

VOLUME 16 NO. 1

# COCONUTTELEGRAPH

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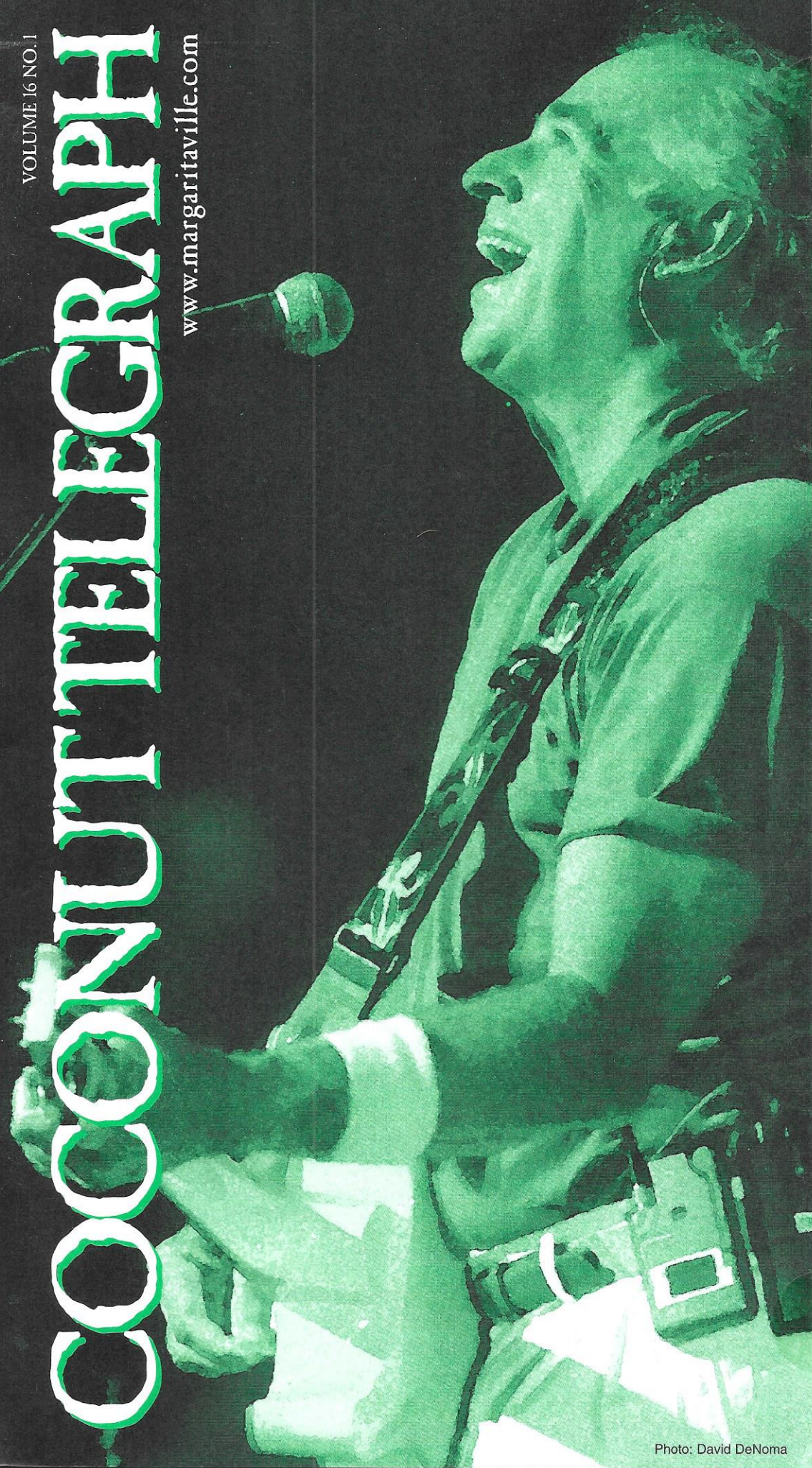


