

# The Propwash Report

Broward County Airboat and Haltrack Conservation Club



## Big Thanks: Recognizing our Lifetime Members

Al Griffin  
Barney McDougall  
Bill Ashe  
Bill Sirola  
Bill Terry  
Bob Pendleton  
Bobby Laborde  
Brett Holcombe  
Brett Rosenberg  
Bruce Ward  
Chuck Arnold  
Damon Carroll  
David Archacki  
David Charland  
David 'Sparky' Willix  
Diane Buchanan  
Doug Sensenig  
Fernando Gonzalez  
Frank Herbert  
Gerald Motes  
Gordon Treece

Harry Reinehr  
Jack Corey  
James Newton  
Jason Black  
Jennifer Green  
Jim Catalano  
Jim Simon  
Jimmy Musgrove  
John Egert  
John Storms  
Jon Conti  
Kathy Conti  
Ken Paoletti  
Kim Jones  
Lee Chamberlain  
Lenny Olivieri  
Marshall Jones  
Martin Bennett  
Mary Ann Westwood  
Matt Purvis  
Michael Giacin

Neil Ruddy  
Pete Hora  
Robert Corey  
Robert Westberry  
Ron Provenzano  
Ronald Bergeron  
Sheryl Ward  
Steven Lorenzi  
Ted Crownover  
Thomas Hassler  
Thomas Mountain  
Tom Krips  
Vernon 'Bear' Oster  
William Britt  
William Hord  
William Keefe  
  
2025 Inductees:  
Robert 'Budha' Corey  
William Gregory Grubb

# President's Message

Dear Members,

On behalf of the club leadership, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for your continued support, dedication, and commitment to our organization. Because of the hard work and passion of our members, our club's outreach, visibility, and membership involvement have grown tremendously over the past year. I would also like to take a moment to recognize the overwhelming success of our very first "Everglades Experience Show." Despite the challenges that came with organizing a first-year event—including a compressed planning timeline, uncertainty, and numerous obstacles—we came together as a team and made it happen. Not only was the event successful, but attendance far exceeded our expectations, bringing in nearly three times the projected admissions. That accomplishment speaks volumes about the strength of this club and the support behind it.

To our sponsors, vendors, volunteers, and members who contributed their time, resources, and effort: thank you for helping create such an incredible representation of what our club stands for. The displays, participation, and atmosphere reflected the pride and tradition of our community, and we could not have done it without you. We are already looking forward to next year's "2nd Annual Everglades Experience Show," and we are committed to making it even bigger, better, and more impactful.

While we celebrate these accomplishments, it is equally important that we continue focusing on strengthening our club from within. Like any organization that is growing and evolving, there will always be areas where we can improve. Some concerns have recently been expressed regarding club activity, event turnout, and social media engagement. I want to remind everyone that the strength and success of this organization depend greatly on the involvement of its members. Our meetings—whether attended in person or through Zoom—are where ideas are shared, concerns are addressed, and future plans are built. If you have suggestions, creative ideas, or even constructive criticism, we encourage you to participate and make your voice heard. Open communication and member involvement are essential to helping this club continue moving in the right direction.

As for social media and club operations, our officers and volunteers work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly while balancing their own personal and professional responsibilities. These efforts are made on a volunteer basis and come from a genuine passion for preserving what this club represents. That being said, we are always open to additional help. Anyone interested in assisting with social media, events, outreach, or other club activities is more than welcome to reach out to me or any of the club officers. The more involved we are together, the stronger we become as an organization.

Most importantly, I want everyone to know that this club is moving forward with motivation, purpose, and a vision for continued success. We are embracing new ideas while also improving the traditions and systems that make this organization what it is today. There is a great future ahead of us, and we need the continued support of our members, sponsors, and community to help make that future possible. We look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming events, and I personally hope to share a few laughs and drinks with everyone at the banquet.

Many blessings,

Cian Campbell  
President

# Remembering ValuJet Flight 592: 30 Years Later

This past Monday, May 11, we gathered to mark the 30th anniversary of the ValuJet Flight 592 tragedy. While the memorial stands as a place for the public to pay their respects, the actual crash site lies another 12 miles deep into the marshes we call home.

