Volume 23 No. 5 Christmas 2007 www.marga

Photo: Wally Nickel

Jimmy Buffett and Harrah's Entertainment have formed a new partnership that will help revitalize a heavily damaged area of the Gulf Coast. With a projected budget of more than \$700 million, this resort development represents the single largest investment in Mississippi since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

"I just have always thought people needed a couple of hours to get away from the real world," Buffett said, thinking back to his early days on the entertainment circuit. "Since that was what Biloxi was to me in the old days, I just find it an amazing kind of full circle experience to be coming back here. I have always considered myself a Gulf Coast kid. I was born there, grew up there and jumped on a stage for the first time there, before hitting the road. I have seen the world, traveled to distant shores, written a few songs and lived a few tall tales along the way, and now it is good to be coming back home.

I have seen the best and the worst of times along Mississippi Sound, and as a survivor of storms myself, I feel an enormous sense of gratitude and good fortune to be part of the re-birth of the region by joining forces with Harrah's to bring the Margaritaville Hotel and Casino "Down around Biloxi". One of the essential elements of life along the Gulf Coast is the Creole belief that hard work and good fun go hand in hand. So, with that in mind I say, Let's get to work and let's let the good times roll again." - Jimmy Buffett

"People from all over the world love the concept of Margaritaville," Harrah's vice chairman and fellow Pascagoula native Chuck Atwood said. "And we're going to build the embodiment of that place that lives in people's hearts and minds, we're going to build it right here in Biloxi." Expounding on the significance of the development Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour said, "We are proud that he has decided he wants to be part, and a large part of Mississippi's gulf coast coming back bigger and better than it's ever been before. Jimmy we're grateful. And let me just tell you, it's going to be a success."

Margaritaville Casino & Resort will be developed on 46 acres of land south of U.S. Highway 90 in Biloxi on the site formerly occupied by Grand Casino and Casino Magic. With a projected development start date of summer 2007, the Margaritaville Casino & Resort project features include:

100,000 SQUARE FOOT CASINO ■ FULL SERVICE SPA

250,000 SQUARE FEET OF RETAIL SPACE ■ 66,000 SQUARE FEET OF MEETING SPACE

420 NEW HOTEL ROOMS ■ 378 RENOVATED HOTEL ROOMS

POOL DECK AREA WITH CABANAS, BAR, AND TROPICAL LANDSCAPING



DPEN SPRING 2010

Jimmy Buffett... In The News

Walk of Fame

Jimmy Buffett received his star on the prestigious Mohegan Sun Walk of Fame on August 30th. Jimmy Buffett's first show at Mohegan Sun Arena was in June of 2005 and has since become a summer favorite on the Mohegan Sun concert calendar. "Jimmy Buffett's concerts at Mohegan Sun have provided a highlight in our summer concert season for the past two years," said Paul Munick, Senior Vice-President of Sports and Entertainment at Mohegan Sun. "We are thrilled to be hosting this one-of-a-kind event again. Bring on the Parrot Heads!"

Margaritaville to Arrive in New England

And speaking of Mohegan Sun....Refrigerators across the Northeast can now breathe a sigh of relief, as New Englanders look forward to their cure for cabin fever - the arrival of a two-story Margaritaville restaurant in Connecticut. Partnering with Mohegan Sun's Project Horizon, the over 16,000 square foot restaurant - complete with 8-foot blender and outdoor decks overlooking the Thames River - is set to open in the spring of 2008. The perfect place for boat drinks when it's 20 degrees...

Jimmy Nominated for CMA Award

Jimmy was nominated for a CMA Award in the Musical Event category for "Hey Good Lookin" with George Strait and Alan Jackson. Tune into CMT on November 7th to watch the awards show! Congratulations also to Mac McAnally for his nomination for Musician of the Year.

Helping the Gulf Coast

Pascagoula natives Jimmy Buffett and Charles Atwood donated \$75,000 to Friends of the Pascagoula Library for much needed renovations. Jimmy was, of course, born in Pascagoula and Mr Atwood, a vice president at Harrah's Casino, became involved in the library through his mother, the late Mary Frances Atwood.

Singing For Change charitable foundation also donated seven Hewlett-Packard computers to the library, which will be used in the teen area upstairs.

