



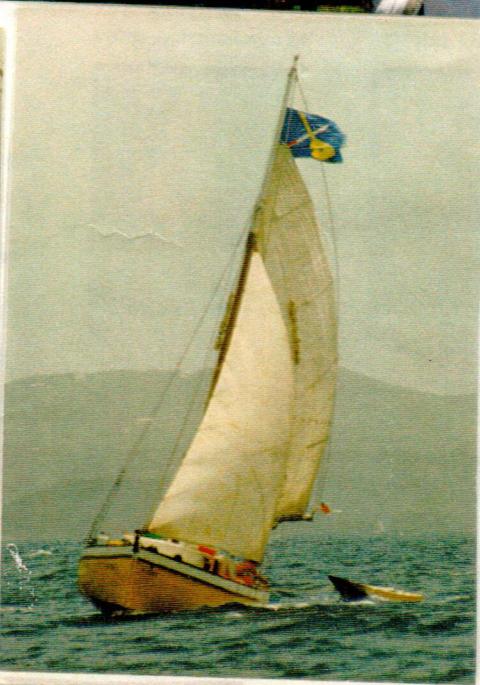
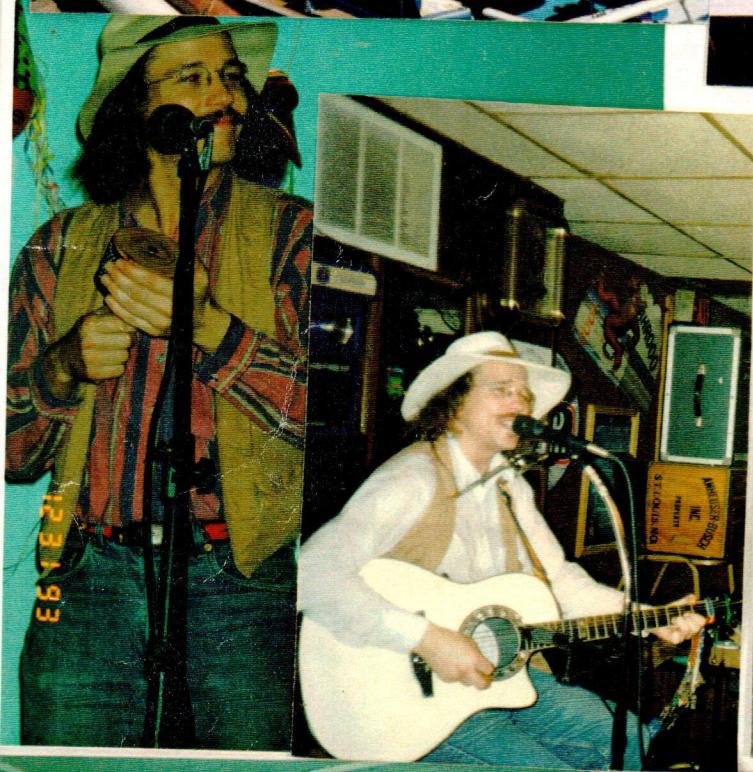
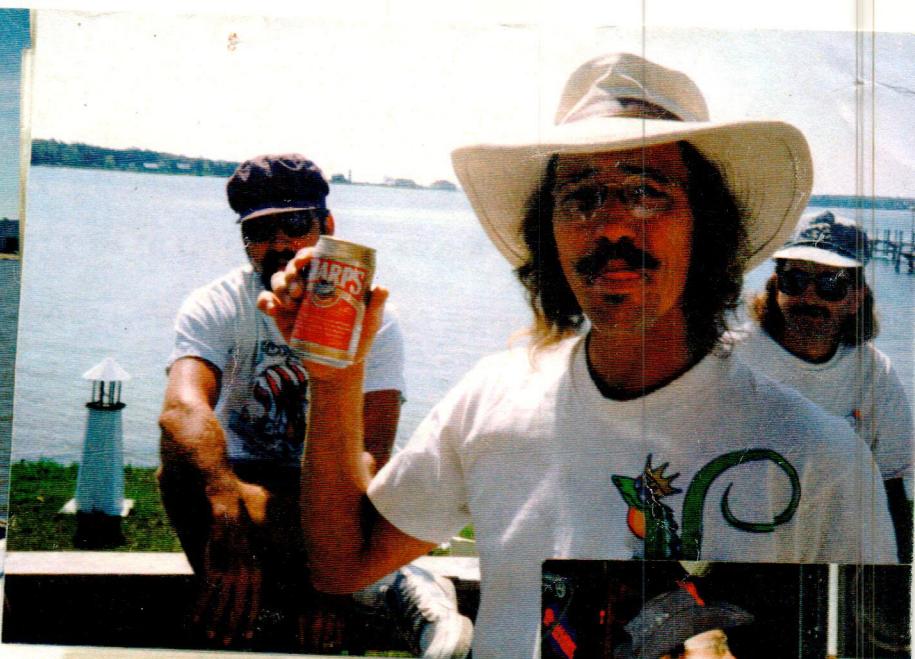
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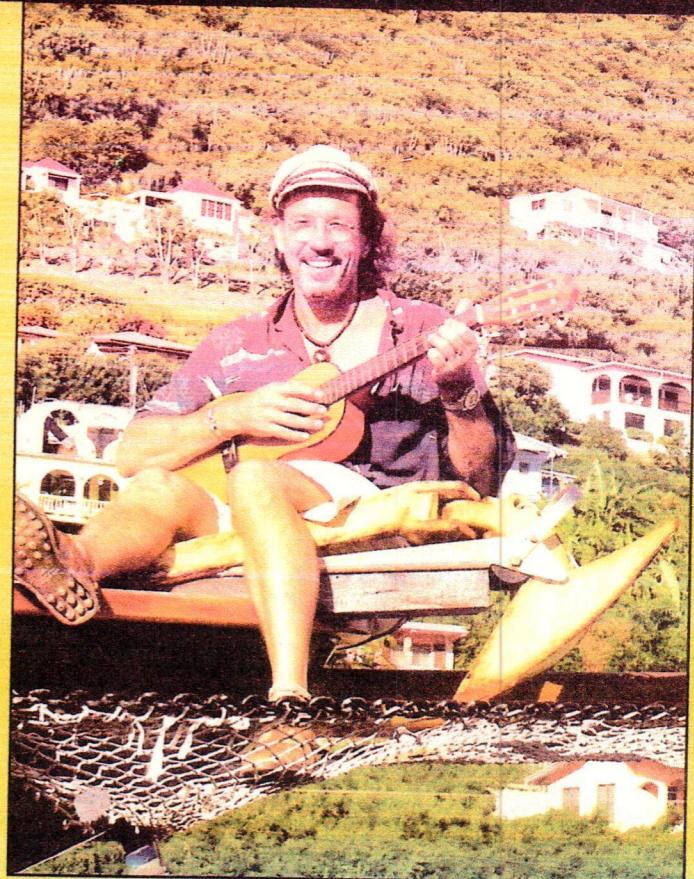
AN ENTERTAINING "BOAT-JANGLES" FOR MERCY