The 50-minute service was a powerful tribute to the 110 lost lives. The event was well-attended by Dade County Fire Rescue, FHP, FWC, and news media including Channel 10 and WINK News. Most importantly, it brought together families, friends, and members of our community to hear the keynote speakers and the reading of every name lost that day—including the story of the flight's female captain.

## Our Club's Contribution

The "power of the club" was truly on display leading up to the event. For two days, our members worked hard to ensure the memorial site looked its best. This cleanup effort was sparked when Addison, a SkyWest cockpit crew member, saw a social media post from Mark Douglass Smith (a Delta A&P mechanic) and shared his contact info.

Our team, including Bill Terry and Bruce Ward, coordinated with Mark to handle the heavy lifting:

- Restoring the Stones: Carefully bleaching the memorial stones with non-abrasive cleaners.
- Site Maintenance: Full pressure washing, weed whacking, and mowing.

## A Legacy of Safety

Out of the tragedy of 30 years ago came permanent changes that made air travel safer for everyone. From FAA storage restrictions to the strict signature protocols required between shippers, baggage handlers, and the cockpit, the aftermath of Flight 592 changed the industry forever.

Prior to the clean-up and the service, Bruce Ward had the great opportunity to take Mark and his wife out for an airboat ride through WCA-2. They spent time out at Boars Nest, sharing the beauty of the Glades and the spirit of our club.

For more photos and details from the day, you can find information on Facebook under ValuJet Flight 592 May 11.



## In Memory of Chris Banfalvy

It is with heavy hearts that we remember Chris, a valued member of our airboat family. His love for adventure, the outdoors, and the friendships he built along the way touched so many lives. He will be remembered for the smiles he shared, the memories made on the water, and the kindness he showed to those around him. Our thoughts and prayers are with Laurie and their family during this difficult time. Chris will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

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### Treece Head Sign

When the hunting camps in the Florida Everglades went under review for State contract, and then was ultimately finalized, the Treece Camp 'head' was not permitted. The History of our preservation is important.

Since Gordon Treece, his brother Dwight, and other friends were credited with establishing our Airboat Club, now called the BCAHCC, I would like to propose that we put a sign in front of that area, now the locals call it Treeces Head.

I'm open to suggestions, but the current theme is a 4 x 4 post with a 24" x 18" wooden / composite sign attached....And engraved with a router.

TREECES HEAD

Circa. 1952

BCAHCC

Robert Kisarewich and Bruce Ward have expressed agreement.

As a 'BT' thought... Since we plan on mentioning Gordon's wife, Dolores Grace, who passed recently, on our August 1 'memorial run', It might be fitting to place the sign on the same day or do a stop an go at the site if we have already placed the sign. Tell me what you think.

# Stair Steps Unit

Preliminary discussions have begun between BCAHCC, the FAA, and other clubs regarding a possible joint venture at the Stair Steps Unit.

There are still several requirements and obligations to work through, including boat inspections. We are hoping to coordinate the opportunity so the inspections can be completed on the same day as the event.

This has the potential to be a fun and worthwhile gathering. If you have interest in participating, please let Steve or me know.

We will keep everyone informed as plans continue to develop.

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## Rambling Rose Camp – WCA 2

There are some places that aren't just pieces of land... they're chapters of history. Rambling Rose Camp is one of those places.

Built sometime in the mid-to-late 1950s, it has stood the test of time, quietly witnessing decades of stories, friendships, and unforgettable moments. For many, it's more than a camp—it's a place where memories were made and legends passed through.

Names like **Butch Harrison**, known as a respected tour guide, and **Norm Padgett**, a renowned frogger, are part of its story. And of course, **Bob McDonald**, the long-time owner, whose presence became woven into the fabric of the area. Bob wasn't just connected to the camp—he was part of its identity, leaving behind a history that many still remember and talk about today.

Recently, the camp entered a new chapter.

**Alex Pomareda** has purchased Rambling Rose Camp from **Greg** and **Debbie Blake**, who have moved on to another part of Florida. With that transition, the door opened for something new—while still honoring everything that came before.

Alex has already begun the process of restoring and renovating the property. It's no small task, but it's one that carries meaning. Bringing new life to one of the oldest sites in the area is more than an upgrade—it's a continuation of a legacy.

