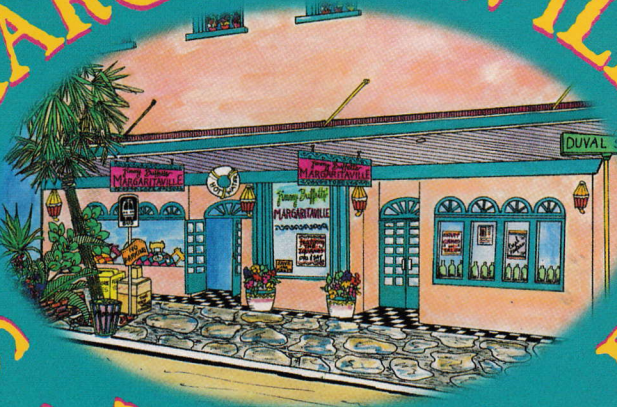


Photo: Pamela Springsteen

"Once again, Snider's easygoing style belies the caustic and often intense observations at the heart of his songs. His skill at fine-tuning lyrics to a natural, flowing state is more succinct than ever. From his perspective as the drifter / poet / prophet / troubadour, he clearly shrouds most of his views in cynicism, yet one can't help but feel it is because he zestfully loves life. In short, Todd thinks we can all do a whole lot better."

John Schoenberger - Album Network

THE MARGARITAVILLE STORE



Margaritaville Caribbean Shirt

A Reyn Spooner® original. It's Hawaiian, but we call it Caribbean. Reyn Spooner exclusive apparel features:

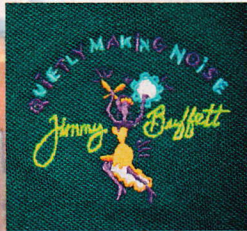
- Pockets that are expertly matched.
- Collars that are engineered and cut to fit perfectly.
- Hems that are blind stitched.
- Placket front that reflects our traditional style.
- Full side vents and back box for maximum comfort.

The inside construction of our garments is as important as outward appearance. Reyn Spooner Hawaiian originals are long lasting as well as comfortable for everyday use. 100% spun Rayon shirt tailored in Hawaii. Size: M,L,XL,XXL. Margaritaville Caribbean (Hawaiian) Shirt - #WS3CARIBE \$59.95

New Margaritaville Straw Safari Hat

Uniquely similar, wildly decorated straw hat with front panel sun visor. Great for Parrot Head parties or concerts (east coasters can wear it next year). One Size Fits All. Limited supply available. Designed by the Coral Reefer costume designer. #CPNSAFARI \$30.00





BREAST

New Quietly Making Noise Polo Shirt

100% cotton Outer Banks® polo shirt. Noisy character embroidered on left front chest. Features include 2 button placket split tail. Available in White or Forest Green only. Size: M, L, XL & XXL. #GS2NOISE \$37.00

1-800-COCOTEL



BACK

Parrot Head
Popular Parrot H
White, Beige or
Also available in

Four popular designs on 100% cotton banded short with fly front. F
Black, all others White only. Size: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42. Fins - #SH3FIN
Margaritaville Store logo - #SH3SPLAS, Parrot Head Club - #SH3



New Margaritaville Fishing

Long-billed canvas fishing cap features c
embroidered fly fishing lure on front pane
Adjustable velcro back. #CP2LURE \$17.0



Sunburst Throw

Decorative throw is 100% cotton. It is Ja
finest naturally grown fibers available. De
into the throw creating a superior quality
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Phlock Crew / Tank

Head Phlock design on 100% cotton crew neck T-shirt. Available in
ash Grey. Size: M,L,XL &XXL. #CRS1PHLK \$14.95
100% cotton tank top. White only. Size: M,L&XL. #TA1PHLK \$14.95

Boxer Shorts

Fin design available in White or Navy, Cheeseburger - #SH3CHEE, PHC. Boxers are \$16.95 each.



Cap
colorful
1.
0

1-800-COCOTEL

Margaritaville Nylon Supplex Cap

Relaxed fit cap with easy adjustable velcro back closure. Popular Parrot Head Phlock embroidered on front panel. Extensive, detailed stitching reproduces the design beautifully. Available in White or Teal. #CP2PHLK \$18.50



acquard woven, not printed, with the deep rich colors are completely woven product. Measures 46" X 65".





Parrot Cap

Soft, stuffed parrot head, bright wings and foot long tail. Adjustable cap with nontoxic color-fade resistant paints is filled with cotton/polyester fibers. #CPNPARROT \$19.95

Souvenir Concert
Important Parrot
concert ticket
Looks real,

V.I.P.

