



Punta Gorda Isles

Fishing

club

Editor: Bill Guenther • radioman3029@comcast.net

Volume X October 2006

FISHERMANS VILLAGE FUEL DOCK OPENS

FISHING CLUB OFFICERS

President, Kel Krotzer - 575.7853
jacana2@comcast.net

Vice President, Rose Ann McCaffrey
639.5445-martymccaffrey@attglobal.net

Past President, Tom Parsons
639.2360 - tomparsons@earthlink.com

Treasurer, Jim LaRocca - 575.8237
astra1005@earthlink.net

Secretary, Jack Spies - 833.1012
saltwaterjack@comcast.net

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Editor, Bill Guenther - 505.5099
Email: radioman3029@comcast.net

Advertising
Need Volunteer

Membership, Bob Rand - 637.4848
bobrand@highstream.net

Programs, Rich Brennan - 575.8808
L3th@comcast.net

Social Director, Donnie Brennan
575.8808 - L3th@comcast.net

Fishing Events, Bob Busler - 575.8755
Robert.Busler@comcast.net

Sunshine Lady • Rose Makara
637.7555 - rosejohn@helbing.net

PGI Civic Association • Ron Slimp
CCMAC • Bill Bergman
CCA REP. • Tom Parsons



Kel Krotzer

The First Cast

While your Club currently holds a commanding lead in the Gold Cup Tournament, October is a great month to add to our point total in the Snook, Redfish, and Trout categories. Remember, October is your last chance this year to enter, or take home, a keeper Trout since the season is closed from November 1 until January 1, 2007

Trout will be scattered over the deeper grass flats. These fish will readily hit spoons, jigs, or a variety of artificial lures. Simply drift the area until fish are located. Once found, a live shrimp fished under a popping cork is hard to beat.

By the time you read this the bigger schools of Redfish will start to break up into smaller groups. Fish mangrove points with moving water on the higher tides, and watch for small schools of oversized fish on the flats during

SEE **FIRST CAST** page 6



Fishermen's Village announces their Yacht Basin Fuel Dock will be reopening to the public effective Wednesday, September 27th.

Fishermen's Village Harbor Master Jim Branch tell's me that the Fuel and Pump Out services will be available daily from 7:00am to 5:30pm.

Call the Yacht Basin at 941.575.3000 for further information. ↗

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY
October 10th • 7:00PM

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PROGRAMS • Rich Brennan



We're in for a treat! The October speaker at our monthly meeting will be none other than Robert Lugiewicz from Fishin' Franks. Due to a disability, Robert was not able to obtain his Captains License, but, as anyone who knows,

Robert Lugiewicz has as much knowledge and experience about fishing the flats of Charlotte Harbor as anyone.

Robert can tell you which fish are biting...in what temperature water, etc. Robert is looking forward to his opportunity to speak to our membership.

Remember...You have fishing questions, drop by Fishing Frank Bait & Tackle shop, and talk to Robert, it's for sure that he will have the answers.

Let him know that you are a member of the PGI Fishing Club.



Captain Angel Torres of "Vicious Strikes Charters receives the clubs "Speaker Appreciation Award" at last months meeting. Captain Torres can be contacted at: 941.916.6431



SUNSHINE LADY

If you know of a member who is ill, in need of a word of encouragement, or a member who has lost a loved one, **notify Rose Makara at 637.7555**

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

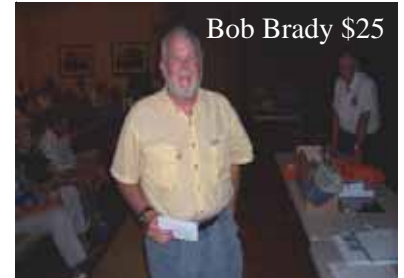
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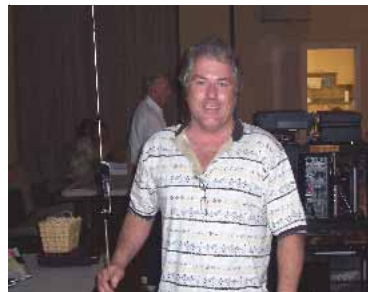
50/50 DRAWING



Ed Carlsen \$35



Bob Brady \$25



Mark McGhee • Rod & Reel



Lou Reeck \$18

Donnie Brennan won the monthly drawing from the Gold Cup entries.



She will receive a \$25 gift certificate...And with this Redfish will join five other members who have earned the Life Time achievement pin. Congratulations Donnie!