Photo: Courtesy of Mohegan Sun

THE SUN DOGS

story began when Jamaican Danny Melville, Chairman and CEO of Chukka Caribbean Adventures, saw a unique sled that was designed for dry-land sleddog racing and thought it would be a great idea for Jamaica. Melville put together a team of dogs – many of them strays from the Jamaica Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (JSPCA) - convinced Devon Anderson, the Director of Operations for Chukka who has a way with animals, to be a musher and brought singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffett and the popular Margaritaville chain on board as a sponsor - Buffett is the team's "godfather" and namesake to one of the lead dogs. In December 2005 the Jamaica Dogsled Team was officially launched to the chant now being heard around the world – "Mush Mon."

Sun Dogs, the feature documentary chronicling the struggle and adventure of the founding of the Jamaica Dogsled Team, has been produced and directed by Toronto-based filmmaker, Andrea Stewart and her company Dog Leg Media in association with Palm Pictures, who will also distribute the film worldwide.

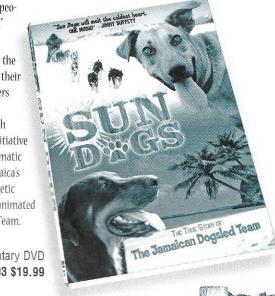
Sun Dogs premiered at Canada's ReelWorld Film Festival earlier this year. "I'm thrilled that Sun Dogs was invited to be screened as part of the Jamaica Spotlight in the ReelWorld Film Festival in Toronto," says Stewart. "ReelWorld excels in showcasing thought-provoking cinema that reflects true diversity. It's an honor to be included in this year's excellent program."

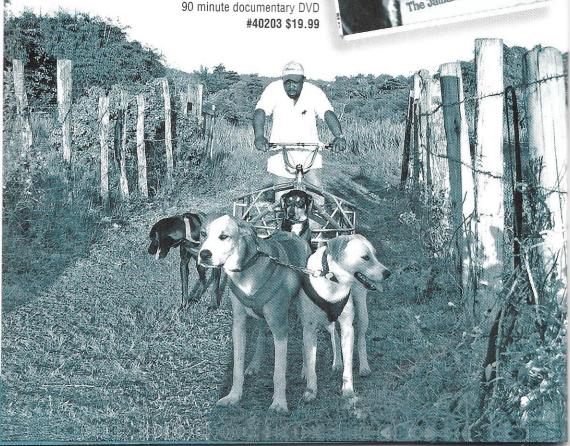
"I knew that I must be involved in Sun Dogs when I first heard about the Dogsled Team," said Chris Blackwell, Founder of Palm Pictures. "My love for Jamaica and the spirit of its vibrant people made this film

a perfect fit for me. I am very keen on supporting the peo-

a perfect fit for me. I am very keen on supporting the people of Jamaica and exposing their talents to the world."

Shot on High Definition, Sun Dogs was filmed over 10 months in 2005-2006 and follows the team's progress - the ups and downs of training the rescued Jamaican dogs, their lease on life and the individual stories of novice mushers Devon Anderson and Newton Marshall. Their journey through the sleddog racing scene in Scotland and North America and Melville's desire to showcase the spirit, initiative and potential of Jamaicans and Jamaica provide a dramatic story line around which a larger discussion about Jamaica's continuing social struggle is wrapped. The film's energetic soundtrack reflects the flavor of Jamaica, as do short animated vignettes of a cartoon version of the Jamaica Dogsled Team.





CD1

CHANGES IN LATITUDES, CHANGES IN **ATTITUDES** DOMINO COLLEGE WAITING IN VAIN WHEN SALOME PLAYS THE DRUM **GRAPEFRUIT - JUICY FRUIT COME MONDAY** THEY DON'T DANCE LIKE CARMEN NO MORE IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE CHEESEBURGER IN PARADISE KING OF SOMEWHERE HOT TREAT HER LIKE A LADY STILL IN PARADISE WITH BANKIE BANX **WEATHER WITH YOU** ONE PARTICULAR HARBOUR

