

# FROM THE HELM

THE **PGI FISHING CLUB** IS A PART OF THE  
PUNTA GORDA ISLES CIVIC ASSOCIATION (PGICA)



MAY 2026

By **FRED DEMELLA, President**

Whew! Traffic has waned and we can actually find dock space near a restaurant! That means the temperatures will be rising. Use common sense in the coming months to avoid overheating. Most important is taking plenty of fluids during those fishing trips. Sunscreen is a must and if you have a top on your boat, try hanging in the shade as much as possible. I, for one, am a shade hound. That said, local fishing is about to bust out!

Tarpon are the target for those brave enough to jockey the Boca Grande Pass. When the crabs are being flushed, the action can be outstanding. Remember to give wide berth to those angling for these big fish!

Longer daylight hours and favorable weather will open more fishing opportunities. With major migrations of different species, anglers can expect great fishing. Joining and participating in the PGI Fishing club, will make for some memorable trips and lasting friendships.

Learning techniques for catching the many species, including Tarpon, is why joining the PGI Fishing Club is a great option for anglers or soon to be anglers. Our membership includes fishermen who are experienced in catching all kinds of fish including inshore and offshore species. By joining, you not only gain access to the expertise of many anglers, but can enjoy the fun and camaraderie of fishing with other members. Don't have a boat? Many members have boats to get you there and the knowledge to help target species to make your angling experience great.



APRIL WATERLINE ARTICLE

*Continued, next page*

# FROM THE HELM, continued

The Fishing Club's Ladder of Achievement is a great way to challenge yourself. The Ladder is a prescribed goal to catch the many different species available in the area along with points for notable size fish. It is a fun way to track your development from Bronze to Silver, Silver to Gold and beyond. With guidance and perseverance, the goal of Grand Master Angler is within reach.

PGI Fishing Club members also enjoy a variety social activities. Monthly meetings exploring various topics and fishing news, Fish of the Month contest, friendly fishing tournaments with prizes for designated catches. We also have special events like Holiday parties, picnics, weekly happy hours and other fun gatherings.

If any of this piques your interest, please join us. We meet the second Tuesday of the month (except July and December) at the PGI Civic Association at 18:00; all are welcome to attend a meeting. Another way to familiarize yourself with the Fishing Club is to attend our weekly happy hour, currently at The Elks Lodge Tiki on Wednesdays at 17:00 to hear about all the fishing stories and make plans to fish.



**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday May 12 , 6:00 p.m., at the PGICA meeting room, 2001 Shreve Street**

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# FISHING REPORT

**By Fred DeMella**

## **Offshore:**

Recent offshore trips have yielded consistent quality Red Grouper if you are willing to make the long run to 130+ depth. Most fish caught on cut bait/squid. Notably, the snapper bite has been poor of late. Many are reporting smaller fish and less of them. Important also to remember that the length of Lane Snapper is now 10" minimum and 20 fish.

Some Red Snapper are being caught in relatively shallow water (100+ feet); hoping this trend continues when the season opens. Currently, Red Snapper is closed to harvest.

Remember to have a descending plan for those fish that don't meet the minimum size limit for harvest. The best method is to actually descend the fish using one of the descending devices. By law, you must have this equipment on board and use it. Also note that grouper are not the only fish that require descending, Red and Lane Snapper caught at depth will also experience barotrauma.



## **Inshore:**

It's Tarpon Time in Charlotte Harbor! Many anglers are braving the Boca Grande Pass and having success. It won't be long before these ultimate game fish spread out into the deeper holes and wrecks. Most fish are being caught on live bait, with pass crabs being the favorite near the inlet. Try live ladyfish on the inshore structure. The bait buster lure is a sure winner here.

The trout bite has been outstanding. Reports of many fish including multiple keepers and even points fish on recent trips. Most are being caught on live shrimp, but rubber lures are also effective. The key here is finding good grass and suitable habitat. This is requiring longer runs through the lower harbor/ICW. Interestingly, some catches are being reported in slightly deeper water.

Cobia are showing in numbers. These fish will require an up tackle in that many are pretty big. Cobia can be harvested at 36 inch fork length measurement, one per angler; two per vessel. Most are reported caught on live bait, but they can be caught using cut bait and lures. Favorite lures included jig heads with long rubber curly tails and bait busters. These fish can also be caught trolling tide lines with larger stick baits. Most reports are coming from hard structures, but drifting tide lines can be productive.