Photo: David DeNoma



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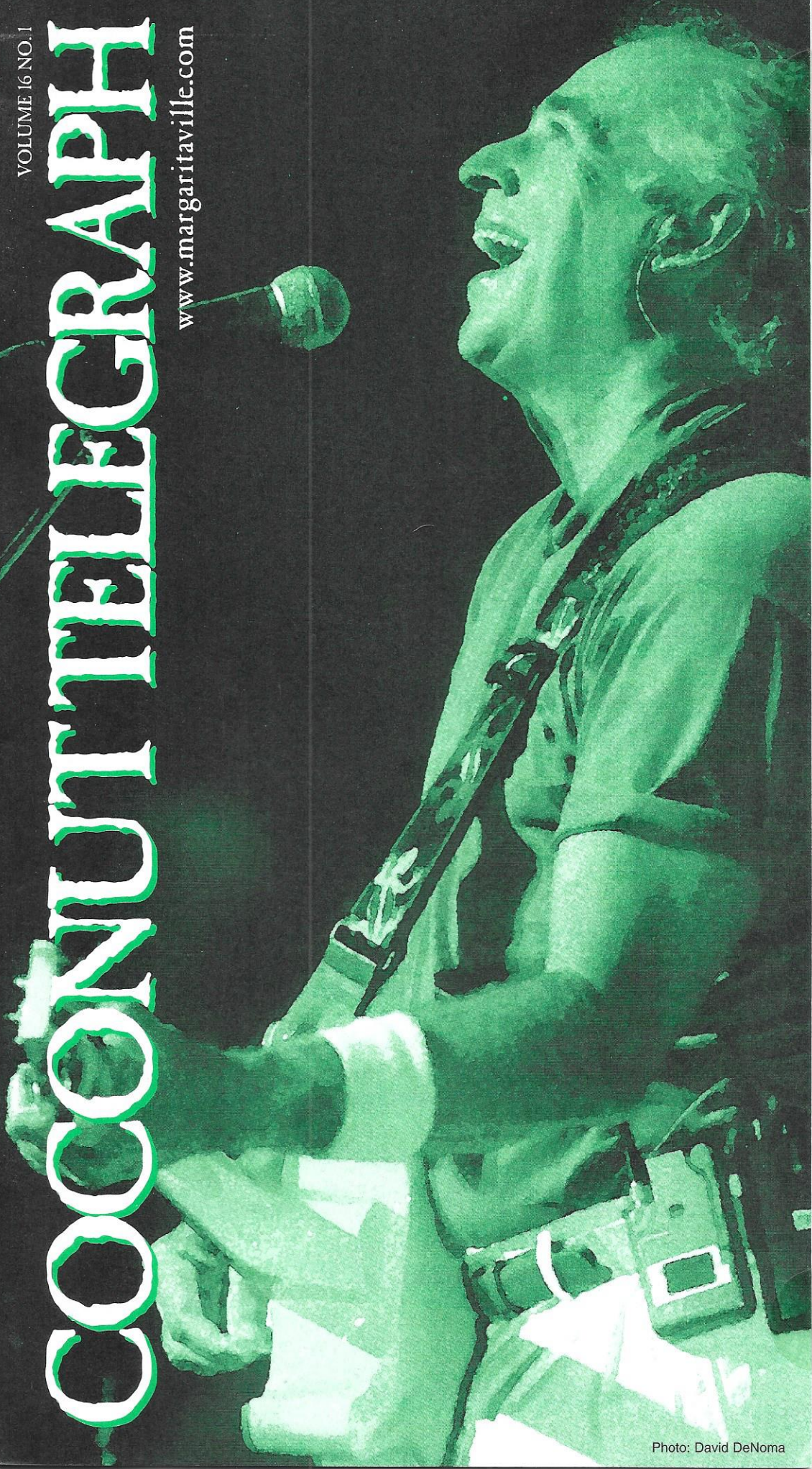


Photo: David DeNoma



To tell the ongoing tale of a man whose life is a story. That's why I'm here. I came into the service of Jimmy because we appear to be fellow wanderers, misfits and seekers of adventure whose paths have crossed. And I am stoked to come on board.

My position within the Buffett organization appears to be that of an outsider, an insider and a chronicler of that which happens in Jimmy's world. Since Jimmy's world is an interesting place to be, the story will unfold regularly online and in print.

Yet, this is no ordinary pirate. Captain Buffett's weapons are a guitar, a flyrod and a load of surfboards. His vessel is a weathered boatplane and his crew is a cast of rogues, musicians, businessmen and family members who make a life while making a living — appreciating life, pursuing bliss and having a good time. Chronicling that life seems like one hell of an adventure to me. I hope you'll think so too.

...Soon though, it was time to leave the beach and get this adventure started properly. Time to head down island to meet the boss. Still salty, we wheeled it on up to the Palm Beach airport. On the tarmac, we passed The



Donald's big jet, and a slew of very expensive aeronautic toys and tools. All of them were cool and pretty, but none stood out like Jimmy's Cessna Caravan. The sleek, single-engined prop plane rose high above the tarmac atop a pair of fat wheeled pontoons. With the pontoons, the plane didn't look fast, but it sure looked like a helluva lot of fun.

Flying a plane like this, you're really only limited by imagination to the sort of adventures you can have. You see a bonefish flat or a nice looking reef pass surf break with no coral heads sticking up, you set that puppy down and go for some fun. Or if you see a runway with some crashed old drug planes sitting off to the side, you can drop down to have a look, and wonder about the sort of tales that brought the plane to rest on a remote little corner of the Caribbean.

