FROM THE HELM

THE **PGI FISHING CLUB** IS A PART OF THE

PUNTA GORDA ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

(PGICA)



NOVEMBER 2024

From the Interim President's Desk

Dear Members,

Welcome back to all our friends returning from the north! We are thrilled to have you back in our sunny and warmer weather for the winter season. It's always a joy to see familiar faces and share our love for fishing together.

Our hearts go out to those who were devastated by the flooding from hurricanes Helene and Milton this fall. The impact has been profound, and our thoughts are with everyone affected. Please reach out if there's anything the club can do to support you during this challenging time.

We are also concerned about the return of red tide this fall, with fish kills already reported offshore and nearshore at Boca Grande Pass. This is a serious issue for our fishing community, and we will keep you updated on any developments and necessary precautions.

Unfortunately, the Elk's Club, where we held our socials, was destroyed. However, we have secured a new temporary meeting place at the Ice House. We will be meeting on the outdoor patio, which will be dedicated to our fishing club social from 5-7 PM every Wednesday.

With the end of the year coming, please note that your **annual dues** expire December 31, 2024. To renew your dues, please send a check for \$30 to the PGICA made out to the PGICA Fishing Club. Or you can bring cash or a check to our next meeting in November.

There will be no meeting in December, but the Membership Chair will send out a reminder before the end of the year. Don't miss all the fun by failing to renew, just send a check now, and get that behind you.

(continued, next page)

Next Meeting is: Tuesday November 12 @ 6 pm at PGICA

FROM THE HELM

NOVEMBER 2024



(Continued)

The slate for the Board of Directors of next year is nearly complete. These include the following.

President OPEN

Vice President Glenn Ranfos

Secretary OPEN
Treasurer Lisa Ross
Membership Tim Locke
Advertising Fred De Mella
Fishing Events Greg Widney
Social Jennifer Huey
Records Keeper Paul Whiting

Editor Jim Kunard
Website Richard Embury

CCA Bob Mayes

During our November meeting, the membership will be voting to approve this Board and seek nominations for the floor to fill open positions.

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FISHING REPORT For OCTOBER

By Richy Kale

It was oct 11th 2024 10am as I slipped the Skeeter off the trailer at Laishley's Marine marine. The smell of fuel oil and old river bottom soon fill my nostrils, With the river bottom in the middle of my downtown I knew Milton was not kind to Punta Gorda. The slow ride from Laishley's to my dock brought me down past Gilcrest Park and Fishville. It was ugly to say the least; 40/60 foot boats thrown around like toys. Dreams of hard working people were laying on the bottom and on top of each other. My heart sank bellow my toes. I thought to myself out loud, 'fish will be fish and survive but lives have been ruined'.

So, like the creatures of habit that we are., we will put on our boots tape the laces with duck tape, (so we don't trip) put on our hand shoes and clean up this mess. We will help our neighbors make new friends. Remember, in the words of my dad 'there is no bad weather just some is tougher than others'. So to the fishing we go. It was 10 am Friday Oct 11th, and time to go looking for fish.

As I idled out of Ponce Inlet I saw schools of lady fish busting on bait rat in fort of me. That was all I needed to see. If the bait survived so did everything else (for they are the most fragile). Since Oct 11th till now the inshore fishing has been off-the-charts, with snook reds, trout and juvies being caught with much regularity, the inshore slam has been done many times. Just ask my guest Mike White who joined me on an inshore trip that did not disappoint. As I idled up to one of my slot snook spots, and after a few casts with a 3/4 ounce silver and blue rattle trap on a 12/25 VPR Star Rod, the fish box was opened, pictures were taken and dinner invites went out (remember it's fun to share!). On that day Jacks, Snook, Snappers, Tout and Reds all fell victim to my jig. Remember that just because the water is ugly doesn't mean the fish won't bite. You eat when it's foggy out, LOL!.

And now for Tarpon. As of this writing the Tarpon are still in the harbor. Saturday the 26th we found them on the east wall down by Burnt Store. We did manage to fly some Silver off the pad that morn but they are still moving fast.

