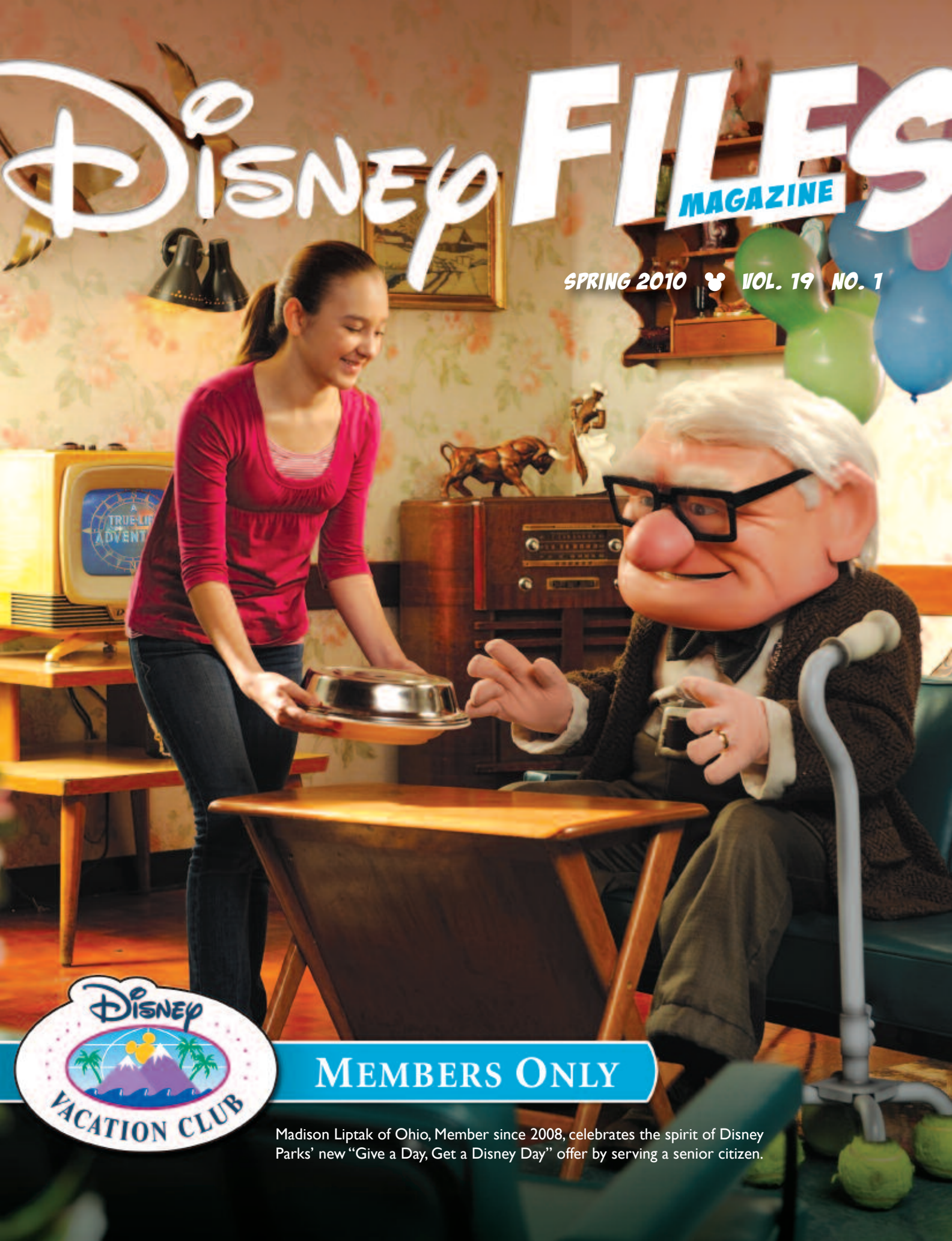


# Disney FILES

MAGAZINE

SPRING 2010 ♡ VOL. 19 NO. 1



## MEMBERS ONLY

Madison Liptak of Ohio, Member since 2008, celebrates the spirit of Disney Parks' new "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" offer by serving a senior citizen.

Disney Files Magazine is published by the good people at Disney Vacation Club  
P.O. Box 10350  
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

All dates, times, events and prices printed herein are subject to change without notice. (Our lawyers do a happy dance when we say that.)

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Fax Number: (407) 938-4151

E-mail Member Services at: [members@disneyvacationclub.com](mailto:members@disneyvacationclub.com)

Stay up to date on the news between magazines at [www.dvcmember.com](http://www.dvcmember.com)



Special thanks to our friends at Pixar Animation Studios for allowing UP star Carl Frederickson to join Madison in our cover shoot.



Disney Files Magazine proudly uses recycled paper and soy-based ink.

DVC-MBR-65-J

Our world's greatest volunteers ask for nothing in exchange for their services. Admittedly, I've never been that kind of volunteer.

Don't get me wrong; I love serving the community as much as anyone. I just want a little something in return. Not cash, of course. That would be silly. Just a small token of gratitude. Like a sticker. Or a button. Or a billboard in Times Square.

I once spent an entire afternoon charting and protecting sea turtle nests beneath the harmful rays of the sun at Vero Beach. I dug. I perspired. I even did math. Let's be honest...if sea turtles avoid extinction, they'll have me to thank. And do you remember that big parade through Indian River County in my honor? Of course you don't. Because it didn't happen. Unbelievable.

So imagine my excitement when Disney Parks announced they were putting an end to the madness and celebrating volunteers' kindness with free tickets to one of our Parks. (You'll read more about the "Give a Day, Get a Disney Day" offer on pages 3-4.) Clearly, the powers that be were equally outraged by my turtle snub. Or maybe this has nothing to do with me. Either way, I think it's pretty cool, and it put me back in the mood for giving.

It's in that spirit – and with no expectations of payment – that I present the editorial gift that is the spring 2010 edition of *Disney Files Magazine*.

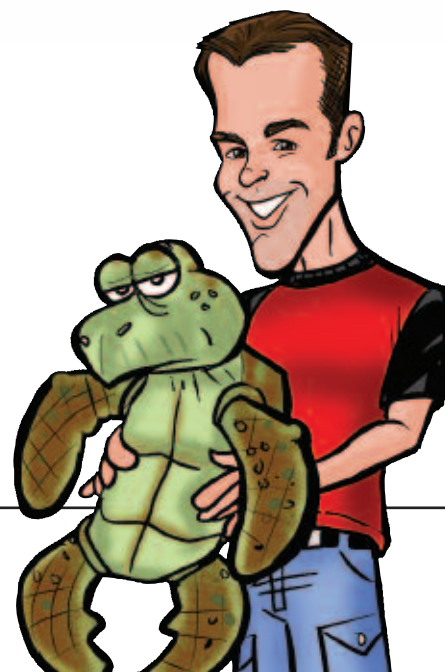
In the pages ahead, I give you a sneak peek at designs for the new *Disney Dream*™ cruise ship (pages 5-8), an inside look at a Disney Vacation Club comedy series that's sweeping the online world (page 9) and details about a refreshing enhancement to Disney's Saratoga Springs Resort & Spa (page 15).

And I don't stop there. I also give you the latest news about changes to *Disney's California Adventure*® Park (pages 19-20) and travel the world to deliver news about everything from Theme Park development plans in Shanghai to the re-launch of *Space Mountain*® flights in Florida (pages 21-22).

I'd describe more of what I've given you in this edition, like Disney Legend Marty Sklar's first post-retirement column (pages 23-24), a fascinating piece about the new documentary *Waking Sleeping Beauty* (page 25) or the clever Member photos on pages 29-30, but I don't want you to think it's all about me and my generosity. I give because I care. No need to repay me. Though seriously, would it kill you to throw a parade?

Welcome home,

Ryan March  
*Disney Files* Editor



# FROM THE DESK OF JIM LEWIS

by Jim Lewis, President, Disney Vacation Club

## WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

Don't be too excited by that headline; I'm not here to explain the meaning of life. (Though should I discover it down the road, I'll be sure to share.)

Instead, I'm here to talk about what the magic of Membership is all about: you. Without your moments and memories, the Disney Vacation Club neighborhood would be little more than bricks and mortar.

It's like the old saying says. "If a Treehouse Villa falls in the woods and nobody's there to hear it, did it really fall?" Maybe I've got that wrong. The point is, Disney Vacation Club is more about people than places. It's about reconnecting with the ones you love. Renewing cherished traditions and creating new ones. Returning to places that shaped your past, and filling your future with places you've only imagined. However you write your Membership story, the theme is the same. Family. Friends. Fun.

When you think about your most recent spin on Dumbo the Flying Elephant, for example, you probably don't spend much time thinking about the attraction's hub-and-spoke design, the shiny paint job on your pachyderm or even the catchy circus tunes that filled the air. You think about the "let's do it again" look on your child's face upon landing. Or

how you heard Grandpa giggle like he did back when Johnny Carson still ruled late night. You don't think about the elephant. You think about the passengers.

It's with this spirit in mind that we've reimagined many of the materials you receive as Disney Vacation Club Members. From the *Vacation Planner* to *Portable Perks*, these handy resources and communication vehicles are debuting a new look and feel designed to celebrate the special moments that inspire you to vacation. Sure, the places in the photos are beautiful. But it's the people who bring the images to life.

As you receive these materials in the months ahead, beginning with your *2010 Vacation Planner*, I hope they remind you why you became Members in the first place. They certainly remind *me* just how privileged I am to be part of a community that means so much to so many.

I may not know the meaning of life, but you can rest assured that all of us at Disney Vacation Club know the meaning of Membership.



# Give a Day. Get a Disney Day.

Disney Parks  
hope to  
inspire 1 million  
volunteers



Disney Parks are celebrating the spirit of volunteer service with a simple proposition: “Give a Day, Get a Disney Day.”

Aiming to inspire families to volunteer in their communities this year, this first-of-its-kind program will celebrate 1 million people (from the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada) who perform volunteer service for a participating organization with a free one-day admission ticket to a *Disneyland*® or *Walt Disney World*® Resort Theme Park\*. The program builds on the “What will you celebrate?” program launched in 2009, adding “giving back” as another cause for celebration.

“In 2010, we want to recognize and add one more reason for celebration: the contributions people make to their communities every day,” said former Walt Disney Parks & Resorts Chairman Jay Rasulo, announcing the program before transitioning to his new role as Chief Financial Officer of The Walt Disney Company. (Former CFO Tom Staggs swapped seats with Jay, assuming leadership of Walt Disney Parks & Resorts.) “We want to inspire 1 million volunteers – people who will invest time and energy to make their own communities and neighborhoods a better place.”

To make it happen, Disney is working with HandsOn Network, the nation’s largest volunteer network. Part of the Points of Light Institute, HandsOn Network includes 250 volunteer action centers across the United States (reaching more than 83 percent of the nation’s population) and connects volunteers to more than 70,000 nonprofit agencies that need their help. The network offers a wide variety of volunteer opportunities, including projects suitable for families with children ages 6 or older.

