



VOLUME 20 NO.1 WINTER 2004

# COCONUT TELEGRAPH

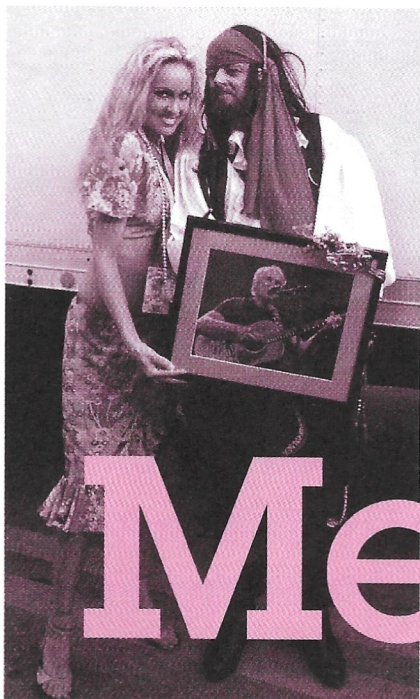
[www.margaritaville.com](http://www.margaritaville.com)



**The 2003 Parrot Heads** in Paradise Meeting Of The Minds island invasion took place early last November. Their annual arrival is a welcome relief from slow October days and this year proved no exception. Thousands of Parrot Heads crashed Cayo Hueso and partied with a purpose for the long weekend.

The street fair this year fell on Halloween and the Store & Cafe sponsored a Halloween Contest requesting that contestants create a costume based on any Buffett character. The top five selected by the crack judges at Margaritaville were paraded across the stage; the most enthusiastic crowd response determined the winner.

**Coral Reeferette Heather Perry presents Bob Frazier the 1st Place Prize.**



# Meeting of the Mi

## **Bulls, Bears, Blackhawks, & Buffett**

**That same weekend**, I left one paradise for another, Parrot Heads in Paradise to Cheeseburger in Paradise. The second in a series of tropical themed restaurants, Cheeseburger in Paradise is 30 miles west of Chicago, 1620 miles north of Key West, and forty degrees colder than the numerous down-island locales laying claim as the inspiration for the nutritionally questionable burger. The grand opening of this inspiring eatery was planned for Monday, November 3, and I went to see it.

O'Hare International Airport is a cold, gray place on this Feast of All Hallows. Particularly when the clattering carousel continues to spin without my luggage, which I'm told is still en route from Florida. Idle time spent in the airport lounge, my patience fading as fast as my per diem, I down a couple of local brews until my bag arrived. A room was waiting for me down the street from Cheeseburger In Paradise, solitude from the shock of sun to suburbs - and the bar carried my brand.

Monday at the Marriott and I'm chatting with Bill the groundskeeper. "Did you know Jimmy Buffett is coming here to play at his new restaurant?" he asked. I admitted I did and wondered if he was able to go. "I've been calling the radio station (WERV-FM) to try and win tickets but it's hard to get through." Several hundred people were able to get through however, and a majority of them were at CIP braving the chilly Chicago weather well before opening time, many in their obligatory Parrot Head



finest; grass skirts, coconut bras...and these were the guys. The fortunate few with tickets, obtained through generous donations, auctions and raffles to benefit the Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, would be granted admission while the symbolic lawn section wrapped around the restaurant – a chilly conga line munching on free hors d'oeuvres unexpectedly provided by the Cheeseburger staff.

The intersection of Butterfield and Finley boasts a variety of chain restaurants, but none, objectively speaking, as inviting as CIP. The Key West-style structure features a tin and weathered wood water tower and brightly painted latticework reminiscent of the Caribbean. Inside you're met with a panoramic hand painted mural that captures the serenity and beauty of a tropical sunset. Island decor and nautical sports paraphernalia are scattered throughout the restaurant. Bright colors of teal and orange complement an assortment of textures including weathered woods, sailcloth, tin roofs, thatch, eucalyptus poles, bamboo, and reed board. The flooring throughout the restaurant depicts a sandy beach and tabletops are covered with an assortment of photographs of tropical water scenes. The heavily laminated curved bar protects copies of the famed Cheeseburger In Paradise lyrics and postcards from around the world.

Jimmy arrived late in the afternoon, exceeded his daily caloric count on the bountiful buffet (pun intended) supplied by the CIP chef – I strongly suggest the Crab & Corn Chowder and Island Chef Salad – and took time to personalize, among many items, a guitar and surfboard to be auctioned off following his performance that evening.

