



Q4 2025

Parrot Head Club of Eastern MA | Vol. 48

Q4 2025 ~ The 3/4 Times

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026 TO OUR PHCOEM Members & Friends. Here is Version Q4 2025
The ¾ Times Newsletter for your Enjoyment and Information.**

Wishing you all a Happy 2026! We want to thank everyone for what you do all year long to keep this club going on for years. We had many Charities & Club Events along with The Coral Reefer Band over the summer & Peter Mayer, Uncle Jim Mayer with Brendan this Year in many North East locations. The Band keeping our beloved Jimmy Buffett Legacy going on for his Parrot Head Clubs, families & friends.

Please Join Us for our Annual Holiday Hangover Party Saturday January 31st at Pinz Bowling Alley in Milford in a private room with its own Bar and an all you can eat buffet. Doubletree in Milford has Rooms for the Club for before and after party. Please see our Website to Register for a Fun Night where we gather together friends near and far for a Blast of a Time.

We would love for you to get involved to keep our Parrot Head Club that has been around for 30+ years and looking forward to another 30+ years.

Any suggestions you may have like recipes, articles, pictures, anything to share with all our members please ensure to send them to newsletter@phcoem.com.

Our BOD, Mac, Katherine, Babs, Sunny and myself look forward to working together on another fun prosperous and exciting year (2026) ahead for the PHCOEM members! We will keep you Posted on All Future Events. Please go on our Website & Facebook to see current Updates and Information. Lastly, Welcome to all our new members! Thank You for All you do for the club!

Most of All have a happy, healthy and safe New Year. Please feel free anytime to reach out to your BOD Members!

**Lizzy L12- Liz McCarthy
Secretary of PHCOEM**





From the Office of the Prez



Good day Phlock

We hope you enjoyed your holiday season, had a Merry Christmas and a happy start to the New Year. The club has received many accolades; thank you cards and notes for all you have done for others and the countless hours of volunteerism and support you have given to your communities this year. We have had another successful run on this round ball thanks to you, all the members who continue the philanthropic community service work that JB started for us.

In just these last few months we collected socks for Operation Troop Support, decorated created handmade ornaments for the 2 Christmas trees for the Springfield Boys and Girls Club, donated and built 90 bikes for the Patriots Foundation for teens, and placed 20 wreaths on veterans graves at the Bourne National Cemetery to honor those who have served. Just to mention and highlight a few of the amazing things that we have accomplished. Thank you.

I know I say it all the time and may seem meaningless to some but if you could see the faces of the kids when they get their bikes for Christmas or the special Olympic athletes when they receive their medals. You know they totally appreciate everything we do.

Thank you all for everything you do. Your kindness and selfless acts and service and support for others is truly inspiring. We look forward to another trip around the sun with this amazing club.

We have our Holiday Hangover Party on Sat Jan 31st starting at the Doubletree in Milford for a pool party then going for evening fun at Pinz then back to the hotel for more shenanigans! Sign up now on our website Phcoem.com or fb page!

Thank you all again for all you do,
Mac, Finn and Lola



From the Office of the Vice-Prez

My Secondhand Relationship with a Modern-Day Pirate — Mel Fisher

If you hung around Florida in the 1970s — especially the parts south of “mainland sanity” — you learned quickly that the line between “archaeologist,” “treasure hunter,” and “eccentric local legend” was thinner than the lime wedge on a margarita glass. And nobody blurred that line better than **Mel Fisher**, the man whose optimism was so relentless it could probably raise a shipwreck by sheer willpower.

I wasn’t diving wrecks myself. No, I was up in Tallahassee at the Division of Historic Sites and Properties, building the Florida Master Site File — the grand statewide inventory of every archaeological site reported to the state. (Think of it as the world’s least romantic treasure map.) But because of that job, I had a front-row seat to the politics, the egos, and the saltwater drama surrounding Florida’s underwater heritage.

