

Tropical Topics - unpolished

So much going on, and never enough time...

So, in the name of my sanity, I am going to organize and then list what was discussed at last Saturday's meeting and what's ahead, especially with things having to do with MargaRALEIGHville (MRV). If it's unclear or you have additional questions, please contact me, or another board member, and ask!

- As always, Art started off the meeting with a welcome. He explained the annual PHiP scholarship opportunity, with awards for \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000. He also noted that PHofNC has received 5 over the last dozen or so years, and this year it became 6 as Keegan Markart was awarded \$5,000 that will help with tuition, room and board at NC State. He will be studying marine biology in their Marine Sciences college. Outstanding job, parents and students!
- Art laid out the plans for this year's Christmas Party too. It again will be at the Fuquay-Varina American Legion, but due to the locations' popularity, we were unable to reserve the main building's party room. This year it instead will be in the building to the left of the driveway. The down side is that it does not have its own bar, and to have one set up for us was not equitable, so we will have to walk outside about 30 feet and go inside the new building for our drinks. New floors and painted walls will welcome us into a cozy room with a (non-functional) fireplace and plenty of space for tables, a dance floor and a table for our very own DJ, Harold Zebroski, who will also host some Harryoke for an added element of laughter and fun.
- Now that the city has reinstated vehicle inclusion in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, taking part in 2025 was discussed. Kin Kirk will look into what is entailed should we decide to march, as well as what it's going to take to have a vehicle included for our less mobile members. More information will follow as it becomes available.
- September 1, a Sunday this year, marks the passing of Jimmy Buffett one year ago. Many clubs are orchestrating special events to mark the day, but with MRV six days after that, Art asked how many wanted to get together for a toast at either Rally Point or another local spot. Your suggestions are welcomed but don't wait too long.
- Anyone need more PHofNC business cards to help encourage membership? Come to the next meeting and pick some up.

Chloe is still only semi-mobile, so Art gave her finance report. We believe in transparency, so if you have any questions, please, again, ask. We will give an in-depth report once Chloe returns.

- With only 25 (and counting backwards) days until MRV, and the Club's 30th birthday celebration, there is a lot going on and a lot to be done!
 - With that, Ginny assumed the “podium” and first excitedly mentioned that, as a result of an attempt to get on the calendar of Cary Spotlight, a free, weekly Cary online newsletter that focuses on local business and keeps residents abreast of upcoming events and activities each week, **WE**, PHofNC and MargaRALEIGHville 2024, will be highlighted in an upcoming edition. If you don't already get one in your emails each week, sign up and give them the support we are getting from them
 - Other board members reported on various aspects of the planning and execution of MRV
 - Saturday, August 10, was the last day to sponsor the event and receive name recognition on the event t-shirts and banner. From that point on, PHofNC will gladly accept your \$, but your name will not appear on all the MRV promotional materials.
 - With “partying with a purpose” as a motto, we are all in this for the fun, camaraderie, and volunteerism our schedules can hold. We would like to see every member participate at MRV both as an attendee and a volunteer. Please contact Ginny to have your name added to the schedule for the day. At worst, show up and see Ginny to have your name added in an empty slot. YOU do make a difference.
 - After about 25-30 of us attended Richmond's 30th birthday celebration last weekend, we were reminded of one of their favorite and fun fundraising activities – the Jail! Paul Perillo and Tim Cross were volunteered to build the structure, and they graciously accepted the challenge. For \$5 (**CASH**) you can have someone – anyone – arrested. They are hunted down, placed in handcuffs, and placed in the jail UNTIL someone pays \$5 cash to have them bailed out. Every cent goes to the charities.
 - Another favorite is the Ring Game. For \$5, **CASH**, you can purchase a blinking light ring. Several times during the event, anyone who bought said ring, will be called up to the dance floor. Our game host, Steve Rowlette, will flip a coin – heads (hands on head) or tails hands on...well, you get the idea. The last person standing gets to pick a nice prize from a basket just for the occasion.
 - Please take photos during the day, then pass the ones you look good in on to me so I can post them on FB, the web site and as publicity and membership drives.

