

Punta Gorda Isles Fishing Club

Volume 20

Newsletter

Issue 8

SHARK WINNERS

HOW TO CATCH BAIT

HARBOR HAPPENING
Club Boaters Wanted-Page 9

PGI Fishing Club Newsletter

FEATURES

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Volume 20, Issue 8

August 2012

BOOKMARK YOUR CLUB'S NEW WEB SITE

www.pgifishingclub.org

and add new email address for fish photos

fishphotos@pgifishingclub.org

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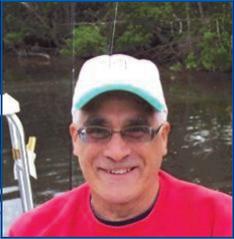
NEXT CLUB MEETING
Tuesday, August 14, 2012
7:00 p.m.



Find us on
facebook

Go to your facebook page, search for
PGI Fishing Club, join the group.

ON THE COVER—Some real gator trout in the har-
bor. See Pete's full photo on page 15.



Now is the time of year you begin to think of winter. Why? Because it's so hot outside, you could probably fry an egg on your car. However, I wouldn't recommend you try it. From

what I hear, the acid in the egg would make the paint peel and then you'd really be in a pickle. Hmm! Eggs, pickle. Sounds like lunch to me.

Okay putting all that food aside, when you go out fishing, you need to remember to bring plenty of water with you. This heat is enough to give you heat stroke. You need plenty of water to drink AND some to splash on your head and neck to keep you cool. Try to remember that if you use the harbor water to splash yourself, it's got salt and that'll make you burn. It's a "Catch-22" situation. Yes, it'll cool you down but the salt increases the power of the sun's UV rays and you'll burn. Stinks, huh? Well, you can always wear sun protection in either a sun block lotion (or spray) or clothing.

I've been told that the best way to keep cool is to keep your feet cool. I know that might sound a bit weird but if you knew who told me, you'd understand. But in her defense, it kind of makes sense. Your internal body will try to heat up the portion that's cooler than the rest so if your feet are cooler than your head, your body will pull the heat from your upper body in order to reheat what's just gotten cold. She said it's some science thing. Heat follows cold. Anyway, just stay hydrated on the water. This sun can be a killer.

And in more ways than one. A few of my fishing buddies said that this heat is driving the fish into

deeper water. Fishing the shallows hasn't been as productive as we'd all like it to be. That means that if you need to fish the deeper parts of the harbor, there are no mangroves that might provide a respite from the sun. Again, be careful out there.

I do know that some of our members have been lucky enough to catch those elusive fish. There are enough photos in our newsletter to prove that.

Hey is this a great club or what? You all know that Jim Qurollo has taken over the publishing of our Newsletter. And yes, he's doing a great job!! At our Board meeting, he suggested a few items he'd like to incorporate into it and Vice President Tom Lengauer volunteered to make the announcement at our meeting – which he did. And you know what? So far, we've had several members volunteer to write a column for us. This is great news since we have so many knowledgeable members. What a fantastic way to share their expertise! Thank you all. (*See Catching Bait and Selecting a Boat, pg. 19*)

If you'd like to write about something, just email Jim (his email is editor@pgifishingclub.org) and he'll get you started.

One more thing before I close, I want to give my sincere thanks to Randy Hall who is pinch-hitting for John Simonieg. Randy, you're doing a magnificent job! Thank you for helping out.

Well, that's about it, so just for grins and giggles, I'm going to sign off by saying,

"Th-th-that's all folks!"

Aaron, PGIFC President

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REMINDER

A photo is your entry form for all club fishing events (Master Angler Tournament, Ladder of Achievement Program, Fish of the Month Contest, and Isles Trophy Race). The photo of you with the fish, your name, fish species, length and date caught noted on the back of the photo, or in the body of your email will be your official entry form.

Eligibility for each program will be determined by the Club's appointed recorder.

All entries should be emailed to the Fishing Events Director at PGIFishingClub@pgica.org, dropped off at the PGICA facility for placement in the fishing club's folder, or handed in at one of the monthly club meetings.

Q-Tips

Editor's Notes

Made it through my first PGI Fishing Club Newsletter with "not too many" errors. Stupidest one might have been my own email on the Features page was wrong! It should have been .com instead of .net. If that's as bad as it gets, I should be OK. (Note: Email is now editor@pgifishingclub.org).

And, thank you to all who commented on the July issue, my first as editor. Your kudos and constructive criticisms are appreciated. I have already made some of the suggested changes and, hopefully, improvements.

Now to "editorialize" a little...or maybe more than a little. What is your opinion of the FWC's closing of the snook season for "at least" another year? I know some club members and many professional guides believe keeping the season closed is a good idea. My opinion is that continued closure was unnecessary, and here is why I believe that.

It appears, at least on the surface, that the decision to keep the season closed for at least another year was made by the seven appointed Commissioners for reasons other than what the scientific facts indicated. I can find no place where the Commission gives the basis for their decision, other than a quote from Vice Chairman Kenneth Wright, *"If we have a bad winter this year, we will benefit from this caution; if we don't have a bad winter, we will let all these breeding fish come through the slot. We'll*

really have done something good and we'll have protected some of these fish." That seems to me to be a good and noble thought, but on what does Vice Chairman Wright, and presumably a majority of the other commissioners, base this opinion?

During the June 28, 2012 Commission meeting the Commissioners heard a report titled *Snook Stock Assessment Review and Discussion June 28, 2012*. This 2012 stock assessment for snook was conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI). The FWRI develops the scientific information required to analyze and disseminate research products, and conducts the primary scientific studies for the FWC. The bottom line of this study was:

"Based on the results of the 2012 snook stock assessment, staff recommends maintaining the existing regulations for snook on the Atlantic Coast.