*(continued next page)*

# FISHING REPORT

## Inshore (continued):

Spanish Mackerel have been hit or miss, but when located, action can be great. Both in-shore and near shore, most are caught on trolling spoons, but these fish can be caught on virtually anything. Often they are caught when trout fishing if you don't get cut off. Casting into bait and birds is a fun way to catch them.

Snook is now closed, but the action has been consistent mostly in the canals or at the bridges. Make sure you take care to release these fish quickly to prevent inadvertent kills. Be ready for a quick photo. Live white bait is a no brainer here. They can also be fooled with swim baits, especially at night or low light conditions.



*Those pesky, amorous Love Bugs sure came out in force this month!*

# 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/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Fish-of-the-Month-Contest-Rules-Rev-7-021220.pdf>*

# Fish of the Month For MAY

*Location, Description, Tips, Tackle and Bait*

## COBIA



### **Gear, Tackle, and Rigging:**

- Medium/heavier rod 12 – 25 with a 3,000 or 4,000 spinning reel is ideal if you hook into the big one. Can go lighter.
- 20-to-30-pound braid tied to 40-pound leader will get the job done.
- Jig head with a shrimp or large gulp works as well as a bucktail with a long gulp. Whitebait, crabs, and cut bait will get a bite.

### **Locations:**

- Channel markers, reefs in the harbor, structure in the harbor, as well as drop offs from sand bars are some of their cruising areas.
- They are known to follow schools of Rays and be mixed in with schools of Tarpon. If you see a school of Rays go by, be ready to throw something this time of year.

### **Additional Information:**

- Minimum length 36" to the fork in state and federal waters.
- Richy Kale has secured 1st place in the Master Angler Tournament for a few years and holds the club record of 66".
- Daily bag limit: 1 per person per day or 2 per boat; whichever is less.
- They hit hard and immediately make a run, run again, and again. Get away from any structure and let them run; wear them out before bringing them to the boat. Likely another cobia or two will follow the cobia up. Bringing a green cobia into the boat can cause damage to the boat and people. Wear the fish out in the water and get it in the ice box immediately.

# TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS



Hello Fishy People

I'm sure you are all thinking... When am I going to learn the results of the  
**SINGLE SPECIES SHOWDOWN?**

Well, I can tell you the results are in and we have several winners. However, those winners will be announced at the FISHING CLUB MONTHLY MEETING on MAY 12, 2026. As a teaser, there were 4 unique species entered by TEAM CAPTAINS and two submissions won the +10% bonus to their score for convincing someone to join. We also have almost 40 unique fish photos (submitted in APRIL) that will create a wonderful photo montage to run before the meeting starts. I find that the slideshow is an excellent way to quickly learn what people are catching. We tend to play to photos early as a reward for those who get to the meeting early, and that gives you more time to BUY RAF-FLE Tickets and any other drawings we may have on hand.

The next Tournament is the GULF OF AMERICA 3 Fish. This gives all you people with twin engines or a boat length beyond 24 feet a chance to burn some fuel. The rules are pretty simple, catch 3 unique fish species and add up the inches. Most inches wins. PHOTOS of your 3 FISH are REQUIRED. Fishing must be from a beach, pier, or boat while technically in Gulf waters. Just draw an imaginary line across the Boca Grande inlet mouth from north beach to south beach and fish outside that line. Species EXCLUDED are the same ones we don't measure, sharks, tarpon, sting rays, and barracuda. You will have 4 fishing days over a 14-day period to allow for winds, weather, tides, and recovery. There is no pre-registration required and any dues paying member can win. We will award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes for most inches in Men/Women/New Member (last 18 months) categories. The trophy will be awarded to highest total inches.

If you have any questions, please let me know via text at (859) 552-0509.