- Anyone wanting to stay at a nearby hotel, Extended America Hotel and Embassy Suites, can find information and links on FB.
- We prefer that donation of baskets be done prior to the day of MRV. Along with the basket, please include TWO (2) copies of a card with the basket contents. One stays attached to the basket, so potential bidders know what's inside without tearing the wrapping apart to see for themselves (yes, it's happened). The other card goes to Ginny so she can enter it in a database and make the thank you letter process, also used for tax purpose, a lot easier.

Each board member will welcome your donation at their homes ahead of time.

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| ○ Wake Forest area | ✓ Steve & Laura-Leigh Rowlette |
| ○ Cary area | ✓ Greg & Jean Erlemann |
| ○ Fuquay-Varina area | ✓ Art & Ginny Markart |

- Please contact a board member if you would like to arrange a mid-point location to exchange the "basket"
- If you have sponsored MRV this year, be sure to get your shirt sizes to Jean or Ginny by August 15.
- Peggy offered to make money aprons for us to help with raffle and 50/50 ticket sales.
- Timeline for the day of MRV:

❖ 1-3	Set-up
❖ 3-6	Hungry Hard Luck Heroes
❖ 3-6	Raffle & Silent Auction open, raffle ticket sales
❖ 6:30-9:30	Mike Nash
❖ 4-7ish	Fairy Hair with Jennifer available (sign-ups available)
❖ 6-8	2 nd 50/50 ticket sales
❖ 7:30	Raffle & Bidding end
❖ 8ish	Raffle winners posted (Mike's break)

Our Charities, Ronald McDonald House, The Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC, and Sleep in Heavenly Peace will have a table set up to help explain the work they do and the difference they can make with our support. Stop by and say "Hello!"

- Laura-Leigh thanked the Perillos for hosting Aaron Sherz and inviting members of PHofNC to join him at their home and cool off in their pool.

She also noted a few upcoming events. Other than those already noted:

- - September 9-15 – Coast of Carolina Throwback Shell Beach Party in Myrtle Beach. If you haven't already registered, it may already be sold out.

 - No PHofNC meeting that day.

- October 12 **Jesse Rick at Pondapalooza**, Jackie's home

- **OCTOBER**
 - 12th Monthly meeting at Rally Point
Jesse Rice @ Pondapalooza @ 6pm
973 Beaver Creek Rd, Apex, NC
(Home of Jackie Carter & Mark Griffith's home, Apex)

- 23rd-27th **Meeting of the Minds**, Gulf Shores, AL

- **November**
- 3rd **Mac McAnally**, The Carolina Theatre of Durham
Tim Gillespie is organizing an early dinner reservation at nearby Bull McCabe's. If you are interested in being part of the headcount, please reply to the poll on our PHofNC Phlocking FB page.

- 9th Monthly meeting at Rally Point
- 9th Peter Mayer's annual **Stars and Promises Concert**, Durham, NC

- **December**
 - 14th **PHofNC Christmas Party- F-V American Legion Building**
entertainment by Harryoke, our own Harry Zeboski; more information to follow.

Each month Art will ask s different member to do the honor of leading the toast.
This month's Team Drink was led by Jimmy & Kay Campbell.

PHofNC Team Toast:

*There are cruise ships,
And pirate ships.
And ships that sail the sea,
But the BEST ships are FRIENDships,
And may they ALWAYS be!
ARRRHH!*

Parrot Heads of North Carolina social media:

[PHofNC Phlocking FB](#) - private for members only

[Parrot Heads of North Carolina FB](#) - public for information and awareness about who we are and what we do.

[PHofNC.com](#) - our website

Parrot Heads in Paradise:

Web site: <http://phip.com>

Instagram: [#parrotheadsinparadise](#)

Twitter: [@parrotheadsIP](#)

PHlockers Magazine: [PhlockersMagazine.com](#)

PHofNC Officer Emails are:

Art Markart	phofncpres@gmail.com
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Chloe Barnett	phofncfinance@gmail.com
Jean & Greg Erlemann	phofncmembership@gmail.com
Laura-Leigh & Steve Rowlette	phofncevents@gmail.com

PHofNC Mailing Address:

Parrot Heads of North Carolina
c/o (a particular board member's name can be inserted here)
P.O. Box 553
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Meeting and Social Location

(2nd Saturday of each month, unless otherwise posted):
Rally Point Sports Grill
837 Bass Pro Lane (Harrison Avenue)
Cary, NC 27513