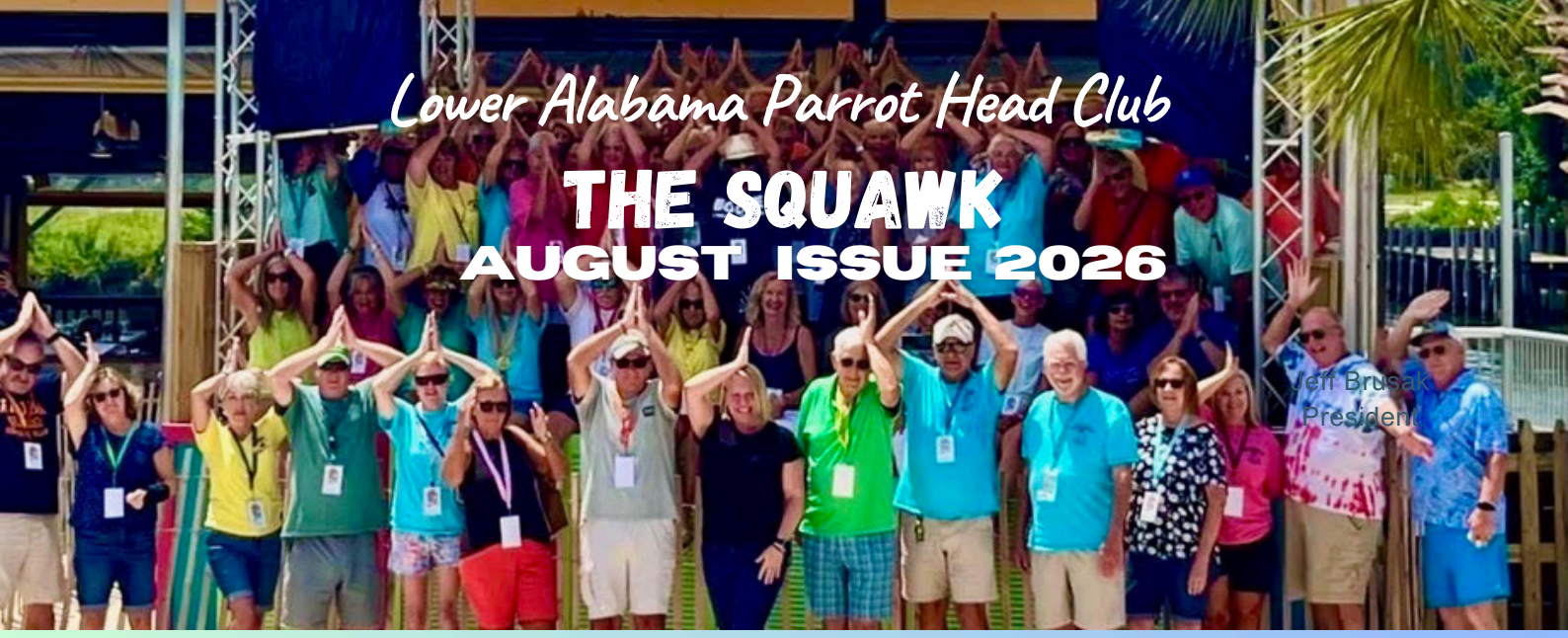


# Lower Alabama Parrot Head Club

# THE SQUAWK

## AUGUST ISSUE 2026

Jeff Brusak
President

Information herein deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

## MONTHLY MEETING

**September 12 at 11:15 am**

(come early to socialize)
Don't forget to bring a jar of peanut butter or a non-perishable food item.

### Upcoming Events

**see info details in this issue**

**Save the Date**

September 3, 10, & 17 Sunset Series
September 26 MS Bike Tour de Beach
October 8-11 Shrimp Festival
October 21-25 MOTM
November 6 Boat Trip (sold out)
December 12 LAPHC Christmas party




LAPHC is one of the donor clubs for the Jimmy Buffett experience at the National Maritime Museum in Mobile ... make plans to attend! **https://nmmog.org/jimmy-buffett-experience/**

Gulf Coast Music Radio will be broadcasting live and giving away swag there on September 12-13.




**Friday, September 11**, don your wildest Buffett concert attire and meet at The Outsider Lounge (522 Dauphin Street) at 4:30 for a for Parrot Head Happy Hour. The Second Line begins at 6:15 ... follow the Blow House Brass Band as we parade up Dauphin Street through the heart of downtown Mobile. At 6:30, the second line will culminate at Alchemy Tavern where the Mobile Bay Parrot Head Club will have a Concert Pre-Game before Mac MacAnally and Scotty Emerick take to the stage at the Saenger Theater (directly across the street)!

