



CITIZENS FOR FLORIDA'S WATERWAYS

Vol. 16 - Issue 2

March/April 2010

Citizens For Florida's Waterways promotes public access to and the responsible use of Florida waterways, coexistence among recreational and commercial boaters, marine industry, property owners and the marine environment. CFFW advocates education in the safe use of watercraft with consideration of our environment.

Is Environmentalism Making Life Better?

by Daniel Dvorak

It seems like every day we see another news article highlighting the absurdity being foisted on us by the animal-rights crowd. What's sticking in my head this week is news that residents of Titusville will pay over \$100,000 to move 60 tortoises from land where the city needs to bury a water pipe.

It's easy to get lost in the size of government spending, especially now that the word *trillion* is actually used on a regular basis, so I think about spending money in terms of people. The average household water bill in Titusville is probably \$30 a month (just water, no sewer) so the city is spending the equivalent of over 3300 water bills just to move the tortoises.

The precious tortoises can't be moved to other, similar land owned by the city, because that land hasn't been blessed by the state Fish & Wildlife Commission—the same organization that can create emergency slow-speed rules and quickly move to ban fishing for snook and tarpon but can't come up with mooring field regulations when directed to by the legislature.

Aside from the landowner who's being paid handsomely to provide a new home for the tortoises, whose life is being made better by saving these animals? I like seeing a tortoise as much as the next guy—unless that tortoise is on my land, obviously—but did we really intend to spend \$1700 on each one when they're in the way of an important construction project?

Tortoises were recently added to the state's list of imperiled species, not because tortoises are having any problem living in the wild or because they're losing the race with the hare, but because we want to build in some of the same places they live.

Where has the environmental movement taken us? To the point where it's ok to kill a cow, pig or chicken because we need the food, but not ok to kill a tortoise because we need the land.

Has the environmental movement made our lives better? Certainly we're better off now that rivers aren't

catching fire anymore, and I'm happy to see the many osprey and other birds once again common along our shores. But the movement has gone too far when it starts making life worse, rather than better, and it's making life worse almost everywhere in America.

In the desert southwest, concern over a butterfly has closed a sand mountain to outdoor enthusiasts. In California, rules meant to protect a land-nesting bird have closed beaches. People are prohibited from enjoying the best beaches on the Outer Banks after a lawsuit to protect another ground-nesting bird.

Since most people aren't affected by a particular beach being closed, or mountain being declared off-limits, or snowmobiles being banned from certain parks, there's no significant opposition.

The same few well-financed organizations are behind most of the lawsuits—Sierra, Audubon, Humane Society, and Defenders of Wildlife—but in each effort they're fighting a small local group of citizens fighting the nonsense in their spare time. And in each case, these passionate defenders of liberty and common sense try to rally a public that's mostly indifferent.

Recent polls indicate the American public is not nearly as concerned with environmental issues as they used to be. Perhaps exposure of the global warming hoax has opened some eyes, or maybe the continuing push for more and more regulations, closures and wasteful spending on absurdities like tortoise relocation has finally touched enough people that they're getting fed up. I hope it's not just the economy that's behind the decline.

I don't think it's a stretch to put part of the blame for this economy on environmentalism. There's a reason it's cheaper to build TVs and cars in Mexico, and it's not just the cost of labor. By the time a company gets through environmental permitting for a factory to build something, the product is obsolete and millions of dollars have been spent.

All to make our lives better. Is it working? ♦

It's Time For Our 15th Annual Powerboat Poker Run - See Page 6

Boat Ramp Dedication *by Dave Pasley*

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George Reynolds, who was one of the founders of the CFFW, recently passed away. I worked with George as a CFFW director and volunteer at the annual Marine Flea Market. George and his lovely wife Sandy organized the CFFW Flea Market from its inception. You just couldn't ask for a more pleasant experience than working with this couple. They were a real team.

CFFW came about as a result of the water around Merritt Island, which had been an active water-ski area, being nearly closed to boating due to the large manatee population in the area. I won't get into why the manatee population has grown so large, but it ain't natural. I will add that the manatee thing is very political, with a number of NGOs and government bureaucrats with their noses in the feed bag.