“Wherever we live, our communities need our hands-on help to thrive,” said Michelle Nunn, Chief Executive Officer of the Points of Light Institute. “We are thrilled at this unprecedented effort by Disney Parks to help mobilize 1 million volunteers into action. ‘Give a Day, Get a Disney Day’

has the potential to reach so many families and instill the volunteer spirit in a new generation.”

Here’s how it works. Guests simply visit [www.disney Parks.com](http://www.disney Parks.com) for the United States and Puerto Rico, or [www.disney Parks.ca](http://www.disney Parks.ca) for Canada, and sign up for a volunteer project. (Note that each Guest may register as many as eight additional family members who live in their same household or physical address.) Upon completion of their volunteer service, Guests return to the site to print a certificate redeemable at the Theme Park ticket window for an admission ticket.

Guests with Theme Park Annual Passes will find alternatives to free tickets on the Web site, including an option that allows them to donate their ticket to a participating organization.

The program continues a proud Disney tradition of community service. Since 1983, Cast Members serving as Disney VolunteARS have donated some 5.5 million hours of service.

“‘Give a Day, Get a Disney Day’ fits perfectly with our long history of supporting and participating in volunteer efforts,” said Bob Iger, Chief Executive Officer of The Walt Disney Company. “It’s a great way to honor Guests who are making a positive contribution to their communities.”

\*Must pre-register for and sign up for eligible volunteer opportunity at [disney Parks.com](http://disney Parks.com). Ticket quantities for this program are limited. Must be at least age 6 to participate. Other terms and conditions apply. For details, visit [www.disney Parks.com](http://www.disney Parks.com) in the United States and Puerto Rico. In Canada, visit [www.disney Parks.ca](http://www.disney Parks.ca).





# SHIP (TAKING) SHAPE

**A first-of-its-kind water coaster, an engaging alien and a lounge in which the sun sets over a different city skyline every night are among the recently unveiled design plans for the *Disney Dream*<sup>™</sup> ship, scheduled to join the *Disney Cruise Line*<sup>®</sup> fleet at Port Canaveral, Fla., on Jan. 26, 2011. Here's a look at the high-seas highlights.**

## COASTER THRILLS

An exhilarating, high-speed flume ride will send Guests twisting, turning, dropping and even climbing the ship's upper decks. AquaDuck will stretch 765 feet -- more than two and a half times the length of a football field -- and span four decks.

Guests will slide 13 feet over the side of the ship in a translucent "swing out" loop, allowing brave sightseers to glimpse the ocean 150 feet below. High-powered water jets will propel Guests upward and forward at speeds of 20 feet per second before hitting a 335-foot stretch of river rapids and splashing to a finish on Deck 12.

## VIRTUAL VIEWS

Another innovation will come in the form of Virtual Portholes for all inside staterooms, utilizing high-definition cameras on the ship's exterior to feed real-time video to Guests. The technology also allows for a few surprises, so Guests can look for animated appearances by anyone from Steamboat Willie to stars from Disney•Pixar's *Finding Nemo*.

## COOL STUFF FOR KIDS

Caring counselors will help inspire, entertain and engage children ages 3-10 in a magical oasis spanning nearly an entire deck.

Disney's Oceaneer Club will invite kids to play among larger-than-life characters from Disney•Pixar's *Toy Story* in Andy's Room, explore the Laugh Floor with Mike and Sully from Disney•Pixar's *Monsters, Inc.*, dive under the sea with Nemo and friends or visit Tinker Bell's fairy forest.

Disney's Oceaneer Lab, meanwhile, will send kids on a seafaring adventure in a room filled with maps, maritime instruments and swashbuckling artifacts. Here, kids will try their hand at animation, become pop stars and navigate ships through digital seas.

Donald Duck will star as the iconic atrium sculpture onboard the *Disney Dream* ship.



Both venues will offer magical interactions with such animated characters as Crush, the most excellent sea turtle from *Finding Nemo*, and Stitch, the mischievous alien from *Lilo & Stitch*. The characters will chat, play and joke with kids in live, unrehearsed conversations from their digital undersea and intergalactic environments on 103-inch plasma screens.

## COOL STUFF FOR TWEENS AND TEENS

The ship's forward funnel will house Edge, a lounge created for Guests ages 11-13. Filled with high-tech entertainment, this decked-out pad will use green-screen technology to let tweens create and star in photo postcards and video karaoke.

Guests ages 14-17 will use exclusive swipe cards to access the 9,000-square-foot Vibe club, a trendy indoor/outdoor space that will let teens create and edit videos, play computer games, access the onboard social media application, or try their hand at spinning and mixing dance tracks. The club's private, outdoor deck will feature chaise lounges, wading

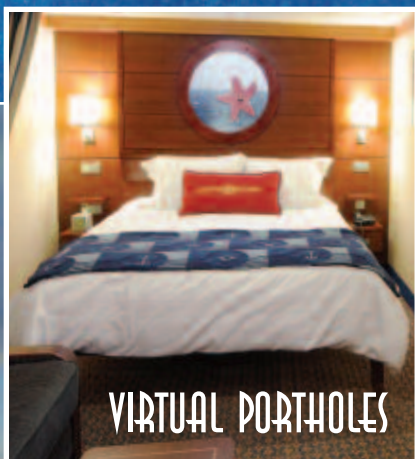
pools, misters, pop jets and deck games, including ping-pong and foosball.

## COOL STUFF FOR ADULTS

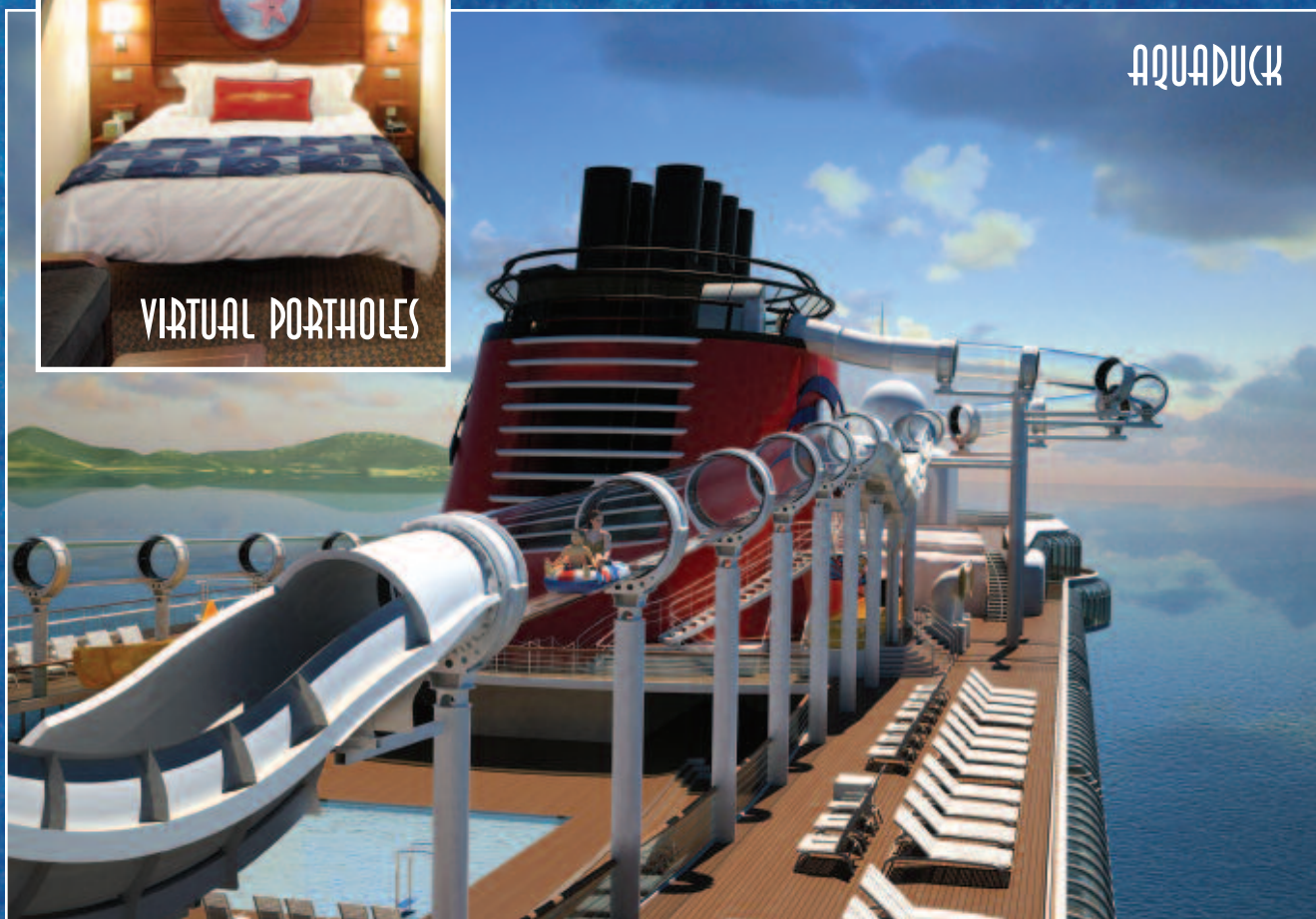
With the kids chatting up Stitch, showing off their vocal chops and doing their social-media thing, adults will indulge in spaces created just for them.

The District will be a nighttime hotspot complete with five unique clubs and lounges, each with its own distinctive design (including the aforementioned space in which the sun sets over a different city skyline nightly) and palate-pleasing delights.

At the opposite end of the energy spectrum will be the Senses Spa & Salon, featuring 17 private treatment rooms; lavish spa villas with indoor treatment rooms and private outdoor verandahs; and the Rainforest, an inviting space offering the benefits of steam, heat and hydrotherapy to relax the mind and body.



VIRTUAL PORTHOLES



## DISNEY DINING

*Disney Cruise Line*® will continue its innovative rotational dining concept on the *Disney Dream*™, allowing Guests to experience a variety of elaborately themed restaurants during their voyage, while their servers accompany them to each new venue.

Animator's Palate, a signature restaurant aboard the *Disney Magic*® and *Disney Wonder*® ships, will celebrate the magic of Disney animation aboard the *Disney Dream* in a re-imagined space filled with character sketches, maquettes, paint brushes, colored pencils, computer work stations, film strips and other animation tools. Guests will enjoy dinners "combining fresh flavors with culinary flair" while sparkling fiber-optic lights travel up paint brush pillars and pencil columns to paint the restaurant's ceiling with vibrant colors.

At the Royal Palace restaurant, Guests will feast on "world-class continental cuisine" dinners (think beef Wellington, crowned rack of lamb and king salmon), as well as breakfast and lunch, in an elegant setting inspired by such classic Disney animated films as *Cinderella*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Sleeping Beauty*. Hand-painted portraits of Disney Princesses and a hand-blown chandelier of glass slippers will be among the visual details surrounding the circular room's fluted columns and iron railings, creating an environment reminiscent of the famed *Cinderella* ballroom scene.

