



PIRATE TALES

Winter 2010

This Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of a dear member of our Phlock, Norm Gaskill.

Upcoming Events

- **February 21st** - Shady Katie's from 2-6 (see page 4 for more details)
- **March**—check your e-mails for info
- **April 17th**—Birthday Bash at Shady Katie's at 5:00 (see page 6 for more details)

GASKILL, Norman S. Suddenly, On December 27th, 2009, Age 65, of Westmont, NJ. Beloved husband of Marianne E. Gaskill of Westmont, NJ. Dear father of Norman Gaskill, Roland Gaskill, Thea Bardetti and Kerri Cappio. Loving son of Evelyn Gaskill (nee Carpenter). Grandfather of 3. Norman was and employee of Cherry Hill Triplex for 38 yrs. He was a member of South Jersey Vietnam Veterans Assoc., Phlock of South Jersey and Philly Finz.



Eulogy given by Rob Wells at the Life Celebration of Norm on 1/17/10:

First on behalf of the family I would thank you all for coming today. In times like these it so important to know that you have family and friends to be with, to mourn with, and to lean on when things seem to tough to bear. Sunday December 27th was one of those. I am sure for some every day from then until now has been one of those times. I would love to say after today there won't be anymore of those times, but that would not be a true. We were created to be able to have strong relationships with one another, to love, to hate, to smile and cry and because of that when we lose someone we love we hurt. Norm just wasn't someone he was NORM and I know I can speak for everyone in this room that we are going to hurt for a long time.

For those of you who do not know the Phlock of South Jersey starts every meeting with a Team Drink. Also for those of you who don't know Norm's drink of choice is a Captain and Diet, which is what I have with me. There

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DON' T FOR-
GET...

Monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at the Quality Inn located at the intersection of Routes 38 and 73 in Maple Shade, NJ. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are open to the general membership. Come on out and join us!

Check out the website or e-mail a Board Member for questions about any upcoming events!

www.phlockofsouthjersey.com

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There is a tradition with firefighters called the fireman's last call. Basically at the funeral of a fireman they ring the bell and the fireman fall in and all but the fireman who is no longer with us answers the call. I would like to start a tradition today called the Phlock of South Jersey's Last Team Drink. So if you all raise your glasses we are going to have a team drink for Norm and this drink here is yours Norm. Phlock of South Jersey what time is it?

When you lose someone like Norm there is a void that is impossible to fill. Norm always said that he wasn't really "religious" Well I beg to differ. Norm may not have gone to church every Sunday or sat down to pray but he lived a religious life. Norm always thought of the other person first, Norm was always willing to lend a hand whether you asked for it or not, Norm always treated others with kindness and love and compassion, Norm gave generously, and Norm cared deeply for everyone that he considered family or friends. If that isn't living by the "good book" then I would like to have someone tell me what it is. See we don't have to go to church to live a good life and Norm certainly lived a good life. You can rest assured that he is an amazing place right now sipping cocktails, enjoying the perfect weather, watching a never ending Buffett concert from the front row center.

Norm loved life and Norm LIVED life. Norm lived a life we all could look up to. He didn't sweat the small stuff. Norm didn't let the world pass him by, he lived it. If there was something to be done, enjoyed or accomplished Norm did it. Whether it was having a drink at Irish Kevin's or Captain Tony's or finding a place to see Howard Livingston Norm did it. If it was spending time with his family, traveling across the country to be with a son in need, or just hanging low at the Drunken Parrot Pub Norm did. Norm was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. I can assure you that although Norm left us too early he is certainly proud of the way he lived his Dash.

You can't measure life by how long your body is here on Earth. You measure life by the people you touch; by the deeds you do, by the difference you make, by the love you give and the love you receive, and by the people that are proud to say you are their friend. I have known Norm a long time and I can confidently say he leaves a legacy of all those things behind so large that it is hard to quantify. His kind, soft nature, his fun loving attitude even his snow white pony tail and beard has left a lasting mark on so many people in this world that Norm can never really ever be gone. Norm will be a part of every one of us. I know each one of you probably has a memory in your head right now of Norm being Norm. I am sure there is a smile on his face and probably a smile on your face right now as you think of it; that is the way Norm wants to be remembered. Norm would tell us not to sit around mourning his passing, but to get busy living. The way to honor Norm is not with tears but with laughter and smiles, so that is the charge I give you today.

If you are not receiving e-mails from our President, Dave Hood, please e-mail him at: daveahood@comcast.net

He will make sure that you are on the list and get updates! Thanks.



"THE DASH" by Linda Ellis (read by Rob Wells at Norm's Life Celebration)

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.
 He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning...to the end.
 He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears,
 but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.
 For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth...
 and now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.
 For it matters not, how much we own; the cars....the house...the cash.
 What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.
 So think about this long and hard...are there things you'd like to change?
 For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.
 If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real,
 and always try to understand the way other people feel.
 And be less quick to anger, and show appreciation more
 and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.
 If we treat each other with respect, and more often wear a smile...
 remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.
 So, when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash...
 would you be proud of the things they say about how you spend your dash?

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**Check out
the Phlock
on
Facebook**

...

**Search for
the POSJ
in groups!**

Life Celebration... by Lelania Wells

On Sunday, January 17th at the Glassboro VFW hall people saw what true love of a Buffett Family was and is!!! John Repash had a great mix of music to help make people feel welcomed and then dance the afternoon away. Rob Wells performed an amazing eulogy. The lightheartedness of the other people who got up to speak kept the spirits high. Marianne's words were the best part of the day. Her love for Norm, her dedication to their marriage, her support to his coworkers, VFW family and of course to the Buffett family showed us again Norm's love of life.

Because of the generosity of this club the food was in abundance. We had to set up another table, then another table and finally one more. The clean up was done in about an hour because everyone pitched in where ever needed. I know Norm was smiling down that we could make it such a GREAT day for Marianne and both of their families. Keri was really touched by the way everyone came in to help her. Thank you to this club for coming together, even when we were all so down. Norm will be in our hearts forever.

Please don't forget to come celebrate his life with us during "Norm's Remembrance Party" for our February Happy Hour; February 21st 2-6pm. We will have live music by Matt Avery, donation jar (with the proceeds to go to Marianne), food and drink specials. More details to be found in this newsletter.

Memories of Norm...

I remember having a rough year last year. Norm never missed a chance to ask me about how things were going. In June, he just handed Rob and I his Buffett seats because he had gotten a front row seat. We told him we couldn't afford them and he just waved us off. He said he knew we needed a night too. This is just one example of Norm's generosity. Norm was one of the most caring, loving, supportive, respected people I have ever known. His dedication to his family touched me deeply. I miss Norm so much and things like getting an automatic response to a board email hurts at times. But there are times now that I think of him and have that contagious smile of his. I hope that we all can remember this great man and smile. I too hope that I can live by his example - live your life to the fullest and hold your family and your "family" close to your heart!

Lelania Wells

"When I first moved back to the area, I thought I'd just go to party in the parking lot in Camden, since I had no ticket. My plan was to leave when everyone went into the show. Norm would have nothing of this and wanted to just give me his extra ticket. I told him I had just started working and wouldn't be able to pay him until after the next couple weeks. He didn't care and wanted me to have the ticket. What a guy! What an awesome show and I got to see Norm in his element firsthand. And that wasn't the only time he had an extra ticket. He had another one for AC and I turned it down due to work issues. He was such a giving person and never ever said a negative word towards anyone. I will miss his hearty laugh, gentle, loving nature, and just being "Norm."

Cindy Cowling

Please join us on Sunday, February 21st
at Shady Katie's (from 2-6).

This Happy Hour will be dedicated to Norm. We will have a 50-50 to benefit his family and donations will also be accepted.