Larry Kissner

Fishing Events Coordinator

# Club & Individual Fishing Statistics



## REPORTED CATCHES as of 4/30/2026 and FISH OF THE MONTH (FOM) RESULTS

51 total fish turned in (3300 points) by 23 different anglers

### FOM (SNOOK)

Women

- 1st - Donna Sullivan - 24.0"**
- 2nd - Jan Holm - 23.0**
- 3rd - Joanne Widney - 18.5"**

Men

- 1st - Craig Setter - 33.0"**
- 2nd - Jim Gregory - 25.0"**
- 3rd - Greg Widney - 21.5"**

*Interesting Tidbits*

Our April fishing results proved once again that seatrout reign supreme in our Harbor with 20 reported catches up to an impressive 300 point 24" monster caught by Dave Joe. Our fish of the month, Snook, did not disappoint with six reported catches including three by our lady anglers. Several rather windy days this month limited offshore trips but there were five grouper reported and one giant offshore shark in the 10' size caught by Jeff Barnhart. Tarpon are around for those who look for them, and not just in that busy Bocca Grande Pass. Mike White landed a 300-point six-footer in the Harbor. Spanish Mackerel rounded out our top catches for the month with four reported catches up to 20". In our LOA achievement category, we welcome new members Jeff Johnson and Jim Waters with their first catches earning them their Club Hat. Jim also earned his Bronze Pin in the same month. Paul Whiting was awarded an honorary Grand Master Angler shirt by the Club for his long-standing service as a member since 2011 and Record Keeper for the Club since 2018. Paul resides in Miami and fishes most of the time in Islamorada but loves to come over to his condo here in PGI to get together with his fishing buddies and welcomes them down to Islamorada for some fishing whenever they are traveling that way.

### Achievement Categories

Club Hat

**JEFF JOHNSON, JIM WATERS**

Silver Pin

None

Snook Pin

None

Tarpon Pin

None

GMA Star

None

Bronze Pin

**RICK BOOTH, JIM WATERS**

Gold Pin

**DAVE JOE**

Redfish Pin

None

GMA

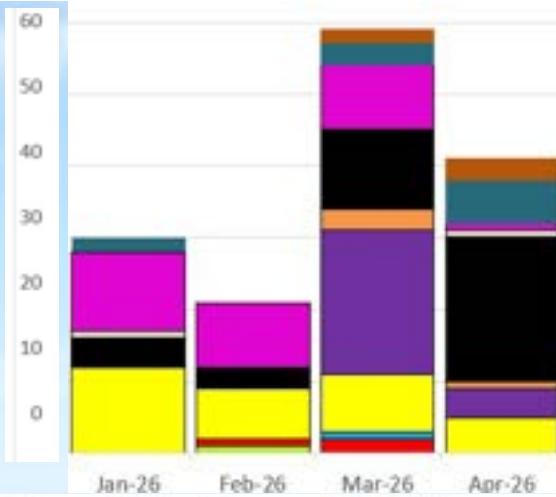
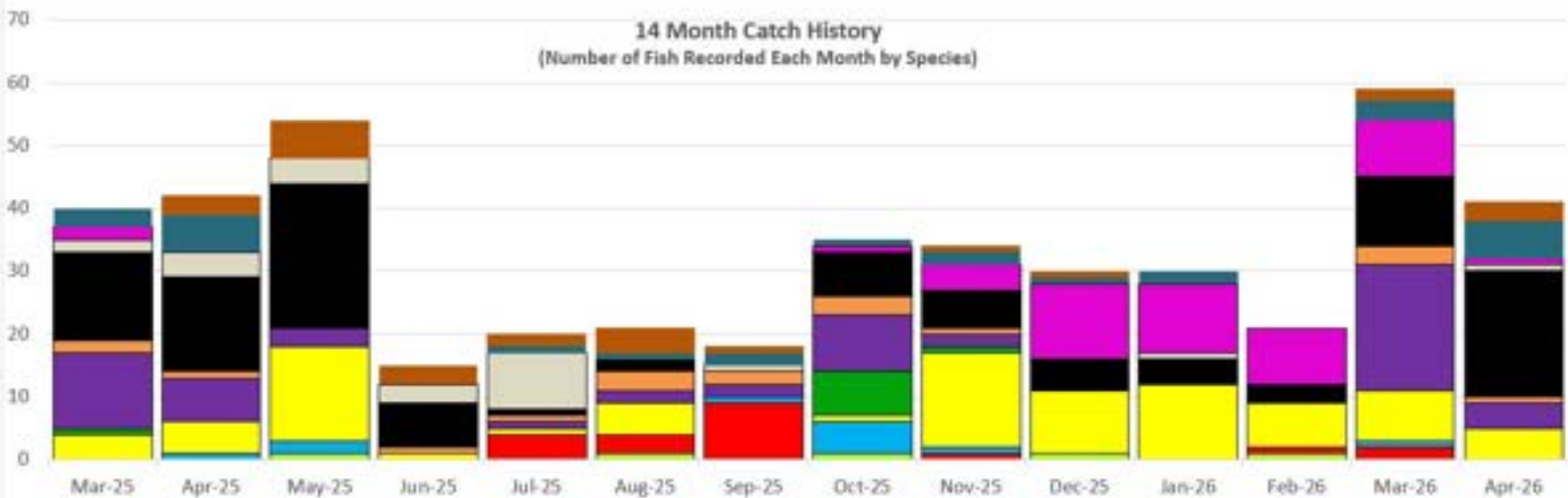
**PAUL WHITING (honorary)**

