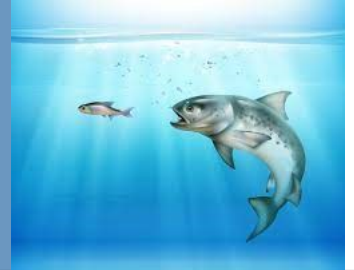


FROM THE HELM

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2023



Greeting from the President,

I want to thank everyone for making this club one of the best in PGI! We have such a wealth of fishing knowledge around the area it boggles the mind!

The CCA has a dinner coming up on May 30th. It has dinner, an open bar and all proceeds go to charity. Its at the convention center in downtown PGI. The tickets will be sold at the next regular meeting which starts a 6pm by Bob Mayes.

Now PGI members will now be able to connect to our Face Book page

As of Feb 22 fishing for reef fish, the boat will have to have a venting tool or a descending device.

As of March 1 in state and Federal waters Grey Trigger fishing is open, however the angler must have a State Reef Angler permit. An annual angler renewal is required.

Seems the Red Tide concentrations are up and down, and you can get the latest info on FWC.com

All in all it seems the fishing has been good. I have even caught Snook and Drum in my canal. We also missed a decent Cobia on the sand bar out of Pirate harbor due to the drag being cranked down too tight..We should always check our drag on the first cast of the day.

In closing I want to thank all our members for your support of the club and its activities.

Good Fishing!

Ron



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CLUB LEADERSHIP

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



Officers:

President	-	Randy Douet
Vice President	-	Cathy Hunt
Treasurer	-	Pat Diver
Secretary	-	Nancy Pearson
Newsletter Editor	-	Pending Candidate

Committee Members:

Social Director	-	Christine White
Advertising	-	Chip Peterson
Membership	-	Bill Muir
Social Events	-	Christine White
Fishing Events	-	Chuck Pearson
Record Keeper	-	Paul Whiting
Sunshine Lady	-	Paula Arnold
Web Master	-	Richard Embury
Club Photographer	-	Rich Brennan
CCA/CMAC	-	Bob Mayes
Greeters – Lead	-	Bob Mueller

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



President: Ronald Deroche Location/Time: PGICA auditorium, 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: 52, New Members: 2 Notes By Nancy Pearson, Secretary

1. Treasurers report: \$12,527.50 in the bank
2. Social Update: working on finding places for monthly, large-group dinners; March 21 is Solomon's Castle, Hemingway's on the 8th, and a Caya Costa boat trip coming in the near future
3. Name that Fish Winner: Jim Crawley – Black Sea Bass
4. 50/50 Winners: 1st Ed Girzi 2nd Britt Saitta 3rd Al Wade
5. Fish of the Month (FOM). January's fish was Sheepshead
 - Women: 1st: Gretchen Sunderland, 18", 2nd: Jan Holm, Cathy Hunt, Donna Sullivan, 13.5", 3rd: Diana McKenna, 12.5"
 - Men: 1st: Allen Wade, 21", 2nd Jack Holwarth, 17.5", 3rd Rick Brown, 17"
6. Ladder of Achievement (LOA):
 - Club Hat – Jen Pollinger, Tom Schmitt
 - Gold Pin – Sonia Nelson
 - Silver Pin – Ron Kruse
7. Guest Speaker: Jim McCarty and his lovely assistant Deb: "Boating Safety and First Aid Demonstration"
 - Automated External Defibrillator (AED). A mock AED was demonstrated. AED's available for sale through Jim
 - Tourniquet demonstration; recommends everybody have at least one on their boat. They're available for sale with Jim or on Amazon

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



Meeting Notes (continued)

- Jim shared a “In Reach” texting device which allows you to text from anywhere in the world; a must have when going off shore!
 - Jim displayed a First-Aid kit and has offered to hold a kit-making seminar for those interested in doing so. More information to follow.
8. CCA Banquet. The Coastal Conservation Association will be holding their annual banquet on March 30; tickets for club members are \$125 per couple which also gives household a 1-year membership to CCA; tickets available at next general meeting or feel free to contact Robert Mayes at 317-439-3401 or at rmayes@lquest.net
9. New Member Outreach. Limited to one person. Harbor only
10. Door Prizes: 1st Joanne Widney 2nd Patti Kunard 3rd Angie Peterson
11. Reports and testimonials
- A lot of the grasses are gone except near south end of Pine Island
 - There are a lot of trout near Caya Costa; pompano at outer beaches
 - Sheepshead, snook, and a few gags on Alligator Reef
 - Cobia are beginning to move into the canals

RAFFLES

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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50—50 DRAWING WINNERS



AL WADE



BRITT SAITA



ED GIRZI

FEBRUARY RESULTS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



REPORTED CATCHES as of 02/28/2023 and FISH OF THE MONTH (FOM) RESULTS

54 total fish turned in (6100 points) by 22 different anglers

FOM (Grouper):

Women

- 1st – Cathy Hunt - 24.5"
- 2nd – Nancy Pearson - 24.0"
- 3rd – Donna Sullivan - 22.0"

Men

- 1st – Bob Gariepy – 29.0"
- 1st - Joe Udvari - 29.0"
- 2nd - Jeff Barnhart - 26.0"
- 2nd - Dave Dyke - 26.0"
- 3rd - Rick Brown - 25.0"

Interesting Tidbits

With several days of cooperating weather for both offshore and inshore ventures, our points fish totals increased significantly this month due to the reported catches of our FOM, grouper (19 reports worth 1200 of the 6100 points), and sheepshead (10 reports worth another 2300 points) accumulated. Mike White, once again, has mastered the art of catching those enormous striped bandits with a whopping 24.5" and two other 24.0" sheepshead reported. These catches helped propel him to his 5th GMA star becoming the first angler to earn a star (2000 points) this year. New member, Wanda Zimka, on her first ever fishing trip, caught four fish at one time earning her the Club Hat and inspiring her to many more fishing adventures.

