



“Jimmy Buffett’s BANANA WIND is a  
culmination of keen OBSERVATIONS,  
lyrical INTERPETATIONS and  
obvious REVELATIONS.”

# COCONUT TELEGRAPH

VOLUME 12 NO. 4

# BACKSTAGE WITH BUFFETT, EH?

## BANANA WIND TOUR OPENS IN TORONTO

It's time for my annual pilgrimage to see the boss at work; to witness the preparation, organization and perspiration involved in assembling one of the most successful touring acts of the year. Parking-lot-partying Parrot Heads across the continent descend on partially covered amphitheatres for the summer time ritual. Summer time and the livin' is easy. For the typical Parrot Head perhaps, but these guys work. It takes a lot of time, people and effort to make a Jimmy Buffett concert this much fun.

My function in Key West is to publish The Coconut Telegraph and sell enough merchandise to keep one step ahead of the jailer. Selling stuff doesn't seem to be a problem. Parrot Heads have an insatiable retail appetite for all things Buffett. We refuse to take advantage of them, however, and make a conscious effort to offer quality merchandise at a fair price. Publishing the newsletter is a different story. Jimmy is a busy guy; albums, books, tours and now plays. These obligations all require a certain amount of research on Jimmy's part, and his characters and situations demand exotic travel, simplifying my task of listing his accomplishments, good deeds and brushes with death to an anxious public. Now I needed research, I needed to travel, but no good deeds, and certainly no brushes with death. I went to Toronto.

The Banana Wind Tour's opening night was set for the Molson Amphitheater in Toronto, Ontario. I wanted to witness the birth of the summer tour, so I headed to northern North America. Not down island, not exotic, but still requiring a passport for entry into a foreign country - evidenced by the turbaned taxi driver, "Pardoning me sir, you are being needing a ride?" We cruised through Kensington's multicultural mix, past the quiet, old charm of Mount Pleasant, and on to Bloor-Yorkville, "Toronto's most fashionable shopping area in the heart of city." It was indeed a beautiful area. Tree lined

streets, chic restaurants, art galleries, and the 90's answer to caffeine consumption, Starbucks. Our predecessors settled for a coagulating "cup of Joe" in a chipped mug while we demand a freshly ground double cafe latte with just a hint of cinnamon served in a politically correct paper cup. All this right outside my hotel, The World in 27 Blocks.

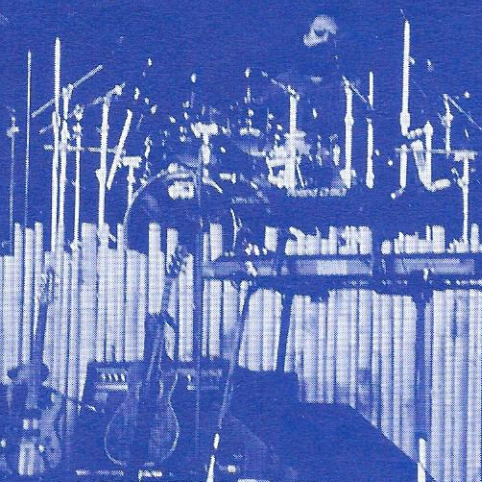
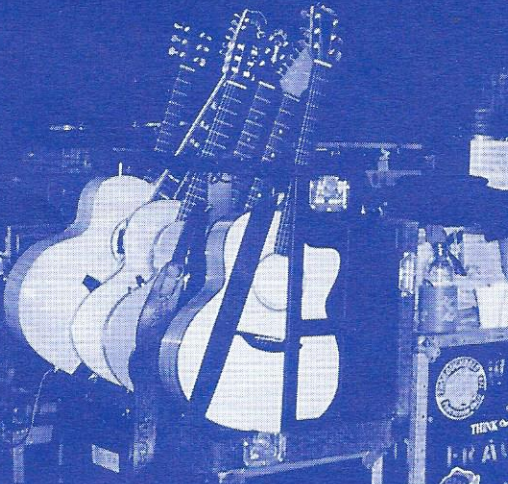
Jimmy and the band had been in town rehearsing in a hall near the University of Toronto for the last week. Monday, May 27, would be the full dress rehearsal at the venue - The Molson Amphitheater. My old friend J.L. Jamison would be my guide through the maze of pre-concert production. J.L. is a veteran on the Buffett tour, resident Key Wester, standard third baseman, great fishing companion and the unchallenged King of Swag. He knows everybody and everything, so I plan to glom onto him during the next few days. We meet outside the hotel where I'm ushered into a van with a lighting guy and a couple of guitar techs. Names are exchanged and forgotten, and we go to work.

