



Tropical Topics



The **February 10, 2024** meeting took place at the Rally Point Sport Bar & Grille, Cary, and opened at 3:02PM. (Get used to it; Art believes in punctuality!)



Art began with a self intro for our newest members, and he explained how the meeting and social segments of our phlockings worked. He iterated that each board member will give a quick report and address any questions from the floor or ones that previously have come to their attention and apply to all.

He believes that most meetings won't go much longer than 30 minutes, then we do a Team Drink (check at the end of this bulletin, if you don't already know the words), with the toast offered by a different member each month.

Once the social phase begins, with no particular ending in sight, we will conduct a 50/50 raffle, with half going to the ticket winner and the remaining half accumulating until the year-end donation to the three (3) charities the club chose at the annual January Planning Meeting. (While some winners may choose to donate a part of their winnings, it is certainly appreciated but NEVER expected.)

Merchandise sales will be conducted for about 15 minutes following the meeting as well. Time is limited, so that our sellers can move forward and enjoy themselves too.

An informal discussion about the trip to Belize by 20 of our members earlier in the month was opened but quickly curtailed with the suggestion that it be continued during the social side agenda. It's great to share the excitement of other Trop Rock events and happenings, but the meeting must go on, or it WILL go on, and on, and on!

Art further reported that our annual club report to PHiP was completed and sent, and our 990 Federal Tax information was submitted. He thanked Deena, Chloe and the other 2023 board members for seamlessly handling this.



His BIG announcement was that MIKE NASH will be the headliner at MargaRALEIGHville 2024 in September. Since Mike was the host of Meeting of the Mayans, the Belize trip, and 6 of the seven board members were there (sorry, Chloe, wish you were there!), we met with Mike face-to-face about the expectations and details, and an agreement was reached. Steve and Laura-Leigh will be expanding on that information during their presentation.

It is important to Art that everyone realize that our board transactions are transparent; board members vote on every issue and topic, with each POSITION (not person) getting one vote, and majority rules however the outcome. We meet monthly prior to our monthly meetings to get our own ducks in a row and e-mail each other often.

As Art noted, a lot goes on behind the scenes, from PO Box transition (problems), setting up our VENMO account, planning MargaRALEIGHville, pursuing club growth by personally inviting past members to come back into the fold, updating all PHofNC accounts (bank, PO, social media, etc. – not always as easy as it sounds), to business cards.

The House Concert concept was explained as an intimate musical concert that is presented in someone's home or apartment, or a nearby small private space such as a barn, apartment rec room, lawn, or backyard. While we all enjoy this form of entertainment, the club does/will not sponsor this type of venue, logistically or financially. What we will do is help promote it to our members through our social media and encourage attendance. Members are free to post music and entertainment activities and performances they are involved in, if they are Parrot Head in nature and would be of interest to our members.

Art stated that EVERYONE in the club is on the Membership Committee. We are all needed to help the club grow. He suggested that you bring a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to the next meeting (and buy them a drink for coming). No pressure to actually join on the spot, but maybe things will just click and they'll decide to "Get Leid" in the future.

It was decided at the last board meeting that, come March 31, we will be updating our databases. To control our message, and also improve our own PR by decluttering the e-mail boxes and FB notifications of those who really aren't interested, those who haven't paid their dues for 2024 will no longer receive any PHofNC communication. The Parrot Heads of North Carolina, [\(12\) parrot heads of north carolina - Search Results | Facebook](#), page is public, meant to introduce the club to the community, so any and all will continue to have access to that.



Art turned the floor over to Chloe Barnett, Treasurer, who gave her report. Chloe updated everyone on our updated **VENMO** information. The new link is **@PHofNC ArtMarkart** if you choose to use this route for dues, merchandise, registrations, etc. It cannot be used for our 50/50 Raffles since it is a cash transaction on our part.