With the water temp dropping into the mid 70s, my buddies the Cobia should start to arrive, I bet they are here already (but the wind has kept me off my reefs), and with them come the rays for they eat very similar feed. Keep casting the rivers for soon the comfort zone for the fish will be in the deep runs of the river.

FISHING REPORT For OCTOBER

(Continued)

As of this writing I have no offshore report because of Hurricane Milton.

I have heard of great Shark fishing by the Cape Haze reef. So remember, pull left when they pull right!

So now I must bid you so long till next month, for it is time for my evening walk and dreams of my next yellow (and that dream will come true very quickly).

So, Tight Lines!

FISH of the MONTH

JANUARY: SHEEPSHEAD

FEBRUARY: GROUPER

MARCH: SPANISH MACKEREL

APRIL: SNOOK

MAY: COBIA

JUNE: JACK CREVALLE

JULY: SHARK

AUGUST: TARPON

SEPTEMBER: BLACK DRUM

OCTOBER: REDFISH

NOVEMBER: MANGROVE SNAPPER

DECEMBER: SPOTTED SEA TROUT





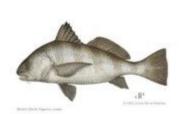






















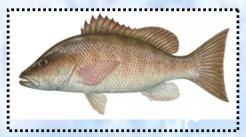


Fine Print: See "Fish of the Month Contest Rules" here: http://pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/wpcontent/uploads/2020/02/Fish-of-the-Month-Contest-Rules-Rev-7-021220.pdf

Fish of the Month For NOVEMBER

Location, Description, Tips, Tackle and Bait

MANGROVE (GRAY) SNAPPER



Identification:

- Dark brown or gray in color, with red-orange spots in bars along the sides
- Two large canine teeth near front of upper jaw
- Anchor-shaped vomerine tooth patch
- Dorsal fins with dark or reddish borders
- Young have dark stripe from snout, through eye, to upper edge of gill cover

Locations/Behavior:

- Found near structure such as reefs, mangroves, docks, and seagrass.
- Bigger snapper found on off-shore/near-shore reefs and hard bottom
- Eat a variety of bait: shrimp, soft plastics, trolling lures, fish bites, white bait, etc. Larger mangrove snap per off-shore/near-shore take live bait, squid, shrimp (love cigar minnows).
- The bite is hard and fast. They are aggressive eaters and swimmers.
- Spawn June August

Technique

- Set the hook quick; otherwise, your bait will be stolen
- Cast at docks/pilling during medium and high tides. Be ready for them to bite the bait is falling.
- During lower tides they often are a few feet from the dock or pilings.

Gear/rigging:

- In-shore light gear, smaller hook or jighead. 10-15 lb braid and 10 15 lb leader.
- Off-shore/Near-shore "grouper set up" or other heavier gear.

Copied from last year 's submission by Cathy Hunt

OCTOBER RESULTS

Club & Individual Fishing Statistics



REPORTED CATCHES as of 10/31/2024 and FISH OF THE MONTH (FOM) RESULTS 7 total fish turned in (600 points) by 4 different anglers

FOM (REDFISH)

WomenMen1st - Donna Sullivan, 21"1st - None2nd - None2nd - None

Interesting Tidbits

Helene & Milton – need I say more? Our necessary focus was not on fishing but surviving and recovering from the devastation of these two hurricanes. Many of our members suffered flooding damage and dock damage from the storm surge. Our beloved Happy Hour location at the Elks Club was hit hard, but thanks to many volunteers, they are beginning to rebound, and the new tiki hut is taking shape. Our friends and neighbors downtown on the waterfront took a massive blow from storm surge with large vessels washing over the seawall into Gilchrist Park and beyond. Fisherman's Village and the downtown restaurants and shops also took a nasty hit along with Laishley Marina, but Fisherman's Village is prepared to reopen today and some of the restaurants are already back in business. We had just a few fish reported prior to the storms and at the end of the month – tarpon, seatrout, and one redfish, but only 7 fish because most had to put fishing on the back burner to deal with the storms and their aftermath.