Places like Rambling Rose don't come around often. They hold stories in the soil and memories in every corner. And now, with fresh vision and care, its story continues.

We wish Alex all the best as he takes on this exciting journey and look forward to seeing Rambling Rose Camp thrive once again.

# Youth Alligator Hunt

Well, our club pulled off another epic alligator youth hunt this year. The award needs to go to Kathy and Jon Conti. It's such a pleasure to be part of a program that goes so smoothly and has such a high-quality impact on all involved by the end of the event .

I myself, am very proud to be a part of this program. There were some early years lessons we have learned, but the end result speaks for itself. It shows how teamwork, a lot of planning... Kathy... goes a long way. Thanks to the youth hunt guides Steven Lorenzi, Ron Last, Sebastian Tutt, Jim Simon, Beau Moyer, and myself, Gary-the Rebel-Lee.

The food —WOW— was prepared by Mr. Bill Sirola and he crushed it again. The look on the youth hunter's faces as they walked into the dining room for dinner says it all. got to thank the support volunteers: Carolyn, Jenna, and Bill Terry for all their help. There has to be a mega shout out for all.

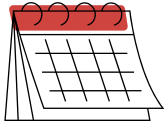
The five youth and their parent/guardian were welcomed by the committee. They were led to the bunk houses to get organized and prepare for their two night and three day stay. Morganne (Floral City), Zolta (WPB), Landen (Vero Beach), Carter (Vero Beach), and Jason (Chiefland) were taken up to the new Lorenzi Loft and the lessons began. Discussions about safety, the environment, hunting and fishing, rules and regulations. This was followed by a question and answer session.

Then the great meal, a good night sleep, and off to the hunt. All five youth attending, got a gator. Then they learn how to clean them, saving the good edible parts and how to dispose of the remainder.

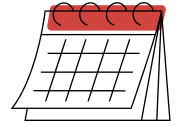
To ALL CLUB VOLUNTEERS, for all they do with these programs the BCAHCC continues to set the bar for all other clubs. I'm proud to be a part of it.





SEE YOU IN THE WOODS





# What's Ahead - Upcoming Events



Date	Event	Location
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Frog Tournament 	Boars Nest
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	 Unity Weekend	Okeechobee KOA
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Memorial Run 	Boars Nest
August 29 <sup>th</sup>	 Annual Banquet	Green Glades Ranch



## Reminder: Election



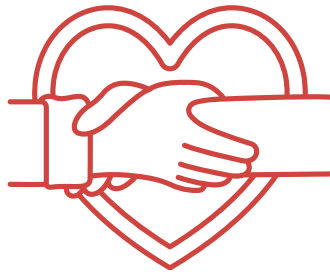
A friendly reminder that nominations for officer positions will remain open through the June General Meeting, which will be the final opportunity to submit nominations. All nominees must be present at the meeting, either in person or via Zoom/phone call, to accept their nomination. Voting will begin in July. Please remember that only members who are current and in good standing are eligible to nominate, vote, or hold office.



 JOIN NOW

## Reminder: Membership

Interested in becoming a member? Applications can be completed online. Please note that membership approval requires a vote at both a General Membership Meeting and an Executive Board Meeting before membership can be officially accepted. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact the [BCAHCC Secretary](#) for assistance.



## Help Wanted!

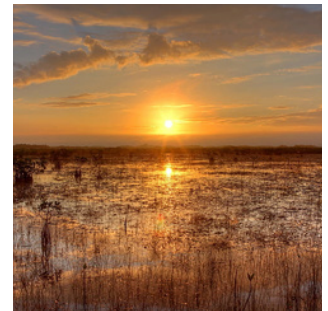
We are currently seeking volunteers and support to help around the Boars Nest Camp with general upkeep, improvements, and future projects to help keep the camp running strong for everyone to enjoy.

In addition, we are actively looking into bids for solar panels and water purification systems to improve sustainability and long-term functionality at the camp. Any help, resources, recommendations, or connections would be greatly appreciated as we continue working to better the Boars Nest for current and future members.



## Stay Connected

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Website](#)  
[Member Site](#) | [Email](#)



Be on the lookout for our next Newsletter in September!

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