This month's financial statement is as follows:

<i>Current Balance as of 2/8/24</i>	\$6,727.87
<i>Outstanding checks:</i>	
• <i>PHiP membership dues</i>	-\$75.00
<i>***2023 Charity Contribution yet to be distributed</i>	-\$3129.00
<i>Currently available</i>	\$3523.87

(***2023 Charity Contribution yet to be distributed:

• Ronald McDonald House	\$2,881.00
• Greater Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC	\$124.00
• ADRC, Animal Rescue	\$124.00



Ginny Markart, VP and Communications Chair reported next. She focused on the on-going transition process. We are very actively working to keep our records and files up-to-date, this includes the FB pages, our website, membership lists, and e-mail accounts to name a few, but it can be overwhelming at times, especially at the beginning. Your understanding and patience goes a long way, and you can help by contacting us, preferable in writing so we have a physical reminder, about any issues, concerns or changes you may have.

We realize this doesn't pertain to most of you, and, again, we're working on a few glitches in our record-keeping, but as Art mentioned, we will be "cleaning house" at the end of March. This means you won't receive e-mails of access to the ***PHofNC Phlocking FB posts*** after that.

Again, she pointed out that the **Parrot Heads of North Carolina FB site** is public, so that will still be available to anyone, but it doesn't include items particular to the Club.

Sometimes some of the to-do things on our list can become overwhelming. We are all volunteers, with personal lives, some of still have jobs, and families to balance. Keep in mind, if you have an idea, an area of expertise, or are willing to help out, please approach one of us. Please don't be shy, and make us an offer we probably won't refuse. [*As an FYI, Ginny has recruited **Tim Gillespie** to help her with our website (THANK YOU, Tim!) Please bear with us as we work diligently to bring it up to par.*]



I know L-L & Steve especially have an awful lot on their plate, so please talk to them about how you can get involved and help plan activities and outings that we can all enjoy together. We are all interested in after meeting continuation activities, so come forward with your thoughts, and a plan to initiate it. It's not really that hard, little more than planning a small party, with no mess at your house.



To our NEW members: Please e-mail YOUR headshot to me at PHofNCComm@gmail.com, so you can receive your badges at the next meeting. A few were presented at the meeting, and a few more arrived in the inbox for next month! Eventually we will offer an opportunity for long-term members to replace lost, broken or just "so old no one recognizes me from my photo anymore" badges. Each member will get one replacement after that there will be a nominal charge to cover the expense.



If you did not receive an e-mail from PHofNCComm@gmail.com on Thursday, it means you are not on the general mailing list. We're realize we're missing a few, but only you can let us know and help us get those lists up-to-date – yet another on-going project. Please be sure to see Ginny about adding or bringing your current contact information up-to-date, so you can be added and not miss out on anything important.

Also, it is important that the information you give us is legible. If we can't make it out on your membership forms, it probably won't be entered correctly. Please take the time to neatly PRINT any and all information clearly.



Already having the floor, Ginny changed hats and brought everyone up-to-date on the charity she is chairing, [NC-Fuquay-Varina - Sleep in Heavenly Peace \(shpbeds.org\)](http://shpbeds.org). She recently reached out to their coordinator, who gave her two dates where they could use our help in actually building beds. We are waiting for more information on the location of those builds, and once those dates and locations are announced, she will be putting out an e-mail for your input on which date works best for the majority of us.



Art then turned over the floor to Jean & Greg Erlemann, Membership and Merchandise Co-Chairs. Greg reported that we have 62 members, plus one more who just signed on.

He also “leid” Letisha Sanders, and Peggy Hall Lee, presenting our trademark white flower leis and their badges. These are two members that have gone without their “credentials” for a little while. One other returning member, Denise Doty, couldn’t make the meeting, so her badge will be presented next month.

Attendance and Volunteer Hours sign-in sheets were passed around. Be sure to sign the sheets and get even more credit for what you do!