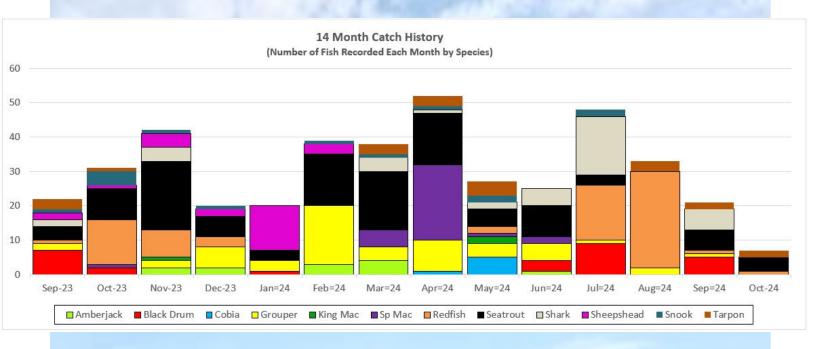
Club Hat Bronze Pin None None Silver Pin Gold Pin None None Snook Pin Redfish Pin None None Tarpon Pin GMA None None **GMA Star**

None

ACHIEVEMENTS!

WHAT'S BITE'N





ecorder's Data										
Monthly Performance										
	August	September	October							
Anglers	8	16	4	4						
LOA Awards	0	3	0	$\mathbf{\downarrow}$						
Fish Recorded	11	25	7	1						
Points Recorded	500	2,800	600	4						

TROPHY RACE (Men)

OVERALL CLUB RECORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH in INCH- ES	DATE CAUGHT	MEMBER NAME	2024 LENGTH in INCH- ES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF REC- ORD
Х	Amber Jack	Joe Udwari	53.5	2019	Tim Locke Bill Muir Fred De Mella	37.0	3/3/24 2/15/24 3/3/24	69.2%
Х	Black Drum	Mike White	51.5	2019	Jeff Barnhart	39.5	9/12/24	66.0%
Х	Cobia	Rich Kale	66.0	2022	John FitzGerald	38.0	5/1/24	57.6%
х	Grouper	Tom Hamilton	39.0	2003	Rick Brown	34.0	3/17/24	87.2%
Х	King Mackerel	John MacLeman	52.0	2012	Mike White **	59.0	5/25/24	113.5%
Х	Redfish	Mike White	47.0	2020	Rich Brennan	29.0	7/5/24	61.7%
Х	Seatrout	Rich Brennan Aaron Wag- ner	29.0 29.0	2009 2012	Mike White	24.5	2/28/24	84.5%
Х	Sheeps- head	Mike White	26.0	2022	Mike White	24.0	2/26/24	92.3%
Х	Snook	Mike White	49.0	2023	Carl Cucco	39.5	5/25/24	80.6%
Х	Spanish Mackerel	Carl Leicher	30.0	2012	Joe Esposito	25.0	4/14/24	83.3%

This Year's LEADERS are in BLUE

★★ Denotes New Club Record

New Entries This Month are in RED

TROPHY RACE (Women)

OVERALL CLUB REC- ORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	MEMBER NAME	2024 LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF REC- ORD
	Amberjack	Darlene Madsen	40.0	2017	Roxie Trost	35.0	3/5/24	87.5%
	Black Drum	Christine Fontaine White	52.0	2022	Cathy Hunt Donna Sullivan	42.0	6/17/24 6/4/24	80.8%
	Cobia	Joanne Lan- daker Marilyn	50.0	2008	Diana McKenna	26.0	5/3/24	52.0%
	Grouper	McGregor Dianne Bu- kowski	50.0 37.0	2013 2018	Cathy Hunt	33.5	6/7/2024	90.5%
	King Mackerel	Nancy Pear- son	40.0	2022				0.0%
	Redfish	Donnie Brennan Redfish Missy Beck-		2008	Elaine Bretts Donna Sullivan	21.0	9/13/24 10/26/24	55.3%
		er	38.0	2008				
	Seatrout	Joanne Lan- daker	26.5	2011	Donna Sullivan	22.0	5/19/24	83.0%
	Sheeps-head	Dianne Bu- kowski	22.5	2021	Cathy Hunt	19.5 4/6/24		86.7%
	Snook	100K 7 420 2013		Donna Sullivan	26.5	4/4/24	63.1%	
	Spanish Mackerel	Missy Beck- er Lynn	28.0	2007	Theresa Fitz- Gerald	24.0	4/19/24	85.7%
		Reeves	28.0	2019				