BY NANCY TERRELL

I MET MICHAEL BEANS IN 1988 WHILE ATTENDING THE CORAL BAY MUSIC FESTIVAL IN ST. JOHN AND I WILL NEVER FORGET IT. BEANS, AS ALL OF HIS FRIENDS FONDLY CALL HIM, SAILED INTO CORAL BAY ON A BRIGHT YELLOW ISLAND SLOOP, ESPERANZA. WITH GUITAR IN HAND, HE BOARDED HIS DINGHY ROWING ONTO THE BEACH WHERE I WAS DOING FACE PAINTINGS. I CLOSED DOWN SHOP, LISTENED TO HIS MUSIC, AND HAVE BEEN A BEANS FAN EVER SINCE.

Recently, we met again and pieced together his 30-year stint in the Caribbean. "I come from the Great Lakes region, so I have always been around water. I began sailing on a Sunfish at the age of 11. At 16, I was sailing on cruising boats off Beaver Island where I played music around the campfires, which launched my musical career. By the time I was 18, I was playing the nightclubs of Beaver and Mackinac Island, where I met Jim Sawtelle, a shipwreck salvager and treasure hunter who hired me to work for him. He took me to the Florida Keys on a working expedition and there I met his partner Mel Fisher. In 1975, we headed to Haiti to salvage an old famous Canadian schooner named *Bluenose*. It was there that I saw my first island sloop."

