



Fort Myers Beach Tarpon Hunters Club

TARPON TALES

Club Member Newsletter

www.fmbthc.com

March 2019

PRESIDENT'S
CORNER

Tackle Clinic Time!

We've been busy since our last newsletter. A big objective for the year is to increase our membership. We sent out press releases to over 20 outlets this year for the tackle clinic and we were picked up by many of them. Hopefully you saw them in your local newspapers and magazines. As a result of a press release, we were invited to attend the Florida Sportsman Expo at the Fort Myers Civic Center on Feb 9-10 at a subsidized rate for fishing clubs. I'd like to recognize club members Kevin Vertesch, Marya Teets, Don Taylor, Kim Owens, Matt Ponzio, Pete Maastricht, Lesley Miller, Phil Lemke, Chip Rivers and Aaron Virnig for working the booth over the weekend. We were able to register two new memberships as well as collect 21 email addresses to send reminder emails to attend the tackle clinic. This was something new this year and we hope it was effective for the club.

On Feb 16th, we had our "Fish Fry" Hunt with the objective of catching some "food fish" for our Fish Fry scheduled for the following weekend, Feb 24th. Unfortunately, due to a cold front, supermoon, and poor daytime tides, (and because the sun was in my eyes..coach!) the fish did not cooperate offshore or inshore for most anglers. However, big thanks to John Zupanovich, Kevin Vertesch, Don Cook, Warren Teigen and Terry Walsh for providing fresh and fresh frozen fish for the event. Big props also go out to Lois Lemke, Marya Teets, Don Cook, Phyllis Sharp, and Cindy Johnson for providing desserts and side dishes. Our good friends at Bonita Bills cooked the fish and provided additional sides and chicken for a great Fish Fry social event.

There has finally been reports of bait showing up in our waters. Small Threadfins and white bait have been seen in Pine Island Sound with scattered schools off shore but yet to reach the beach. As the water continues to warm in March, we await the arrival of the Silver King. There have been no reports of Tarpon as of this time.

This **Wednesday, March 6th at 7:00 pm**, we will be hosting our annual **Tackle Clinic at Bonita Bills**. Please join us and represent the club by wearing your club logo items. JoEllen Wilson will be our featured guest from the Bonefish & Tarpon Trust. We have asked her to provide an outlook for the Tarpon fishery this year following our environmental challenges from last year.

We ask all club members to please park in the parking lot at the corner of Main St and San Carlos Blvd and walk the block to the Clinic. Parking is at a premium and we do not want to any prospective new members from turning around due to a lack of parking. All club members directly involved with the Clinic will receive another communication with more specific instructions.

Tight lines...Steve

2019 OFFICERS

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ANNUAL TARPON FISHING CLINICS



San Carlos Island, Florida

Anderson's
ROD & REEL REPAIR



Club News and Photo Album



2019 Florida Sportsman's Expo Booth. Our scrapbook got a lot of play as attendees found friends and family throughout the pages. Two handsome club members greeted the guests.



Our 2nd Annual Fish Fry was a success and fun was had by all. (Don even got to play with toys!)

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.

Now is the time to clean, lube, and put new line on your reels as well as tune up the boat while you are at it.

2019 Tackle Clinic



FORT MYERS BEACH TARPON HUNTERS CLUB

The World's Oldest Tarpon Fishing Club

Celebrating 57 Years

Established 1962

www.fmbthc.com

JOIN US

***For our Free Annual Clinic
Wednesday, March 6th at 7pm***

Learn how to catch Tarpon the:

“SILVER KINGS”

Featured Speaker:

JoEllen Wilson

Juvenile Tarpon Habitat Program Manager

Bonefish and Tarpon Trust

- * *Table top, instructional displays on how to rig and choose the right bait*
- * *Covering conventional tackle, light tackle and fly fishing*
- * *Monthly meetings & newsletters, fishing reports & VHF communication*
- * *Fishing Local Lee County, Gulf, Back Bay and Rivers*
- * *Annual fees - Single Membership \$40.00 Pre-registered for hunts*
- * *Family Membership \$50.00 Pre-registered for hunts - one address*
- * *Memberships include Annual Club Picnic and Awards Banquet Trophies*

***BONITA BILLS RESTAURANT ~ UNDER THE SKY BRIDGE
Fort Myers Beach – Follow the “Tarpon Clinic” direction signs***

For more information FMBTHC.com or email: FMBTarponHunters@gmail.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS – FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH