



CITIZENS FOR FLORIDA'S WATERWAYS

Volume 22 - Issue 4

July/Aug 2015

Citizens For Florida's Waterways promotes the need for responsible use of Florida's waterways. Our primary objective is to encourage coexistence among recreational and commercial boaters, the marine industry, property owners and the environment. Citizens For Florida's Waterways advocates education in the safe and considerate use of watercraft with respect for our marine environment and conservation.

President's Message

I've lived in the area for over 30 years and remember boating here with the family from our home in Orlando in the 60s. I have to remind myself every now and then about just how lucky we are to have everyday access to all that the area has to offer, especially from a boating perspective. So I'd like to accent a few positives. If you have not done so recently, please visit our Citizens for Florida's Waterways Web Page: www.cffw.org and feel free to participate and leave your comments on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Citizens-for-Floridas-Waterways/103429649736431?fref=ts> I look forward to seeing all of you on the water!

20th Annual Poker Run

How time flies. This year, CFFW is in its 21st year of existence. We held our 19th Flea Market in March and our 20th Annual Poker Run on June 20th. 19 boats participated with 50 folks playing poker hands on-board. Once again this year we tried to feature as many of Brevard County's waterfront/boating destinations and held the card dealing at SquidLips. We think this year's t-shirt is a little special and if you did not get yours we have a few available for purchase.

FRONT



BACK



... (Continued on Page 4)

CFFW Officers

President

Bob Atkins
ratkins@cffw.org

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321-449-0827

Secretary

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pwehrman@cffw.org

Treasurer

Karen Dignan
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Newsletter Editor

Kelly Haugh
321-449-0827



Board of Directors

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Sandy Reynolds
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Bob Bridges

David Zimmerman

Sales Marketing and Membership

Sandy Reynolds
sreynolds@cffw.org

Government Liason

Steven Webster
swebster@cffw.org



Please Mark Your Calendars!

Please call Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827 for more information.



- » **8/5/15: District 2 Dredging Committee Meeting:** 6:00 pm, Karen Rood Bldg (near the boat ramp) at Kiwanis Island, Merritt Island, Open to the public.
- » **8/20/15: Brevard Marine Advisory Council Meeting:** 6:00 pm, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C, 2nd Floor, Space Coast Room, Viera, FL 32940.
- » **8/31/15: Board of Directors Meeting:** 6:30 pm, Karen Rood Bldg (near the boat ramp) at Kiwanis Island, Merritt Island, Open to the public.
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Newsletter Delivery Mode *E-Newsletters Now Available*

CFFW is offering all members the option to receive all future newsletters by email instead of a hard copy by mail. The Board of Directors have reviewed the expense logs for the past few years to determine where we could save money and this is the biggest expense we have.

If you wish to save your club money on printing and postage, please reply to info@cffw.org and we will add you to the email list for your newsletters! You will receive an email stating your E-Newsletter is ready for viewing. If at any time you wish to receive the hardcopy again, just send us a note at the same email and you will again receive the hardcopy.

You can view the same exact version online at CFFW.org and click on "newsletters" tab and the issue you would like to view. ❖

Citizens For Florida's Waterways Boat Safe Reimbursement Program

CFFW promotes the need for responsible use of Florida waterways. Our primary objective is to encourage coexistence among recreational and commercial boaters, the marine industry, property owners, and the environment. CFFW advocates education in the safe and considerate use of watercraft with respect for our marine environment and conservation.

If you would like to receive reimbursement for the class fees charged by the Coast Guard Auxiliary or the Cocoa Beach Power Squadron, you can attend a CFFW meeting, present your certificate of completion, and receive your reimbursement.

CFFW funds are limited, and we do have a finite amount of money in our scholarship fund, so it is on a first come, first served basis, and as noted above this is for the Basic Safe Boating class only.

You can visit our website at www.cffw.org or www.savefamilyboating.com for the location of our events and meetings.

You may also contact Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827 for more information.

Enjoy safe boating! ❖

Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron Safe Boating Courses

The Cocoa Beach Sail and Power Squadron Education Officer has graciously invited all of our members to participate in their boating education classes and pay only the member fee!

