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You Might Have KEYS DISEASE

unique observations on life in the Florida Keys

BOTE HOWSS

If you've ever lived on a boat.... you might have Keys Disease!

Sue Beal started it... with a lot of help from her friends, and apologies to Jeff Foxworthy. John McKinna illustrated it. Prestige Publishing finished it. And the Elms Lodge 1872 made it work.

This 32-page book was created with the idea of poking fun at our life here in the Florida Keys. It was published and made available for sale so that the proceeds could help local musicians and their families.

The book started as a collection of random observations by Sue Beal, on our life here in the Keys. It grew when she shared them with others, as people chimed in with their own observations.

Denise at Prestige Publishing saw the potential to publish the thoughts as a book, and asked John McKinna to make some cartoon illustrations. With John's recent passing, we were inspired to find funding (thanks to Gilbert's Resort) and a non-profit to handle the funds. (Thanks to Elks Lodge #1872 in Tavernier.)

That left the way clear to actually print and publish the book!

Here in the Keys, we enjoy the music of so many talented and world-class musicians. Even though our community enjoys the fruits of their labors, we know the musicians have little to spare and have no safety net to help when disaster strikes and they cannot work. All proceeds from the sale of this book will be used to help musicians in need.

DEDICATED TO JOHN MCKINNA

John was not only a fine musician, but also a sailor, a commercial diver/welder, oil well firefighter and best-selling author. He was a professional musician for forty years, playing lead guitar, bass guitar, banjo, drums and flute.

He was Operations Manager/Technical Supervisor of the Jules' Undersea Lodge's habitat from 2002 until his death in 2016. A former offshore oilfield commercial diver with a 20-year career in deep-gas diving, focusing on construction and repair of oil rigs, he was ideally suited to the job.

John was also an internationally published author, with six bestselling novels to his credit, including three popular diving thrillers and three WWII historical novels.

John showcased his sense of humor in his cartoons, which were syndicated, and they continue to run monthly in the Coconut Telegraph.

John and his wife Teresa were year-round residents of Key Largo and enjoyed spearfishing, snorkeling, diving, sailing, and kayaking together.

He gave generously of his time and talents to help those in our community, including drawing the illustrations for this book.

Teresa McKinna will also be on hand to sign books!


You Might Have KEYS DISEASE


Book Signing and Benefit for the Musician's Relief Fund

Monday, May 23rd
5-9pm

RAFFLES at Gilbert's PRIZES

Music by
Kevin Hurley • Bobbe Brown • Dale Henderson
Scott Youngberg • and more!





Sue Beal gets the blame for this book. She can't take all the credit; once the topic came up, other people chimed in and added their perspectives on living in the Keys. She merely wrote it down.

As a graphic artist in Key Largo, she is used to collaborating on projects. And stepping up to take the blame!

Seriously, Sue started collecting these little observations on Keys life years ago. She's lived in the Keys for 30 years now, and still gets surprised by this or that little detail that shows us the uniqueness of this island chain that we call home.

She lives in Key Largo with her husband, JC and the requisite number of cats. Sue will be available to sign books at the May 23rd event.

A special thank-you to Gilbert's Resort:

Not only are they hosting this event, but Gilbert's also funded the first printing of the Keys Disease book! What a wonderful way to support our local musicians... in addition to all the work they provide for them!!

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