

Coconut Telegraph

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Editorial: Attack of the Land Sharks

In our June issue we reported that Jimmy Buffett's Lawyers, Greenberg Traurig, are threatening to sue the Coconut Telegraph for trademark infringement, false endorsement and cyber squatting because Jimmy claimed that he coined the phrase in 1981 when he wrote a song about it. He put a trademark on it and uses it on a newsletter he produces of the same name, for the purpose of promoting his concert dates and selling his clothing and other products.

The response to our story "Goliath threatens David" was amazing. The Key West Citizen did a front-page story June 11th and The Free Press did one as well. Mark Mills from Sun 103 Clear Channel reported it and said, "We are behind you Denise."

We received another letter from Greenberg, Traurig overnight on June 11 stating that "If you do not cease all use of Margaritaville's federally- registered COCONUT TELEGRAPH and notify us of your intent to desist from any future use of the mark before 5:00 PM on Friday, June 13, 2008 a federal lawsuit will be filed against you and Prestige Publishing.

Well, "Son of a son of a bitch!" "Why don't we get drunk and screw the Conch Republic Coconut Telegraph?" "A publisher looks at jail?" NOT. Looks like those land sharks think we're rich.

This publication gets by each month from the businesses that advertise in it. Our rates are low because we have no big fancy building and huge staff. We do it all in our homes on our computers. Saves the advertisers a bunch. By no means are we getting rich though we are however helping our community by

running free ads for benefits and local charities. Is that what the land sharks want to take away? Jimmy Buffett is a billionaire yet what has he done for the Conch Republic? We are in no way associated with Jimmy Buffett or his Margaritaville Enterprises; we do however promote the Pirates on the Water, a division of the "Parrot Heads" that do much for the community. They organize beach cleanups and recently organized the parade and security for the Jewfish Bridge opening. The Coconut Telegraph is the only publication that gave them any credit for their efforts. Gee, sounds like Jimmy wants to "Get drunk and screw himself". The public opinion is that Jimmy Buffett probably doesn't even know what his lawyers are up to. They are just trying to rake up some billable hours from Jimmy. But that is about to change. On June 20th Diana Reed from Channel 7 interviewed me and is providing the tape for Fox News. Diana plans to interview Jimmy as well.

The citizens of the Upper Keys are organizing a friendly demonstration on Saturday, July 26th in Key West to protest these land sharks. We even have a Jimmy Buffett look alike to do a spoof on some of his songs. A bus will be leaving the Pilot House at 11 a.m.; seating is limited (see ad on 8 page) so get your tickets early. There is a good possibility that we may gain national attention and make a little history for the Conch Republic. If you cannot make the "party" in Margaritaville you can still show your support by thanking the advertisers in this issue.

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Entertainer of the Month Bolivar

"Island Music at its Best"



The Coconut Telegraph has given Bolivar its very first 200-mile rating. My friend and former boss from the Independent Newspaper, Lou Hillen, recently drove down from Bonita Springs to catch Bolivar's show at Morada Bay.

The soothing music brought back memories of 20 years ago when I had just moved here. I first heard Bolivar at the Key Largo Quay and was hooked. I bought every CD I could get my hands on and sent them up North to my friends and relatives so they could listen to them and get an understanding of why I had fallen in love with the Keys. My favorite is the "Yellow Bird" album and I can

sing along with "Moon over Key Largo".

Bolivar has written and produced much of his own music in his recording studio in Miami where he resides, but he performs throughout South Florida. Bolivar is originally from Kingston, Jamaica and his recording "Woman A Genal" was a #1 hit there. His latest CD, "Blue" is now out but you'll have a hard time finding one in the Keys. You can pick one up at website www.bolivar.org; catch his show at Morada Bay 664-3304; or contact his public relations office at 1-800-917-4121. We recommend the show at Morada Bay; it's worth the drive!



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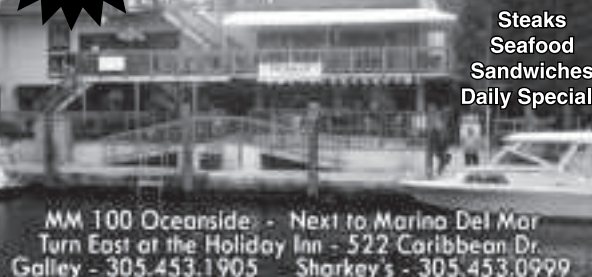
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