Arriving through the back door, Jimmy made his way through an appreciative kitchen staff, thanking them for their efforts and welcoming them into the rapidly diversifying family. The local band is assembled at least 30 feet from the kitchen entrance, and the SRO room is as packed as a Bull's locker room before Michael's second retirement. Jimmy put his shoulder down and headed into the middle-aged mosh pit, seemingly lifted on stage by the cheers of the small



# cheeseburger paradise

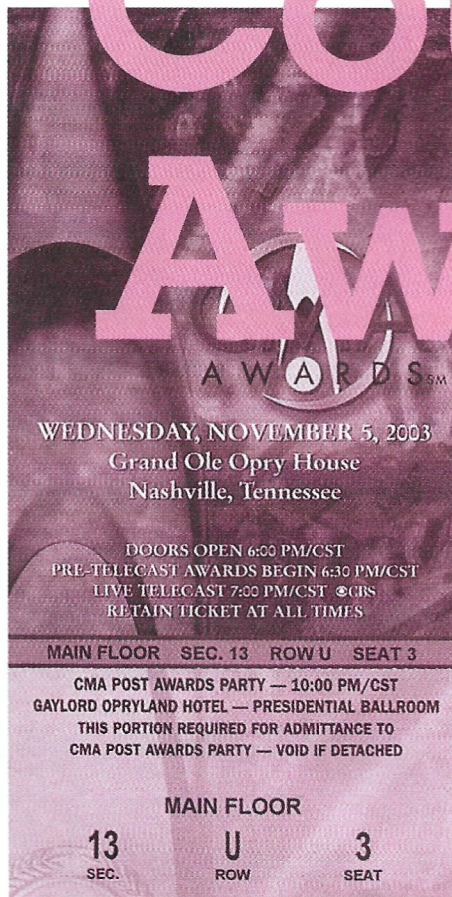


but rabid crowd. The all-too-brief set ended with a tribute to the restaurant's namesake while three lucky ladies joined Jimmy on the crowded Parrot Head pulpit to let all know what they like theirs with.

Following the performance, an auction was held featuring the aforementioned guitar and surfboard, and together with ticket donations, over \$60,000 was raised to benefit the Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Sorry you missed it Bill.

[www.cheeseburgerinparadise.com](http://www.cheeseburgerinparadise.com)

# Country Awards



AWARDS<sup>SM</sup>

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2003  
Grand Ole Opry House  
Nashville, Tennessee

DOORS OPEN 6:00 PM/CST  
PRE-TELECAST AWARDS BEGIN 6:30 PM/CST  
LIVE TELECAST 7:00 PM/CST © CBS  
RETAIN TICKET AT ALL TIMES

MAIN FLOOR SEC. 13 ROW U SEAT 3

CMA POST AWARDS PARTY — 10:00 PM/CST  
GAYLORD OPRYLAND HOTEL — PRESIDENTIAL BALLROOM  
THIS PORTION REQUIRED FOR ADMITTANCE TO  
CMA POST AWARDS PARTY — VOID IF DETACHED

MAIN FLOOR

13      U      3  
SEC.      ROW      SEAT

**And then it got interesting.** The Big Guy was hustled from the stage into a low mileage SUV and off to Midway Airport. I tossed my return ticket to Key West in a Downers Grove dumpster and joined Jimmy on the Falcon for a flight to his old nemesis – Nashville, TN. An Island Veggie pizza to go (along with more of the Island Chef Salad) from CIP and a bottle of Pinot Grigio at 20,000 feet more than compensated for the lack of commercial airline peanuts. Stretched out on the plush, hairpin-curved sofa, we talked of rum and rock climbing, politics and peacetime, and toasted to better days - past and future.

We were Music City bound courtesy of the Country Music Association to attend the

37th Annual CMA Awards at the Grand Ole Opry House. Jimmy and current CMA Entertainer of the Year Alan Jackson were nominated in the Vocal Event of the Year category for "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere" the summertime anthem that all too quickly joined the ranks of "songs I can't get out of my head." Pooouuurrr me something tall and strong, make it a hurricane before I go insane.

"Somebody pitched me that song," Alan Jackson said, "and I said 'Man! This sounds like Buffett!' Sure enough – it already had his name in there, and it sounded like him, so it just felt natural to go ahead and do the thing. And he was kind enough to sing on it." Alan Jackson met Jimmy at his Shrimptoat Sound studio to record the track, succumbed to Key West's charms, and worked an entire week at the studio. The song spent over 7 weeks topping the singles charts, carried Alan Jackson's Greatest Hits Volume 2 And Some Other Stuff to #1 on Billboard's Pop and Country Album charts, placed the Caribbean-Country duo in a league with fellow



nominees Willie Nelson, Toby Keith, Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow, and afforded them the opportunity to open the CMA Award Show. "This song has been a summer phenomenon and we are thrilled to have Alan and Jimmy perform it together to open the CMA Awards," said CMA Executive Director Ed Benson.