Club Hat

Wanda Zimka

Silver Pin

Don Cummins

Snook Pin

NONE

Redfish Pin

NONE

GMA Star

Mike White (#5)

Bronze Pin

NONE

Gold Pin

NONE

Tarpon Pin

NONE

GMA

NONE

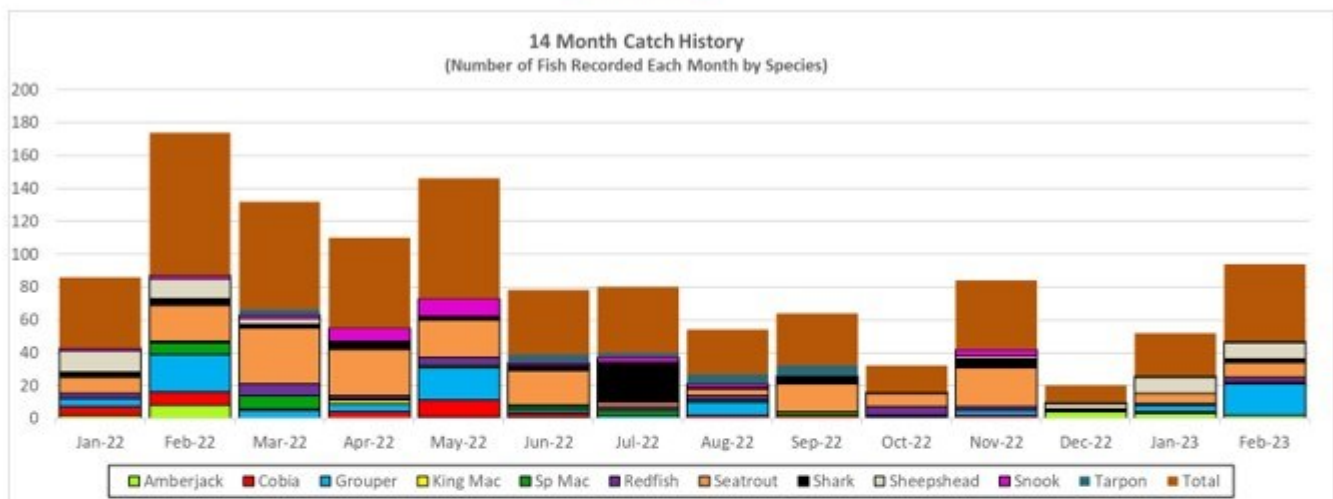
ACHIEVEMENTS

WHAT'S BITE'N

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



What's Bite'n Chart



Recorder's Data

Monthly Performance

	December	January	February	
Anglers	12	24	22	↓
LOA Awards	3	4	3	↓
Fish Recorded	19	32	54	↑
Points Recorded	1200	2,400	6,100	↑

TROPHY RACE

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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ISLES TROPHY RACE 2023 STANDINGS (FEBRUARY)

MEN'S DIVISION

OVERALL CLUB RECORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	MEMBER NAME+G6:46B3	2023 LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF RECORD
X	Amberjack	Joe Udvari	53.5	2019	Jeff Barnhart	40.0	2/28/2023	74.8%
X	Black Drum	Mike White	51.5	2019	Mike White	33.0	1/29/2023	64.1%
X	Cobia	Rich Kale	66.0	2022				0.0%
X	Grouper	Tom Hamilton	39.0	2003	Bob Garlepy Joe Udvari	29.0	2/21/2023 2/20/2023	74.4%
X	King Mackerel	John MacLeman	52.0	2012				0.0%
X	Redfish	Mike White	47.0	2020	Allen Wade	30.0	2/22/2023	63.8%
X	Seatrout	Rich Brennan Aaron Wagner	29.0 29.0	2009 2012	Mike White	26.0	2/2/2023	89.7%
X	Sheepshead	Mike White	26.0	2022	Mike White	24.5	2/2/2023	94.2%
X	Snook	Vinnie Madsen Tim Gibbons	45.0	2014 2021	Tom Schmitt	37.0	1/12/2023	82.2%
X	Spanish Mackerel	Carl Leicher	30.0	2012				0.0%

WOMEN'S DIVISION

OVERALL CLUB	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD	DATE CAUGHT	MEMBER NAME	2023 LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF RECORD
	Amberjack	Darlene Madsen	40.0	2017	Joanne Widney	27.0	1/10/2023	67.5%
	Black Drum	Christine Fontaine White	52.0	2022	Christine Fontaine Jan Holm	32.0	1/29/2023 1/20/2023	61.5%
	Cobia	Joanne Landaker Marilyn McGregor	50.0 50.0	2008 2013	Sonia Nelson	48.0	1/10/2023	96.0%
	Grouper	Dianne Bukowski	37.0	2018	Cathy Hunt	24.5	2/21/2023	66.2%
	King Mackerel	Nancy Pearson	40.0	2022				0.0%
	Redfish	Donnie Brennan Missy Becker	38.0 38.0	2008 2008				0.0%
	Seatrout	Joanne Landaker	26.5	2011	Christine Fontaine	20.0	1/3/2023	75.5%
	Sheepshead	Dianne Bukowski	22.5	2021	Donna Sullivan	20.0	2/17/2023	88.9%
	Snook	Missy Becker	42.0	2013				0.0%
	Spanish Mackerel	Missy Becker Lynn Reeves	28.0 28.0	2007 2019	Gretchen Sunderland	18.0	2/25/2023	64.3%

This Year's LEADERS are in BLUE
** Denotes New Club Record
New Entries This Month are in RED

