Broward County Airboat, Halftrack and Conservation Club

Dedicated to Preserving the Everglades

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are in June of 2021. It goes without saying that 2020 was not a good year, and it will be remembered in a negative light. The Club's Mission is to try and get back to as normal a life as we had before. This will take some doing and commitment from everyone in America. I want to mention the Covid-19 vaccine that is available to everyone. It is your choice as to whether you will get vaccinated. I personally chose to take the Pfizer vaccine (only side effect, sore left arm on second day). I posted it on Facebook. Had some negative comments, but overwhelmingly positive. As I am writing this message 200-300 people a day in Broward County are getting the virus. I hope everyone in our country can and will take the vaccine. As I said before, it is your choice, whatever your decision. I really hope you and your family are healthy and safe. We have some of our members whose families currently have it, others lost family members and for BCAHCC a few of our members have passed. I do not want lose any more.

I want to thank all our members who have given, their time, money and effort to our Club's projects since our last newsletter. Greg Grubb has been at every project but one, in the last 6 months, I really appreciate his support and if the club is not aware of your E- Board Member Greg's efforts, you are now. Thanks Greg, you have been a great help.

Brett Rosenberg has been quick to respond to any request made for help. He has used his trade skills as an Electrician to install lighting all around and above the Boar's Nest Camp. He has cut the grass with the weed whacker, gathered the wood around camp and stacked it for eventual burning.

John Cason, who is a new member to our club, before even becoming our newest member, helped us with the flood conditions we experienced at Camp. John had not even been in Area 2A since the 1970's, but when he saw our videos on social media, he called me and asked what he could do for our club. Thanks John to you and your wife, Rachel for all your efforts.

Russell Grubb and Tracy, I cannot say enough for what they do for BCAHCC. Youth Hunts, fabrication of things needed at camp, and help when a member is in trouble. He has done too many projects for our Club to even list. His last two, he fabricated the top plate and flag pulleys for or new flagpole, he also saw the condition of our wooden picnic tables, and the height of the seats. He has made us an aluminum table 8 foot long and he installed it.

Carter Burris and Bruce Eckel were with us almost every weekend at camp. Carter decided the club needed a Large American Flag for our 35-foot-tall Flagpole. He donated a 5X8 foot American Flag. It really looks good flying at camp. Hope you get to see it in person real soon. There is also a new Club Flag flying there as well.

Greg Blake and his Brother Jeff donated a Wacker LT4 portable Light Tower. This tower has a market value \$2,500. It is like the ones we rent for our shows each year. Greg and Jeff, Thanks so much for your generosity.

Glen Checchi and Bill Sirola took on a project and with the help of Walmart and the late Dee Dee O'Reily made five children very happy on Christmas morning. They awoke to brand new Bicycles for each of

them. Thanks to all of you, and Glenn thanks for being in the right spot at the right time and thinking about our Club and making this happen.

Chris Andrews has been very active on Youth hunts, cooking and supporting everyone's efforts to make everything nice for our Young Hunters, their Guardians, and our Volunteers.

Sean McCann our Youth Hunt Coordinator, thank you.

Speaking of cooks, we had the Annual FAA Meeting at Boars Nest Camp Jan. 9th. BCAHCC sponsored the Lunch. Our regular cooks had commitments and could not make it to this meeting. I called on my wife, Sheryl to take over as she has had previous experience cooking for our events. She asked if I could get her help, and it would be appreciated. Guess what, soon as I mentioned it to Glen Checchi he was all over it, Gerald Motes shows up with 10 lbs. of Frog Legs and a Fryer. We set Gerald up and he was off to the races. Sheryl with her Baked Beans, then breading and frying Alligator on the side burner of our new Weber Grill, Glen cooking Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. Our guests ate like Kings and no one left hungry. Thanks to you guys for making our Club proud.

