

MARSHALL COUNTY
MISSISSIPPI
WINTER 2012
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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI
GULF COAST

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COAST



Photo: Joseph Bailey

Ralph MacDonald

March 15, 1944 to December 18, 2011
Jim Mayer Remembers His Friend

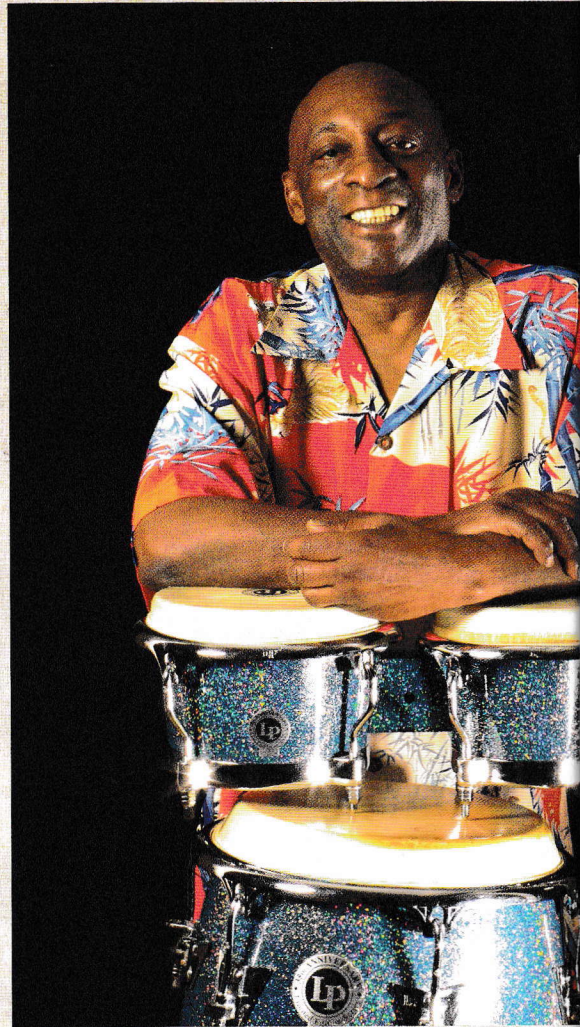
As I fly back home after being with our great friend Ralph MacDonald for the last two days of his life, I am experiencing a roller coaster of emotions. All that makes sense to me now is gratitude for the legacy of music he left and the imprint his presence made on so many lives, including mine.

He died peacefully at home with family and loved ones around. We were privileged to be with him at the end. I was especially blessed to receive an urgent text from one of his long-time friends telling me it was time. We met up there and shared a life-changing time with Ralph, his family and dear friends.

One particularly touching moment of the weekend was when we showed Ralph a Coral Reefer Band Concert video that a fan had sent me from the recent Meeting of the Minds gathering in Key West, FL. (Thank You fans!!!) Ralph sat up in his bed with his family around him. We watched nearly the whole 2 hour + concert, including Nadirah Shakoor and Tina Gullickson singing his song, "We are a Family - Generations" with Mike Utley at the piano. I cannot express to you the importance of having that video to show Ralph!

Some things in musicians are learned and practiced, some are innate, and some you just say, "Well, there's no way up that mountain."

Years before I met Ralph, I was well familiar with his incredible skills from listening to his records. I remember the first time I heard him play in person. Ralph was on a cowbell, we were sitting in a relaxed circle with Jimmy Buffett running through a song. I had no idea what he was doing, but his simple quarter notes, bounced and fell, leapt and lilted into a breathing rhythm that made my shoulders feel right and my heart relax, my torso moved and my foot



tapped and the song came alive.

Ralph could do that. I saw him time and time again sit in the studio and have the engineer roll to particular parts of the song, "take it to the bridge", he'd say, "Okay, now let's just do the choruses." He apparently had layers of a percussion symphony pre-composed in his head. One part after another unfolded and his art revealed itself. Ralph was a master of efficiency; with a shake of his hand or a beat of his palm he transformed a song into a breathing, living being.

