

100 Bars in 100 Days
Hops MacBarley's 2012
Key West Bar Boondoggle
"The Peace, Love, and I.P.A. Tour"

BAR 85:
The Afterdeck Bar
Louie's Back Yard
700 Waddell Avenue
www.louiesbackyard.com
Thursday 10/11, 7:00 pm

Heineken (bottle) \$4.00

I had some crap to do after work, and it took a little longer than expected, but I had to make it here for sunset.

When the *PLIPAT* began, the sun was going down at 8:16. Tonight it was happening at 7:03. Freaking seasons.



I screeched the bike to a stop in front of the impressive old house, skidding a bit on the sand-covered asphalt. I slapped on the lock and hurried down the walkway that leads to the back yard. From the street, you'd never even know there was anything back here, but as soon as you get to the back corner of the building, the big deck opens up before you.



It was crowwwwded. Every table was full and the bar looked packed as well. I was just about shifted into standee mindset when I saw the very last seat way around the corner of the bar was empty, so I made a strong move and staked my claim. I was farther back than the back wall of the bar. Still, a seat is a seat, and I didn't have to worry about being jostled by the crowd.

As a result, it took a little while for the barkeep to notice me. I occupied myself by snapping some photos while there was still ample daylight, and admiring the layout of the deck.

This deck is new. In 2005, Hurricane Wilma's storm surge lifted up the old version of it and smashed it to bits. It took a good while to rebuild it, but it's once again a beautiful deck, with umbrella-covered tables, and a big hut of a bar. And it's all right on the ocean's edge. Niiiice.



It's a little funny that so many people are here for sunset, because you couldn't even see it; the sun actually went down behind The Reach. So I figured out that they were also, probably moreso, here for (duhh) Happy Hour. Freaking genius there, Hops.

The barkeep brought me my Heineken in a brand new blue koozie, and placed it on a thick, sturdy coaster. The presentation was top-notch. And it was all for just \$4.00. The barkeep recognized that I had arrived before HH expired, so he did the right thing and gave me the good rate.



The group to my left left shortly after HH ran out. For a moment, I considered sliding over to be more in the flow of things, but I found that I was digging my outside-looking-in spot too much. So, a couple of couples came over from their standing spot to take those seats. There were four of them and only three seats, so they got stupid. One wife insisted that her husband take the seat and she

would stand. The husband refused and said that she should sit. The other couple started getting into the act, standing up and doing the *oh, please, take this seat, I can stand crap*. WTF?

Eventually, that second couple sat back down, but the first couple remained standing -- both of them! Neither one of the used the third seat! How dumb is that? They probably had a knock-down-drag-out fight about it later that night too.

Happy Hour was long since done, so I did one-and-done on this one, son.