This Year's LEADERS are in BLUE

★ ★ Denotes New Club Record

New Entries This Month are in RED

PAST WINNERS OF ISLES TROPHY RACE

2009	Rich Brennan, Christine Jordan	2017	Rich Kale, Darlene Madsden
2010	Kel Krotzer, Margie Hofman	2018	Joe Udwari, Dianne Bukowski
2011	Greg Chestnut, Joanne Landacre	2019	Joe Udwari, Lynn Reeves
2012	Jim Quorollo, Rose Ann McCaffrey	2020	Mike White, Dianne Bukowski
2013	Steve Landacre, Missy Becker	2021	Rich Kale / Tim Gibbons, Dianne Bukowski
2014	Vinnie Madsden, Margie Hofman	2022	Rich Kale, Christine White
2015	Bob Mays, Karen Lodge	2023	Mike White, Wanda Zimka
2016	Gary Reeves, Rose Ann McCaffrey	2024	

	OCTOBER RESULTS—LADDER OF ACHIEVEMENT									
1				LIFETIME	LIFETIME LEV-		GRAND MAS	STER ANGLER		
	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	LEVELI		EL III TARPON		TOTAL		
				SNOOK				STARS		
	Andy Athens	Jeff Bellairs	Gary Adams	Paula Arnold	Doug Arnold	Frank Barrett		***		
	Sherry Barrett	Joanna Boeckl	Jack Botbyl	Carl Cucco	Mark Cummins	Rick Brown	Ron Baxter			
	Trudi Baxter Tori Brown	Marc Boeckl Todd Brooks	Steve Fritz Ken Garden	Mark Cummins Mary Heins	Mike Dougherty Doug Du Fresne	Dick Conant Marv Dyrstad	Fred Benson Larry Benz	*		
	Bob Critchfield	Anne Careau	Dale Hall	Chuck Henry	Jenny Goodell	Theresa FitzGerald	Rich Brennan	*****		
	Colleen De Mella	Don Cummins	Bill Hess	Tom Hunt	Bill Guenther	Ed Girzi	Donnie Bren-	**		
	Ron Deroche	Ron Deroche		Larry Kissner			nan Bob Bretts	*****		
	Tom desEnfants	Yvette Du Fresne	Karen Lodge Joe Lombardi	Michael Knipe	Ken Hardesty Jack Howarth	Bob Mays Diana McKenna	Elaine Bretts	*****		
	Sharon Dyke	Kathy desEnfants		Jim LaRocca	Julie Kale		Dianne Bukowski			
	Mike Endres	Tony Destefano	Cheryl Panetta	Marie LaRocca	Jonathan Landon	Nancy Pearson	Joe Bukowski			
	Richard Farmer	Tamara Dillman	Glenn Ranfos	Tom Lodge	Mark Lee	Lynn Reeves	Jim Crawley	*		
	Steve Fritz	Joanell Dyrstad	Gary Selzer	Sherry Moerke	Marty McCaffrey	Jack Spies	Fred De Mella	***		
	Chris Gibbons	Richard Embury	Steve Trego	William Neff	Rose Anne McCaffrey	Mark Storm	Mark Dillman			
	Frank Grazier	Gary Frost	Greg Widney	John Simonieg	Dennis McKenna	Gretch Sunderland	Dick Doster			
	Renee Gibbons	-	Sheree Wolfinger	Ed Verminski	Gary Moerke	Karen Udwari	Randy Douet	****		
	Bob Giffin	Art Goodell		TWierzbanowski	Chip Peterson	Allen Wade	Dave Dyke			
	Sheryl Hatch	Jim Gregory			John Saitta	Rich Willingmyre	John Fitzgerald			
	David Hatch	Randy Hall			Paul Whiting		Christine Fontaine			
	Tom Hay	Roz Hickey		RED = Awards	Joseph Zurad		Bob Gariepy	**		
	Scott Hutchins	Jack Hinnenthal		This Month	'		John Gettinger	***		
	Jack Jonaitis	Larry Hofmeister				•	Mike Gilger	**		
	Dennis Jones	Dave Joe		Club Hats			Tom Hickey	*		
	Fran Krausman	Lisa Kellythorne		Club Hats			Jim Hoffman	*		
	Buddy Krauss	Mike Knipe					Margie Hoffman			
	Jim Kunard	Ron Kruse		None			Jan Holm			
	Patti Kunard	Denys LaChance					Cathy Hunt	***		
	Richard Larson	Kevin LaPointe			-		Bud Johnston			
	Tim Locke	John McFarland					Cindi Johnston			
	Bob Mueller	Mike Nalipi					Rich Kale	****		
	Patricia Nalipi	Wayn Nelson					Dennis Krausman	****		
	Ann Northen	Randy Page					Kel Krotzer	***		
	Connie Nowicki	Kim Pflaum					Carl Leicher			
	Tony Nowicki	Paul Robinson					Joe Maillet			
	Chuck Pearson	Hezzie Samons					Pete McGregor	**		
	Bruce Peterson	Mike Sandling					Jude Panetta	***		
	Chris Pflaum	Deb Sarkisian						**		
	Chris Pollinger	Tom Schmitt					Gary Reeves			
	Doug Salminen	Gary Skillicorn						*****		
	Mark Schruer	Lynne Stockinger					John Stockinger			
	Alan Schulman	Don Taylor	1				Donna Sullivan			
	Jess Searle	Mike Trost					Ron Topper	****		
	Miriam Taylor	Roxie Trost					Joe Udwari	****		
	Patti Topper	Mike Wagner					Aaron Wagner			
	Beth Watkins	Stella Wagner					Mike White	****		
		-	1				Jeff Wilson	*		
	Joanne Widney	Greg Widney								
	Wanda Zimka	S Wierzbanowski					John Wolfinger			