Staff also recommends **maintaining the existing regulations and allowing the Executive Order to expire for the Gulf Coast for the following reasons: the stock is likely well above the biological threshold, the management changes that were implemented in 2007 should promote stock rebuilding and help buffer the stock from future mortality events, and the current slot limit will protect juveniles as well as the largest individuals in the population. Harvest has been prohibited for over two and a half years and**

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

extending the closure for one or two more years may not result in any great increase in stock size, because the juveniles that were most affected by the cold kill are already protected by the slot limit as well as the largest, most reproductively important individuals in the population.

If no management action is taken, the Executive Order will expire on August 31 and the Gulf stock will re-open on September 1, 2012 and return to the regular season structure."

(My emphasis in above FWRI recommendations.)

Not only did these biologists and scientists of the Institute recommend opening the Gulf Coast snook season as their bottom line, earlier in the study they pointed out other interesting facts from their assessment such as: "Angler interviews indicate recreational anglers in Florida release more than 90% of the snook they catch, and since 2005 release more than 95%."

You can read the entire 2012 Snook Assessment at this Web site if you are interested:

<http://myfwc.com/media/2202449/14Snook-Presentation.pdf>.

In trying to shed light on why the Commission made their decision, I reviewed the biographical sketches of the seven Commissioners. I could find no indication of any formal scientific education...by that I

mean any type of degree in biology (marine, wildlife, fishery or otherwise), wildlife management, zoology, etc.

I did discover that all Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission Commissioners were appointed by a Florida Governor. According to the brief biographies on the FWC Web site, they have varied backgrounds in the business world, banking, ranching, plantation management, contracting, banking and law. Their formal education is varied and includes degrees in political science, law, banking, English, and history.

So again, on what did the Commissioners base their decision to keep our snook season closed? Was it a "gut" feeling on their part? Did they receive inputs or were influenced by other outside sources, groups or individuals? Do they fish for Gulf Coast snook every week and have great personal experience? I have no answer to those questions. But it makes me wonder when, after reading the FWRI 2012 Snook Assessment and hearing of the Commissioners decision to keep the season closed, I discover a quote from one Commissioner saying, "***I want to make sure we base our decisions on as much factual information and good science as we can.***"

Finally, I have regularly snook fished SW Florida for the past nineteen years, and there are more snook available now than I have ever seen before. That's only one data point, but read the fishing reports of the pros and other fishing sources, and talk to other snook fishermen...you'll hear mostly the same thing, snook are everywhere.

Additional info on snook from the July 2012 Issue of **FLORIDA SPORTSMAN magazine**

(Under the Southwest Florida section page 89)

BEST BET

SOUTHWEST

Snook, snook and more snook. That's what we're seeing in Charlotte Harbor, thanks in large part the two years* of protection from harvest that these popular fish have enjoyed. Your best bet this month is to take advantage of Southwest Florida's burgeoning snook population by catch-and-release fishing them within a few miles of the beach; either direction.

Snook are patrolling the beaches in good numbers, with fish stacked up around just about every piece of the few bits of structure found along the strand, even the smallest of tree limbs or rocky outcrops. Reefs and rocks, both manmade and natural, up to a handful of miles offshore are also a good bet for summertime snook. Going the other direction, many of the docks along the ICW are holding stacks of snook, as are some of the potholes on flats which flank the ICW in Gasparilla Sound and Lemon Bay.

**currently over two and one-half years*



The hot days of summer are surely here. The Harbor temperature is over 85 degrees and afternoon thunderstorms are keeping our area green while most of the rest of the country is in a serious drought. The

summer conditions may have reduced the number of members that are here to fish, but it hasn't stopped many of our year-round residents from fishing.

During July many of our members fished for sharks, which was our fish of the month, but many also fished for and caught many other species. Ed Verminski caught a beautiful 42 inch cobia, Gary Moerke landed a 33 inch king mackerel, Kel Krotzer boated a 30 inch redfish, Pete McGregor landed a 26 inch spotted seatrout and Marty McCaffrey caught a 33.5 inch red grouper. In addition, our shark fisherman caught a total of 102 sharks during the month of July and one was a 7 foot lemon shark caught by Joe Udvari. Who says July is a slow month for fishing? If you are willing to watch the weather, pick your days and put up with the hot conditions, you sure can catch some fish in July.

Now, on to our July Fish of the Month contest for SHARK. This was the first month we have used the total number of sharks caught as the measure to determine the winner for the month. In addition, members were given a credit of "3" for sharks over 5 feet. We did this because measuring the length of a shark can be fairly subjective and thought the total caught would be less subjective. I don't think Bob Rand or I ever dreamed how many sharks would be caught! We finished up the contest on July 31 with three winners. These three winners caught sharks totaling 92 points between them. Congratulations go out to:

- Joe Udvari, 1st place (\$35 gift certificate), 46 total shark points
- Karen Udvari, 2nd place (\$25 gift certificate), 33 total shark points
- Mike Gilger, 3rd place (\$15 gift certificate), 13 total shark points

Thanks go out to all of the members that submitted pictures of their SHARK catches. If you caught some and didn't submit them, you may have missed out on a great gift certificate. It's easy to submit entries; just e-mail a picture of you with the fish along with your name, date caught, length and type of fish to the club's NEW e-mail address for submissions, fishphotos@pgifishingclub.org or drop off a picture with the same information at the PGICA office.

PLEASE NOTE: This new e-mail address shown above has been created for submission of fish photos and should eliminate the problems with some of the submissions not going through. Please make a note of the new address and discontinue use of the old e-mail address. Thanks go out to Jim Qurollo for setting up the new address for the club!

The August Fish of the Month will be MANGROVE SNAPPER. This is a very popular fish in SW Florida and in my opinion, one of the best eating. These can be caught in the Harbor, the Gulf and in our canals. These fish are measured as total length. They must be at least 10 inches to keep and you can keep five per angler per day. The mangrove snappers that are at the minimum size don't provide much meat so you may want to think about releasing the smaller ones and keeping the ones that are a bit bigger.

Now take advantage of living in one of the best fishing areas in the country and GO FISH!

Don't forget: The new email address for submitting fish photos is:
fishphotos@pgifishingclub.org

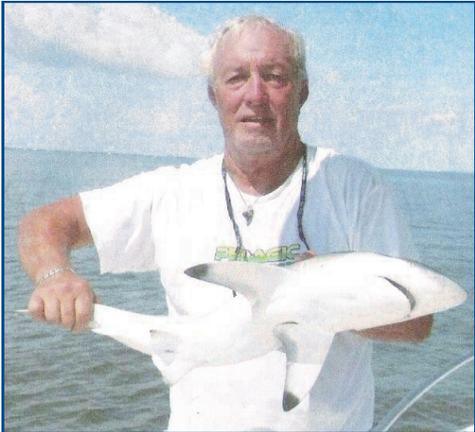
**July, 2012
FISH OF THE MONTH CONTEST
SHARK**



Joe Udvari, 1st Place (\$35 gift certificate) shown with one of the many sharks he caught in July. He totaled 46 points at one point for any shark under 5-feet and three points for sharks over 5-feet. I know he caught some over 5-feet, and any way you look at it, that's a lot of cranking.



Karen Udvari, 2nd Place (\$25 gift certificate) with one of her many sharks which totaled 33 points.



Mike Gilger, 3rd Place (\$15 gift certificate) with a classic 41-inch black tip shark as part of his 13 points. Looks almost "supersonic" doesn't it.

**Fishin' Babe
of the Month
With an August
Fish of the Month**

 A woman in a pink tank top and dark bikini bottoms is smiling and holding a large fish on a boat. She is also holding a fishing rod. The background shows a body of water and trees.

Fish of the Month for remainder of 2012

AUGUST	MANGROVE SNAPPER
SEPTEMBER	TARPON
OCTOBER	REDFISH
NOVEMBER	GROUPE
DECEMBER	BLACK DRUM

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CHUCK LISBY
 TIM LISBY

**We had a total of 102 sharks entered.
 Congratulations to all our winners!**

PROGRAMS

John Simonieg



Our speaker for July was Robert Lugiewicz, the general manager at Fishin' Franks, who spoke about tackle, bait, technique, and spots to catch sharks. He also spoke of taking a cast net back to Phoenix as a kid to show the locals how to catch bait in the desert. As an added bonus, Fishin' Frank came and added his knowledge as well. Robert and Frank have no secret spots and will share their knowledge with anyone. There was also a discussion of the resources at their website, fishin-franks.com.



Robert Lugiewicz is presented with a PGIFC Certificate of Appreciation by Club President Aaron Wagner.

Our speaker for August will be Capt. Mat Haag, a tournament fisherman and Charlotte Harbor Guide. He fishes from the Caloosahatchee to the Myakka and Peace Rivers. Mat lives in North Ft. Myers and has been a captain for 13 years which contradicts his youthful appearance.

(Randy Hall is filling in for John Simonieg through the summer months, writing this article and setting up each month's speaker.)

LADIES WHO FISH

Also Do Lunch

By Gena Davis, Ladies Liaison



The Ladies Who Fish - and Also Do Lunch enjoyed lunch at Thai Cafe on July 12.



From the left: Bonnie Verminski, Cris Scheib, Miriam Taylor, Gena Davis, Sherry Moerke, Marie Ludvig and Shirley Ferguson.

The Fishing Ladies' Night Out was at Hendricks Chill-Out Lounge on June 27.



From the left: Mary Harucki, Donnie Brennan, Bev Rucker and Gena Davis.

All women in the Fishing Club are invited to join us for our **next lunch on Thursday, August 16 at 11:30 AM at Donato's in Port Charlotte**, and our **Ladies' Night Out at Village Fish Market in Fishermen's Village at 6:00 PM on Wednesday August 29**. If you plan to attend either or both, please contact Gena Davis at 941-639-5555 or at tinkffh@aol.com, or sign up at the general meeting on August 14.



seems so overwhelming.

That is my new policy but my motto is: "When the going gets tough, reach for chocolate!"

Okay, enough silliness. Although, that sure makes life easier...

I'm adopting a new policy. When your life's plate seems a little full, just get a bigger plate. This way, nothing on it

Membership is still moving along. We have two new members for July. Please make sure you welcome:

DON & MIRIAM TAYLOR

I'm making this month's article a bit short because I had to buy some bigger plates. Next month when my head is on a bit straighter, I'll do better.

Until then...'WHERE'S THE DAMN CHOCOLATE!!!'

Donnie

Fishing Club Members Asked to Participate in Harbor Happening

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association. As part of the year long celebration a "Harbor Happening" event is to take place November 16-17, 2012. This event has been designed to draw attention to the City's waterfront and help promote Punta Gorda as a "Boating Community."

One of the many events planned calls for getting over 200 vessels to anchor out on November 16 and 17 in the Peace River starting west of the 41 South bridge and extending to just east of Fishermen's Village. Additionally, 42 vessels will be tied up to fill the mooring ball field off Laishley Park.

