



# Broward County Airboat, Halftrack and Conservation Club

## Dedicated to Preserving the Everglades

# NEWSLETTER

June 2020

### President's Letter

#### 2019-2020 Officers

**President**  
Bruce Ward  
(954) 658-2714  
Browardairboat@aol.com

**Vice President**  
Dan Cimas  
(954) 854-0886  
Danandsherrycimas@att.net

**Secretary**  
Jennifer Green  
(954) 445-1789  
JenniferHoraGreen@gmail.com

**Treasurer**  
Bill Sirola  
(954) 543-3709  
Nobs5@msn.com

#### E-Board

Sean McCann  
(954) 914-6624

Glen Checchi  
(954) 401-0653

Pete Hora  
(954) 444-6836

Greg Grubb  
(954) 663-4388

Chris Andrews  
(954) 658-8349

**Past Treasurer**  
Jim Simon  
(954) 553-1989

I hope everyone is doing well and is in good health. As you are reading and seeing on TV, this corona virus is not over. Be on guard as you begin to venture back out. Wash your hands, wear masks and try not to put yourself in places where you could catch the virus. Social distancing is still a very good idea. Be safe and stay healthy and I am looking forward to the day when we can all meet and not have these concerns.

Your E-board discussed if we could have any events in this current atmosphere. We feel we can, if we follow the recommendations of the CDC. So our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trash Fish Tournament is planned for July 18<sup>th</sup>. It will be at the Stubb Canal and you will get more details, but basically you will pay to enter, whoever catches the most, and biggest fish will get a cash prize. There will be a 50/50 raffle. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs and a good time. Save the date, July 18<sup>th</sup> and see you at the Stubb Canal that day.

As you may have seen on our Facebook Page the Airboat Show was cancelled for this year. Your E-Board has a tentative date of March 27-28, 2021 for our next Airboat Show. Let's hope we can have it then and nothing prevents it.

We are continuing to have our Club Meetings on ZOOM. It is working very well. Each month more and more of our members join us from their own homes, trucks, work, out of state, etc. You should receive directions on your dialer on how to join the meeting. The scheduled meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. Please take time to learn how to sign on. If your phone or computer has a camera we can see each other, if you do not then you can listen. In either case we would like you to join us. It is a very easy process, see you at our next meeting June 24<sup>th</sup>.

BCAHCC has a new Hunt Coordinator, Sean McCann. If you are interested in participating as a Volunteer, Guide or Hunt Master then you will need to speak with Sean. We currently have a very good program and the plan is to make it even better. With your help we can do this. We are scheduled to have 3 hunts next year. A Deer/Hog hunt at Istapoga, a Turkey Hunt at Trail Ridge and a Gator Hunt at the Boars Nest.

Rare Fish Survey from FWC \_you may receive this in your E- Mail. I spoke with the originator Travis Tuten a FWC Biologist and he asked if we would participate. I told him we would send it out to the 400 hundred people on our mail out list. It does not take a great deal of time to complete 5-10 minutes at most. We want to participate in keeping our Everglades as nice as we can. If we can do our part, maybe we can make things even better in the woods. (More information in the newsletter).

Our Treasurer, Bill Sirola, has discovered that if you shop on Amazon the club can receive funds from your purchases. There is no additional charge to you, Amazon donates to charities that you select. It would be greatly appreciated if you would **Remember, always start at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)** and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Just choose **Broward County Airboat Inc.** as your Charity. Thanks and it does work as the club is already receiving funds from this program.

Our Secretary Jennifer Green is always looking for things of interest for our Club to put in the newsletter. If you would please send her any items she would really appreciate it. Thanks

Last but certainly not least is BCAHCC Officer Elections in July. Our By-Laws state that the club will take nominations from the floor in May and June from members in good standing (Dues Paid). We have already had our first round of nominations and here they are, President Bruce Ward, Vice President Kevin Fitzgerald, Treasurer Bill Sirola, Secretary Jennifer Green, E-Board Directors Glenn Checchi, Pete Hora, Chris Andrews, Sean McCann, Greg Grubb, Kristen Andrews, and William Corey. If you would like to be an Officer in the club, get your nomination in. The club will not take any more nominations from the floor after this meeting, however, if needed a write in vote the night of the elections is legal. The only thing different about this election is you had to be present to be elected. This year if you are signed in on the ZOOM meeting is acceptable.