Working the north-south trail from Michigan to the Florida Keys, Beans eventually worked his way further south to the Virgin Islands, beginning in St. Croix where he performed at Pearl's and Beulah's Fantails. Live music and crab racing were his specialties, as he became the house entertainer at the Wreck Bar. "Just before Hurricane Hugo I bought my first boat, *Esperanza*, a 1932 Tortola sloop, with the money I earned from my part in 'Dreams of Gold,' a movie about Mel Fisher's adventure of treasure hunting and discovering the *Atocha*. After our futile attempt to sail her to Venezuela, my boat partner, G. Beer, and I began sailing around the U.S. and British Virgin Islands. This is where my island touring adventure really began, and it blossomed into a lifestyle that still continues today."



From the early days of the Coral Bay Music Festival, he has been in many bands, including the Beans Traveling Minstrel, The Hornswagglers, and the Seafarin' Turd Whirlers, performing with numerous talented island musicians. "It became well known that wherever the yellow boat sailed, the fun followed." He became a regular at Foxy's Wooden Boat Regatta and The Sweetheart's Regatta, as well as numerous other festive occasions in the Virgin Islands. *Esperanza* is now retired on the beach of Trellis Bay, Tortola, as a monument to the shipbuilders of days gone by.

Beans went ashore to Marina Cay, BVI, in 1999 and created his show "Happy Arrr" as a way to raise money for his next home, a classic 1971 Cheoy Lee ketch named *Zetwal*. He sails through the islands as a one-man band/boat-jangles performer, flying his new pirate flag, "Show Mercy." He supports the cause of Mercy ships - old cruise ships converted into floating hospitals that take volunteer physicians and dentists to third-world countries. (Story on opposite page.) "2006 will be a big year for me, as I will be releasing a new CD called 'Pines to Palms,' a book titled 'Hidden Treasure,' and a full-scale launch of my 'Show Mercy' campaign." For more information on Michael's history, touring schedule, and availability of purchasing CD's, you may visit his website: www.beansmusic.com. All proceeds from his website sales go to the Mercy Ship Organization.

It was good luck to reunite with my old friend Beans, a fascinating entertainer and a Caribbean humanitarian. ☺



Michael Bean

Singing • Sailing • Songwriter

Entertainer



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MICHAEL BEAN

(Singer, Songwriter, Entertainer)