To enroll, refer to the web site www.cbsp.org where they post the upcoming classes. Mention that you are a CFFW member and the Education Officer will reply via email and then ask you to confirm you are a CFFW member the first night of classes. You can confirm this with your most current copy of the newsletter, which has your name, address and renewal date on the back page.

This is a great opportunity for education in safe boating if you have not had the chance to participate in any safe boating classes!

Stay safe and see you on the water! ❖

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**Ask A Friend
To Join CFFW**

*When Does Your
Membership Expire?*
(See Back Cover)

President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

Playing nothing-wild 7-Card Stud we saw high hands winning the prizes.

AWARD	PLAYER	HAND	PRIZE
High Hand	Andrea Sharp	Full House - 5s over Qs	\$200.00
2nd High	Kim Smith	Full House – 3s over Js	\$125.00
3rd High	Sarah Yates	3Qs, 10, 9	\$75.00
Lady w/ Qs	Caroline Policht	2Qs, 2As, 8	3 Gift Certs worth \$50
Man w/ Ks	CJ Emmering	2Ks, 2As, J	3 Gift Certs worth \$50

Janet Keeling won \$125 in our 50-50 raffle and we also raffled off 9 Gift Certificates donated by Nautical Spirits, SquidLips, Sunset Café, Grills Riverfront, Captain Katana's, Pineda Inn, Lobster Shanty and Island Waterfront. Thanks to all who had a great day and a special thanks to all our Waterfront Business sponsors.

Pineda Inn Destination Outing

Your CFFW Board is making an effort to plan and hold frequent boating activities for the membership and any other boaters that wish to participate. After discovering how accommodating the Pineda Inn is for several boats during the Poker Run we decided to return there for a Sunday afternoon "Destination Outing." You'll see photos and a short summary of the outing on our Facebook page.

If you were unable to join us on either of the above outings, please watch your inbox for eMail messages from CFFW and visit our Facebook page for information about our August and September outings. DO you have a favorite place you would like us to set as a destination? Send it, post it, or phone it in. We look forward to hearing from you.

Ethanol Alert

Speaking of CFFW eMail, I hope all of you have responded to one or more request for input from the boating community with respect to the potential switch from 10% to 15% ethanol content in most gasoline products available to consumers.

Read your engine manual and you will see that your engine and most likely your fuel system in general were not designed or manufactured to be compatible with E85 (15% ethanol) fuels and your hardware is at significant risk if it is introduced.

First and foremost, we urge each of you to take a few minutes to register your objection to the move to E85. In addition, in the event that E85 replaces the current 10% ethanol at the pump fuels, we urge you to pay special attention to all fuels introduced into your boats. After researching your hardware manuals, you may find that you should be using ethanol-FREE fuels. In that case this site may be of value here in town and if you use your boat in other areas: <http://pure-gas.org> ❖

2015 CFFW Board of Directors Slate

All CFFW Members are eligible and encouraged to vote.
Please turn in your ballot at the 2015 CFFW annual meeting in October

Alternately, you may mail in this ballot to:
CFFW
P.O. Box 541712
Merritt Island, FL 32954-1712

Write-ins are encouraged.
Nominations from the floor during the October meeting are encouraged.
YOUR INVOLVEMENT ON THE BOARD IS ENCOURAGED!

2015 BALLOT

The ballot includes 8 Candidates. You may vote for up to 11 Candidates, which means you are encouraged to write-in at least one name.

Standing For Re-Election: Check the <input type="checkbox"/> next to the candidates		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Bob Atkins	CFFW President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Kelly Haugh	CFFW Vice President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Karen Dignan	CFFW Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Gary Haugh	CFFW Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Peggy Wehrman	CFFW Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Dave Zimmerman	CFFW Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Sandy Reynolds	CFFW Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Bob Bridges	CFFW Director
Write-Ins: You may write in as many candidates as you wish. Please include their name and phone number. If elected, write-ins may decline the honor.		
	Name	Phone
<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>		

Manatee Forum

The Manatee Forum held its annual spring meeting in Tallahassee this May. Honestly, our government services continue to disappoint on several fronts. Their focus continues to be on increasing regulation. Western Pinellas County (Tarpon Springs to Tampa Bay) is the latest victim of new and devastating regulation on recreational boating. All based on the premise that the new restrictions MIGHT save as many as 3 manatees per year – but as we have seen throughout Florida – they will probably not reduce or eliminate the mortality – but – will eliminate boating in those areas.