Boaters from the four boat clubs, along with those from the Isles Yacht Club and the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club (and we are hoping to include the Punta Gorda Boat Club as well as the Punta Gorda Sailing Club) are being asked to position themselves either at anchor or tied to one of the mooring balls on Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November, 17.

On Saturday morning, November 17, members of the Fishing Club and the Kayaking Club will join the other vessels for an aerial photograph of the harbor that will be taken at 11 a.m. The Kayaking Club is going to make a "flower" figure among the various kayaks participating. The overall goal is to have 300+ boats in the harbor when the picture is taken.

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SOCIAL EVENTS

Sherry Moerke



Mark your calendars for Friday October 12th. The fishing club is hosting a back to the 50's/60's sock hop from 7:00 to 10:00 PM for the 50th anniversary of the PGI Civic Association. We have a great DJ lined up with contests and prizes. The evening is free for Association members and \$10 for non-members. Just bring a snack to share and BYOB.

You can sign up at the Civic Association office front desk Monday through Friday business hours.

Have a great time fishing!

Sherry

Your PGI Fishing Club's new Web site:
www.pgifishingclub.org

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RECIPE

Of The Month

Just about anyway you want to fix sheepshead for the table, it is delicious. Hard to beat it with batter or corn meal and fried, but here is a unique way to fix it



you may not have tried. I found the recipe on the Web, tried it and it's like eating crab or lobster. Here's the recipe in the words of the gent who thought it up.

Simple and delicious way to enjoy SHEEPSHEAD

Sheepshead has the texture of crab/lobster and tastes delicious. I wanted to try out something different with sheepshead as so far I had only been frying it. I have been looking for some other recipes and came up with the recipe below which is a combination of multiple suggestions.

Ingredients:

2 Lb sheepshead fillets
1 tbsp salt
1 can Lobster Stock 15oz
1/2 pack Zatarain's extra spicy crab boil dry mix.
1 tbsp Butter
Minced garlic/garlic powder

Preparation:

Sheepshead has a blood line/dark meat on the back of the fillets. Remove as much you can and cut the fillets to bite size pieces. *(Remove the rib cage too.)*

Add whole can of Lobster stock, 1 table spoon salt and half pack of crab boil mix to a sauce pan and bring the mixture to boil. As it starts to boil, add the sheepshead cubes to the pan, turn the stove to simmer, cover with lid and cook for ONLY 5 to 7 minutes. *(Don't overcook!)*

Remove the pan from the stove away from the heat, let the sauce pan stay covered and sit for 10 minutes for the meat to soak a little.

While waiting, melt some butter with minced or powder garlic in microwave.

Open the pan, take the cubes of meat, dip in butter and enjoy your crab or lobster substitute.

PGI FISHING CLUB LADDER OF ANGLING ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

LEVEL	NUMBER OF SPECIES	SIZE LIMITS	POINTS NEEDED	EARNED AWARD
BRONZE	5	NONE	NONE	BRONZE PIN
SILVER	5	LEGAL	300	SILVER PIN
GOLD	7	LEGAL	700	GOLD PIN & CLUB BB CAP
LIFETIME	9	LEGAL	1000	SNOOK PIN
LIFETIME LEVEL II	13	LEGAL	1400	REDFISH PIN
LIFETIME LEVEL III	18	LEGAL	1700	TARPON PIN
GRAND MASTER	23	LEGAL	2000	CLUB SHIRT W/LOGO

THE FOLLOWING FISH AND POINTS EARNED (BASED ON LENGTH OF ENTRY) QUALIFY

SIZE IN INCHES AND POINTS EARNED				
	POINTS -	100	200	300
AMBERJACK		32-39	40-45	46+
BARACUDA		No points		
BLACK DRUM		No points		
BLUEFISH		No points		
BLUE RUNNER		No points		
BONITA		No points		
CATFISH (ALL)		No points		
COBIA		38-39	40-43	44+
CROAKER		No points		
FLOUNDER		No points		
*GROUPE		24-27	28-31	32+
GRUNT		No points		
JACK CREVELLE		No points		
KING MACKEREL		32-35	36-39	40+
LADYFISH		No points		
PERMIT		No points		
POMPANO		No points		
REDFISH		28-29	30-35	36+
STINGRAY		No points		
SEATROUT		21-22	23-24	24+
SHARK (Any species)		40-49	50-59	60+
SHEEPSHEAD		No points		
SNAPPER		No points		
SNOOK		29-33	34-39	40+
SPANISH MACKEREL		21-22	23-24	25+
TARPON (any size)		No points		
TRIPLETAIL		No points		
WHITING		No points		
YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER		No points		

***The Grouper classification is restricted to Black, Gag and Red Grouper.
Goliath Grouper may not be used as a "Species" catch for Grouper.**