ENTERTAINMENT BY MATT AVERY

So come on out and celebrate Norm's life with your fellow Parrotheads. We hope to see you there!



Shady Katies is located at 814 S White Horse Pike in Somerdale, NJ (856) 346-3001

Year in Review...

Memory Walk 2009 by Carolyn Conley

October 4th was a very busy day in Atlantic City for several Phlock members. It was the annual Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk. Our Phlock members stepped up to the plate and helped to set up and distribute food to the walkers, gave out incentive prizes, sold Alzheimer's Association merchandise and handled volunteer sign-ins. It turned out to be a beautiful day in Atlantic City after some very dense morning fog. A big thank you to all our dedicated members who traveled down there in the fog and worked for the most part from 7AM to 2PM. These same people come out every year and help with this walk and work so hard. The Alzheimer's Association is so grateful for our club's contribution of time. Many, many thanks!!

Newton Park Clean-Up by Sandy Voightsberger

It was a cloudy, gloomy day with the threat of another downpour in the air. Six self-less, diehard, dedicated members trudged out into the cold and wet to pick up trash around Newton Lake Park. This was to fulfill our required environmental clean up project. It was originally planned for Cooper River Park, ending at Connie Mac's, however because of an earlier Benefit Walk in this area we were not granted permission to pick up trash on the planned date of October 18th, so we chose Newton Lake Park, as we have done in the past 2 years. I had hoped for a larger turnout but I guess the weather kept most away. I am personally very thankful for the faithful that did come out. WN and Emily Bunch, Frank and Patricia Reilly, Norm Gaskill, THANKS SO MUCH!!! Everyone had a good time at Connie's afterwards watching games and partying. It was great to see some of our previous members visiting from SC. Jan and Chuck, we miss you! The weather held and everybody had a great time, except maybe the Eagles. They lost!

Check out how the Phlock has helped the environment and some very worthwhile groups...

HO-HO-HO Phlocking Holiday Phun by Sandy Voightsberger

Upon arriving at the Grog-N-Grill, the only members already there were the Bunch family. W.N. our new events coordinator and wife Karen had the Santa chair and toy collection location all set up. (Thanks!)

We started off at 1:00, a little slow, but by 2:00 we were hopping, that's when Matt Quinton hit the stage with his magic. He always does a great job. Santa arrived a little ahead of schedule at around 3:00 but the children were ready. They patiently waited for their turn with the Big Guy. All the Keets left his lap with their present and the anticipation of more to come on Christmas morning.

We were sorry to have missed Mrs. Clause this year, but she was working with the elves up at the North Pole to get all the toys wrapped and packed in Santa's' sleigh for the big day.

For our charities, we collected a mountain of toys valued at over \$700.00. The Marines and their helpers, which sponsor the "Toys for Tots" were very happy. When I took the rest of the toys over to Weisman Children's Rehabilitation Hospital, they were very appreciative of our efforts. For those of you who don't know, we split the donated toys between the two charities, and have done so for the past few years.

In conclusion, it was a very nice day. There was a lot of hugging, kissing, singing along, and dancing, eating, and lifting a glass or two, you know, the normal PHLOCKING PARROT HEAD PARTY.... (We know how to have PHUN!)

Now if I left out anything I apologize, I was chasing around my one-year-old grandson.

This party was also a special memory because it's the last time we got to party with Norm, our Phlock Webmaster and club photographer. For those who didn't know, Norm past away over the holidays. He left Flip-Flops that will be very hard to fill.

HEY PARROTHEAD...

Join our growing Phlock! Membership forms are available at all Club Events. You can also find a copy of the forms on our website. If you are reading this, then chances are that you are already a member of the Phlock. Why not pass the word along to a phriend!

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Please feel free to contact these folks for gripes, suggestions or to volunteer. Any correspondence other than renewals should be sent to: POSJ, P.O. Box 733, Maple Shade, NJ 08052

DUES: \$15—Single

\$25—Family (Children Under 21)

\$20—Couple

\$75—Corporate Sponsoship

This contribution is not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes.