As a songwriter and composer his body of work will stand the test of time, two of my favorites, "Just the Two of Us", "Where is the Love", are classics. As a young man in the 60s, during the early days of the Civil Rights movement he perfected his skills working with the great Harry Belafonte.

I will never forget his stories about that period, from marching with Dr. King at Selma, to being in a hotel when the management drained the pool because African-Americans had had the audacity to swim in it.

His influence reaches to every part of the American music experience. To drop just a few names, you can check out his work with Roberta Flack, Bill Withers, Grover Washington Jr., Paul Simon, George Benson, David Bowie, Aretha Franklin, Art Garfunkel, Billy Joel, Quincy Jones, Carole King, Miriam Makeba, David Sanborn, Steely Dan, James Taylor, Luther Vandross, Amy Winehouse, and of course Jimmy Buffett. The list goes on and on.

As important as his musical influence is, his vast array of friendships always astounded me. I count myself blessed to be one and experience a tiny corner of Ralph's vast life during our years together in the Coral Reefer Band and on side projects that we did together.

Ralph's son Anthony MacDonald and I mused and told many stories for the past two days. The time in St. Barth where there were no percussion instruments to be found, but undeterred, Ralph grabbed two pieces of paper and rubbed them together and created a serious groove.

Ralph was full of life. After he passed his son Anthony and I sat next to his body. Anthony said, "He lived life to the fullest." In unison we looked at each other and said, "And then some!"

Read more at www.IM4Ublog.com

Miss Peetsy B

Buffetts Christen Gulf Coast Research Lab Vessel in Mother's Honor

Excerpts from Charmaine Williams Schmermund writing in the **Southern Miss Now**

University of Southern Mississippi alumnus Jimmy Buffett, alongside his sisters Lucy Buffett and Laurie Buffett McGuane, performed a one-of-a-kind christening for their donated vessel, Miss Peetsy B, at the university's **Gulf Coast Research Laboratory** in Ocean Springs. In honor of their mother, Mary Loraine "Peets" Buffett, her

children christened the boat with Jimmy's own island style beverage, LandShark Lager.

The 33-foot craft was recently donated by Jimmy Buffett to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation. The Marine Education Center, located at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, will utilize the Miss Peetsy B for educational programs for upper elementary and secondary schools, as well as the general public, for programs like Sea Camp, ecological tours of the Biloxi Bay, and trips to Deer Island.

In addition to the Buffett family's generous donation of the Miss Peetsy B, along with a \$30,000 fund to support the program, the family provides additional support to Southern Miss with the Mary Loraine Peets Buffett Endowed Scholarship. "It's special having a boat like that dedicated to my mom... a great coastal girl who went a long way," added Jimmy. "So, she's going to ride again."



