

Artist of the Month Captain Jack Smith

Story by Rachel R. Peine

You may have noticed a picture of our Artist of the Month in the last issue, when he tied for first place in the Conch Shell Blowing contest at Snapper's. He's wearing a large stone crab claw he made into a necklace, and that's only one of his artistic talents. It's not the one that made him our featured artist but he expects to be selling these items at the next Nautical Flea Market.

When you see the necklaces, you'll also see Captain Jack's primary form of artwork, model flats boats and rowing skiffs, mounted for wall hanging.

He told us how he started making the models. "I have a dinghy I used to row all the time. I use it now for my sailboat. It's only 9 feet, and if I took someone with me, it was too small. I wanted a bigger rowboat, but I couldn't find one I liked. I wanted a classic wooden boat, so I bought a book, *Classic Wooden Boats*, and I decided to make one myself. I was an architect all my life, but not a naval architect. I taught myself to draw hulls and designed the rowboat on the

drawing board. Once I had the drawing, I decided to build a model of it. That was in 1988."

Captain Jack then got hooked on building models and about three years ago he started the flats boats. Each one has a polling platform and even poles, painted like the real flats boats, aluminum or black. Custom orders can have the same colors.

Captain Jack also built his own full size flats boat from a shell, starting with just the hull (see picture below). He hasn't built the rowboat that inspired the models, but one day...

Not to forget the Stone Crab claws - they're filled with glue and wood, and varnished with a loop on top to put on a chain or key ring.

Captain Jack's models are available at the Redbone Gallery in Islamorada and the Cudjoe Garden Marina at mile marker 21. There's a rowing skiff on display at Snapper's, but it's part of the decor, so don't try to buy it. And remember to look for him at the next Nautical Flea market. For more info, call Captain Jack at 305-393-0287.



Captain Jack Smith made them both.

Photo by Rick Peine

Local Students Win Young Musicians Award



Upper Keys music students received the Young Musicians Award from the Florida Keys Community Concert Band.

On April 26, sixteen Upper Keys music students received the Young Musicians Award from the Florida Keys Community Concert Band. The students rehearsed with the Band and performed in the April Young Musicians' Concert.

Students from Key Largo School included Samantha Roberts, Chelsea Penne, Heather Doyle, Alberto Anderson, and Amber Hanson. Landon Brooks and Kirsten Burns from Plantation Key School also participated in the program.

Coral Shores High School students, many of whom perform with the Band on a regular basis, included the following: Rainy Montague, Ismael Sandoval, Jennifer Ray, Sophia Watkins,

Ashley Sherill, Christina Genet, Chris Williams, Daniel Kepler, and Luana Peixoto.

During the concert, a saxophone quartet from Coral Shores High School performed "Orpheus Overture," a selection which received "Excellent" ratings at the recent Florida Bandmasters Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment.

An annual grant from The Hurlburt Family Foundation supports the Young Musicians' Program. All participating students

received either a tuner/metronome or a gift certificate for music supplies. For more information on the Florida Keys Community Concert Band send an email to Keysconcertband@aol.com or call 853-7294.

Key Largo Man Runs Birthday Gauntlet

The Scenario: Everyone's beloved Golf Pro, Johnny Farrell, was presented with a list of things to do and gather on the evening of his birthday. A cake and presents were awaiting him at the Pilot House after completion of his mission. The list was provided by his wife, Molly Farrell and the entire event was video taped while Johnny performed in a costume.

Here is a portion of his list:

- You must complete every sentence with the saying, "I am the superhero Gemini come to take over the world," if not you must chug a beer as consequence.
- Video clip of you humping the Buzzard's Roost landmark while crowing like a rooster.
- Panhandle a dollar from a stranger at the Caribbean Club and have them sign it. Let them know they just saved your life.
- Go to the Big Chill outside Tiki Bar and order a "big fat blow job," do the shot, whipped cream and all. If necessary, order a Jack and coke for the road.
- Run next door to CJ's and convince a stranger to chug a drink against you.
- At Publix purchase candles in the amount of your age and once in line, serenade the register attendant with a high-pitched version of "Mary had a little lamb".
- Strip to your undies and do a cannonball at the Holiday Inn pool.
- At Sharkey's do a lap around and through the bar without getting hit... or else.
- Finally there will be a tire at the next intersection. To finish you must exit the vehicle and roll the tire all the way to the Pilot House while screaming, "The British are coming, the British are coming!"



After completing the "birthday list" challenge Todd Womer and Johnny Farrell enjoy Farrell's birthday party at the Pilot House.

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Some Dance To Forget

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