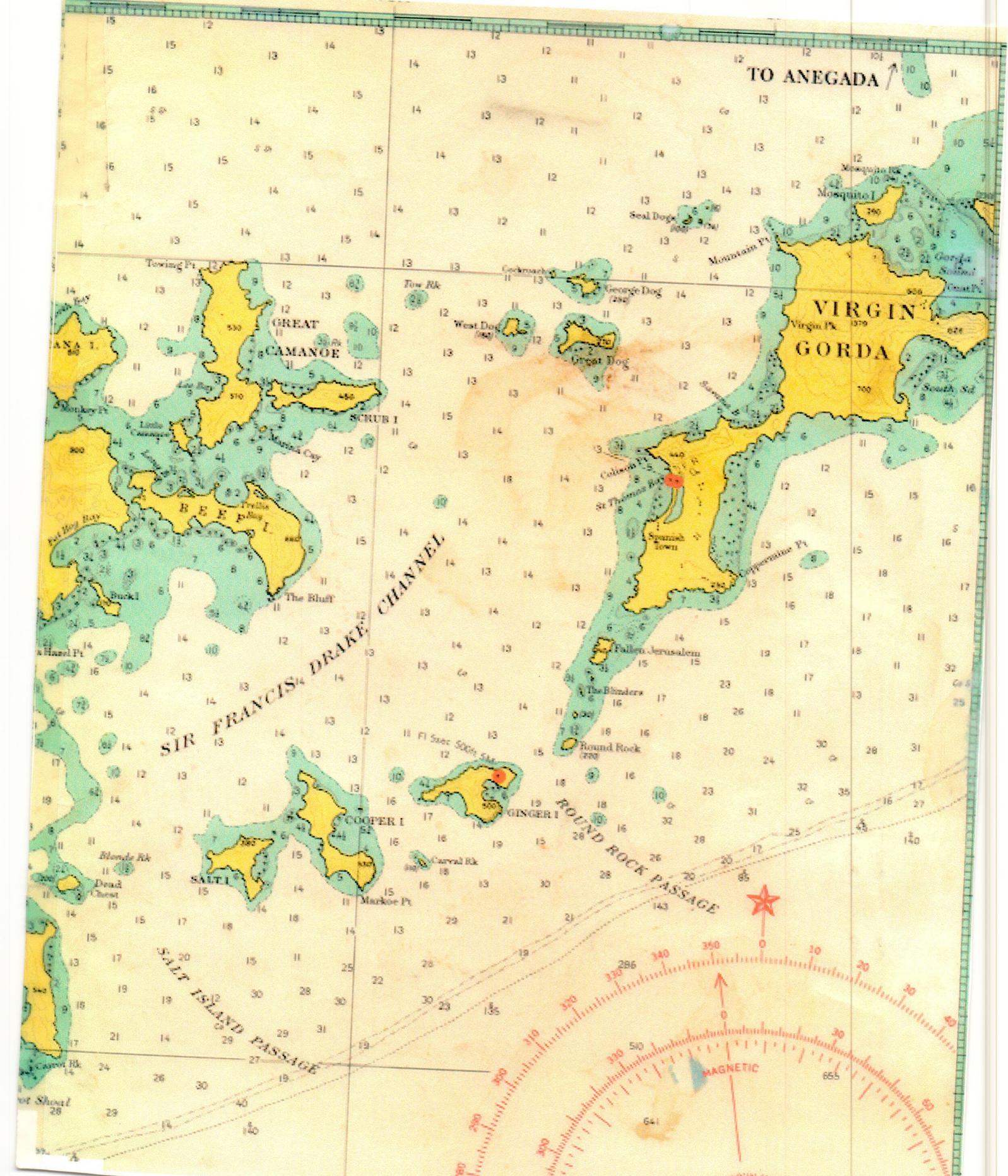
Born in Grand Haven, Michigan in 1956, Michael (Beans) Gardner is a high energy entertainer who "cut his musical teeth" on the port towns and islands of the Great Lakes. He was raised to the sound of jug band music and spent countless hours absorbing the magic that is found at "jam sessions" with family and friends during hunting and fishing camp. With an ever growing love for the old timers' stories he grew especially fond of backwoods lore and the seafaring songs from the early days of sail.

Inspired by the music of Woodie Guthrie, Bob Dylan, Neil Young and Donavon, he began writing his own songs in the mid 70's. 1977 began his musical career playing the nightclub and festival circuit throughout Michigan in the summer time and touring the Florida Keys in the winter. In 1980 he recorded his first album 'Driften' under the Pro Am label.

For the next decade he continued to follow the North/South trail while expanding his horizons. In 1987 with four albums to his credit, he purchased his first boat named Esperanza and took his music to sea. Working the American and British Virgin Islands lead him to record two more albums with his band 'The Hornswagglers'. At present time he is the last Jollymon (singing, sailing songwriter) in the Lesser Antilles.

Working as a solo artist, Bean's music is best described as authentic American Folk Fusion with a West Indian twist. His show is genuine, dynamic and visually entertaining. He is a 'One Man Band' with no artificial or pre-recorded gadgets. he plays acoustic guitar, harmonica on a rack, and sings, adding vocal percussions to the beat of a stomp box that he plays with his feet.

With a large repertoire of cover songs and original music, Beans enjoys working a crowd, exuding an energy that creates a rapport with his audience that is truly captivating.