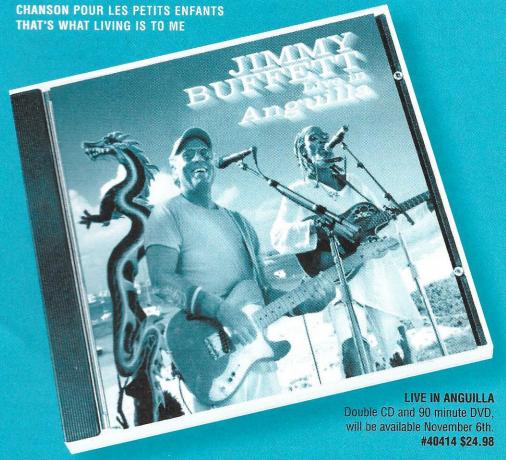
BROWN EYED GIRL CARNIVAL WORLD AUTOUR DU ROCHER SON OF A SON OF A SAILOR THAT'S MY STORY & I'M STICKIN' TO IT IN MY ROOM A PIRATE LOOKS AT FORTY / **REDEMPTION SONG** VOLCANO **DESPERATION SAMBA** MARGARITAVILLE **SOUTHERN CROSS** FINS **DISTANTLY IN LOVE**

OVO RUNNING TIME 78 MINUTES

CHANSON POUR LES PETITS ENFANTS THAT'S WHAT LIVING IS TO ME ONE PARTICULAR HARBOUR DOMINO COLLEGE WHEN SALOME PLAYS THE DRUM CHEESEBURGER IN PARADISE TREAT HER LIKE A LADY STILL IN PARADISE WITH BANKIE BANX CHANGES IN LATITUDES, CHANGES IN **ATTITUDES AUTOUR DU ROCHER** IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE SON OF A SON OF A SAILOR VOLCANO DESPERATION SAMBA (HALLOWEEN IN TIJUANA) MARGARITAVILLE A PIRATE LOOKS AT FORTY / REDEMPTION SONG DISTANTLY IN LOVE

Jimmy Buffett Live in Anguilla

RENDEZVOUS BAY, ANGUILLA, IN MARCH 2007



BOOKS MUSIC AND MORE

Tales From Margaritaville The classic best seller with preface by Jimmy. Large Paperback **#9917 \$14.00**

A Pirate Looks At Fifty Jimmy's narrative 50th birthday trip, served with just a hint of nostalgia. Paperback #5556 \$7.99

Salty Piece of Land A mesmerizing tale that combines both humor and emotional reflection. After all, one man's cathedral is another man's fishing hole. And in Jimmy Buffett's world, paradise is just a state of mind. Paperback #19790 \$7.99

Where Is Joe Merchant? A tribute to Buffett's storytelling skills. Large Paperback. #1482 \$14.00

Jolly Mon Jimmy & Savannah Jane Buffett's best selling children's book based on the song. Hardback **#1496 \$16.00** Paperback **#1494 \$7.00**

Trouble Dolls Our heroine enlists the help of her Guatemalan Trouble Dolls to locate her father, lost in the Everglades. Hardback #1495 \$16.00 Paperback #2827 \$7.00

Quit your Job and Move to Key West A satirical guide on how to do it by people who have made it happen. Paperback #9305 \$12.95

2008 Mariners Book of Days Right hand page is a week of days, left hand page is a collection of nautical fact, fiction and folklore. Spiral bound Paperback **#8226 \$15.95**

Snowman in Paradise We all know what happens the night before Christmas, but what about the day after? This Hardback childrens book features a frozen snowman with a sunny disposition, a magical bluebird and a tropical vacation. #15409 \$16.95

Festive Occasions Cookbook A collection of Treasured Key West Recipes. 100% of the proceeds donated to for The Bahama Village Music Program. (provides music lessons at no cost to the children of Key West) #19601 \$20.00

Pleasures of the Caribbean Cookbook and CD Caribbean recipes for easy entertaining. Includes 16 recipes cards with photo and a Calypso & Reggae music CD. #40337 \$22.00

Jimmy Buffett - The Key West Years Take a tour through recent history and visit the highlights of Jimmy's life (and lifestyle) in Key West. Plenty of "stories we can tell" and tales behind his lyrics. Three dozen black and white photos. Trade paperback, 64 pages. **#19600 \$9.95**

The Essential Book of Boat Drinks & Assorted Frozen Concoctions Hardback book contains 100's of recipes, a history of favorites, and a reference of key ingredients. Limited Supplies. #3425 \$11.95 MUSIC

Mini Matinee DVD Songs include: It's 5 O'clock Somewhere, Cheeseburger in Paradise, Meet Me in Margaritaville, The Tiki Bar is Open, Knees of my Heart, Fins, as well as exclusive photos and other rare footage. #11785 \$9.98

Caribbean Party CD Enjoy your favorite Calypso and Reggae instruments playing such great hits as: Hot, Hot, One Love, Brown Eyed Girl and of course Margaritaville, among others. Let it take you away where life is good and the party never ends! Instrumental, approx 46 minutes. #18044 \$11.99

Captain Tony Stories DVD Run time approx. 59 minutes. \$2 from each sale is donated to the Key West High School Video Production Dept. #18885 \$20.00

Live at Wrigley Field DVD Jimmy's celebrated performances at Chicago's Wrigley Field . Double disc set(with twelve page booklet) is approx. 2 hours, 45 minutes long and contains 26 favorite Jimmy Buffett songs, plus bonus footage and some cool surprises. #19304 \$24.98

Live at Texas Stadium CD Mega-stars Alan Jackson, George Strait, and Jimmy Buffett joined together for the first time ever, Saturday, May 29th, 2004, at Texas Stadium in Dallas. This "must see" concert turned into a party that Parrot Heads, cowboys and the Lone Star State will never forget. **#19930 \$18.98**

Take the Weather With You CD Buffett returns back to his country foundation with breezy ballads and interpretations of alt-country songs. It is a combination of a variety of styles and sounds from Nashville, New Orleans and Key West. **#19574 \$18.98**

CHECK OUT THE MUSIC CATEGORY AT WWW.MARGARITAVILLESTORE.COM
FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF AVAILABLE CD'S.



All T'shirts are 100% cotton crew neck. Available only in colors shown.

A Fins Up Long Sleeve T'

Two-sided print. "Margaritaville" printed on back across shoulders.

S #40304, M #40305, L #40306, XL #40307 \$25.95 XXL #40308 \$26.95 3XL #40309 \$27.95

- B Oval Stamp with Palms Long Sleeve T' Garment dyed. Brown. S #40328, M #40329, L #40330, XL #40331 \$25.95
- C Lost In Paradise Long Sleeve T' Garment dyed. Western Sky. Coordinating cap available page 5. M #40300, L #40301, XL #40302 \$25.95 XXL #40303 \$26.95
- D Margaritaville Surf Camp Long Sleeve Fieldhouse Vintage 100% cotton jersey. Garment washed and scoured. Front & back yoke. Rib knit collar. Elbow patchs. Vanilla. S #46215, M #46216, L #46217, XL #46218 \$32.95 XXL #46219 \$33.95
- E Blending Company Long Sleeve T'
 Distressed print. Texas Orange.
 S #40216, M #40217, L #40218,
 XL #40219 \$25.95 XXL \$40220 \$26.95
- F Margaritaville Sleeveprint Long Sleeve T' 100% combed cotton. "Key West" sleeveprint. Oxford Grey.
 M #40231, L #40232, XL #40233 \$25.95
 XXL #40234 \$26.95
- G Compass Hat
 Rayon blend 6-panel unstructured cap.
 Embroidered. Buckle back closure. Green.
 #5772 \$18.00



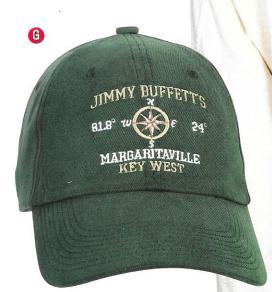
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margaritavillestore.com















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All T'shirts are 100% cotton crew neck. Available only in colors shown.

A Pace of Life T'

"I'd like to go where the pace of life's slow".

M #13577, L #13578, XL #13579 \$18.95 XXL #13580 \$19.95

- B Margaritaville Guitar T' Garment dyed. Green. S #13984, M #13985, L #13986, XL #13987 \$19.95 XXL #13988 \$20.95 3XL #40163 \$21.95
- C Beware Parrot Droppings T' 100% cotton crew. Black. M #18596, L #18597, XL #18598 \$18.95 XXL #18599 \$19.95
- D Margaritaville Wastin Away Again T' Large front and back design. Yellow. M #30, L #31, XL #32 \$18.95 XXL #626 \$19.95 3XL #9663 \$20.95
- E Growing Older But Not Up T' The Parrot Head Motto. Blue. M #5467, L #5468, XL #5469 \$18.95 XXL #5470 \$19.95 3XL #9665 \$20.95
- F Time Flies Bandana

"Time Flies When You're Having Rum". Pre-formed with tie back. Embroidered. One size fits most. Black.