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LET'S GO FISHING

SOCIAL EVENTS • Donnie Brennan



Don't forget the POTLUCK dinner / dance. The date is OCTOBER 27th. Time for the fun to begin is set for 6:30PM.

The price for the tickets are as follows:

SINGLE MEMBER: \$15.00

COUPLE MEMBER: \$25.00

SINGLE NON-MEMBER GUEST: \$20.00

COUPLE NON-MEMBER GUEST: \$25.00

Tickets are on sale NOW! With seating limited, please be sure to get your tickets EARLY.

Don't forget this year's theme is HALLOWEEN. I know several people who already have their costumes planned. While costumes are not mandatory, it sure would be fun if everyone wore one.

For the POTLUCK dinner, here is what you need to do:

1. Buy your ticket
2. When you purchase your ticket, on the back of one will be your food category (appetizer, salad or entree)
3. Make (or buy) enough food in that category to feed 8 people
4. Arrive at the Civic Center and put your food in the kitchen. Please be sure your food is hot enough to eat (if your dish should be served hot.)
5. The Civic Assoc. does not have a liquor license so you prefer something stronger than soda, please BYOB

The cost of your tickets include:

- All plasticware (cups/plates/etc)
- Tablecloth and napkins
- Soft Drinks, Ice
- Dessert, coffee and/or tea

Plus...a prize for the best costume

And...a surprise award to be announced at the dance.

Due to popular request, there will be a 50/50 drawing.

Yes, we will have music for dancing so bring your dancing shoes. If you need more info, please call me. As I said, time goes by quickly so get your tickets fast!

MEMBERSHIP • Bob Rand



MEMBERSHIP TALLY = 164

New PGI Fishing Club members who join after September 30 will be valid members through the following year. A family membership (member, member & spouse or member & significant other) is only \$20 per year. All fishing club members must be members of the PGI Civic Association. Please bring prospective members our next meeting. I will be sending a renewal form to all present members this month.

LET'S GO FISHING!



Arnie Gievers
Mark McGhee



ON CHARLOTTE HARBOR • Bob Busler



It's September and the weather is hot and humid. But the weather isn't the only thing that's hot. The



tarpon fishing is smoking. My regular fishing partner, Pete McGregor, and I have frequently jumped up to eight tarpon a day. We only get a small percentage of them to the boat for a Kodak moment, but we have a lot of fun with the tarpon even if we don't get them to the lip gaff. All of the fish are 100 lbs. plus and can really give you a workout. Dick Doster fished with us last week and caught a beautiful tarpon. Dick handled the fish like a champ showing his years of fishing expertise. Sometimes the fishing got downright exciting and maybe a little scary. One fish that Pete was fighting rocketed straight up beside the boat where I was standing with the gaff. The distance separating the fish and myself was a thickness of the boat gunwale. Fortunately the tarpon did not come in over the side of the boat. A still green tarpon of that size can do a lot of damage to the boat and to the fisherman. Pete and I have fished almost every day the last two weeks. Between the heat and fighting fish I think I am actually looking forward to the tarpon leaving the Harbor. I know that Pete doesn't feel that way. It just goes to show that he is little crazier than I am. A return to some redfish and snook fishing will almost seem like a vacation to me.

These are some of the entries this month for the Master angler contest: Michael Quinn a 37 1/2 inch Snook, Dick Doster a 27 in. redfish and a 22 in. Spanish mackerel, Donnie Brennan a 24 in. Spanish mackerel, Joe Maillet a 63 in. bull shark, and myself a 33 in. redfish. ✂

CITY WATCH • Bill Guenther



Construction of the Ponce de Leon Park shelter is to begin the end of October. The Contractor met with the City Building Department on September 11th 2006 to submit drawings and apply for permits.

Punta Gorda Municipal Marina: A grant application that was submitted to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission for \$732,824.25 was reviewed by the application review committee, scored and ranked. It was determined to award the Punta Gorda Municipal Marina a sum in the amount of \$304,324.50.

Marina – The new seawall slabs that were previously poured are scheduled for installation, beginning by 9/11/06. All the pilings that will be installed in front of the seawall for support have been delivered to the site.

The **PGI Canal Maintenance** assessment was reduced from a proposed \$460 to \$400, thereby leaving a projected ending fund balance of \$580,000. The assessment reduction will not affect the ability to complete the proposed work program

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PGI Fishing Club

Ladder of Angling Achievement Program

The New Fishing Club Angling Achievement Program DOES NOT replace the former "Master Angler Tournament". The new program, rather than being a tournament linked to species and size of fish, is a well thought out program that simply recognizes, rewards and encourages Club members to get out and fish. All entries should be directed to Club Secretary, Jack Spies, who is keeping Ladder of Achievement records.

LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT	REQUIREMENTS	AWARDS
BRONZE	5 FISH OF ANY SIZE FROM THE PUBLISHED LIST	BONZE HAT PIN
SILVER	5 FISH OF LEGAL SIZE AND 300 POINTS FROM PUBLISHED LIST	SILVER HAT PIN
LIFETIME MASTER ANGLER	9 FISH OF LEGAL SIZE AND 1000 POINTS	HAND PAINTED SNOOK PIN

THE FOLLOWING FISH QUALIFY FOR ANGLER ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION:

Amberjack	Barracuda	Black Bass	Black Drum	Bluefish
Blue runner	Catfish	Cobia	Croaker	Flounder
Grunt	Grouper	Jack Crevelle	King Mackerel	Ladyfish
Mangrove Snapper	Redfish	Seatrout	Shark	Sheepshead
Snook	Spanish Mackerel	Tarpon	Tripletail	Whiting

Note: The Grouper classification is restricted to Black, Gag, and Red Grouper.



MEMBERS STATUS IN THE "ANGLER ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITIONS" PROGRAM

BRONZE PIN	SILVER PIN	GOLD PIN / CLUB HAT	LIFETIME SNOOK PIN
Donnie Brennan	Donnie Brennan	Donnie Brennan	
Rich Brennan	Rich Brennan	Rich Brennan	RICH BRENNAN
Bob Busler	Bob Busler	Bob Busler	BOB BUSLER
Dick Doster			
Harold Hall	Harold Hall		
Jim Hoffman	Jim Hoffman	Jim Hoffman	JIM HOFFMAN
Captain Margie Hoffman	Captain Margie Hoffman	Captain Margie Hoffman	CAPT. M. HOFFMAN
Kel Krotzer			
Joanne Landaker	Joanne Landaker		
Steve Landaker			
Joe Maillet	Joe Maillet	Joe Maillet	JOE MAILLET
Pete McGregor	Pete McGregor	Pete McGregor	PETE MCGREGOR
Tom Parsons	Tom Parsons		
Bob Rand	Bob Rand	Bob Rand	
Bevan Rucker	Bevan Rucker	Bevan Rucker	
Jack Spies			
Gary Sblendorio			
Ed Verminski	Ed Verminski		
Russ Brown	Russ Brown		
Jim LaRocca			

The Gold Cup fishing contest began on March 1, 2006 and ends on November 30, 2006. The PGI Fishing Club won the 2005 contest in a close race. But lookout for BSIFC, THE IYC and the newest club entry... BSRFC in 2006!

NOTE: ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN THREE WEEKS OF THE DATE FISH IS CAUGHT, AND NOVEMBER ENTRIES MUST BE RECORDED BY DECEMBER 8TH, 2006

	BURNT STORE ISLES	PGIFC	ISLE YACHT CLUB	BURNT STORE ANGLERS
SNOOK	33	37.5	31	32
REDFISH	31	33	31	35
TROUT	24.5	25	26.5	000
SPANISH MACKEREL	24	27	24	25
GROUPE	000	33	000	000
TARPON (40" MAX)	40	40	000	000
COBIA (40" MAX)	000	000	36.5	36
SHARK (40" MAX)	37	40	000	000
BONUS POINTS	000	10	000	000
TOTAL POINTS:	189.5	245.5	149	128

FIRST CAST cont. from page 1

low water periods. If you're looking to hook up with a trophy size Snook, the old adage "Big Bait—Big Fish" applies in October. Large Pinfish, free lined or drifted under a cork over a grass flat dotted with potholes is a good choice.

Another technique, which requires a lot of patience, is a BIG chunk of Ladyfish fished on the bottom on the outside edge of a sandbar. By BIG, I mean one half a good sized Ladyfish. This is a waiting game since 40 inch plus Snook are not caught every day. But while your waiting there's a good chance your "BIG chunk of meat" will attract a roving Shark or cobia. If you elect to try this method, I suggest gearing up with a medium/heavy rod balanced with a reel spooled with a minimum of 150 yards of 20 or 30 pound line. Tie on a three foot 40 pound fluorocarbon leader, and a 6/0 wide gap circle hook, then sit back and wait.