The Molson Amphitheater sits on the shore of Lake Ontario, a waterfront view. In contrast to a similar Florida setting, the water is fresh and the wind is cold. The amphitheater is empty, as is the vast expanse of lawn above it. In a couple of days, 5500 ticket holders will sit under the shed, another 3500 in seats beyond that and 7000 chilled Parrot Heads will claim their space on the lawn. The lawn is like looking at a football field in a fun house mirror; curved and elongated, a holding cell for those not quick enough on the Ticket Master redial button.

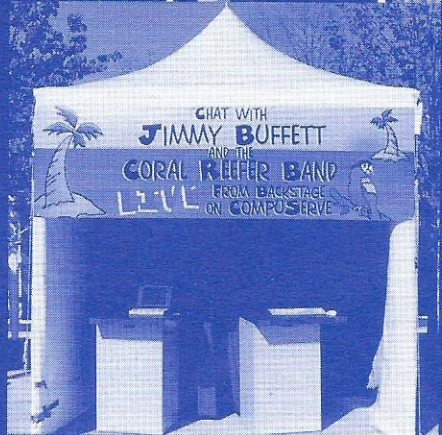
The four tractor trailer trucks arrived with all the equipment last night. The light and speaker systems are already in place. The lights go up first. Two companies direct the lighting, Vari\*lite controls the movable lights while Bandit is in charge of the stable



“ Twenty-two years and 48 tours – this is the most professionally run, best organized tour.” – Shooz



“ It’s another world backstage... like the legendary bowls of Disneyworld, only cleaner.”



lights and trusses. The stable lights are first in, allowing the lighting tech ample time to program the light changes, some very subtle, to accompany the song list.

Ross Ritto's Sound Image truck is unloaded next. Ross Ritto has been Jimmy's audio engineer for the last two decades, starting when Jimmy was the opening act for the Eagles. He's a partner in Sound Image, a touring sound reinforcement company in Los Angeles. Ross has worked with many performers, but now Jimmy is the only artist able to coax him out on the road. Thirty foot-high columns of speakers are imposingly stacked stage left and right, anchoring the set. These are new speakers patented by Sound Image. Sheets of carbon fiber are molded, layer upon layer, creating a honeycomb effect. The end result is a lightweight speaker that produces a clear, crisp sound. "A sound studio in a box." This is the first road show to feature these speakers, and the conventional wisdom is that they will soon dominate the industry.

Different instrumental sets are arranged. Drums center stage with percussion to the left and steel drums to the right. The horn section and backup singers platforms are constructed and set up. The actual instruments are then unloaded and deposited at each location where individual technicians begin the delicate task of assembling and tuning. After the show the entire set is dismantled and loaded into the truck in reverse order - instruments, sets, sound then lights. This process is honed and refined over the summer, enabling the roadies to complete the task in just a couple of hours.

Individual venues provide the crew to unload the equipment, and the pro's take over on stage. Thousands of feet of color coded cable snakes across the stage. Lines are drawn and measured, cable is cut and marked, gear cases determine locations for this and future shows. Techs zealously protect their working area. It's another world backstage, one filled with wonder - like the legendary bowels of Disneyworld, only cleaner. Cables are secured, numbered and taped in place. Each sound and lighting unit is stacked and numbered.

It's lunchtime. No bologna sandwiches here. These guys eat very well. Catered meals thoughtfully prepared and served hot on table-clothed tables lined with flower arrangements. This experience in fine dining is made possible through the efforts of Kino, the wayward pediatrician. The Hop Sing of this mobile Ponderosa has assumed the nutritional responsibility of this aging lot, and he takes great care in the menu decisions. All attest to his expert selections and presentations. An army travels on it's stomach, and the Coral Reefer platoon is a well seasoned one.