CFFW is committed to restoring reasonable recreational boating access to all waterfront residents of Brevard and throughout Florida and we continue to pursue those changes. On a positive note, for those of us who enjoy frequent boating trips to the Keys, FWC has stated that there is no manatee regulatory action planned for Monroe County.

More critical focus areas for the services seem to not be getting adequate attention. These include the critical issue of carrying capacity and optimum sustainable populations and dealing with man-made warm water outflows. This is an especially important issue with respect to both the health of the IRL and the future of the warm water outflow from the FPL plant in Port St. John. More than 1/3 of all the manatees counted on the east coast this winter were huddled at the FPL sight. Because of natural water temperatures, Manatees do not belong in Brevard in the winter. This man-made influence has altered the habits of the animal and the result is an ever-increasing year-round population and added pressure on the fragile sea grass based ecosystem.

The USFWS initiated a 12-month reclassification assessment on September 1, 2014. They reported they have made little to no progress toward resolution in this assessment as of the forum meeting. So the first 9 months of the assessment period have accomplished nothing? But, what's worse, is they also said they do not have budget allocated to implement reclassification – if that is the determination. Unbelievable. We had hoped that we would get some indication of their findings to date at the meeting or even later in June at the Marine Mammal Commission meeting in June. I guess we'll have to wait and see what they publish this September.



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Some of the best manatee research has always been done by the U.S. Geological Service (USGS). Next on deck for the USGS is an assessment of speed zone effectiveness. This will be the first effectiveness assessment with the potential for unbiased results. All previous attempts to establish effectiveness had been lead by the same people who are responsible for establishing zones in the first place and therefore are extremely prejudiced and biased. USGS developed and provided the population modeling which predicts 0% probability of extinction – much to the objection of the crisis mongers. Most recently, USGS has developed and reported a new approach to population counting which refines the ‘annual’ synoptic counts by predicting the number of uncounted animals. ... *(Continued on Page 7)*