Rounding out the dining rotation will be the Enchanted Garden, a whimsical breakfast, lunch and dinner restaurant

inspired by the gardens of Versailles and empowered with the ability to magically transform from day to night during dinner service. Anchored by a seven-foot-tall terrace fountain, the space will feature a magical "sky" that will transition from shades of sun-setting light to twinkling stars, while light-fixture flowers will bloom and become infused with color. Wall sconces will open to become folding fans, and paintings will evolve to reflect the nighttime scene.

For the casual diner, the *Disney Dream* will introduce Cabanas, a free-flow food court inspired by the beaches of California. Decorated with a 30-foot-long, hand-crafted mosaic mural depicting an underwater scene from *Finding Nemo*, Cabanas will serve pizza and pasta, grilled specialties, stir-fry, soups and fresh salads. One "cabana" will feature a sushi chef, while another will host a display of desserts.

Each morning, Cabanas will feature assorted breakfast foods and made-to-order omelets, and the space will transform into a table-service casual dining experience by night.

Also expanding from the original fleet will be Palo, an adults-only restaurant offering stunning ocean views and the serenading sounds of a pianist while Guests enjoy epicurean excellence in an intimate setting.

The *Disney Dream* will sail alternating three- and four-night cruises to the Bahamas and Disney's private island, Castaway Cay. During summer months, the ship will alternate four- and five-night itineraries with two stops at Castaway Cay. Call Member Services now to book your *Disney Dream* vacation or other *Disney Cruise Line* voyages.

### ROYAL PALACE



**SAVE THE DATE!**

Members looking to check out the new ship as a community should note that next year's S.S. Member Cruise will sail on the *Disney Dream* Sept. 18-22, 2011!





ENCHANTED GARDEN (BY DAY)



ENCHANTED GARDEN (BY NIGHT)



SKYLINE



SENSES SPA & SALON

# Disney

# VACATION CLUB

news and insight from around the neighborhood

## DEEVY PACKS HER BAGS

### Webisodes broaden “First Lady’s” fame

If you’ve been around the neighborhood for a while, you’ve probably met (or at least had your hearing impaired by) the lovely and well-intentioned Mrs. Deevy See.

She’s the self-appointed First Lady of Disney Vacation Club, and nobody in the house of mouse has the heart to tell her she didn’t really come up with the company’s innovative approach to vacation ownership. We started to once, but her lower lip quivered and we lost our will.

The truth is, we adore this enthusiastic ambassador from the great state of Wisconsin (which, as Deevy likes to say, boasts the new slogan “come smell our dairy air”), and we’ve made her an unofficial part of our Cast family. She’s appeared on stage at Disney Vacation Club events in cities across the country, represented our Member community at the *Disneyland*® and *Walt Disney World*® Resorts, and has become the standout star of our weekly “Welcome Home Wednesdays” event at Disney’s BoardWalk.

With so much time in the spotlight, one would think she’d be in high-pitched heaven. Not Deevy. She had her sights set on something bigger than any stage. She wanted to go global.

“She did that lip-quiver thing again, so we threw her another bone,” said Disney Vacation Club Cast Member Adam Pickett, who unwittingly transitioned from being Deevy’s “Welcome Home Wednesdays” co-host to becoming her eager-to-please screen producer. “We talked to our friends at ABC about creating a primetime spot for Deevy. We figured there may be a house for her on Wisteria Lane or a pair of scrubs at Seattle Grace. Shockingly, they didn’t bite. So we turned to *YouTube*™.”

Sending a camera crew with Deevy on a mission to unlock a few secrets of Bay Lake Tower at Disney’s Contemporary Resort, Disney Vacation Club made Deevy an overnight Internet sensation.

“She loved her taste of online fame, and it quickly became apparent that one episode wasn’t going to be enough,” Adam said. “So we created an entire comedy series that would allow us to send Deevy packing and document her misadventures.”

The new “Deevy Packs Her Bags” series, online at [www.DeevyPacksHerBags.com](http://www.DeevyPacksHerBags.com), lets fans view and share free episodes that capture Deevy avoiding goats on the highway en route to Port Canaveral, double-fisting churros and turkey legs in the Park, destroying artwork at Disney’s Animal Kingdom Villas’ Kidani Village, angering a reindeer at Mickey’s Very Merry Christmas Party and more.

“Quietly, we hoped the series would fail, as her ego had gotten as big as her hair,” Adam admitted. “But it became a huge hit, and now we have a real mess. She recently heard that Keira Knightley hasn’t signed on for the next *Pirates of the Caribbean* film, and she thinks she’s next in line to wear the corset.”

*Disney Files* Magazine reached out to Deevy for comment, but our call was redirected to her agent. That’s right, she has an agent.



## WISHES COMING TRUE

### New systems to streamline reservations

*Disney Files* Magazine isn't typically in the business of reporting changes to our company's back-of-house software applications. After all, readers aren't likely to care what program we use to submit our expense reports, how information technology advancements are streamlining operations at the Textile Services plant or which new systems are monitoring our sick days. (If you do care about these things, we urge you to get a hobby.)

Today, though, we make an exception, as Cast Members are embarking on one of the largest information technology efforts in the history of Walt Disney Parks & Resorts. Specifically, *Disneyland*® and *Walt Disney World*® Resort hotels are replacing their current property-management systems with a new solution called Lilo, while Disney Vacation Club Resorts are transitioning to a new system called DVC Wishes.

What makes this news fit to print is the fact that the systems will talk to each other, linking previously separate data and allowing Cast Members to deliver more personalized service. The new property-management system is designed to ultimately enhance such recent initiatives as the Online Check-In Service, which allows Members and Guests to streamline their check-in process by providing information online before arrival, and Mobile Room Ready Notification, which gives travelers the opportunity to learn via text message or voice mail when their room is ready.

The system will allow Member Services to create "travel plans" for Members, consolidating all segments of their Disney Vacation Club Resort vacation into a single itinerary. Even Members who book multiple rooms or resorts for a trip will receive a single confirmation number. The enhancements also will allow Members to have a reservation confirmation e-mailed to them and their traveling parties.

The reservation process also becomes simpler through DVC Wishes, as Members will no longer need to link multiple reservations booked on the same Membership. The travel plan will group those reservations automatically.

So what do Members need to do differently? The short answer is "nothing." Just book as you normally do, and let the system work its magic. It's worth noting, however, that DVC Wishes will require Members to pay for their Disney Dining Plan upon booking (rather than upon check-in), and Members making cash reservations must pay for one night plus tax upon booking. Call Member Services for more details.

Finally, in what may be the biggest news of all, leaders tell *Disney Files* Magazine that the enhancements set the stage for a variety of future offerings, including the ability to reserve Disney Vacation Club Resort accommodations online. Stay tuned!

## CLEVER COUTURE

by Andrew Santelli

Disney Vacation Club Advance Sales Associate (and *Disney Files* Magazine contributor) Andrew Santelli has a keen eye for wearable wit. *Disney Files* Magazine is pleased to share some of the most memorable T-shirts Andrew has observed on Guests from his prime viewing location at Disney Vacation Club Information Centers throughout the *Walt Disney World*® Resort. Enjoy the madcap, short-sleeved hilarity.

**Where:** *Magic Kingdom*® Park

**T-shirt slogan:** God, make me the person my dog thinks I am.

**Made me think about** just how easy dogs are to deceive.

**Where:** *Disney's Animal Kingdom*® Park

**T-shirt slogan:** Is it Zen, or am I just bored?

**Made me think about** how Zen math class used to be.

**Where:** *Epcot*®

**T-shirt slogan:** What I really need are minions

**Made me think about** what this person's international band of minions would do. Sing and dance in unison? No wait, that's "it's a small world."

**Where:** *Disney's Hollywood Studios*™

**T-shirt slogan:** To err is human, to arr is pirate

**Made me think about** a line missing from this shirt: To make fans suffer through 17 consecutive losing seasons is *Pittsburgh* Pirate.





# PERK ALERTS

Member savings and experiences

## GO BIG LEAGUE

### New perk lets Members feel like the pros

**WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort:** There are three surefire ways to know you've made it to the big leagues: (1) the price you paid for your car exceeds the Gross Domestic Product of at least one island nation, (2) less than three days have passed since you last answered a question about steroids and (3) you have your own signature engraved on the barrel of your bat.

Thanks to a new shopping perk, Disney Vacation Club Members can save a little coin when they welcome the new baseball season by making one of these big league dreams come true. (Hint: the perk won't turn you into a millionaire or force you to appear on ESPN's "Outside the Lines.") That's right; we're talking about the whole "having your own signature engraved on the barrel of your bat" thing. No agents or endorsement deals needed.

Rawlings Making the Game, located inside the Team Mickey shop at *Downtown Disney® Marketplace*, lets Guests design and purchase personalized signature bats and watch them take shape before their eyes. Guests provide their signature, select from a variety of available logos and even choose from a range of woods and stain treatments, creating bats that make them look and feel like (underpaid) big leaguers.



Disney Vacation Club Members may show their Member ID Card at the Rawlings Making the Game counter to purchase a full-size, personalized bat for the discounted price of \$39.99 plus tax (regularly \$49.99 plus tax). And that's just the beginning of the perk. Ask to see the secret book of Disney Vacation Club logos, and you can be that much cooler by going off the beaten path and emblazoning your bat with your favorite home resort logo. Add a line of text below your signature to call out your "Member Since" year, and you'll have created something akin to a Member ID card, only much more useful in the batter's box. (If you've ever tried to hit a curveball with a plastic card, you know what we mean.)

Rawlings is a leading marketer and manufacturer of baseball equipment and other sporting goods in the United States. Beyond bats, the company produces the official baseball and helmet for Major League Baseball, and the official ball of the NCAA baseball championships. Rawlings holds the distinction of creating the glove of choice for more pro athletes than any other brand, including such stars as Derek Jeter, Albert Pujols, Jose Reyes and Torii Hunter.



## SPoonFUL OF SIMBA

### Two Disney Broadway shows offer Member discount

**New York City:** Supercalifragilisticexpialamatata. Please excuse our mash-up of song titles here. We're just excited about the latest Disney Vacation Club Member offer from our friends at Disney On Broadway.

Through August 2010, Members may purchase tickets to Broadway performances of Disney's *Mary Poppins* and *The Lion King* at a 20 percent discount. The offer is valid on most seats for *Mary Poppins* at Disney's famed New Amsterdam Theatre (42nd Street and 7th Ave.) and on Orchestra seats for *The Lion King* at the Minskoff Theatre (W 45th St. and 7th Ave.).

Now this is the part of the story where we'd love to dive in and tell you all kinds of cool stuff about the shows and venues, like how one of the guys who built the now-Disney-operated New Amsterdam Theatre in 1903 was named Abraham Lincoln Erlanger, or how two costumes from *The Lion King* recently made history by being inducted into the permanent collection of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

But instead, we're going to put on our lawyer hats and give you the "fine print" in full-blown 10-point type, just to make sure you avoid any confusion when you present your Member ID Card at the respective theatre's box office to buy your discounted tickets. (While not available by phone, the discounted tickets also are available online through [www.dvcmember.com](http://www.dvcmember.com).) Okay, here it goes.