The Grand Ole Opry to me, and I think to many others as well, is a cool looking old brick building – a cross between a Customs House and a High School Gym. Tight-jeaned, flannel shirt wearing men with 2" boot heels and 3" Pompadours puffin' on Pall Malls hit on Patsy Cline while Little Jimmy Dickens soars to new heights. Truth be told, the classic building in the photos is actually the Ryman Auditorium, which was the Grand Ole Opry of legend for over thirty years. The historic Ryman Auditorium remains one of Nashville's premier performance halls, nominated by Pollstar for 2003 Theatre of the Year – one of only six national theatres to be recognized. The Grand Ole Opry, 30 minutes east, continues to attract seasoned veterans as well as new entertainers honored by the privilege to perform on the celebrated stage

The Grand Ole Opry also serves as the annual host for the CMA Awards, the oldest music award show, scheduled to be broadcast live on CBS Television on Wednesday, November 5. We arrive for rehearsal Tuesday afternoon and are led through the cavernous backstage area. Raised platforms with performers instruments are lined up in order of their appearance during the program, front and center – Alan Jackson's stage. On either side are the rotating stages that will hold Jimmy and the Coral Reefers out of view, and revolve at the appropriate moment in the song, "What would Jimmy Buffett do?"

Brad Paisely, nominated for Best Video for "Celebrity," patiently fulfills the technical crews requests, repeatedly covering the number assuring that the live show will run flawlessly. Cool song too. Next up, Alan Jackson and Jimmy. Countless microphone and instrument tests later the lanky Jackson, calmly wondering if perhaps the pace could be picked up bit, entertains the crowd with a country classic. Literally two hours later and they're done. Jimmy's entrance timed to perfection, oversized turntables running smoothly, the two bands seamlessly merging into the song.

Showtime. Country music's elite glide across the obligatory red carpet (Faith Hill made my knees weak), while 4000 tuxedoed attendees slide across cushioned benches in the fabled hall. You must be a Country Music Association member to purchase a ticket, and ya' gotta dress up. All time leading CMA Award winner Vince Gill, hosting the event for the 12th consecutive year, charmed the crowd until the lights dimmed and the baritone voiced network announcer began, "Ladies and Gentleman, welcome to the 37th Annual CMA Awards....."

Minutes later, "Winner for Vocal Event of the Year, Alan Jackson and Jimmy Buffett!" Jimmy actually appeared to be nervous. Thanking first his wife, followed by shout-outs to old Nashville cronies, he ended his acceptance speech by joking, "Thank you Alan Jackson, I'm glad I could help your struggling career." The "struggling" Alan Jackson, also nominated for Male Vocalist of the Year and Entertainer of the Year scored a hat trick.

The journey from a starving songwriter sleeping on friends couches and playing at the old Exit / In, to a 1977 CMA nod for Single of the Year for "Margaritaville," to the opening performance on the Country Music Associations biggest night, to being honored by your peers is a tale worthy of a Buffett short story, or at the least a song lyric. How about it Jimmy?



**A** horse is a horse, of course, unless it is a member of the New Orleans Police Department's Mounted Patrol Unit. "Cody" is a 6-year-old Percheron / Thoroughbred Cross who, along with his partner Officer Patrick Schneider, patrols the French Quarter. Cody is not just any horse though...this gentle giant provides the valuable services of crowd control and the ability to navigate streets often congested with traffic when time is of the essence.

The New Orleans Margaritaville Café and Store joined forces recently to purchase Cody for donation to the NOPD's Mounted Unit. Cody, along with several other horses, had been on loan from Angola State Prison where he was trained for police work by the NOPD. When it came time for Angola to reclaim its loaned property, the NOPD was in danger of losing its "Masters of Crowd Control", as well as some of the biggest assets in their Mounted Unit.

Recognizing the important services these patrols provide, business owners and citizens' groups in the French Quarter started the campaign to raise the funds to purchase the horses, and Margaritaville made sure Cody would remain a presence in the Quarter.

NOPD Chief of Police Edwin Compass thanked the folks at Margaritaville "for their financial support in making the NOPD Mounted Unit one of the best in the country." He said, "Without the support of the community, we would not be so successful."

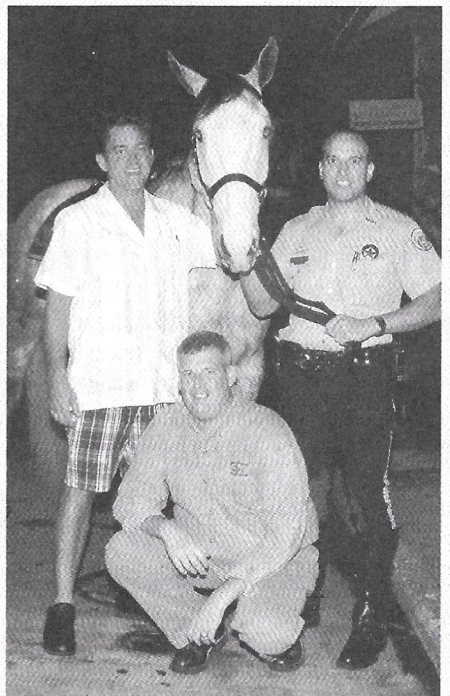
In another civic-minded action, the Margaritaville Café and Store recently came through with the remaining funds needed for the New Year's Eve fireworks display over the Mississippi River. Organizers were not sure the event would happen, but as it came down to the wire, two-dozen local businesses (with Margaritaville kicking in the final balance as time ran out) made sure the "Big Easy" would have its traditional pyrotechnical display.