Please send the completed application (or if you do not have an application just send a note with your name, address, phone number and e-mail address) along with your check, payable to: **Phlock of South Jersey.**

Mail to: **Membership, c/o John Repash, 61 Horseshoe Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054**

PHLOCK OF SOUTH JERSEY BIRTHDAY BASH

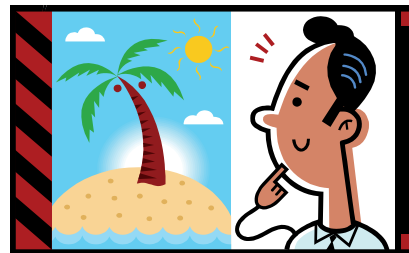
When: Saturday, April 17th at 5:00 p.m.

Where: Shady Katie's (856) 346-3001
814 S White Horse Pike
Somerdale, NJ

Tickets will be \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door

Include draft beer (Coors and Yuengling), well drinks (one alcohol and one mixer), buffet and LIVE entertainment.

Tickets will be available at the February, March and April general meetings (the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Second Story Grill/Quality Inn in Maple Shade) and the Feb and March happy hours. Board members will have the tickets. If you need tickets and cannot make it to one of these prior events send a check to the PO BOX 733, Maple Shade, NJ 08052 and tickets will be at the door for you.



Happy Birthday to...

Mike	Bull	1/11
Jim	Reeves	1/14
Charlie	Fleck	1/16
Justine	Bohaczyk	1/24
Rob	Wells	1/28
Sam	Brucker	1/29
Kevin	O.	2/3
Sue	Trotman	2/4
Susan	Sickler	2/8
Angela	McGinnis	2/12
Mary	Genovese	2/14
Regina	Salera	2/16
Leo	Potzinger	2/24
Kathy	Dauids	2/24
Chester	Bean	3/1
Jim	Sumerson	3/1
Fran	Iezzi	3/5
Sue	McGrath	3/6
Tracy	McEneaney	3/8
Darren	Onesty	3/14
Robin	Heim	3/16
Carol	Potzinger	3/22
Sandy	Voightsberger	3/23
Ed	Lipinsky	3/29
Francis	Iacovelli	4/1
Len	Mammoccio	4/2
Joe	Ruggiano	4/3
Allen	Rodesky	4/6
Buster	Sawyer	4/10
Bob	Baltozer	4/12
Dianna	Gibson	4/13
Patti	Kotusky	4/19
Michael	Bohaczyk	4/20
Ed	Jowell	4/25
Mike	Knowland	4/30



Happy Anniversary to...

<i>Chester and Eleanor Bean</i>	1/12
<i>Frank and Robin Heim</i>	1/19
<i>Allen and Chris Rodesky</i>	1/27
<i>Mike and Pat Knowland</i>	3/4
<i>Darren and Doris Onesty</i>	3/9
<i>Mike and Susan Sickler</i>	4/7
<i>Jim and Kathy Brown</i>	4/9
<i>Rob and Lelania Wells</i>	4/13
<i>Charlie and Teresa Fleck</i>	4/16
<i>Joe and Jacqueline Fisher</i>	4/20
<i>Jon and Loretta Runyan</i>	4/25
<i>Dave and Susan Taylor</i>	4/28
<i>Len and Karrie Mammocio</i>	4/29

Pirate Tales Editors:

Tracy McEneaney and Joe Kotusky

If we make mistakes, by all means let us know. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newsletter can do so by e-mail at trcy3872@aol.com

This is your club and your club newsletter. This is another way for you to become involved. Your contributions are ALWAYS welcome and greatly appreciated!

Happy Birthday to all of our Phriends who celebrated birthdays between September and January. Just think of it this way... in our eyes you are a year younger! Oh, and Happy Anniversary to all of you lovebirds, too!

