

MANCHESTER WATERWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

N E W S L E T T E R



STILL WAITING FOR A PERMIT

BOATERS ALERT Charlotte County Area

Situation	Call
WAKE OR OTHER BOATING VIOLATIONS:	
Punta Gorda Police.....	639-4111
Sheriff	639-2101
FL Fish & Wildlife	888-404-3922
SUSPICIOUS VESSELS SMUGGLING DRUGS OR PEOPLE:	
Sheriff	639-0013
FISHING & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE LAW VIOLATIONS:	
FL Fish & Wildlife	888-404-3922
MANATEE INJURY, DEATH, OR ZONE VIOLATIONS:	
FL Fish & Wildlife	888-404-3922
STRAY CRABTRAPS:	
FL Fish & Wildlife	888-404-3922
REPORT FISH KILLS:	
FL Fish & Wildlife	800-636-0511
DAMAGED OR MISSING NAVIGATION AIDS:	
U.S. Coast Guard (for immediate notice to mariners).....	VHF 16 &
FL Fish & Wildlife (to report for repair).....	866-405-2869
DERELICT BOATS & MARINE SANITATION VIOLATIONS:	
FL Fish & Wildlife	888-404-3922
OIL SPILLS:	
FL Dept. of Environmental Protection	850-245-2929
ORDER FISHING LICENSE W/CREDIT CARD WHILE ON WATER:	
FL Fish & Wildlife	888-486-8356
ONBOARD EMERGENCIES:	
U.S. Coast Guard	VHF 16 or 911

BE READY TO GIVE GPS COORDINATES ON ALL CALLS

Dredging should have been ready to go from Oct 1st, but awaiting on a permit from National Marine Fisheries Service...

So the waterway has not yet been dredged. At our last meeting we were optimistically looking at construction beginning around now, so we'd be ready for the winter season. Sadly however, one of the national agencies is apparently experiencing a backlog which is delaying the issuance of permitting. There are also some funding issues still being worked upon.

I've been in regular dialog with the County MSBU Department and the Pro-

ject Manager and am satisfied that they are trying hard to shake the permit free, and I will provide an update for you at our next meeting.

On a positive note, Smitty, my immediate neighbor, has just returned from island-hopping all the way up from Trinidad in *Sarah Noble*, a large ketch which draws 5.5 ft. Despite my dire warnings of most certain doom, and my suggestion to have a tow boat standing by at the ready, he valiantly entered the Manchester on a +2ft tide and arrived at his dock without touching bottom. I suspect that he didn't have much water under his keel during passage ☺, but it's clearly still possible with the current tides and a spot of luck.

Patrick Randall, MWCA President

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:
Patrick Randall 240-2747
VICE PRESIDENT:
Ray Rabil 627-6224
TREASURER:
Kim Carless 979-8889
SECRETARY:
Cheri Bauer 743-5140
DIRECTORS:
Al Augustine 255-0822
Al Lange 629-5603
PAST PRESIDENT:
Jim Goulette 625-0614

QTRLY MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday at 7:30

October 8

PORT CHARLOTTE YACHT CLUB

22445 Glass Lane
Charlotte Harbor, FL
(Go east on Edgewater,
right on Bayshore,
left on Glass, to building
on right at end of street).

Please bring a snack
to share with our coffee
after the meeting.

www.manchesterwaterway.org

MANCHESTER WATERWAY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
5083 CRAWFORDSVILLE DRIVE
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948

Minutes of the 5/14/2013 General Meeting

Past-President Goulette called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Randall was out-of-town. There were 17 members present, representing 14 memberships, including Board members Jim Goulette, Cheri Bauer, Kim Carless, and Al Lange. No new members were present, and no County MSBU Representative was in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kim Carless gave his report, showing a current balance of \$2,563.23. 96 memberships have been renewed for '13, with 8 new members added. An additional 30 are paid through 2012, with a total of 211 on the membership roster. The check register and expense log are available at all meeting for review. Motion was made/passed to accept the report as presented.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the last meeting were printed in the newsletter that was mailed to all members. Motion was made/passed to accept the printed minutes.

OLD BUSINESS: Past-President Goulette reported that the overhanging obstructive vegetation at the Midway terminus blind corner has been trimmed by Earth Balance, with costs picked up by the County. Members were urged to assess the enhanced visibility through the blind corner, and report back if further work was necessary. Thanks were expressed to Diane Grant(?) at the County Commissioners Office for her assistance in this matter.

A reminder was issued to all boaters: Vessels going WITH the tide have the right-of-way, and 1 LONG BURST on your horn as you approach will give warning to approaching traffic at this corner, and any other obstructed view locations, and is a wise safety precaution.

Information forwarded from MSBU Rep Dawn Harrison: The Army Corp of Engineers have yet to approve the dredging proposal, with over 4,000 cu of spoils estimated to be removed. Chuck Mopps at Public Works hopes to complete a cost breakdown between the Ackerman & Manchester MSBUs by next meeting. The Ackerman MSBU Committee has disbanded, reasons unknown. County Purchasing has not yet started the 90-day public bid process. At the end of this new permitting process, we should have a new 5-year permit in place for the Aquatic Preserve dogleg area. Dredging estimates are still running between \$28 - \$85/cu yd, so the final cost could run anywhere from \$318K to \$968K. Our last "spot dredge" was \$65K.

New Business: Member Q: Members complained of trash being dumped at the old lock site property. **Jim G:** We will contact the County for cleanup or pickup as necessary. If members see anyone dumping in that area, try to get a license number on the vehicle, or at least a good description if possible. The meeting adjourned for coffee and desserts at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Cheri Bauer, MWCA Secretary 5/14/13

Visit the Manchester Waterway website at:

www.manchesterwaterway.org

2013

ANNUAL DUES
NOW PAYABLE:

\$6

Please mail payment to:

Mr. Kim Carless
 MWCA Treasurer

18138 Avonsdale Circle
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948

USEFUL CONTACTS

Charlotte County
Commissioners

click on each to e-mail

[Stephen R. Deutsch](mailto:Stephen.R.Deutsch@charlottefl.com)

[Chris Constance](mailto:Chris.Constance@charlottefl.com)

[Tricia Duffy](mailto:Tricia.Duffy@charlottefl.com)

[Bill Truex](mailto:Bill.Trux@charlottefl.com)

[Ken Doherty](mailto:Ken.Doherty@charlottefl.com)

18500 Murdock Circle
 Port Charlotte, FL 33948
 (941)743-1300

PUBLIC WORKS
DEPT.

7000 Florida Street
 Punta Gorda, FL 33950
 (941) 575-3613

Dawn Harrison
 MSBU Representative

dawn.harrison@charlottefl.com