Photo: Joseph Bailey



Photo: Joseph Bailey

Meeting Of The Minds 2011

Don't Stop The Carnival

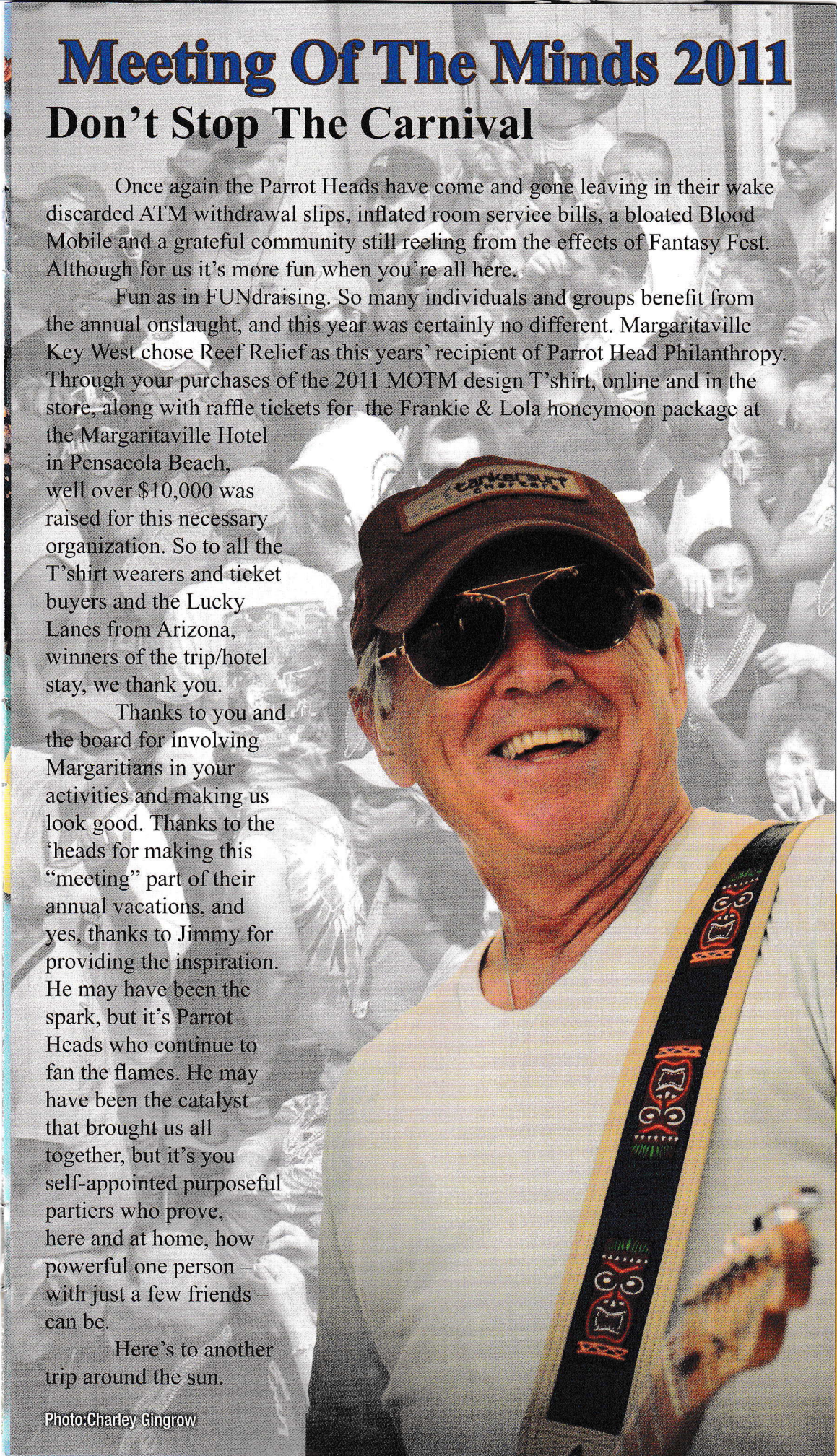
Once again the Parrot Heads have come and gone leaving in their wake discarded ATM withdrawal slips, inflated room service bills, a bloated Blood Mobile and a grateful community still reeling from the effects of Fantasy Fest. Although for us it's more fun when you're all here.

Fun as in FUNdraising. So many individuals and groups benefit from the annual onslaught, and this year was certainly no different. Margaritaville Key West chose Reef Relief as this year's recipient of Parrot Head Philanthropy. Through your purchases of the 2011 MOTM design T-shirt, online and in the store, along with raffle tickets for the Frankie & Lola honeymoon package at the Margaritaville Hotel in Pensacola Beach, well over \$10,000 was raised for this necessary organization. So to all the T-shirt wearers and ticket buyers and the Lucky Lanes from Arizona, winners of the trip/hotel stay, we thank you.

Thanks to you and the board for involving Margaritians in your activities and making us look good. Thanks to the 'heads for making this "meeting" part of their annual vacations, and yes, thanks to Jimmy for providing the inspiration. He may have been the spark, but it's Parrot Heads who continue to fan the flames. He may have been the catalyst that brought us all together, but it's you self-appointed purposeful partiers who prove, here and at home, how powerful one person – with just a few friends – can be.

Here's to another trip around the sun.