Keep the good times rolling on Saturday, September 12, after the Jimmy Buffett Experience grand opening at Son of a Sailor Fest: Jimmy's Backyard Pop-Up free pop-up celebration in downtown Mobile at the Cedar Street Social outdoor stage (4 N. Cedar St.).


Club Information
Email: laparrotheadclub@gmail.com Website: www.laparrotheads.org
Facebook (LAPHC members only): Lower Alabama Parrothead Club

# Coral Reefer Band Concert at the Wharf



Rochelle, Ray, Colleen, Susie, Ralph, Don



Sandra & Jeff



Lola, Jackie, Kim (Sharon & Larry)

## Zoo Volunteer Opportunities

Contact Colleen if you are interested in any of the following ways to help:

- Meal prep for the animals is ongoing and no longer only at a set time. Set your time and how long you help. It is indoors and air conditioned.
- There are opportunities to help on zoo maintenance/building projects. The zoo is seriously understaffed & need help.
- Starting in September the zoo will host a 1-hour pre-school class which will occur once a month. They are looking for help for the class.

## Buffett Bingo

You missed a great time at the August meeting to play a rousing game of Buffett Bingo led by Alan Renfroe! Bingo cards were prepared with names of Buffett songs in the squares. Brief bits of Buffett songs were played and players needed to figure out the name of the song (with plenty of hints from Alan) to see if it was on their card. The winner was presented with a Jimmy Buffett tribute challenge coin.



Alan provided the music



Ellen improvised by using ketchup for a dobber.

## More Volunteer Opportunities

If you can't make the September meeting to sign up, contact our Volunteer Wrangler & Fundraising Champion Tony Bolte to sign up to help with the following events:

- The Tour de Beach bike ride is on Saturday, September 26th. The Parrot Heads Spirit Team will again be cheering on the bikers from 8:30 to 12:00 at Lake Shelby in Gulf State Park.
- The LAPHC will again be working the West beer tent at the Shrimp Fest again this year. Openings are still available for the Saturday, October 10, 2:00 to 6:00 and 6:00 to 10:00 shifts. The club gets to keep the tips received and so it is one of our biggest fund raisers.
- Registration is open for the "Sippin and Skippin" 1-mile fun walk (and the 5K run), Saturday, October 24. Volunteers are needed to help with registration, handing out swag, & cheering runners. To register to WALK (no run) go to https://www.skippinandsippin.org/
- The Club contributes Gift Baskets for the MOTM raffle. Members are asked to please bring items to the September meeting to donate for the baskets. Cyndi is in charge of LAPHC baskets, with Sharon helping. The club will also provide volunteers to man the event's Raffle Basket ticket sales. Please sign up to volunteer.

# A Message from the Leader of Our PHlock



Hello Parrot Heads,

The year is going by fast, and Meeting of the Minds is almost upon us! We already have more than 30 members registered, which is great.
I know registering for MOTM is an investment, especially when you're registering for two. But when you look at all the music and entertainment included throughout the week, it really is a bargain. Equally important, by supporting MOTM, we help give so much back to our community.

I know we'll all enjoy plenty of the free music around town during MOTM week. But something that's easy to forget is that the abundance of music happening all around Gulf Shores is here because MOTM brings the musicians, Parrot Heads, and energy to town in the first place. To keep that happening and to help keep MOTM right here in Gulf Shores, we need to support the event. And if there has ever been a year to be registered and standing in front of the big stage at The Hangout, this is it.

Thursday kicks off with Will Kimbrough, co-writer of "Bubbles Up" and longtime songwriting collaborator with Jimmy Buffett. He'll be followed by the Boat Drunks, longtime house band at Margaritaville Key West, **Ricky Lamb featuring our very own Colleen Keener on ukulele**, and Eric Erdman, a wonderful singer and songwriter and rising star from Mobile.

Friday is Coral Reefer Day, and that evening, my personal favorite, Jimmy and the Parrots, who have their own Gulf Shores connection having had a vacation home in Fort Morgan for years.

Saturday features Jammy Buffett, an outstanding Buffett tribute band.

The weekend wraps up with Rosie & the Revival. I really didn't know much about them either, but it turns out they are the band that backs Kenny Chesney, and on their own they play some great rock and roll. Toss in Sunny Jim and all the other great musicians performing throughout the week, and I think this is going to be one of those MOTM weeks we'll be talking about for years.

You might ask, "What does Meeting of the Minds do for our community?"
First, it provides a major boost to our local tourism economy during a slower time of year. But what may be even more important is how much MOTM gives back. That may be the part of MOTM I'm proudest of. It isn't just a party. The money and support generated during this week make a real difference right here at home. Local beneficiaries have included the South Baldwin Community Theatre, Skippin and Sippin, Special Operations Warrior Foundation, the Christian Service Center, Foley High School Steel Drum Band, and the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo.