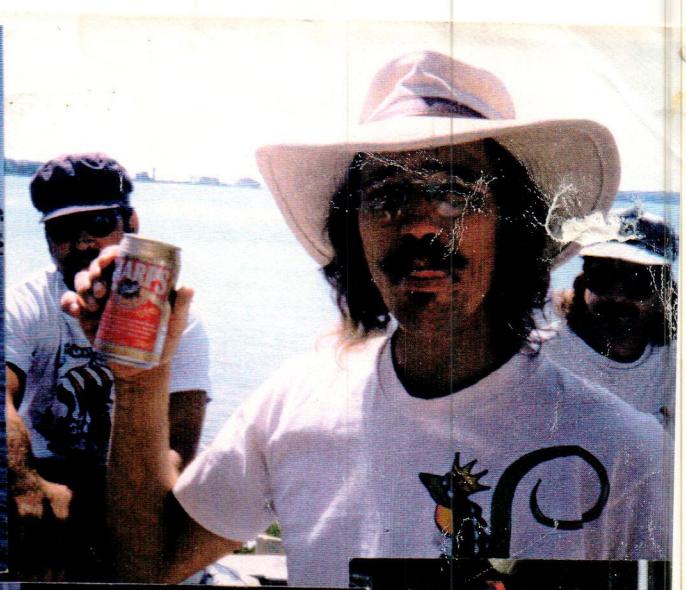






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"Captain's Log"

"A quarter of a century has now passed since I began this musical journey. It has not been smooth sailing all the way but, then again, what voyage ever is. In my travels I have learned many tricks of the trade.

Most of all is that experience is the best teacher and that you cannot change the direction of the wind, however you can adjust your sails. This CD is a musical journal of my original seafaring songs all except Sailors Hornpipe, a traditional classic.

This compilation of songs is dedicated to all those caught by the lure of the sea who have given up the security of life on land to follow their dreams under a spread of sail.

From the freshwater islands of the Great Lakes to the Caribbean Sea, I tip my hat to all of you who directly and indirectly influenced my life to help me realize my dream and especially to all my musical friends, who through hell and high water, never gave up the ship."



Stepping out from the shadows of undiscovered original talents and stomping his way into the heart of world recognition is a must see "one man band" entertainment experience. For the last 25 years, singing, sailing and song writing has been his forte in port towns internationally, with focus on the Great Lakes and the Virgin Islands.

Working as a solo artist, Beans' music is best described as authentic American Folk Fusion with a West Indian twist. His show is genuine, dynamic and visually entertaining. He is a one-man band with no artificial or pre-recorded gadgets. He plays acoustic guitar with a harmonica on a rack, all while singing and adding vocal percussion to the beat of a case of beer that he plays with his feet. You really have to see him to believe it.

www.beansmusic.com



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Michael Bean

Singing • Sailing • Songwriter
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Musical tradition

'Beans' rocks Marina Cay

By JULIAN PUTLEY

Michael Bean (Beans) has recently been drawing crowds to lively happy hour sessions at the Rob White Bar on Marina Cay in the British Virgin Islands. This extraordinary entertainer, with a natural gift for galvanizing a crowd, is a one man show, a sort of nautical Bob Dylan complete with guitar, harmonica on a rack and percussion provided by a 'stomp box.'

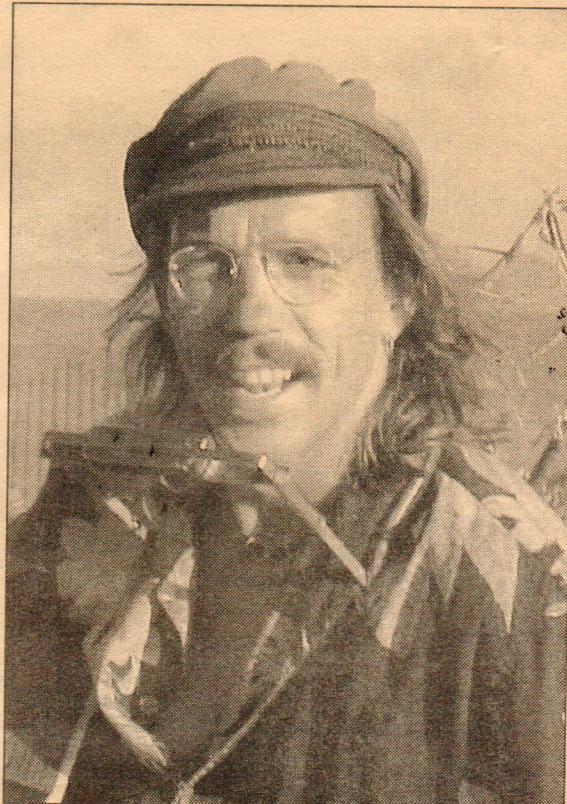
His show is a melange of foot stomping, hand clapping rock-a-billy sea songs, chanties, blues, ballads, pirate stories and jokes. But his magic comes from confidence in his material and a natural ability to communicate with his audience. On the several occasions that I have seen the show the crowd response was amazing - sometimes they dance, often they sing-along, always they clap or stomp. And the revelry is undoubtedly helped along by the 'two-for-one' Painkillers provided by Pusser's.

