



Fort Myers Beach Tarpon Hunters Club

TARPON TALES

Club Member Newsletter

www.fmbthc.com

November 2017

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Another Season is in the Books

I am constantly reminded about the poor tarpon fishing hand we have been dealt these past few years. I have to admit that I have bought into this belief system for a while. Our 2016 season was no doubt the toughest year the club has had in our 55 year history. Believe Me. And then sometimes I think its Fake News.

My personal experience tarpon fishing this season has been fairly positive. I must confess, I didn't spend as much time on the water as I would have hoped, but my time in pursuit of tarpon was generally well spent. Sure, I had those days where nothing went right, the days where I circumnavigated the islands with little to report. Such is Tarpon fishing. The reality is tarpon fishing is not for the casual angler just wanting to wet a line. For 55 years our club members have dedicated themselves to pursuing the Silver King. We have been on the lunatic fringe of inshore fishing. And what better place to live and fish than Southwest Florida.

They say statistics don't lie but liars use statistics. I'm not going to lie to you, we have had much better years. I do, however, take some comfort when reviewing the following math comparing this years results to last:

Total Releases we up 41%. (2016 @ 17, 2017 @ 24)

Number of members with releases were up 75%. (2016 @ 8, 2017 @ 14)

Number of female angles with releases were up by 2.

Captains Cup points were up by 9.

We had our first Money Hunt Winner.

We defeated the Cape Club during the interclub with 2 releases.

All positive trends with plenty of room for improvement for the 2018 upcoming season.

Next Wednesday we will hold our last board meeting of the year to make final preparations for the awards banquet at 7:00 at Bonita Bills. The meeting is open to all members and you are encouraged to attend. If you currently have traveling trophies, please bring them to the meeting or drop them off to the Trophy Case so that they can be updated prior to our banquet on November 4th.

If you are attending the awards banquet, please RSVP and let us know for planning purposes. I hope to see you all at the banquet.

Kevin

2017 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
KEVIN VERTESCH ~ 239-425-5672
FMBTarponHunters@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT:
STEVE JOHNSON ~ 630-880-1023

SECRETARY:
KIM OWENS ~ 239-209-4555

TREASURER:
JERRY STEPHENSON ~ 239-463-1745

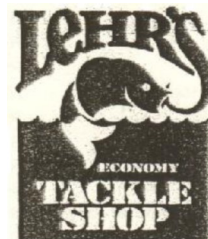
WEIGHMASTER:
CARL KEUTGEN ~ 239-471-9218

2017 BOARD of DIRECTORS

DON TAYLOR ~ 239-850-9569
RICK (RD) DuJARDIN ~ 239-910-4308
RAY LISTER ~ 239-850-3275
MATT PONZIO ~ 239-549-3474
BOB REED ~ 239-344-6697
MARY LASER ~ 239-395-0398
AARON VIRNIG ~ 239-565-4062



Anderson's
ROD & REEL REPAIR



Final 2017 Season Fish Count Totals

Rank	Name	Tarpon	Date of first fish	Time of first fish	Date of last fish	Captains pts.
1	Kevin Vertesch	5	5/17		8/19	7
2	Steve Johnson	5	5/13		9/04	
3	Pete Maastricht	3	5/29	3:45 Pm	5/29	1
4	Jerry Stephenson	1	3/10	8:45	3/10	
5	John Zupanovich	1	4/19		4/19	
6	Warren Teigen	1	4/30	8:45 Pm	4/30	
7	John McDaniel	1	5/12		5/12	
8	Aaron Virnig	1	5/13		5/13	
9	Mary Laser	1	8/15		8/15	
10	Rick DuJardin	1	8/17		8/17	
11	Chip Rivers	1	8/17		8/17	
12	Kim Owens	1	8/19		8/19	
13	John Young	1	9/24		9/24	
14	Mike Vertesch	1	9/24		9/24	
	Don Taylor					1
	Totals	24				

It's Party Time!

Our 2017 Banquet is Set for November 4th!

If you haven't gotten your Banquet info in yet you need to contact **John Rhoads** at (716) 622-7298 [ASAP!](#)

We need to get a head count in so they can order the food!

See Attached Flyer!

We will have lot's of great Raffle Prizes as well!

Be sure to visit our Sponsors and let them know we appreciate all they do for us!

A Special Thanks to **Bill Semmer** for his continued hospitality for letting us meet at Bonita Bill's.

Check out our NEW WEBSITE: www.FMBTHC.com