The next hour and a half unfolded like some sort of a bluewater hallucination. Very soon after leaving Palm Beach, you reach Andros and the first sets of islands in the Bahamian chain. The flight was smooth as glass, and the clouds reflected off the powder blue water like something out of a dream. You could see the shallow reefs and sand shoals plainly, beckoning

# adventures



you to drop in and have a closer look, or maybe to stay a lifetime. If you've never flown at a fairly low altitude above the outer islands of the Caribbean, may I suggest that you do so before you die. You can't believe that there is so much water, so much beauty and so much solitude so close to the megalopolis that is south Florida. In about an hour and a half, we were nearing the sleepy little island of Exuma. He brought the Caravan down low, affording a good view of stunning bonefishing flats, acres of scrub forest, and small settlements here and there. Driving from the small airport, we cruised along the coast road past an island that has yet to feel the full brunt of Americanism. Exuma is sparsely developed and simply gorgeous. Its hotels are small and its homes are smaller. The only mega-resort I saw was a forlorn, closed down ghost-town, and had been so for years. So much potential, so little money. Still, maybe Exuma functions just fine without too much money. The place seems quite content in fact. You pass smiling faces everywhere, and small cars happily blaze around blind corners on the wrong side of the road.

We bunked it that night at the Peace and Plenty Inn. A little bonefishing paradise near the main town. That night sitting around the table, Jimmy's cohorts told me a little more about the Le Select, what the place meant to Jimmy and why we would be going to do this concert.

It seems that 50 years ago, a French West Indian man named Marius Stackelborough was living on the island of St. BarthÈlemy. At this time, few people lived on the island, and life there was difficult. Grinding poverty gripped the place, and work consisted of difficult agriculture in the rocky soil and fishing in the dangerous tradewind-swept waters. During these tough days, Marius decided to open a funky little indoor/outdoor bar to serve those who lived on the island, and an increasing number of yachtsmen and merchant sailors who were travelling up the Caribbean began discovering the place. The Le Select was born.

One day in the distant past, Jimmy told Marius that if the Le Select made it to its 50th birthday, he would come down and perform a free concert there. Well, that birthday was about to arrive, and true to his word, Jimmy was setting up a show to celebrate the anniversary of Le Select. This journey was shaping up to be a sort of pilgrimage to the past for Jimmy. We'd meet people who played pivotal roles in Buffett's life, and visit a few of the places that shaped him and gave him hundreds of stories to tell.



Photos: Ray Stanyard

By Chris Dixon

with jimmy



# Thank You Marius

It was the celebration everybody had been anticipating for a long time. Plane tickets, hotel and villa reservations had been booked long in advance, rooms that could have been sold many times over as last-minute planners scrambled to find lodgings. It was a little like New Years Eve, but the mood was from another era. Simple, joyful, lighthearted.

Music and dance abounded. Among those who came, there were Marius' people who flew or sailed in after years of absence to hug their dear friend once again. There were the Jimmy Buffett fans who, armed with their parrot hats and Jimmy B T-shirts, came in droves to hear their hero sing for them during the free Saturday night concert on the quay. There were the old-timers, that breed of traveler who had happened upon St. Barth in the 60's and 70's after sailing around the world or crossing an ocean, only to be smitten by the charm of Gustavia's little harbor and the Selects ti-punches. There were even Swedish pilgrims, new friends and old, who had come to find a piece of their past, carefully guarded by an ambassador who lives halfway around the globe.

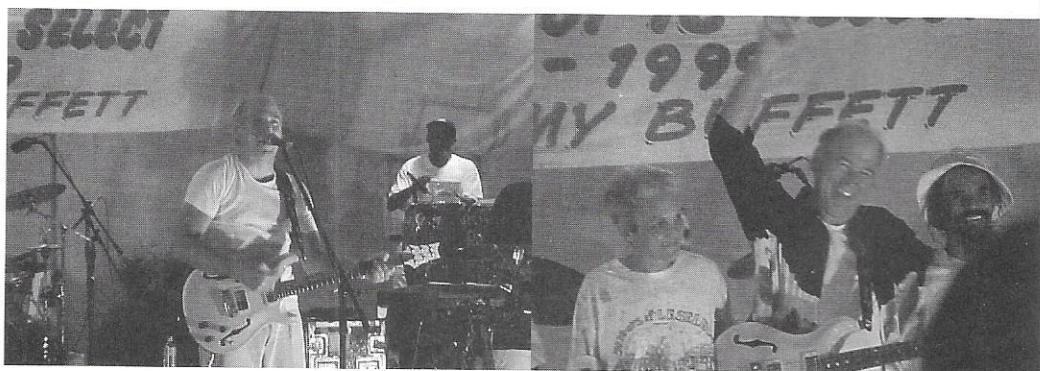
Marius had gathered his nine children around him for the opening ceremony at the Select on Thursday afternoon. Vianney, Michelle, Marie Elaine, Gary, Judith, Romeo, Eddy, Francoise and Viviane were all proud and moved to share this moment with their father. "Father we honor you, and through you, our mother Helene, as well. Thanks to you, we are all part of this big adventure," said Marie Elaine. The third generation soon came forward, as Marius grandchildren crowded around their beloved granddad.

