



Broward County Airboat, Halftrack and Conservation Club

Dedicated to Preserving the Everglades

NEWSLETTER

February 2019

President's Letter

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February is here and BCAHCC had our 30th Annual Airboat Show and Festival. Hopefully you were able to attend the show, if not hope to see you next year. For those who could not be with us but have attended previous shows the differences were everywhere. The layout of the show was markedly different. Chrissy Freeman and her husband Jason, spent many hours at the Bergeron Rodeo grounds making the show look fresh. From the entrance being moved to behind City Hall, to the first exhibits our attendees saw, there were Side-By-Sides provided by Broward Motor Sports and some shown by private owners. They were placed in a class by themselves and ran from pure stock, modified to show type. The layout of the vendors was down the middle and all of our attendees got to see everything they were selling. The vendors were very pleased from the new locations to the new dates of the show.

Our entertainment was provided by four live bands, Remadee, Sucker Punch, Cool Change and Roughshot. They actually had followings and they were sitting and dancing up front near the stage. Thanks again to Big Dawg Productions. We had beautiful Airboats, Tracks, Wheel Buggies and Side-By-Sides to display and judging was done a new way. There were some who were disappointed of course, but there were many more who liked how we did judging this year. The difference was there was a minimum of two and a maximum of 4 people judging each vehicle at the same time. When the category was judged the winners were known right then, no more adding, dividing etc. with the score sheets. The Judges were happy and could justify each category. All in all, the show was great and we are tallying the money that was raised. I want everyone to know that this show is put on by Volunteers and they do not get paid. They contribute their time and money to make sure we have the funds to send Kids to Camp and Youth Hunts each year.

To start off with the thanks and knowing I will inadvertently leave someone out, for this I will apologize upfront. Chrissy our Show Chair and Jason, Jennifer Green, Kim McFarland and Robert Corey, Tommer and Michele Berg, Danny and Sherry Cimas, Kellie Kupfer and Bill Lewis, Maryanne Westwood and Sheryl Ward, Billy and Dianne Sirola, Barney, Annie and Brittany McDougall, Nate Fischer and William Corey. Each one of these Volunteers had a crew backing them up, thanks for what you did to make this show a success. The BCAHCC appreciates all that you do for the Club and the Kids Programs.

To those of you who did not make it to the show and want to contribute to these programs, please do so. Send a check made out to BCAHCC P. O. Box 291022, Davie Fl. 33329 Please write on the check Donation to Youth Programs. We are a 501(c)3 and your donation may be tax deductible. Check with your Tax Professional.

Palm Beach County Airboat Halftrack and Conservation Club

is having their Show Feb 23rd and 24th, they have a new location.

Airboat & Swamp Buggy Show

Florida East Coast Electrical JATC

4620 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL

Link to Show Page <http://www.pbcairboatclub.com/>

We are asking that you make an effort to attend this show. They are having the same issues we are, and they need our support. If you have a Broward Club Shirt, wear it, so they know we are there for them. Hopefully all of the clubs in Florida will unite on the issues threatening our Everglades and our Gladesmen way of life. This is a good start, Tom Schmidt is our new FAA President and I have already attended his first meeting. He will do a great job, I am sure. If anyone is interested in being part of a youth hunt in the next month please contact me and I will make sure you get placed on a hunt. Enough for this message, I hope to see you and your families in the woods real soon,

*Bruce Ward
President
BCAHCC*

Our New Website is up and running



Visit our new website: www.browardairboat.org

We are still adding content so please be patient.

If you have photos to add to our albums, please contact our web administrator at

BrowardAirboatClubNews@gmail.com

Also please like our social media

Facebook page: [@BrowardCountyAirboatClub](#)

Instagram: [BCAHCC](#)



Monthly Meetings

February 23rd-24th

Palm Beach Airboat Club Annual Show.
4620 Summit Blvd. West Palm Beach. FL

February 22nd-24th

Orange Blossom Festival

Club store will be at the event and we will have a club member airboat in the parade.