Be safe, and don't let down your guard down on this virus,

Bruce Ward



June 24<sup>th</sup> General Meeting via Zoom  
Zoom Meeting ID- **813 2173 1328**  
Password **254686**

July 8<sup>th</sup> E-Board Meeting via Zoom  
If you would like to attend, please send  
request for meeting to  
BrowardCountyAirboatClub@gmail.com

July 18<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trash Fish Tournament  
See Flyer in the Newsletter

July 22<sup>th</sup> General Meeting via Zoom  
Zoom Meeting ID- **813 2173 1328**  
Password **254686**

**Election Night- Please join us**

Jim Bowles  
Memorial Tree Planting- Postponed  
Save the Date More Details to follow

Memorial Run- TBD

Nomination Form for Officer Positions  
<https://forms.gle/WbUZeazzwhP98Nnx7>



Also EYCC sleepaway camp has  
been cancelled for the summer.  
Option of day camp available for  
those interested in attending.

We would like to welcome our new  
Youth Hunt Coordinator, Sean  
McCann. He will be the point of  
contact for all youth hunt  
communication.  
Sean can be reached by email at:  
[BCAHCC.YouthHunt@gmail.com](mailto:BCAHCC.YouthHunt@gmail.com)

To apply for one of these hunts, please visit the FWC  
website to register or [click here](#).

Youth must have passed the Hunter's Safety course to  
participate. FWC also offers many opportunities to  
complete the required Hunter's Safety course, [click here](#)  
for a list of course schedules.

**DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS FROM CLUB  
EVENTS?**



We are always looking for photos

Visit [www.WeTransfer.com](http://www.WeTransfer.com)  
Select Free transfer and send to  
**BrowardAirboatClubNews@gmail.com**  
You can send up to 2G of files per day

## **Motor for Raffle**

Osceola Airboat Association is having a raffle for motor.

**165 Horsepower**

**Nitrated Steel Cylinder Barrels**

**9.1 Pistons LW15357**

**H290 Performance Grind Camshaft**

Includes installation of Pacemaker Performance Electronic Ignition System, case of Aeroshell 100 breaking oil, pre-oil, initial startup and timing by Moore's Aircraft.

Retail Price: \$9,375.00 Trade-In Value: \$7,000 Will be given away at the Summer Slide – **September 2020**

[www.osceolaairboatassociation.com](http://www.osceolaairboatassociation.com)

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## **Do you have a place for the Club Trailer?**

Our club is currently in search of a place to park our Club Trailer. The trailer is 30 foot long and enclosed.

The trailer is only used once a year for the airboat show. If you have a piece of Property where we could park the trailer, it would be of great help to the club.

We also have a Club cooker/smoker on a trailer that needs a place to stay, also.

If you can accommodate one or both of these items, or you have an idea where we could store them, please contact Bruce Ward 954-658-2714.

Thanks we really need to get these items moved.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **UPDATING THE DIALER**

Are you receiving text messages from the club dialer? We use the dialer to update our membership of meetings and events. If you are not receiving them, then please

[\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#) to be added.



We would like to recognize "The History of the Florida Gladesmen" and club members: Barney and Anne McDougall, Nate Fischer, along with Mike Kimmel and Alexis Wilson for their outstanding efforts made in conservation in 2019.

It was a busy year for them, reaching close to 25,000 spectators for the year. This year was lining up to surpass that before the COVID19 came on scene, and we hope to get it back to it soon.

We are proud of their efforts to educate so many different communities on invasive plants, animals, water quality and the importance of not releasing them into the wild.

Sharing our Gladesmen history is the #1 objective for the "Gladesmen Corner". By shedding light on the many contributions made by individuals, airboat clubs and conservation program groups across Florida. Fighting to protect the Everglades and its wildlife.

It just goes to show you that efforts made by a few can affect the many! We're glad to see them thinking outside the box, or in this case the trailer! Keep up the great work. We encourage you all to get involved, and stay active in the efforts of protecting our access to and the natural resources in our beautiful Florida Everglades. It's easier than ever to attend an important meeting either online or by phone, so please do so!

With all of the heritage and history facing adversity today, we need to stand up and protect ours, in our own backyard...