CFFW, as well intended as they are, have been rebuffed at every turn. But George and every member of CFFW, have put their hearts and souls in remedying the situation.

Net-net, Manatees 1, people 0.

None the less, George was a active member of the Brevard Marine Resources Council, Brevard Working Water Ways committee, etc, etc. His dedication to a harmonious environment that would allow boaters and manatee to live together, protecting family boating, the working waterways, dredging community canals, etc. was second to none.

Did I mention that George, as a skinny 17 year-old Marine, fought in the Southern Pacific during WWII? He was just that kinda' guy.

CFFW, guided by their long time secretary Kelly Haugh, started a campaign to have a boat ramp close to Georges' house dedicated to his memory. With the team effort by Brevard Parks and Rec, CFFW, Brevard Natural Resources Management, and the Brevard County Commissioners, they got 'er done.

Today we attended the ceremony. It was very nicely done. It was a balmy beautiful January day in Central Florida. There was a nice turn out of CFFW members, county officials, family and friends. It was a great tribute to George and his efforts. He would have been proud.

But, who says that God doesn't have a sense of humor? Honestly, I couldn't have made this up--I hope someone took pictures. During the ceremony someone from FWC or some other agency dragged to the landing the carcass of a dead manatee. The animal had most likely succumbed to the cold weather we had experienced earlier in the month. There we were, some 100 people, gathered to pay tribute to a guy who had tried to make a difference, with the beautiful waters of the former Sykes Creek Ski Area behind us and a bloated carcass of a manatee, tool of his nemesis, gently rocking in the waves in the back ground. It simply brought a tear to the eye.

George would have been proud. Wherever he is he's laughing his butt off.
God bless him. ♦



Today at the Forum - February 26, 2010... by Bob Atkins

Manatee Stock Assessment Report, a periodic requirement, was most recently published in December. It doesn't seem to have much real impact but creates some public reaction.

They are completing the 12 month finding period on the Critical Habitat petition. There is some validity for performance of an update to the Critical Habitat designations and the subject merits some consideration but there is currently no budget or time frame within which this assessment will be done.

The USFWS is ready to release a Programmatic Bio Opinion that will serve to standardize and streamline the permitting process for projects beyond single family docks and projects that are governed within the existing Manatee Key. The hope is to save time and money for projects and provide predictability for the feasibility of a project early in the planning stages. USFWS is working closely with the state to coordinate the effect of the plan.

Federal Rulemaking Plans - The feds are revising the management plan at Crystal River to address the human interaction issues there. Although the area is referred to as a sanctuary (generally, no human entry), it is really more of a refuge. Also, there is some consideration at the Canaveral Energy Center since the plant layout is changing which will affect the location of the warm water outflow location and therefore the location of the restricted areas. FPL and the USCG are working on the plan. We need to keep a close eye on this one and assure there is no CREEPING of the zones beyond the current size or time frame.

The federal population status update is ready for release and will show that all subpopulations are doing well. The real item of change here is that the southwest Florida population is now doing as well as the populations in all other areas. The Southwest population was always the lagging area in terms of providing the opposition with a hope for continued status of "Endangered". This federal data should help our push to downlist the species.

Florida FWC Report

Calendar Year 2009 synoptic count (5000+) and mortality data (429 total, 97 watercraft, 56 cold stress) has been posted on the website. As for 2010, through February 22, there are 323 mortalities with 177 clearly identified as cold stress. There are still a number of unclassified mortalities, some of which are highly suspected to be cold stress. There have been a significant number of rescues over the last couple weeks (25) so this data is not nearly complete at this time.

Power plant status was provided. The Canaveral plant, as well as many of the other warm water refuge plants in the colder central regions, have struggled to maintain outlet temperatures in this prolonged cold period. Canaveral plant, as well as all other FPL re-power projects, is on hold for apparent business case (financial) issues. The interim water heater installation (\$2-4M) is still continuing, even though the interim heaters are cheaper to install than maintaining the overall plant operation.

