

JANUARY 2025

Tropical Topics



Our January Planning meeting was held on Saturday, January 18, 2025 at Rally Point Sport Grill in Cary, a week later than usual, due to a winter storm on

the prior Saturday.

Art opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone, then went on to report on our 2024 highlights:



- Club Growth, both at the PHiP level and locally
Overall, nationally and internationally, Parrot Head Clubs actually went from a high in the past of over 250 to a current 190. Covid, Jimmy's passing and an aging out population all play a part in the diminishing numbers.
But, as Jimmy asked shortly before he died, we intend to "keep the party going!" We are able to report a growth from 74 when we began 2024, to a year end number of 115.



- Our Club's 30th Birthday Bask and MargaRALEIGHville event was a resounding success!
Not only was it FUN!!!, it also brought in a record net profit, that will be donated equally among our three selected charities for 2024—Ronald McDonald House, the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina and Sleep in Heavenly Peace, that provides beds to children who would otherwise sleep on the floor. Keep reading to see the actual numbers in Chloe's treasury report.

The board has already started planning for 2025's event, so block out September 13 on your calendar, a regular meeting date anyway. Then be ready to raise your hand to volunteer when and where needed, so we can out-do ourselves once again.



- As usual, we were well represented at many sister club events, such as Pardi Gras (NOLA), Music on the Bay (MOTB, Tampa), A1A Beach Bash (Amelia Island, FL), and Throwback Shell Beach Party (Myrtle Beach) among others. There were also several house concerts hosted by our club members, Laura-Leigh & Steve Rowlette, Jackie Carter & Mark Griffin at *Pondapalooza*, and Deena & Paul Perillo. Check the Calendar of Events at the back of this newsletter for 2025's upcoming activities and events; more are added as we learn the details. As an event gets closer, go to our FB page, PHofNC Phlocking for a more detailed discussion.



- Our Christmas Party with DJ Harry Zebroski was reported to be "the best one ever!" A vote was taken at the meeting, and a decision was made to try to duplicate it for 2025, so we will reserve the same room at the Fuquay-Varina American Legion and Laura-Leigh will book Harry again. Both the Legion and Toys for 'Lil Troops again were very grateful for our generous donation of toys.



- The Canes Hockey *Tropical Night* Game was attended by 33 members and friends. There were a few glitches with ticket retrieval but, in the end, the Canes won, so all were happy. I hope to see those souvenir Canes tropical shirts during hockey playoffs in the months ahead.



WELCOME, New Members

It's so exciting to welcome new members who come with new ideas and energy to help us succeed. Don't be shy and get involved!

If you ever have any questions, please ask; there is no such thing as a silly question. Someone else may be wondering the same thing! Also, problems or issues should also be brought to the attention of a board member so it can be rectified and precautions put in place to eliminate it in the future. A list of our board members and their contact information is available on the resource sheet at the end of this newsletter. We pride ourselves on being transparent, so a question provides an opportunity to explain the answer to everyone.

If you haven't already, be sure to check out our web site (**PHofNC.com**) and our FB pages (**Parrot Heads of North Carolina**—public, and **PHofNC Phlocking**—members only). The private group is especially helpful when it comes to keeping informed about upcoming events and activities, like who else may be planning to attend, and any questions you may have about the party—from attendance requirements to what to expect. Getting involved is the best way to have fun and make lifelong friends, both within this club and across the country. Trust me, that is NOT an exaggeration.

To you, and any member who has never had a club badge, please submit a headshot to **phofnccomm@gmail.com**. You will get officially "leid" at the next meeting. If you need a new badge, let me know and we'll arrange for a replacement too.

ST. PAT'S PARADE

Due to all the restrictions imposed on everyone marching in the 2025 St. Patrick's Day Parade, we **will not be participating** this year. The Board was not willing to take on the responsibility and personal liability involved.

Just to give you an idea of the scope of the ordinance, it is 5 pages, and the regulations are 12 pages long. While most of it might be reasonable as safety precautions, one restriction requires that the representative of the group (whoever signs the agreement and pays the fee) and any driver, if a float is involved, attend at least one pre-parade class. Another is that vehicles need to go through a stringent inspection. The dealbreaker caveat for many is that NO candy, beads or other items can be passed out to the parade watchers., not even if you walk them up to them on the sidewalk

INSTEAD, we are considering getting together a bar/restaurant, to celebrate our (even if only for a day) Irish heritage. Is there anyone willing **to scout out a location and make some arrangements with management**. (This can be done by phone, text or in person.) If you are **willing to be THAT PERSON** for us, please let Laura-Leigh and Steve Rowlette, Event and Activity Chairs, know ASAP.