# Broward County Airboat Halftrack & Conservation Club's

## 2ND ANNUAL

Open to Everyone

## TRASH FISH TOURNAMENT

Saturday July 18th at The Stubb canal

8 AM Registration

9 AM Start Time

REGISTRATION FEE \$15  
PER BOAT OR FAMILY

### Prizes Awarded

25% of Registration Awarded for:

Biggest Fish (measured by Length only)

Most Trash Fish Caught

(Trash Fish is considered NON-GAMING fish by FWC)

Lunch provided by the club after Tournament

MAKE SURE THAT YOU GET A FRESHWATER LICENSE (OVER 16 YEARS OLD AND UNDER 65)

Visit our Online store to purchase a Tournament Shirt!

<https://teespring.com/stores/broward-county-airboat-club>



I left from my ranch in Martin County, drove south a little over 2 hours and was out in the swamp searching my first spoil island, hunting pythons an hour after sunrise... Unfortunately I did not have the weather in my favor, it was the hottest it's been and the sun was at full strength. Our Florida summer sun is just too hot for the pythons, that's why I often go out to catch them hunting for prey at night.

I wasn't going to let the heat discourage me, I knew this was my only day to hunt the islands this month and the timing was right to find nests. After maybe 3-4 hours and searching 10 islands I found an absolute monster of a python. Being what looked like over 17 feet long she was impressive to say the least and considering the time of year most likely gravid with eggs. She didn't seem bothered by me being there but definitely kept an eye on me. From there I decided on a game plan.... which was basically to grab her by the tail and see what I was made of lol.

I've caught large pythons before but usually by the head first and not in so much vegetation. Grabbing by the head is easier and safer but in this situation it was going to be difficult to get up to where her head was for the grab without spooking her. So I committed to grabbing the tail and holding on! After grabbing her tail she immediately overpowered me and started to drag me into the thick grass, off the island. I dug my heels into the limestone and pulled back as hard as I could, stopping her.

We were then at a standstill, a python tug of war I guess you could say. From there she started to come for me, which is what I wanted... this will give me a chance to grab her head and finish tiring her out. She struck a couple times but being as large as she is I was able to dodge the strikes pretty easily... I was doing well until she surprised me with a second half strike, after I dodged a full strike first, catching me on my left arm and hitting multiple large veins.

Luckily, it was a clean bite and I was able to quickly pull her off without teeth breaking off in me or her pulling me in to wrap me up; but once I noticed how much blood I was losing I knew I had to be careful. I was mostly worried about blacking out or getting weak, especially with how hot it was... I wasn't trying to become a python turd lol. I was able to grab her behind her head when she bit me and carefully finished tiring her out. I then quickly used the snake bag I brought with me as a tourniquet because I still had to drag her back to my 14' Jon boat where my pistol was.... boy was that fun!

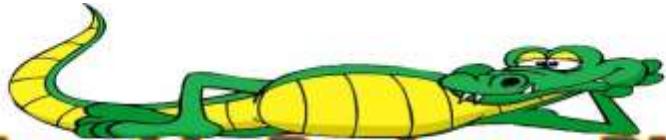
A couple pints of blood, a gallon of sweat and a few curse words later I had her in the boat and ready to be euthanized. I'm still waiting on official measurements from the state to find out if she's a record breaker or not but either way I'm a happy man! I don't think I'll be making products out of this skin... keeping as a trophy and to take with me to different events I do around the state with the History of the Florida Gladesmen and Mobile Museum, speaking about invasive species.

The Lord and the swamp always provides!!!