February 27th General Meeting 7:00pm

Davie Women's Club, 6551 Orange Drive
Please arrive at 6:30 to get food and be ready.

Our Membership Drive has begun and will continue in this newsletter. Please complete the application in full so we can update our database.



Upcoming Youth Hunts

March 8th-10th Alligator Hunt at A1 FEB

March 22nd - 24th Alligator Hunt at STA 3/4

Interested youths can apply online at
www.myfwc.com select **Hunting** then **Youth Opportunities**

Applicants must have completed Hunter's Safety Course and be Florida Residents to participate

BOARS NEST CAMP - 10 years later

Hurricane Wilma rolled through the Everglades in Broward County in 2005 with winds of 124 mph and gusts much higher than that. Area 2A is located east of US 27 and south of I-595 in Ft. Lauderdale. There are very few trees in this area and with the saw grass about 4 feet tall, there is very little, if any wind resistance. About halfway across this area and 5 miles south of the Broward -Palm Beach county line sat the Boars Nest Camp. This wooden structure consisting of 4 single story buildings and 1 two story building were no match for this Hurricane Wilma. She unleashed a force on this camp that tore all of the roofs and the entire second floor of the bunk house. The damage and debris of this camp was scattered a quarter mile from the camp site. To make things even worse the clean-up was left to just two remaining members of the camp. They started the work they had to do to rebuild. It was too much, they decided to burn down all of the camp except one building. I happened to be visiting Don Kirk at the 4 Moons Camp when I met Joe Holloway. He was doing most of the work, and he told me about his plan. It just so



happens that BCAHCC had been looking to buy a camp for about 2 years. We sat down and talked. I said maybe the club would be interested in buying one half of the camp. He could have one side and we would rebuild the other. I said don't answer me just yet, think about it and call me tomorrow. He did call me back and said he had thought about it, and he needed the help, so he would sell us half of Boars Nest Camp.

I spoke with the E-Board and Club members and it was a go. I assumed (never assume) everything would go smooth and our club would finally have a camp. I called our accountant and told her of the plan, her response "You can't do that Bruce" What? Why not? Well you cannot combine a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) and your club which is incorporated. She then said you will have to own all of it or none of it. So I thought about this and I called Joe and told him the bad news. Then I said Joe I know this is your camp, but would you consider selling the entire camp to the club? I then explained the camp would be rebuilt and he could still use it and he would not have to worry about hurricanes, maintenance and all of the other things that come with camp ownership. I said don't answer me just yet, think about it overnight and call me tomorrow. I knew how I would feel if someone just asked me to sell my camp that I had owned for many years. He called back and said his biggest concern was that the camp would go down on his watch. He was willing to sell the entire camp to BCAHCC. I said I would speak with the Executive Board and the General Membership and get back with him. I assumed (I did it again, never assume) everything would go smoothly. I can only hope if you are reading this you have been in a room full of people trying to make a decision everyone agrees with.

Like I said at the beginning of this story the club had been looking for a camp for two years. Here it was, our very own camp. Now the members starting telling everyone why it would not work, every problem you could think of as a camp owner. It went on and on. Then a motion was made, and it went like this "whoever is willing to work on this camp please signify by raising your hand." Guess what, the motion was voted down and the President John Storms said we would take a break for 15 minutes. I was dumbfounded for several reasons. First, the Past President who got me stated on this mission, voted against the motion. I asked him why? He said I am moving to Mims and I won't be able to work on the camp. What? That is right the motion



was who can help work on the camp, not who is in favor of purchasing the camp. Second reason, we have people who attend our meetings with members, like friends and girlfriends who are not members but voted anyway. I found John



Storms and I told him what I had discovered. He agreed to get a correct motion and we would vote again. The motion was corrected and seconded, at put to a vote. Then President Storms said everyone who is a member in good standing please rise. He went around the room and the motion passed and the first step in owning and rebuilding Boars Nest Camp was underway.