On the Rule Making front, FWC has tabled rule changes with respect to fishing exemptions. FWC has published a proposed Rule Change for Sarasota County. The draft is open for public comment with intent to present to the Commission in April. The general impact of the proposed rule change is an overall increase in Slow Speed zones. I personally took exception to the increase with an EMPHASIS on the fact that one of the increased zones was in a marked channel. It appears (from comments shared by members of the FWC and the Forum) that the self-interests of a group of waterfront property owners recommended by the local committee was behind this.

Warm Water Refuge

What a Hairball! This is an important subject due to the changes in the power plant operations which decrease or eliminate warm water outflow. This is clearly a very complex issue involving too many aspects

(continued, please turn to page 11)



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Webster's Wrap-Up by Steven Webster

Drill, Baby, Drill

Are you surprised by Obama's support for offshore drilling? He's taking a page from the Clinton playbook and running with ideas Republicans strongly support.

Legislative Session News

If you're in the market for a mega-yacht, a bill under consideration will cap your sales tax at \$18,000, meaning there's no more tax if the boat costs more than \$300,000.

This is one item in a Mulligan's Stew of tax breaks for target industries like yacht-builders and moviemakers. It may sound like a break for folks who really don't need one, but the thinking is it's better to sell one boat and collect 6% on \$300,000, than sell no boat and collect 6% on zip. It's an incentive that will help protect – and maybe even create – badly needed jobs.

Will it pass both houses and will "the people's governor" sign it? Not if the "tax break for the rich" rhetoric keeps heating up.

A bill to create a new aquatic preserve on the Nature Coast has stalled, after other legislators (and I) objected to the much stricter limits on aquaculture and dock-building the designation would require.

We proposed language that would delete heightened restrictions from new preserves and from new Outstanding Florida Waterways, but with the whole bill stalled, there's little likelihood of amending the law. That's a big problem, because Florida's DEP – Department of Environmental Protection – can designate new OFWs by itself, without legislative approval.

In an OFW, the maximum size of a dock that can be built without a permit review is just 500 square feet – half the norm. That's a kick in the economic rump we don't need these days!

An April 13 hearing in Palm Bay about a new OFW proposed for waters north of Brevard County (around Matanzas) gave the public an opportunity to say no to more restrictions.

Speaking of docks, legislation that will speed permit reviews AND allow legal roofs over boat hoists in Aquatic Preserves is moving ahead.

No kidding. Roofs are not allowed over docks on the Banana River (if you have one and it's less than 30 years old, it's illegal), nor will they be allowed in the new Matanzas OFW if it's approved. It's silly, but it's law.

We wrote a lot of the bill that would change that law, and have been working on it for three years. This may be the year it passes, with Senator Thad Altman and Representative Jimmy Patronis the sponsors.

Speaking of docks, CFFW's new Marine Construction Business Class Membership program continues to grow. We now have members in Broward, Sarasota, Pinellas, Brevard, Flagler, Orange and Volusia. We encourage every CFFW member to urge their dock-builder to sign up. Details are at www.mcia.us.

A bill that would have raised the age to 16 before you can operate a PWC just died. This was one of those "creeping license" efforts cloaked in concerns about safety. The main sticking point was concern over language requiring "adult supervision" – and nobody really could say what that meant. Rep. Steve Crisafulli's legislative aide, Ryan Smith, had correctly predicted the demise of this bill some months ago.

We try to stay on top of all things marine during the Legislative Session. Please drop us a line (info@mathews-webster.com) to give us a heads up on an item to watch, or for more information on what's going on. ♦

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Modify Ineffective Manatee Creep Zones

by Karl Wickstrom - Florida Sportsman Magazine

New evidence is overwhelming, we suggest, that the emotionally driven imposition of hundreds of square miles of no-wake zones has done little or nothing to save manatees, which are prospering as never before.

We'd say it's time for a calm, professional look at many of the zones in view of the latest findings.

Many of the putt-putt stretches which severely inconvenienced countless traditional boat trips ought to be switched to 25 mph areas.