And once it was all reunited, Marius and his family opened their arms, their hearts and dipped into their incredible wells of generosity to the people who had come to share in the event. "The Select has hosted people from 5 different continents, of all color and from all walks of life. We have welcomed each and everyone with the same respect and the same graciousness, and that is an honor. The Select is my honor," said Marius. Jimmy Buffett paid his homage to his "Antillean father" through a concert that he had been dreaming of giving ever since he stepped foot on the island 20 years ago. Both Marius and Jimmy's kids were there to celebrate the inseparable bond between these two exceptional men.

Marius and Jimmy. Jimmy and Marius. Cheeseburger in Paradise. The Select. Saint Barth. Family. Friends. Music. Laughter. Understanding.

Sunday morning, while many were still dreaming about the unforgettable time they had had the night before, some sailors went to the cemetery in St. Jean to pay homage to old friends, the "well-known sailors". They went to remind themselves, and the rest of us, that though physically departed, they too had loved St Barth. They too were a part of Marius party and St Barths big family.

Come nightfall, a happy, exhausted Marius closed the 50th celebration of the Select. He was glad to have made so many people happy for these past days. We applauded his party, but mostly, we applauded this kind and gentle giant who has touched our lives and our hearts like no other. Thank you Marius.





# le Journal de Saint-Barth

N° 373 - Mercredi 10 novembre 1999 - Thursday November 10, 1999 "Chaque semaine, toute l'actualité" 1,50 F

Merci ! Thank you ! Tack Tack !



Jimmy Buffett, Eddy et Manius, samedi soir sur le quai de Gustavia

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Years of the SELECT  
1999 - 1999  
**JIMMY BUFFETT**



Photos: Tim Dwenger



The myth of the cheeseburger in paradise goes back to a long trip on my first boat, the Euphoria. We had run into some very rough weather crossing the Mona Passage between Hispaniola and Puerto Rico and broke our bon spirit. The ice in our box had melted, and we were doing the canned-food-and-peanut-butter diet. The vision of a piping-hot cheeseburger kept popping into my mind.



We limped up the Sir Francis Drake Channel and into Roadtown on the island of Tortola, where a brand-new marina and bar sat on the end of the dock, like a mirage. We secured the boat, kissed the ground, and headed for the restaurant. To our amazement, we were offered a menu that featured an American cheeseburger and pina colodas.

Now these were the the days when supplies in that part of the world were rather scarce—when horsemeat was more plentiful than ground beef in the tiny stores of the Third World. Anyway, we gave particular instructions to the waiter on how we wanted them cooked and what we wanted on them—to which little attention was paid. It didn't matter. The overdone burgers on the burned, toasted buns tasted like mama from heaven, for they were the realization of my fantasy burgers on the trip.

That's the true story. I've heard other people and places claim that I stopped or cooked in their restaurants, but this is the way it happened.

I love to eat and have taken advantage of my success to travel and discover the foods of the world. There are elegant restaurants and out-of-the-way seafood joints and tiny Thai hamlets that spring into my mind when people ask where I like to eat, but that is another book. I don't eat much meat as I once did, and I now treat a cheeseburger as a treat rather than a ration. So when the urge hits me to have a burger, I try to match my desire to splurge with the right town and the right burger. I'm sure you know a place in your hometown where you believe they make the best cheeseburger in the world.

and while we're on the subject...

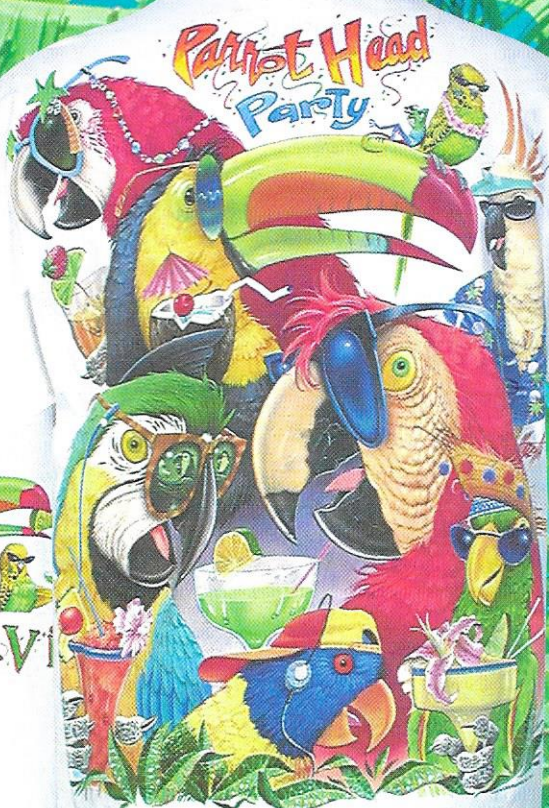
A Cajun Martini is made as follows. Choose the alcohol to prepare the martini; some use gin, but we prefer vodka. Seed one jalapeno pepper and place in the bottle of alcohol for at least 24 hours, then simply follow the usual directions for making a martini using the jalapeno spiced alcohol with vermouth. One final note, to really impress your friends garnish with either pickled okra or an olive stuffed with jalapeno pepper.