Very Important Parrot Head. 100% cotton crew neck T-shirt design on back with fake pass on front. Available in White, Beige or Ash Grey. Size: M, L, XL & XXL. #CRS1VI
Some 80/20 sweatshirts remain in Medium or Large. #SW1VI



New Caribbean Soul Design

Parrot Head Club '96 and New Son Of A Sailor Classic Caribbean Soul artwork. 100% cotton available in White, Beige or Ash Grey. Size: Parrot Head Club #CRS1CS96
Son Of A Sailor - #CRS1SAILOR \$14.95



FRONT

Stuffed
adjustable
screened "Lanc"

1-800-CO

t-
st

No Access Backstage Pass

... Ticket Holder Official laminate with VIP, Very Parrot Head design on one side, and a slot to insert ticket on reverse. Your ticket becomes a souvenir. But don't even think about it. It's a fake, and it's only \$4.50. #NVPASS



Crew

... Colorful
... white only.
... P \$14.95
... rge Only.
... P \$25.00



FRONT



FRONT

Wasted Away Crew

"I Wasted Away in Margaritaville" silk screened on 100% cotton crew neck T-shirt. One of the most popular shirts in the Duval Street store. Available in White or Grey. Size: M,L,XL&XXL. #CRS1WSTD \$14.95

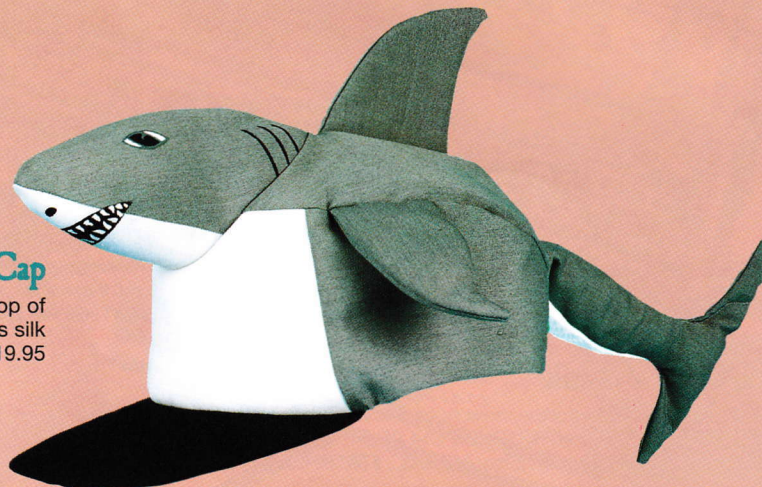


... Sailor designs.
... Cotton crew T-shirt
... e: M,L,XL&XXL.

each.

Shark Cap

... d shark glares from the top of cap. Front panel features silk 'shark'. #CPNSHARK \$19.95



OCOTEL

Would you like to be on our mailing list? The Coconut Telegraph contains news by and about Parrot Heads, Jimmy Buffett and the rich historical traditions of Key West and New Orleans. A display of Margaritaville merchandise is also offered for sale.

Merchandise orders exceeding \$25.00 guarantee a subscription for one year from order date. Yearly subscription only, \$10.00.

Mail Orders: Make check or money order payable to Margaritaville. Send to The Coconut Telegraph, PO Box 1459, Key West, FL 33041. Please include physical street address for merchandise delivery. **Sorry, no C.O.D.'s.**

Credit Card Orders: Call Toll-Free **1-800-COCOTEL** (1-800-262-6835) from 9am to 10pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday. \$10.00 minimum credit card order.

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Shipping/Handling Charges: 1 - 3 items \$5.00, 4 - 6 items \$6.00, 7 - 9 items \$7.50, 10 or more items \$10.00. Florida residents please include 7.5% sales tax. For Two Day Federal Express® delivery, please double shipping/handling charges.



Margaritaville Gift Certificate is available in any denomination and redeemable at either Margaritaville Store - 500 Duval in Key West or #1 French Market Place in New Orleans, and through The Coconut Telegraph.

MARGARITAVILLE GIFT CERTIFICATE

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				Florida residents only, add 7.5% Sales Tax	_____
				<i>We accept MC, Visa & American Express</i>	S / H _____
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City _____					
State _____ Zip _____					
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Credit card # _____ Exp. Date ____/____					
Signature _____					

BANANA WIND



Jimmy Buffett's 27th release succeeds 1995's gold plated Barometer Soup.

8 **T**he inspiration for Banana Wind came from the simple stalk of a banana tree fitfully growing along side live oaks in New Orleans French Quarter. "The banana tree seemed so out of place, and then again it wasn't." Much like the Bourbon Street banana tree, Jimmy Buffett seems out of place, but isn't. In an industry that caters to the one night stand in all of us, Jimmy appears unexpectedly paternal; instructing and entertaining us at the same time.

Jimmy Buffett dares to challenge his fans, self proclaimed Parrot Heads, to ponder while he provides the "background music to their lives." His music fills the sails, his lyrics act as a rudder with his skillful hand tacking through an ocean littered with

poets and pretenders. Banana Wind offers a medley of Buffett bites designed to illustrate and illuminate the human condition. Jimmy's running commentary on life is crucial to Parrot Heads, accustomed to their annual allowance of his infectious lifestyle. His latitudinal attitudes stroke the feathers of the fabled PHlock, while ruffling those of the industry elite confirming that he remains more effective as a court jester than as a video king.