Moreover, onerous restrictions against dock building in the deceitful name of manatee protection should be eased for public benefit.

As you may painfully recall, it was a decade ago that state and federal bureaucrats secretly settled a lawsuit by manatee extremists by agreeing to implement idle zones, leading to years of manatee wars angering tens of thousands of boaters.

Many of the proposed zones were defeated but the slowpoking often won out as many folks bought into the idea that creeping would be safer for the sea cows. Indeed, it seemed intuitively valid.

Now, the science indicates otherwise.

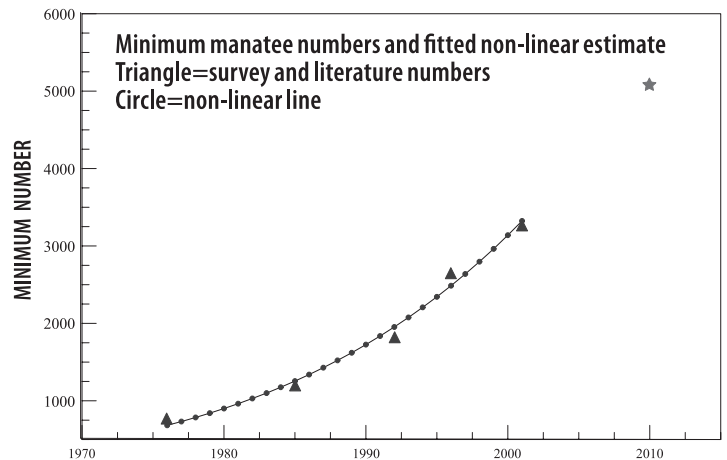
This year's new eyeball count of manatees hit a record high of 5,067 as the animals packed together for tabulating at warm-water discharges.

That's 67 percent higher than in 2001. And it's almost precisely four times the viewed count in 1991.

So, did the idle zones cause the increased population? Apparently not, because the mortality attributed to boats was the same percentage this year as in 2001, before the no-wake frenzy.

Much of this was explored by the Coastal Conservation Association and others. Dr. Tom Fraser, former chair of the state's Marine Fisheries Commission, compiled a chart showing that the manatee population had tripled over 25 years.

Now, in 2010, Dr. Fraser extends the previous trendline and lo and behold, it reaches directly up to the new 5,000 mark.



Updated chart by Dr. Tom Fraser shows how new manatee count (star) is consistent with trend data from 2001.

Although cautious, Dr. Fraser says the new results "may suggest that the existing regulations that have been in place have not had a measurable effect on the growth rate. I assume the FWC (state commission) is trying to determine the response of manatee mortality rates to the overall speed regulations for boats."

The boating industry, already hurting because of economic problems, shouldn't be saddled any longer with ill-advised and ineffective no-wake zones in many areas. ♦ -Florida Sportsman

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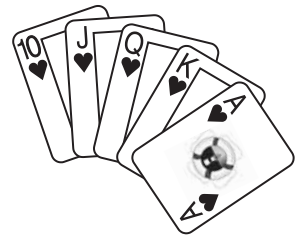
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2010 Marine Flea Market Review *by Kelly Haugh*

A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED!

Flea Market Organization Team:

Peggy Wehrman, Sandy Reynolds,
Gary and Kelly Haugh.

Our Volunteers:

Suz Skinkle, Grant Skinkle, John Kendrick, Debra Sawicki, Gary Sawicki, Daniel Dvorak, Diane Taylor, Don Taylor, Dave Pasley, Ron Presley, Karen Presley, Carolle Carrillion, Ed Carrillion, Kurt Hess, Jenna Hess, Larry Larrabee, Bruce Taff, Joe Bernard, Diane Cooper, Bill Palla, Dave Wentworth, Ed French, and Kim Johnson.

Business Donations

Thank you to all the businesses that donated items for our raffle. It was a big success and we raised \$550.00!

Fishlips - Seafood Atlantic - Rusty's
Marine Max - Spaghetti Factory - Long Horns
The Pier - Sunrise Marina - Fisherman's World
Brown's Taxidermy - Miss Cape Canaveral
Grills and Island Fitness

Congratulation to all the people that won these great prizes, and to all the businesses that donated them, a very big thank you!