Manatee Forum

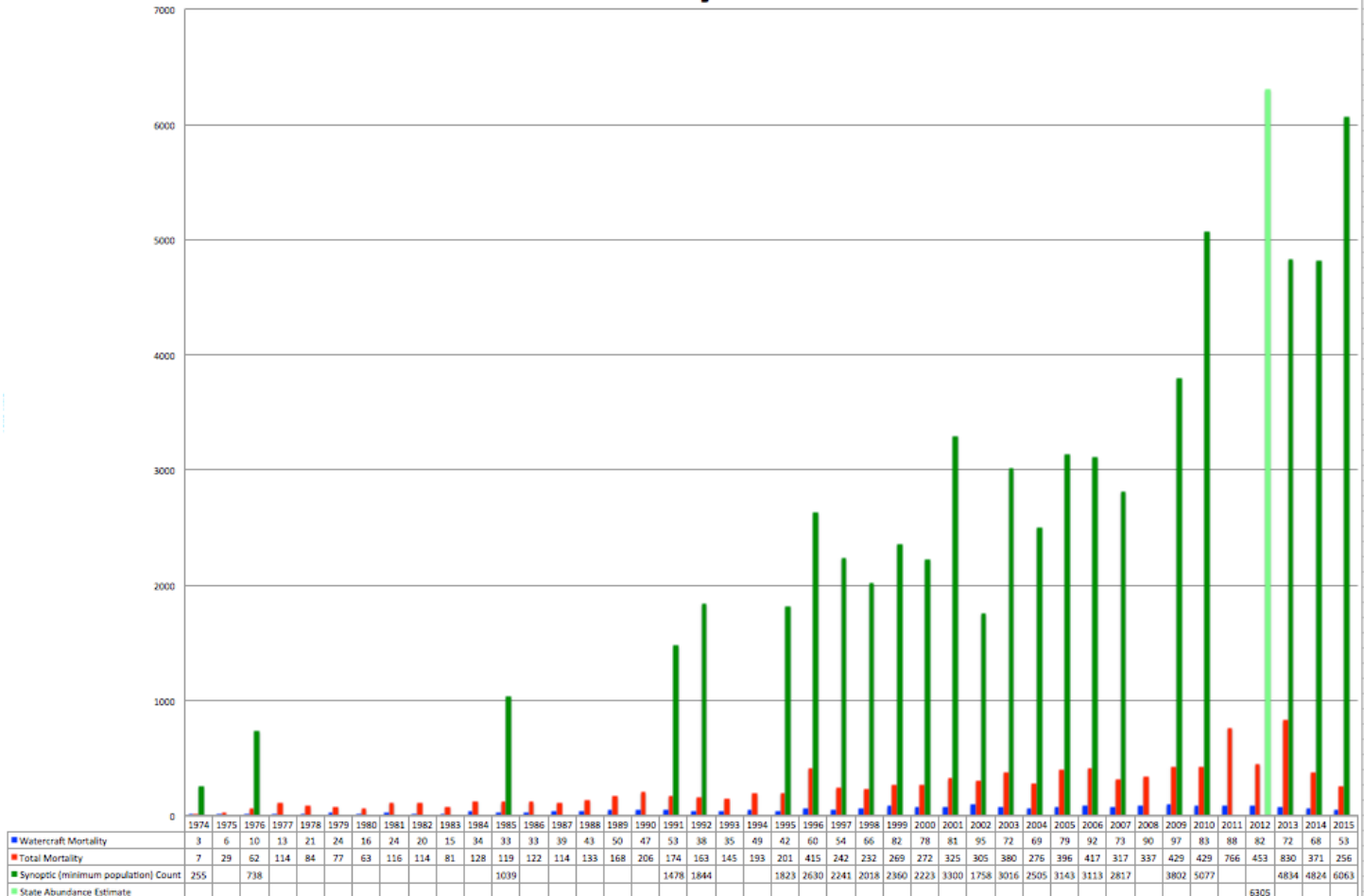
(Continued from Page 6)

The first results of this new approach are the estimation that there were 6300 animals in 2013, 20% more than the 4800 counted in early 2014.

One of the oft-cited defenses of the lack of demonstrated effectiveness of the vast areas of manatee protection regulations has been that boaters simply defy the zones and do not comply. FWC chose one of the more likely locations for non-compliance to monitor. It would be equivalent to monitoring compliance in the ridiculous open water channel slow-zone in the Indian River down at the Harbor Branch Institute near Ft. Pierce. This is probably the most non-compliant areas I have observed over the years because it makes NO SENSE from an on the water perspective. So once again, the results of this assessment, even though they established high compliance, were a bit biased by design. Boater compliance is not the reason that the collective affect of the zones throughout Florida is that they have had little to no affect.

One needs only to look at the following graph to see that Watercraft Mortality is insignificant with respect to manatee management and protection. Watercraft mortality is indicated by the tiny little dark blips along the bottom of the chart. ❖

Watercraft Mortality is NOT the Issue



Brevard County Dredging Project Information

In the central and northern regions of the Indian River Lagoon, record setting algal blooms have caused the loss of over 40,000 acres of seagrass, and the deaths of 223 manatees, 74 bottlenose dolphins, and over 300 pelicans. One major contributing factor is the extensive organic muck deposits created by decades of runoff, erosion and nutrient loading. These accumulated muck sediments contain significant “legacy” nutrients, which regularly flux into the water column, and recycle nutrients within the Indian River Lagoon system. Muck sediments also negatively impact navigation, damage seagrass beds, and can consume dissolved oxygen to create anoxic bottom conditions detrimental to lagoon organisms.