Treasure salvors like Mel? They were refreshingly honest: **“We’re here for the gold.”** Simple. Direct. Makes sense.

The State of Florida, on the other hand, got very high-minded whenever anyone asked about treasure. “No no, we’re ONLY here for the history.” Meanwhile, their artifact point system valued coins exactly the way a jeweler would — a tiny detail they preferred not to discuss in polite company.

You can imagine my amusement.

I heard the tales secondhand — colleagues returning from Key West looking sunburned, exhausted, and slightly dazed, like they’d been working the night shift at Captain Tony’s instead of observing archaeological recovery. I heard the speeches from certain official archaeologists who described their work as a sacred calling... only to justify eyebrow-raising bar tabs with the immortal line:

“Well, I think about shipwrecks all the time.” (alcohol could only be approved for certain circumstances – thinking about your work while at the bar was not one of them)

The more stories I heard, the more I realized the truth: **“Pirate” isn’t a job title — it’s a personality type.**

Treasure hunters like Mel admitted what they wanted. The bureaucrats pretended to float above it all while haggling over artifact shares with the dedication of seasoned poker players.

And then came the moment that sealed the legend: Mel Fisher standing next to **Jimmy Buffett**, the morning after announcing the discovery of the \$750 million Atocha treasure. Two men, two different kinds of pirates, both fully alive in the magic of Key West — a reminder that sometimes treasure isn’t just gold: sometimes it’s a great story and a better hangover. And that was the day Mel had been waiting for...



You can find this photo on Facebook, attributed to Don Kincaid or you can go to the Chart Room in Key West and ask the bartender to let you take a photo of it. I did.

I wasn't there, but oh, I could feel that moment echo all the way up to Tallahassee.

This isn't my story of diving for treasure. It's my story of listening to the people who did — the dreamers, the schemers, the bureaucratic raccoons guarding their shiny objects, and the musicians who knew how to turn every adventure into a song.

Visit the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum at: <https://www.melfisher.org/>

Epilogue: The Tide Turns

Since the 1970s, the waters have calmed. Florida now protects many wrecks through its Underwater Archaeological Preserves, and the federal Abandoned Shipwreck Act finally clarified who owns what (spoiler: usually not the guy with the metal detector).

The battles between salvors and archaeologists softened into something closer to cooperation. The laws matured. The stakes changed. The treasure stayed underwater (in State waters), and the stories rose to the surface where they belonged.

But the characters of that wild era — their contradictions, their ambition, their salt-crusting swagger — remain the best part of the tale. Where was Carl Haissen when I needed him?

The Florida Point System — or, How to Pretend You Don't Care About Treasure While Caring Very Much

In the 1970s, the State of Florida insisted it wasn't interested in treasure — not even a little bit (smirk).

They were here for “heritage,” for “education,” for “the people.”

So naturally, they invented a point system that valued artifacts exactly like a pawn shop with a thesaurus.

How It Worked

Cannonball: 1 point

Silver coin (8 reales): 5–20 points

Gold coin (8 escudos): ~350 points

Gold bars: spiritually priceless (also financially priceless)

After totaling points, the State picked items worth **25%** of the score. Salvors kept **75%**.

Somehow, the State always managed to pick the historically significant gold.

When your “historical value matrix” looks like the price guide at a pirate-themed gift shop, even the cannonballs start rolling their eyes.

Kitty (Katherine) Jones

Vice-President of PHCOEM (2025-present)



UPCOMING EVENTS – See [Event](#) Page for more info!

JANUARY

Holiday Hangover Party 2026

January 31, 2026 - time noontime

Starting with a pool party at the

Doubletree, 11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA

Entertainment by our own Jim Cormier

Room rate for Parrot Heads is \$113 + taxes

(We have a block of rooms reserved - tell them you are with the parroheads)

Then for \$40 pp

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/P54ZECT8GB8KN>

a fun night (6-9pm) at

PINZ, 110 South Main Street, Milford

Includes a private room with 4 bowling lanes, our very own bartender, \$10 worth of tokens for the arcade, pizza, salad and soft drinks. We'll have a rapid fire raffle and special prizes for the bowling. Don't miss out on the fun.