The midnight show was choreographed with music simulcast on a local radio station, and highlights included Margaritaville and (appropriately) The Night I Painted the Sky. As the "King-Cake Baby" dropped over Jackson Square, fireworks accompanied Jimmy Buffett music, ending with the highlight of "Margaritaville" being spelled out in explosive color against the black, incoming 2004 sky.

Once again Margaritaville recognized its ability to fulfill a need in the community and went the extra mile to fill it...because it was the right thing to do and not so much for the recognition, glory and trumpets. Well okay, maybe a little bit for the fireworks...

Sheila Chimento  
Margaritaville, New Orleans

# margaritaville new orleans





Jimmy Buffett's  
**MARGARITAVILLE**

S · T · O · R · E

Margaritaville Boating Safety Course T'  
"Keep it Between the Navigational Buoys"  
100% cotton long sleeve T-shirt.  
Design on back with accent printed sleeves.  
M #11308, L #11309, XL #11310 \$25.95  
XXL #11311 \$26.95



BREAST



SS Margaritaville  
Inflatable pool toy. 28" in diameter.  
#10505 \$5.95



**A Parrot Party 2004 T'**

The annual Parrot Party release has become a real collectors item. 100% cotton. White.

M #11340, L #11341, XL #11342 \$16.95  
XXL #11343 \$17.95 3X #11344 \$18.95

**B Relaxing In Paradise T'**

100% Cotton Garment Dyed. Denim Blue.

S # 11961, M #11962, L #11963,  
XL #11964 \$18.95 XXL #11965 \$19.95

**C Islander T'**

100% Cotton. Wrap-around design. Natural.

S #11651, M #11652, L #11653

XL #11654 **Was \$18.95 NOW \$16.95**

**D Wastin' Away Again Pocket T'**

100% cotton, garment dyed. Tan.

M #11345, L #11346, XL #11347 \$18.95  
XXL #11348 \$19.95

**E Margaritaville Varsity Hooded Sweatshirt**

Full front embroidery and applique. 80/20, pigment-dyed, 2" wrist and waist bands, front kangaroo pouch. Generously cut, oversized. We recommend ordering a size smaller than you normally would. Dijon Yellow.

S #11660, M #11661, L #11662, XL #11663  
\$52.95

**F Slice O' Lime Cap**

Embroidered Marlin with Lime. Denim Blue. Velcro closure, 100% cotton, 6 panel cap.

#11349 \$18.00

**G Slice O' Lime T'**

Embroidered Marlin with Lime on garment-washed 100% cotton T-shirt. Denim Blue.

M #11332, L #11333, XL #11334 \$19.95  
XXL #11335 \$20.95

**H "Why Don't We Get Drunk and..." T'**

Latest version by Caribbean Soul. White.

M #9476, L #9477, XL #9478 \$16.95  
XXL #9479 \$17.95

**I Changes in Latitude T'**

Classic Caribbean Soul Design. White.

M #2, L #3, XL #4 \$16.95  
XXL #630 \$17.95  
3X #9666 \$18.95

FRONT

BACK



A

C

G



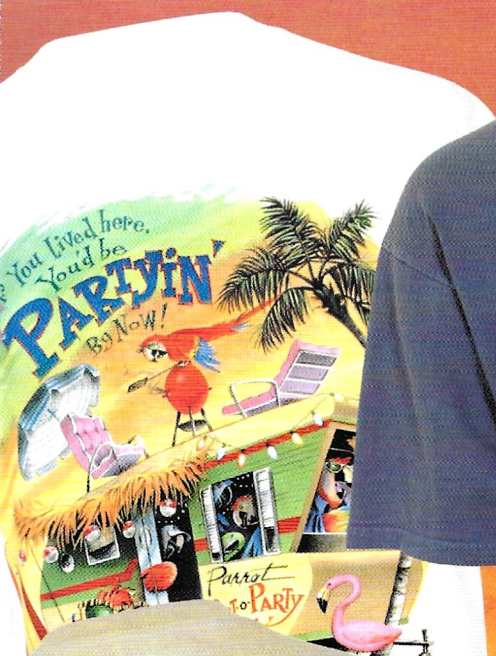
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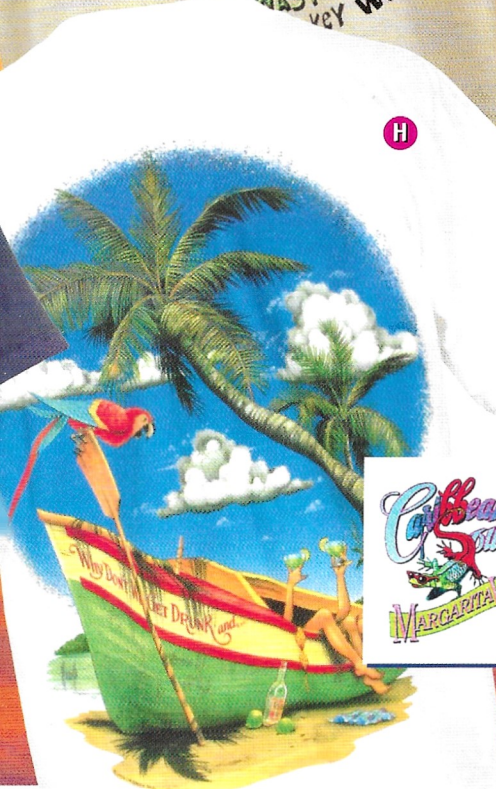
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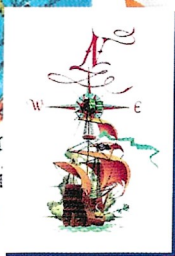