JB



# THE MARGARITAVILLE

# S.T.O.R.E



### PARROT HEAD PARTY

New Caribbean Soul Wrap Design on 100% cotton oversized T'.

Available in White only.

Size: L #5960 XL #5961 \$16.95 XXL #5962 \$17.95



**A Margaritaville Bandana**

Measures 21 square inches total , design measures 16 square inches.

#5756 \$6.95

**B Gear Garment Washed T'**

Wasted Away Again quote on 100% cotton, garment washed T'. Generous cut.

Available in Yellow only.

Size: **M #6001 L #6002 XL #6003 \$18.00**

**XXL #6004 \$19.00**

**C Distressed Margaritaville**

Available in Blue only.

Size: **M #5735 L #5736 XL #5737 \$15.95**

**XXL #5738 \$16.95**

**D Distressed Cap**

Adjustable Khaki cap with Navy lettering.

#5964 \$17.00

**E Splash Cap**

Margaritaville embroidered on Navy cap.

#5813 \$16.00

**F Cambridge Hooded Jacket**

Suede microfiber with a drawstring hood, elasticized cuff and drawstring bottom hem. Fully lined. Water-resistant. Polyester.

Size: **S #5793 M #5794 L #5795**

**XL #5796 \$84.00**



F

B

D

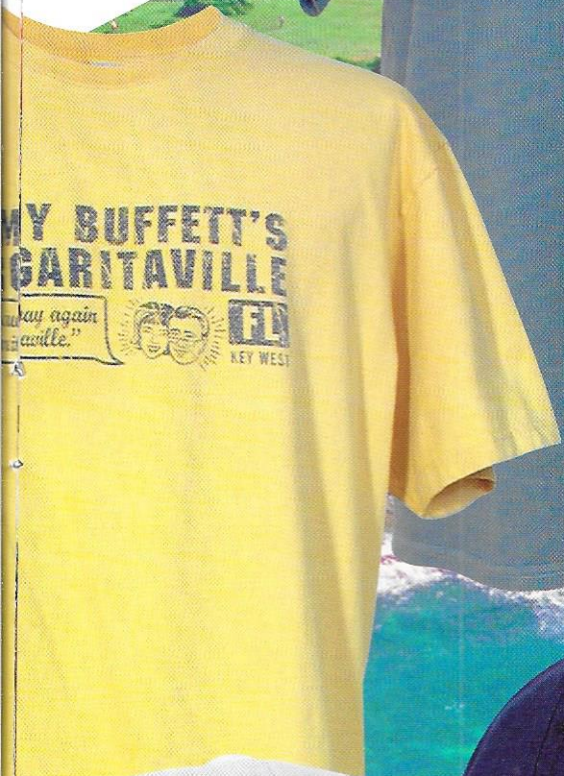




A



C



E



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A



BREAST



BREAST

D



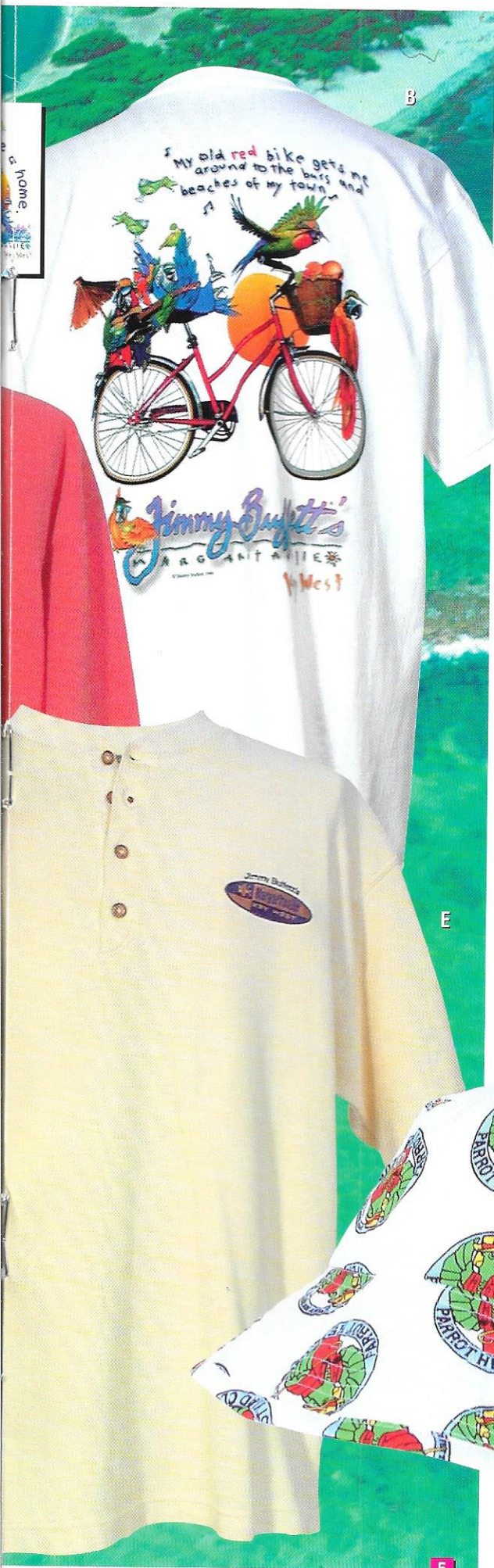
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100% cotton 'T'. Available in Grey only.  
Size: **M #5781 L #5782 XL #5783 \$15.95**  
**XXL #5784 \$16.95**