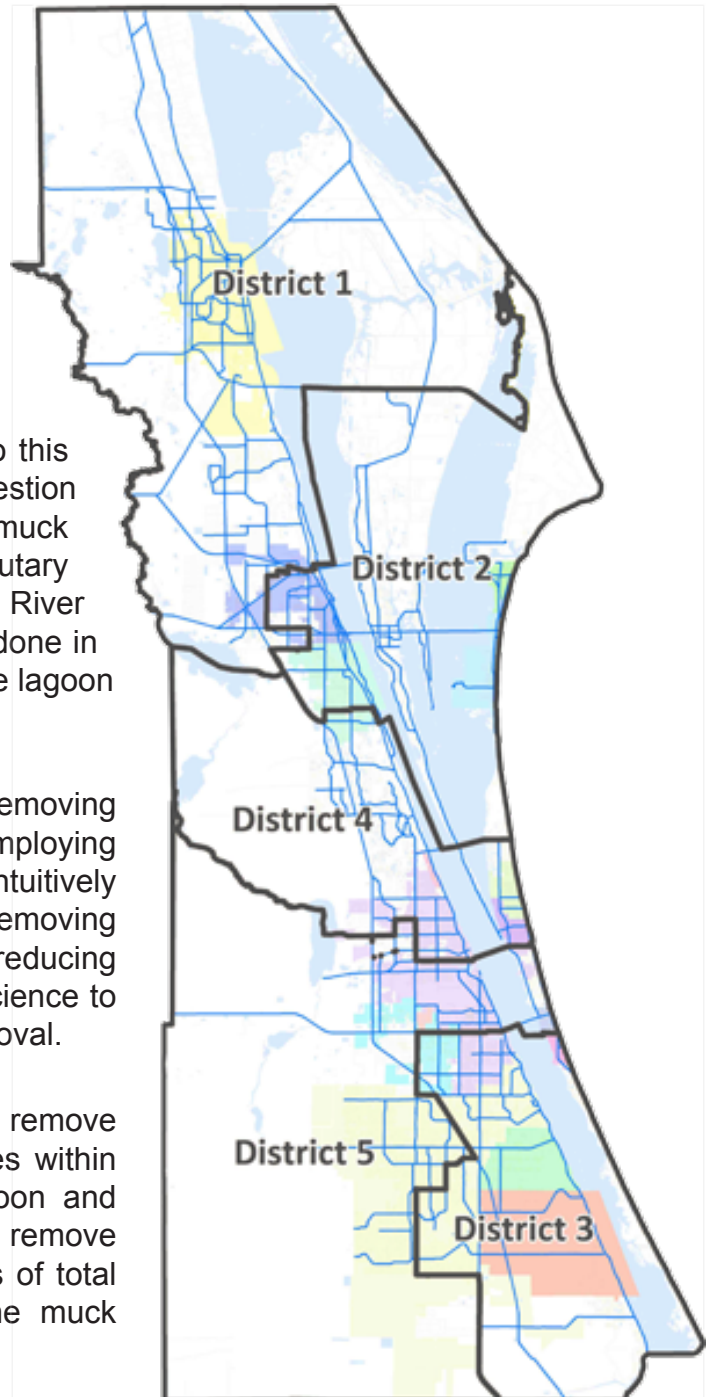
Brevard County has embarked on an aggressive restoration strategy for the lagoon to reduce excess nutrient inputs, remove the legacy load of muck, restore the filtration system (oysters, clams and wetlands) and ensure that sound research is the basis of the effort. As part of this restoration strategy, the removal of the legacy load (muck) is critical to overall success.

In 2014, the State legislature allocated \$10M to this project to accomplish both the science side of this question and also kick start the removal of the legacy load of muck in the lagoon. While there have been several tributary muck removal projects, to include the Eau Galle River project currently in permitting, little work has been done in the main stem of the lagoon or at the interface of the lagoon and the tributaries.

The primary purpose of this project focuses on “Removing the Muck” and providing sound “Research” by employing science alongside muck removal in the lagoon. Intuitively most ecologists and scientist are in agreement that removing the muck is a beneficial restoration effort, along with reducing the upland sources. However, there is very little science to document the actual ecological benefit of muck removal.

