



Edition VI

Summer 2001

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### *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

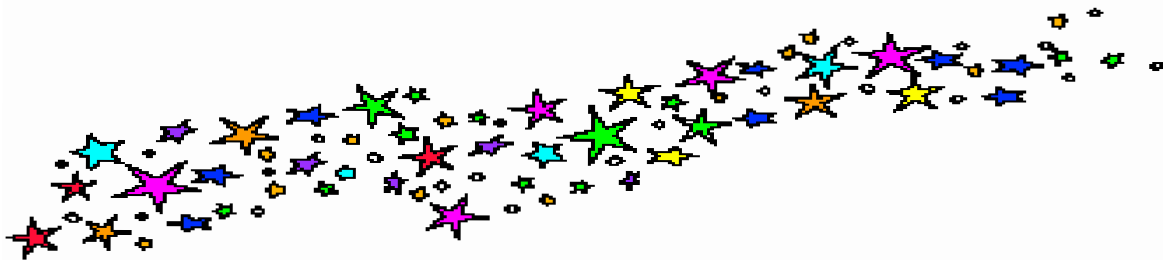
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### **Greetings, Wharf Rats!**

"Oil my joints and tape my bones, it's time to walk again around the ring"

Robert Hunter

Time to offer up the sixth edition of the post-Grateful Dead Wharf Rat Newsletter, and in time for summer tour, which is our aim. Hopefully you'll pick this issue up from your local, or not-so-local, Wharf Rat Table and dive in for some contact with WR's everywhere. I always love watching people pick up the newsletter from the tables, those that have never seen it are blown away by it, by its sheer existence, and to see the light in their eyes when they Grok the newsletter is so great, and on the other side are those that have seen many, many issues, who take one look at the pile stacked on the table and say "seen that one". This is a win-win if ever I saw one. And if I may, can we extend our thanks and gratitude to our Webmaster, David, who has overhauled our web site and made it current and wonderfully interactive, with the discussion boards, list\_serv information, RatPix, and the newsletter are all posted there, what a great job he's done. So here we go, off into the sixth edition....these are the collected works of WR's, offered up to the newsletter, or gleaned from the list\_serv and presented anonymously because the content touched us in some way that we thought worth sharing, something that demonstrates who we are in the living of our lives out there in the world, something common yet brilliant like the sun, something sharply insightful yet soft enough to land right in the center of our souls and cause us to nod our heads and whisper, we are everywhere and we are not alone. See you at the show! In loving service... Pattye



**WR MEETINGS, CONTACTS  
& TABLE COORDINATORS**

**Seattle, Washington**

The Mr. Bubble Group of The Wharf Rat's "Makes getting clean more fun than getting dirty!"™ is now called just "Wharf Rats" and they are an NA meeting. The group meets every Tuesday from 7- 8:30 PM in room 308 of the Fremont Baptist Church, which is located on North 36th Street, between Fremont Avenue and the Aurora Avenue overpass. We are in the Seattle NA meeting schedule. Contact:

**Northwest Contact**

Lisa Shaftel  
Seattle, WA  
PH & FX: 206-706-0868  
Email: <shaftels2do@earthlink.net>

**San Francisco, California**

Wharf Rat Group of A.A. meets Thursdays, 8:15 to 9:45 in the Church at 455 Fair Oaks between 24th & 25th Streets. Contact:

Doug W.  
Email: <Douglaswt@earthlink.net>  
PH: 650-754-0301

**West Coast Contact**

Ken Hill  
Sacramento CA  
PH: 916-451-7518  
Alt PH: 916-454-3061

**West Coast Contact**

Lynn Kravitz  
Felton, CA  
Cell: 510-928-2995  
Alt. PH: :831-335-9192  
Email: <MLKTZ@aol.com>

**New Southern California Contact**

Lisa Terry  
Seal Beach, CA  
PH: 562-596-8940  
Pager: 888-916-2416  
Email: <wharfie@hotmail.com>

**Las Vegas, NV**

Back From the Dead Group meets Wednesdays & Saturday nights at 12 Midnight behind the Sin City Tattoo shop located at 1013 East Charleston (enter behind shop in courtyard). Contact:

Steve B.  
PH: 702-456-3937

**Southwest /Arizona**

Caroline "Mom" Thomas  
Scottsdale, AZ  
Email: <wharfrmomt@aol.com>

**Mid West Contact**

Theresa & Daniel  
Wabash, IN  
PH: 219-563-4771  
Email: <darkstar96@juno.com>

**East Norwich, Long Island, NY**

The SAVE YOUR FACE Group of the Wharf Rats now meets Tuesday nights from 7 PM - 8:30 PM in East Norwich, Long Island, NY. at the Community Methodist Church. Take the LIE to Exit 41N (106N) Take 106N to 25A (Northern Blvd.) Make a U-turn on the corner of 106N and 25A. Church is right on 106 and Vernon Ave. Entrance on Vernon Ave. (Fellowship Door)  
~COME ONE, COME ALL~

**East Coast Contact**

Dana P.  
Dix Hills, NY  
PH: ) 631-254-1395  
Cell: 516-242-7858  
Email: <Dana526811@aol.com>  
or Warren  
PH: 516-942-5126  
Email: <NVRMGBK@aol.com>

**Assisting the East Coast**

Carol G. & Robert  
Providence, RI  
508-799-4289

**East Coast Treasurer & Sticker  
Procurer/Provider Extrordinaire'**

Warren Frank  
101 Rim Lane,  
Hicksville NY, 11801  
PH: 516-942-5126  
Email: <NVRMGBK@aol.com>  
See page 4 for mail order sticker info

**Southeast Asia Contact**

Don "Wharftdaddy" Bryant. Really, if you're in the neighborhood, drop a line, Don can turn you on to the best hippie hangouts, temples, meetings and Bangkoks very own Shakedown Street.

Email: <wharftdaddy@aol.com>  
or write, by the time you land,  
he'll be ready for ya!  
21/45 Soi Chawakhun, Rang Nam Road,  
Rajthevi  
Bangkok, 10400, Thailand (Unrestricted Mail)  
OR

HQ,JUSMAGTHAI,Box R 3109,  
APO AP 96546 (Letters Only)  
Direct Line:(6602)644-9232  
Fax :(6602)246-8789

**Web Site & List-Serv/Database**

**Web Site & List-Serv**

David Francis  
Norfolk, VA  
PH: 757-623-8818  
Email: <david@dcf.net>

**Web Site: <http://www.dcf.net/home>**

**Wharf Rat Forum Web Chat**

Located at [www.delphi.com/wharfrat/](http://www.delphi.com/wharfrat/). Meetings every Thursday with more to come.... Some things change & yet remain the same, look for the **yellow balloons**, it may open the door for gathering and fellowship at whatever concert you're attending.

**AOL Online Meeting**

There is an online Wharf Rat meeting on Wednesdays and Sundays on AOL at 10:00 PM (EST) 7:00 PM (PST) Go to keyword: Rose Garden.

**Anytown, USA**

If you can't find the Wharf Rat Meeting you want to be in, start one!

"Maybe someday I will start a Wharf Rats meeting in the \*\*\*\*\* area. (I've been saying that for years)."

Anonymous, WR list\_serv

**Newsletter Person**

Pattyte M.



**RATS NEST**

Brisbane, CA  
Email: <Pattyte@LMI.net>

Rat's Nest is our newsletter hang-out... talk to us, we're listening. Send submissions for the newsletter to <Pattyte@LMI.net>. We are collecting for the seventh edition and we want to hear from you guys. Kicking off the Rat's Nest is our East Coast Contact, Dana, with some Wharf Rat Meeting Anniversary news.... we are not only everywhere, we are in it for the long haul. Congratulations and Happy Anniversary to the Save Your Face Group of WR's and a HUGE HUG & Thank You to all the people in service who make things like this happen.

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From the list\_serv, 1/31/01:

Well - the Save Your Face Group of the Wharf Rats had our group anniversary last night. It was great - we had about 50 people there and a speaker named Freddie from New Jersey. He's a friend of Don Bryant's and one of the original newsletter authors. Our group greatly appreciates the fact that he made a long drive out just to speak for us! Thank you Freddie! You were great! We had homemade lasagna (courtesy of Tim), lots of snacks and candy, our customary Napoleon cake (from Sal's sister's bakery), and, as per usual, great tunes (if I do say so myself). We also did a trivia contest where I read lines from Grateful Dead songs and people had to figure out which songs they were from. The winners got to pick from an array of Grateful Dead CD's that I burned especially for the occasion. I think we'll have to make this an annual contest. It was a big hit. We had lots of time for sharing last night since we had the room late. It was one of our best anniversaries ever!! Thank you, everybody, for helping to keep this group going! Here's to many, many more group anniversaries for the SYF group!!