Photo: Charley Gingrow

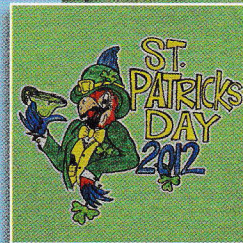
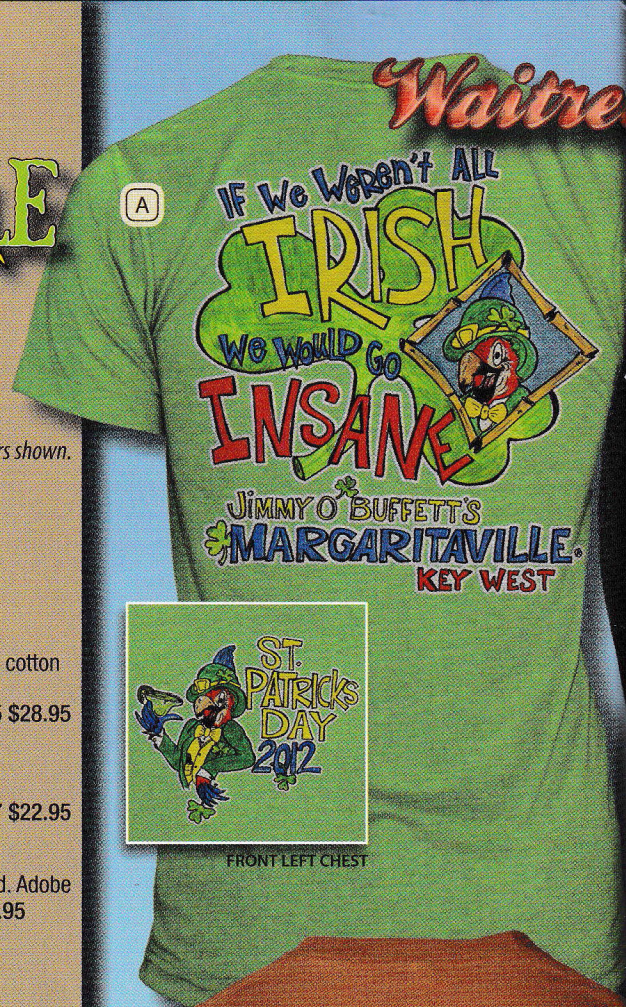




Jimmy Buffett's
MARGARITAVILLE
S·T·O·R·E

All T-Shirts are 100% cotton crew neck. Available only in colors shown.

- (A) **St Patrick's Day T'**
"If we weren't all Irish, We would go Insane"
Collectible 2012 design. Heather Green
S #8793, M #8794, L #8795, XL #8796 \$22.95
XXL #8797 \$23.95 3XL #8798 \$24.95
- (B) **Boat Drinks Long Sleeve T'**
"The Cure for Cabin Fever" Garment dyed, 100% cotton
long sleeve t-shirt. Ice Blue
M #8362, L #8363, XL #8364 \$27.95 XXL #8365 \$28.95
- (C) **Livin for the Weekend T'**
Jumpin' Off the Deep End. Spruce
M #8854, L #8855, XL #8856 \$21.95 XXL #8857 \$22.95
- (D) **Oval Key West Scene T'**
Distressed print with sunset scene, garment dyed. Adobe
M #670, L #671, XL #672 \$24.95 XXL #673 \$25.95
- (E) **Fins Tumbler**
Heavy duty 16 oz. glass is dishwasher safe.
#5903 \$9.95 each
- (F) **No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problem Travel Mug**
16 oz. Stainless Acrylic Travel Mug. Palm Tree design
with Green Palm Tree background.
#8188 \$14.95
- (G) **Deck of Cards**
Five O'clock Somewhere playing cards in an
embossed gift tin.
#8163 \$9.95
- (H) **Ceramic Shot Glass**
Tropical wrap around design on ceramic shot glass
#8688 \$6.00 each
- (I) **No Shoes Bottle Skin**
No Shoes, No Shirt, No Problem neoprene bottle skin.
Key West written on zipper side. Green
#5857 \$8.95 each
- (J) **Margaritaville Coffees**
Escape the Daily Grind. 100% Arabic coffee, Featuring
two blends:
License to Chill
Using the Swiss Water decaffeination process-what
this coffee may lack in caffeine, makes up for in flavor.
Medium to dark roasted, mild acidity, full body rich in
flavor.
12 oz #8770 \$9.95
Sunrise in Paradise
Wake up to a blend of Central / South American coffees,
blended with an East African coffee. Light to medium
body, sweet, pleasant taste profile - mild but bright and
satisfying. Rainforest Alliance Certified.
12 oz #8774 \$9.95