Beans was born to music in his home state of Michigan where family and friends would play jug band music during hunting and camping trips in and around the port towns of the Great Lakes. He has been writing his own songs since the 1970s and late in that decade he tried out a routine that was to become a pattern — summers up north and winters down south.

During one tour in the Florida Keys he was spotted by the Disney organization and wound up with a contract playing a musical pirate complete with squeeze box. By 1980 his first album, "Driftin'" was cut under the Pro Am label.

In 1987, now with four albums to his credit, he expanded his horizons a little further and found himself in the Virgin Islands. Beans fell in love with a little wooden, island sloop named Esperanza and took his music to sea.

He formed a band, 'The Hornswagglers' and would sail to island venues loaded to the gunwales with



Michael "Beans" Bean ready to entertain.

Photo by JULIAN PUTLEY

instruments and musicians who doubled as crew. The band became hugely popular.

Besides Beans with guitar and harmonica there was

See 'Beans,' page 26

'Beans'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

a spoons player, a fiddler and a bass. The band was a regular attraction at bars like Skinny Legs in St. John and The Jolly Roger in Tortola.

Now the itinerant popular entertainer has landed on Marina Cay. And how fitting that is since the singer/song writer follows distinguished footsteps. The island was first discovered as a getaway paradise by Rob and Rodie White in the 1930s.

Rob built the famous one room house on the island's summit by hand, brick by brick. When it was completed the couple lived there for three years in, what was then, a remote outpost of civilization, living a sort of Robinson Crusoe existence.

Rob was a writer and wrote the story *My Virgin Island* which later grabbed the imagination of a Hollywood producer who made it into a film with Sidney Poitier and John Cassavettes.

Later, in the 1990s, Fritz Seyfarth moved ashore here after his famous Alden yacht *Tumbleweed* was destroyed, first by hurricane Hugo in 1989 and then finished off by Marilyn. Fritz wrote many adventure stories, pirate fables and chartering tales and took great pleasure in entertaining interested passers-by, especially kids, whom he would regale with blood and guts pirate battles, treasure chests and daring do, his glass eye shining, swarthy voice rasping...Ahhrrrr!

Fritz is sadly missed — he passed on in 1996 — but the Rob White dwelling now houses a small lending library in his memory.

And so it seems a natural progression for Michael Beans to be singing odes to "the sweet trade" and other lusty maritime ditties. And a whisper on the wind tells me a book is in the offing. Thank God that sometimes traditions die hard.

MICHAEL BEANS – AN ENTERTAINING “BOAT-JANGLES” FOR MERCY

I met Michael Beans in 1988 while attending the Coral Bay Music Festival in St. John. I will never forget it. Beans, as all of his friends fondly call him, sailed into Coral Bay on a bright yellow island sloop (“Esperanza”). With guitar in hand, he boarded his dinghy rowing into the piece of beach where I was doing face paintings. I closed down shop and listened to his music. I have been a Beans fan ever since.

Recently, we met again and pieced together his 30-year stint in the Caribbean. “I come from the Great Lakes Region, so I have always been around water. I began sailing on a Sunfish at the age of 11. At 16, I was sailing on cruising boats off Beaver Island where I played music around the campfires, which launched my musical career. By the time I was 18, I was playing the nightclubs of Beaver and Mackinac Island, where I met Jim Sawtelle, a shipwreck salvager and treasure hunter who hired me to work for him. He took me to the Florida Keys on a working expedition where I met his partner Mel Fisher. In 1975 we headed to Haiti to salvage an old famous Canadian schooner named Bluenose. It was there that I saw my first island sloop.”

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Michael Bean

Singing • Sailing • Songwriter
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THE HISTORY OF GSF



In 1976 founder Michael Gardner was working to salvage the schooner "Bluenose" on the reef of Ile a Vache. Left alone on the island, he became ill. The island people and Catholic priest nursed him back to health.

21 years later, Michael sailed to the island to find a way to give back. There he met Jean "Phelix" Joseph, whose dream was to build a free school on the island.

Michael supported Phelix's own education as a lawyer, while financing teachers' salaries at a tin shanty school in Phelix's village, La Hatte.

In 2007, they created a Haitian non-profit. In 2008, Phelix qualified as a lawyer. A real school building became their main focus, and Michael appealed to the Rotary Club of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, to build the school.

In 2011 the Good Samaritan Foundation of Haiti became a US 501(c)3 nonprofit. Dutch sailor Olaf Heginson donated a boat that serves the school, hauling food and supplies from the mainland, and doubles as a cargo business. A small microloan program was also started and now has become very successful with 360 members running small businesses, from foodstands to fishermen.

In 2012 the school building project was completed, starting with 117 students. The facilities include a 2500 gallon water cistern, a kitchen, and latrines.

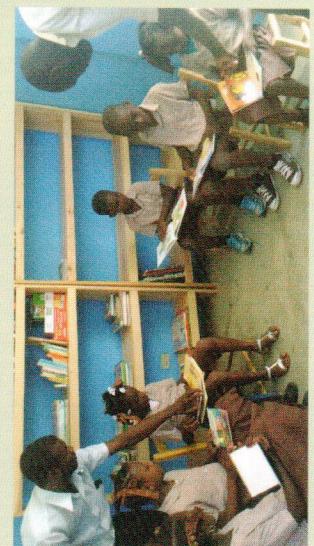
In 2015 the school was re-inaugurated and a 7th grade added, the refectory was converted into a 3-year Kindergarten program, the kitchens were plumbed and fitted with bio-mass stoves. We now have 260 students.



OUR GOAL & VISION

With the school now well established, and the success of our programs, GSF is living proof that small private charities can succeed, are cost-effective and have lower overheads. We continue to work with many other groups, in hope that our symbiotic relationships can benefit all.

With our agriculture program and tree planting now underway, we hope to begin to address the rejuvenation of the Island's great barrier reef. We are training agronomists, nurses, teachers and practical trades such as plumbers, mechanics and solar electricians. With financial sponsorship, we will be able to introduce new programs that will continue to improve the lives of the people of Ile a Vache and Morne Tapion.



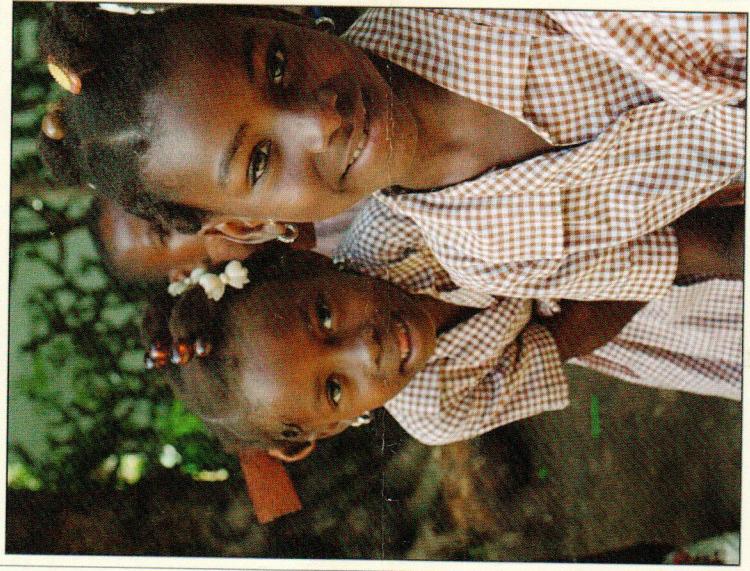
Mandy Thody took on the administration of GSF in mid 2013. She lives in St Croix, USVI, and had rebuilt and run a Haitian school near Petit Gouave; now GSF's second school IMECT, which has 250 children. Mandy makes frequent trips to both schools in Haiti and speaks French and Creole. She ensures that the programs are efficiently carried out, linking GSF to other Haitian groups that will be mutually beneficial to our Vocational Education and Sewing Programs, the Schools, and Microcredit, masonry classes, and literacy, while hoping to boost responsible tourism in the area.