Back on stage for sound checks. One board on stage

controls the sound for the band, while the visible board in the middle of the crowd manages the sound for the audience. All mikes and instruments are checked. Meanwhile John Vujec and his crew from IMAG swarm the scaffolds for video camera placement. The video production company, IMAG, has been around for about 10 years. They are responsible for the video screens on either side of the stage and the three "tunnels" facing the lawn. There are 2 stationary cameras in front of the stage, one behind the house sound board, one remote above the band, three POV (Point of View) on stage cameras and one roving cameraman. John is the video director backstage, selecting and switching camera shots and angles to coincide with the songs - not as easy as it sounds. John really gets into his work; intensely focused in front of eight screens, legs and head flailing and bobbing along to the beat, digitally beating the best image out of the equipment.



Monday nights rehearsal is performed for a fortunate audience of 100, mainly cast and crew of a play appearing in Toronto. Tuesday will be spent discussing the rehearsal and any necessary changes in the song selection and rotation.

On Wednesday morning I'm in front of the hotel with the crew, Bill Clinton-izing a legally obtained Monte Cristo, waiting for the all important seat-on-the-bus appropriation. Three buses are necessary for this tour, and spots are not assigned, they are demanded. Old timers get first choice, and woe to the uninformed new guy who inadvertently grabs a veterans bunk. This is their home for the next few months, so a certain familiarity with neighbors is required.

I ride along with the aforementioned King of Swag and we arrive around noon for an 8:00PM show. Ron "Shooz" Matthews works on Peter Mayer's rack of guitars, while Dallas lines up Jimmy's. They're all aligned according to the set list. These are the guys attached to the arms concert-goers see trading instruments between songs; real guys, talented guys. J.L. adjusts the drums and it's time to eat - sushi tonight!



Entertainment was provided with dinner. Local contest winners were introduced by Charleston Miles, crack security chief and budding Master of Ceremonies, to perform their Karaoke version of Why Don't We Get Drunk... A radio station had previously held on-air auditions, and lucky winners were sent backstage to be judged by Jimmy, the band, the crew, the sushi chef and anyone possessing the manual dexterity to applaud. These Parrot Heads have a lot of guts. Toronto's own Shelley Buday and the pride of Ajax, Dave Griffiths shared the gold - thanks in large part to an eye-catching red dress exhibited by one of the participants. Their parents must be proud, years of emotional and financial dedication, only to have your child end up onstage with some wise guy American espousing less than acceptable behavior. Nice goin' Shelley and Dave, but hang on to your day jobs.

A bigger surprise was in store for the children of the lawn. Tim Glancey and Wally Nickel of The Sports Magic Team paraded their antics from the parking lot into the amphitheater. A small stage decked with palm trees erected to face the lawn served as a staging area for their well known act - aspiring Dream Teamer's shooting from downtown. The Magic Team proceeds down inside the shed to the stage, passing a couple of shady characters who assault the small stage, pneumatically rise above the crowd, shed their disguises with super-hero flourish, and emerge as Jimmy and Fingers. The lawn erupts! A few acoustical oldies-but-goodies later, the dynamic duo hurl themselves into the mosh pit and are lifted and carried through the crowd. No, not really. The band takes the stage, the music starts, Jimmy and Fingers high-five their way through the shed, and the 1996 installment of Jimmy Buffett & The Coral Reefer Bands summer tour is on.

Later that night I'm in the hotel bar, abusing tobacco, alcohol and my post-concert hanging around time with the band. Bob Mercer, head bloke at Margaritaville Records has had enough, announces this to all concerned, and makes his exit. I stand up and drop some colorful foreign bills on the table. "You leavin' too?" says Jimmy.

An hour ago these guys put on a great show for 17,000 screaming people. I think they'd want to spend some time basking in that glow. I'm the fifth wheel here, it's time to go. "Yeah, I've got an early flight in the morning."

The lobby elevator opens and Jack Palance saunters out sipping a double cafe latte from Starbucks. He doesn't look so tough.