(BOLD star = earned this year)

Tom Youngblood Lenny Zimka

Wanda Zimka

OCTOBER RESULTS MASTER ANGLER

MASTER ANGLERS TOURNAMENT, 2024 STANDINGS

	AMBE JACK		BLACI DRUM		СОВ	IA	GROU ER	P-	KING MACE EREI	(-	RED FISH		SEA TROU		SHEEI -HEA		SNOC	K	SPANISH MACKERE	
1st Place	Tim Locke	37.0	Cathy Hunt	42.0	John Fitz -gerald	38.0	Rick Brown	34.0	Mike White	59.0	Brennan	29.0	Mike White	24.5	Mike White	24.0	Carl Cucco	39.5	Joe Esposito	25.0
	Bill Muir	37.0	Donna Sullivan	42.0																
	Fred De Mella	37.0																		
2nd Place	Glen Ranfos	36.0	Jeff Barnhart	39.5	Larry Kissner	36.0	Cathy Hunt	33.5			John Fitzgerald	27.0	Ken Balkovic	22.0	Fred De Mella	21.0	Mike White	39.0	Theresa FitzGerald	24.0
•											Tim Locke	27.0	Randy Douet	22.0					John FirzGerald	24.0
•													Donna Sullivan	22.0						
3rd Place	Jeff Barnhart	35.0	Jeff Wilson	36.0	Ron Deroche	34.0	John Get- tinger	33.0			Elaine Bretts	21.0	Anton Benvin	21.0	Cathy Hunt	19.5	Bobby Bretts	36.0	Fred Benson	23.0
	Roxie Trost	35.0									Glen Ranfos	21.0	Bobby Bretts	21.0						
,											Donna Sullivan	21.0	Elaine Bretts	21.0						
·											30rda									



Meeting Highlights For OCTOBER

There was no October General Meeting due to Hurricane Milton. It arrived late on Wednesday October 9, 2024. It centered on Siesta Key as a Category 3 storm, but Punta Gorda got the 'dirty side' of the storm, with high winds and a wicked storm surge.