The Brevard County Muck Dredging project will remove up to 350,000 cubic yards of muck soils from sites within the Indian River Lagoon, the Banana River Lagoon and associated tributaries. This dredging project will remove up to 672 tons of total nitrogen (TN) and 144 tons of total phosphorous (TP) which are contained within the muck deposits.

Brevard County District 1 project is the Mims Boat Ramp Site, District 2 is Sykes Creek, Kiwanis Island, and Cocoa Beach Phase III, District 3 is Turkey Creek, District 4 is The Grand Canal, and District 5 is the Eau Gallie River project. ❖



Boating & Waterways Program: Derelict Vessels

If you suspect a specific vessel is abandoned or derelict please contact FWC dispatch, 1-888-404-3922 or Brevard County Sheriff's Marine Unit, 633-7130 or via email to specialops@bcso.us or the Natural Resources Management Office. Local Government Approaches to Derelict Vessel Removal (also known as the Derelict Vessel Process Flowchart) is a flowchart defining the process for identifying and removing derelict vessels. It was first published on December 18, 2006 by the University of Florida College of Law Conservation Clinic and modified by the Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office on September 13, 2007 to accommodate local differences. It was subsequently approved by the Brevard Marine Advisory Council and the link can be found on the Brevard County website under the BMAC link, www.Brevardcounty.us

Abandoned vessels of any size become a disposal problem whether on land, at dock or sunk. The ownership must be determined and this task can be time consuming:

- » 1. Stolen boats are often stripped, then dumped in isolated areas or sunk in our waterways
- » 2. Un-transferred titles—not all state title laws are the same. If the title was never transferred the original owner is still the legal owner
- » 3. Documented vessels titled by the US Coast Guard
- » 4. Foreign vessels
- » 5. Non-motorized vessels could be barges or sailing vessels without any mechanical power.

When ownership has been determined, legal custody of the vessel must be transferred to a responsible party for disposition. Some owners are willing to sign over the title, saving time and money. Many other owners will not be able to be located. Legal action will be necessary at that point.

If the vessel is to be placed at a county landfill, it must meet their requirements. Fuel and oil tanks must be removed, engines and batteries must be removed, old paint and chemicals must be removed. Sunken vessels are the biggest problems to solve. Before they can be salvaged, any material that could degrade water quality must be removed. If grass beds are present, workers will need to take extra caution. Some vessels may be in such poor condition, they have to be cut up where they lay. After the vessel has been raised and moved, a bottom clean up is mandatory to make sure there is not any foreign material left. Abandoned vessels usually do not have any value. Any machinery this old most likely does not work. Hardware will cost more in labor to remove than it will bring in resale or scrap. Vessels with metal hulls have to be cut into small pieces before a scrap yard will buy them. Recovery is not cost effective. ❖



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“Catch A Memory” Radio Show

The radio show will again be an hour long on WMEL 1300-AM, Saturday mornings at 7:35AM – 9:30AM. The program will be covering the fishing action on Florida's East Coast. Anglers can tune in to hear Captain Jim Ross and his cohorts provide the latest fishing and new product information. ❖

“Chevy Florida Insider Fishing Report” Television Show

Captain Jim Ross 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 network on Thursday evenings from 5:00PM to 6:30PM (times vary, check your local TV guide). Reporting expert, Captain Jim Ross will bring you an up-to-date fishing report from our offshore and inshore local waters.

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

If you would like to contact Captain Jim Ross, his phone number is 321-636-3728 and his web-site is: www.finelinefishingcharters.com. ❖



CFFW members are entitled to a full Membership in BoatUS for only \$15 - that's 50% off the regular \$30 annual dues!



BoatUS and BoatUS ANGLER Member benefits include Member Rewards at West Marine stores, discounts at marinas nationwide on fuel, repairs, and overnight slips, on-the-water Towing Services, highly-respected Marine Insurance, a subscription to BoatUS Magazine or BoatUS ANGLER.