# JIMMY BUFFETT FALL TOUR 1996

September 18 Dallas, TX . . . . .Starplex  
September 20 Dallas, TX . . . . .Starplex  
September 21 Austin, TX . . . . .South Park Meadows  
September 26 Portland, OR . . . . .Rose Garden Arena  
September 28 George, WA . . . . .The Gorge  
September 29 George, WA . . . . .The Gorge  
October 1 Denver, CO . . . . .Fiddler's Green  
October 2 Denver, CO . . . . .Fiddler's Green  
October 5 Las Vegas, NV . . . . .MGM Grand Garden  
October 7 Phoenix, AZ . . . . .Desert Sky Pavilion  
October 9 Mt. View, CA . . . . .Shoreline Amphitheater  
October 11 Irvine, CA . . . . .Irvine Meadows  
October 12 Irvine, CA . . . . .Irvine Meadows

## MARGARITAVILLE RECORDS

For those of you who didn't know, I was born on Christmas day 1946, the day W.C. Fields died. I think this only goes to prove that God does have a sense of humor...

So states Jimmy Buffett in the often suggested, frequently requested and not-to-be-bested Christmas album. Titled CHRISTMAS ISLAND, this latest MCA release contains 10 tracks, including several new holiday songs presented in traditional Buffett style. Classic Christmas carols benefit from Jimmy's verbal slight of hand, "A day or two ago, I thought I'd make a run, To Port Antonio, I be cruisin' in the sun. The radio was loud, The chicken jerked and fried, All I had to do that day was drive on the left side."

From Jimmy's spin on Jingle Bells

Christmas Island is scheduled to be released on CD and cassette tape early in October.

.....  
**And now an offer from the friendly folks  
at Margaritaville Records.**  
.....

Pete Huttlinger, an accomplished studio musician in Nashville, has released an instrumental CD titled CATCH & RELEASE. The music is all instrumental / acoustic. Folk, Irish, Classical and Bluegrass are represented.

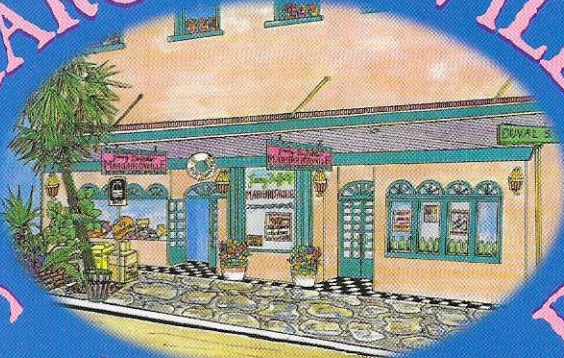
"Basically this is a concept CD. I'm into flyfishing. It's getting to be a helluva popular sport, and along with it comes specialized gifts. ESPN has used the CD for a couple of their fly-fishing shows. Hope you like it."

We are making the Catch & Release CD available through the Coconut Telegraph.

If you think you'd like stringed-instrument new age music, give it a try.

#CDCATCH \$17.00

# THE MARGARITAVILLE S.T.O.R.E



## Island of Margaritaville Pocket T

New design printed on back of 100% cotton crew neck T. Front design on left chest pocket. Available in White only. Size: M,L,XL & XXL. #CRS1ISLAND \$15.95



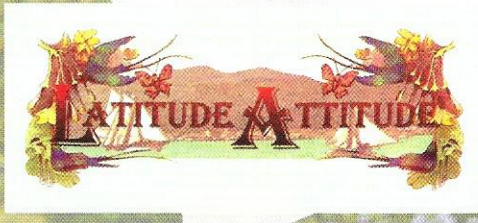
## New Margaritaville Store Caps

Coconut Telegraph embroidered on 100% denim cotton cap. Natural cap with Denim Blue or Olive Green bill. #CP2COCOTEL \$16.00





**Used To Go**  
 100% cotton crew  
 Size: M,L,XL& XXL



BACK

**Roll-Up Hat**

100% cotton light Khaki cap with embroidered Margaritaville logo. Soft, flexible brim, vent holes on either side. Great for the beach, tennis court or office.  
 Size S/M or L/XL. #CP2ROLLUP \$18.00

**1-800-COCOTEL**







## Margaritaville Lap T

100% Cotton Lap T. Song for the Snap bottom for easy evacuation. only. Size: SM (6-12 months) MD (18-24 months). #YCRS1SON

## Jolly Mon Youth T

Jolly mon sing dolphin design. Size: XS (2) SM (4) MD (5-6) #YCRS1JMON \$8.95



## Parakeet Kid's Club

Our new "Keet" replaces the skateboard with inline roller blades. Size: XS - 28, SM - 32, MD - 34, LG - 36. (Size represents chest circumference) Available in White or Ash Grey. #YCRS1KIDS \$10.95