I want to thank Kyle Archacki and John Cason, these guys are either renewing their membership or becoming a first-time member. They worked to organize Camp Owners on Social media to voice their concerns about being denied access to their camps. During the high water, low water, Covid closings, etc. The Camp owners attended the FWC Commission meeting by Zoom, and made their issues known. The Commission directed the Staff to give us a one day permit to assess the damage to our camps and make preparations to fix them. Thank you guys for all of your efforts.

Our member Gene Sotelo brought Boy Scout Troop #411 to spend the weekend at the Boars Nest Camp. This happened Friday Feb 26th through Sunday Feb.28th 2021. Kevin Fitzgerald has explained to us why the BSA has certain restrictions when their Troops are camping out. The Boars Nest Camp provided a place for these Scouts to be in the Everglades. I want to thank club member Gene Sotelo for stepping up as the person Certified by the Boy Scouts to spend the time with them. I am sure there are more of these events to come.

Last and by no means least I want to thank Kevin and Samantha Fitzgerald. For the work they both have done to make our clubs next adventure within a few months of completion. BCAHCC has created a new 501 C 3 called the **Everglades Outdoor Experience**. This project started a few years back with an idea to fund some of the clubs work with grants. After many brainstorming events, the Fitzgerald's stepped up and said they would take care of the legal issues we faced. Our State of Florida papers were filed, and we are awaiting our last determination from the IRS. Thanks Samantha and Kevin, you guys are making the future of our club possible. We are in discussions with Grant Providers and await our first grant. This is a very exciting time for our club.

Members of BCAHCC also participated in the Congressional Everglades Tour in March. Mike "Elf" Eflebein put together a Task Force consisting of 102 people who make decisions about our Everglades. They were all transported from the 40 mile bend on Tamiami Trail to the end of the Microwave Tower Canal by airboats. We were met by 20 buggies and then transported to the Two-Story Camp in the Big Cypress Unit. This group consisted of representatives from Senator Marco Rubio's Office, Two Congressmen, and one Congress Woman as well as Staff from the late Congressman Alcee Hastings office. The head of Army Corp

of Engineers, SFWMD, Both Tribes the Miccosukee and Seminole Nations, Department of Interior, Cattlemen's Association, Director of the National Parks Service as well as other State and Federal agencies and other Stake Holders. It was a very productive Day, and friends were made. They wanted to see the top of the Water Chain and Mike Elf is put together another trip for the stakeholders at Lake Okeechobee. This happened May 24th. Again, our club was well represented at this event and I want to thank Kyle Archacki, Bill Ferris, Sean McCann, Ritchie Gotshall as well as Ron Sylva for the use of G's General Camp and Stephen Barreto for the use of his Two Story Camp. This is how we are going to get educated decisions made about the future of our Everglades. We have to educate the people who make decisions, and they need to know the impacts of their votes.

We had several members of the club ask to use the Boar's Nest Camp as they wanted to stay out in the woods for a few days. As dues Paying Members they are entitled to this privilege and we are more than happy to let them stay. There was a plumbing issue concerning a check valve and Chuck Barret said he would pick up and donate the necessary items to fix it and he did. To our great surprise when we went out to make sure the Camp was ready for our Youth Hunt, we found they had topped off the diesel tank and the Club did not have to transport or buy fuel for the Youth Hunt. This was a big help and we thank Chuck, Bill and the others who were so gracious. They left the camp in better condition than they found it. Thank you again, it is great not to have to clean up after others who leave the Camp with their trash, unclean Bar B Que grill etc. You guys are the real deal in the Gladesmen way of life. Please use it as often as you like.

BCAHCC sponsored a FWC Alligator Youth Hunt Easter weekend. Our Hunt Master Jon Conti, his wife Kathy and his Volunteers provided 5 Youth and their guardians the experience of a lifetime. 5 Alligator Harvested within hours of the beginning of the hunt. They were cleaned and the participants were fed by 5PM on Saturday. The water was a little low but a great time was had by all. Thank you Jon and everyone who made this possible for these youngsters and their Guardians.