FEBRUARY RESULTS

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	LIFETIME LEVEL I SNOOK	LIFETIME LEVEL II REDFISH	LIFETIME LEVEL III TARPON	GRAND MASTER ANGLER	
						GMA	TOTAL STARS
Sherry Barnett	Jeff Bellairs	Gary Adams	Paula Arnold	Doug Arnold	Frank Barnett	Jeff Barnett	★★
Trudi Butler	Joanna Boedil	Ken Gordan	Mary Helms	Mike Dougherty	Rick Brown	Ron Bator	
Tori Brown	Marc Boedil	Dale Hill	Chuck Henry	Doug Du Resne	Dick Conant	Fred Benson	
Bob Crisfield	Jack Botbyl	Bill Hass	Tom Hunt	Theresa Fitzgerald	Dave Dyke	Larry Benz	*
Colleen DeMella	Todd Brooks	Larry Kissner	Michael Kripe	Jenny Goodell	Mary Dystad	Rich Brennan	*****
Tom des Entants	Anne Carreau	Karen Lodge	Jim LaRocca	Bill Guenther	Ed Gizi	Donnie Brennan	*
Sharon Dyke	Carl Cucco	Sonia Nelson	Marie LaRocca	Ken Hardesty	Bob Mays	Bob Bretts	*****
Mike Endres	Don Cummins	Cheryl Panetta	Tom Lodge	Jack Howarth	Dana McKenna	Elaine Bretts	*****
Richard Farmer	Yvette Du Fresno	Gary Selzer	Sherry Moerke	Julie Kale	Bill Muir	Dianne Bukowski	*
Steve Fritz	Kathy des Entants	Steve Trego	William Neff	Jonathan Landon	Lynn Reeves	Joe Bukowski	★★
Chris Gibbons	Tony Desliefano	Sheree Wolfinger	Nancy Pearson	Mark Lee	Jack Spies	Jim Crowley	*
Frank Grazer	Tamara Dillman		Chip Peterson	Marty McCarthy	Mark Storm	Fred DeMella	★★★
Renee Gibbons	Joanell Dystad		John Simonag	Rose Anne McCarthy	Gretchen Sunderland	Mark Dillman	
Bob Giffin	Richard Embury		Ed Verminski	Dennis McKenna	Karen Udvari	Dick Doster	
Sheryl Halch	Gary Frost		Paul Whiting	Gary Moerke	Alan Wade	Randy Doust	****
David Halch	Tim Gibbons		Tad Wierzbowski	John Salts	Rich Willingmyre	John Fitzgerald	
Tom Hay	Art Goodell		Joseph Zurad			Christine Fortaine	*
Jack Jonalls	Randy Hall					Bob Garlepy	★★
Dennis Jones	Roz Hickey					John Gettlinger	★★★
Frank Krausman	Jack Hinnenthal					Mike Giger	*
Buddy Krauss	Larry Hofmeister					Tom Hickey	*
Richard Larson	Dave Joe					Jim Hoffman	*
Bob Mueller	Lisa Kellyhome					Margie Hoffman	
Patricia Nalpi	Mike Kripe					Jan Hdm	
Chuck Pearson	Ron Kruse					Cathy Hunt	★★★
Chris Pfauum	Donys LaChance					Bud Johnston	
Chris Pollinger	Kevin LaPointe					Cindi Johnston	
Mark Schuer	John McFarland					Rich Kale	*****
Alan Schulman	Mike Nalpi					Dennis Krausman	*****
Jess Searte	Wayn Nelson					Kel Kruger	★★★
Miriam Taylor	Randy Page					Carl Leidner	
Patti Topper	Kim Pfauum					Joe Millet	
Mike Trost	Paul Robinson					Pete McGregor	★★
Rolie Trost	Hazle Samons					Jude Panetta	****
Grag Woney	Mike Sandling					Tom Parsons	★★
Joanne Widney	Dab Sarkisian					Gary Reeves	
	Gary Skilloom					Rick Sarkisian	*****
	Lynne Stockinger					John Stockinger	*
	Don Taylor					Donna Sullivan	*
	Mike Trost					Ron Topper	*****
	Mike Wagner					Joe Udvari	*****
	Stella Wagner					Aaron Wagner	
	Sandy Wierzbowski					Mike White	*****
	Tom Youngblood					Jeff Wilson	*
	Lenny Zimka					John Wolfinger	

RED = Awards This Month

Club Hats

Wanda Zimka

(BOLD star = earned this year)

PGI FISHING CLUB LADDER OF ANGLING ACHIEVEMENT

LEVEL	NUMBER OF SPECIES	SIZE LIMITS	POINTS NEEDED	AWARD
Initial Entry	1	None	None	Club Hat
Bronze	5	None	None	Pin
Silver	5	Eligible Size	300	Pin
Gold	7	Eligible Size	700	Pin
LifeTime Level I	9	Eligible Size	1000	Snook Pin
LifeTime Level II	13	Eligible Size	1400	Redfish Pin
LifeTime Level III	18	Eligible Size	1700	Tarpon Pin
Grand Master	23	Eligible Size	2000	Club Shirt
Grand Master Star	-	-	2000	Star

For complete Ladder of Angling Achievement Program rules, detailed information on eligible angler achievement species, and point earned based on length, please see the PGI Fishing Club Website (www.pgifishingclub.org) Ladder of angling achievement page.

FEBRUARY RESULTS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



2009	Rich Brennan, Christine Jordan	2016	Gary Reeves, Rose Ann McCaffrey
2010	Kel Krotzer, Margie Hofman	2017	Rich Kle, Darlene Madsen
2011	Greg Chestnut, Joanne Landacre	2018	Joe Udvari, Dianne Bukowski
2012	Jim Quorollo, Rose Ann McCaffrey	2019	Joe Udvari, Lynn Reeves
2013	Steve Landacre, Missy Becker	2020	Mike White, Dianne Bukowski
2014	Vinnie Madsen, Margie Hofman	2021	Rich Kale / Tim Gibbons, Dianne Bukowski
2015	Bob Mays, Karen Lodge	2022	Rich Kale, Christine White

	AMBERJACK	BLACK DRUM	COBIA	GROUPE	KING MACKEREL	REDFISH	SEATRUT	SHEEPSHEAD	SNOOK	SPANISH MACKEREL
1st Place	Jeff Barnhart 40.0	Mike White 33.0	Sonia Nelson 48.0	Bob Gariopy 29.0 Joe Udvari 29.0		Allen Wade 30.0	Mike White 26.0	Mike White 24.5	Tom Schmitt 37.0	Gretchen Sunderland 18.0
2nd Place	Chip Peterson 29.0	Christine Fontaine 32.0 Jan Holm 32.0		Fred De Mella 27.0		John FitzGerald 27.0	Ron Kruse 25.0	Allen Wade 21.0	Chris Pollinger 29.0	
3rd Place	Joanne Widney 27.0			Jeff Barnhart 26.0 Dave Dyke 26.0			Christine Fontaine 20.0 Jonathan Landon 20.0 Bruce Peterson 20.0	Mark Dillman 20.0 Dennis McKenna 20.0 Donna Sullivan 20.0		

SOCIAL EVENTS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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Greetings all! Hope this finds you all doing well, having patience with the busier streets and busier restaurants and bars as season and spring break times are certainly at it's peak! Even the water ways have gotten much busier, particularly on the weekends. Be careful out there!