The surge in Charlotte Harbor flooded much of Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte.







Membership Report For OCTOBER

At the end of October, the Club enjoyed having 309 members from 160 households.

I represented the Club at the quarterly new members (to the PGICA) reception. This is one of 4 annual membership drives held by the PGICA to increase our membership in all the clubs of the PGICA. Unfortunately, only a few new members were present. The devastation of multiple hurricanes is taking its toll on those considering moving to our area or to the mindset of joining a club at this time. I think it will take a number of years free of hurricane before our number return to previous norms.

With the end of the year coming, your annual dues expire December 31, 2024. To renew your dues, please send a check for \$30 to the PGICA made out to the PGICA Fishing Club. Or you can bring cash or a check to our next meeting in November. There will be no meeting in December, I will send out a reminder before the end of the year. Don't miss all the fun by failing to renew, just send a check now, and get that behind you.

Tight Lines

Bill Muir

Membership Director



SUNSHINE LADY

THE PGI FISHING CLUB IS A CLUB OF THE PUNTA GORDA
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

CLUB LEADERSHIP



OFFICERS:

INTERIM PRESIDENT	Bill Muir	president@pgifishingclub.org
INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT	Cathy Hunt	vicepresident@pgifishingclub.org
TREASURER	Daryl Reynolds	treasurer@pgifishingclub.org
SECRETARY	Nancy Pearson	secretary@pgifishingclub.org

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

ADVERTISING	Chip Peterson	advertising@pgifishingclub.org
COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSN	Bob Mayes	cca.cmac@pgifishingclub.org
FISHING EVENTS	Greg Widney	fishingevents@pgifishingclub.org
GREETERS	Yvette Du Fresne	greeters@pgifishingclub.org
MEMBERSHIP	Bill Muir	membership@pgifishingclub.org
NEWSLETTER	Jim Kunard	pattijimk@comcast.net
RECORD KEEPER	Paul Whiting	recordkeeper@pgifishingclub.org
SOCIAL EVENTS	Jennifer Huey	socialdirector@pgifishingclub.org
SUNSHINE LADY	Paula Arnold	sunshine@pgifishingclub.org
WEBMASTER	Richard Embury	website@pgifishingclub.org

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS



Its 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), gretchensun2@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

GENERAL INFORMATION: http://
pgifishingclub.org/wordpress/?pageid=101

Classified Ads





2000 16' Hewes Bayfisher powered by a 2000 Yamaha 90hp. Boat and motor in excellent condition. Garage kept it's first 15 years. Full canvas cover, 20' pole, like new trolling motor, Garmin chart/bottom finder, dock lines, newer battery. \$14,900 OBO.

Contact: Fred De Mella at:

757-403-1627





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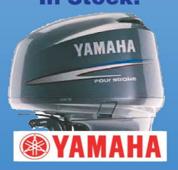
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JarrettFordofCharlotteCounty.net