FRONT LEFT CHEST



FRONT LEFT CHEST

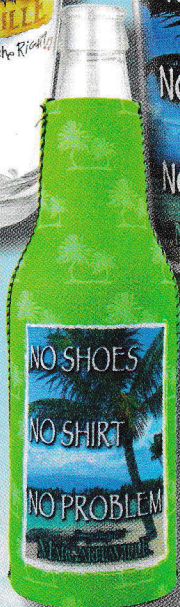
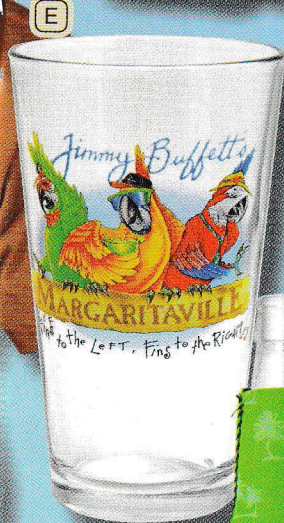


(H)

...s I need two more boat drinks



FRONT LEFT CHEST



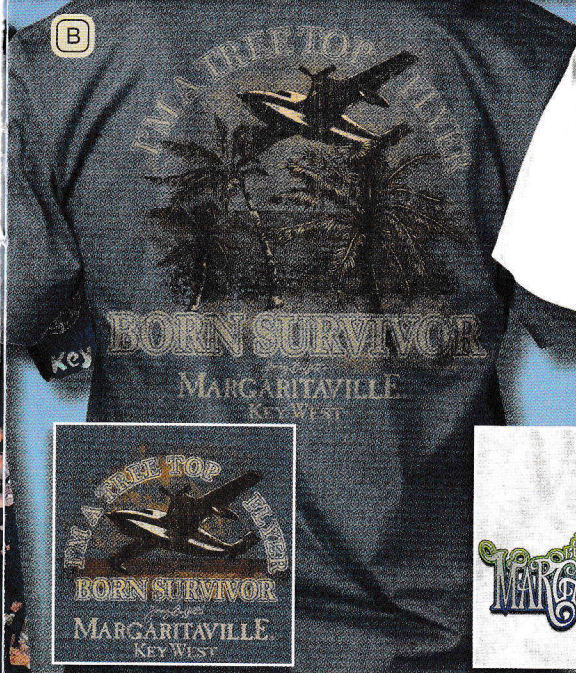
WWW.MARGARITAVILLESTORE.COM

All T-Shirts are 100% cotton crew neck. Available only in colors shown.

- (A) "Key West" Camp Shirt**
Hand dyed Blue Batik, 100% cotton. Two front pockets and side split seams. Sizing runs large.
S #6491, M #6492, L #6493, XL #6494
S WAS \$49.95 **NOW \$37.49**
XXL #6495 WAS \$50.95 **NOW \$38.49**
- (B) Tree Top Flyer T'**
Born Survivor. Distressed print. Blue Jean
M #8837, L #8838, XL #8839 \$22.95
XXL #8840 \$23.95
- (C) A1A South T'**
Drive South until you Hit Water. White
M #8826, L #8827, XL #8828 \$21.95
XXL #8829 \$22.95 3XL #8830 \$23.95
- (D) Chill Key West T'**
Distressed beach scene. Caribbean Blue
S #8868, M #8869, L #8870, XL #8871 \$21.95
XXL #8872 \$22.95
- (E) Key West Storefront T'**
"Searchin' for My Lost Shaker of Salt..." Duval Street, Old Towne Key West location. Yellow Haze
S #6049, M #6050, L #6051, XL #6052 \$21.95
XXL #6053 \$22.95 #6054 \$23.95
- (F) Margaritaville 85 Sweatshirt**
Distressed front print. 80/20 blend sanded fleece. Side rib panels. Raglan sleeves. Front pouch pocket. Fleece lined hood. Antique nickel eyelets. Oversize fit. Army Green
S #8698, M #8699, L #8700, XL #8701 \$42.95
- (G) Island Flight Cap**
Front embroidery, 100% cotton classic garment washed cap. Fabric strap with buckle closure. Blue
#5652 \$18.00
- (H) No Shirts, No Shoes, No Problem**
Colorful plastic license plate from Margaritaville Key West.
#8647 \$8.00
- (I) Mile Marker Zero Book**
True tales of writers and pirates, painters and potheads, guitar pickers and drug merchants in America's southernmost city. Author: William McKeen
Hardcover: 320 Pages
#607 \$25.00
- (J) Fins Up! Trailer Hitch Cover**
Measures approx. 3.5" x 4". Fits a 2" hitch.
#5000 \$14.95



