

Son of a Beach

A Party Looks at Forty • McCarty Party 2021

Bobby McBeach staggered down to his laptop that Wednesday. It was a hot afternoon, the last day of June, and the previous evening's festivities weighed heavily on his mind, body, and soul.

"I'll never drink again", he said to himself, but then looked at his email and immediately knew that was a lie. (Not to mention that he had given up drinking once before, and it was the worst afternoon of his life.)

There in his inbox, beckoning with its come-hither stare, was an invitation to the one event that had been both the problem and the solution to everything in his adult life. It wasn't just any invitation; it was a McCarty Party invitation. And it wasn't just a McCarty Party invitation, it was an invitation to the 40th McCarty Party. As a charter sponsor (where were you in '82?), he understood his responsibilities and thought he felt his liver raise a hand to object.

The invitation started off normally enough:

Theme: Son of a Beach: McCarty Party 40

When: 3:00 pm Saturday July 17th, 2021 (except for golf, see below)

Where: Camp McCarty

Food: Cork & Bottle (or as we like to call it, The Pork Chop Wagon)

Charity: The American Cancer Society

Golf: 1:00 pm Saturday July 10th (arrive at Camp McCarty before 12 noon)

(Yes golfers, Saturday the week before the party.)

Bobby couldn't help but swear. "Those sons of bitches stole my name and made a party out of it!" he yelled at Huey, his parrot sitting across the room. Bobby knew the "Mc" in Irish names means "son of", so McBeach could be translated as Son of a Beach. "At least that's my story and I'm sticking to it," he thought to himself.

"Son of beach. Sheet!" Huey squawked in reply.

But Bobby couldn't really be mad. Asking the McCarty Brothers not to steal other people's ideas, with reckless abandon, was like asking a holy mackerel not to drink like a fish. Plus, McCarty Party had been there for Bobby in his formative years. Cars run on gas, but McCarty Party runs on beer and semi-controlled stupidity.

At the parties over the years he had learned how to take a bra off a debutante, that beer was good, and how to cure his virginity. He learned to always do sober what he said he'd do drunk (as a great way to teach himself to keep his mouth shut). All were important life lessons.

Most people grew up learning the three "R's" (and when he read about the evils of drinking, he gave up reading). But Bobby misspent his youth learning about the four "B's" ... beaches, beers, babes, and buffalo. An odd combination, but then so were the McCarty Parties that supplied the lessons.

While all the parties were memorable, the parties celebrating each decade stood out for him. In 1991 the "Decade of Decadence" attempted to sum up what we had all thought was the golden age of such gatherings. But then we celebrated the 20th anniversary with 2001's "Live and Let Drink" and clearly we had become more comfortable in our intoxication (and it showed). 2011's "Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll… and other things we wished we'd tried" took us back to the basics, as we all approached our mid-life crisis. And now we were all looking down the barrel of 2021's "Son of a Beach". Hell, they even had cool T-shirts:



But the calendar looked brutal for mid-July. The McCarty Party Golf Classic on the 10th, a Jimmy Buffet concert on the 13th, with the party on the 17th. On top of that, it was "Shark Week". At this point, Bobby's liver began organizing a work stoppage.

But this was no time for cowards. It was time to cowboy up because it couldn't be avoided. Even the thought of not attending any of the above would be as futile as Cameron's objections on Ferris Bueller's day off. He actually pitied those poor bastards that wouldn't attend. Bobby knew that there would be no excuses accepted for missing McCarty Party 40.

Out of town for a wedding or a bachelor party? No excuse... get new friends or family (or fiancée). Gone to the islands to celebrate a milestone birthday? No excuse... you selfish SOB. Can't get a hall pass from the significant other? No excuse... blood might be thicker than water, but beer has better carbonation. Flossing your cat that day? No excuse... but you might want to seek professional help. Plus, the penalties for non-attendance would be severe and long lasting. Poor bastards.

But instead of dwelling on the negative, Bobby picked up the phone to call his best friend, and Scots-Irishman, Mac McSailor (incidentally "Mac" is the Scottish version of "son of", so you do the math). Mac had also received his invitation and the two started making their plans. Bobby was thinking out loud about who they might get to see at the party. Old friends, an old nemesis, and maybe an old flame or two.

Obviously, the hard cores would be there. Joining the McCarty Brothers would be Jimmy McBond, Bud Blarnystone, Buick Skylarker, Bunny Bear, and the Sober Diego. Some folks say those are fictional characters. Other than the McCarty Brothers, they are not... but they really are the people our parents warned us about.

But rumor had it that not only were the regulars going to be in attendance, but some old dogs would be making their triumphant return. Niedmor Brewski, Buffalo Bill, Harry Gans, Kitten, and Patty O'Furniture would be there. Even AC, Sydney, Jugdish, and Clayton were coming.

But not everyone who had ever attended a McCarty Party would attend. Sadly, we had lost a few of the really good ones over the years. But Mac knew where this conversation was headed and what Bobby was wondering. "Would she be there?"