2025 CHARITIES

There were no nominations submitted prior to the meeting, so the board voted to continue with the 2024 selection:



- * Ronald McDonald House
- * Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- * Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

The one modification is that the first two will receive half of the total monetary donations raised at MargaRALEIGHville, from our 50/50s, and any other activity with a “profit” that is not pre-designated for a specific cause, such as a charity Walk or collection.

For that reason, we will be collecting non-perishable food for the Food Bank at EVERY meeting. Tim Gillespie has once again agreed to be the chair of this activity and will transport all the is collected to the FB warehouse in Raleigh post meetings.

During the discussion, Kim Kirk asked about sponsoring Western North Carolina (WNC) as a possible recipient. Since there was no specific charity designated, it was agreed that we would sponsor a specific fundraiser later in the year for this purpose since there will continue to be an on-going need for years to come. Kim agreed to bring more information back to us about how to best meet the needs of our fellow North Carolinians after the horrendous loss they suffered after Hurricane Helene.



Check Presentation



PHofNC will present checks to the 2024 charities, **Ronald McDonald House, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina** at our February meeting, February 8 meeting, 3pm, at Rally Point Sport Bar, Cary.

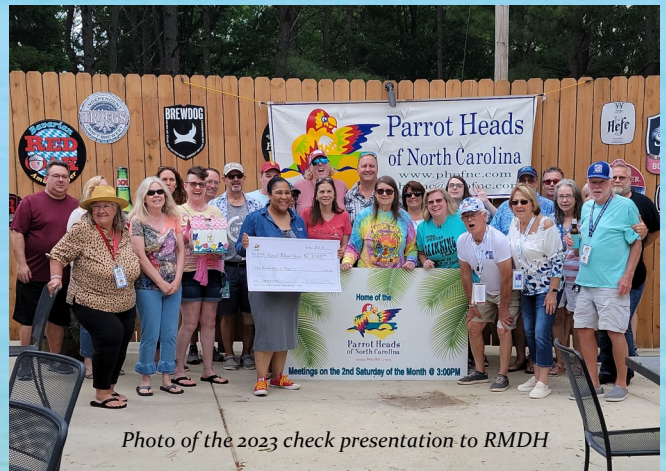


Photo of the 2023 check presentation to RMDH

2024's total proceeds collected for our charities is \$11,844.07; the board voted to round up that amount, so each charity will receive \$4,000. An additional \$1,000 was donated to SiHP during the MargaRALEIGHville festivities by Kay Campbell's niece in honor to her coinciding special birthday. (Thank you Kay and Amy!)

Remember to represent us well by wearing your best Parrot Head attire for the photos.

Important



- PHiP has extended the deadline for our annual report because they were late in getting some of the forms out to each club. Art is on top of it and will be submitting it with

time to spare. The final numbers will be in the next newsletter.



- If you take photo at any PH event, especially our own, please send them to me for inclusion on our website, **phofnc.com**, and also be sure to include them on our FB pages:

- * **PHofNC Phlocking and**
- * **Parrot Heads of North Carolina**



- If you're interested in being on the board (think about it!), let a board member know. You are invited to "shadow" any position for an inside

look at what it entails.



It's NEVER too early to solicit sponsorships for our MargaRALEIGHville event in September. Many corporations have a matching fund program; this means that if you donate \$100. your company will also donate that amount to your cause. Many businesses allocate their charitable giving budget at the beginning of the year, so you want to get on their list before all the money is designated elsewhere.

- If you're interested in coordinating an after-meeting activity, like Tim & Tracy Marcks orchestrated the Corn Hold "Tournament in 2024, raise your hand and share your idea. Let's make out meetings BOTH informative and FUN!



- Continue to save your pop-tabs and bring them to our meetings. Michelle Harris has offered to bring them to RMDH when she volunteers there with her church every month.



Treasury Update

Charity Allocation:	\$11,844.07
Balance on Hand:	\$ 4,502.17

Chloe has a breakdown of all income and expenses at every meeting. Specific balances for funds collected (membership, events, etc.), as well as expenses are available anytime.

Calendar of Events

MONTHLY PHofNC Meetings:

2nd Saturday of every month, 3:00 at Rally Point in Cary, unless otherwise noted.