Banana Wind's currents whisk across a personal resumé in *School Boy Heart*, blast through *Overkill's* rebellious indictment of the "bidness," gust treacherously in the Caribbean clouds over *Jamaica [Mistaica]* and echo touchingly, and all too briefly, in Havana harbour.

Jimmy tuning up in *The Big Peach*
Photo: Jim Mayer





Recorded and mixed in Key West, FL and Nassau, Bahamas, this latest collection of fanciful stories and personal tales adds to the exceptional record making, record breaking and no hostage taking career of Jimmy Buffett.

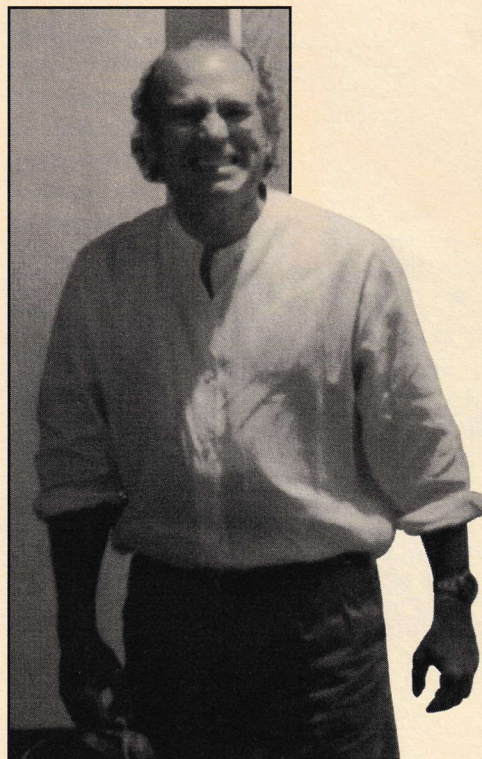
Banana Wind took form beginning in February, 1996. **Barometer Soup** had the bandmembers biking from the house to the studio. The trip through the tree lined lanes of Key West apparently proved to be a distraction. This time a house within walking distance of studio - *The Big Peach* - was rented to accommodate the seasonal Coral Reefers; Roger Guth, Peter and Jim Mayer and producer Russell Kunkel.

Early in February, crack sound man and travelling drum tech J.L. Jamison and Russell Kunkel moved an

ADAT 8-track system from Shrimpboat Sound Studio to the rental. Here the band would be able to experiment with music and lyrics, using the 8-track equipment to create a sample; refreshing, refining and recycling as they went. The house also provided refuge from construction at the studio as three acoustically designed isolation booths were being built.

Jimmy was busy at the computer keyboard, processing ideas into words, words into phrases and phrases into songs. At this time he had at least ideas and most of the lyrics. A synthesizer was set up in the house and the collaborative process of producing music began. Peter & Jim Mayer, Roger Guth and Russell Kunkel all contribute at this point. Musically brainstorming

"FOR NEARLY HALF A CENTURY, I'VE BEEN PLAYING IN A BAND. I'D LIKE TO THINK I'LL MAKE IT, TO TWO THOUSAND AND ONE. WILL THE PARTY BE AT MY HOUSE, GOD I WONDER WHO WILL COME." ONLY TIME WILL TELL JIMMY, BUT I'D ORDER EXTRA ICE.



their way through Jimmy's lyrics, the band sets the words to music. After a couple of run-throughs the songs are recorded on tape. Further listening suggests further refining.

A rough cut is produced and sent to the rest of the band; horns, vocals, Fingers, Utley & Greenidge and Mac McAnally. This is done to alert the musicians of their individual additions to the songs. Horn arrangements are completed, drawing on the talents and abusing the lips of one of south Florida's premier studio jazz musicians John "Martini" Lovell, and sax players Amy Lee and Thom Mitchell.

Vocalists Claudia Cummings, voted most popular keyboard caresser by computer geeks participating in

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On July 2nd, **Putumayo World Music** introduces **One World**, a unique and exciting collection featuring 14 extraordinary international artists, including **Bob Marley**, **Peter Gabriel**, **Johnny Clegg** and many more. The album features five songs previously unreleased in America, including a rare track from Bob Marley. \$1.00 from the sale of each CD and \$.50 from each cassette will be contributed to the **U.S. Committee for UNICEF** in celebration of their 50th anniversary and in support of their work with children in war-torn countries. In their lyrics and combination of musical styles, the 14 artists on **One World** capture the international spirit of the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, and demonstrate the universality of music and it's power to inspire and unite us.

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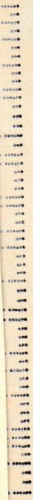
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