For this month, we will continue to move **our general meeting to start at 6pm**, with Happy Hour from 7-8pm. Beer, wine, soda and snacks will be served. Please join us for an informative meeting and come share some fishing stories over cocktails. Cathy has sent out a survey to all club members to give feedback on options on meeting time and happy hour as well. Please respond if you feel strongly about the meeting time.

As you know, we have moved our **Happy Hour to the Elks club every Wednesday at 5pm**- We have had some great turnouts and it is great to see old friends and meet new ones. You do not have to be a member to attend, and Elk members will wear their Elks nametags as well so they can help aid in getting drinks. They do have food there (order by 6:30) and many members stay for some great music and dancing. We hope to see many of you there in the future.

Bunco continues to be a tremendous success for the ladies. **Sign up is now available for Tuesday, March 28th at 6pm**. Right now, maximum is 16 but Sandy is willing to open it up to 20 if there is a lot of interest. Always a fun time, lots of laughs, and no experience needed. You must sign up to attend. **Looking for hosts for the next few months**- so please let me know if you are interested- you choose the date and number of attendees!

SOCIAL EVENTS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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A few of the Fishing Ladies went on the Happy Thrifter Bus Tour on February 9th. Great finds and great laughs! We will look to do it again in the future.

We are planning a trip to ***Solomons Castle on Tuesday, March 21st*** - what a fun place if you have never tried it! We need 20 to do a group tour, and you are free to stay for lunch afterwards. Please sign up and feel free to bring neighbors, friends and family as well! Please sign up on the PGICA website. It is 45 minute guided humorous tour through Howard Solomon's Castle, his home and galleries. Also the tour includes Howard's Encore which is an informative, 30 minute tour showcasing 80 plus more pieces from the last 10 years of Howard's life's work. He created Trains, Planes, Zeppelin, Hot Air Balloon, Montages, Helicopter...transportation related artwork to complement his collection of 13 pre-1935 automobiles. Hidden in the lush Florida woodlands is one man's dream of paradise. A visit to Solomon's Castle may be the most unique experience of your life. The home, galleries and workshop of internationally renowned artist is and was Howard Solomon, sculptor, painter, author, builder of dreams is where he shares his unique view of the world. After the tour join us for lunch (paid by each individual not included in the tour) in the three masted monster of Solomon's creation of the finest restaurant in Ona, Fl. Unique for its design and location. The Boat-in-the Moat restaurant features homemade meals, their menu is popular with the locals as with the daily tourists.

SOCIAL EVENTS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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There has been interest in starting Ladies Lunches again this year, once a month. If you and some friends are interested in serving as a subcommittee for that, please let me know- a nice way to get to know some new members in a smaller setting.

Looking for a subcommittee to plan a boat trip during the week to Cayo Costa or another location if you have interest in helping coordinate it would be greatly appreciated.

I will be out of town for both the March and April meetings so if you are able to assist with set up and clean up for the Social Hour, it would be greatly appreciated - please send me a message if you are able. Lots of hands will make it easy work. We have had some great turnouts!

We have some promising ideas already in the works for 2023 but we can always use more involvement as well. We are committed to ensuring we meet the needs of our members so please supply feedback on what events you would like to try. Please reach out to me with your invaluable input.

My email is chf0729@aol.com and my phone is 443-534-7890. If you would like to get involved and help with the social committee, the more the merrier.

SUNSHINE LADY

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ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



We care! If you become aware of someone in the club that needs a card for any reason, please let me know. I can also provide a meal for or visit someone who is in need. Please call or email me

Paula Arnold

724-504-5347

1207swanct@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



Welcome new and existing members to the 2023 Fishing Club. The number of members this year is 272, down 27% from last year's total of 375. However, we have 23 new members so far this year. Please welcome them to the Fishing club.

Andy & Vicki Athens
Mark & Laura Benckendorf
Will & Maggie Campbell
Jack & Claudi Chopp
Ruth Dean
Gary and Lou Ann Ford

Christine and Paul Harvell
Raymond & Jane Mason
Philip & Laurie McFredries
Scott & Barb Perry
Doug & JoAnna Salminen
Steve & Donn Stanvick

Name Tags: Unfortunately, our previous vendor for name tags is no longer available. BUT fortunately, we now have a new vendor. The prices and availability are yet to be determined. I will keep you informed. Name tags are not required, but are very helpful for our new members to get to know one another, especially at our weekly socials.

Thanks,
Bill Muir
PGI Fishing Club Membership Director

FISHING REPORT

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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The red-tide is disappointing; hopefully it's gone by the time this report is published. We were fishing at the phosphate docks late February on an incoming tide and you could see the fresh fish kill as well as red-tide. The red-tide went about 1 mile into the harbor and traveling with the incoming tide. Hopefully the winds will blow it off-shore soon. Remember to turn off the intake on the livewell and turn on recirculation when running through red-tide with live bait and/or fish in your livewell.

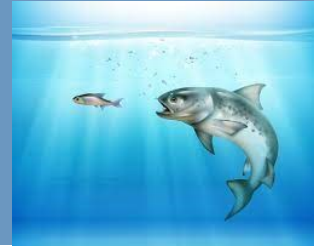
Off-shore: In February many club members were able to get out targeting red grouper and snapper with great success. Most were able to dodge the red-tide on the way out, but some ran through it, killing the live bait. Luckily getting bait was fairly quick for all boats. Most anglers reported getting bait at 37' – 50'. The Bayronto continues to hold nice size AJ's and some large pelagic fish.