LADDER OF ACHIEVEMENT GOALS REACHED

BRONZE/PIN:	Cunningham, Bruce; desEnfants Tom; Drystad, Joanel; Lodge, Karen; Neiberline, Dick; Poe, Jessica; Pricco, Darryl; Stafford, Ron; Tassia, Joe; Will, Roger; Wolfinger, Sheree; Moerke, Sherry; Moerke, Gary; Stringer, Bill; Kline, Mark; Udvari, Karen; Brunner, Barbara; Caputo, Richard; Lachance, Deny; Lamon, Fred; Mayes, Bob; Morehouse, John; Wiscombe, Janice; Land, Paul; Schulman, Alan; Hall, Randy; Lengauer, Tom; Bonham, Bill
SILVER/PIN:	D'Ambrosio, Marie; desEnfants, Kathy; Drystad, Marv; Ferguson, Pete; Gulvezan, Mike; Jordan, Christine; Okray, Larry; Sandling, Mike; Remick, George; McKinnon, Ron; Bensen, Fred; Qurolo, Jim; Storm, Mark; Udvari, Joe; Moerke, Gary; Bonham, Bill
GOLD/with hat:	D'Ambrosio, Mattie; Guenther, Bill; Longo, Joe; Simonieg, John; Wagner, Aaron; Brunner, Ray; McKinnon, Ron; Udvari, Joe
LIFETIME/Snook Pin:	Lodge, Tom; Verminski, Ed; LaRocca, Jim; LaRocca, Marie; Doster, Dick; Leicher, Carl
LIFETIME LEVEL II with Redfish Pin:	McCaffrey, Marty; Rand, Bob; Becker, Missy; McCaffrey, Rose Anne
LIFETIME LEVEL III with Tarpon Pin:	Spies, Jack; Gettinger, John; Solinger, Pam; Hickey, Tom
GRAND MASTER with club shirt:	Brennan, Donnie; Brennan, Rich; Busler, Bob; Hoffman, Jim; Hoffman, Margie; Krotzer, Kel; Landaker, Joanne; Landaker, Steve; Maillet, Joe; McGregor, Pete; Quinn, Mike; Rucker, Bev; Solinger, John; Wolfinger, John; Parsons, Tom

Red = Awards this month

MASTER ANGLER TOURNAMENT 2012 STANDINGS

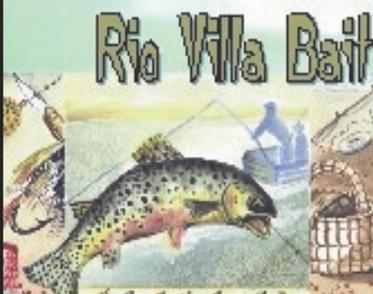
(If you see an error, please contact the Fishing Events Director at (pgifishingclub@pgica.org) or Editor at (jimqinfl@gmail.com))

<u>Grouper</u>	<u>Seatrout</u>	<u>Redfish</u>	<u>Cobia</u>	<u>Snook</u>	<u>Spanish Mackerel</u>	<u>King Mackerel</u>
<u>FIRST PLACE</u> MARTY McCAFFREY 33.5 INCHES	<u>FIRST PLACE</u> AARON WAGNER 29.0 INCHES	<u>FIRST PLACE</u> JOHN SOLINGER & BOB BUSLER 35.0 INCHES	<u>FIRST PLACE</u> ROSE ANNE McCAFFREY 43.5 INCHES	<u>FIRST PLACE</u> JIM QUROLLO 44.5 INCHES	<u>FIRST PLACE</u> CARL LEICHER 30.0 INCHES	<u>FIRST PLACE</u> GARY MOERKE 33.0 INCHES
<u>SECOND PLACE</u> JIM HOFFMAN & RAY BRUNER 32.0 INCHES	<u>SECOND PLACE</u> RICH BRENNAN 28.0 INCHES	<u>SECOND PLACE</u> PAM SOLINGER 33.5 INCHES	<u>SECOND PLACE</u> JOE MAILLET 43.0 INCHES	<u>SECOND PLACE</u> PETE McGREGOR 37.0 INCHES	<u>SECOND PLACE</u> JOHN MACLEMAN 27.0 INCHES	<u>SECOND PLACE</u> JIM HOFFMAN 31.0 INCHES
<u>THIRD PLACE</u> CARL LEICHER & ROSE ANNE McCAFFREY 28.0 INCHES	<u>THIRD PLACE</u> PETE McGREGOR 26.0 INCHES	<u>THIRD PLACE</u> TOM HICKEY 33.0 INCHES	<u>THIRD PLACE</u> ED VERMINSKI 42.0 INCHES	<u>THIRD PLACE</u> JOHN SIMONIEG & JOHN GETTINGER 35.0 INCHES	<u>THIRD PLACE</u> WALT ZINK 22.5 INCHES	<u>THIRD PLACE</u> TOM LODGE 26.0 INCHES

Certificate Award — Three awards will be given for each fish species. The first will be the first place angler with the longest length fish in species. The second award will be for the next longest and third place for the angler with the third longest. Important Note: Only pictures of the caught fish are accepted for entry into the Master Angler or Ladder of Angling Achievement competition.

PGI FISHING CLUB FISHING PROGRAMS ARE EASY TO ENTER

“Entering our fishing programs is simple. Just email a photo of you and your fish along with your name, date caught, fish species, and length to (pgifishingclub@pgica.org), or drop off a photo with this information printed on the back at the PGICA office (they will place it in the Club’s mailbox).”



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JUNE PRIZE WINNERS

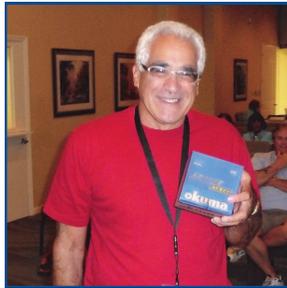


DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

FIRST PLACE	~	Sherry Moerke	7' Redbone Spinning Rod
SECOND PLACE	~	Aaron Wagner	Okuma 30B Spinning Reel
THIRD PLACE	~	Chuck Scheib	Fishing tackle bag



FIRST PLACE—Sherry Moerke



SECOND PLACE—Aaron Wagner



THIRD PLACE—Chuck Scheib



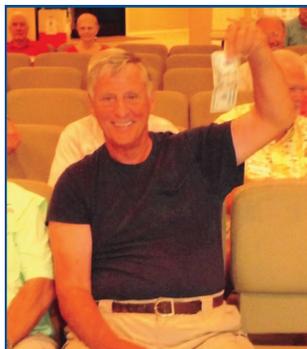
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BUCKS
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50/50 WINNERS