MOTM also holds a local blood drive, shoe drive, and toy drive. Meeting of the Minds really does give back to the Alabama Gulf Coast. By registering and attending, we are not simply buying tickets to see some great music, we are supporting the event that brings this music to Gulf Shores, supports our community, and helps make this entire week possible. So, get yourself registered and spend the week kicking back, enjoying a few cold libations, meeting a few new friends, and loving the music.

Fins Up,
*Jeff*

# Meeting of the Minds 2026

Please support MOTM because, besides being a ton of fun, we want to keep this event in Gulf Shores. Just a mention of a few events that you should put on your calendar:




- Oct 21 Gulf Coast SWIM Pirate Cruise; details at www.gcswimsocial.com/piratecruise
- Oct 21 Celebrity Putt Putt
- Oct 21-25 Basket Raffle*
- Oct 22 & 23 Blood Drive at the Hangout
- Oct 24 Sippin' & Skippin' at Lulu's*
- Oct 25 Bras on Broadway at the FloraBama

**For more info on volunteering or registering go to MOTM.rocks**

## MOTM Volunteer Opportunities for LAPHC Members

***Basket Raffle** - if you are registered for MOTM, please sign up to help with 2-hour shifts at the Basket Raffle (see sign up sheet for times). If you'd like to donate items for the LAPHC Basket, bring them to the August or September monthly meeting.

***Celebrity Putt Putt** - any LAPHC member is welcome to help with this fund event on Wednesday, October 21, at Shrimpy's. Volunteers will help with check-in, handing out goodie bags to those participating, runners, etc.

***Sippin & Skippin** - any of our members are encouraged to help with Skippin & Sippin at Lulu's on Saturday, October 24 ... registration table, survivors table, Pink Parrot-ice servers, etc. Money earned at this event stays in Baldwin County and goes directly to help cancer patients with their needs. Sign up at upcoming meetings. **NOTE:** no run only a PHun Walk.

## A Bit of This & a Bit of That



A few LAPHC members helped out the Mobile Bay keepers with their event. After all these years of living on the coast, Colleen finally learned the fine art of Oyster Shucking! It was a great event.
Check out their organization which defends and revives the waters of Coastal Alabama.
**mobilebaykeeper.org**






LAPHC members Gloria & Clara spotted around town at Wacked Out Weiner.

Merilee is still championing the collection of your beverage can pull tabs. Make a game out of collecting them for us. Several giant bags were turned in and Don announced that 12 pounds of the tabs were recently donated to the Ronald McDonald house.
A bowling event is back on the radar and in the works. Thanks to Merilee for obtaining the information to move things forward.



Sip, Sing, Strum & Float had a small group ... but when the PHrends PHlock together it's always PHun!

## Guest Speaker Charity Representatives

Guest speaker Wesley Wyatt from **Mobile Baykeepers** talked about the efforts of the group to protect and restore the waters of the Gulf Coast, Mobile Bay and the Rivers that flow into the Bay. They are active in monitoring the waters, restoring seagrass, fighting mud dumping and coal ash dumping, oyster bed restoration and much more. They have been successful in pushing significant environmentally sound legislation to protect our coastal Alabama water quality. You can be a volunteer or can join this non-profit for as little as $50 a year. LAPHC members recently volunteered by helping at the organization's donor recognition party at Heron Point at the Wharf and presented them with a donation for $500. Thank you to Ed & Pat Hackett, Susie Bradbury, Colleen Keener, Ralph Elders, and Tony Bolte.

Guest speaker and Club member Penny Hughey spoke about the **Sea Glass Initiative** their mission to provide housing and meal support for the homeless in Baldwin. Although there are other organizations that support very focused segments of the population, she distinguished their organization in that they are the only local group that supports all homeless. LAPHC presented a $500 donation to the Sea Glass Initiative. Additional information can be found on the Sea Glass Initiative website or Penny can be reached at PennyPHughey@gmail.com




Although it SOLD OUT quickly, we want to thank Mike Ross for arranging this event. If you've ever tried to put together something fun to do, sometimes it's like herding cats!
Although it did not pertain to Mike's boat trip, please remember that nothing is more disappointing than being the coordinator for an event and people do not respond by either signing up or RSVPing. Please be a good PHrend by doing this.

Colleen invites you to meet your PHrends at the City of Gulf Shores' 2026 music lineup for Sunset Series. This **free event** takes place on the Town Green at Gulf Place – 101 Gulf Shores Pkwy beginning at 5 p.m. On September 3 and September 10, enjoy a live DJ from 5–6 p.m. and live music from 6pm – 8pm. Beginning September 17, enjoy live music from 5–8 p.m. In addition to the entertainment, the event will showcase local community vendors, offering a variety of goods. Bring your lawn chairs ... beverages & snacks optional. Gather for these relaxing evenings overlooking our beautiful white-sand beaches at sunset.