...n headin south fore my dream shrinks



(B)



FRONT LEFT CHEST



(C)



FRONT LEFT CHEST



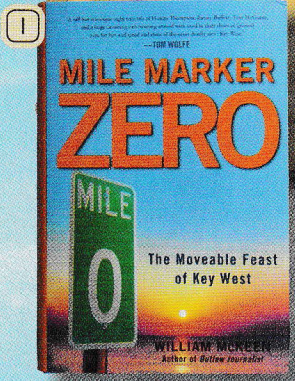
(E)



FRONT LEFT CHEST



(F)



(I)



(J)

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I Gotta Go

(A)

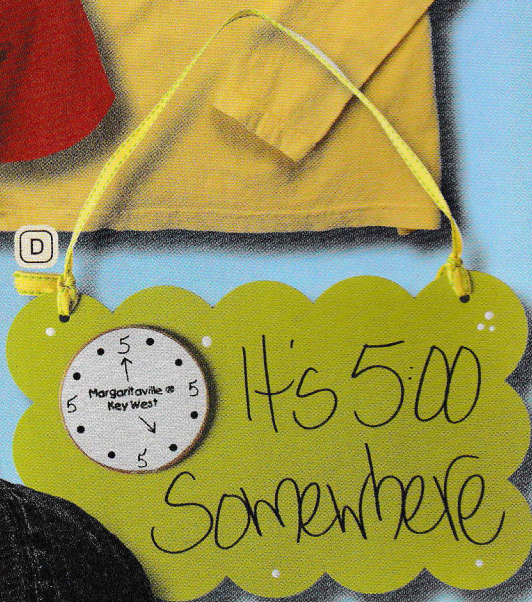


(B)



FRONT LEFT CHEST

(D)



(C)



Where It's Warm

- (A) Parrot with Sunset T'
"It's 5:00 Somewhere" Cardinal Red
M #6242, L #6243, XL #6244 \$21.95 XXL #6245 \$23.95
- (B) Ladies 5:00 Somewhere T'
Long sleeve soft relaxed cut tee. Butter
S #660, M #661, L #662, XL #663 \$26.95 XXL #664 \$27.95
- (C) 5:00 Parrot Cap
Large front with side "Key West" embroidery.
Charcoal Grey #975 \$20.00
- (D) 5:00 Somewhere Sign
Colorful Green metal sign measures approx. 9.5" x 6".
#8746 \$15.95

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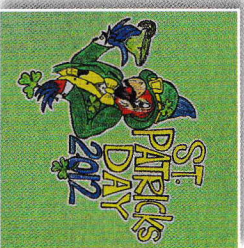
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St Patrick's Day T'

"If we weren't all Irish, we would go insane" Collectible 2012 design.
Heather Green
S #8793, M #8794, L #8795,
XL #8796 \$22.95 XXL #8797
\$23.95 3XL #8798 \$24.95

TOUR DATES

January 28	American Airlines Arena	Miami, FL
January 31	Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena	Jacksonville, FL
February 2	North Charleston Coliseum	Charleston, SC
February 4	Anway Center	Orlando, FL
February 25	BJCC Arena	Birmingham, AL
February 28	Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center	Tallahassee, FL
March 1	Verizon Arena	Little Rock, AR
March 3	KFC Yum! Center	Louisville, KY
March 30	1-800-Ask Gary Amphitheatre	Tampa, FL

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