Shimano rod and Reel valued at over \$300 won by **Kevin Welsh**

Seafood Atlantic \$25 gift certificate and a Rusty's \$25 gift certificate won by **Gary Haugh**

Marine Max Ski Mirror valued at \$150 won by **Larry Larrabee**

Spaghetti Factory \$25 gift certificate/ LongHorn \$30 gift certificate won by **Larry Larrabee**

Wild Ocean \$20 gift certificate/ Grills \$25 gift certificate won by **Carla (no last name)**

The Pier Brunch for 2 valued at \$45/Sunrise Marina \$50 gift certificate won by **Kelly Haugh**

Fisherman's World Wade Master Fisherman's Float won by **Christine, and she donated it back to be used as a door prize for another event. Thanks Christine!**

Brown's Taxidermy Fiberglass fish valued at \$40/ Fishlips \$25 gift certificate won by **Gary Sawicki**

Miss Cape Canaveral Full Day fishing trip valued at \$80 won by **Sandy (no last name)**

Island Fitness 3 month membership won by **Carol**



THANK YOU GEORGE-whenever you are, for smiling down on us and giving us the best weather yet for your annual Flea Market! What a great weekend it was. Cool, Breezy and no rain!

All these years I had no idea just how much work George and Sandy Reynolds did on the Flea Market. They worked this practically by themselves for so many years, I can't believe the hours they dedicated to this event.

This year was a little different and definitely a learning experience. Sandy has passed the gavel, so to speak, on to some other non-suspecting victims I might add, and we are all trying to fill hers and George's very big shoes. ***Sandy was part of our team this year and was always there to mentor and answer all the various questions we had for her.***

A very big Thank-you goes out to Peggy Wehrman for heading up the team this year, and really organizing our efforts. Without her great managerial skills, it would not have come together so smoothly.

To all the volunteers who helped with the set-up and tear-down, manning the membership tent, the raffle tent, and all the other many unseen jobs, THANK YOU!

This was a wonderful event put on by volunteers only. I don't think there is another event quite like ours in the state. Most other Marine Flea Markets are put on by "Event Management Companies". Who thought that our little volunteer organization could do such great things?!

It is a group effort for sure, and we hope that you will come out and pitch in next year and make it an even more successful event. ♦

See Ya in April of 2011!

The Importance of Boating

by Daniel Dvorak

A report released by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) titled "Florida Boating Access Facilities Inventory and Economic Study" showed that spending related to recreational boating trips supports 97,000 jobs in Florida, with recreational boater expenditures totaling \$8.5 billion. This figure represents about 50 percent of the total jobs and spending associated with Florida's diverse marine industry. The report also indicates that there is a need to address critical boating infrastructure now to continue to adequately accommodate boating activities in the future. FWC will also develop a database that contains records for more than 3,100 boat ramps throughout the state, of which 51 percent are open to the public.

The report is available online at:
http://myfwc.com/ABOUT/About_economics.htm ♦



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Dates of Interest For The Membership

Brevard Marine Advisory Council

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Brevard Comprehensive Maritime Management Master Plan (CM3P)

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Culled Out

by Robert Montgomery

This is a column from Robert Montgomery for ESPN Outdoors and the opinions represented are not necessarily those of ESPN.com. As a Senior Writer for BASS Publications, Montgomery has written about conservation, environment, and access issues for more than two decades. It's part of a series of articles from Montgomery on the issue.

The Obama administration will accept no more public input for a federal strategy that could prohibit U.S. citizens from fishing some of the nation's oceans, coastal areas, Great Lakes, and even inland waters.

This announcement comes at the time when the situation supposedly still is "fluid" and the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force still hasn't issued its final report on zoning uses of these waters.

That's a disappointment, but not really a surprise for fishing industry insiders who have negotiated for months with officials at the Council on Environmental Quality and bureaucrats on the task force. These angling advocates have come to suspect that public input into the process was a charade from the beginning.