I am following through with my New Year's resolution to try become a better angler by fishing different areas, using different terminal tackle, and new techniques. I am having mixed results. However, on our off-shore trip I tried "slow pitched jigging" for the first time. This technique was explained to me by club angler Dr. Jim McCarty. I was immediately intrigued. I have tried vertical jigging in the past and realized it wasn't for me when Mike White showed me the proper way to work the jig. It was too much work. Slow pitch jigging is different and seemed right up my alley as it is more interactive than bottom fishing with live bait. I put the new technique to the test with great success after buying a new rod, reel, and a variety of slow pitched jigs. I caught 2 – 3 times as many fish compared to those using live bait. The species of fish varied; red grouper, flounder, mutton snapper, and a small AJ (or almaco jack). I'm sold on the new technique and ready to try it again.

No reports from the near shore reefs; likely due to red-tide.

FISHING REPORT

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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In-shore: Per Fishin Franks radio show, Turtle and Bull Bay are producing the most consistent catches of redfish, snook, seatrout, and sheepshead. However, if the red-tide moves further in, those fish will move out and/or deep into those bays. The lower West Wall is still holding snook, redfish, and small bonnethead sharks. Most the fish are being caught on soft plastics, and sheepshead and bonnetheads are taking shrimp.

Areas near Pirate Harbor are still holding seatrout, snook, and some redfish.

Big snook are in the canals! I mean big! They are feeding on live mullet. Try snagging medium size mullet with a weighed treble hook or heavy spoon. Folks are having success using “tarpon” size rods with 80lb leader. Weight the mullet on the bottom near the drop off by docks and wait. Be ready, the snook are heading for the docks after taking the mullet.

No reports on catching Spanish Mackerel; we trolled Cape Haze and the Bokeelia shoal late February with no success. They should be around, but we couldn't find them.

The best source to get real time fishing reports is by attending the 5:00 happy hour at the Elks. Folks will share what has worked and most are humble enough to admit what isn't catching fish.

Cathy Hunt - VP

FISH of the MONTH

JANUARY: SHEEPSHEAD



FEBRUARY: GROUPER



MARCH: SPANISH MACKEREL

APRIL: SNOOK



MAY: COBIA

JUNE: JACK CREVALLE



JULY: SHARK

AUGUST: TARPON



SEPTEMBER: SEATROUT

OCTOBER: REDFISH



NOVEMBER: MANGROVE SNAPPER

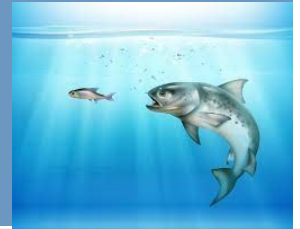
DECEMBER: BLACK DRUM

Fine Print: See "Fish of the Month Contest Rules" here: <http://pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Fish-of-the-Month-Contest-Rules-Rev-7-021220.pdf>

Fish of the Month For March

Location, Description, Tips, Tackle and Bait

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



March Fish of the Month - Spanish Mackerel



Identification: Greenish back with silver sides and belly; yellow/olive green spots on the sides; fork tail. They have very sharp triangular teeth.

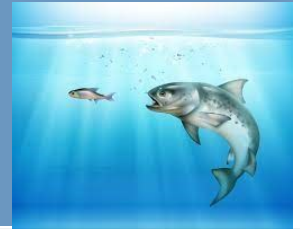
Location: Spanish Mackerel move into our area around March as the water temperatures warm. They can be found nearshore, on the beaches, and in the harbor. When targeting them keep an eye out for bait being chased or birds diving. In the harbor they can be found in many locations; Cape Haze, Cape Haze reef, Danger reef, the shoals, and the West Wall. They move into the river as water temperature rises and salinity changes; skating rink, Ponce, Grassy Point.

Technique: Spanish Mackerel are fast aggressive feeders, found in schools, and respond well to trolling. When offshore use of a diving planer or a heavy spoon at a trolling speed between 4.5 – 7 mph. Watch for twisting of the line when trolling at higher speeds; sometimes barrel swivels help, sometimes they don't. Inshore troll a bit slower ~4.3 – 5.5 mph in 4' – 6' of water.

Fish of the Month For March

Location, Description, Tips, Tackle and Bait

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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Always vary the trolling speed; especially if you think you are on the fish and not getting any bites. Casting at a school with a fast retrieve can also achieve good results once the school is located. They have also been caught in the deep holes.

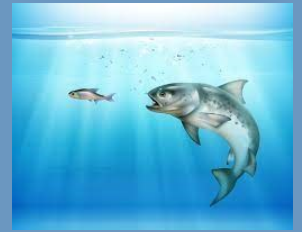
Gear: Light spinning gear is ideal; something you would use for snapper or sheepshead. A heavier leader or metal leader is helpful based on their sharp teeth. Often times a metal leader will result in fewer bites, keep many lures in your tackle box. Use various spoons (gold, silver, and multi colored), Got Cha plugs, or any trolling lure. Soft plastics also work, but likely won't hold up well due to their sharp teeth. Use of inexpensive lures is a common practice.

Spanish Mackerel are measured to the fork; make note in any fish submittals the measurement is to the fork and check FWC regulations for harvesting.

Cathy Hunt - VP



FISHING EVENTS



PGI Fishing Club

2023 Fishing Tournaments

1. **GREAT CATCH Tournament** (March 20 – 22, 2023) 6 species: Sheepshead, Mangrove Snapper, Lane Snapper, Spotted Seatrout, Spanish Mackerel (fork length), & Amberjack.
2. **THREE SPECIES Tournament** (June 16 -19, 2023) Catch at least 2 of 3 required species. Mangrove Snapper, Jack Crevalle, Spotted Seatrout
3. **FIVE FISH Tournament** (October 12 – 16, 2023) Winners for longest fish in each species for Women, Men, New Members. Five species: Redfish, Mangrove Snapper, Snook, Permit, Yellowtail Snapper.
4. **HOLIDAY Tournament- 3 FOR 30** (November 25 – 29, 2023) Catch three different species for total of at least 30". Six species: Mangrove Snapper, Spotted Seatrout, Redfish, Jack Crevalle, Shark, Grouper.