**Check out Mike's  
Adventure YouTube Video  
[Here](#)**





# Membership Business Directory

Bill Stevens

WGS Construction

(561) 402-3255

Dan Cimas

DC Plumbing Solutions

(954) 854-0886

Dcplumbing5363@att.net

Ed Maury

Florida Linen Services

Eomusmvreb@gmail.com

David Nash

South Shore Plumbing

(954) 421-1373

Gary Alban

GL Homes

(772) 226-9000

www.glhomes.com

Robert Green

Brennan's Glass Company

(954) 792-6366

Jim Kelderhouse

Certified Windows and Doors

(954) 977-7990

www.certifiedwindowsanddoors.com

Laszlo Cscko

Carpenter ~ Miami Jewish Health

acseko@msn.com

Leonard Hommel

Autonation Chevrolet Technician

(954) 433-3350

Marguerite McDermote / Mark Bradley

Alternate Power Solutions

(561) 242-8869

www.altpowerfl.com

Marshall Jones

Mack's Fish Camp

(954) 536-7400

www.gladesmenculture.com

John Ladue

Complete Water Systems

(954) 985-9800

www.completewatersystems.net

John Rollins

Wilson Manifolds

(954) 771-6216

www.wilsonmanifolds.com

Kenny Leitheuser

East Coast Mobile Welding

(561) 719-2438

Kevin Fitzgerald

Law offices of

Samantha J. Fitzgerald

(954) 580-3690

www.estateandprobatelawyer.com

Nate Fischer

Florida Gladesmen / Kids Spot Rehab

floridagladesmen@gmail.com

www.kidsspotrehab.com

Patrick Ball

Mintz Truppman

(305) 893-5506

Randy Hill

USA Marine Training LLC.

(352) 872-4405

www.usamarinetraining.com

Robert Sisilva

Bill's Marine

(615) 972-9761

Russell Grubb

Hollywood Woodwork

(954) 920-5009

Jason Freeman

Blackwater Airboat Tours

(954) 474-4040

www.blackwaterairboattours.com

Frank Herbert

Everything Everglades Enterprises

Everglades shades, airboat

Equipment/ accessories

(954) 792-6482

Barney McDougall

Innovative Powder Coating (IPC)

(954) 537-2558

Brett Holcombe

Westway Towing Inc.

(954) 731-1115

Ron Provenzano

Tropic Care & Lawn Maintenance

(954) 275-4397

Gary Lee

Southern Homes & Rentals LLC.

(561) 723-2226

Frank Carieri

Headhunter- American Recruiters

Frank@ariteam.com

John Davis

Davis Plumbing

(954) 680-6543

Zach Goldberg

Program director Deliver the Dream

www.deliverthedream.com

(954) 564-3512

Eric Goss

A & E Land Clearing

(561) 784-8525

Diane Hermelyn

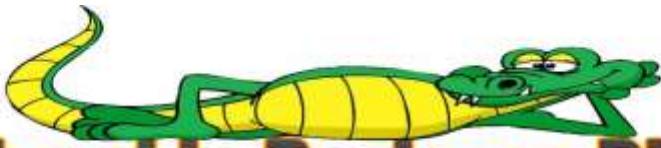
Allstate Insurance

(954) 370-1500

Thomas Ivy Jr.

Lonestar Plumbing

(305) 895-1340



# **Membership Business Directory**

Tom Nardone

Residential Private Equity Fund LLC.

(954) 234-5565

Tom Schmidt

Schmidt Aviation

(954) 520-8068

William Taylor

Margarita Man of South Florida

(954) 629-8139

Dave Wallin- Field Service Supervisor

Evolvtec- (954) 587-5521

[www.evolvtec.com](http://www.evolvtec.com)

Parrish Westbrook- Marine Electronic Sales

Krell Marine

(305) 326-9555

Captain Phil Walters

[www.gatorguides.com](http://www.gatorguides.com)

(813) 220-6854

Robert Gonzalez

Farm Bureau Insurance

(954) 680-2805

[www.Rgonzalezinsurance.com](http://www.Rgonzalezinsurance.com)

Stephen Martin

Martin Marine & Industrial

(954) 647-4475

Brad Weihrauch

Ralph White Company

(863) 287-1864

[www.ralphwhitecompany.com](http://www.ralphwhitecompany.com)

Alex Galetta

Industrial Divers Corp.

(954) 523-2906

[www.industrialdivers.com](http://www.industrialdivers.com)

Sean McCann

A1 Appliance

(954) 587-6380

[www.a1applianceservicenparts.com](http://www.a1applianceservicenparts.com)

Steven Lorenzi

South Florida Masonry

(954) 971-6875

John "Jay" Verkey Sr.

Lauderdale Speedometer

(954) 522-4885

[www.lsspeedp.com](http://www.lsspeedp.com)

Would you like to be a part  
of our business directory?

Email [Browardairboatclubnews@gmail.com](mailto:Browardairboatclubnews@gmail.com)