POCKET



BREAST



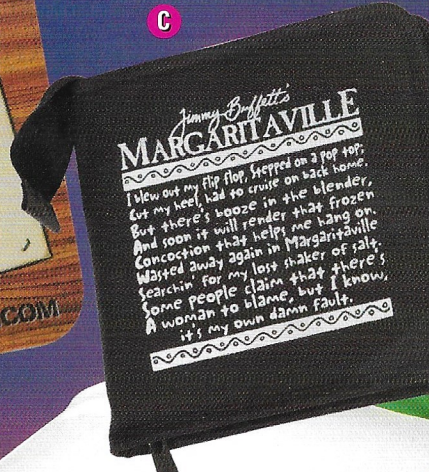
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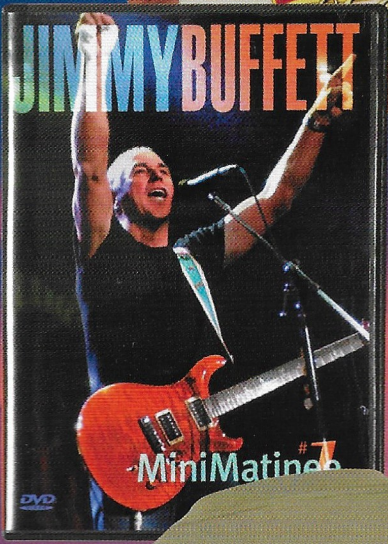
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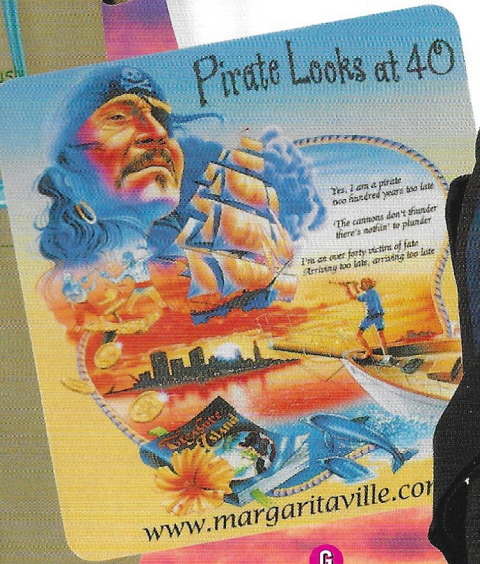
B



D



BREAST



G

margaritavillestore.com





**A Margaritaville Tequila Mouse Pad**

Wood Effect Tequila Crate design on 9" w x 7.5" h foam mouse pad.

#10910 \$9.95

**B Mini Matinee DVD**

This DVD release contains never before seen footage, including the on stage duet with Alan Jackson, a behind the scenes rehearsal, exclusive photos and other rare footage.

Includes: It's Five O'Clock Somewhere, Cheeseburger in Paradise, Meet Me In Margaritaville, The Tiki Bar is Open, Knees Of My Heart, Fins. Running Time, 30 min.

#11785 \$9.98

**C Lyrics CD Case**

Polyester case foam lined to protect CD's. Zippered on 3 sides, 12 double-sided vinyl holders with cotton sheeting dividers, holds 24 CD's. Lyrics from Margaritaville printed on front. Navy Blue.

#10956 \$14.95

**D The Perfect Margarita Recipe T'**

100% cotton T'shirt. Khaki.

M #11336, L #11337, XL #11338 \$16.95  
XXL #11339 \$17.95

**E "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere" T'**

Inspired by the CMA award winning song, 100% cotton T-shirt. White.

M #11799, L #11800, XL #11801 \$16.95  
XXL #11802 \$17.95

**F Jimmy O'Buffett's T'**

St Patricks Day T'shirt with a twist.

Celebrate St Paddys Day the O'Buffett way. 100% cotton T-shirt. Kelly Green.

M #11901, L #11902, XL #11903 \$16.95  
XXL #11904 \$17.95

**G Pirate Looks@40 Mouse Pad**

Foam mouse pad. Measures 8" h x 7.5" w

#11890 \$9.95

**H Custom Margaritaville Mouse**

Features floating Margarita Glass and Salt Shaker. Connect using your color-coded COM port. Instructions included for easy set up, just plug it in and you're in bidness. Sorry, not MAC compatible.