#31005 \$13.00

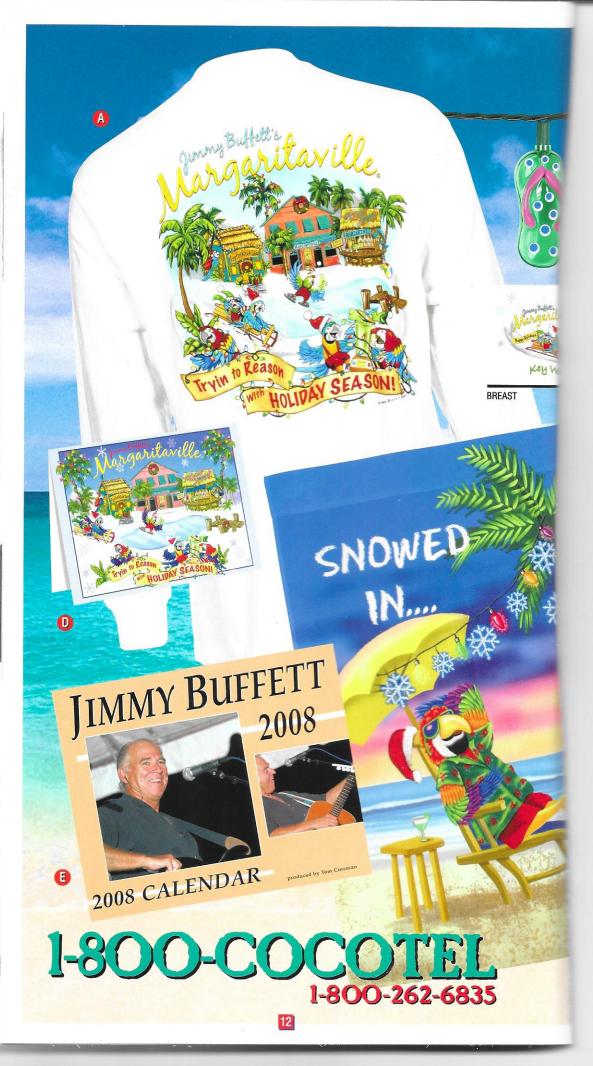




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10







A 5:00 Somewhere Bucket

Custom "Five O'clock Somewhere" metal bucket with front and back embossed design. Approximately 7"H x 9"W. #31047 \$18.00

B It's Five O'Clock Somewhere Flag

100% polyester garden flag. Machine washable, mildew and fade resistant. 40"L x 28"W #15542 \$29.95

C Old Fashioned "On the Rocks" Tumbler

12 oz. glass, Margaritaville Tequila logo on glass with Compass Rose print on base. #11614 \$7.00

D Parrot Party Margarita Glass

Fluted Margarita glass printed around the rim and on globe of glass. Measures 6" tall and holds 16 oz. Dishwasher safe.

#40059 \$10.00

E Bar Coasters

"Drink More, Feel Better". 50 cardboard coasters. 4.5" diameter.

#8092 \$6.95

F Ceramic Salt Shaker

5" tall 3D design Salt Shaker includes Palm Tree & Parrot on Reverse.

#19313 \$10.95 each

G Into the Drink Bottle Skin

Neoprene with zipper. Front and back design. **#40682 \$8.95**

H Margaritaville Mutt Dog Collars

"Margaritaville Mutt Key West". Adjustable. X-Small 5-10 lbs., 6-12" #7814 \$13.00 Small 10-30 lbs., 9-15" #1053 \$14.00 Medium 25-50 lbs., 14-20" #1054 \$16.00 Large 45-100 lbs., 15-24" #1055 \$18.00 X-Large 60-160 lbs., 22-30" #1056 \$18.00

I Margarita Mix

The crystallized flavor of the frozen concoction that helps us hang on. Makes 1 quart. #1203 \$5.95









A Beer Neck - The Ultimate Drinking Tool "A Hands Free Mobile Beer Refrigeration Unit" complete with Bottle Opener, Bottle Cap, Insulated Jacket, Neck Strap and Clip. #11825 \$12.95

B Margaritaville Twill Hooded Sweat Margaritaville twill lettering applique on a casual fleece pullover. Contrasting jerseylined hood with drawstring. 50% cotton/ 50% polyester. Handwarmer pocket, rib trim at cuffs and waist. Vintage Blue.