**FIRST
PLACE
WINNER**
KATHY DES ENFANTS \$40

**SECOND
PLACE
WINNER**
DICK DOSTER \$20

**THIRD
PLACE
WINNER**
ED VERMINSKI \$15





ISLES TROPHY 2012



PGI FISHING CLUB'S ANNUAL ISLES TROPHY STANDINGS

MEN'S DIVISION

OVERALL CLUB RECORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH IN INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	2012 MEMBER NAME	2012 LENGTH IN INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF RECORD
	Amberjack	RICH BRENNAN	44	2008				0.00%
	Cobia	BOB BUSLER	54	2007	Joe Maillet	43.0	04/17/12	79.63%
	Grouper	TOM HAMILTON	39	2003	Marty McCaffrey	33.5	07/13/12	85.89%
	King Mackerel	TOM LODGE	50	2009	Gary Moerke	33.0	07/19/12	66.00%
	Redfish	BOB BUSLER	42	2005	John Solinger	35.0	01/25/12	83.33%
					Bob Busler	35.0	06/16/12	83.33%
	Sea trout	RICH BRENNAN	29	2009	Aaron Wagner	29.0	04/03/12	100.00%
	Snook	KEL KROTZER	42	2007	Jim Qurollo	44.5	02/21/12	105.95%
	Spanish Mackerel	GREG CHESNUT	29	2009	Carl Leicher	30.0	04/01/12	103.45%

WOMEN'S DIVISION

OVERALL CLUB RECORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH IN INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	2012 MEMBER NAME	2012 LENGTH IN INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF RECORD
	Amberjack	MARGIE HOFFMAN	33	2010				0.00%
	Cobia	JOANNE LANDAKER	50	2008	Rose Anne McCaffre	43.5	06/12/12	87.00%
	Grouper	MARGIE HOFFMAN	31	2006	Rose Anne McCaffre	28.0	06/12/12	90.32%
		BEV RUCKER	31	2008				0.00%
	King Mackerel	MARGIE HOFFMAN	37	2007				0.00%
	Redfish	DONNIE BRENNAN	38	2008	Pam Solinger	33.5	06/06/12	88.16%
		MISSY BECKER	38	2008				0.00%
	Sea trout	JOANNE LANDAKER	26.5	2011	Missy Becker	24.5	06/03/12	92.45%
	Snook	MISSY BECKER	41	2006	Pam Solinger	25.0	03/30/12	60.98%
	Spanish Mackerel	MISSY BECKER	28	2007	Missy Becker	22.0	04/28/12	78.57%

*PGIFC Male and Female records are based on the nine "measured" points scoring fish in the Ladder of Achievement

ISLES TROPHY RACE LEADERS FOR 2012

MEN

Jim Qurollo

LADY ANGLER

Captain Missy Becker

BEST THINGS ANYBODY EVER SAID

Women are Angels. And when someone breaks our wings, we simply continue to fly...on a broomstick.

We are flexible like that. *(From Gena Davis)*

MEMBER CATCHES



Pete McGregor with his 26-inch "gator" trout...a real beauty (and I don't mean Pete)! Hard to beat for a cover photo.



Jim Hoffman and friends with some great red groupers! Not even enough room to show them all without using a whole page.



Gag grouper season opened on July 1st and here's Ron McKinnon with very nice gag caught this past July!



Gary Moerke with his recent 33-inch king mackerel catch that might have heated up a drag! Looks like we now have three entries in the king mackerel category of the Master Angler Tournament with Gary in first place.



Barbara Bruner with a 24-inch ladyfish. I haven't been able to find ladyfish in the harbor lately, but bet this one was fun!

MEMBER CATCHES



And here's Sherry Moerke with a 20-inch red grouper caught on the same trip as Gary's king mackerel.



Buddy Krauss with a bonnet head shark entry in the Fish of the Month contest. There does seem to be a lot of bonnet heads in the harbor right now.



On the left, Ed Verminski with a 42-inch Cobia caught while shark fishing west of Alligator Creek reef. This one puts him into the Master Angler Tournament standings. He'll need to try the lime grilled cobia recipe from our April 2012 newsletter. I did and it was delicious.



Bill Bonham (fishing with Jim Hoffman) brought up this 28-in red grouper.

MEMBER CATCHES



New club member Don Markowski with a good "eating" stringer of fish...three trout and a red. I believe Rich Brennan took him fishing this day.



Not a local fish, but it's such a great photo of Joe and Karen Udvari's son with one of the many muskies he and Joe caught on a recent fishing trip in the "far north," we had to put it in for all to enjoy!



Looks like Carl Leicher had a bad case of shark harassment on Jim Hoffman's boat while grouper fishing.