The offer isn't valid on prior-purchased tickets and may not be combined with other offers. All sales are final. No exchanges or refunds. Not all seats are discounted. Blackout



dates and other restrictions may apply. Dates, times, prices and cast are subject to change without notice. Offer may be revoked without notice. There's a limit of 14 tickets per person per 7-day period. Prices include a \$1.50 Facility Fee. Discounted tickets must be purchased by Aug. 22, 2010. Any retransmission of this story without the expressed written consent of Major League Baseball is strictly prohibited. We made that last one up. Just making sure we hadn't lost you. Now on to the theatre!

## EFFORTLESS ADVENTURE

### Enjoy new Segway® tour discount

**DISNEYLAND® Resort:** Walking through *Disney's California Adventure®* Park when other Guests are filling the streets is for commoners. Thankfully, there's the Cruisin' *Disney's California Adventure* Park tour, a three-hour experience that lets early risers explore the place before it opens and learn behind-the-scenes secrets, all while gliding effortlessly on a Segway Personal Transporter.

The experience begins with a light breakfast and a crash course in Segway operations. Okay, maybe "crash" is a bad choice of words here. Please don't wreck your Personal

Transporter. Now where were we? Oh yes, the tour also includes a complimentary photograph and collectible pin commemorating your adventure.

And, of course, we're burying the lead here. Thanks to a new perk, Disney Vacation Club Members get a 20 percent discount off of the \$99 a person tour price. Simply mention that you're a Disney Vacation Club Member when you call (714) 781-4400 to make reservations, and remember to bring your Member ID Card with you when you check in for your tour.

Visit the Member Perks section of [www.dvcmember.com](http://www.dvcmember.com) to learn about other *Disneyland* Resort tour discounts.



# MEMBER GETAWAYS

discover a whole new world

## 10 INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT NEW ZEALAND

How much do you know about New Zealand? (Aside from the fact that *The Lord of the Rings* movies were filmed there.) Before you call Member Services to book a New Zealand vacation through an exchange with our friends at

RCI®, please enjoy 10 of the many things we find interesting about New Zealand.



Kevin, from Disney Pixar's *UP*, wasn't a Moa, but he's an impressively large bird, and we dig him

**10:** Think Californians are car crazy? New Zealanders represent one of the highest car-ownership rates on earth, with about 2.5 million cars transporting the nation's four million people. And they aren't quick to dump their vehicles for newer models. About two thirds of cars in New Zealand are more than seven years old, and one sixth are more than 16 years old.

**9:** While Atlanta may be known as a deep south capital in the U.S., New Zealand's capital, Wellington, is the world's southernmost capital city.

**8:** Myth-busting time! It's been said that New Zealand has 20 sheep for every person. That's no longer true. The country's sheep population has dropped from a peak of about 70 million to somewhere under 40 million, leaving only nine sheep per person. Still, how many sheep does one need?

**7:** If you hear folks in New Zealand reference a Kiwi, they're probably not talking about fruit. They're either referring to the nation's famed flightless bird, or they're using the word as a slang term for a fellow New Zealander. As for the fruit? New Zealanders (Kiwis to their friends) avoid confusion by calling those fuzzy, juicy orbs kiwifruit (or sometimes Chinese Gooseberries).

**6:** New Zealand is among three countries with two official national anthems. One's called "God Save the Queen," while the other is titled "God Defend New Zealand." If you're attending a sporting event, expect to hear "God Defend New Zealand." Why? Probably because the Queen isn't playing.

**5:** Women power! New Zealand not only holds the distinction of being the first democracy in the west to give women the right to vote, but the nation also became the first to have its three top power positions (Prime Minister, Governor General and Chief Justice) held simultaneously by female leaders.

**4:** New Zealand once boasted one of the largest birds in history. Known as the Moa, this fine feathered friend stood 12 feet tall until becoming extinct in the 1500s. (Boo!)



1

**3:** Taking the planet's polar regions out of the equation (no offense, polar regions), New Zealand ranks as the last major landmass to be populated.

**2:** Before spending that New Zealand \$5 bill, tip your cap to Sir Edmund Hillary, whose face appears on the bill. The Auckland, New Zealand, native was the first man to reach the peak of Mount Everest.

**1:** Calculated per capita, New Zealand leads the world in Olympic gold medals. And to think bungee jumping (invented in New Zealand) isn't even an Olympic sport!

**Just missing the cut:** New Zealand's indigenous Maori name is New Zealand Aotearoa. In English, that means "New Zealand, The Land of the Long White Cloud."



8



**EQUINE OASIS**

**New resort feature pool in the works**

Work is scheduled to begin this spring on a new feature pool in the Paddock area of Disney's Saratoga Springs Resort & Spa, building on the resort's turn-of-the-20th-century, upstate New York theme.

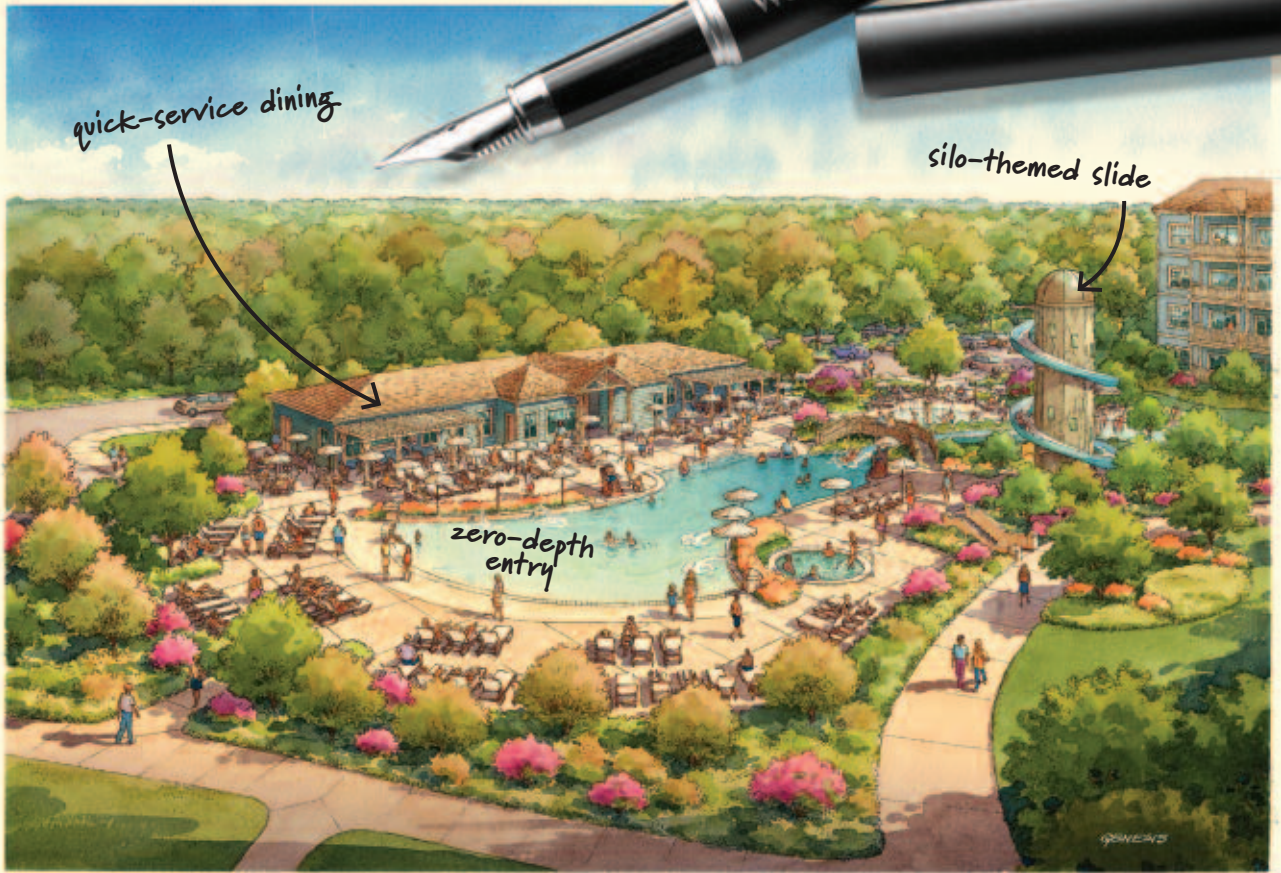
"Members have expressed a desire to expand the resort's pool capacity, and thanks to the creative vision of our partners at Walt Disney Imagineering, that wish will be fulfilled with a themed watering hole designed in the proud Disney tradition," Disney Vacation Club Resorts General Manager Sonya Deese-Byrnes told *Disney Files Magazine*. "All of us at Disney Vacation Club are excited to see the concept become reality."

That day is scheduled to arrive in 2011, when Sonya hopes to see the first Members take a dip in the new pool. Plans for the complex, which will replace the Paddock area's 1,100-square-foot leisure pool with a 3,300-square-foot zero-depth-entry pool, call for the addition of a 146-foot water slide, a 1,600-square-foot wet-play area, an expanded pool deck spanning more than 11,000 square feet and, for hungry swimmers and sunbathers who'd rather not make the trip across the lake to Artist's Palette, an on-site, quick-

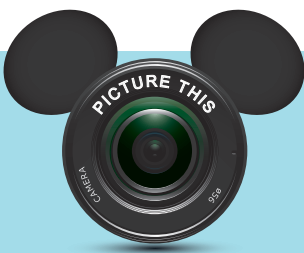


service-dining location.

"The new kitchen is a key part of the project, providing a convenient dining option for Members enjoying the new pool," Sonya said. "We knew it was important to expand not only the resort's pool capacity, but its dining capacity as well. We think this enhancement is going to be a big hit."







# PICTURE THIS

The Disney Vacation Club Member community has a famously sharp eye for detail. Put that skill to the test by spotting the seven things we've altered in this photo of a family enjoying breakfast at Bay Lake Tower at Disney's Contemporary Resort.



ORIGINAL



ALTERED

ANSWERS: (1) A fourth light has joined the ceiling fixture, (2) the family has greatly enhanced their collection of reading materials with a copy of *Disney Files Magazine*, (3) the bedroom door has closed, (4) Dad lost his watch, (5) the young man's Mickey waffle has been replaced by a boring waffle, (6) that same young man lost his spoon (7) and the fruit bowl's green apple has turned red.

# CHOCOLATE "LAVA" CAKE



With the neighborhood still buzzing about the new Bay Lake Tower at Disney's Contemporary Resort, *Disney Files* Magazine proudly presents the recipe for Chocolate "Lava" Cake from the nearby California Grill. (Note the quotation marks around the word lava. As you'll see in this recipe, the cake contains no actual magma.)



