



• **Edition XII**

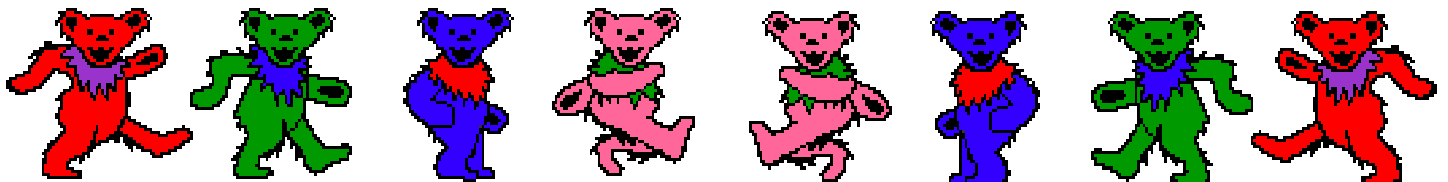
Summer 2006

~ ~ ~ ~ **Who We Are** ~ ~ ~ ~

The Wharf Rats are a group of concert-goers who have chosen to live drug and alcohol free. Our primary purpose at shows is to make ourselves available to anyone who feels we may have something they want. We don't tell others how to attend their show. We offer clean and sober support, strength, fellowship and hope. We are not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous nor any other twelve-step group. We are a group of friends sharing a common bond, providing support, information and some traction in an otherwise slippery environment. Look for the yellow balloons, signs and the Wharf Rats information table.

Its a rainbow full of sound...it's fireworks, calliopes and clowns....

This is how John Perry Barlow sums up the sights and sounds of the Greatest Show on Earth.....the Grateful Dead. The folks that I am speaking of is a group of concert goers who choose to live alcohol and drug free, the Wharfrats. They are a wonderful phellowship of like minded, kindred souls who have found a way up and out of their addictions and carry the message of rock~n~roll~n~recovery.....This band of bohemians and vagabonds set up their oasis of hope at shows all over the country to share what they have been so freely given.....a second chance at a life free from the bondage of self.....By sharing their experience, strength and hope of life on the road, the highs and lows of touring, they are free at last to enjoy the best of what the community has to offer.....gratitude, peace, serenity and unconditional love. When you find yourself on the road this Summer, look for the yellow balloons...if you are a newcomer to the clean and sober life, or a weathered veteran, make an effort to join us at the jubilee! You will find phriends waiting to meet you, eager to share a story, extend a hand, a smile and a hug! Feel the strength and safety...the joy and the excitement of the phellowship that will grow up around you. Over the last year I have had the privilege of setting up a few tables with a friend or two and have seen 1st hand the destruction of addiction and the power of recovery both.....at Phil and Friends in Albany in December we were set up in the main entrance...we saw people taken out in handcuffs, on stretchers and strong armed out by security, covered with blood and handed over to the arms of the law! I have been there....and as I look around the faces at the table and see the look in the eyes of the C&S phriends gathered there I see gratitude.....and most of us speak of it.....Gratitude that we have found a way out of that life from which we have come.....At the Gathering of the Vibes last August we had a beautiful spot in the middle of Shakedown....usually not a spot of peace and serenity, but that's exactly what it was...that oasis I spoke of earlier....a big, beautiful island in a vast ocean of phreaks.....yellow balloons beckoning the tired and tested traveler to pull up a seat, share a story, check out this wonderful newsletter, have some candy, pick out some bumperstickers for the VW and smile, smile, smile! I always name some of the peeps who have left their mark on my soul over the years, whether I have "met" them on the listserve(thanks David!) or through the newsletter (hey Pattye...thanks for your encouragement!) The LI Wharfrat group (Dana, Warren, Dennis, Matty, Johnny, JohnnyMac, Jackie...and on and on!) at the tables (Amanda rocked the service @ GOTV!) Robert (who hooks me up at the venues and keeps me supplied!)...I know I have left some out but you have all touched my heart....as you continue putting yourselves out there for the still sick and suffering you will grow and prosper in your own lives.... I am eternally touched and blessed by your selfless giving! The time is right....as you all make plans for the beautiful community of music that waits, take a moment to give thanks for these tireless souls that ask nothing in return....only that you take a message of hope on the road with you and pass it on! Let it flow, greatly flow, bright and clear...let it grow, let it grow, greatly yield....with utmost respect, gratitude and one love, Murph



WR CONTACTS AND TABLE COORDINATORS

Wharf Rat Home Page: <http://www.wharfrat.org/>

East Coast NY / NJ Metro Area

Dennis P.
55 Gates Ave.
Brentwood, NY 11717
(631) 278-5555
Dennis is stepping in to cover service for Dana this summer. Dana's contact info remains the same if you must reach her.
Dana P.
Dix Hills, NY
PH: 631-254-1395
Cell: 516-242-7858
Email: Dana526811.aol.com

East Coast

Robert & Carol C.
17 Sunrise Terrace
Chepachet, Rhode Island 02814
PH: 401-568-1023
Cell: 401-413-1489
Email: rhubarbc@cox.net

Southwest

Caroline "Mom" T.
9460 E. Mission Lane
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
Email: Wharfmomt@aol.com

Web Site & List-Serv/Database

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Southeast Asia

Don "Wharfdaddy" B.
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Thailand Cell : 667-0625596
Email: bangkokdon@hotmail.com

ONE SHOW AT A TIME

WHARF RAT MEETINGS

AOL Online Meeting

Wednesdays & Sundays on AOL
10PM EST & 7PM PST
Go to keyword: Rose Garden

East Norwich, Long Island, NY

Save Your Face Group of WR's

Contact Warren F. 516-942-5126

Email: NVRCMGBK@optonline.net, or Dennis P. at (631) 278-5555
Email: d.penglase@gmail.com. Danas' contact information remains the same, see above under "Contacts".

Tuesdays, 7:15-8:45PM, Community Methodist Church. Take the LIE to Exit 41N (106N), take 106N to 25A (Northern Blvd.), make U-turn on corner of 106N and 25A. Entrance on Vernon Ave., Fellowship door. Come One, Come All!

Philadelphia, PA

Contact Jarrod G. 215-205-9500 Email: wharfratjarrod@yahoo.com
Mondays @ 7:30PM, Friends of August West
Graduate Hospital, 18th & Lombard Sts., Philadelphia, PA, Room 2D
of the Pepper Pavilion

San Francisco, CA

AA, Contact Charlie 415-564-3340 Email: Csmcchar@aol.com
Thursdays 8:15-9:15PM, Holy Innocents Church at 455 Fair Oaks, parallel to and between 25th & 26th Streets.
You can contact Charlie anytime, especially if you are in the Bay Area and can't make it to the meeting, and if he can help you stay sober.

NA, Terrapin Station Group Wharf Rats, Contact Andrew K.
415-305-3469 Email: kish_construction@yahoo.com
Wednesdays, 8 - 9:30 at 3728 Cesar Chavez
Meeting location may change soon, web site will reflect any changes to the meeting.

Indianapolis, IN

Rats NA Drain Ditch

Contact Tim D.317-319-4697
Email: flowerpunk89@hotmail.com
Fridays 7 - 8PM, Woodruff Place Baptist Church
1735 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN

NEW MEETING!

Bradenton, Florida

Contact Richard G., Email: rgeib@tampabay.rr.com
Wharfrat NA Thursdays 6 - 7:30 PM
Christ Church Presbyterian Church
515 Upper Manatee River Rd.
Bradenton, FL

NEW MEETING!

Portland, Oregon

Rose City Wharf Rats (NS, O)
Contact Paul G., Email: paulg@spiritone.com
Tuesdays, 7 - 8PM, St. Charles Catholic Church
NE 42nd at Killingsworth (TriMet #72 & #75)
From rear parking lot enter at door near classrooms
Door will be locked after 7:15 PM

NEW MEETING!

Southside Columbus WR's

Contact Chris (614)274-2471, Email: wurty381@columbus.rr.com
Friday nights 8 - 9:00PM.
1931 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH
Corner of Parsons & Barthman
Recovery Hall Phone 614-449-7489



RATS NEST



Hey all you crazy WRats, just a note to say how much I am looking forward to touring with you this Summer!!

You guys taught me how to dance just as hard and stay clean at the shows I love. You gave me faith in myself, the fellowships, and the music. You rode in planes trains and automobiles with me all over this great land chasing the sound. You kept me company in hotel rooms, campgrounds, venues and parking lots. You told me to KEEP COMING BACK!!

And now you meet with me in my home group RATS NA DRAIN DITCH in Indianapolis. I hope you all can get an opportunity to visit us on Friday nights. Maybe even come dance your rump off at our Annual Hippy Hoedown.

I can't thank the Wharf Rats enough. I write with deep deep gratitude and if you're ever at a show and see me spinning (clean, no less!!), stay the heck out of my way, because I'm too blissed out to talk! ~ Matt Rat - Indianapolis

Momma T. & Daniel & POW WOW

Greetings all, This year has been full of amazing things. Wharf rats are such a big part of my life. I was able to get to some great shows and dance with allot of friends, some old and some new. The music is great. The big attraction for me is being with clean/sober folk and having so much fun. Daniel and I had our second grandson this year, Daniel Joseph 4-4-06. Grandpa is a bit proud to have a namesake. We also had the blessing this year to be able to volunteer for Katrina relief in Waveland MS. We were part of a hippie and church groups that worked together to form the biggest distribution area and the best fresh made food (hippie/rainbow style) We had yellow balloon mtgs. Our signs are pretty well known. It's amazing how far and long rats have been around. Looking forward to a little Midwest run with Pow Wow on 7-17-06 between the CHGO and Louisville shows. Love you, Momma T

For more information on the Pow Wow, contact Therese & Daniel through their contact information listed under Mid-West Table Coordinators & Contacts, page 2.

Chef Larry Checkin In

Hello Wharfrats, It has been a long strange trip this year, bringing me the opportunity to do service while hearing music, locally and throughout the country. It also continued to give me the chance to meet with many of my sober music friends, seeking and giving each other support on our sober music quest.

Thank you for coming out to shows and sharing your magic with me! I miss the days of touring with Jerry up on stage and the gathering of our tribe to dance and share in each other. I need to see all of you on a regular basis to recharge my spirit and keep me going in my "regular" life, working and being in the moments that do not include music and my music family.

I keep moving through my own journey, and this past year I have had to face addiction rearing its ugly head in my own home, with my 15 year old step son being admitted to a 1 year re-hab program after multiple hospital and jail visits. My own past experiences with my personal addiction and from working the table at shows did not truly prepare me for this challenge but your and support helped get me through some difficult days. God willing and the creek don't rise, I will be celebrating 12 years this summer. While this is an amazing thing to me, it does not prepare me for anything more than living in today (and hopefully seeing/hearing some music), something we all need to practice on a daily basis. I hope to see many of you this summer at a festival or some music event further down the road. If any of you are in the Southern California Area, Please be in touch: cheflarry@sbcglobal.net or 951.818.6458 ~ Chef Larry

The Song Doesn't Always Remain The Same

Greetings from New England my fellow Wharf Rats. Another year has gone by, and it is more of the same...good! The shows I've attended have been lots of fun, of course the music WILL never stop! It has changed however, and it seems to me increasingly harder to get my dose of Dead from the live circuit. There is sooooo much great live music out there! I really feel that my music buzz is increasingly harder to find from bands like Ratdog attempting to cover the Jerry tunes that leaves me longing even more for the "fat guy". The noodling of Phil and company gets me hoping for it to groove into something I know deep inside will probably not occur, nor for that matter, will ever happen again. Honestly, the draw for me at this point is not the music as much as it is the people I have known for many years and look so forward to seeing at the shows. Through the various incarnations of the Dead, there is one constant that remains for which I am eternally grateful...my beloved Wharf Rat fellows. Despite all else, I am convinced that "The Song doesn't always remain the same, but with extreme gratitude, I take comfort that the clean and sober Deadheads do. Wild, crazy, and beautiful. Let us know if you are interested in doing a Wharf Rat table at an east coast show near you, or for that matter, if you are passing through New England, and need a place to stay...You're already home!

Love and Hugs,
Robert C. Chepachet, Rhode Island

First Time Tabling, Philadelphia

I worked my first Wharf Rat table this past spring at a Saturday Night Rat dog show at the Electric Factory in Philadelphia - I had a blast! My new hippie friend and I arrived early at the venue to set up - we laid out the psychedelic table cloths, a wide variety of stickers and candy, newsletters, a donation can, and hung up some yellow balloons.

We then waited with anticipation for the doors to open and watched countless of our brother and sister Deadheads pour into the show all grinning with excitement! There was such joy that you could feel it vibrating through out the happy crowd.

Slowly some concert goers made their way over to look at our table. "Its OK friend, we don't bite, we just want to smile with you."

"Hey man, how are you? I hope Bobby plays Blackbird tonight. This is beautiful. We'll see you at intermission for the meeting." Now a crowd is forming around the table...the word is out. I look into many people's eyes and I feel such peace and such unfading love.

~ Bryce H.

Summer Campout West Coast?

If anyone is interested in having a west coast campout, plz contact Charlie @ csmcchar@aol.com or 415-564-3340



Congratulations!

To WR West Coast Contact Ken H. and his bride, Carloyn, in honor of their wedding, May 20th, 2006.

May you be poor in misfortune and Rich in Blessings and May you know nothing but Happiness from this day forward.

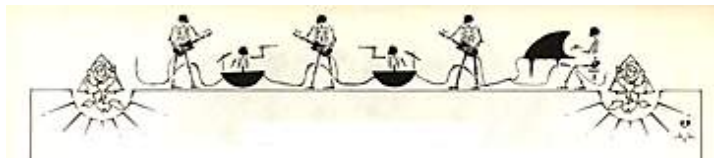
'Sláinte!'

with love and light, Pattye



Rest in Peace, Ramrod

Congratulations to all Wharf Rats!



**L O C A T I N G
Y O U R T R I B E**

after the show...

get numbers stay connected

Those with today and those with many days behind and in front. But -- congratulations to you who are reading this for the first time, maybe you are not so sure what this is all about . . . but maybe you are growing surer that life as it is (drinking / drugging) is just not working out. Simply by reading this far, wondering, considering is great stuff . . . "it's dizzying, the possibilities" Here's the deal: We have a solution! We come from many different backgrounds, we are different ages, but we shared a common problem and now we revel and dance and sing in the common solution! There are many ways to get in touch and stay in touch -- elsewhere in this here newsletter and at the table where you got it! When it can't get any worse -- maybe it can get a little better! And you won't have to do it alone . . . Charlie ~ccjc2_ssdd @ Yahoo.com~

Hi all.

It's been a wacky year for me - lots "o" self-created drama. However, through it all, I have managed to stay clean! That has been my biggest achievement. My best friends in recovery are Wharf Rats, and have been for many, many years. I miss the table coordinating and Tuesday night meeting chair commitments, but I suppose it was time to share the service, so to speak. Thank you, Dennis, for stepping up to the plate and helping me out with that. I hope to see many of you at the Phil & Friends/Trey shows as well as the RatDog/SCI shows. Looks like it's going to be a great summer! Sure don't know what I'm going for, But I'm gonna go for it for sure..... Dana P. ~ Long Island

5.25.06 ~ Today marks my first year clean...