#10663 \$24.95

**I Computer Bag**

Black nylon bag with blue accents, adjustable shoulder strap, large zippered inner pouch, exterior zippered pocket. Embroidered front flap with buckle closure opens to 3 compartments: 1 large pocket, mesh center, reach-in inner pocket. Measures 15" w x 12" h x 5" d.

#11729 \$25.00



**A Parrot Fins Windshield Shade**

Hi-tek top quality silver surface collapsible fabric sun shade. 1 piece construction for full windshield coverage. "Fins Up" design printed on each 25" x 25" panel. Spring wire design collapses and stores in pouch. #10672 \$18.95

**B Margaritaville Athletic Cap**

Black Cap / Khaki Bill, pre-curved visor, adjustable buckle back. Embroidered. #11619 \$18.00

**C Margarita Glass**

Classic long stemmed with 16 oz. bowl. Margaritaville Tequila logo in full color print, Compass Rose print on base of glass. #11613 \$12.00 each

**D Where's The Party? Shot Glass**

2 oz. shot glass. Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Key West printed on back. #10928 \$4.00

**E Cell Phone Holder**

"If the phone doesn't ring...". Neoprene, belt loop clip, velcro closure. Navy Blue with Black accents. Approximately 5.5" x 3". #10965 \$16.95

**F Margaritaville Beads**

A must for every concert and/or Parrot Head Party. Total bead length 42 inches. #8114 \$6.99

**G Wastin' Away Magnet**

3-D magnet measures 3"h x 2.25"w. #11839 \$6.00

**H High Tide Book**

Children will love running their hands over these slippery, ticklish sea creatures. These unique pages and pop-out play pieces will help children develop tactile awareness while building object recognition and matching and motor skills. Squeezable and floatable. #8074 \$9.99

**I 2003 Christmas Ornament**

Solid resin. Measures approximately 5"h x 4"w and weighs 5 oz. Not just for the tree, hang 'em anywhere, hang 'em everywhere! #10853 Was \$17.95 NOW \$9.89

**J Weather is Here Pin Metal**

3-D pin measures approx 2" diameter. #11763 \$4.95

**K Hawaiian Shirt Bottle Koozie**

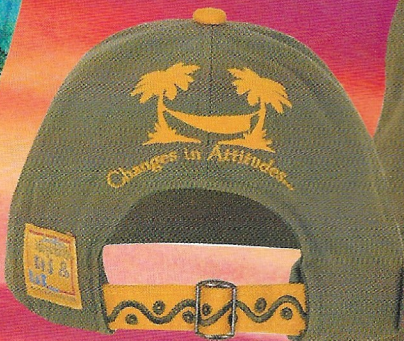
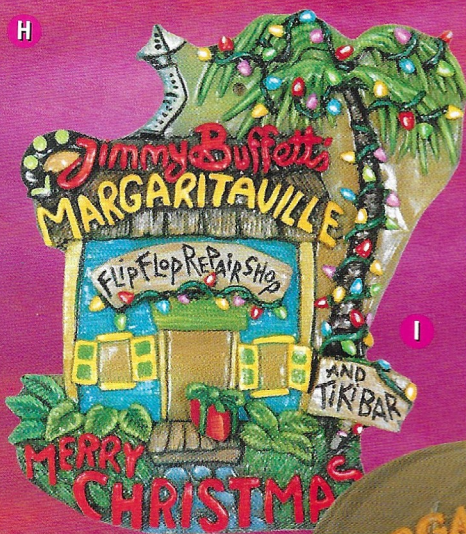
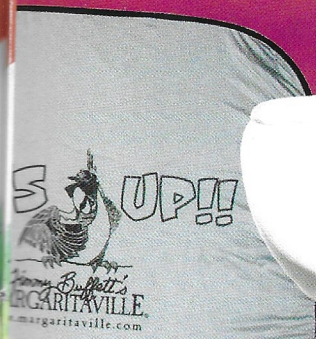
Dress up your Corona in style. Neoprene. #10301 \$6.95 each

**L Changes in Latitudes Cap**

Includes all the bells and whistles. Key West embroidered on the bill, custom labels inside and out, embroidered and silkscreen design on both front and back. Olive. #10158 \$18.00







1-800-COCOTEL

1-800-262-6835





**Ladies Sleeve Print**

Long sleeved ladies ribbed fitted shirt. Margaritaville screened across front. Left sleeve hibiscus print accent. Available in Periwinkle Blue. S #11350, M #11351, L #11352, XL #11353. \$25.95



**Ladies Boxy T'**

Pigment-dyed boxy cut T'. "85" with Hibiscus silk-screened on front. Available in muted Red. S #11354, M #11355, L #11356, XL #11357. \$18.95



**Tin Travel Candle**

Papaya scented candle. 3" diameter, 2" high. #11840 \$12.95

**Salt Shaker Sock**

Above ankle. Ladies Size 9-11. #7266 \$8.95





A few months ago I wrote to you folks telling about our trips to visit all of the Jimmy Buffett's top 10 places for a waterside drink. You were kind enough to forward to the appropriate people and the end result was the opportunity for us to meet Jimmy before the concert in Boston. He suggested the trips would make a good article for the Coconut Telegraph, so here it is.