XS #40235, S #40236, M #40237, L #40238, XL #40239 \$42.95

C Margarita Silhouette Cap 100% cotton. Unstructured, garment washed. Embroidered. Buckle closure. #19833 \$18.00

D Fly Fast Live Slow Cap 6-panel unstructured cap, curved bill with slide buckle closure.

E Tiki Hut Sweatshirt 100% cotton garment dyed sweatshirt.

#7284 \$18.00

Generous cut. Green. S #40389, M #40390, L #40391, XL #40392

\$34.95

F PFL Sweatshirt Join the Parrot Head Football League! 80/20 sweatshirt. Soft lines ultra cotton. Banded sleeves and waist. Sport Grey.

M #40315, L #40316, XL #40317 \$27.95 XXL #40318 \$28.95

G Parrot Golf Club Cover "Playing a Round in Paradise". Plush parrot golf cover. Embroidered down both sides. #14225 \$13.95

H 5 O'Clock Knock Out Cap Structured cap with pre-curved bill. Blue contrast reverse frayed appliqué 5 O'CLOCK on top, SOMEWHERE embroidered on back, MARGARITAVILLE embroidered on velcro

closure. #40388 \$18.00

I Parrot Head License Plate Modeled after official Florida plates. \$1.00 from sale is donated to "Save the Manatee". #1653 \$8.00

J Parrot Head License Plate Frame Heavy duty metal frame fits standard plates. #1609 \$10.00









STOCKING STUFFERS

\$25 Gift Certificate Valid at all US Margaritaville locations. #25 \$25.00

Parrot Head Prophylactic \$1 from each sale donated to local KW Aids charities. #1018 \$2.75

5:00 Somewhere Golf Ball Single golf ball #14203 \$3.00 each

Parrot Head Trailer Hitch Cover Mounts on standard size bumper hitch. #7164 \$9.95

Margaritaville Metal Car License Plate Frame #1610 \$10.00

Margaritaville Metal Car License Plate #1654 \$8.00

Flip Flop Toe Ring One size fit with invisible nylon stretch. #14000 \$4.95

Margarita Earrings Hanging margarita glass earrings, approximately .5" tall. #14006 \$7.95

Flop Flop Mood Ring #13797 \$3.95

Fins Up Magnet Measures approximately 6.5" x 4". #10908 \$6.95

Flip Flop Coasters For the foot of your wine glass. #14382 \$6.25 each

Luggage Tag A bad day on vacation always beats a good day at work. #18002 \$5.95

It's Five O'Clock Somewhere Napkins Boxed in set of 50 2 ply napkins. #13804 \$6.95

Talking Pet Toy Plush Parrot toy that squeaks. #3262 \$8.95

Margaritaville Ringmaster Game A favorite of the Caribbean Islands. #2256 \$7.95

Assorted Street Signs Measure 18"x 5". Jimmy Buffett Drive #10789, Margaritaville Way #3404, Parrot Head Pkwy #10790 \$13.95 each

Corona Talking Bottle Opener #8089 \$9.95

It's 5 O'clock Somewhere Bottle Skin Neoprene. #14204 \$8.95

License to Chill Can Skin Neoprene. #19770 \$5.00

Day Dreamin at the Beach Zen Garden The beach in a box comes with everything you need for a pretend miniature day at the beach. #18144 \$12.95

Surf Sign Key Rack 4 hook key rack measures 8". Two designs. It's 5o'clock Somewhere #19852, Margaritaville #19853 \$9.95

Protect our Reefs License Plate \$1.00 from each sale donated to Reef Relief. #19237 \$8.00

Shake It Up Body Care Set 7 piece set packaged in a clear plastic Cocktail Shaker. #19822 \$12.95

Margaritaville Bottle Topper Popular Pfins shaped wine bottle topper, boxed for gift giving. #17053 \$6.00

Hemisphere Dancer Seaplane Inflatable. Measures 22"L x 24" wingspan. #14262 \$7.95

POPULAR T-SHIRT DESIGNS

All 100% cotton crew neck T-shirts

I've Passed Happy Hour, I'm Working on Happy Week T' White. \$ #19846, M #19847, L #19848, XL #19849 \$18.95 XXL #19850 \$19.95

Time Flies When You're Having Rum T' Black.