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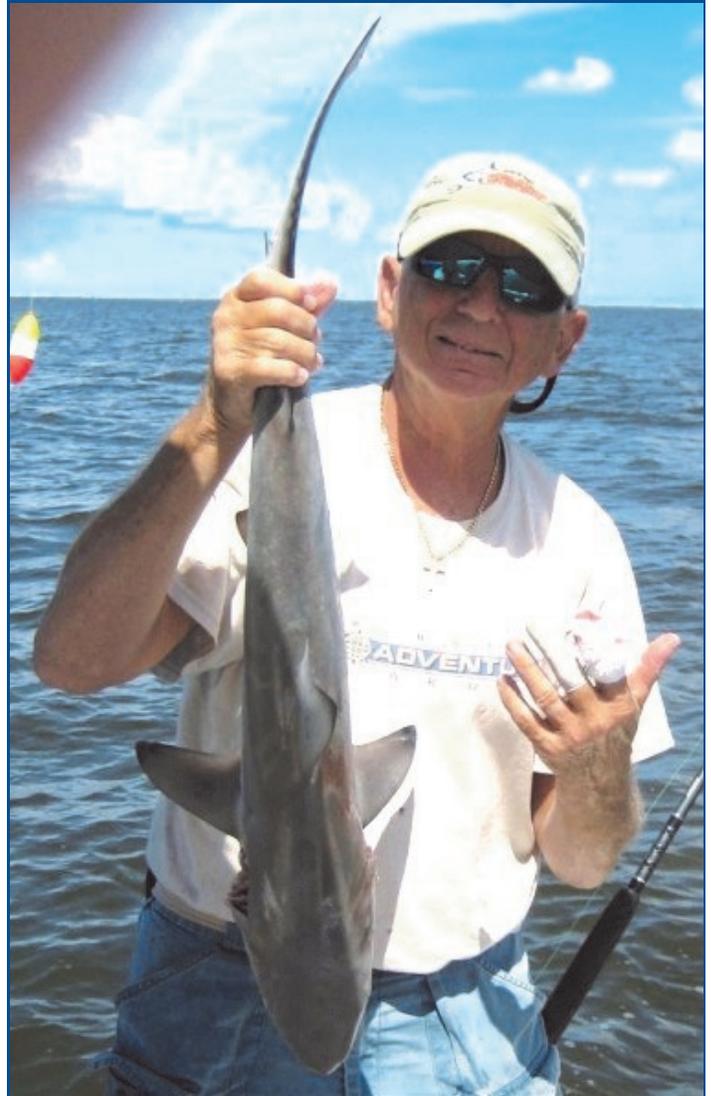
VALVTECT MARINE FUELS
NON-ETHANOL GAS
PUMP OUTS
FUEL DOCK OPEN DAILY

CLEAN MARINA **VALVTECT MARINE FUEL**

MEMBER CATCHES



Ron McKinnon with a hard fighting amberjack...a fish we don't see too often on these pages. Does Ron look worn out after landing this one?

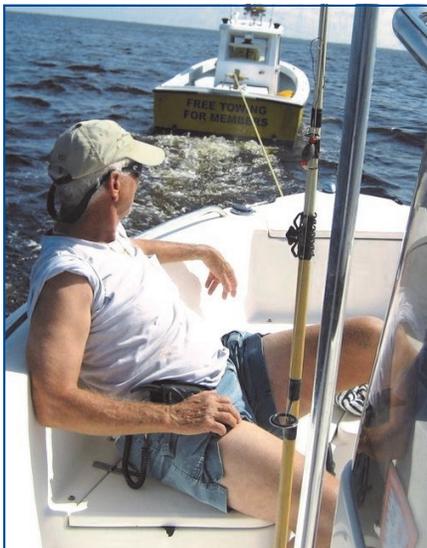


Buddy Krauss with another shark, blacktip this time. I hope that none of the sharks he caught this trip caused the bandaged fingers!



Gary Moerke with another fish we don't often see, an interesting 16-inch trigger fish.

When this photo came in, I thought maybe Buddy Krauss was campaigning to be the "Fishing Hunk of the Month" for August. No such luck...this was just to show the problem Buddy and Ed Verminski had while shark fishing. Our SeaTow sponsor came to the rescue though.



Ed Verminski with another Fish of the Month entry.

MEMBER CATCHES



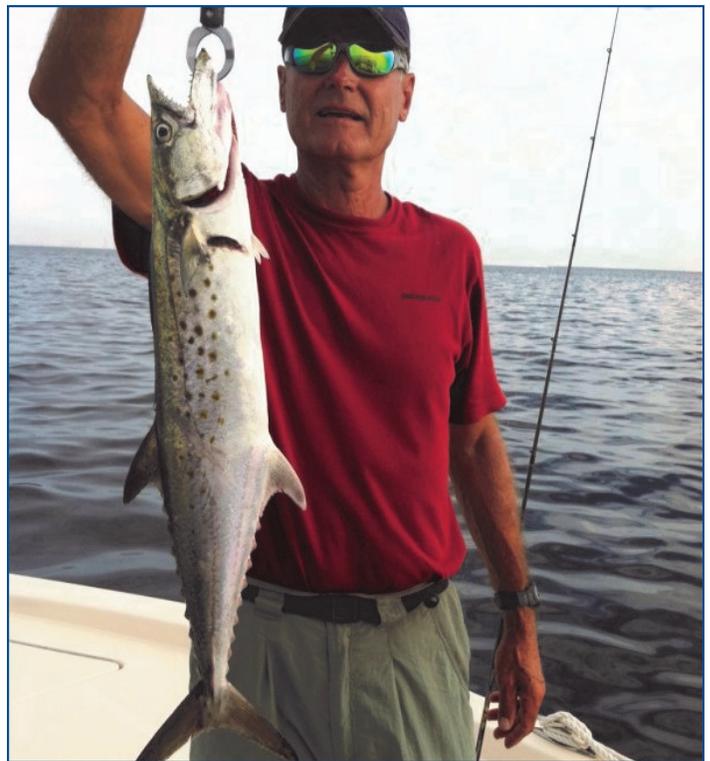
Joe Udvari fighting "the big one" on his way to winning July's Fish of the Month contest. Joe's comment that came along with the photo, "After releasing it, it came back to my boat and bit my hull, leaving several scratches and punctures in my gel coat and fiberglass. Who says they're not vindictive." Don't mess with big lemon sharks!



Shirley Ferguson with a good sail cat caught from her dock on the PGI canals.