**B Red Bike**

100% cotton 'T'. Available in White only.  
Size: **M #5785 L #5786 XL #5787 \$15.95**  
**XXL #5788 \$16.95**

**C Gear Finally Friday**

100% polyester boucle fleece. Dropped shoulder seam for a comfortable fit. Open cuffs and hem to accommodate layering. Reinforced side vents. Available in Mango only. Size: **S #6974 M #6975 L #6976 XL #6977 \$40.00**

**D Gear Hockey Jersey**

Heavyweight long sleeve jersey, striped accent on sleeves, v-neck collar. Quality double-stitching insures durability. Size: **S #5702 M #5703 L #5704 XL #5705 \$30.00**

**E Yesterdays Henley**

New Margaritaville embroidery on 100% ribbed cotton Henley. 4-button placket. Available in Cream only. Size: **S #6994 M #6995 L #6996 XL #6997 \$29.95**

**F PHC Rollup Cap**

100% cotton cap. **#5336 \$12.00**





**A Margaritaville PHins Throw**

100% cotton. Deep, rich colors are completely woven into the throw creating a superior quality product. Measures 46" X 65".

#5829 \$50.00

**B New Margaritaville Silk Tie**

If you must wear a noose, it may as well be silk. Black #5831 Red #5832 \$35.00

**C Margaritaville Canvas Backpack**

Backpack is khaki canvas with leather trim, heavy duty nylon straps and durable zippers. Front pouch measures 10H x 11W x 2" deep, while the main pack is 16H x 13W x 5" deep. Double stitched around all seams. Adjustable padded shoulder straps. Margaritaville Key West embossed on leather patch.

#5791 \$42.95

**D Margaritaville Duffel Bag**

Bag is khaki canvas with leather trim, heavy duty nylon straps, durable zippers and adjustable snap-on strap. Outside pockets on either end for easy access. Duffel measures 20"h x 11"w x 11" deep. Double stitched around all seams. Margaritaville Key West embossed on leather patch.

#5790 \$35.98

**E Luggage Tag Engraved Brass #5195 \$9.95**







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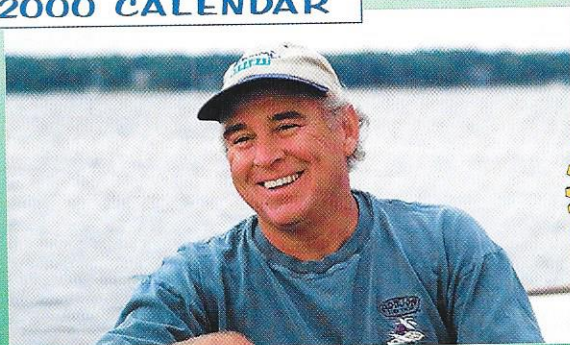
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# JIMMY BUFFETT

2000 CALENDAR



2000 Jimmy Buffett Calendar  
Monthly photos and recollections by long-time Buffett  
photographer Tom Corcoran. Also includes recent photos.  
#2242 \$13.95 **ON SALE \$10.00**

Manatee Christmas Stocking  
18" plush manatee with pocket for stocking stuffers.  
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Jimmy Buffett is surrounded by the cast of "The Jolly Mon" as he presents a surprise rendition of his "Jolly Mon" song at the Child Development Center of the Hamptons benefit.



To The Editor,

August 1 was a big day for the Child Development Center of the Hamptons. It was our summer fund-raiser, Wild Thing '99 that featured "The Jolly Mon," a play based on Jimmy and Savannah Jane Buffett's book.

This event took months of planning, preparation, and hundreds of people to make it the huge success that it was. There were C.D.C.H. children, children from the community, all their parents, teachers, staff, business owners, corporate sponsors, a whole cast of volunteers that included Jimmy Buffett's Metro Parrot Head Club, the East Hampton Kiwanis Club, celebrities, and many, many others.

Without the participation and involvement of each and every one of them, we could not have done the job that needed to be done. There is no way to thank everyone individually, but they can all be proud of the incredible job that they did.

It all goes a long way in helping the disabled children of C.D.C.H.

This year, the performance of "The Jolly Mon" was dedicated to the community that has come together in full force to help the Child Development Center of the Hamptons to realize its dream. This is a community that has been like-minded, that shares the vision of giving our very special children a school that is so desperately needed on the East End of Long Island.

The human spirit of this community and its dedication to the school has been monumental and we sincerely thank you for that.