Tournament Particulars:

- All events award three categories- Women, Men, New Members (joined since 1/1/21)
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for each category (\$35, \$25, \$15 gift certs)
- Registration closes at 11:59 the night before the tournament.
- All fish pics must be submitted by 4:00PM the last day of tournament.
- Weigh-In: not a true weigh-in, do not bring dead fish. You in your fish photo is proof of your catch.
- Max of one award per member per event.
- PGIFC members only, no charter caught entries please, fish caught within 50 miles of PGI. Event dates subject to conditions.
- Fish of the Month entries count as tournament entries.

Questions, Concerns, Comments – Contact Events Director, Chuck at chuckpearson431@gmail.com

FISHING EVENTS



PGI Fishing Club

GREAT CATCH TOURNAMENT

6 species:

Sheepshead, Mangrove Snapper, Lane Snapper, Spotted Seatrout, Spanish Mackerel (fork length), & Amberjack

Turtle & Bull Bays were recently producing fish. The west wall and Pirate Harbor were holding a variety of species, check out reefs, and your go-to spots off-shore. (Paraphrased from Cathy Hunt's club newsletter fishing report) GO FISH!!!

Tournament Dates: March 20-22

Winners: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for *each* category (\$35, \$25, \$15 gift certs). Lots of awards offered!

Registration: Register now. Send entry email to chuckpearson431@gmail.com

Pictures Due: 4pm, March 22 at fishphotos@pgifishingclub.org. Photo submissions must include name, date caught, length of fish, with a pic of you and your entire fish.

Weigh-In Celebration: 6pm sharp at **The Elks** during Wednesday eve happy hour. Door Prize drawing for those present. If not present, awards will be handed out at next monthly meeting.

Tournament Particulars:

- Event awards three categories- Women, Men, New Members (joined since 9/15/21). Please indicate *new member* when you enter.
 - All fish photos must include you, date caught, fish length, and submitted by 4PM the last day of tournament. Submit to fishphotos@pgifishingclub.org
 - Weigh-In Celebration: **6pm sharp at The Elks Lodge 2606, 25538 Shore Dr. Punta Gorda, 33950. (941) 639-8180**
 - Great Door Prizes too. You'll be entered when you register. Must be present to win door prizes.
 - Max of one award per member
 - This is a no-kill tournament.
 - PGIFC members only event.
 - Fish must be caught in Charlotte Harbor and/or within 50 miles, no charter caught fish please.
 - Event dates subject to change due to weather.
- Questions? Concerns? Email me at chuckpearson431@gmail.com

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



It's fun to succeed! **One of the great things about our club are the members we have who are willing to take new members out for a day of fishing to help them learn our waters.** Below is a list of members that are willing to host you for a fishing trip in our local waters:

- **Gary Burgess (Harbor Only), g2873477@hotmail.com**
- **Gretchen Sunderland (Harbor Only, especially for beginner women), getchensun2@gmail.com**
- **Fred De Mella (Inshore or Offshore) fdemella@gmail.com**



Contact them through email to arrange a trip.

Members, if you want to take another member out on your boat, please send your contact information to: editor@pgifishingclub.org

CLUB LINKS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



CLUB WEBSITE: <http://pgifishingclub.org>

CLUB FACEBOOK: <http://facebook.com>, then
search for pgi fishing club

FISHING CONTEST RULES: [http://
pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/?page_id=30](http://pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/?page_id=30)

GENERAL INFORMATION: [http://
pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/?pageid=101](http://pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/?pageid=101)

CLASSIFIED ADS



2010 Grady White 366 Canyon, \$250,000

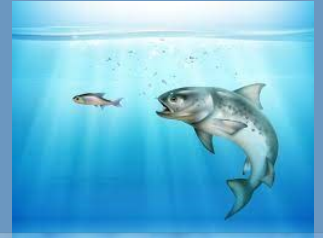
2010 Grady White 366 Canyon Located in Punta Gorda. LOA = 36.7', Beam is 13.2". T350 Yama-has, cruising speed 32 mph at 4200 rpm, max speed is 45 mph, 420 Gal fuel, 60 Gal water, 2 auto bilge pumps self bailing cockpit, 6 SS thru hull drains, Anchor windlass with remote switches at helm and bow, Batt charger and select switches, Bow Thruster, Cleats flush mount pop-up, cockpit shower, fresh & seawater washdown, Fish boxes 2-263 qal at bow 1-291 qt across stern use as fridge or storage, Alum T-top with vented windows and spray shields, 3 seats under hard top with boosters and foot rests, Double screen GPS and fish finder with 1000 watt transducer. Auto Pilot, Ship-to-shore, Epert, all safety equipment, 6 off shore life jackets and 6 reg, self inflating 6-man covered life raft, Gen, Stereo, stand up vacu-flush head elect pump out, TV, Micro-w, Refrig, 2 berths, sink & shower, AC in cabin and helm, 2 live wells, sink between them for bait prep, rod holders above them and 15 around boat,, tackle drawers, and Lure holders. NO out riggers or Ra-dar, Very good rough water Boat. Free use of lift in Punta Gorda Isles for at a least a year maybe more, 20 years of #'s in Charlotte Harbor, and Off shore of Boca Grande. Its ready to fish for Red Snapper with the #'s..



Contact Jim Hoffman, jimhoffman59@embarqmail.com, 941-661-7866

CLASSIFIED ADS

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



Items listed in this section are for sale from active members of the PGI Fishing Club only.

2017 Pioneer 222 Sportfish \$64,000

250 HP Suzuki 4 Stroke, 4 Blade SS Prop, 8 ft. Power Pole Shallow Water Anchor, Minn Kota Ulterra Riptide 112# 36-volt Trolling Motor Pilot 1, Garmin 7610GPS MAP, Radio w/8 Speakers, Richie Compass, 3-12V Interstate Batteries for Trolling Moto, 2-12V Interstate House Batteries, 4-Bank Minn Kota in Battery Charger, Head w/New Tetford Porta Potty, 91-Gal Fuel Tank, 230 Hours, Motor/Seat Pedestal/Center Console Covers and full-boat cover (includes Tee-Top), Trim Tabs, 35-Gal Bait Well, Igloo Ice Chest, EXCELENT CONDITION.