Thirsty Thursdays!

Thirsty Thursdays are at our usual locations the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Info will be posted to our website and to our Facebook page!

We hope to see you all soon!!



S NEWSLETT





From the Office of the Treasurer

Hope this finds everyone enjoying the holiday season that we're in. This is Babs coming to you from the land of dollar and cents. Bringing to you what is in our treasure chest, this is our fourth and final report of 2025!!

----- Our Business Checking Account-----

Opening balance as of 09/28/25 was: \$ 3,388.73
Total credits were: \$ 938.99
Total debits were: \$ 553.46
Closing balance as of 12/29/25 am, is: \$ 3,774.26

----- Our Savings Account aka Phin Fund -----

Opening balance as of 09/28/25 was: \$ 475.73
Interest accrued: \$. .06
Closing balance as of 12/29/25 am, is: \$ 475.79

This report was tallied on 12/29/25. Any transactions after this will be captured in our First Quarter Report of 2026!!! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

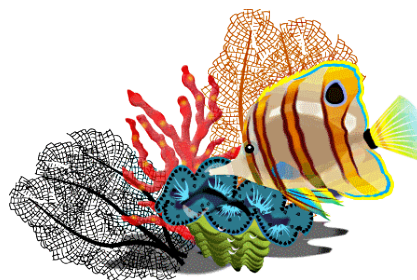
Just a reminder not to forget your dues. They keep our club successful, allowing us to continue to support charities and organizations near and dear to our hearts.



Hope to see everyone at the annual Hangover Party on January 31st at Pinz in Milford. It's always a blast and a sure-fire way to break up those mid-winter blues!!!

Happy New Year one and all!!

Phins up!
Barbara "Babs" O'Connor, Treasurer



From the Office of the Membership

Hello PHCoEM Members.

We ended the year with 134 Members which is amazing in this day and age. I want to thank everyone who joined our pirate crew and look forward to seeing you all at the different events we have coming up this year.

If you do a volunteer event that you would like to share with our members PLEASE reach out to me or any of the board members so that we can add it to our calendar, we are all about volunteering.

Friendly reminder to re-up your membership and if you have had any changes in your information to fill out the membership form.

Here's to an amazing 2026 full of wonderful adventures.

Phins Up,

Sunshine (Karen Feldeisen)
Membership Director 2025-Present
Webmistress 2025-Present





***Happy Birthday to those completing
another Trip Around the Sun!***

<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>
Mariano Gabriella - 1	Arthur Connolly - 1	Ellie Fratangelo - 8
Winnie Rose - 2	Cathy Corkery - 2	Samantha Griffin (Hatch) - 9
Mary Alve - 5	Hailey Dalio - 2	Rita Stokinger - 14
Carol Shapiro - 11	Stacey Leone - 4	Olivia Cormier - 18
Bobby Pouliot - 12	Patrick O'Connor - 11	Mike Deldon - 18
Jocelyn Beck - 15	Joe Rose - 13	David McLaughlin - 25
Linda Hatch - 24	Deb Beauregard - 15	Jim Cormier - 27
Tony Butkus - 30	Ernie Fratangelo - 16	Aimee McCormack - 30
	Jayne Buonopane - 25	
	Linda Hendrickson - 25	
	Chris Hartig - 26	
	Gretchen Milliken - 26	
	Zariah Beck - 27	
	Victoria Sellitto - 27	





Easy no-bake Golden Grahams s'mores are made with cereal, marshmallows, & chocolate chips and take less than 15 minutes to make.