M #14876, L #14877, XL #14878 \$18.95 XXL #14879 \$19.95 3XL #14880 \$20.95 4XL #14881 \$21.95

The Sea's in My Veins, My Tradition Remains...T' Brick Red.

S #15040, M #15041, L #15042, XL #15043 \$19.95 XXL #15044 \$20.95

Margaritaville Psychiatric Ward T' If we weren't all Crazy, We would go Insane. Orange.

M #18906, L #18907, XL #18908 \$18.95 XXL #18909 \$19.95 3XL #19562 \$20.95

Take the Weather With You T' White.

S #19791, M #19792, L #19793, XL #19794 \$18.95 XXL #19795 \$19.95 3XL #19796 \$20.95



Jimmy was featured in Time Magazine's "10 Questions" in the July 16, 2007 edition. Jimmy, true to form, broke tradition and responded to more...

IF JERRY JEFF WALKER HAD NEVER DRIVEN YOU DOWN TO KEY WEST, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING NOW AND WHERE WOULD YOU BE DOING IT?

If Jerry Jeff hadn't driven me to Key West, I would have gone anyway. It was definitely on my radar. I had been there in college and had been very, very much acquainted with the literary history of Key West. Key West didn't have really much musical history then — it was much more of a literary history, and a history of a really interesting, intriguing place at the end of the road, so I would've gotten there anyway. It's just I opted for going in luxury with Jerry Jeff.

DO YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO YOUR OWN MUSIC AND WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE ALBUM OF YOURS?

You know, I don't listen to me much. I listen to Radio Margaritaville (on Sirius satellite radio). The good thing about having your own radio station is they play everything you ever did. That is not something that happens in normal earth-bound, terrestrial radio. So as I'm cruising along, I more or less listen to Radio Margaritaville because I hear things and I go "wow, that song's pretty cool, maybe I should put that back in the show." That has happened a lot since we had the radio station.

I think the favorite album is Volcano, not necessarily for the contents of the album, but it was the adventure that went along with it... the whole idea of how we went to this island against a lot of odds and in crazy situations and actually came out with an album on an island that literally blew up later.

I'M A LONG-TIME FAN WHO NOW LIVES IN REYKJAVIK, ICELAND. THIS NORTH ATLANTIC ISLAND HAS SOMETHING SPECIAL THAT I THINK YOU'D APPRECIATE. WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF BRINGING CONTINENTAL DRIFTER HERE?

Well, I actually have been to Reykjavik and Keflavik several times because it's a stop when I fly back and forth — 'cause I've flown the Atlantic a lot. Iceland is the natural land bridge across the North Atlantic. I've been to the Hard Rock there, I've been salmon fishing, I've been to the pools. I like it. It's kind of interesting because, you know, in the summertime, it never gets dark there. I was exploring

that once: the theory of how you go out at night even when there's no night. The Icelandic people have figured that one out. It's a beautiful, beautiful country. Continental Drifter is my boat – in its third version right now. I'm looking at the Scandinavian countries that have very good boatyards there, because there's a possibility of a fourth version. And if there ever was a fourth boat, we could well drop a hook in Reykjavik.

DO YOU SOMETIMES WISH YOU WERE STILL A SMALL-VENUE TROUBADOUR INSTEAD OF A REALLY RICH GUY WITH A LOT OF TOYS AND WAY MORE RESPONSIBILITIES?

No. You get dealt a deck of cards and you go where you wanna go. And, I can be a small-time troubadour and still be the same person. I'm looking at the next ten years of what I'm going to be doing performing-wise, and if you look at what has just happened, I mean, I'm playing less large shows. In the beginning of this year I did a show in Anguilla, just on a little island next to St. Maarten, because I thought it would be cool. Then I went to Paris and played a 400-seater. So there's a lot more of that kind of stuff on my agenda. Right now I'm pretty happy with the balance of going and doing smaller venues, which we definitely still do, as well as looking at neat places to play and then still playing [big shows] to the faithful.