Thank you, Eric Simonson

## TEN BARS, FREQUENT FLYER MILES, UNLIMITED FUN

It was early June, 2000 and the Travel Section USA Today listed Jimmy Buffett's top 10 Places to Have a Waterside Drink. Being a fan of both the music and lifestyle, I immediately began reading the descriptions and locations of each place. I showed my good friend Mike the article and list, and he asked if he could hang on to it for a few days. The following weekend, the list reappeared, multiple copies and laminated. As Mike handed me a couple of copies, he proudly proclaimed, "we need to go to all ten with our families."

A year went by and we continued to talk and plan trips that allowed us to hit all 10 of these bars. In June 2001, we made our first one; to Jimmy Cantlers in Annapolis, MD. In October of the same year, Mike booked a place in Marsh Harbor, Bahamas for Thanksgiving. We were sure we could get to a couple of the bars from there. After doing research, Mike realized it would be impossible to boat to Staniel Cay and Normans Cay given our time constraints, so he put the word out on the Coconut Telegraph of our plight. We heard back from the brother of a friend of the cab driver who arranged a plane for us early the next day. Words cannot describe the beauty of flying over the Exumas on a clear Thanksgiving Day while enjoying conch fritters and a few beers. Talking with the owners of Staniel Cay Yacht Club and then later McDuff's on Normans Cay made it a perfect day.

March of 2002 brought us back to the Caribbean and Le Select on the island of St. Barts. Marius, the owner, spent an hour telling us the history of Le Select and St. Barts, walking through his scrapbook and giving us a great sense of the history of the island.

Thanksgiving 2002, Mike found a cruise that allowed us to hit three locations on one trip. So off to Miami, and a quick trip Alabama Jacks in Key Largo. Back to the port of Miami to board a cruise ship headed for Belize where we immediately headed for the local airport and a quick, scary flight to Ambergris Cay and Ramons Village. The flight back was a bit nerve racking, right up to and including the 5 hop landing. Back to MIA and off to Key West, where the Bloody Mary at Louie's Backyard did not disappoint.

Spring of 2003 we went to Lulu's Sunset Grill in Fairhope, AL. The rain poured all afternoon, but we enjoyed watching the boats heading in to the safety of the marina. Given that Lulu's has since moved, looks like a reason to head back to Alabama.

In June, we took a trip to Turks & Caicos to celebrate the end of the school year. Michelle and Connie, our wives, are both teachers. A very nice dinner at The Deck (which had recently changed names) allowed us to check off number 9.

Nine down, one to go. We flew to Boston, spent Saturday night at the Buffett concert, which included the opportunity to meet Jimmy and talk to him about our adventures. A great concert, combined with a once in a lifetime opportunity made all the flights and frequent flyer miles worth every bit of it. On a beautiful sunny Sunday, we took the ferry from Hyannis to Nantucket and headed straight to the Rope Walk. Number 10 was complete. A wonderful two years, filled with travel and adventure was amazing. Great trips with great friends and the chance to experience wonderful parts of the world are something that we hope to continue.

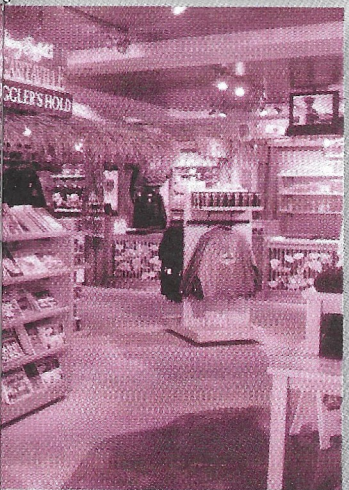
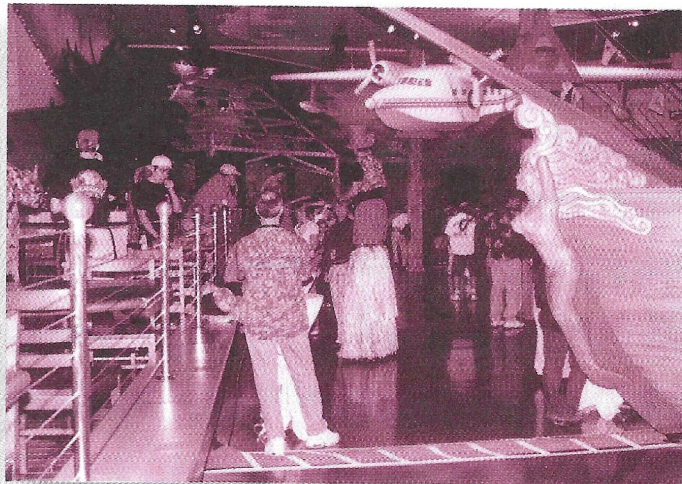
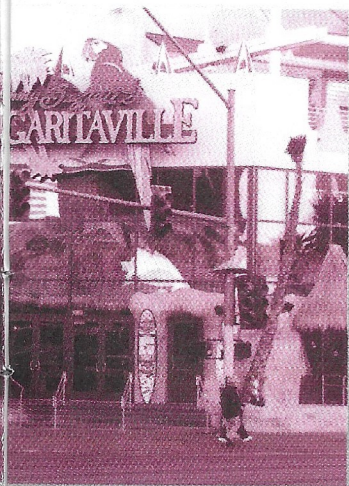
We need another list Jimmy!