"When the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) completed their successful campaign to convince the Ontario government to end one of the best scientifically managed big game hunts in North America (spring bear), the results of their agenda had severe economic impacts on small family businesses and the tourism economy of communities across northern and central Ontario," said Phil Morlock, director of environmental affairs for Shimano.

"Now we see NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and the administration planning the future of recreational fishing access in America based on a similar agenda of these same groups and other Big Green anti-use organizations, through an Executive Order by the President. The current U.S. direction with fishing is a direct parallel to what happened in Canada with hunting: The negative economic impacts on hard working American families and small businesses are being ignored.

"In spite of what we hear daily in the press about the President's concern for jobs and the economy and contrary to what he stated in the June order creating this process, we have seen no evidence from NOAA or the task force that recreational fishing and related jobs are receiving any priority."

Consequently, unless anglers speak up and convince their Congressional representatives to stop this bureaucratic freight train, it appears that the task force will issue a final report for "marine spatial planning" by late March, with President Barack Obama then issuing an Executive Order to implement its recommendations — whatever they may be.

(continued, turn to page 9)

Culled Out (continued from page 8)

Led by NOAA's Jane Lubchenco, the task force has shown no overt dislike of recreational angling, but its indifference to the economic, social and biological value of the sport has been deafening.

Additionally, Lubchenco and others in the administration have close ties to environmental groups who would like nothing better than to ban recreational angling. And evidence suggests that these organizations have been the engine behind the task force since before Obama issued a memo creating it last June.

Then in late summer, just after he created the task force, these groups produced "Recommendations for the Adoption and Implementation of an Oceans, Coasts, and Great Lakes National Policy." This document makes repeated references to "overfishing," but doesn't once reference recreational angling, its importance, and its benefits, both to participants and the resource.

Additionally, some of these same organizations have revealed their anti-fishing bias by playing fast and loose with "facts," in attempts to ban tackle containing lead in the United States and Canada.

That same tunnel vision, in which recreational angling and commercial fishing are indiscriminately lumped together as harmful to the resource, has persisted with the task force, despite protests by the angling industry.

Morlock fears that "what we're seeing coming at us is an attempted dismantling of the science-based fish and wildlife model that has served us so well. There's no basis in science for the agendas of these groups who are trying to push the public out of being able to fish and recreate.

"Conflicts (user) are overstated and problems are manufactured. It's all just an excuse to put us off the water."

This is not the only access issue threatening the public's right to fish, but it definitely is the most serious, according to Chris Horton, national conservation director for BASS.

"With what's being created, the same principles could apply inland as apply to the oceans," he said. "Under the guise of 'marine spatial planning' entire watersheds could be shut down, even 2,000 miles up a river drainage from the ocean.

"Every angler needs to be aware because if it's not happening in your backyard today or tomorrow, it will be eventually.

"We have one of the largest voting blocks in the country and we need to use it. We must not sit idly by."

This is an opinion column from Robert Montgomery. As a Senior Writer for BASS Publications, Montgomery has written about conservation, environment, and access issues for more than two decades. ♦

"Catch A Memory" Radio Show

The radio show will again be an hour long on WMEL 1300-AM, Saturday mornings at 8:00AM – 9:00AM. The program will be covering the fishing action on Florida's East Coast. Anglers can tune in to hear Jim and his co-hosts provide you the latest fishing and new product information.

Television Show

Capt. Jim has joined a host of other top professional guides across the State of Florida on a new television show called the "Chevy Florida Insider Fishing Report". The TV show is on the SunSports on Thursday evenings from 5:00PM to 6:30PM. Reporting expert, Capt. Jim will bring you an up-to-date fishing report from our offshore and inshore local waters.

Capt. Jim also provides daily reports Sunday through Wednesday on the TV shows web-site: www.floridainsiderfishingreport.com

If you would like to contact Capt. Jim, his phone number is 321-636-3728 and his web-site is www.finelinefishingcharters.com. ♦



It's Almost Time for Our Annual Membership Picnic

It's time to start planning our annual Membership Picnic, and we need some help!

