

The Sanibel Island Fishing Club

The Sanibel Island Fishing Club

PO Box 989 Sanibel, FL 33957

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Take This Month's Survey!

form.jotform.com/251255499292062

Come join the Sanibel Island Fishing Club meeting, on May 13th, at The Sanibel Community House. We will start at 6:30pm with pizza and soft drinks followed by our meeting that features a local guide and fisherman from The Bait Box.



*R. Thomas Dodge -
Custom Fishing Rod Builder
& Keeper of
Florida's Fishing Traditions*

Born into the heart of Southwest Florida's fishing culture, I carry with me the grit, wisdom, and deep respect for the waters that have shaped generations of anglers. My journey began in the backwaters and open Gulf, where old Florida mullet fishing and shrimping in the 1980s were more than just livelihoods—they were a way of life. I learned from seasoned fishermen who read the tides like a book, who knew every moon phase's secret, and who understood that true fishing isn't just about catching—it's about craftsmanship, patience, and tradition.

Since 2013, I've poured that heritage into custom fishing rod building, crafting each rod with the precision and durability demanded by serious anglers. My work isn't just about equipment—it's about honoring the legacy of Florida fishing and passing it down, just as those before me did. Whether guiding others, interpreting the rhythms of the water, or sharing the unwritten knowledge of the old Florida fishing world, I take pride in keeping the spirit of these waters alive.

At this month's meeting I plan to talk a little about the science and artistry behind fishing rods, and reels, and cover a few artificial lures and techniques. We will cover the top five artificial lures and techniques for this area. I will mention a few different brands that are very effective and are readily available locally. I will be happy to answer questions to the best of my ability.

Looking forward to making new friends in and out of the club sharing what I've devoted so much of my life to.

Rocky





An important note from Taylor Bouchard & The Captain's Crew



To our friends at the Sanibel Island Fishing Club -
On behalf of the Captains team, thank you for your
generous donation + continued support. Your commitment
to protecting + restoring our waters means the world -
not only to us but to the future generations of anglers,
boaters, and beach goers who will benefit from your
stewardship. Together, we're preserving what we love.
We can't thank you enough.

Sincerely,

Taylor Bouchard +
the Captains Crew

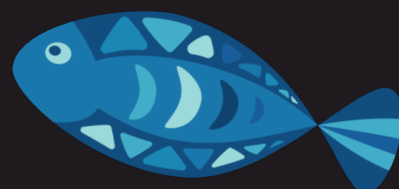
OUTINGS

Angler Standings

ANGLERS	TOTAL
Jerry Vadnais	382
Bob Stern	323
Lauren Schneider	203.5
Andrea Dankenbrink	201
David Gurney	162
John Bringham	144.5
Simon Tutt	133
Sandy Tannenbaum	115.5
Frances Tutt	98.5
Greg Easter	82.5
Roger King	75
Joe Schneider	73
Bill Schneider	69
Chuck Bye	65.5
Jo Sanacore	55.5
Matt Joyce	22.5
Tom McKeehan	11
Chet Mohr	8

Captain Standings

CAPTAINS	TOTAL
Bob Stern	58
Bill Schneider	54
Roger King	37
Simon Tutt	36
Chuck Bye	20
Matt Joyce	16
Tom McKeehan	16



Inshore Slam+ Outing Scorecard for May 17 outing

Sanibel Island Fishing Club

Name: _____

INSHORE SLAM+ SCORECARD



5/17/2025 Outing

Outings Coordinator: Simon Tutt

Mobile number: (to be provided)

NOTE:

Record all fish, the Outings Coordinator will calculate the scores

Use one Scorecard per Angler (regardless if Captain)

SCORING:

CAPTAIN = 12 longest fish across all anglers with no more than 4 fish of each species, (no need to calculate this, the Outings Coordinator will)

ANGLER = 9 longest fish with no more than 3 fish of each species, (no need to calculate this, the Outings Coordinator will)

SPECIES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Snook																		
Redfish																		
Trout																		
Sheepshead																		
Snapper																		
Black Drum																		

RULES:

All attendees must be paid up current Club members who have submitted a signed waiver

Start at first safe light

When measuring fish, pinch the tail and round UP to the nearest 0.5 inch

Fishing ends/lines out at 2:30pm, any fish in process of being landed at 2:30pm will count

Each boat should text pictures of its scorecards to the Outings Coordinator while heading back from fishing and give original scorecards to the Outings Coordinator at Rosalita's

Please don't forget to take some fish pictures for the Newsletter and Website!

Remember where you fished and with what tackle/bait to discuss at the next meeting!

We'll meet up at Rosalita's as soon as you are able after docking/clean up

A letter from James Evans, Chief Executive Officer



TRUSTEES

Nik Khakee
President

Scott Hendershot
Vice President

Megan Doss
Secretary

John Morse
Treasurer

Bob Adams
Bob Brooks
Scott Dinger

Calli Johnson duPont
Laura Gales
Dave Nichols
Mary Ellen Pfeifer
Rachel Pierce
Lisa Riordan
Doug Ryckman
Kate Sergeant

Chief Executive Officer
James Evans

CEO Emeritus
Erick Lindblad

OUR MISSION

To protect and care for Southwest Florida's coastal ecosystems through:

Water Quality Research
Policy and Advocacy
Sea Turtles and Shorebirds
Environmental Education
Land and Wildlife Management

sanibel
sea school



April 24, 2025

Sanibel Island Fishing Club
PO Box 989
Sanibel, FL 33957-0989

Dear Friends,

On behalf of our hardworking staff and dedicated Board of Trustees, please accept my profound thanks for your donation of \$2,000.00 on April 9, 2025. It will be used to support SCCF's programs and operations through June 30, 2025. It is so gratifying to have support of our island organizations with likeminded goals.