## New Y

100% C  
Margaritaville  
Camp Shirt  
SM (4) MD (



## Monitor Frame

Colorful computer monitor frame. Includes velcro for easy installation, and a center for notes, memo. #NVCOMPFR \$15.00

1-800-CC



### Suncatchers

Solid, heavyweight glass. Molded with Margaritaville Burst design. Available in Green, Amber or Cobalt Blue. Due to weight, we recommend hanging the Suncatchers. Do not use suction device.  
#NVSUNCATCH \$19.95

### Crazy T

Crew neck T-shirt. Available in White, Beige or Ash Grey.  
#CRS1CRAZY \$14.95



### Embroidered Cafe Crew

Margaritaville embroidered on left chest of 100% cotton crew neck T-shirt. Available in White, Grey, Sky Blue or Jade. Size: M,L,XL & XXL. #CRS2CAFE \$16.95  
Also available on Tank Top. Same sizes, same colors.  
#TA2CAFE \$16.95

### Beach Towel

Logo screen printed on  
X 5' cotton beach towel.  
#NVBEACHTWL \$25.00





### MM Ball Cap

Fin design embroidered on OSFA cotton cap. Available in Black only.  
#CP2MFIN \$15.00



**1-800-COCOTEL**

### Manatee T

Designed by Key West artist Dawn Wilkins. Available in White, Beige, Ash Grey, Rose, Yellow or Mint. Size: M,L,XL& XXL.

#CRS1MANAT \$14.95

### Wrap Palm

A Caribbean Soul classic. Just give me some palm trees and tales of the south seas. Design wraps around.

One Size Fits All cotton T-shirt. White only. #CRS1WPALM \$20.00





### Margaritaville Lap T

100% Cotton Lap T. Song for the Snap bottom for easy evacuation. only. Size: SM (6-12 months) MD (12-18 months) LG (18-24 months). #YCRS1SON



### Jolly Mon Youth T

Jolly mon sing dolphin design. Size: XS (2) SM (4) MD (5-6) #YCRS1JMON \$8.95



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### New Y

100% C Margaritaville Camp Shirt SM (4) MD (6)



### Monitor Frame

Colorful computer monitor frame. Includes velcro for easy installation, and a center for notes, memo. #NVCOMPFR \$15.00

1-800-CC

children design.  
Available in White  
(12-18 months)  
G \$13.75

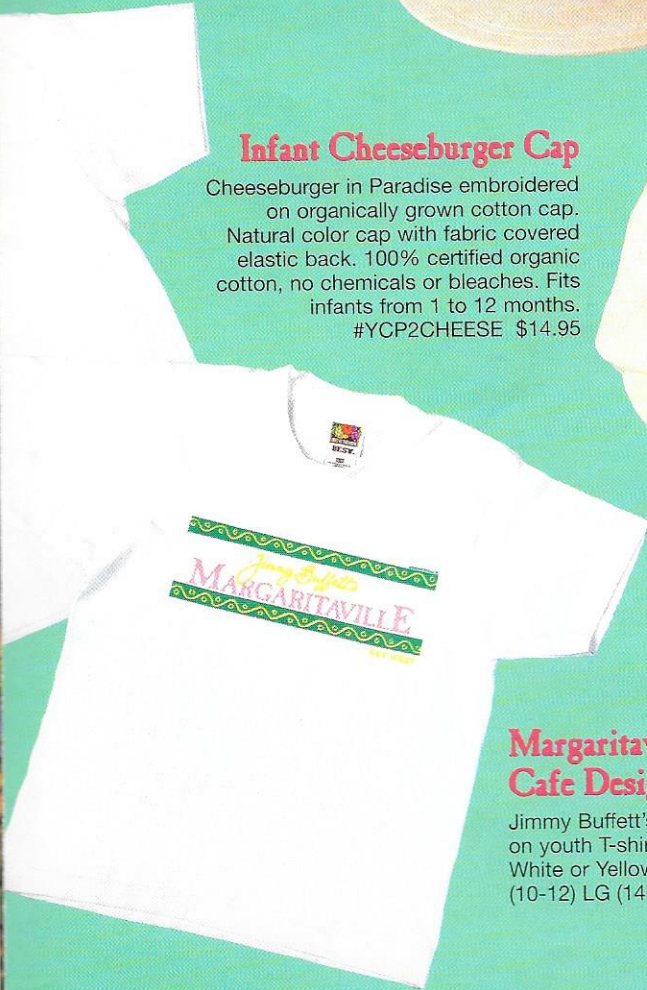


### Margaritaville Youth Cap

Margaritaville embroidered on 100% cotton cap. Adjusts to fit ages 4 to 7. Green cap with Natural Bill. #YCP2CAFE \$14.95