This year's gathering will be at Kelly Park's Lagoon Pavilion on Saturday, June 27th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

If you are interested in cooking, set-up/clean-up, organizing games, anything, please call Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827...We hope to see you there! ♦

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New Members

We extend a warm "Welcome Aboard" to our newest members.

Merritt Island

Larry McInerney
Joel Scalera
Scott Schieben

Orlando

Christine Smith
Cliff and Diane Turk

Cocoa

Janet Riecken

CFFW Member Recognition

Diamond Level (\$100 per year)

Robert Behm
Michael Boulet
Chris Cross

Don Nesbitt
Ron & Lois Dixon
Don & Linda Ewers
Col. & Mrs. J.C. Farley
Florida Sport Fishing Assoc.
Oliver & Sherry Follweiler
Charles & Susan Frazier
Jeff Haggard & Anita Bromberg

Alston & Kelli Hammons
Bruce & Carol Hess
Keith & Tamasine Houston
Doug Jaren
Scott & Sue Kee
George & Majel Legters
Troy & Lisa Lotane
David & Irene Nelson
Ron & Karen Presley
Ron & Donna Pritchard
Richard & Patricia Rehm

Jamie Seymour/New England
Mfg. Co.
Wayne & Patricia Stratford
Dalton & Connie Tucker/C.O.D.
Outboard Marine
Robin & Kathy Turner
Willie Wehrman & Peggy Cairns
Bernard J. Wessner
Bill & Eileen Wetzell
Gerd Zeiler

Gold Level (\$50 per year)

Bob & Sherry Atkins
Dr. & Mrs. Barry R. Barnhart
Skip & Ruth Bateman
Gregory & Patricia Bean
Todd & Stephanie Brandenburg
Ben Blythe
Rick & Merry Cleveland
D&D Marine at the Port, Inc.
Glenn & Sherry DeJong
Don & Annette Doerr
David & Nancy Duncan
Dave Eddins
Clark & Becky Fischer
Ralph Foss
Frank & Kathleen Foster
Edward French
Dan & Terri Friedlander
Joe Fust
Gus & Bobbie Gostel
Charle & Myrl Gunter
Bruce & Lynda Gutoski/The Boat
Shop
William E. Guy, Jr.
Terry & Patricia Hammond
Henry & Dolores Happel
Nicholas Hampton

Cecil & Misty Hasty
Lonnie & Carla Hughes
John & Diane Kendrick
Mike & Bev Kennedy
Chyung M. Kim, MD
David & Nicole Kotz
Joseph & Faith Kroto
John & Catherine LaShure
Bob & Jean Laswell
Troy & Genese Launay
Nicholas F. Mancini
Peggy Mathews
Dentis McDaniel
James Merker
Gordon & Anita Millar
Charles Moehle
David & Alicia Musalo
Paul & Tammarra Mycoskie
CDR Albert J. Pappas
Dave & Patricia Pasley
John & Elizabeth Picardi
Paul & Francesca Ragusa
Chuck Reed
Chuck & Annette Rehm
Rick Rescott
James & Carol Rosasco

Bill & Kim Rouse
Sheldon Rutherford
Alan & Joanne Russo
Gary & Debra Sawicki
Chuck & Tricia Sheridan
Anthony Sidor
Christine Smith
Jeff Smith
Newton & Marilyn Smith
Richard Sproc
William Stallins
Fred Stasio
James & Debra Strode
Orson Tarver
Sam & Anne Thorpe
Ted & Linda Trainor
Bob & Cookie Tubielewicz
Robert Veschi
Vero Marine Center
Thumper & Iva Volkmer
Steven Webster
David & Anne Wentworth
Robert Wille
Stan Williams
Westland Marina/Titusville

Business Recognition Diamond Level

MarineMax of Cocoa

This business supports
Citizens For Florida's Waterways
by donating a CFFW membership with
each boat purchased from their store.

CFFW Sebastian/Hiram's 2010 Annual Boat Trip



Please join us this year in our annual Sebastian/Hiram's boat trip, Friday – July 30, thru Sunday - August 01. Stay tuned to the website for more information as it becomes available.