Our Club sold its 2004, 28-foot show trailer and took the money and purchased a brand new 2021 20 foot trailer. It is Black and in pristine condition. We loaded everything in our new trailer and Budha and Kelly Corey allowed us to park it at their home. Thank you for giving the club's trailer a place to stay. Our other Club's Store Trailer needs 5 wheels 205 R75-15 and it has a leak in the ceiling that needs to be fixed. That is our next project. If you have any experience in trailer leaks give me a call. 954-658-2714, could use the help and knowledge.

BCAHCC participated in the First Florida Outdoor Expo in Palm Beach at the Fairgrounds April 23rd-26th. We were invited to attend by Mike Allen of Southern Boating Magazine. It was a great show and we gained valuable information about how a show could be put on. When the time is right, hopefully, our Club could have a better show in the future. Keep your fingers crossed and hope this Covid goes away. I want to thank, Glen Checchi, Sheryl Ward, Bill and Dianne Sirola, Denise Johns, Chris and Kristen Andrews and the Palm Beach Airboat and Halftrack Conservation Club for all of the help to make this a successful outing. BCAHCC was well represented at this event. Nate Fisher, Mike Kimmel, with the Gladesmen Corner, Kirk and Beth Comanic, providing the Singing entertainment, Barney and Annie Mc Dougal, Ross Hoffman, Gene Sotelo, Nando Gonzalez, Bill and Sharon Ashe, and many other members. I did not see all of our members attending because I was not there Saturday. Thank all of you for the Club and Show support.

BCAHCC will be attending the Unity Weekend, July 10th in Okeechobee. Our club has purchased a table with 8 tickets. Sheryl, myself, Mike Giacin, Theresa, Tom Nardone and Sean McCann will be attending. There are 2 seats left, if you would like to attend let me know. After the 2 seats are taken if you want to attend, seats are 40 dollars each. Dinner, Raffles and a good time for all. If you can make it, see you there.

BCAHCC will also be sponsoring a Station at the FSCA First Annual Sporting Clays Festival. It will be June 19th at the Palm Beach County Shooting Sports Park. If you would like to be a shooter you can put in a team of 4 shooters for \$400. Each Shooter gets 100 targets, 100 rounds of ammunition and lunch. You can bring your golf cart, Side by side or the course can be easily walked. Call Steve 772-370-9451.

Lake Okeechobee Airboat Association will be having their Annual Airboat Show at the J&N Fish Camp June 26th. If you can make the show, please wear your Club Shirt. I really want them to know BCAHCC is supporting their efforts. All clubs are in the same battles. If you would like to enter an Airboat or Buggy give them a call. They would love to display it.

Last year we had 38 new members, and this year already 11. Gladesmen and Glades Families are wanting to join our efforts and our way of life. I spoke to one of our newest members about another project at the Boars Nest. I always said one of the biggest strengths of BCAHCC was its ability to do things together. That is what is happening now. Be a part of it, there is room for everyone. Trying to make us safe and productive during this pandemic has been a challenge, but look how life can be when we get those who can best work and best agree to make life better.

BCAHCC had a Trash Fish Tournament May 22nd at the 35 MM on Alligator Alley. We had 10 teams and they fished from boats, Airboats, Bass boat, and they also fished from the shore. It doesn't matter how you fish or with what bait. (No Cast Nets. Or commercial Fishermen) We had a good day for the kids and Member's Families. Plus we removed 312 invasive species from our waterways and Everglades. If you did not make it to this event, make plans to attend the next one. I know you will enjoy the fellowship and the lunch.

Please join us on our Zoom meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month. You will get a text of the location of our Zoom Meeting. We will be taking nominations for the Executive Board Positions in this Month's May 26th General Meeting. If you would like to be even more involved with the club and its decisions, there are positions opening up. Call me and I will answer any questions you might have. Wishing all of our Members, their family and friends everyone a Healthy and Safe 2021. The water is low currently in the Glades, be careful, the rain will make things better. But for now use Caution!