### Infant Cheeseburger Cap

Cheeseburger in Paradise embroidered on organically grown cotton cap. Natural color cap with fabric covered elastic back. 100% certified organic cotton, no chemicals or bleaches. Fits infants from 1 to 12 months. #YCP2CHEESE \$14.95



### Margaritaville Cafe Design T

Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville screen printed on youth T-shirt. Available in Navy, Jade, White or Yellow. Size: XS (2-4) SM (6-8) MD (10-12) LG (14-16). #YCRS13CAFE \$8.95

### Youth Camp Shirt & Jams

Cotton camp shirt and short set with logo on left front pocket and short leg. & Jam sold separately. Size: XS (2-5-6). Shirt - #YWS3CAMP \$14.95  
Jams - #YSH3JAM \$9.95



hitor  
tabs for  
punch out  
ps, etc.

**OCOTEL**

An unauthorized Jimmy Buffett biography is due to be released this fall. This book is not to be confused with the Jimmy Buffett Scrapbook that we offer for sale. At the risk of sounding hypocritical, the scrapbook places Jimmy in an historical context and discusses the variety of people, places and events that influenced his work. This latest entry appears to be a Kitty Kelly knock-off. The following is a letter Jimmy sent to the author - verbatim.

September . 1994  
Steve Eng  
Nashville, TN

Dear Steve,

I have heard your footsteps in the far corners of my world, I felt it's time I set a few things straight after reading the note which was passed on to me by one of my employees.

I start this letter with a sense of controlled anger that I hope doesn't spill over onto the pages. I understand that you are a writer and I appreciate the fact that you have treated me kindly in some of the things that have been brought to my attention, but that is where my compliments must stop. To cut to the chase, I would like to ask you to abandon the idea of writing an unauthorized biography. It is not for any reason of hiding skeletons in my closet or not wanting something said about me that hasn't already been said. Part of being a celebrity is shouldering the responsibility that comes with the life you have chosen. That responsibility also goes for journalists too. I know, I am both. I am more than capable of writing my own autobiography. I don't need any help or third person interpretations. It is my life. I live it. I am a writer and if anyone should care to read about my life, then I should be the one to write it - not you. It's that simple. For the record, I plan to do an autobiography when I am about 86, by then I should be ready to reminisce but right now, I am still too busy living. So you see any attempt at biography by you or anyone else can only be categorized for what it is - self promoting hack writing to make a few bucks.

I am sure there are a lot of other people out there in Nashville or wherever who feel that the time is right for their story to be told and you might be the guy to do it - but as Bob Dylan wrote, "It Ain't Me Babe." I can't stop you from doing this project and I can only ask you to try to have some integrity. There is little left out there in journalism these days, but I would respect you a lot more and would be happy to buy you a beer the next time I am in Nashville. If you go ahead with it, then this will be the last you will ever hear from me. Live your own life and stop trying to figure out mine. I leave you with a parting couplet that I believe comes from Shakespeare. "**Isn't it the way of the mongrels, to gnaw at the tails of the champions.**" Let me know what your intentions are.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Buffett

P.S. If you do go ahead with this project, I hope you have the balls to start your book with this letter. I would happily grant you permission to print it "verbatim."

Jimmy Buffett's *Banana Wind* is a culmination of keen observations, lyrical interpretations and obvious revelations. This 27th release, including guest tracks and live recordings, perpetuates Jimmy's phenomenal grip on the mindset of his fervent fans, Parrot Heads.