When I first got clean, I thought I was going to be miserable. Most of my friends where I was living in LA were non-addict normal 30 year olds and spent most of their free time in bars, or having dinner parties with lots of wine, and all the other things people do. When I decided to move back to NY, I immediately reached out to the Wharf Rats and emailed one of the two NY contacts, Dana (given the choice between contacting a Dana P. or a Warren F., I opted for Dana.... wouldn't you!?) She invited me down to the WR meeting as well as a few NA meetings that a lot of us frequent, and from there I met some of the best, funnest, sickest people I've ever been lucky enough to call friends... Johnny, Dennis, Dana, Tom, Mike, Ross, Nuz, Warren, Jacquie, Ramsey, plus of course all of you sickos on this list (*ahem, Charlie) , some of whom I've been lucky enough to meet at shows. I've heard a few newcomers share at meetings this week share about how they feel depressed because they can't have fun anymore. How lucky are we to know what a lie that is!! Thanks to all of you for helping me stay clean, laugh, dance, and enjoy life, one day at a time. With love, Matty

One Show ~ Day ~ Heartbeat At A Time

My sobriety date is 1/21/85 - after 22 years of "successfully" practicing beer drinking. I fell in love with the Grateful Dead - back in 1967 when I first moved to SF Bay Area and discovered the music and learned a way of life that I still find very valuable today. It was the folks that I chose to focus on and learned the most. Drugs were never my idea of having a good time - kept things much too fuzzy and out of focus (I am already that way) (: - but beer and occasionally wine was what I used as social enhancement and to "fit" into the society I chose. It was the attitude of the times - lots of acceptance, unconditional love, community spirit. I spent the late 60s thru the 70s in the same spaces with the same folks and music. I loved the Grateful Dead community and what it represented in my space and times. It was really strange that through the years of attending shows - I never drank at those shows - maybe smoked a bit of herb - but it was the music and the family gathering that drew me in - not the high. So that in 1985 when I quit drinking it was my delight to discover others who loved the music and remained clean, clear and sober and began to form an idea of meeting at the shows and providing support for each other so that we could enjoy LIFE without crutches or enhancements at the shows and in our daily lives. And most of those folks I became involved with those years ago are still in my life spaces today - because the community spirit lives on. And today - I maintain a close connection with the Wharf Rats because to remain sober and sane - I must be in contact with the music I love and the folks who have learned that we can dance and smile and share community spirit when we stay aware of our surroundings and help each other make it one show/day/heartbeat at a time. We are each angels with only one wing - we can fly only when holding onto each other. Sheri H. Portland, OR

or an address...



GOT TALENT? WHARF RATS SERVICE CALLING....

We are looking for energetic individuals who have talent in web site development to be part of a team that maintains the web site. We are also seeking people with desktop publishing skills to be part of the Newsletter team. Please feel free to contact anyone on the contacts page of the web site or email me directly at: david.francis@dcf.net

As always, to volunteer for working the tables at shows, contact one of the regional coordinators on the <http://www.wharfrat.org/contacts.html> page. Thanks!

Active web sites for contacting others attending shows clean & sober...

- * **Happy Hour Heroes**
<http://happyhourhero.org/>
- ***The Jellyfish-Clean & Sober String Cheese Incident Fans:**
<http://www.scijellyfish.org/>
- ***The Gateway-Clean and Sober Widespread Panic Fans:**
<http://www.soberfans.com/>
- ***The Phellowship-Clean and Sober Phish fans:**
<http://www.phellowship.org/>
- ***Free and Clear- Sober Hippy Crossroads:**
<http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Hall/2776/>
- ***The Velcro Kangaroos - Yonder Mountain String Band fans:**
<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/velcrokangaroos/>



STICKERS! STICKERS! STICKERS!

These are high-quality, durable stickers. They will last you through any weather. We do ask a \$1.00 donation for each sticker. Please send a postal money order, along with an additional 50 cents to cover return postage to the sticker coordinator listed on the second page. Please make sure to specify which stickers you want.

**ONE SHOW
AT A TIME**



Save Your Face



Save Your Face



Let Go & Let Jerry

**STILL CRAZY AFTER
ALL THIS SOBRIETY**

Wharf Rat Service ?