*** denotes a PHofNC sponsored event*

PHofNC Calendar – updated January 2025

JANUARY

11 Annual Planning Meeting @3pm, Rally Point Sport Bar, Cary

FEBRUARY

8 ****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social 3:00PM – 2024 Charity Donation Presentations**

26 - March 2 Music on the Bay - Tampa <https://musiconthebay.org> for info

MARCH

8 ****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point**

15 ****Plan something for St Patrick's Day??**

16-23 Atlanta Parrot Head Cruise - From LA www.parrotheadcruise.com

APRIL

12 ****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point**

24-26 Parrot Head Rendezvous - Panama City, FL panamacityphc.org/rendezvous

26 Feeding Frenzy - Emerald Isle PH Club, 12PM

27 ****Walk to De-Feet Dementia, Fenton, Cary 1:00-4:00 (work raffle tables, WALK event)**

MAY

10t ****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point**

18 Lone Palm House Concert - Peter and Brendan Mayer

28 June 2nd Isla Mujeres Island Showcase, Mexico www.songwritersisland.com/islandshowcase

JUNE

11-15 A1A Beach Bash - Amelia Beach, FL <https://a1aparrotheads.org/beach-bash-2/>

14 ****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point**

28 Lone Palm House Concert - Carrie Welling

JULY

12 ****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point**

20 Lone Palm House Concert - Bryton Stoll



AUGUST

- 8 Donny Howard at the Salty Turtle (Raleigh/Wakefield)
- 9 *****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point***

SEPTEMBER

- 13 *****MargaRALEIGHville, PHofNC Annual Party (in lieu of our regular meeting)***
- 19-21 Throwback Shell Beach Party, Myrtle Beach - Coast of Carolina Club
- 27 Pondapalooza - Mike Nash

OCTOBER

- 11 *****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 PM @ Rally Point***
- 11 Pondapalooza - Jesse Rice (later afternoon and evening)
- 22- 6th Meeting of the Minds, Gulf Shores AL
- 28– November2 Trop Rockin' on Duval Street, Key West FL

NOVEMBER3:00 PM @ Rally Point

- 8t *****PHofNC Monthly Meeting/Social - 3:00 Rally Point***

DECEMBER

- 13 *****PHofNC Christmas Party, Fuquay-Varina American Legion #116***

VOLUNTEER



As discussed at the January meeting, and per the PHIP Club Leaders Manual:

VOLUNTEER HOURS.

What counts? What doesn't count? Man hours are simply the number of club members participating in an event times the number of hours in the event.

- For example: 25 club members march in a community Independence Day parade that lasts four

hours—25 members X 4 hours per member = 100-man hours.

- The time spent by club members to build a float for this parade should also be tracked.

Attendance at a club hosted event does not count.

- If your club hosts a fundraising party, for example, with raffles, auctions, etc. and 300 people show up for the four-hour soiree, you cannot claim 1200 man hours, even though you raised money for a worthy cause.
- However, the dollars raised during the festivities may certainly be claimed as a charitable donation, as can any man hours spent in planning the function, setting up, tearing down, cleaning up, etc.

Expanding on that, here are some examples of things that count:

- Participating in a community event as a club:
 - o Parades
 - o Alzheimer's walks
 - o Cancer walks
 - o Assisting with nursing home or group home events or parties
 - o Collections of toys, time spent gift wrapping for groups, delivery time
 - o Roadside clean-up
 - o Planning club events:
 - o Planning meetings
 - * Set up
 - * Tear down/Clean up
 - * Seeking Sponsorship
 - * Time spent seeking sponsors for club events
 - * Time spent seeking donations from businesses for club events

Examples of things that **do not** count:

- Attending club events – going to Happy Hours or attending a club sponsored event
- Individual members volunteering at non-club sanctioned activities
- Monetizing volunteer hours

REFERENCE SHEET

Each month Art will ask a different member to do the honor of leading the toast.

This month, following the story that goes with the memories, *Paul Payne and Tim Cross led two toasts after the January meeting. One was to a long-time Parrot Head, Ty Cobb, who joined Jimmy on the other side of the sun recently. They also led the club toast to end the meeting.*

The 50/50 pot held \$225 with half going to Chloe Barnett!

♦ 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
Ginny Markart	phofnccomm@gmail.com
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

- ♦ Parrot Head members can receive a 15% discount on most merchandise at:
WWW.MARGARITAVILLE.COM/SHOP