Love you all!  
Dana

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Thoughts On Regret...

Six of One  
Half Dozen of the Other One...?

I've been having a very strange feeling lately that's quite foreign to me. You know the popular question "If you had it all to do over again, would you do it any differently?" Well, for the most part, when I really think about it and am completely

honest with myself, I'm inclined to say no. The decisions I've made in the past, regardless of how foolish some of them may have been, have had a very large impact on who I am today. I like who I am today so why would I want to change? Well, that's up until now. My son is 9 years old and decided to be in the band at school. He initially wanted to play drums which is what I did and I successfully talked him out of it. I told him that I've often wished that I'd learned to play an instrument other than a drum because, as an adult, when the urge to create something musical hits me, I'd like to be able to do something more melodic than tap on the table. He asked me what instrument I wished I'd learned and I said saxophone. He tried on an alto sax at the music store and said it was too heavy for him. He decided on a clarinet. It turns out he's got quite a talent for it and is way ahead of his class and loving it. He's listening to jazz and looking forward to learning more all the time. Remembering something, I think, Phil said about creating music helps the mind stay active and the soul young, I decided to rent a sax for myself and, at the tender age of 44, be a beginning music student. Well, I don't think my son got his musical talent from me but I'm doing ok. I've got Twinkle Twinkle Little Star down cold but Mary Had A Little Lamb still needs a little work. I'm getting to the point now where reading the music is becoming second nature to me and I'm starting to have a little fun with it. That's the good news. The bad news is that I REALLY, REALLY wish I had it all to do over again because I would definitely learn sax as a kid and practice my butt off because I'd be a blues sax player right now. This isn't just a thought I toy with. I'm enjoying learning how to play sax but I also have a very profound sadness realizing that starting to learn at 44, I'll most likely never be as good as I would like to be. I'd like to be able to sit in with some other musicians and say "hey, let's play Walkin' Blues in the key of B flat" and start jamming. I suppose I could be underestimating my potential but I doubt it. Boy do I wish I had it all to do over again. Phil was right though.

Anonymous/WR List\_serv

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Just wanted to say a few words about this "thing" called the Wharf Rats. It's always been a part of my own recovery & had added another huge dimension to that. It's made it possible to truly like being bodily and mentally different from my fellows. How large and widespread the fellowship of we clean & sober music lovers has become leaves me in a place of wishing I could quit my day job & really give my all to & for you folks. Alas, my days are very full & I just have to keep doing what I can to the best of my abilities (something my first sponsor gently & lovingly drilled into me). I don't seem to tour well at this age, however I'd like to always do what I can to keep this trip going. It gives me a very clear sense of 'we're all making this up as we go along', which pulls me out of my small self & brings me to a place of recognizing how unique and diverse all of you are! Thanks to everyone who has pitched in in whatever way to me