**Serves 6**

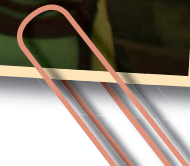
**Ingredients:**

- 8 1-ounce semisweet chocolate squares, chopped (or 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips)
- 2 sticks of butter
- 5 egg yolks
- 4 whole eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour

**Steps:**

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Lightly butter the insides of six individual 3/4-cup ramekins, and lightly coat the buttered ramekin surfaces with sugar, shaking out the excess. (For those of you who aren't up on your dishware terminology, a ramekin is a small, round dish, typically white, commonly associated with such dishes as cr me brulee. Oh, and if you don't have ramekins, you can use muffin tins, making 12 cakes and baking for 15 minutes instead of the time referenced in step No. 7.)
2. Melt chocolate and butter in top of double boiler\* set over simmering water. Stir until smooth. Remove from over water and cool for 10 minutes.
3. Beat egg yolks and whole eggs together in a large bowl. Add sugar and beat until thick and light (about two minutes).
4. Fold in chocolate mixture.
5. Sift flour, then fold into batter, mixing until smooth.
6. Divide batter among prepared ramekins, filling 3/4 full.
7. Place on baking sheet and bake about 35-40 minutes or until sides of cake are set and middle is still soft. Do not over-bake. (Lest you want to spoil the lava effect.)
8. Using a small knife, cut around sides of cakes to loosen. Invert onto plates and serve with your favorite ice cream.

\*Don't have a double boiler? Stop obsessing about your shortcomings and try this. Fill a saucepan with a few inches of water. Place a sheet of aluminum foil over the saucepan, and press a metal bowl down on the foil, allowing the foil to cradle the bowl. Press the foil around the outside of the pan to prevent steam from escaping, and you've made yourself a double boiler!





## SMALL TALK

**Cali-cabanas :** The new Mariposa Pool at *Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa*, part of the expansion project that brought new hotel rooms and 50 new two-bedroom-equivalent Disney Vacation Club villas to the iconic resort hotel, features four private cabanas. Each cabana, designed to accommodate as many as six people, features a flat-panel TV with DVD player; a sofa and loveseat; three small tables; a cabinet equipped with a safe, refrigerator and storage; a lighted ceiling fan, a house telephone and personalized service from a Cabana Host. Rental prices are \$110 for a half-day (9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. or 2-6 p.m.) and \$185 for a full day (9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.). Full-day reservations are available as many as 60 days in advance, and half-day reservations are available as many as 10 days in advance. Call (714) 635-2300 for reservations. Should you need to cancel a cabana reservation, please remember to do so at least 24 hours in advance of your reservation time, as no-shows are charged the full price of booking. Note that cabana amenities, prices and hours are subject to change.

**Valet-parking update:** Due to increased costs, complimentary valet parking for Disney Vacation Club Members at the Disney Vacation Club Resorts at the *Walt Disney World®* Resort has been discontinued. Similar to other fee-based services, such as additional housekeeping service or additional room amenities, only those Members who choose to valet park will be charged (\$12 a day), rather than increasing the annual dues for all Members to cover the costs. Self parking continues to be complimentary, as is valet parking for those with disabilities.

**Important Web site news:** Note that the Home Resort Rules and Regulations section of [www.dvcmember.com](http://www.dvcmember.com) now reflects a minor change to the "Banking Home Resort Vacation Points" information.

**Towel talk:** Disney's Vero Beach Resort has upgraded its pool towels with larger, plusher versions stocked in Vacation Homes. Each Vacation Home is equipped with the appropriate number of pool towels based on that Vacation Home's occupancy. Pool towels at poolside locations and at the beach are available only on a one-for-one exchange basis. Members and Guests also may exchange used pool towels for clean replacements by contacting Housekeeping for delivery

to their Vacation Home, or during regularly scheduled housekeeping service.

**Pool hopping:** Whenever you are using your Membership to stay at a Disney Vacation Club Resort at the *Walt Disney World* Resort or at Disney's Vero Beach Resort, you and any Guests staying with you are permitted to pool hop to most other pools if they are not at capacity. Due to expected high occupancy, pool hopping isn't available Feb. 14-20, March 27-April 10, May 28-31, June 27-July 5, Sept. 3-6, and Nov. 22-28, 2010; and Dec. 12, 2010-Jan. 2, 2011. Note that other blockout dates may be added. Pool hopping is never available at Bay Cove Pool at Bay Lake Tower at Disney's Contemporary Resort, the pools at Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge, Stormalong Bay at Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resorts, the pool at Disney's Beach Club Villas, or at the *Disneyland®* Resort in California. Full details are available in *Portable Perks* and online at [www.dvcmember.com](http://www.dvcmember.com).

**Condo meeting:** The 2010 Disney Vacation Club Condominium Association Meeting will take place on Dec. 9, 2010, at the *Walt Disney World* Resort. Watch [www.dvcmember.com](http://www.dvcmember.com) for time and meeting-room location updates as new details become available.

The Disney logo is written in its classic white script font against a dark blue background with faint star-like speckles.

# DESTINATIONS

news and insight from the places where dreams come true

## SATURATING STORYTELLING

### **World of Color to light up the night**

**DISNEYLAND® Resort:** Take the timeless magic of Disney animation and just add water. Lots and lots of water.

This spring, *Disney's California Adventure®* Guests will discover *World of Color*, a new nighttime spectacular bringing beloved Disney and Pixar characters and stories to life with technical artistry and innovative special effects in what Walt Disney Imagineers describe as “a visual kaleidoscope of aqua-animation.”

More than 1,200 state-of-the-art fountains will combine with vibrant animation, a stirring soundtrack and plenty of visual tricks designed to make audiences ask, “How’d they do that?” (Please refrain from asking aloud. It’s distracting.)

Staged on the waters of Paradise Bay, the show borrows its name from “Walt Disney’s Wonderful World of Color,” the popular television series that aired from 1961-1969. Inspirational quotes from Walt Disney himself will serve as thematic guideposts during the emotional journey, connecting his hopes and ideals to creative visions that have captured generations of imaginations. The 25-minute production seamlessly weaves stories from a broad range of Disney and Pixar worlds, including (listed here in no particular order so as not to spoil the show flow) *Toy Story*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Pocahontas*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*, *Hercules*, *Wall-E*, *The Lion King*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Fantasia*, *Fantasia 2000*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Finding Nemo* and even the recent release *The Princess and the Frog*, just to name a few. (And by a few, we mean 15.)

“*World of Color* is the largest entertainment show ever done for the Disney Parks without a single performer,” said Sayre Wiseman, Director of Show Production for Walt Disney Imagineering Creative Entertainment. “It adds a whole new nighttime vibrancy and excitement to the Paradise Pier area, and it brings Disney and Pixar storytelling to life in a whole new way, which is what we are doing with many of our new attractions and entertainment throughout the Park.”

A new musical theme based on the original Sherman Brothers song “Wonderful World of Color” anchors a soundtrack featuring memorable music from the featured Disney films, which will “splash” to life through a broad range of animation techniques.

“Walt Disney Animation Studios Special Projects has worked on nearly 80,000 elements for the show,” Sayre explained, adding that artists have scanned original drawings from classic films, created brand new sequences and separated elements into layers to create an effect made famous by Walt Disney’s groundbreaking multi-plane camera. “We’re also using some unique animation elements, such as paper animation and fluid animation, to add to the depth of the show so that audiences will not feel that they are watching a movie, but experiencing Disney and Pixar storytelling in a new way.”

While Guests may experience *World of Color* (scheduled to run almost every night, with multiple performances on peak nights) from any location around Paradise Bay, the best vantage point will be Paradise Park, a new terraced viewing area designed to accommodate thousands of Guests.

And don’t be too quick to vacate the viewing area when you think the show’s over, as Sayre had this to share as we wrapped our interview: “Stick around for special encores at the end of each show.” Maybe that was supposed to be a secret. Oops.



## PERFECT STORM

### Walt Disney Imagineers stir up new thrills

**DISNEYLAND® Resort:** “Look Mommy, a tornado! Can I ride it?” Sounds a bit silly, which is just what Imagineers have in mind.

The transformation of *Disney’s California Adventure®* Park continues this spring with the opening of Silly Symphony Swings, an aerial salute to Disney animation and an eye-catching example of Imagineers’ romanticized vision for the Paradise Pier experience.

The newly themed attraction, which replaces the Orange Stinger, draws inspiration from the 1935 Silly Symphonies short “The Band Concert,” in which Mickey Mouse tries to conduct Gioachino Rossini’s “William Tell Overture” in the face of a passing tornado. Guests will board swings suspended from a telescoping tower topped by conductor Mickey and decorated with a vibrant mural representing a scene from the classic short. As the ride progresses and the spinning tower rises to give Guests the sensation of flying over the adjacent waterfront, additional murals appear, bringing the tornado to life and sweeping familiar characters up in its path. The visual drama will reach another level after nightfall, when hundreds of lights will illuminate the tower and reflect on Paradise Bay Lagoon.

“The idea of our Guests being caught up in the swirl and excitement from ‘The Band Concert’ was such a natural fit that we knew early on that this is what we wanted to do with the attraction,” Walt Disney Imagineering Senior Show



Producer and Senior Director Lisa Girolami told *Disney Files Magazine*.

Adding to the attraction’s “eye candy” will be a new lower deck beneath the elevated tower, offering dramatic Paradise Pier views across the lagoon.

“Taken in its entirety, with its colorful murals, decorative cartouches and dazzling electric lights, Silly Symphony Swings has the playful look of an antique toy come to life, which conveys the turn-of-the-century design aspects that we are delivering to Paradise Pier,” Lisa said. (By the way, just in case you’re like us and don’t know what cartouches are, we looked it up. Turns out they’re structures or figures, often in the shape of an oval shield or oblong scroll, used as architectural or graphic ornaments, or to bear designs or inscriptions. Sounds pretty!)

While it may be tempting to spend your entire flight daydreaming and whistling tunes from Big Bad Voodoo Daddy (Get it? Swing music? Never mind.), be sure to keep an eye out for one of Lisa’s favorite hidden details.

“In ‘The Band Concert,’ Mickey Mouse’s efforts to conduct his orchestra are interrupted by Donald Duck, who plays ‘Turkey in the Straw’ on his flute,” Lisa explained. “Once the ‘tornado’ picks everyone up, including the Guests, Donald is swept up as well. Look for him. He’s there somewhere.”





# MORE TO REPORT

*good to know before you go*

**Walt Disney Parks and Resorts:** Chinese government officials have given initial approval for The Walt Disney Company to move toward a final agreement with partners in Shanghai to begin preliminary development work on a Disney Theme Park in that city. Early plans call for the project's first phase to include a *Magic Kingdom*®-style Theme Park with characteristics unique to the Shanghai region, blended with elements and amenities similar to those at Disney destination resorts around the world. *Disney Files* Magazine will share updates as they become available.