Our first work crew was about 10 members strong with the former owner Joe and his Brother in law Terry for a total of 12. There was some demolition and burning that needed to be done first, and it was done. Wood was ordered and brought to camp. Trusses were made and walls were rebuilt. After the trusses came the roofing. After the camp had shelter we began going step by step to rebuild the Boars Nest Camp. It went fast at first and then slowed down. The water levels kept us from getting to camp, there were other Club Projects to be done, hunting seasons where our help went to Bear Island etc. This went on for about 2 years, but we had the camp livable after about 8 months. We started staying out here and more and more work got done. Our original crew of 12 had dwindled to about 7, but we kept working. Year after year, one project after another. Donations from club members kept coming. For 12 years the Boars Nest Camp was under construction. The crew dwindled to four. It is important to know that we had many members and non-members help us over the years. Some times for short and some long periods of time. One of our members came out and completely caulked and painted the camp. In 2018 BCAHCC declared the camp was done. The Boars Nest Camp has hosted Youth Alligator Hunts, Halloween Parties, Memorial rides for the members we have lost over the years and just regular week end get togethers. It has also provided shelter to anyone who needed it during a storm. The BCAHCC is very proud of the Boars Nest Camp and if you are ever in Area 2A, stop in.



30th Annual Broward

Airboat Show and Festival Trophy Winners

6 Cyl. Aluminum Aircraft

1. Michael Ollisio
2. Wayne Barnes Jr
3. Robert Birkett

6 Cyl Fiberglass Aircraft

1. Pete Lazo
2. Joe Garrison

4 Cyl Aluminum Aircraft

1. Lenny Oliveri
2. Mikey Hall
3. Clay Colberg

4 Cyl Fiberglass Aircraft

1. Ronnie Bergeron
2. Clayton Stolk
3. Mark Paherson

Ground Power Unit

1. Don "Zilla" Hansard
2. Ronnie Bergeron
3. Travis Schultz

Automotive Engine Aluminum

1. Ronnie Bergeron
2. Matt Kenna
3. Robert "Budha" Corey

Fast Boat (Replaced Raceboat)

1. Harold Carrier
2. Butch Avon
3. Nick Wilder

Automotive Engine Fiberglass

1. B. J. Navin
2. William Taylor
3. Jerry Navin

Hunt Boat

1. Barney Mc Dougall
2. Kim Mc Farland
3. William Corey

Show Boat

1. Jax Hoffman
2. Lenny Oliveri
3. Charles Freese / Whirlwind

Track

1. Chester Reaves
2. Joel Pollard
3. Robert Torran

Factory Frame Wheel Buggy

1. Doug Stanley
2. Shanna Mulvoney
3. Kristi Calkins

Custom Frame Wheel Buggy

1. Shannon Vieths
2. Kristi Calkins
3. Blank

Hunt Wheel Buggy

1. Larry Archacki

Show Wheel Buggy

1. Robert Torran
2. Shannun Vieths
3. Kip Caulkins

Side By Sides

1. Taylor Wilkerson
2. Joshua Oros
3. Joe Garrison

Mud Truck /Jeep

1. Jasen / Steven Kelsheimer
2. Joran / Harvey Meshel
3. Tim Norton

Kids Entries

(Each tied for 1st Place)

1. Bryland Graham
1. Samantha Mazzarella
1. Brantley Rose
1. Fisher Berg

Best of Show Side By Side

1. Joshua Oros

Best of Show Airboat

1. Parker Morehead

Best of Show Buggy

(Full Track / First time in 30 years)

1. Kenny Leitheuser

Best Rudder Art

Parker Morehead

We are looking for photos from this year's Airboat Show, as well as shows of the past.

Please reach out to

BrowardAirboatclubnews@gmail.com

If you have photos that you would like to share for our website and social media.

Thank you.

Membership Business Directory

Are you a current or life member of the Broward County Airboat Halftrack Conservation Club?

You can add your business information here as well as on our website.

Email

BrowardAirboatClubNews@gmail.com with your information.