I have been in recovery for a little over 7 years and my ABSOLUTE favorite part of this process (besides staying clean) is having my main support group be the Wharf Rats. Ever since I got clean I have been involved with the Rats! Of course, I was a deadhead for most of my 18 using years, but never really paid much attention to the Wharf Rats when I saw them popping up at shows in the 80's. When I DID see them, I just stole their candy and ran away! I certainly couldn't fathom going to a show without using - What fun would THAT be?? Well - let me tell you what fun that is!!!! In 1993 I met my sponsor, Kay - she's an old school Wharf Rat who used to work the tables with "Mom". I got involved a little with her, helping out with the newsletter mailing list and hanging around the tables at shows. In 1995 Jerry died. The scene was over (or so I thought). A few months later, her and I met another fellow Rat at a recovery convention who happened to see my car in the parking lot (with Dead stickers all over it) - since I was the only one at the convention wearing a Tye Dye, he figured it was my car - HE WAS RIGHT. He approached my sponsor and I about starting a Wharf Rat meeting in the Long Island area. He had been living in Seattle and had some involvement with the Mr. Bubbles Group out there. I thought it was a great idea! The 3 of us started the Save Your Face Group in Long Island. We struggled a bit the first few years - we'd go from having 2 of us show up to 15! Back and forth. We kept it together tho and have had many folks come and go. The core group has flourished and we now regularly have 10-15 show up every week! We know each other so well now - the bond we share is unexplainable. One of the coolest parts about our group is that we go to shows together. Most Dead-related shows in our area are taken over by 20 or so of us Long Island area WR's, who dance and laugh and move like no one else. Always seems to me that us clean folk are having more fun than anyone else around!!! We are very devoted lovers of the live scene and dancing. Having that in common with our desire to stay clean is one of the greatest connections I have ever experienced in my life! I met Don (Wharfdaddy) in 1997 and he showed up at a couple of our Long Island meetings (he even spoke at a few of our anniversaries). We started getting involved with tabling with Don and our bond got even stronger. When Don decided to hit Bangkok for awhile, he asked Warren and I to take on some of the responsibility that he could no longer commit to. Along with Lynn, Patty, Lisa, Ken, Therese, Daniel, Robert and Carol - we are now part of the committed table coordinators who ensure that the Dead-related shows have a WR presence. Recently I was contacted by the Phil Lesh promoters. They wanted to send out letters to all the venues for us, so the venues were aware that we belonged and were welcome to set up! Typically sending out letters to venues was our responsibility! Now we have Phil's folks helping us out with that! Do you know what that says about the Wharf Rats?? We are only getting stronger - and our devotion grows with each passing year. It's too bad that Jerry couldn't find his way in time to stay alive. He could have joined us at our intermission meetings during Dead shows. There but for the Grace of God go I, Jer. We are the blessed and lucky ones to still be alive, clean and enjoying beautiful music with each other.

Take that number down.....

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Here's to us,  
and folks like us...

\*The Jellyfish-Clean & Sober String Cheese Incident Fans:  
<http://members.fortunecity.com/scijellyfish/index.htm>

\*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 Hippie Crossroads:  
<http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Hall/2776/>

**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 a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

(East Coast Treasurer & Bumper Stickers)  
Warren Frank  
101 Rim Lane Hicksville  
NY. 11801  
PH: (516) 942-5126  
Email: <NVRCMGBK@aol.com>

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Please make sure to specify which stickers you want. The URL formerly listed for viewing the stickers is currently not responding (Jack Straw where are you?) If anyone wants to scan a nice quality image of the series and forward them to me, we would use it here.....as it is for now, Ken is pasting them in when he prints.

Choose from the following:

Currently no images of stickers to post here. Scanner anyone, wanna help out, send scanned images as TIFF, JPEG, GIFF or PDF files to Pattye@LMI.net.

If you'd like to be of service at an upcoming show, we'd like to encourage you to call the WR Contact in your area. If there is no contact in your area, maybe you'd consider becoming one. The tables are always in need of support, whether it be your willingness to be available at the table for a show, or period of time at the show, welcoming other WR's and greeting all others who may express interest in WR's, or bringing a fresh stash of Yellow Balloons, or a bag of candy, any and all support to the table is welcome and encouraged. The sum of us make the table, and not one of us can do it alone. Come and shine at the table, you never know what your smile and welcome embrace can mean to another in need. Representing the WR's at the table does not affiliate any Wharf Rat's with the band or the venue management. Our most humble aim is to be anonymous except to each other...which by no means limits your ability to shine everywhere you go. Also, keep in mind that by serving at the WR table anonymity is pretty much a forfeit. Thanks to all the Wharf Rats who tended tables everywhere this last year, we absolutely can't do it without your

**!! See Ya Later, Bye !!**

Well, that's it for the other one. See you next time, thanks for stopping in, thanks to those of you who submitted stuff, way cool, as always. Tread well on your summer tours, and may the fall always be just a season in your life and not necessarily a part of your recovery story, although those are enlightening, too. Thanks to those of you who soldiered along out there, and made it back to us in mostly one piece to remind of us how nothin' changes if nothin' changes and that the war on drugs is an inside job and always will be. Special blessings for those we may have lost this last year to the black hole of addiction. And may all those who have found reason to rift and fall out of love find their way back, and this is not just for lovers, but for all who love in all ways. Sometimes what we are and how we shine has everything to do with the love of those around us who create the space for us to shine like we never have before. So here's to the Wharf Rats, from my heart to yours, I love who I am when I'm with you. Peace.