Your support is especially gratifying as the end of our fiscal year looms large on the horizon. I am so proud of all SCCF has done for our community, especially since the devastation of Ian and the one-two punch of Milton and Helene. Slowly but surely, we are rebuilding our facilities, regreening our preserves, and fighting the forces trying to change the culture of conservation that serves as the bedrock of Sanibel, Captiva, and our regional coastal ecosystems.

We hope you will continue to stand with us in celebrating the significant achievements within all three brands of our conservation family. As the summer approaches, please stay tuned to our progress through our biweekly e-newsletters and our *Connecting You to Nature* magazine.

I remain so heartened by the sense of family that is an SCCF hallmark. Our talented staff, our amazing volunteers, and our generous donors like you all show this spirit. Only together will we continue to strive. This is *your* SCCF, and thanks to you we will build on our achievements, take on new goals and objectives, and succeed for our natural world.

Sincerely,

James Evans
Chief Executive Officer

Founded in 1967, the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) is a nonprofit tax-exempt organization recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Please keep this receipt for your records. A copy of the State of Florida's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling 800-435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendations by the State.

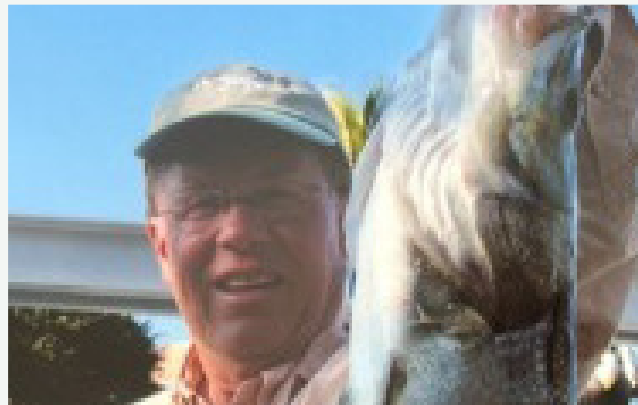
Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation

3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road | P.O. Box 839 | Sanibel, Florida 33957

239-472-2329 | Email info@sccf.org | sccf.org | SCCF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



Before I write anything else, I am very sorry to announce the loss of one of our own, Captain Chuck Bye. Chuck was an avid angler and boater who never hesitated to volunteer to take out Club members who didn't have their own boats so that they could participate in the monthly Club fishing tournaments. He willingly shared his extensive fishing knowledge and was an all round GREAT guy. We miss him already and wish to express our sincere condolences to his family.



A letter from Frances Tutt, SIFC President



It is already coming to the end of my first season as President of SIFC and it has certainly been a learning experience! As chance would have it, half way through the season Simon, my husband, joined our board as Outings Director and so it really is a family affair for us now! We are working together on changing some dynamics of the club based on our experiences over several years as members and we now have the opportunity to bring our thoughts and ideas into play. Some of you have noticed initial changes and we've been delighted to hear your feedback and ideas for further improvements - please keep the suggestions coming! We are happy to meet with you and talk about your ideas for our club, so please get in touch.

We definitely want to keep the outings and friendly tournaments going, but as the interest increases we may run short of boats participating and so this is where you come in - are there any other boat owners who would like to consider take out some members, but maybe are reluctant to do so? If yes, please contact Simon (sifcoutings@gmail.com) as not long ago he felt the same way and he'd be pleased to listen to your concerns and to share with you what he did to make himself comfortable with the whole volunteer club captain experience. No pressure, no judgment, I promise! Even so, we still want to explore adding more 'flavors' of fishing competitions such as offshore, beach, kayak, Ding, Blind Pass, fly, 'catch your own bait', or 'no live bait allowed', and others. This would be an opportunity to network, learn about other types of fishing and expand all of our horizons as fishing lovers. We are also thinking of clinics like cast netting, knot tying, safety, first aid, navigation and anchoring tips, etc. Amongst others, the Power Squadron, FWC, DNR, SCCF and CROW have asked to present at some meetings, so that's exciting. There has also been talk about how we can involve the younger generation in our outings and meetings and it works both ways as the local kids probably have more to teach us that we can teach them!

Many of you are leaving for the summer season and we are interested in who is staying and if you want to meet up in some fashion in the 'off' season. As such, we are sending out a member survey, so please take a few moments to fill it out. At the end of the day this is a club run by members for members, so if we don't know what members want then we could be way off the mark with some of our ideas and we don't want that!

Our last meeting of the season is on Tuesday May 13 and we have the last outing on Saturday May 17, so hopefully we will get a good turnout of captains and anglers. We certainly have some very close finalists right now and it will be fun to see which angler and which captain end up victorious!

With regard to the fishing pier, Bob Stern, club Vice President, was asked by the city council to lead an effort to save and rebuild the pier. He has been spending time coordinating the effort between city council, city engineers, vendors and all the organizations on the island and updates will be coming shortly.

As ever, you can reach me at sifcpresident6@gmail.com

Best, Frances

SIFC Photos From April



GET UPDATED!



See The Latest Fishing Conditions
thebaitbox.com/fishing-conditions

See The Latest Fishing Report
whitneysbaitandtackle.com/sanibel-fishing-report-april-2020