Marty McCaffrey with a large 33.5-inch red grouper that put him in the Master Angler Tournament standings. Marty says it weighed 18 lbs. and produced 4 lbs. of delicious grouper fillets.



Joe again. He must like those "toothy" fish. Here's a nice 21-inch Spanish mackerel just to prove he can catch more than sharks...I also think, judging by the number of photos submitted, he and Karen went fishing more this month than any other club members!



Thank You for voting us #1 for 15 years straight!



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Catching Bait by Tom Parsons, Grand Master Angler

Generally speaking, when you can get medium size lively shrimp, it is the best all around bait to use.

But in the spring around April or May, the white bait starts to come into the harbor. White bait is made up of pilchards, scaled sardines, Spanish sardines, and thread-fin herring. They are the bait of choice for Spring, Summer, and Fall because that is what is swimming around the harbor and what the fish are eating (not to say that shrimp won't work). White bait is fairly easy to catch except for the herring which are very fast and do not come to chum as well as the other three, if at all. If they are mixed in with the other three, they usually get caught in the net.

Where do you find this bait? Normally over the flats in 2 or 3 feet of water. In early Spring they move into the harbor from the South. The first place to find them is usually the flats off Jug Creek, or the flats around three Sisters. Then around markers 1 and 2. They will show up at Burnt Store Marina flats and Alligator creek flats. Patrol slowly over the flats looking for schools of fish about 3" in length, or flashes in the water. If it is a calm day, you can see them flickering on the surface. You can use your electric motor to slowly move up to within about 10 feet, and throw your castnet over them. Pull

them into the boat and into your livewell.

If you can't find them on top, troll around the flats looking for flashes, flicks, or a couple of them swimming around. Stop, anchor up current of them, and chum a school up to your boat.

How do you chum? First go to the feed store on Rt. 17 about 2 1/2 miles on the left past the I-75 overpass (*Crossties Farm & Garden*). They sell Tropical fish food in 1 lb. plastic bags, this is a terrific chum that these baits will follow right up to the boat. You mix up a fist full of fish food in a container and add just enough water to make small mud balls that you toss into the water and let the current carry this chum line back to the bait. Throw enough mud balls to attract all surrounding bait. Menhaden oil works better than water by creating more slick. Throw the first ball out as far as you can, if it just blows in the wind, it is too dry and it needs water. Each time you throw out, make your throws shorter and shorter until you bring the bait school into your throwing range. If you do catch some threadfin herring in your net you will find them dying in your livewell, because they are not as hearty as the other white bait.

During this hot weather, the bait will tend to die faster, so freeze a bottle of water and put that sealed bottle in your livewell, it will keep the water cooler, and the fish livelier.

Looking To Buy A Fishing Boat?

(Not All Boats Are Alike!) by Bill Guenther

When I came to Punta Gorda twelve years ago I wanted to buy a fishing boat and I did. For over a year I ran around Charlotte Harbor and the Peach River in, what I thought, was a 20 foot bay boat. When someone who knew more about it than I told me that my boat was a center console not a bay boat I was surprised!

When looking to buy a boat, keep in mind there is no single boat that will be suited to all the kinds of fishing that is available in Charlotte Harbor and the off shore reefs. So what is recommended is that before you spend a ton of bucks for a fishing boat think about the kind of fishing you are interested in.

If you are going to want to fish inside the bars and the mangroves for redfish and snook, you're probably going

to want at a flats boat. If the flats boat is equipped with a trolling motor and a jack plate (a mounting device for an outboard motor that enables operators to vertical raise or lower the motor) so much the better, but you do not need a jack plate to fish the flats, it just comes in handy on occasions.

A center console is another consideration. My boat for instance allows me to fish most areas of Charlotte Harbor and also allows me to run out to some of the close in -shore reefs, such as Trembly Reef, a artificial reef about 6 miles off stump pass and a quick 20 minute run back into Gasparilla Pass if bad weather closes in.

My center console will not let me get in too close to the mangrove shorelines on the inside of the bars due to its draft being not as shallow as a flats boat. But I can get into about 19 inches of water with the motor tilted up,

(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

and if I need to get closer to the Mangroves I'll get out and walk!

There is not much difference in a bay boat and a center console vessel. In my opinion, bay boats are meant for inland/near shore waterways and usually have a shallower Vee in at the stern (less deadrise- around 15 degrees). Regular center consoles usually have a deeper Vee (more deadrise- 18 to 20+ degrees) for a better ride

in bigger water, and higher gunwales with more flare at the bow. I always thought of bay boats to be the salt water equivalent to a bass boat.

So that's a quick look at some of the things to consider when going out to buy a boat you intend to use, for the most part, in fishing Charlotte Harbor and the near shore reefs.

Stay safe and let's go fishing!

MEMBERS Fishing Together and Sharing Expenses

(Club members willing to take other members fishing on their boat)

IN-SHORE:

Bruce Cunningham 941.639.4401 21' CC	John Gettinger 941.505.8186 22' CC	Mike Gilger 610.996.5375 22.5' CC	Hans Gross 973.222.2211 22' CC	Bob Lunsden 706.817.0703 19' CC Bay Boat	Jim Quorollo 941.347.8467 22' CC Bay Boat
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OFF-SHORE:

Hans Gross 973.222.2211 22' CC	Jim Hoffman 941.575.7867 33' Rampage Twin Diesels—Stand-up Head
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PGI NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

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If you are interested in volunteering a couple hours each month to this worthwhile program, contact: **Bill Guenther** — Neighborhood Marine Watch program coordinator — Home Phone: 941.505.5099 Cell Phone: 941.661.9702, or email at: radioman3029@comcast.net

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