"She" was Eliza Zee Ryder (her friends called her EZ). They had met down in the Urbana Republics, at the party in '95. She was on her way out of a porta potty when Bobby was on his way in. He could tell she was a smart woman (in a real short skirt). He liked her looks. He liked her sense of humor. He liked that she had been drinking enough to actually use a porta potty. (And that porta potty was God awful. Filth. Muck. You should have seen her shoes.)

Bobby and EZ became an item for a while. She knew how to weaponize tequila. He taught her that using a feather was kinky (but using a whole chicken was perverted). They talked about running away together to a secluded beach somewhere. He wanted to head to Margaritaville, but like all woman, she dreamt only of Fiji Island. Alas, over time their relationship, like Doby Gray, just drifted away.

Afterwards, Bobby remained delightfully tacky, yet unrefined. He came to believe that relationships were for the weak, (although he never needed more than a few minutes). He became the bachelor equivalent to dish soap; in that they both worked quickly and didn't leave a ring.

His place (a van down by the river), became known as "The Home for the Visually Offensive". And at one point he was arrested for robbing the cradle. There were no indictments, but the stigma of being banned from Tinder lingers on. Everyone, Bobby included, thought that he was unlikely to take a bride. He eventually became the president of Sex Without Partners (as he was willing to take matters into his own hands).

But even so, he just couldn't shake that notion of him and EZ on a beach somewhere. "But what if she showed up this year?", he asked. "What if?" "If I told her she had a beautiful body, would she still hold it against me?" "God, I hope so."

Mac replied, "And just maybe that's what McCarty Party has always been about... hope." A lot has changed over 40 years. The event is now livestreamed and the Lip Sync contest (sign-up here) will cover 40 years of music and videos to drink by. But one thing that will never change is the hope. The hope to get drunk. The hope to be taken advantage of. The hope of growing older, but not up. If hope springs eternal, and even if EZ doesn't find her way back, I think our boy Bobby will be just fine (even if his liver isn't). That son of a beach.

To be continued...

And with our apologies to Paul Simon, we're...

刀 Still crazy after all these beers 刀

Summary Information

Below we have provided all the vital information for McCarty Party 2021... although we believe that the invitation is best viewed online with all of its predecessors and in all of its colorful and technologically enhanced goodness at https://www.mccarty.party.

Theme: Son of a Beach: McCarty Party 40

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Charity: The American Cancer Society
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(Arrive at Camp McCarty before 12 noon.)

Let us know what questions and suggestions you might have, and we will do our best to ignore them. Call us. Email us. Facebook us. Focus.

Irrelevant Information

Rain Date: Sure. But you can bring a date if it's sunny too (an oldie, but a goodie). Remember, in case of natural disasters (hurricanes, earthquakes, mudslides, firestorms, Biden without a teleprompter) we will still have a party and drink beer. We do, however, expect a strong beer front to move across the area. We believe as the storm surges you will be able to notice some Bud Lightnings on the horizon. Most importantly, remember that you are still responsible for your own companionship.

Other Stuff: We provide beer, entertainment, and a guaranteed good time (okay, not a *money-back* guarantee, but we are pretty sincere about this). If you want anything else, bring it along. (Please, no dogs, fireworks, nuclear weapons, anyone under the legal drinking age, guns, or butter. We have enough to worry about.)

Please accept this invitation as our yearlong greeting card. Therefore:

Happy Birthday, Congratulations, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Get Well Soon, Thinking of You, Please Do Not Bend, Spindle or Mutilate, Have a Nice Day, Don't Slap Pandas, Nuke the Whales.

Detailed Information

Twelve Things You Need to Know about McCarty Party 2021, before you get here

- 1) Swimming Pool: So... we have a small swimming with a large deck around it. And although it is an Olympic year, as we learned during McCarty Party Two (on the farm, with a pond and some inner tubes), water and the McCarty Parties don't mix well (kind of like the Kardashians and professional athletes). Accidents at a party should be carnal, and not of a paramedic nature. The pool will not be used during the festivities.
- **2) Parking:** All parking will be down in the parking area/island. It's a good area to watch the submarine races. (Let us know if you need directions to Camp McCarty, or pointers on going parking with your best girl.)
- **3) Food:** A wise man once said, "A man drinks like that and he don't eat... he gonna die". Which is why we thought food might be a good idea. Do you like pork chop sandwiches? We do too. Cork & Bottle (The Pork Chop Wagon) will be back again. So bring your hunger and an extra few dollars. And while we appreciate that women don't understand that there is "no need for you to bring anything" (because they still do), ladies if you

must, please confine it to useful staples like jello shots. But really, no need for you to bring anything.