Ingredients:

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 21 ounces mini marshmallows divided
- 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups Golden Grahams cereal divided
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup mini semisweet chocolate chips divided

Instructions:

- Grease a 9×13-inch baking dish. Set aside.
- In a large saucepan over low heat, melt butter most of the way.
(6 tablespoons butter)
- Add 16 ounces marshmallows, and stir until completely melted.
(21 ounces mini marshmallows)
- Remove from heat.
- Stir in 8 cups cereal until combined.
(8 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups Golden Grahams cereal)
- Add remaining 5 ounces marshmallows and 1/2 cup mini semisweet chocolate chips, and stir to combine.
($\frac{3}{4}$ cup mini semisweet chocolate chips)
- Press cereal into baking dish.¹
- Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 cup cereal and 1/4 cup mini chocolate chips.
- Let cool to room temperature before cutting and serving.

What did he/she say?!!

Quotes Xmas trees:

*He smells the nuts in my hand.
That's what she said.
Can you snip me?
Wait I put it in the wrong hole.
I got Santa in the globe.
How did you do it? I stuck him in hoo hoo hoooo.
Uh oh it won't fit in
Stuff it in there.
It's too big, oh well.
She stole his balls.
Do you need more balls?
No he has enough for now.
I'm going to tackle you on the way out.
Oh that's pretty it has a lot of balls in it!
Hey look at the size of those balls.
Look at that you do good work.
Squeeze it harder, then swirl it around.
My hands are gonna hurt after this.
Bilateral swinging balls.
He is missing his since he was 10 weeks old.
What do you want me to put him in a bag?
I need to drill a couple more of them?
It looks like a jelly fish, it is.
I'm pinching to hard I'm breaking it.
Nice balls you have there.
I can make anything happen.
Where are the little colored balls I need some.
Ewww, it's not coming off my fingers very well they are all sticky.
I got a lil blue ball in there and I can't get it out.
Do we have any more balls?
No I need the white fuzzy balls.
Just need a little dab right there its shaping up nicely.
Once you open it up it gets stiff!
Everyone is getting their Christmas lei.
I left a part of my butt on the thing.
These are my favorite cookies I don't know what the hell they are but I love them.
What are you going to do tonight go home watch my feet swell?
Is that diseased spinach between its feet?*

B day quotes:

*Do it the long way.
No feeling around get the patch where you want it and place it.
No foreplay allowed.
That might be the closest one.
Does it matter which eye.
Want me to get it now while you get tied up?
Are you sticky?
She's gonna have 5 guys and she is having her muffins done!!!
Hey lady your dripping all over the floor.*

Bike day quotes:

*She is really good at putting the thing in the hole!
Just tuck it in!*

Some Funnies for you.

- **How do you save a dying pirate?**
Answer: C-P-arrrrrrr.
- **What do you call a pirate who likes to skip school?**
Answer: Captain Hook-y!
- **What does a pirate name his dog?**
Answer: The Plank. That's why he's always walking The Plank.
- **Why can't the pirates fire their weapons on Saturdays?**
Answer: They only cannon Sundays!



Donna “Mac” McCarthy – President (President@phcoem.com)
Katherine “Kitty” Jones – Vice-President (VP@phcoem.com)
Liz “L12” McCarthy – Secretary (Secretary@phcoem.com)
Barbara “Babs” O’Connor – Treasurer (Treasurer@phcoem.com)
Sunshine (aka Karen Feldeisen) – Membership Director (Membership@phcoem.com)

Sunshine (aka Karen Feldeisen) Webmistress (webmistress@phcoem.com)

Anyone wishing to share information within this newsletter, please send your articles to newsletter@phcoem.com.

If you have questions about our website, please send an email to phcoemadmin@phcoem.com.

Reference Links:

National Chapter Parrot Heads in Paradise at: www.phip.com

PHCOEM Website page at www.phcoem.com

PHCOEM Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/56394897109>

Northeast Regional Parrot Head Convention Committee at: www.nerphc.org +