October is an excellent month to fish, with both water and air temperatures dropping to a more comfortable range. Plus, many of the Harbors most sought after species go on a feeding spree in preparation for the winter months.

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PGI FISHING CLUB MASTER ANGLER TOURNAMENT LEADERBOARD

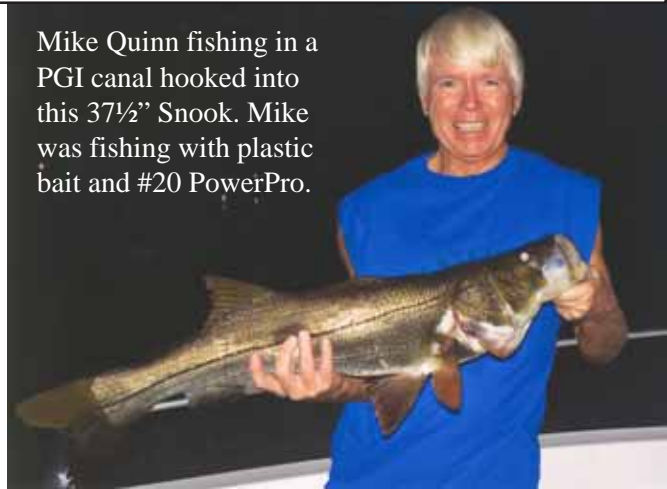
Certificate Awards-Framed certificates will be given to all anglers entering fish equal to or exceeding the following minimum lengths: Redfish 25", Trout 22", Snook 30", Cobia 38", Grouper 26", Shark 40", and Spanish Mackerel, 24".

	Grouper	Trout	Redfish	Snook	Cobia	Shark (All)	Spanish Mackeel
1	Jerry Peal 33"	Russ Brown 25"	Bob Busler 33"	Mike Quinn 37.5"	Harold Hall 36.5"	Jim Hoffman 73"	Russ Brown 27"
2	M. McCaffrey 32"	J. Landaker 23"	Ed Verminski 31"	Bob Busler 32.5"	Harold Hall 35"	P. McGregor 64"	Bob Busler 26"
3	M. McCaffrey 31.5"	Merle Wilts 22.5"	Pete McGregor 30"	Tom Parsons 32"		Marty McCaffry 60"	D. Brennan 26"
4	Margie Hoffman 31"	J. Landaker 22.5"	Rich Brennan 28"	Pete McGregor 30"		G. Sblendorio 54"	Mike Fauci 24"
5	Bevan Rucker 31"	Robert Page 21.5"	Tom Parsons 28"	Tom Parsons 29"		Rich Brennan 47.5"	D. Brennan 24"
6	Bob Rand 30"	S. Landaker 21"	S. Landaker 27"	D. Brennan 29"		Rich Brennan 46.5"	Larrie Tisdale 23"
7	Bevan Rucker 29.5"	Russ Brown 20"	Dick Doster 27"	S. Landaker 28.5"		Rich Brennan 46"	M. Hoffman 22"
8	Margie Hoffman 29"	Dick Doster 20"	Bob Busler 26"	Pete McGregor 28"		D. Brennan 46"	J. Hoffman 22"
9	Bob Rand 28.5"	J. Landaker 20"	J. Landaker 26"	S. Landaker 27"		Tony Geiser 46"	G. Sblendorio 22"
10	M. Hoffman 26.5"	G. Sblendorio 20"	Rich Brennan 25.5"	S. Landaker 27"		P. McGregor 41"	Dick Doster 22"
	T= TIES						

Point Leaders: Bob Busler 25pts; Russ Brown 20pts; Marty McCaffrey 18ptsT; Harold Hall 18ptsT; Pete McGregor 17pts; Joanne Landaker 13pts; Tom Parsons 11ptsT; Donnie Brennan 11ptsT; Jerry Peal 10ptsT; Jim Hoffman 10ptsT; Mike Quinn 10ptsT; Ed Verminski 8pts; Joe Maillet 6pts; Merle Wilts 5pts; Rich Brennan 3ptsT; Mike Fauci 3ptsT; Bevan Rucker 3ptsT; Margie Hoffman 3ptsT; Gary Sblendorio 2ptsT; Robert Page 2ptsT



Bev Rucker shows off the nice Grouper she pulled in on a recent off-shore trip. Nice going Bev!



Mike Quinn fishing in a PGI canal hooked into this 37½" Snook. Mike was fishing with plastic bait and #20 PowerPro.