**DISNEYLAND® Resort:** *Disney's California Adventure*® Park will celebrate "The Art of Flavor" during the fifth annual Disney's California Food & Wine Festival April 16-May 31. Highlights of the festival, featuring complimentary in-Park experiences and ticketed Signature events in a range of *Disneyland* Resort venues, include celebrity chef appearances, winemaker dinners, festival wine walks, the popular Napa Rose Cooking School, wine-tasting classes and a grand tasting-style food-and-entertainment event called "Taste, Food-Wine-Life." Make online reservations for Signature events at [www.disneyland.com/foodandwine](http://www.disneyland.com/foodandwine).

**DISNEYLAND Resort:** *Toy Story: The Musical*, made popular on the *Disney Cruise Line*® ships, is scheduled to make landfall in early 2011, entertaining Guests in the Hyperion Theatre at *Disney's California Adventure*® Park. To clear the stage for Buzz, Woody and the gang, *Aladdin – A Musical Spectacular* will take its final bow on Aug. 15, 2010.

**WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort:** This year's *Epcot*® International Flower & Garden Festival will "Celebrate the Great Outdoors" from March 3-May 16. Best known for its lavish topiary creations and floral displays, the colorful spring festival will grow to feature 100 topiary sculptures this year, including a new display starring Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Pluto, Donald Duck and Goofy tending to a "community garden." Here, Guests will learn how to start a garden in their own community. Mickey and Minnie also will star in a new floral salute to the famed painting "American Gothic." These and other new offerings join a diverse lineup of returning favorites, from expert gardening presentations to the star-studded Flower Power Concert series. Learn more about the festival online at [www.disneyworld.com/flower](http://www.disneyworld.com/flower).

**WALT DISNEY WORLD Resort:** Flights have "re-zoomed" inside the original *Space Mountain*® attraction at the *Magic Kingdom*® Park after a carefully executed refurbishment project. Walt Disney Imagineers meticulously preserved the groundbreaking attraction while adding a few surprises along the way, smoothing out the familiar ride track, enclosing the load area to boost the mountain's famed darkness and further engaging Guests in the space-travel story -- inspired by the jet age of the early 1960s -- by challenging them to interactive queue-area games based on functions required in the operation of any busy spaceport. Affectionate nods to the attraction's history appear in the form of subtle Imagineering references, including a hidden "H-NCH 1975" logo in tribute to the late Disney Legend John Hench and the year of the attraction's debut.





**WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort:** When Major League Baseball's Atlanta Braves return to Champion Stadium this year for another season of spring training (games run through March), the complex in which they play will have become the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Look for new video screens, score tickers and other fan amenities from ESPN when you visit the complex this spring to see legendary Braves skipper Bobby Cox begin his 25th and final season as manager. Spring training tickets and mini plans are available online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and in person at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex box office.

**WALT DISNEY WORLD Resort:** That heavy air moving toward *Disney's Hollywood Studios*™ isn't humidity. It's the Force. (Okay, maybe a little humidity. But mostly the Force.) *Star Wars*™ Weekends are returning to the Park on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from May 21-June 13. *Star Wars* characters, celebrities and experiences will engage fans of all ages in an intergalactic event that prides itself on being like nothing else in the universe. We'd tell you to try to make it, but in the immortal words of the great Yoda, "Do. Or do not. There is no try." Learn more online at [www.disneyworld.com/starwars](http://www.disneyworld.com/starwars).

**DISNEYLAND® Paris:** The Rockefeller Plaza skating rink at Disney's Hotel New York, one of Europe's largest open-air rinks, has gone green, replacing the ice with a dense, white synthetic surface. The material allows for year-round skating, avoids the use of environmentally harmful refrigerant products and completely eliminates the energy required to maintain a frozen surface. Rink operators will use the synthetic panels for five years on one side and flip them over for another five years of use before ultimately recycling the material. The rink is the first of its type to go iceless. Disney's Hotel New York is available to Disney Vacation Club Members as part of the Disney Collection.

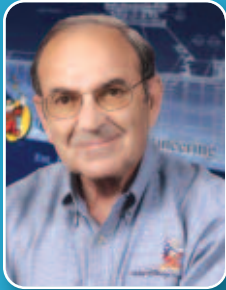
**The Disney family:** The Walt Disney Family Museum is now open at San Francisco's 1,491-acre Presidio National Park. Designed to pay tribute to Walt Disney the man, as opposed to the company he founded, the sprawling museum showcases art, artifacts, audio and video clips, awards and more. While the museum isn't owned by The Walt Disney Company, the Walt Disney Archives cooperated with Diane Disney Miller (Walt's daughter, pictured right with Dad) and the Walt Disney Family Foundation (which owns the museum) to share items offering visitors an intimate look at the man behind the mouse. Learn more about the museum online at [www.waltdisney.org](http://www.waltdisney.org).

**ADVENTURES BY DISNEY:** And the Oscar® goes to...*Adventures by Disney*! Okay, not really. But Disney's guided-vacation business recently *did* receive two *Travel Weekly* Magellan Award statuettes, made by the same company that produces those famous *Academy Awards*®. The *Travel Weekly* Magellan Awards honor the best in travel and salute outstanding travel professionals. *Adventures by Disney* took home the Gold Magellan Award in the Tour Operators, consumer Web site category, and the Silver Magellan Award in the Tour Operators, consumer collateral category. Meanwhile, the prestigious World Travel Awards, which focus on the customer experience, honored *Adventures by Disney* as the World's Leading Luxury Tour Operator for 2009. Call Member Services to book your *Adventures by Disney* vacation.



# PARK PERSPECTIVES

by marty sklar



*Disney Files Magazine* is proud to share the perspectives of the now-retired Disney Legend Marty Sklar, the longtime leader of Walt Disney Imagineering and the only Cast Member to have been part of every Disney Park opening on earth.

The Walt Disney Company marked Marty's July 17, 2009, retirement in part by pledging \$250,000 to the new Ryman Arts Marty Sklar Legacy Fund. As Marty returns to our pages for his first post-retirement column (look for his "Park Perspectives" to continue in select future editions), he celebrates the great Herb Ryman and the art-education program that builds on his legacy.

**A BRUSH WITH HERB RYMAN:** In the seminal biography *A Brush with Disney: An Artist's Journey told through the words and works of Herbert Dickens Ryman*, the quintessential Imagineering artist explained his role at Disney. "I look upon Walt," he wrote, "as a conductor of one of the world's great orchestras, and I was part of the orchestra."

Those words of Herbert Dickens Ryman painted a picture of a very modest performer in that orchestra. Yet Herb Ryman was so much more than one of the major soloists in Walt's orchestra. From the first overall drawing of *Disneyland*®, made in pencil in 1953, to his early work for Euro Disneyland (now *Disneyland Paris*) nearly 40 years later, Herb Ryman painted and sketched 840 pieces of art illustrating new concepts, ideas, projects and people for Disney Parks and resorts around the world!

If you are a fan of *Disneyland* or the *Magic Kingdom*,

*Tokyo Disneyland* or *Disneyland Paris*, *Epcot*® or the four Disney shows at the 1964 New York World's Fair, *Pirates of the Caribbean* or *Liberty Square* and *The Hall of Presidents* – and so much more – chances are almost 100 percent that the very first visionary illustration of that project was drawn by Herb Ryman. There was no question who Walt wanted to introduce a project visually to the public. Later, I had the privilege, as the creative leader of Imagineering, to continue that "tradition" for the last 15 years that my friend "Herbie" worked at Walt Disney Imagineering, until his retirement in the late 1980s.

Shortly before Thanksgiving 2009, I was invited to present the Herb Ryman story in a program about the animation feature *Sleeping Beauty* at the new Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco. The connection, of course, was Herb's design and illustration for the *Disneyland* castle – named for the movie even though the castle was unveiled on



Herb Ryman, left,  
with Walt Disney



July 17, 1955, and the movie was released in 1959. (Walt knew how to *market* his product too!) I made the presentation in my role as President of Ryman Arts, because – I am proud to say – the Herb Ryman story does not end with his death. It lives on, through Herb’s inspiration and teachings, in the thousands of talented young artists who have graduated from our Ryman Arts program.

Shortly after “Herbie” passed away, I joined five other co-founders of Ryman Arts to discuss how we could best honor his incredible impact on the world of Disney. We were also great admirers of Herb’s paintings inspired by his travels around the globe, and his love of the California coastline around Carmel.

At Disney, Herb’s ideas and illustrations contributed not just to the parks and resorts. After all, Walt chose Herb to be part of the 15-person team to travel with him on a U.S. State Department goodwill mission to South America in the early 1940s – the trip that resulted in the films *Saludos Amigos* and *The Three Caballeros*. He had also contributed importantly to animation features, especially *Dumbo*, where his two summers traveling with The Ringling Brothers Circus brought “the smell of sawdust” to his sketches. And when you watch the opening sequence in *Pete’s Dragon*, the first three minutes are photographed entirely against a single Herb Ryman background painting – a 24-foot-long oil painting of fishermen and seafarers along the New England shore.

My Ryman Arts co-founders were Sharon Disney Lund, younger daughter of Walt and Lilly Disney and (before her untimely passing) a member of The Walt Disney Company Board of Directors; Lucille Ryman Carroll, Herb’s sister and a pioneering female executive at MGM; Harrison “Buzz” Price, consultant to Disney who recommended the site locations for *Disneyland* and *Walt Disney World*®; and our talented spouses, Anne Price and Leah Sklar.

All of us agreed with what Herb’s friend Alex Haley, the author of *Roots*, wrote: “There was nothing that Herbert talked more about than young artists. He felt that if there was any way he personally could help train, be a mentor to, be a big brother to, or be any other role that was helpful and positive, that was what he wanted his life to be mostly about.”

So 20 years ago, we created the first Ryman Arts class with a simple objective: “to teach classical drawing and painting to talented and motivated high school students as a bridge to a lifetime that expresses and appreciates the arts.”