CONTACT BOB KLEIS AT:

rcbobby928@gmail.com



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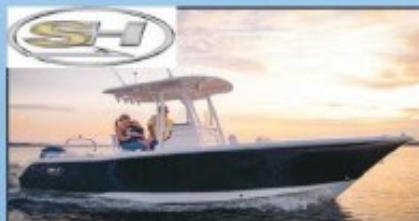
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941-360-0088

PORT CHARLOTTE
1189 Tamiami Trail
941-255-1555

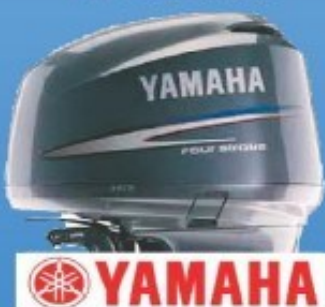
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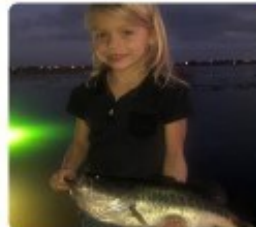
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- Huge tackle selection
- Friendly, useful staff
- Local knowledge
- Great prices

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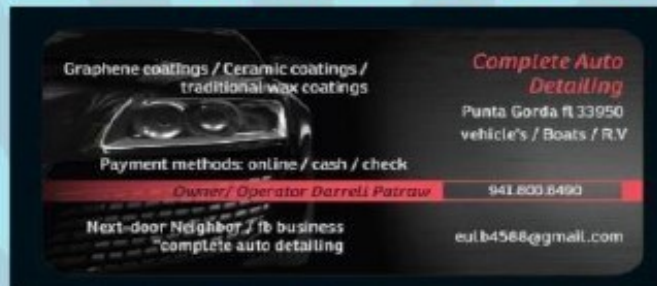


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I have known Darrell Patraw for about three and half years. I have always known Darrell to be professional, prompt, honest, and hard working, while offering competitive pricing. His attention to detail is above and beyond. He comes to you and provides top of the line waxes and polishes.

He has detailed our cars numerous times. I have referred him to many of our friends for their cars and to a friend in PGI Fishing Club for his boat. He has detailed our friends cars several times and his boat twice. Mary Heins

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* See Note 1

Marine Contracting Group - \$100 off docks, lifts, seawalls with

advertisement in the PGIFC newsletter

Sea Tow – 13 month membership at 12 month price (\$199)

Must call local Punta Gorda Office at 941-625-5454 to get 13 month pricing

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Tow Boat U.S. – discounted price for our members is \$115. Call 239-283-6060.

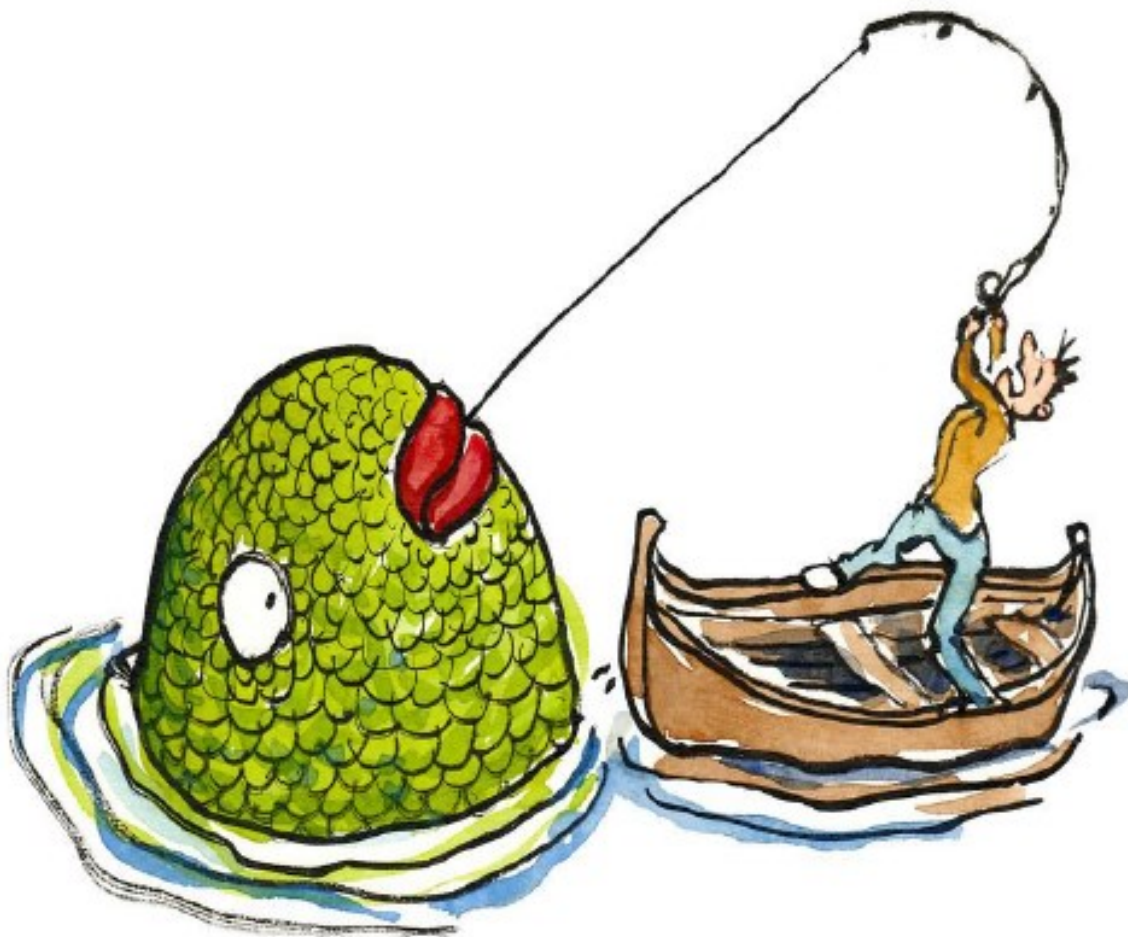
FISHING GUIDES



RECOMMENDED FISHING GUIDES

The following few guides are referred by our members – they are honest, reliable and will give you a great fishing experience! By using a guide, you can learn about some great fishing spots. Guides can also help you refine your technique and teach you the best bait/lures to use with various species of fish.