I GO TO MARGARITAVILLE IN LAS VEGAS SEVERAL TIMES A YEAR, BUT I NEVER SEE YOUR BAND PLAYING THERE. WHEN IS THAT GOING TO HAPPEN?

My band has played there. We played there several times. We opened the place. The great thing is the unpredictability of when and where we might show up in a small venue. We know how cool it is when you do that because people don't expect you to do it. I kind of got the idea from the Rolling Stones many years ago: they'll go play little small venues, because when you come out of those places you feel so kind of at home. It's where you got good.

WHAT WAS YOUR BEST EXPERIENCE WHILE A STRUGGLING SINGER AND SONGWRITER?

I think it was the first time that I heard somebody who had recorded one of my songs. It was an old country singer called Lefty Frizzell and the first song of mine that anybody else recorded was called "Railroad Lady." I was living in Nashville and trying to make a living as a songwriter as well as a performer, which was really hard, because nobody wanted to hear what you had to say. It was very competitive and very controlled. Still to this day, very few people recorded my songs, but the list is pretty cool. It includes Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and people like that. But after that first one, yeah, you figured you were in the game.

DO YOU THINK YOU WILL EVER REALLY RETIRE? AND IF SO, WHAT WILL YOU DO THEN?

There is the answer to your question. What would I do? As long as this is fun and I am healthy, it's an amazing run. I go out for a show and I have to pinch myself. Longevity is not something you get into songwriting for. We are four decades into this and still going strong and I am just eternally grateful, so leaving it would be very hard for me. It is kind of like Joseph Campbell used to say: if you have found your bliss, it is like a great old car. You don't want a new car, you just want to paint the bumper, change the seat cover: you just want to treat it well, not get a new car. That is how I feel about performing. Retiring is not an option for me, because what else would I do? I have plenty of time to go do the things I want to do now, but there is still something very unique about getting on the stage, that very few people get to do. And I am not quite ready to not do it.

AS A SURVIVOR OF AN ERA OF DRUGS, BOOZE AND CRAZED BEHAVIOR, WHAT WAS THE MOMENT THAT HELPED YOU TRANSITION TO THE NEXT STAGE OF CREATIVE FULFILLMENT?

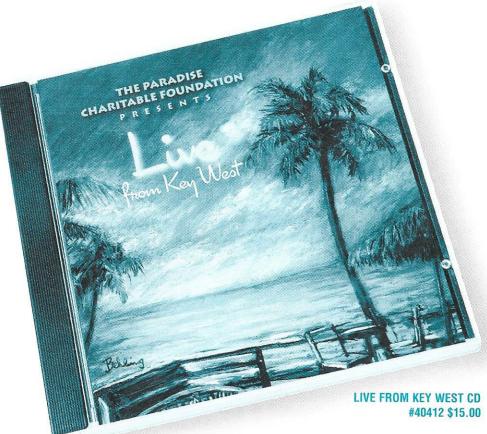
When hangovers started turning into surgical recovery days, I figured I couldn't lose this time or this gift. I had to do something about it.

HOW DO YOU STAY IN GOOD HEALTH AND CONDITION AT YOUR AGE?

I am an avid surfer. I surf every morning I possibly can in my summer home up in New York and when I am in the Caribbean. Not only is it fun, but just ask anybody who does it: there is much more to it than just the fun of riding a wave. There's the exercise part and the fact that it is a very connected thing. I consider it almost like religion, since I am not a very religious person. I think the ocean is the place where I am most peaceful on this planet. So I ride my bicycle, I surf and I do a little yoga. So far so good.

YOU HAVE MULTIPLE ALBUMS WITH AN AWESOME VARIETY OF MUSIC. WHY DO THE RADIO STATIONS ONLY SEEM TO HAVE TWO OF YOUR SONGS ON HAND?

Well, I think that's the way radio has always been. It is a controlled business – you have to sound a certain way to get on it. I never altered my music to do that. I made some albums where I might have bent my music, and they probably weren't some of my best efforts. But I always knew that if I had that parallel performing career, radio wouldn't be a real important thing for me. What was nice was having people pay their hard earned money to come in and have you entertain them for a couple of hours. That was much more important to me, always.



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