*Jimmy*  
**MARGARITA**  
*Las Vegas - Grand Opening*

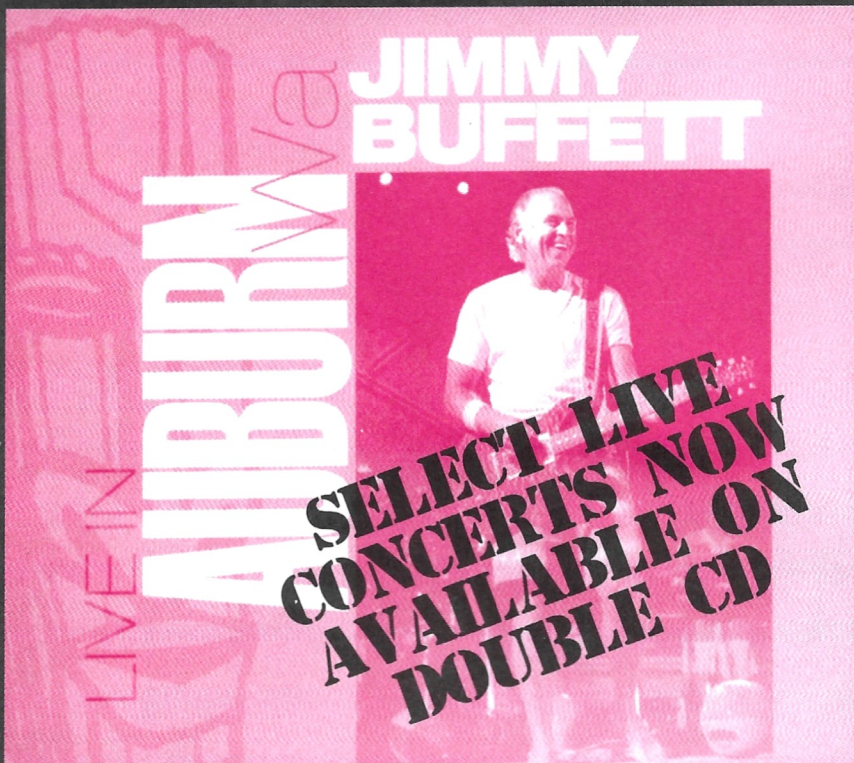




# Buffett's BRITAVILLE

Evening - January 22, 2004





Mailboat Records has released 4 live concerts from 2003's Tiki Time Tour. These recordings come straight from the soundboard to you. No re-mixing, re-doing, re-recording or re-considering. Nothing has been edited or altered in anyway. And, according to Jimmy, "...this CD may contain profanity and/or senior moments. What you hear is what happened."

### **LIVE IN CINCINNATI**

Riverbend Amphitheatre in Cincinnati, OH. on August 26, 2003. #11854 \$18.98

### **LIVE IN MANSFIELD**

Tweeter Center in Mansfield, (Boston) MA. on August 30, 2003. #11855 \$18.98

### **LIVE IN AUBURN**

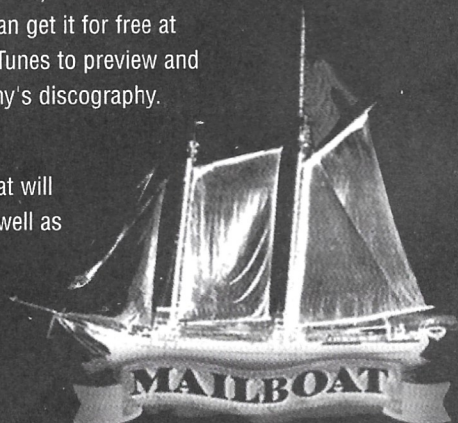
White River Amphitheatre in Auburn, (Seattle) WA. on September 16, 2003. #11774 \$18.98

### **LIVE IN LAS VEGAS**

MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, NV. on September 20, 2003. #11775 \$18.98

The releases are also available at Apple's iTunes Music Store, now available for both Mac and Windows. If you don't have iTunes, you can get it for free at [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes). Visit Jimmy's featured page in iTunes to preview and download the live recordings as well as the rest of Jimmy's discography.

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