Jean spoke about our current merchandise, and mentioned that stock was low and we were looking for ideas on what our members wanted to see. Most of what we have has been discounted to help bring in the necessary funds to use for new “stuff.” They again mentioned that an opportunity to purchase what we have will follow the close of the meeting.



Laura-Leigh and Steve Rowlette acquired the gavel and mentioned that it is never too early to start asking for donations for **MargaRALEIGHville 2024** (September 7 this year!) Yes, courtesy of our Platinum Sponsor(s), and Jackie Carter and Six Forks Animal Hospital (Six Forks Animal Hospital - Veterinarian In Raleigh, NC USA :: Home Six Forks Animal Hospital - Veterinarian in Raleigh, NC US), **MIKE NASH** (NashMike.com) will be our headliner at this year’s event! Laura-Leigh enthusiastically acknowledged how he had everyone up dancing and singing while in Belize, and we are confident that he will be a big draw and a worthwhile addition to our day.



We are looking for both financial and gift basket donations, and, while it is still months away, lots of planning goes into this event, and it’s not too soon to start asking. It is expected that a donation request letter, which includes Tax ID information, and a sheet offering different sponsorship levels, will be available at the March meeting. The possibility of offering limited vendor tables was brought up. This will be considered, with space limitations being a main factor.



Laura-Leigh and Steve Rowlette, Events and Activities, mentioned that she will be in contact with Ronald McDonald House (RMDH) to determine available dates to possibly continue with tradition and make a meal for their residents. Other options for our involvement will be discussed, since with the discontinuation of pop-tab collections, we haven't done much lately.

They also spoke about the many up-coming Trop Rock opportunities in the future. As a rule-of-thumb, Trop Rock trips, events, and activities will be posted on the PHofNC Phlocking FB page. OUR (PHofNC) events and activities will also be pinned to the top section of the page. (As we are only allowed five pins, they will be rotated based on their timeliness.)

2024 Events and Activities (so many but certainly not all)

- Dementia Raffle Table and Walk
[\(6\) 2024 Triangle Walk to De-Feet Dementia | Facebook](#)
- Donnie Brewer
[\(8\) Donny Brewer House Concert | Facebook](#)
- A1A Beach Bash
[\(8\) A1A PHC Beach Bash | Facebook](#)
- Eric Erdman
[an Evening with Eric Erdman | Wake Forest Listening Room](#)
- Emerald Isla PHC
[Feeding Frenzy Music Fest \(eitroprock.com\)](#)
- Richmond PHC 30th Birthday Party
[phcor.com/30party/](#)
- COFCPHC
[THROW BACK SHELL BEACH PARTY REGISTRATION – COFCPHC](#)
- Atlanta PH Cruise
[Parrot Head Cruise 2024 - Changes in Latitudes](#)
- **MargaRALEIGHville
September 7, 2024
- **PHofNC Christmas Party
December 14, 2024

Art invited **Ellen Andrews** to lead the Team Toast to close the meeting.

Editorial NOTE:

You'll it probably took you longer to read this than it would have to attend the meeting, have a drink, make new friends, and drive home again!!! Join us next month and free up some time...



Parrot Heads of North Carolina social mediums:

[\(6\) PHofNC Phlocking | Facebook](#) - private for members only

[\(6\) Facebook](#) - public for information and awareness about who we are and what we do.

[PHofNC](#) - our website

Parrot Heads in Paradise:

Instagram: [#parrotheadsinparadise](#)

Twitter: [@parrotheadIP](#)

PHlockers Magazine: [PhlockersMagazine.com](#)

PHofNC Officer **Emails** are:

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

Our new **Club Mailing Address:**

Parrot Heads of North Carolina

P.O. Box 553

Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

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!
ARRRHHH!*

Meeting and Social Location (2nd Saturday of each month, unless posted otherwise):

Rally Point Sports Grill

837 Bass Pro Lane

Cary, NC 27513