Please call 772-388-8588 with your reservation and mention Group Code CFFW10. There are 21 rooms in our block. There are 5 pool-side rooms available with one upgrade room in the pool-side row, the Jacuzzi room. This is the only room 1st floor pool-side that will incur the upgrade \$139 rate.

Contracted room rates are \$99 plus tax, Standard and Pool view Rooms. Upgrades available: \$139.00 plus tax for Riverfront and Marina Rooms. Tax rate is 11%.

Complimentary Hot Continental Breakfast served from 6:00 to 10:00am daily.

Room block release: Must have reservations by 07/09/10, when the block will release. A reservation made after room block release 07/09/10, will be subject to availability and the group rate may not apply.

Cancellation policy: there is a 48 hour cancellation policy. 2 days prior to arrival, 07/28/10. After this date will result in a \$50.00 cancellation fee. A credit card or deposit will be needed at time of check-in for each room for incidentals.

Check-in time is 4 p.m. We cannot guarantee rooms will be ready by 4 p.m. If you require an early check-in, the room must be reserved for the night before. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

For Dockage reservations please call the Dock master, Ben at 772-419-1170 with your Length, Beam and Draw. This is his cell # and is a direct line to him. He will help you with anything that you need.

For questions call Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827 ❖

Today at the Forum (continued from page 3)


not to mention conflicting law and regulation. Clearly, the cold stress deaths this year stretching all the way to the Keys, have fueled the concern. As one of those who thought that by eliminating the warm water sources the manatees would naturally migrate south and be happy, it is clear that this may not save them – not to mention that there is not sufficient habitat and that the human population and geography of the waterways would probably be disastrous. This subject will continue to be debated for a long time. Several comments were made, including a couple of mine that seemed to gain some traction with the services. 1) Since the warm water outflow replacement being developed by FPL is not necessarily restricted in operation to a particular site, why not put the warm water outflow sources in the federal sanctuary. 2) Since NASA is ending the Shuttle program, it may be time to remove the crawlerway and reconnect the northern end of the Banana River.

Manatees and Mooring Fields


A pilot study program is proposed for the designation of 5 new mooring fields (2 East Coast, 2 West Coast and 1 Monroe Co.) by July 1, 2011 to be monitored annually and the study to be completed by July 1, 2014 and findings reported to the governor. This seems to be a win-win story for boaters and the environmentalists. Trying to move anchorers into a controlled environment where all issues are addressed from pump-out to upland marina access without the requirement to build more dockage. This also provides a low cost solution to the high cost of slippage. I boldly stated that CFFW is in complete support of this approach.

Other Topics

I reminded the Forum that we continue to push for re-address of the Brevard County zones and that the Forum should consider dredging as a win-win for boaters and manatee. There was also some discussion with respect to working to save springs and spring outflow. ❖



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ROBIN TURNER
THE BOATER'S REALTOR

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tf 877.569.8833

ROBINREALTOR@CFL.RR.COM



OUR NEXT DINNER MEETING

CFFW Dinner Meeting at Nautical Spirits in
the Harbor Town Marina on Merritt Island
Wednesday, May 26th from 6 to 9 p.m.

Our Guest speaker will be Mark Leslie,
speaking on the mooring field issues
of the State and what is going on
with the Titusville location.

Reservations are necessary and can be made
by calling Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827
by Sunday, May 23rd.

Please Mark
Your Calendars!



2010 General Meetings

May 26th July 28th
September 22nd
October 27th

2010 Board Meetings

March 1st March 29th
May 3rd June 7th
June 28th August 2nd
August 30th September 27th
November 1st November 29th
December 27th

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Citizens For Florida's Waterways
Post Office Box 541712
Merritt Island, FL 32954-1712

*When Does Your
Membership Expire?*

Here's a Hint

If you're not a member...please join.
Your membership dues provide the financial support
needed to save family boating from the
million-dollar enviro-businesses.

Please join online at cffw.org
or by mailing the enclosed membership form.