If you'd like to be of service at an upcoming show please call the Wharf Rat contact in your area. If there is no contact in your area, maybe you should be one? Tables and tablers are always in need of support. Table service, covering tables for bathroom and dance breaks for people who are tabling, donations of candy, yellow balloons, pens, envelopes, all are welcomed. Stop by and see if you can help if you are inclined. Meet your local Wharf Rats, we can certainly promise you a warm welcome and you will walk away with some new clean & sober friends. Thanks to all the Wharf Rats everywhere who tended tables and volunteered in a hundred different ways this last year to meet all the needs of Wharf Rats bringing tables in whenever and wherever we can. Without your loving service we'd be without the family gatherings and traction in this slippery environment that we share at shows.....hugs to you all. Wharf Rat Service

~ * ~ SUMMER TOURS 2006 ~ * ~

Phil & Friends Tour Dates

6/18/06 Bonnaroo Festival Manchester, TN
6/20/06 Ryman Auditorium Nashville, TN
6/22/06 Mizner Amphitheater Boca Raton, FL
6/23/06 Tampa Bay Performing Arts Ctr Tampa, FL
6/24/06 Hard Rock Live Orlando, FL
6/25/06 HiFi Buys Amphitheater Atlanta, GA
6/27/06@ Asheville Civic Center Asheville, NC
6/28/06*# Alltel Pav. @ Walnut Creek Raleigh, NC
6/30/06* Tweeter Waterfront Camden, NJ
7/01/06*# PNC Bank Arts Center Holmdel, NJ
7/02/06* SPAC Saratoga, NY
7/03/06*# New England Dodge Music Ctr Hartford, CT
7/06/06* Tweeter Center Mansfield, MA
7/07/06* Nikon @ Jones Beach Wantagh, NY
7/08/06* Darien Lakes PAC Darien Ctr, NY
7/09/06* Bethel Woods Ctr for the Arts Bethel, NY
7/11/06*# Toyota Pavilion Scranton, PA
7/12/06*# Champlain Valley Fairgrounds Essex Junctn, VT
7/14/06*# PromoWest Pavillion Columbus, OH
7/15/06 Lawn @ White River State Park Indianapolis, IN
7/16/06 Charter One Pavilion Chicago, IL
7/18/06 Palace Theater Louisville, KY
7/19/06 Starlight Theater Kansas City, MO
7/21/06 10,000 Lakes Festival Detroit Lks, MN
*with TREY ANASTASIO & MIKE GORDON with the Benevento/Russo Duo
#TREY & MIKE with the Duo will close this show
*The Duo will perform an opening set
@Special Guests: The Benevento/Russo Duo Featuring MIKE GORDON will open this show

Ratdog Tour Dates*

6/09/06 Harmony Festival Santa Rosa, CA
6/24/06 Pozo Saloon San Luis Obispo, CA
6/25/06 Greek Theatre Los Angeles, CA
6/26/06 Concerts in the Park San Diego, CA
6/28/06 Dodge Theatre Phoenix, AZ
6/30/06 Salt Air Pavilion Salt Lake City, UT
7/01/06 Red Rocks Morrison, CO
7/02/06 Red Rocks Morrison, CO
7/06/06 Summerfest - Marcus Amphitheatre Milwaukee, WI
7/07/06 Starlight Amphitheatre Kansas City, MO
7/08/06 Fox Theatre St. Louis, MO
7/10/06 Finger Lakes Rochester, NY
7/11/06 Penn's Landing - Festival Pier Philadelphia, PA
7/13/06 Radio City Music Hall New York, NY
7/14/06 Radio City Music Hall New York, NY
7/15/06 Tweeter Center Mansfield, MA
8/19/06 Gathering of the Vibes Mariaville, NY
* double-bills with String Cheese Incident!

Mickey Hart Tour Dates

7/05/06 Summerfest, Milwaukee, WI

The 2006 Annual Midwest Pow Wow at Dark Star Farm in Wabash, IN is going to be this summer between Phil & Friends shows in Chicago and Louisville on Monday, July 17. If you are touring or doing the midwestern run, this is a perfect place for you to go. All Wharf Rats are invited to come. And you are welcome to camp here too! The address is listed below. If you would like more information on the 2006 Annual Pow Wow, please contact the Midwestern Coordinators; Therese & Daniel, 5192 South 550, West Wabash, IN 46992, (260)-563-4771.