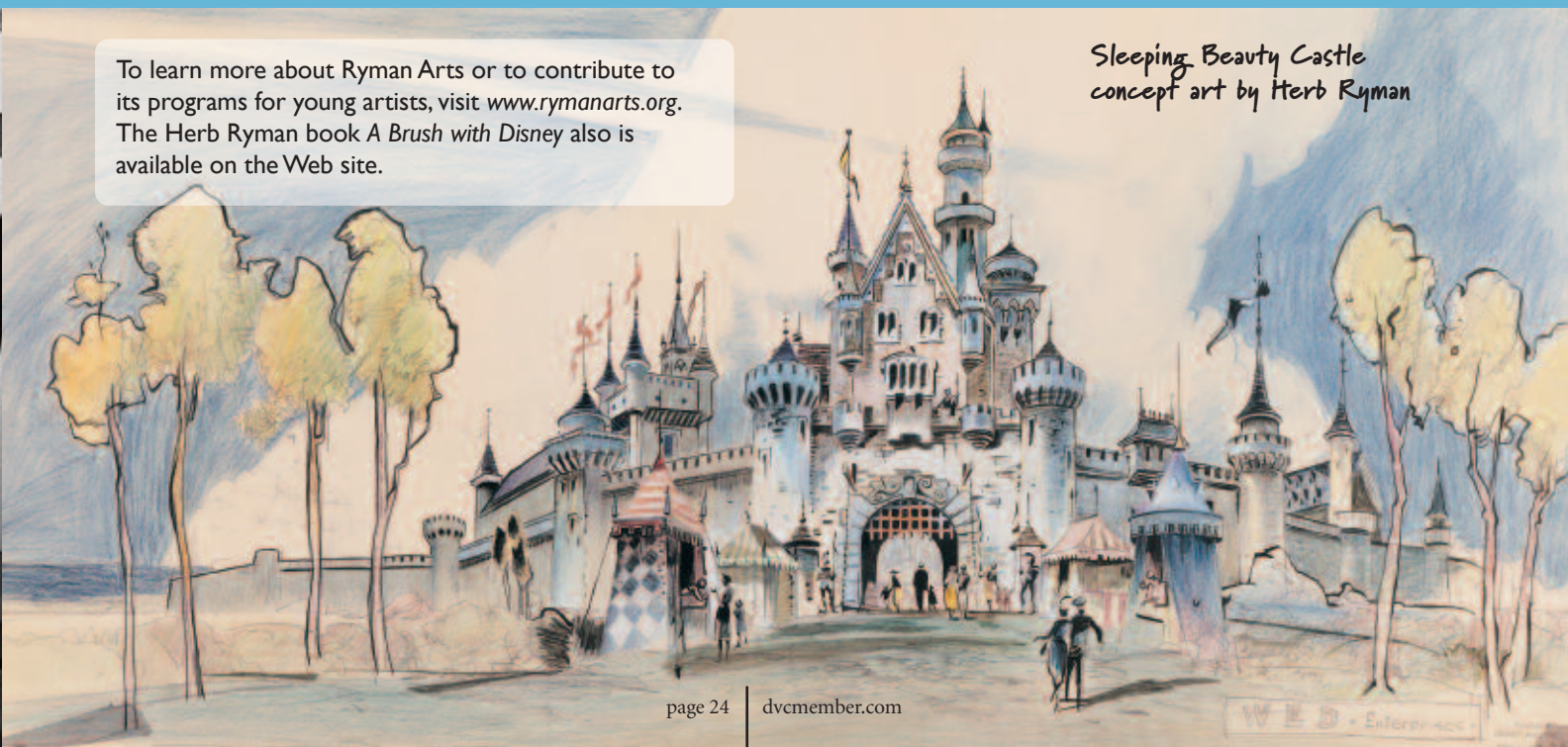
That first class had 12 students. Since then, over 2,500 talented young artists have “graduated” from our Ryman Arts program. When our 10 classes gather every Saturday in the Fine Arts classrooms at the University of Southern California, there are 150 young artists, competitively chosen from 80 high schools in five Southern California counties. Because we deal with the “whole person,” 98 percent of our students go on to college – many with scholarships to the best art schools: California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), Rhode Island School of Design, Ringling School of Art, Savannah College of Art and Design, Otis College of Art and Design, etc. Many of our graduates are working artists today at animation studios, graphic arts companies and even divisions of The Walt Disney Company.

I think you will agree that the work of Herbert Dickens Ryman lives on. His talent brought us all joy and beauty in Disney films and the Disney Parks and resorts. His personal work took us to China and Africa and introduced us to ordinary people and famous personalities. His teaching influenced a generation of Disney artists. His example inspired young artists to reach for the stars.

Yes, it was Walt’s orchestra, and he conducted it brilliantly. But no one hit the high notes like Herbert Dickens Ryman. When it came time for his solos, even the conductor applauded. We still do today.

*Sleeping Beauty Castle  
concept art by Herb Ryman*

To learn more about Ryman Arts or to contribute to its programs for young artists, visit [www.rymanarts.org](http://www.rymanarts.org). The Herb Ryman book *A Brush with Disney* also is available on the Web site.



# Disney DIVERSIONS

enjoying Disney between trips

## WAKING SLEEPING BEAUTY

### The volatile period that changed the face of Disney animation

By the mid 1980s, Disney animation was thought to be circling the drain. A series of box office flops – created by an increasingly polarized group of artists – had Hollywood pundits drafting the studio’s obituary and believing that the art form’s best days were fading in the rearview mirror.

Such reports proved to be grossly premature, however, as the studio would rebound in dramatic fashion to release a staggering string of hits produced from 1984-1994, including *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin* and *The Lion King*.

*Waking Sleeping Beauty*, a revealing new documentary from director Don Hahn and producer Peter Schneider opening in select theaters this April, takes an unprecedented inside look at this landmark period in Disney history.

“The articles and books that have been written never captured the whole story, because they were told from an outsider’s point of view,” Schneider explained. “They didn’t capture the joy of a group of creative people firing on all pistons or the unique drama among the key players as they clashed over who would take credit for the renaissance of the animation department. Once animation became the ‘heart and soul’ of the company again, everybody started vying for a piece of it. Feature Animation was central to the drama.”

Schneider and Hahn were both present during the era they have documented (Schneider as an animation leader and eventual studio chairman, and Hahn as the producer of some of the studio’s greatest hits) and pull no punches in telling the story on film.

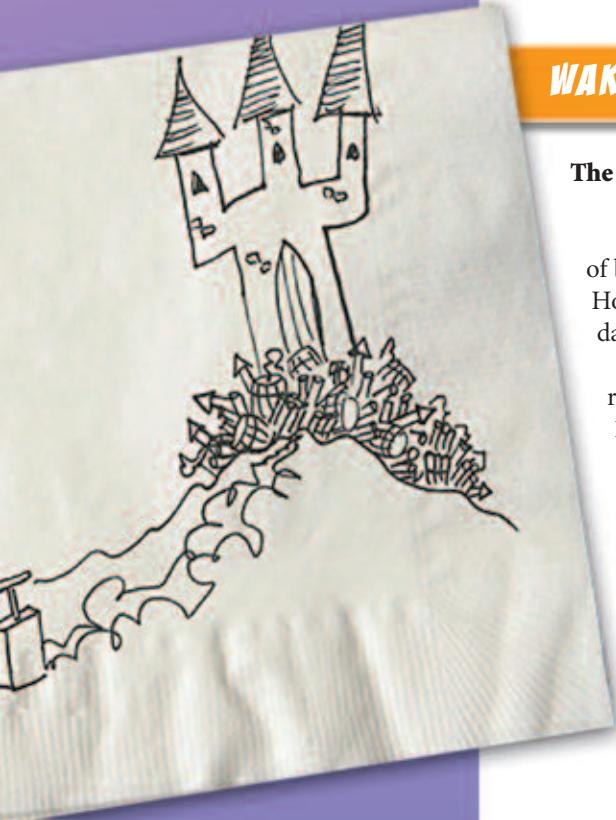
“The story parallels the animated films themselves,” Hahn said. “They’re all about love and conflict. *Waking Sleeping Beauty* is about the love of a group of people for an art form and the conflict that occurred when that art form became incredibly lucrative and prestigious ... We thought that if we could tell that story in as honest a way as possible, it would be an amazing tale: Shakespearean characters and palace intrigue mixed with cartoons. Who wouldn’t love that?”

Feeling that enough time had passed that the central players on both the artistic and business sides would be willing to speak openly, the filmmakers approached the key players of the era, including CEO Michael Eisner, studio head Jeffrey Katzenberg and the late animation chief Roy E. Disney.

“For a long time, it was too raw for them to be able to speak about,” Schneider said. “The biggest surprise for me was how honest everyone was. There was a consensus that the story needed to be told ... No one was feuding [any longer]. They had each made peace with themselves, so they could be honest about what they felt had happened.”

To remain impartial to the material, the team recruited Patrick Pacheco, a veteran journalist of *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, to conduct more than 100 interviews.

The end result is a dynamic look at a period of Disney history that Hahn likens to a gas fire, saying, “It was a time of high productivity, stressful debate on every creative grain of the movie, and intense pressure to out-do the last accomplishment. It was chaotic, exhausting and thrilling.”



From left, Peter Schneider, Roy E. Disney and Jeffrey Katzenberg



Don Hahn

## MARCH 5 IS A VERY IMPORTANT DATE

### *Alice in Wonderland* opening in theaters

Anyone who's ever taken a spin on a teacup knows a little something about *Alice in Wonderland*. Young girl gets bored, follows a hurried rabbit into a hole, seeks advice from a caterpillar, gets pestered by an elusive cat, has tea with a crazy guy and almost loses her head to an angry queen. (Or something like that.)

Lewis Carroll's beloved books of 1865 and 1871 (*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass* respectively) provided eccentric inspiration for Walt Disney's popular 1951 animated feature and later spawned the dizzying *Fantasyland*® attraction that has separated Guests from their equilibrium for decades.

But what would happen if a young-adult Alice returned to that wonderland she first encountered as a child? What if she reunited with her Wonderland friends? Could she discover her true destiny in this wacky world? Might she stand a chance of ending the Red Queen's reign of terror? And whose imagination could possibly tell such a tale?

Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Tim Burton. The visionary filmmaker who sent the Pumpkin King to Christmastown

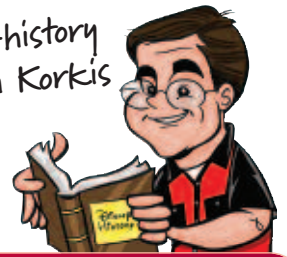
and made audiences fall in love with a man who had scissors for hands is at it again, this time blending live action with computer animation to create cutting-edge, avant-garde visuals and take audiences on an epic, 3-D fantasy adventure.

*People Magazine's* reigning "sexiest man alive" Johnny Depp, something of a Burton staple (*Ed Wood*, *Sleepy Hollow*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Corpse Bride*, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* and the aforementioned *Edward Scissorhands* all paired the renowned actor and director), steps into the role of the Mad Hatter, joining a cast that includes Anne Hathaway as the White Queen, Helena Bonham Carter (another Burton good-luck charm, in addition to being his wife) as the Red Queen, Crispin Glover as the Knave of Hearts, Alan Rickman as the Caterpillar and Mia Wasikowska as Alice.

This highly anticipated twist on the *Alice in Wonderland* tale opens in U.S. theaters on March 5 in traditional format and in *Disney Digital 3-D™*. And, in another sign that this isn't the Alice of 1865 or even 1951, you can follow this one on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/importantdate](http://www.twitter.com/importantdate)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/AliceInWonderland](http://www.facebook.com/AliceInWonderland) or [www.facebook.com/madhattersubjects](http://www.facebook.com/madhattersubjects)).



Mia Wasikowska stars as Alice in Tim Burton's *Alice In Wonderland*.



## MICKEY'S BIRTHDAY STARLAND TOONTOWN FAIR

### Looking back at a land of many names

“All aboard for a trip to Mickey’s Birthdayland! We’ve got a big surprise party for Mickey Mouse, and you’re all invited!”

More than 20 years have passed since Guests first heard that greeting aboard the *Walt Disney World*® Railroad. What started as an 18-month event venue celebrating a Mickey milestone has become an ever-changing part of the *Magic Kingdom*® experience. As the area prepares for its most dramatic evolution yet – making way for the *Fantasyland*® expansion you may have read about in the winter edition of *Disney Files* Magazine – I thought I’d take a look back at the colorful history of this whimsical little land.

The concept was simple: create a temporary place for Guests to meet the big cheese and celebrate his 60th birthday. Just one problem. Walt Disney Imagineers had only three months to make it happen. Not so simple.

Always up for doing the impossible, Imagineers removed part of the *Tomorrowland*® speedway, erected party tents, added a new train station and even built Mickey a house to create the three-acre mini-land (the first ever to be added to the Park) right on schedule.

Since the still-unreleased movie *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* had yet to introduce audiences to the concept of a “Toontown,” Imagineers gave their new land a Duckburg theme, complete with a welcome sign describing the place as “A town that’s everything it’s quacked up to be.”

Duckburg was well known as the comic book home of Donald Duck, Uncle Scrooge and friends, and it had enjoyed renewed mainstream recognition, thanks to the popular syndicated television show “DuckTales.” Adding a level of detail for eagle-eyed comic book fans, Imagineers faithfully recreated a statue of Duckburg founder Cornelius Coot, as featured in the 1952 Carl Barks comic book story “Statuesque Spendthrifts.” (Originally positioned in the middle of the town’s fountain, the statue survived subsequent evolutions of the land and continues to greet Guests at the entrance of the County Bounty tent.)

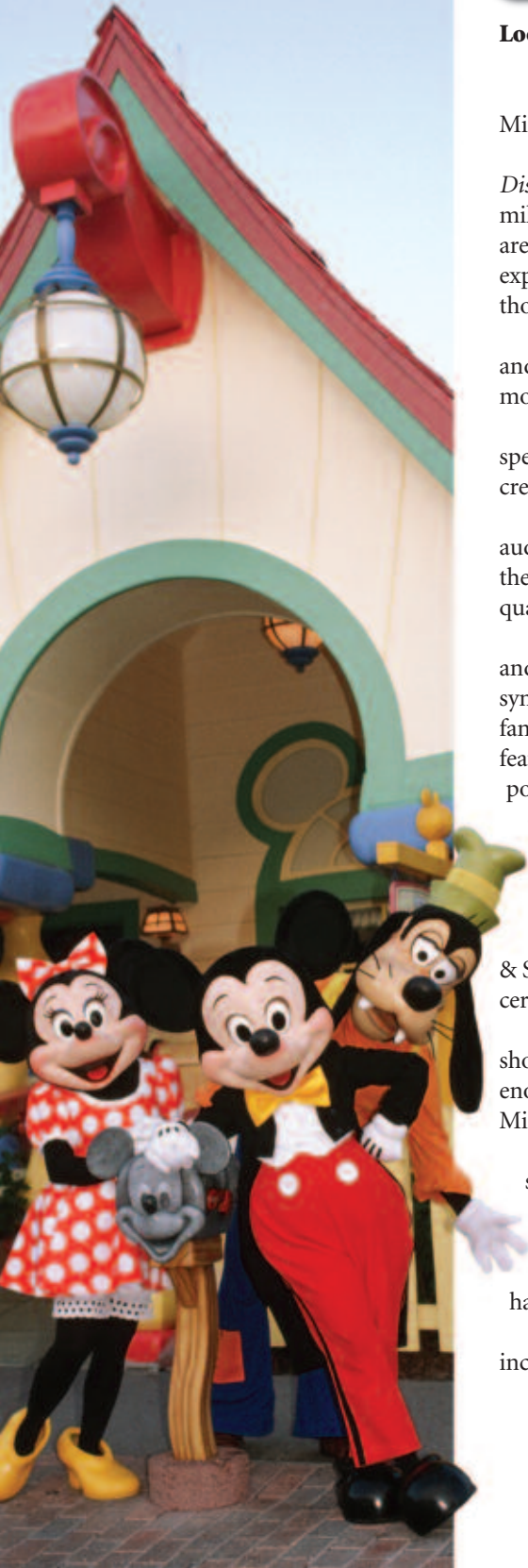
Mickey’s Birthdayland also featured a variety of facades representing kid-sized buildings, including the *Duckburg News* office, Duck County School (attended by such notable students as Huey, Dewey and Louie), Goofy’s Clip Joint barber shop and more.

Actress Cindy Williams, better known as Shirley in the hit television series “Laverne & Shirley,” cut the ribbon for the land’s grand opening on June 18, 1988, as part of a ceremony that also included First Lady Nancy Reagan.

The land’s entertainment centerpiece was the Birthday Party Tent, which housed a show called “Minnie’s Surprise Party,” in which Mickey’s friends worked to bake an enormous birthday cake with exploding confetti candles. After the show, Guests could visit Mickey in his own private dressing room.

“During the 90-day design process, we were unaware of the coming of Roger Rabbit,” said Steve Hansen, the Imagineer who served as the land’s original show director. “The main objective of Mickey’s Birthdayland was to help satisfy the No. 1 Guest complaint at that time, which was that they didn’t get to meet Mickey Mouse ... The whole show experience was designed to get Guests to the backstage dressing room where they could have a one on one with Mickey. Everyone loved it.”

The nearby Grandma Duck’s farm, meanwhile, housed a variety of barnyard animals, including Minnie Moo, the headline-grabbing cow naturally adorned with a Mickey



Mouse-head silhouette on one side of her body. The petting farm's barn was later cleaned up and used as part of Goofy's Wiseacres Farm, current home of the Barnstormer coaster attraction. Speaking of the Barnstormers, astute Disneyphiles may recognize the *Audio-Animatronic*® chickens in the attraction's queue as being former residents of the old World of Motion attraction at *Epcot*®.

Mickey's Birthdayland became so popular with Guests that, after the birthday celebration ended, the area evolved to become Mickey's Starland, which officially opened on May 26, 1990. Replacing "Minnie's Surprise Party" in the tent was a new show called "Mickey's Magical TV World," starring a revolving cast of characters from television's syndicated block of "Disney Afternoon" cartoons, including "Chip 'n' Dale's Rescue Rangers," "TaleSpin," "Goof Troop," "Darkwing Duck" and others. The show also starred a human character named "C.J." (so named to allow either a male or female Cast Member to perform the role on any given day) who encouraged Guest participation, and a rapping computer narrator known as D.U.D.E.

The continued success of Mickey's Starland led to the creation of Mickey's Toontown at *Disneyland*® Park in California, inspired in part by *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*. Guests responded immediately to the Toontown concept, prompting yet another evolution of the Florida site formerly known as Mickey's Birthdayland. In 1996, Mickey's Starland became *Mickey's Toontown Fair*™.

The new storyline allowed the characters to "live" at Mickey's Toontown in California while maintaining vacation homes in Florida, attending the local fair during their visits.

"The magic of seeing these silly and 'toony' places, where all of our favorite Disney characters live, brings out the child in all of us," Imagineer Alex Wright said of the *Mickey's*

*Toontown Fair* concept. "You'll see funny portraits on the walls, wacky color palettes and patterns all around, and a bushel full of sight gags everywhere.

No matter when you visit Toontown, it's always a special day because the Fair is in town!"

Imagineers re-designed Mickey's country house with plenty of curves inside and out, and Guests now visited the "main mouse" in the nearby Judge's tent. Minnie got a country cottage of her own, conveniently located right next door to her sweetheart. (The cottage gave Guests their first look at some of Minnie's many artistic pursuits.)

Other new additions included Donald Duck's boat, *Miss Daisy*, which looks a lot like Donald himself, with the hull resembling his suit, the building on deck reminiscent of his yellow bill and the roof resembling his hat. The boat proves particularly popular on warm Florida afternoons, with Guests pulling ropes to sound the horn and spray water on unsuspecting visitors. Oh, and you may want to beware of Pete's gas station near the entrance to *Mickey's Toontown Fair*. Close inspection reveals that the drinking fountains are connected to Pete's case of oil, and everyone knows that oil and water don't mix!

So where will Mickey and friends next take residence in the Park? How exactly will Dumbo's three-ring circus transform the mouse's old neighborhood? Rest assured, there will be plenty of toon news to follow in future editions of *Disney Files Magazine*.



# PHOTO FILES

from your cameras  
to our pages

While our annual "Editor's Choice Awards" honor Member photos in our fall magazine, we just couldn't wait six months to share these beauties. Patience is not among our greatest virtues. (Friendly? Yes. Pleasant smelling? Surprisingly. Patient? Not so much.)

Our files contain enough photos of people hoisting Spaceship Earth or supporting the Leaning Tower of Pisa to fill an entire magazine. But every now and then, the forced-perspective trick distinguishes itself. All of us at *Disney Files* Magazine salute the Bailey family of Colorado, Members since 2008, for their outstanding work at Disney's All-Star Sports Resort.



# FILE IT AWAY

Send photos of you traveling with the magazine. (Tip: Taking the magazine to non-Disney locations gets our attention!)

Adventures by Disney trips take center stage in this installment of our delightfully self-promoting “File it Away” feature.



The Levi family of Virginia, Members since 1993, read their way through the canals of Venice during a Members-only Adventures by Disney excursion.



Courtney Gibbs of Maryland, Member since 2006, shares the Files with Little Red Riding Hood while a hunter takes aim at a man-wolf during an Adventures by Disney vacation to Germany.



Jerry Posey of Minnesota, Member since 1995, tries to keep the Files dry during an Adventures by Disney trip to Alaska's Glacier National Park.



Kevin Brewster of Nevada, Member since 2008, reads the Files at 37,000 feet. (We can't be certain he was flying to an Adventures by Disney destination, but we'll assume.)

## SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

Send your vacation photos to **Disney Files Magazine, Disney Vacation Club, 1390 Celebration Blvd., Celebration, FL 34747**. Submissions become property of Disney Vacation Club and will not be returned. Remember to include your name, hometown and “Member Since” year so the staff can credit you with the submission, as well as your phone number so we can contact you with questions. Also remember to sign and include our release form for each person pictured. The form is available in the download center of your Member Web site at [www.dvcmember.com/releaseform](http://www.dvcmember.com/releaseform).

Tip: Photos that tell a story have the best chance of getting into the magazine. So look for your best tight, candid shots that focus more on people than places. If you can make the staff laugh or cry, even better!

**NEW ADDRESS**

# ROY E. DISNEY

1930-2009



Meeting a hero can be disappointing. Legend seldom matches reality.

I'm happy to say that wasn't the case when I first met Roy 10 years ago, and it wasn't the case through the decade that followed, when I was proud to call him a friend.

When the hero is Roy E. Disney, the man trumps the legend.

I'll remember Roy for being as funny as he was thoughtful. As caring as he was charismatic.

His stories were fascinating. His perspectives were inspiring. And his genuine interest in a Cast Member like me was proof that my Disney dreams weren't misguided.

Roy calling me at my desk to talk business was exciting. Roy calling me at home to talk life was extraordinary.

I miss the icon. The filmmaker. The leader. The storyteller. I miss the legend. But mostly, I miss my friend.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ryan".

Ryan March  
Disney Files Editor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roy E. Disney".

