



June 5-9, 2024
It's A Barnyard Mardi Gras

35th District Agricultural Association



Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads

FREE Table Mountain Concert Series Presented by Coors Light

Sit back, relax and enjoy a margarita for night two of the FREE Table Mountain Concert Series presented by Coors Light as Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads take over the outdoor theatre stage at the 2024 Merced County Fair presented by Valley Children's Healthcare! The show starts at 8:30 p.m. and is free with your paid Fair admission.

Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads was formed in Northern California in 1999 with some great local musicians who found they were performing more Jimmy Buffett songs by request. Garratt's band "The Whiskey Ducks" continued to receive more and more requests for Jimmy Buffett songs and was becoming known as the "Buffett Band." An agent approached the Garratt asking if they would perform a show singing only Buffett songs and the rest is history. Since becoming Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads, exclusively performing Jimmy Buffett music, the Parrotheads have performed as a six-piece "core" band and up to as large as a 13-piece band, giving the band the closest representation of the Coral Reefers and creates the look, feel and sound of being at a Jimmy Buffett concert.

At the age of 16, Garratt picked up the guitar while traveling through Oregon, playing at campgrounds and campfires and learning what he could from other traveling musicians. Growing up near Hollywood, CA, Garratt began acting in television and films at an early age. He has appeared in numerous television programs and feature films such as: *Bonanza*; *The Walton's*; *James at 16*; *Little House on the Prairie*; *Happy Days*; and *M*A*S*H*. He's also appeared in movies such as: *Midnight Madness* with Michael J. Fox, David Naughton and Steven First; *Pigs vs. Freaks*; and has starred as a hippie in 1960's, acting opposite to Brian Dennehy, Tony Randall and Patrick Swayze. Garratt and Patrick became good friends due to their common interest in song writing and music. While filming in Oregon, Garratt was staying at a hotel where Larry Mahan's back-up band, "The American Cowboy Band" was staying, and Garratt and Patrick would show up and sing with the band all night. Garratt's music ability won him a part as a musician on a TV pilot for NBC. This was Garratt's first experience in a recording studio, where he recorded the theme song, "Instant Family" and got to work with Neil Diamond's record producer, Jeff Barry.

Garratt's interest in a music career grew more important to him. He began writing his own songs, telling of his own adventures, with a special style that he attributes to the influences of Jimmy Buffett, Jerry Jeff Walker, Merle Haggard and Rodney Crowell. Garratt has written a song dedicated to Jimmy Buffett and his loyal fans, "Parrotheads," entitled "Gumbo Rock Pirate." This song, along with a variety of other Buffett hits, will be on an upcoming CD performed by "Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads."

Garratt & The Parrotheads have headlined multiple fairs and festivals not only in their hometown of Placerville, CA, but also across the U.S., including Alaska, Hawaii, Florida, Texas, Vermont, Delaware, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Tennessee. Garratt and his band have been billed as the No.1 Jimmy Buffett tribute band. This is a tribute show you won't want to miss!

Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads Highlights

- Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads formed in 1999 in Placerville, CA.
- Have been billed as the No. 1 Jimmy Buffet tribute band.
- Garratt has had roles in various TV programs and movies.
- Garratt Wilkin & the Parrotheads have headlined multiple fairs and festivals across the U.S. including: Alaska, Hawaii, Florida, Texas, Vermont, Delaware, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Tennessee.

Garratt Wilkin & The Parrotheads

Thursday, June 6 @ 8:30 p.m.

FREE with Paid Fair Admission

<https://www.theparrotheads.com/>