Broward County Airboat, Halftrack and Conservation Club

Dedicated to Preserving the Everglades

NEWSLETTER

March 2019

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President's Letter

March is here and all I can say is this year is flying by. BCAHCC has taken on many projects in the last 8 months and the Club is handling them with flying colors. The latest project was a Youth Gator hunt with Hunt Master John Conti at the helm. Five youth hunters harvested five alligators. Everyone had a great time and the support for these youths was impressive. The camp was cleaned, grass cut and even bees removed from our bathrooms. John Conti and Jason Freeman did a spectacular job. Nate Fischer videoed the hunt, and had some very good interviews which were posted to our social media and will be added to our website. The volunteers, guides, and cooks did another fine job. There will be two more Youth Hunts and this will complete all of our hunts for this season. If you would like to be part of these Youth Hunts, they will be March 22nd-24th an Alligator Hunt from the Boars Nest Camp. Then March 29th-31st, a Turkey Hunt at Trail Ridge in St. Lucie. If you would like to volunteer, please call Jason at 954-881-2294.

March 9th, BCAHCC had a request to help with a Celebration of Life for Bruce Harwell from Duck Camp. We were more than happy to help, and we saw old friends we have not seen in a long time. It was a very nice Celebration for a true Gladesmen. There is a video that Glen Checchi and Nate Fischer produced and it is also on our Facebook site.

The Orange Blossom Parade was attended by our club. We were selling shirts, hats and flags. Bill and Dianne Sirola made sure we had a prime spot. Nate Fischer attended with the Gladesmen Corner trailer and was assisted by Mike Kimmel and his Reptile Show. They drew a big crowd and educated many about the python problems and attempt to catch them. Danny and Sherry Cimas, along with Joel Pollard had an Airboat and Full Track on display in the parade. Thanks to all of you for your time and efforts. Keeping our name and efforts in the community is a big help for us.

The same weekend the Palm Beach Airboat Halftrack and Conservation Club had their Airboat and Buggy Show. I hope everyone took time to attend their show as well. I did and I thought it was a great show. Like us, they made many changes to their show. They went back to the Electrical Workers Union Park. They had a lot of tracks, wheel buggies, airboats and good food. They are a great bunch of guys and gals who are fighting the same battles as our club. Hopefully, they will get access to some areas in Palm Beach County where they can ride their boats and buggies.

BCAHCC has made a commitment to support all of the clubs in our region as well as the FAA events. Speaking of supporting other events, there are several coming up shortly. Autism Awareness is having their The Light It Up Blue #4, it will be April 13th at Coleman's Landing in Lake Wales. From 3 to 8:30 PM if you need more information go to the website www.airboatersforautism.org. Earth Day is coming up and the Florida Sportsmen Trust Group has an Earth Day clean up planned for Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge. It will be April 27th 7:30 am to 4:30 PM. Volunteers and bigger airboats that can haul are needed. Visit their Facebook page for more information Florida Sportsmen's Trust Group.

The last thing I want to mention is there is a need for our members to help out with many of these projects. Recently, I was asked about our camp and its availability. I told one of our newest members how to access the camp. I also told her that the battery might be low and if they had to take the battery out of their boat to start the generator, they could do it that way. Well, Marguerite McDermote and her husband bought a brand new battery and took it to camp and donated it. I got a call from one of our other members, and they said there was a new battery at camp, and asked where did it come from? I did not know at first, then I was told it was the McDermote's. Why am I telling this to you, there have been many donations over the years to a lot of things our club has done. From many generous members and even non-members. It is what our club was built on. Our members donating their time, money, products and sweat equity. It just seems we have gotten away from the spirit of what we have done in the past. The McDermotes reminded me of what our club does best. We have always pulled together to get a job done. Thanks to the McDermote family and all of you who work so hard to make our club the best it can be. You may not always get the attention you deserve for what you do, but it does not go unnoticed. Thanks to all of you, for what you do best.

Hope to see you soon,

Bruce Ward President BCAHCC



March 27th General Meeting 7:00pm Davie Women's Club, 6551 Orange Drive Please arrive at 6:30 to get food and be ready.

April 10th E-Board Meeting 7:00pm Davie Women's Club, 6551 Orange Drive

April 13th FAA Quarterly Meeting 10am
Grape Hammock Fish Camp
1400 SW Grape Hammock Rd, Lake Wales
This meeting precedes the Light It Up event and
is open for all to attend. Contact Tom Schmidt
for more info tom@schmidtav.com

April 13th AFAA's Light It up Blue Event 3pm Coleman Landings- 1450 Shady Oaks Dr, Lake Wales Family Fun event, full of riding, food, raffles and much more. Proceeds go to autism awareness. Visit www.airboatersforautism.org for more details.

April 24th General Meeting 7:00pm
Davie Women's Club, 6551 Orange Drive
Please arrive at 6:30 to get food and be ready

April 27th Earth Day Clean Up 7:30am Hosted by the Florida Sportsmen's Trust Group Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

Visit our website <u>www.BrowardAirboat.org</u> for all of our event listings



March 22nd-24th Alligator Hunt at AI FEB

March 29th-31st Turkey Hunt at Trail Ridge in Port St. Lucie

These are our last scheduled hunts for the season.

Youths interested in participating in these types of hunts can apply online at www.myfwc.com select Youth then Youth Opportunities

Applicants must have completed the Hunter's Safety Course and be Florida Residents in order to participate.

Looking for more information, reach out to our Youth Hunt Coordinator Jason Freeman at (954) 624-5195 and he will be happy to help.

Do you have photos and videos that would make a great addition to our website?



We were introduced to a great site that will allow you to transfer files for Free! It will let you send up to 2G of files per email.

Www.WeTransfer.com

Please email photos to <u>BrowardAirboatClubNews@gmail.com</u>

Thank you.



LIGHT IT UP BLUE 4

April 13th, 2019 3:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (dark) Coleman Landings 1450 Shady Oaks Drive, Lake Wales, FL, 33898

This year shirts will be sold at the event with no online or preordering available. We will have a select number of performance long sleeve shirts and regular cotton short sleeve shirts with this years design. Food and drinks will be given out for any size donation to our cause. We are excited to be raffling off some amazing items this year and are still in need of raffle items if you or someone you know would care to donate to our raffle tables. We look forward to surpassing last year's total raised and also invite anyone who would like funding related to individuals with autism and the outdoors to apply on our brand new website at the bottom of this flyer. If you have any further questions don't hesitate to contact us through Facebook or our new website!

Thank you for your endless support,

The AFAA Team

Airboaters For Autism Awareness

www.airboatersforautism.org



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