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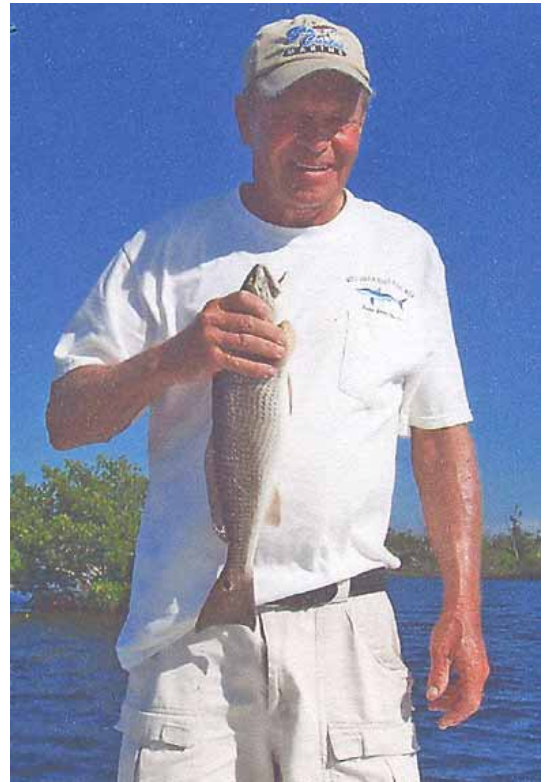
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MEMBER CATCHES AND OTHER STUFF



The above photograph of schooling Snook was taken by an unnamed member last June over his fish light. The light is four feet under water in a 7 foot deep area. Most of the Snook are between 2 and 3 feet, but occasionally a four footer will cruise by. The bigger fish were hanging out at the outer edges of the light and at the bottom of the canal so they do not appear. Our unnamed member said it's like having a backyard aquarium, and you never know what you will see.



Rich Brennan was hanging out over by Mangrove Point when he hooked up with this 18 inch Redfish. Rich was fishing with live shrimp. Rich's rod and reel of choice was a Redbone rod and a Okuma reel.

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Bob Speck	833.9283	w4mpj@strato.net	XXXX		
John Brkich	833.0229	brkich@videotron.ca	XXXX		
David Tincher	639.1285			XXXX	

MEMBERS LOOKING FOR A FISHING PARTNER & WILLING TO SHARE EXPENSES W/BOAT OWNER

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Bob Rand	637.4848	bobrand@highstream.net		XXXX	
Jim LaRocca	575.8237	astral005@earthlink.net			XXXX
Dave Tinchar	637.1285				XXXX

UPCOMING FISHING TRIP



NEW FISHING TRIP BEING PLANNED

We are scheduling a fishing trip to take place in November 2006. Our excursion will be on the Blue Heron Fleet out of Jupiter Florida. The Blue Heron Fleet specialize in Deep Sea Drift Boat Fishing - which means, there is no anchoring! The rates charged by the Blue Heron Fleet for a four hour trip are: Adults: \$35.00, 12 and under: \$25.00 Payment is due upon boarding.

NO CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED. THIS IS A CASH ONLY TRIP

We are considering making this trip a FULL day - from 8am to 5pm but since the boat goes back to its dock at noon, those wishing to participate for only the 1/2 day, can leave for their ride home. The others are welcome to stay aboard for the afternoon.

The vessel that would be assigned to us would be Miss Blue Heron, an 88'6" boat with a very wide beam for stable fishing.

Excerpt from the Blue Heron Website:

Productive reefs natural and artificial) exist in 50 - 200 feet of water. The Gulf Stream comes to its closest point of land around the Palm Beach and Jupiter Inlets. All of our fishing "Catching" is done from 1/4 mile to 3 miles from shore.

In order to fine tune this event, we need to know how many people we can expect to join us. We are looking for a total of 30 people to attend this fishing extravaganza.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THESE "MATES" WORK VERY HARD FOR YOU AND APPRECIATE YOU TIPS.

You can call me directly for more information and reservations. Rich Brennan 575-8808

MEMBER Catches and other “stuff”



Bob Busler shows off this nice 33” Redfish that he caught on a recent trip on the Harbor.

It was a good day for Tarpon fishing and Pete McGregor and Dick Doster agree with two big boys brought to the boat. Both fish were released after the photographs were taken.



Dick Doster picked up this 22” Spanish Mackerel out in the middle of the Harbor, using live bait, a custom rod, Penn reel and 15# braided line.

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BEST THINGS anybody ever said

Anybody who believes that the way to a man’s heart is through his stomach flunked geography.

Robert Byrne