Our newest projects are spearheaded by Phelix and our agronomist Anoussé Paul, a GSF scholarship recipient who studied in Benin, Africa. In the last year, we have built and stocked two large poultry houses and are producing good quantities of meat and eggs, plus vegetables from our two demonstration fields, a tree-planting program with moringa and fruits, classes for farmers and school children, a new well, and 6 additional staff. This adds valuable protein and vitamins to the school diet and helps the elderly and handicapped with regular food supplies. We have reduced malnutrition levels. Rabbits are thriving in our demonstration hutches, and we will be sharing these skills and giving breeding stock to local farmers. This year we will introduce bee-keeping and other new techniques to the farmers.



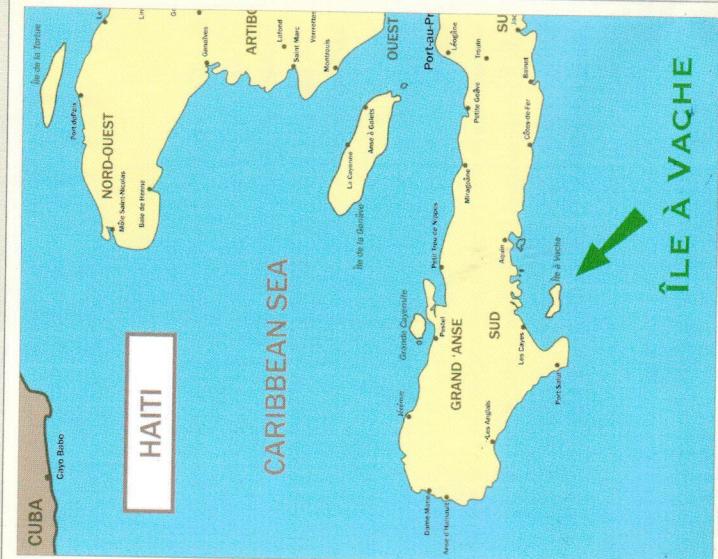
GOOD SAMARITAN

FOUNDATION OF HAITI



www.goodsamaritanofhaiti.com

"If the world is to be healed through human efforts, it will be by ordinary people, people whose love for life is even greater than their fear."



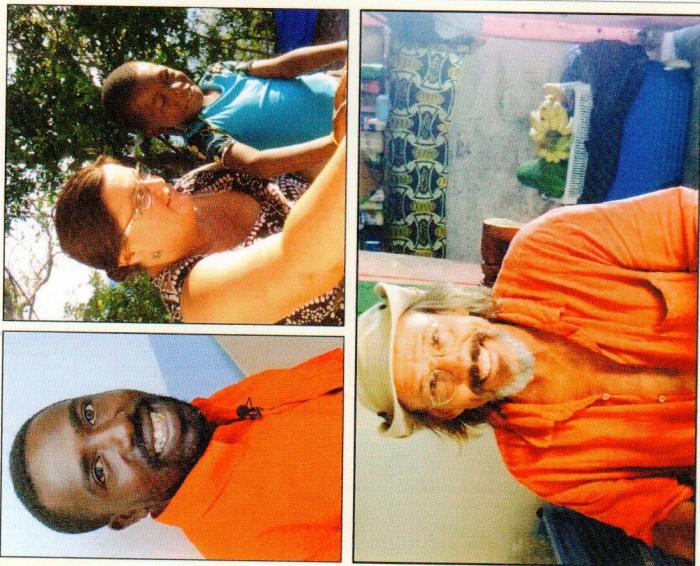
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606 Little Lagrange, Frederiksted, VI 00840
Registered 501c3 Non Profit, EIN# 27-1934087
All Donations are 100% Tax Deductible.



A NOTE FROM THE FOUNDER

The Good Samaritan Foundation of Haiti is a small grass-roots organization where volunteers and benefactors have an opportunity to greatly better the living conditions in Ile à Vache, Haiti.

Our many needs vary: from monetary donations, to technical support, to grant writing, to sailing the delivery boats needed to Ile à Vache. All efforts, even the smallest, can make a huge difference in the daily lives of the islanders.

To the supporters that have brought us this far, we want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Blessings on your life's journey.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL GARDNER
President