Over the past two decades Jimmy has cruised the waves of the sea, and later the waves of the air in his pursuit of the ever elusive Margaritaville. "I was born and raised on the shores of the Northern Gulf of Mexico," say Buffett. He left the parochial confines of Mobile, AL. and fell through an aquatic looking glass. It was in this tropical wonderland where Jimmy met and described the players, cast them in their roles, and set the table with gold and platinum plates for his Caribbean tea party. The guests were a colorful collection of castoffs, castaways and societal misfits laden with personal baggage of rejection, remorse and romance. Jimmy sympathetically tells their tales, poised on the fence between pathos and humor - perhaps not as sure footed as he would like to be. We're introduced to poets and pirates, sailors and smugglers, and paradoxically to Jimmy himself, the son of a son of a sailor sentenced to search endlessly for the symbolic "lost shaker of salt."

Jimmy's first recording, *Down To Earth*, received all the attention due a journalism major with dangerously little knowledge of guitar chords. But the ship was in the water, and Jimmy's genetic makeup dictated his lust for the horizon; where the sky meets the sea, and the limit of our interests lie. But like tomorrow, the horizon never comes. It looms there still, inaccessible by boat or plane, but alive in the imagination of our reluctant hero. The imagination responsible for stacks of wax, miles of magnetic tape, and cases of jewel-boxed CD's. The wit to conceive of the land of "fictional facts and factual fiction," and the absent rock star Joe Merchant. And the creativity to deliver his world to SRO audiences across the country in what has become a rite of summer - The Jimmy Buffett Tour.

Studio albums, live recordings, MCA's top selling Box Set, and PBS's favorite fundraising concert video attest to a successful recording career, while recent appearances on literary Best-Selling lists secure his spot in libraries as well as record stores. Jimmy has brought the characters from his equatorial wonderland to life in the lyrics of his songs and the pages of his books. The most prevalent, perhaps, Jimmy himself, fading in and out, the consummate Cheshire Cat.

# BANANA WIND



## "Fingers" Taylor To Release New CD

Greg "Fingers" Taylor, the oldest living original Coral Reefer and recognized blues aficionado, returns to the studio to record and re-record a "batch for all the Honky Tonk Heroes, Keepers of the Flame, and Great Unknowns." Old Rock 'n' Roller follows the success of Fingerprints, a national and European tour and his part-time summer job for the last 20 odd years touring with Jimmy Buffett. Scheduled to be released August 20, this collection of songs has been almost three years in the making. "In 1993, I cut twelve tracks in Nashville in about 48 hours," Taylor explained. "I shopped them around to various labels, but there were no takers. So I put them on a shelf for a while."

Last year Fingers met with Marion Carter, president of the successful "beach music" label Ripete Records. Carter expressed an interest in working with Fingers. "So I rummaged around in my closet for those old tapes," Taylor remembered, "and they didn't sound half bad. I decided to remix some of the cuts." Ripete Records financed another trip to the studio allowing Fingers to record a few more songs. By June of this year all parties were in agreement, contracts were drawn and Rounder Records agreed to distribute the new release.

"I'm real excited. It took a while, but the material is finally coming to light. I'm proud of this record and I think it deserves to be heard."

I happened to be in New Orleans at the 4th Annual Parrot Head Meeting of the Minds last November - although many of the minds I met had been lost for quite some time. How they ended up in New Orleans is beyond me, but since the Crescent City is a great place to lose your mind, it stands to reason that one could come across one or two to "meet." Fingers was kind enough to show up and perform at the Margaritaville Cafe during their stay. The crowd loved it. Few can match his ability to entertain from a small stage. Oh sure, one guy comes to mind, but I'm talkin' 'bout the blues baby. Fingers can coax more emotion through a mouth harp than most 4-piece bar bands stuffed in a corner of a Bourbon Street dive.

Old Rock 'n' Roller is an eclectic mix of blues, rock 'n roll, a little country, and Finger's rendition of the Johnny Nash classic I Can See Clearly Now. Veteran Coral Reefer Tim Krekel lends his guitar talents to many of the 16 songs and over 70 minutes of music. It's definitely a decent dose of Fingers music. Old Rock 'n' Roller is available on CD only at Margaritaville and through the Coconut Telegraph.