Hoping to see you in the woods real soon,

Bruce Ward



Saturday June 12, 2021Celebration of Life for Debbie Herbert Moorehaven, FL

Click Here for event details

Saturday June 19, 2021Sportsman Conservation Association Sporting Clay Shoot.

Click Here for event details

Wednesday June 23, 2021 7pm General Meeting via Zoom Click here to join Meeting

Meeting ID: 862 8688 6663 Password: BCAHCC

Saturday June 26, 2021 10am Lake Okeechobee Airboat Show J&S Fish Camp Click here for event details

Saturday July 10, 2021 FAA Unity Weekend See Flyer below for details

Wednesday July 14, 2021 7pm E-Board Meeting via Zoom Click Here to join meeting Meeting ID: 832 5921 9640 Password: BCAHCC

August 2021

BCAHCC Club Banquet

More info to come



Istapoga Hunt: December 10-12, 2021

Deer and Hog Hunt

Trail Ridge Hunt: February 25-27, 2022
Turkey Hunt

STA 3 / STA 4: April 1-3, 2022 Alligator Hunt

If you are interested in participating in the youth hunts, apply through MYFWC.

Applicants must have completed the Hunter's Safety Course prior to applying.

Any questions, please contact Sean McCann, our Youth Hunt Coordinator

YouthHunt@BrowardAirboatclub.org



We are always looking for photos

<u>Click here to send photos</u>

You can send 2G for free Send to <u>Secretary@browardairboatclub.org</u>

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SHANNON PARKS, FAA TREASURER

EMAIL:TREASURER@FLORIDAAIRBOAT.ORG

LARRY DANIELS, FAA SECRETARY

EMAIL: SECRETARY@FLORIDAAIRBOAT.ORG

SATURDAY JULY 10, 2021



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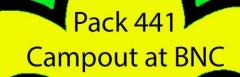
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The BCAHCC Election is coming in July



If you would like to nominate someone for an Executive Board Position, please click the form below and make your nomination. (Nominations close after June General Meeting)

Click Here to Make a Nomination

Are you receiving the Texts from the BCAHCC



Text BCAHCC to 313131 to join



Bill Stevens WGS Construction (561) 402-3255

Dan Cimas
DC Plumbing Solutions
(954) 854-0886
Dcplumbing5363Datt.net

Ed Maury Florida Linen Services Eomusmyrebægmail.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

Keith Martin Airparts Company Inc. (954) 739-3575 www.airpartsco.com

John Rollins Wilson Manifolds (954) 771-6216 www.wilsonmanifolds.com

Marshall Jones MacK's Fish Camp (954) 536-7400 www.gladesmenculture.com

Laszlo Cscko Carpenter ~ Miami Jewish Health acsekoa)msn.com

Leonard Hommel Autonation Chevrolet Technician (954) 433-3350 Marguerite McDermote / Mark Bradley Alternate Power Solutions (561) 242-8869 www.altpowerfl.com

John Ladue Complete Water Systems (954) 985-9800 www.completewatersystems.net

Kenny Leitheuser East Coast Mobile Welding (561) 719-2438

Kevin Fitzgerald Law offices of Samantha J. Fitzgerald (954) 580-3690 www.estateandprobatelawyer.com

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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

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 Dariteam.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

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.evolutec.com

Parrish Westbrook-Marine Electronic Sales Krell Marine (305) 326-9555

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Robert Gonzalez Farm Bureau Insurance (954) 680-2805 www.Rgonzalezinsurance.com

Stephen Martin Martin Marine & Industrial (954) 647-4475

Mike "Python Cowboy" Kimmel Martin County Trapping & Wildlife Rescue

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John "Jay" Verkey Sr. Lauderdale Speedometer (954) 522-4885 www.lspeedp.com

Gerald Motes Everglades Airboat Excursions (561) 660-2419

Alejandro Pomareda Quackskins www.Quackskins.com

Luke Lostroscio Little Smiles (561) 619-9157 www.littlesmilesfl.org

Oliver Langley Accent Properties (904) 721-7822 www.accentjax.com

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