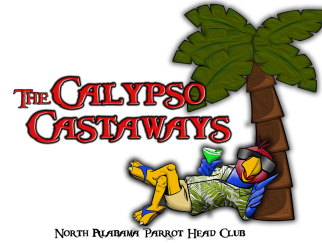


THE CALYPSO TELEGRAPH



Greetings Castaways!

**WE MEET THIS THURSDAY
on the Brickhouse Patio from 5-7pm!**



Be a Member of the Castaways!

\$20 per Person or \$25 per Couple

**NEW? [PRINT OUT FORM](#) and
bring it to the Meeting or Send It In!**

**Membership Renewal? Bring your
payment to the meeting or send it in!**

**Send to Ruby Winkles
211 Deerfoot Madison, AL 35757**



Let's All Meet in the Caribbean!

**The 2018 Madison Rotary Club's
Parrots of the Caribbean**

Saturday, August 25th at 6:30pm

**Tickets \$25 per person (includes food)
Music by Calypso Vision & Juice!**

[TICKET INFORMATION & ORDER](#)

It's Been a Lovely Cruise... And We're Just Getting Warmed Up!

from President Greg Thompson, a.k.a. "Little Jimmy"

This week marks a small milestone in a year full of wonderful rediscoveries in an ongoing journey of the North Alabama Parrot Head Club. On August 17, 2017 (a year ago this week), the Calypso Castaways met for the first time, resurrecting what was The Rocket City PHC. We met on the Patio at The Brickhouse Sports Cafe in Providence with almost 70 Parrot-Head Wanna Be's! We had music from Calypso Vision, and we overwhelmed a small wait staff, as we were all surprised at the amazing turn out!



In April of 2009, I went to my first Jimmy Buffett show in Atlanta with some very dear friends. We've been to a show every year since. In 2014, I was part of starting a new musical project with some more great friends called Calypso Vision. While it's fair to call it a Buffett Tribute Band, the project also offers that fun, beach and island feel that many seem to enjoy... So it seemed only right to want to include a Parrot Head Club in my repertoire of life, but there seemed to be no such club to include.

On May 4, 2017, I inquired to Parrot Heads in Paradise (PHiP), the international organization that organizes local Parrot Head Clubs (PHC), about re-establishing a local PHC. I had discovered that there was a club called the Rocket City PHC that had recently become inactive. While there isn't much history via Google searching, I was able to find this copy of their logo and note some activity as far back as 2009. I have not doubt that the club was active and a lot of fun back in their day, joining other PHC's around the state in various activities and such.



Sue Kermis, from PHiP responded to my inquiry. To my shock and disappointment, it seemed that someone else had already requested and had received the paperwork to re-start the local club. Sue was kind enough to share the other inquirers contact info, and suggested that I connect with that effort. A lady named Valerie Harp had requested the material in April, 2017. Valerie, her husband Josh and their two boys had just moved into the area from Gadsden, where they were an active part of the Coosa Landsharks PHC. I'm very happy to say that Val and I swapped emails in early May of 2017, and agreed to meet to discuss the club combine our efforts to get it back on

board! We met for the first time on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at a local coffee shop. To say it was destined to happen might be a tad dramatic, but let's just say that Val and I even share the same birthday. We are the Gemini Twins separated at birth! Needless to say, we began to dream and talk about the next steps. We would meet again in early June at Buffett's Orange Beach Show at The Wharf, and for a third time in July, to plan our inaugural meeting!

That meeting took place one year ago on **August 17, 2017** on the Patio at The Brickhouse Sports Cafe in Providence. Almost 70 folks gathered, giving our initial membership a significant boost!



The first couple to arrive that day were Eddie and Ruby Winkles, who just moved north from Montgomery. They brought with them MANY years of PHC experience through their time with the Isle of O'bama Parrot Head Club of Montgomery. The original Castaways Executive Board soon would be in place with me serving as President, Val as VP, Ruby as Treasurer and Eddie as Parrot Head at Large. The four of us would meet nearly two weeks later, on August 29th at Cracker Barrel in Huntsville, Alabama, to sign and send all the necessary paperwork to Parrot Heads in Paradise. While we weren't officially

approved as a PHC until October 17, 2017, we would begin to actively meet and continue to plan for great things to come. Karie Helms came on board at our October, 2017 meeting, volunteering to serve as the Christmas Party planner and emailer extraordinaire, eventually becoming our first Secretary, making the Executive Board complete on January 30, 2018.



FINS UP & HAPPY 1st ANNIVERSARY CASTAWAYS!

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Gabe S. Thayer".