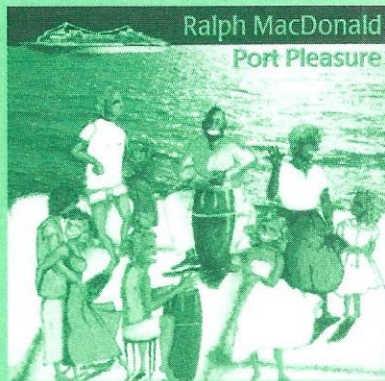
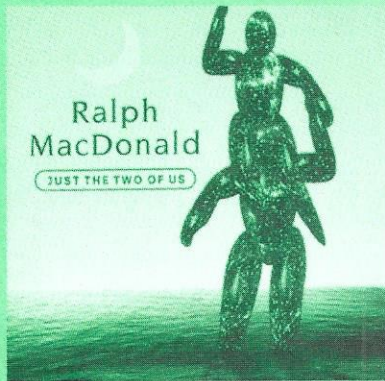
The future of these special children depends on the effort put forth by supportive people. We feel very blessed to live in a community where there is an abundance of such people.

# JOLLY MON





SOUND OF A DRUM - RALPH MACDONALD



For more than a quarter century, Ralph MacDonald has stood at the forefront of traditional and contemporary music leaving his indelible mark on nearly every genre of melody and rhythm.

Ralph MacDonald was literally born into music. His father was MacBeth The Great, a popular calypsonian and band-leader during the 1940's and 50's. Seated squarely on his father's lap in the West Indian and Latin cultural citadels of the Harlem Renaissance, MacDonald began his early childhood education in music and live performance.

At 17, MacDonald became the percussionist for famed songster Harry Belafonte and began a musical relationship with him that would last nearly a decade. During that time, MacDonald wrote an album of songs for Belafonte entitled Calypso Carnival. He also met his future collaborator, William Salter. The two began writing together and formed the song writing team of MacDonald and Salter.

MacDonald left Belafonte's band in 1970. Salter followed him shortly thereafter. The two began to aggressively market themselves. By 1971, Roberta Flack was all the rage in the music world and MacDonald had begun working with her. During a recording session, he played a sampling of his material for Roberta. She fell in love with one of tunes that MacDonald had originally intended for The Fifth Dimension, one that they never got a chance to hear. Roberta claimed the tune for her new album and teamed up with Donny Hathaway to record the very first version of a song that would later be covered by more than 200 different artists in over 30 languages. The song, "Where Is The Love", sold over 10 million copies and gave MacDonald his first Grammy as a writer.

In all, Ralph MacDonald has played percussion on nearly a dozen Grammy Award winning albums including Carly Simon and James Taylor's "Mockingbird", Paul Simon's "Still Crazy After All These Years" and "Graceland", Billy Joel's "Just The Way You Are", Roberta Flack's "Killing Me Softly", George Benson's "Breezin'", Bette Midler's "Do You Want To Dance", Diana Ross's "Mirror Mirror" and, of course, "Winelight." MacDonald also won a Grammy for his performance on Bob James' musical theme for the television sit-com classic "Taxi" and as a writer on The Winans' version of "Tradewinds". For ten consecutive years, 1979 through 1988, MacDonald won the "Most Valuable Player Of The Year" award for percussion from NARAS, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

MacDonald is currently riding high on his recent Japanese album release "Reunion" which features performances by such premiere artists as Steve Gadd, John Tropea, Grover Washington, Jr., Bob James, David Sanborn, Eric Gate and Richard Tee. Even more recently, "Just the Two of Us", was re-released as a number one hit by Will Smith.





**Sadly, Ralph's close friend and colleague, Grover Washington, Jr. died on December 17, 1999.**

Not every jazz musician receives, within hours of his death, a tribute from the president of the United States. But Grover Washington Jr., who died on the evening of Dec. 17 after collapsing at a television taping, was far from being just any musician.

President Clinton said in a statement issued the next morning that he thought the renowned saxophonist "was as versatile as any jazz musician in America, moving with ease and fluency from vintage jazz to funk, and from gospel to blues to pop. I will miss both the man and his music."

The president is well-acquainted with Washington's work not only because Clinton was a fan but also because Grover performed at the president's inauguration, his 50th-birthday celebration and a 1993 White House jazz concert, where the president at one point played alongside him.

Washington had celebrated his 56th birthday five days before his death. And a couple of weeks earlier, Columbia records had released "Prime Cuts: The Columbia Years 1987-1999," a best-of CD consisting of 11 old tracks that the artist selected himself (including one alternate take) plus two new recordings.

Even without his connection to the leader of the land, Washington would have figured as one of jazz's most important and influential artists of the last half-century.

**TERRY ATKINSON**  
[www.nandotimes.com](http://www.nandotimes.com)

All of Ralph's CD's  
are available through the  
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CD's are \$17.00 each.

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Sound Of A Drum #5428

Reunion #5425

Just The Two Of Us #5426

Port Pleasure #5424



# PHLOCKINGS

Social activities for  
people with similar  
tastes and interests.