Membership Spotlight: Dave & Bonnie Zimmerman

I spent all of my life in New Jersey prior to moving to Florida.

After graduating high school, I decided to enter the construction business. I worked for a large general contractor in Philadelphia for 38 years as a construction superintendent and I was able to retire in 2011.

After retirement, there was no longer a need to stay in the Philly, New Jersey area so we looked at Florida, as my wife and I were anxious to get away from the cold winter months and high taxes.

Also, having my sister, Karen Dignan, here for many years gave us knowledge of the Space Coast area and what it has to offer.

A waterfront home was a requirement as I have been boating since I was 17 years old and wanted to continue doing so. We just passed the two-year mark here in Florida.

Karen talked quite often of CFFW and the good work they were doing for our area so my wife and I went to a membership meeting to get an update on what was going on in the club.

I volunteered for a board position because I wanted to get involved with our boating community. We've enjoyed the many club activities and look forward to a great many more. ❖

Home For Sale?

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CFFW Member Recognition

New Members

Christopher Michael Wheeler of Cocoa, Dennis LaFoe of Rockledge, Christopher Michael Schmidt of Melbourne, Fred Albrecht of Melbourne, David and Wendy Swartz of Melbourne Beach, Theodore and Wendy Isaksen of Titusville.

Diamond Level (\$100 per year)

Bob & Sherry Atkins	George Legters
Jack & Karn Dignan	Troy & Lisa Lotane
Don & Linda Ewers	Nautical Spirits/Chris & Becky Hamilton
Col. & Mrs. J.C. Farley	Don Nesbitt
Ollie & Sherry Follweiler	Sandy Reynolds
Jeff Haggard & Anita Bromberg	Scorpion's Port Canaveral Marine
Jeff & Anita Haggard	Jamie Seymour/New England Mfg. Co.
Alston & Kelli Hammons	Richard Sproc
Gary & Kelly Haugh	Wayne Stratford
Phil Holtje	Thumper & Iva Volkmer
Keith & Tamasine Houston	Steven Webster
Lonnie & Carla Hughes	Willie & Peggy Wehrman
Doug Jaren	Bill & Eileen Wetzel
Frank Jones	Robert Wille
Troy & Genese Launay	Gerd Zeiler

Gold Level (\$50 per year):

Dr. & Mrs. Barry R. Barnhart	Gus & Bobbie Gostel	Ron & Donna Pritchard
Skip & Ruth Bateman	Charle & Myrl Gunter	Paul & Francesca Ragusa
Gregory & Patricia Bean	Terry Hammond	Chuck Reed
Howard Bernbaum	Bruce & Carol Hess	Sheldon Rutherford
Rick & Merry Cleveland	Scott & Sue Kee	Gary & Debra Sawicki
David DeSouza/D&D Marine at the Port, Inc.	Doug Jaren	Cliff & Diana Schommer
Glenn & Sherry DeJong	John & Diane Kendrick	Anthony Sidor
Don & Annette Doerr	Chyung M. Kim, MD	Sam & Anne Thorpe
Scott Ellis	Bob & Barbara Land	Bob & Cookie Tubielewicz
Stephen D. Ferguson	Nicholas F. Mancini	Steven Webster
Clark & Becky Fischer	Dentis McDaniel	Westland Marina/Titusville
Edward French	Charles Moehle	Jim & Pam Urick
Dan & Terri Friedlander	Cloud & Frances Pawtowski	Jess H. Yates, DMD
Joe & Rita Fust	John & Elizabeth Picardi	

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.

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If you own a boat or live by the water,
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- ☐ \$25 Silver Family ☐ \$100 Diamond Family
☐ \$50 Gold Family ☐ \$500 Platinum Family
☐ Donation (\$_____)

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info@cffw.org

Or join with your
credit card on our
secure web site at cffw.org



CFFW is a 501(c)4 organization. Donations and
membership dues are not tax-deductable.



Citizens For Florida's Waterways

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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.

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Is it time to renew your membership?

*Please note, this is your
previous renewal date:*



Please Mark Your Calendars!

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