**#CDOLDROCK \$14.98**

Check out Fingers web site at  
<http://www.mcs.net/~Scotth/Fingers>





# LOCAL PARROT HEAD CLUBS

A recent phlocking took place aboard the Polynesia, a Windjammer Barefoot Cruise tall ship making waves in the West Indies. This cruise was sponsored by the Spokane and Central Louisiana Parrot Head Clubs, and was attend by Parrot Heads from 21 states. The Poly is a 248 foot schooner built in 1938 as part of the Portuguese Grand Banks fleet. Leaving St. Maarten on Monday, she sailed to Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Barths and Tintamarre. The theme of the cruise was Changes In Latitudes, Changes In Attitudes - which we certainly lived up to. The name of the ship could have been changed to Bank Of Bad Habits, as Parrot Heads let loose and had some island fun in the sun. The Windjammer crew was great and joined in the fun and general insanity. Captain Max and Captain Neil were Jimmy Buffett fans.

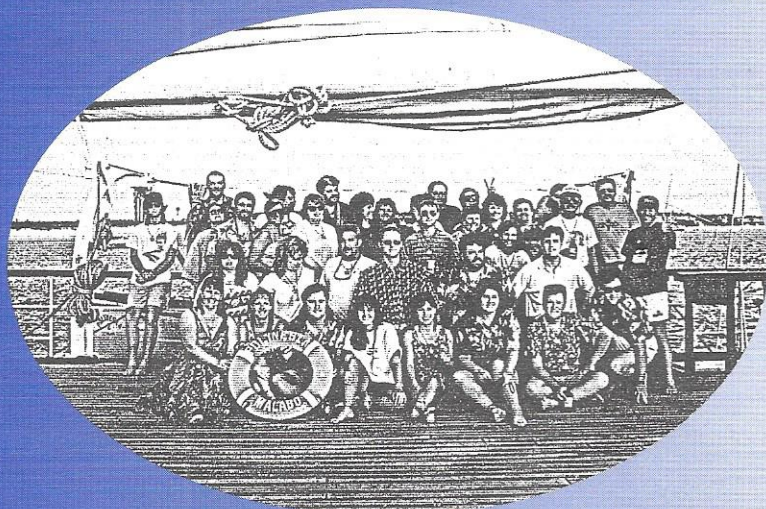
We may have changed latitudes, but one attitude we didn't change is our concern for others. We devised a fundraiser to help the St. Christopher's Childrens Home on the island of St. Kitts. The home houses 30 children and relies on donations to survive. We wanted to give back to the islands that have provided so much pleasure for us, by inspiring many of our favorite Jimmy Buffett songs and for their own friendliness.

The idea was to climb the 1064 steps on the island of Saba. Pledges were collected in advance. In Saba, a ship must anchor on the windward side and rough water made this impossible. The captain decided not to go to Saba. Some Parrot Heads were disappointed, but it couldn't be helped. As a substitute, many of us climbed the steps to Brimstone Hill on St. Kitts, while others participated in a dance-a-thon. One not as a gruelling as the other, but definitely a workout.

Margaritaville generously donated an autographed Japanese version of Where Is Joe Merchant. \$100 in raffle tickets were sold, and Amanda Gohl of North Carolina walked away with the prize. Keitho & Cindy Mihills of Colorado collected an astounding \$575 in pledges. There was also a very good showing of people and pledges from the Derby Parrot Head Club of Louisville, KY. Total amount donated to the St. Christopher's Children Home was \$1992.41.

Special thanks to all the Parrot Heads who very generously donated their time and effort to collect the money. Lorrie McLaughlin of the Spokane Parrot Head Club met with Mrs. Holbart who runs the home, and Maurice Woods, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home. Mattresses for the beds are desperately needed, and hopefully this money will buy some. Our time in the Caribbean unfortunately had to end. As we sailed slowly into St. Maarten we were greeted by fireworks painting the sky. It may have not been meant for us, but it was the perfect finale to our time down island.

By Lorrie McLaughlin



Most of Parrot Head Group on Top Deck

For a list of Parrot Head Clubs and their activities visit <http://www.hepcat.com/phiip>



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**KEY WEST DISCOVERED**

New CD-ROM with over 1700 pictures, 500 topics, video and sound.  
View the buildings, parks, bars and churches of historic Key West, FL.  
Then test your knowledge of the Key West game. Easy to install.  
Requires Windows 3.1 or higher, SVGA card and optional sound card.  
#NVKWCDROM \$22.95



**JIMMY BUFFETT  
SONGBOOK**

New songbook features  
Fruitcakes and Barometer Soup.  
Includes piano, vocals and chords.  
#BKJBSONGS2 \$25.00



Visit our web site @ <http://www.margaritaville.com>