I've been a Jimmy Buffett fan since the late 70's. Wherever I go, Jimmy goes with me. I've listened to him in Argentina, in Ecuador, in the Himalayas, in Indonesia and many other places. When I moved to Saudi Arabia in 1995, Jimmy's tapes and CD's were amongst the first things packed, then unpacked. Saudi Arabia can be a difficult place to live for a non-Muslim. At times the place seems to lack for levity, laughter and lightheartedness. Put some Jimmy on and these deficiencies seem to disappear.

It didn't take long to find other Parrot Heads in Riyadh, mostly people from North America with some from the antipodes as well. The common theme is hardworking professionals by day, and fun loving, music happy, dance crazed Jimmy Buffett "phans" by night. On November 18, 1999 my wife and I held the First Annual Parrot Head Phlocking of Riyadh. We tore the dining room window out and built steps in and out to the backyard. The yard was decorated in the finest Parrot Head style: tropical colors, palm trees, torches, cheeseburgers on the grill and Jimmy-appropriate beverages for all. In the late afternoon we had a Parakeet party for the children of the assembled Parrot Heads. The kids played "find the lost shaker of salt", sang Fins and Cheeseburger (while eating one), and played with an animated parrot that would repeat whatever you just said. This was a dangerous toy in the hands of adults! The parrot then began to repeat expletives just as you might imagine any true pirate parrot to do. Over 60 adults, decked out in appropriate costume, attended the phlocking. Jimmy's music was played nonstop. The dance floor featured an inflatable "shark" with sunglasses and a lei hanging from the ceiling. Closeby were palm trees, a decorative parrothead, Jimmy newswashes posted on the walls and an official Parrothead Party banner that I brought back from the Beach House on the Moon concert in Charlotte this summer. At an appropriate moment, the Chair-Parrot gathered the flock and the national anthem was sung, followed by a rocking rendition of Cheeseburger. Old and bold Parrotheads sang from memory while dancing, novice Parrotheads were issued song sheets. At the end of the evening, any doubters or marginal Parrotheads were enthusiastically and permanently converted.

It's not so bad in Saudi, as long as you have Jimmy Buffett on the CD player and you are surrounded by fellow Parrot Heads.

David & Shonna Rhine  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia







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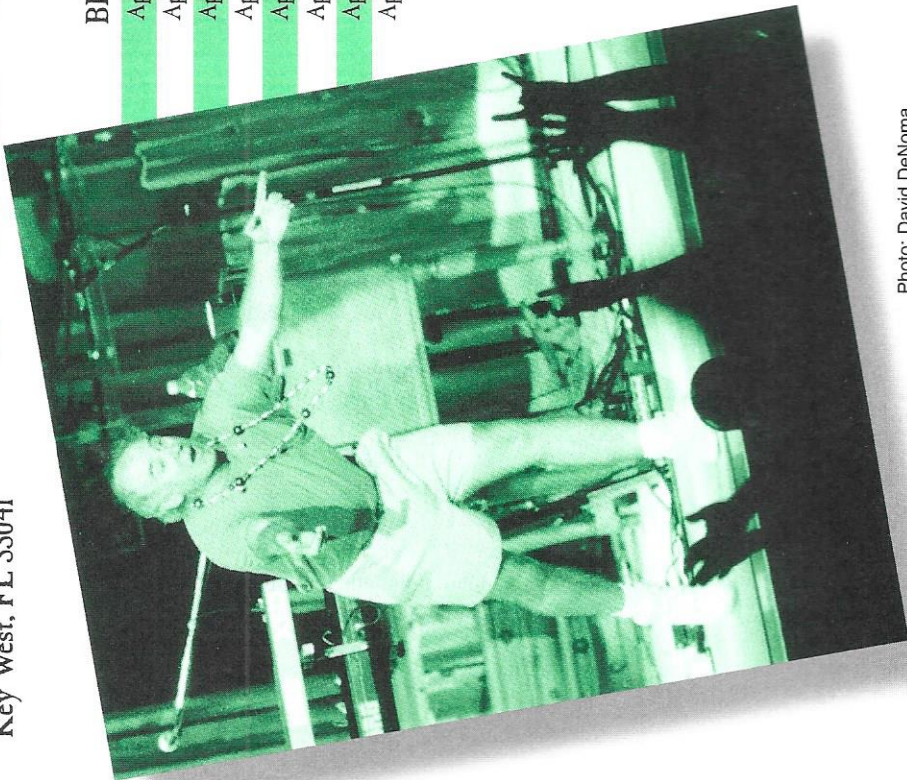
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## BEACH HOUSE 2000

April 13	Dallas, TX	Starplex
April 15	Las Vegas, NV	MGM Grand
April 18	San Francisco, CA	Shoreline
April 20	San Diego, CA	Coors Amphitheater
April 22	San Diego, CA	Coors Amphitheater
April 25	Phoenix, AZ	Desert Sky Amphitheater
April 27	Irvine, CA	Irvine Amphitheater
April 29	Irvine, CA	Irvine Amphitheater



\*3-DIGIT 220