Give them a call and find out their specialties!



FISHING GUIDES



PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

PUNTA GORDA ISLES FISHING CLUB

Captain Steve Phillips – Southern Charm Charters



Fish the beautiful waters of Charlotte harbor and enjoy the local wildlife! Southern Charm Charters is here to show you the variety of fish species you can find in the area and, more importantly, how to catch them. Captain Steven has been in the business long enough to know all of the tricks you won't find in any tutorial. Learn from an experienced guide and fill out your bucket with the tastiest fish meat!



"From the time we stepped on the boat until the time we stepped back on the dock, Captain Steve and his mate Paul were great. Set expectations early and fulfilled them all. Would highly recommend!!" Tracy S.

"Best charter we have ever been on. They made sure our grandson caught the 1st fish. Very knowledgeable and great guys." Eric H.

"Captain Steve is very knowledgeable of places to fish and works hard to put fish in the boat had a great time caught Snook, Tarpon and Jacks" Rich P.

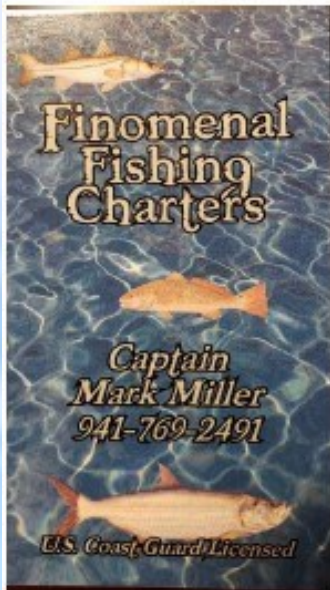
FISHING GUIDES



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PUNTA GORDA ISLES FISHING CLUB

Captain Mark Miller – Finomenal Fishing Charters



About Your Captain – Captain Mark Miller will do all in his ability to give you the saltwater fishing experience of a lifetime! Captain Mark has lived his entire life in Punta Gorda and has spent most of that time fishing every inch of the Charlotte Harbor area. He has competed in most of the local tournaments and many national tournaments, which has only expanded his experience and area knowledge.

"I believe that there is no such thing as a bad day on the water, and I pride myself in giving a calm, relaxing, and fun day of fishing for all!"

About the Equipment – Captain Mark's boat is a Bay Skiff customized to meet all your fishing and comfort needs. All rods and reels are able to meet or exceed any angling situation.

Types of Fish Encountered – Snook, Redfish, Trout, Cobia, Tarpon, Snapper, Shark, Jack, Crevalle, Kingfish, Spanish, Mackerel, and Flounder. These fish are all encountered at various times of the year.

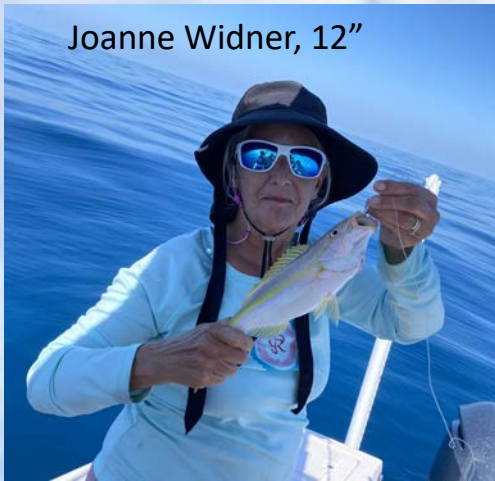


FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



Joanne Widner, 12"



AMBER JACK

Rick Brown, 25"



Chip Peterson, 29"

Jeff Barnhart, 40"



FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



31" COBIA



TOM SCHMITT

CREVALLE JACK



26"

GROUPER



NANCY PEARSON, 24"

JOE ZURAD



25"



DAVE DYKE, 5"

PINFISH

FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

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RED DRUM (REDFISH)



AL WADE, 25"



TOM SCHMITT, 27"

RED SNAPPER



JIM CRAWLEY

<— 27":

28 1/2" —>



FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

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JOANNE WIDNER, 12"



AL WADE, 18"



WANDA ZIMKA, 14"



DONNA SULLIVAN, 22"



DAVE DYKE, 26"

FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

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RED GROUPER, CONTINUED



JEFF WILSON

<--- 23"
24" --->



JEFF BARNHART

25"



JOE UDWARI

FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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RED GROUPER, CONTINUED



JEFF BARN-
HART AND
RICH GARIEPY

26"



JOE UDWARI, 29"

RICH GARIEPY, 29"



FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



SEA TROUT



BOB BRETTS
19"



CATHY HUNT
18"



DENNIS MCKENNA, 18"



AL WADE, 19 1/2"

FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

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SEA TROUT, CONTINUED

<-- BRUCE PETERSON

20"

JONATHAN LANDON -->

20"



MIKE WHITE

20" (LEFT)

26" (RIGHT)

FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



SHARKS

(BOTH ABOUT
5' LONG)



MARK CUMMINS



JEFF BARNHART

SNOOK

KEN BALKOVIC

25 1/2"



TOM SCHMITT, 37"



JOE ZURAD, 28"



FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



SHEEPSHEAD



CATHY HUNT, 19.5"

TOM SCHMIT, 12"



MIKE WHITE

20" (TOP)

24" (BOTTOM)



DONNA SULLIVAN, 20"



FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



SHEEPSHEAD, CONTINUED



MIKE WHITE

20" TOP LEFT

21" TOP RIGHT

24 1/2" LOWER
LEFT



MARK DILLMAN, 21"



FISH PHOTOS FEBRUARY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION



SPADE FISH



GRETCHEN
SUNDERLAND

<---12"

-----> 18"

SPANISH MACKEREL



SABIKI

WANDA ZIMKA