- **4) T-shirts:** Want a McCarty Party T-shirt? Of course, you do! Then win one of our time-honored events like Stupid Beer Tricks, the Lager Relays, Taking the Bras off the Debutantes, Beer Drinking for Time and Distance, Flip Cup, or the Lip Sync/Video Contest. The 2021 version is an instant classic; the front logo is a "Son of a Beach", and the back is a Hannah Krumholtz original. You can't buy T-shirts... you must earn them.
- 5) Golf: If you are a man and plan to play golf with us on Saturday the 10th (or just ride around in a golf cart and drink beer) you must let us know. If you are good (as beer is), you have already done this. If you are a weasel (as the French still are), we await your call, email, or text. We provide transportation to and from the golf course. Rendezvous point is Camp McCarty <u>before</u> 12 noon on Saturday. Tee times begin at 1:00pm at Majestic Springs Golf Club between Waynesville and Wilmington. Plan to spend \$50 for 9 holes and a cart (\$25 for golf and \$25 for transportation and beer, as we have to buy beer from the course). FYI our beer bunnies are happy to accept your tips (hint, hint). Course details can be found at: https://www.bestgolfmanagement.com/ms-home
- 6) Charity: While McCarty Party is a free party (other than the food wagon, as mentioned above), it is also a charity event. A charitable donation of \$10 (or whatever you would normally spend on a Saturday night out at the bars) would be appreciated. This year our beneficiary is the American Cancer Society. Cancer has robbed us of some of the brightest stars in the McCarty Party universe (as we look out to the constellations of Bo and Danna). So, let's help continue modern medicine's winning streak. Your donations are deeply appreciated.
- 7) Underwear Underground: Several uninterested party goers have wondered aloud, "Will there be an Underwear Underground again this year?" Really? In our continuing quest to stay irrelevant in these politically incorrect times, the "underwear only" policy will once again be observed in the Pub after midnight. A fully attired version of the party will continue in all the other areas of Camp McCarty. However, participation has been dwindling for this aspect of the party in recent years. Pick it up people, or else. (Do I hear, "Challenge accepted!!!"?)

Incidentally, underwear is defined as an undergarment worn next to the skin (like boxers, knickers, panties, and the like) used to preserve the wearer's modesty, as well as for erotic effect. We like to think of it as being naked beneath our clothes. As we would encourage everyone to participate, we'd also encourage you to plan ahead. Those proclaiming that they are "going commando" will not be taken at their word.

- 8) Body Painting: For those ladies for whom the Underwear Underground is not risqué enough, we will again have a professional body painter, available from 9pm till midnight. For examples, go to https://www.zarias.com/body-painting-female-designs/. Please try to keep your designs simple, so we can get as many folks (ladies) painted as possible. If demand warrants, an amateur division can be made available after midnight. This is how finger painting evolved.
- **9) Law Enforcement:** For those of you who will be arriving after dark or leaving before daybreak, don't be alarmed by the law enforcement officers at the end of the driveway and/or down in the parking area. They work for us and are there to prevent under-age, would-be drinkers from crashing the party... and over-age, over-served patrons from driving when they shouldn't. In short, they are here to help keep people and property safe... so plan accordingly! Remember... if you walk down the driveway naked, they have body cams.

10) Intoxication Stations: Although McCarty Party is all about the beer, to jumpstart the festivities, upon arrival you will be shown to our Intoxication Stations. And much like a spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down, a nip of spirituous liquor makes the process that much more enjoyable. Nothing painful, just some fun to kick-off your McCarty Party experience.

11) Facilities (Bathrooms): You may not be aware of it, but alcohol is a diuretic (i.e., it makes you pee a lot). As we have learned in the past, the hard way, our well and septic system can't keep up with the demands of a McCarty Party. So again this year we'll have shiny clean porta-potties for the ladies and plenty of trees for the gentlemen to address their calls to nature. Thank you for your continued support in this instantaneous recycling (of fluids) back to mother earth.

12) More Information: For more information on these and other hot topics, please go here for our **Frequently** Asked Questions. And by the way, you can't spell Dale without "ale".

Schedule of Events

3:00 p.m. Exhibition Events (events we haven't seen in years)
4:00 p.m. Intoxication Stations

5:00 p.m. Stupid Beer Tricks

6:00 p.m. Beer Drinking for Time and Distance

7:00 p.m. The Lager Relays

7:30 p.m. Taking the Bras off the Debutantes

8:00 p.m. Flip Cup

9:00 p.m. Lip Sync Through the Years*** / Body Painting begins

12:00 a.m. The Midnight Special (by the shine of the moon)

12:05 a.m. The Underwear Underground (downstairs in the Pub)

2:45 a.m. Quarter till Three

6:24 a.m. Tequila Sunrise (formerly known as "Vodka & Cocopuffs")

*** To honor our forty years of beer, frivolity, and music we are asking for mass participation in Lip Sync this year. At 9:00 p.m. we will start with a classic music video from 1982 with one of our guests lip syncing with it on stage. Then immediately on to 1983 (with an '83 video and another participant), etc., etc. until 2021.

There is a sign-up sheet here: https://mccarty.party/lip-sync-info/ We have provided some suggested songs for each year. Sign-up early to get your year of choice. Remember: this is a competition (so you can win a T-Shirt), not an exhibition... so please, no wagering.

Contact Info

If you have never been to Camp McCarty (which wouldn't make much sense, but we suppose it is possible) please drop a note and we will email you a map. Or call and you will be mocked in person. Don't do anything we wouldn't do. See you on the 17th!

Dale & Mike

McCarty Party... for those not expecting a deeply religious experience.