\*\*\*\*\*LOOK FOR THE WHARF RAT TABLE AT THE SHOWS IN YOUR AREA \*\*\*\*\*  
SET BREAK MEETINGS & WHARF RAT FAMILY GATHERINGS



**REMAINING RAT DOG TOUR DATES 2001**

05/04 Warfield Theater, San Francisco, CA

**Opening for Phil & Friends at these shows...**

07/09 Zoo Amphitheater, Oklahoma City, OK  
07/10 Riverport Amphitheater, Maryland Heights, M  
07/17 DTE Energy Music Theater, Auburn Hills, MI  
07/18 Polaris Amphitheater, Columbus, OH  
07/20 Tweeter Center, Mansfield, MA  
07/21 ctnow.com Meadows Music, Hartford, CT  
07/22 Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga  
Springs, NY

That's the list from DeadNet for right now...  
but wait... there's more...

**WAVY GRAVY'S BIRTHDAY BASH**

05/17 Berkeley Community Theatre  
featuring: Dr. John / Mickey Hart / Wavy Gravy Box  
Set / Indigenous / Jorma Kaukonen & Jack Casady /  
Paul Kantner & Diana Mangano With Special Guests:  
Maria Muldaur & Pete Sears

or how 'bout...

**STEVE KIMOCK BAND**

05/04 Chester's Place Fayetteville, AR  
05/06 Tipitina's Uptown - New Orleans, LA  
05/17 Belly Up Tavern - Solano Beach, CA  
05/18 The Edge, 423 State Street, Santa Barbara,  
CA.  
05/19 First Annual Funkyard Music Fest  
The Green On The Hill, Signal Hill, CA (Next to Long  
Beach) Also featuring: Vinyl, Robert Walters's 20th  
Congress, D J Haul and more TBA  
05/23 Palookaville, Santa Cruz, CA.  
05/25 Crystal Ballroom - Portland, OR  
05/26 Louis Ballroom, Blaine, WA  
05/27 Richard's on Richards, Vancouver, BC. Canada  
06/02 Creekside Jamboree - Williamsport, PA  
06/08 & 06/09 Bear Tooth Theatre & Pub  
Anchorage, Alaska  
06/29 Wetlands Preserve - New York, NY  
06/30 Gathering of The Vibes, Red Hook, NY  
07/01 State Theatre, Falls Church, VA  
07/05 & 07/06 High Sierra Music Festival, Quincy, CA

**PHIL & FRIENDS ODYSSEY TOUR 2001**

06/27 Los Angeles, CA Greek Theater  
06/29 Berkeley, CA, Greek Theater 7:00 PM  
06/30 Berkeley, CA Greek Theater The Disco Biscuits  
07/01 Berkeley, CA Greek Theater  
07/03 Eugene, OR Cuthbert Amphitheater TBA  
07/04 Seattle, WA Snoqualmie Amphitheater TBA  
07/06 Denver, CO Red Rocks TBA  
07/07 Denver, CO Red Rocks TBA  
07/09 Oklahoma City, OK Zoo Amphitheater TBA  
07/10 Maryland Heights, MO Riverport Amphitheater  
07/11 Bonner Springs, KS Sandstone Amphitheater  
07/12 Sumerset, WI River's Edge Amphitheater  
07/14 East Troy, WI Alpine Valley  
07/15 Noblesville, I Verizon Wireless Music Center  
07/17 Clarkson, MI Pine Knob Music Theater, with Rat Dog  
07/18 Columbus, OHn Polaris Amphitheater B  
07/20 Mansfield, MA Tweeter Center at Great Woods  
07/21 Hartford, CT, The Meadows  
07/22 Saratoga Springs, NY SPAC  
07/24 Canandaigua, NY Finger Lakes PAC  
07/26 Wantagh, Long Island, NY Jones Beach  
07/27 Holmdel, NJ PNC Bank Arts Center  
07/28 Camden, NJ E Center  
07/29 Hershey, PA Hershey Star Pavilion  
07/29 Hershey Star Pavilion, Hershey, PA  
with Willie Nelson and Derek Trucks.  
07/31 Columbia, MD Merriweather Post Pavilion  
08/02 Verizon Wireless Virginia Beach Amphitheater,  
Virginia Beach, VA.  
08/05 HiFi Buys Amphitheater, aka Lakewood Amphi-  
theater, Atlanta, GA