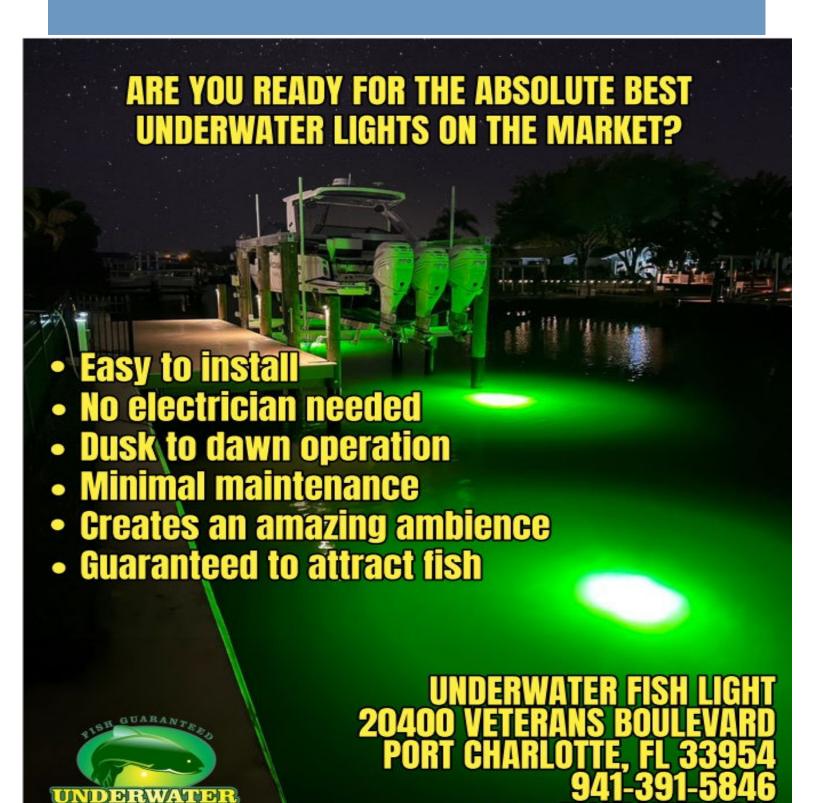


PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES





PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES





PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

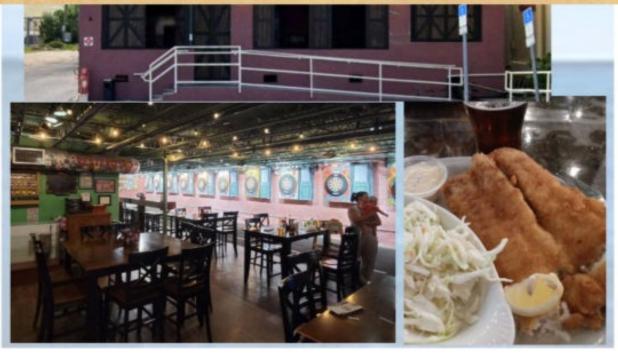


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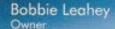
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Tow Boat U.S. – discounted price for our members is \$115. Call 239-283-6060.

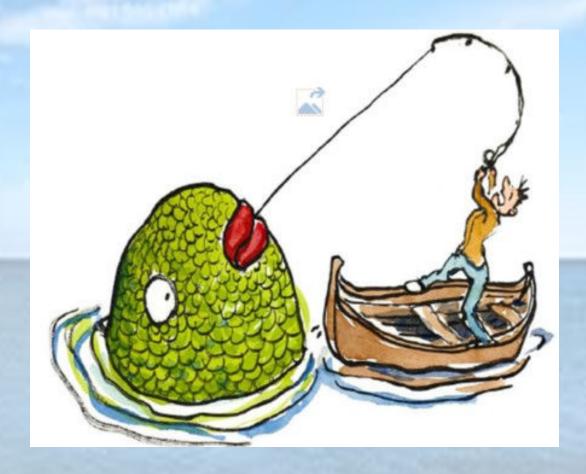
FISHING GUIDES



RECOMMENDED FISHING GUIDE

The following guide is referred by our members—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.

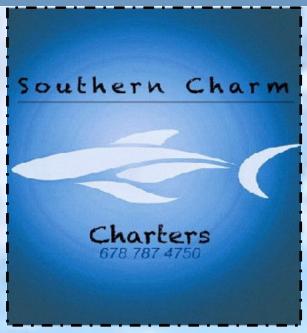
Give Southern Charm a call—see their ad on the next page



FISHING GUIDES



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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.

FISH PHOTOS OCTOBER

SEA TROUT



RANDY DOUET

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FISH PHOTOS OCTOBER



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