**ACHIEVEMENTS!**

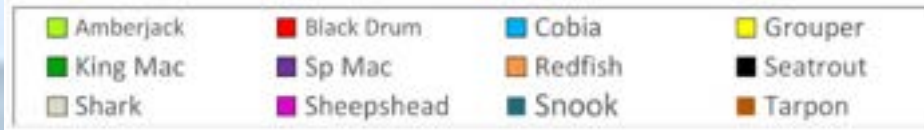
# WHAT'S BITE'N



14 Month Catch History  
(Number of Fish Recorded Each Month by Species)



*Last 4 Months*



## Recorder's Data

### Monthly Performance

	February	March	April	
<b>Anglers</b>	13	27	<b>23</b>	↓
<b>LOA Awards</b>	3	6	<b>6</b>	↔
<b>Fish Recorded</b>	27	80	<b>51</b>	↓
<b>Points Recorded</b>	2100	3,900	<b>3,900</b>	↔

# TROPHY RACE (Men)

OVERALL CLUB RECORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	MEMBER NAME	2026 LENGTH in INCHES	2026 DATE CAUGHT	% OF RECORD
X	Amber Jack	Joe Udvari	53.5	2019	Glenn Ranfos	35.0	Feb 4	65.4%
	Black Drum	Mike White	51.5	2019	Mark Majestic	40.5	Mar 26	78.6%
X	Cobia	Rich Kale	66.0	2022				
X	Grouper	Tom Hamilton	39.0	2003	Richard Romano	32.0	Feb 11	82.1%
X	King Mackerel	John MacLeman	52.0	2012				
X	Redfish	Mike White	47.0	2020	Tim Locke	30.0	Mar 27	63.8
X	Seatrout	Rich Brennan	29.0	2009	<b>Dave Joe</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>4/17</b>	<b>82.8%</b>
		Aaron Wagner	29.0	2012				
X	Sheepshead	Mike White	26.0	2022	Thomas Christl	25.0	Feb 27	<b>96.2%</b>
X	Snook	Mike White	49.0	2023	<b>Craig Setter</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>Apr 26</b>	46.9%
X	Spanish Mackerel	Carl Leicher	30.0	2012	Lenny Zimka	22.0	Mar 22	73.3%

This Year's Leaders in BLUE

**XX** Denotes New Club Record

New Entries This Month are in RED

# TROPHY RACE (Women)

OVERALL CLUB RECORD	SPECIES NAME	MEMBER NAME	RECORD LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	MEMBER NAME	2025 LENGTH in INCHES	DATE CAUGHT	% OF RECORD
	Amberjack	Darlene Madsen	40.0	2017				0%
X	Black Drum	Christine Fontaine White	52.0	2022				0%
	Cobia	Joanne Landaker	50.0	2008				0%
		Marilyn McGregor	50.0	2013				
	Grouper	Dianne Bukowski	37.0	2018	Donna Sullivan	31.0	Jan 7	83.8%
	King Mackerel	Nancy Pearson	40.0	2022				0%
	Redfish	Donnie Brennan	38.0	2008				0%
		Missy Becker	38.0	2008				
	Seatrout	Joanne Landaker	26.5	2011	Elaine Bretts	19.0	Feb 27	71.7%
	Sheepshead	Dianne Bukowski	22.5	2021	Donna Sullivan Jan Holm	12.0	Jan 6 Jan 17	53.3%
	Snook	Missy Becker	42.0	2013	Donna Sullivan	24.0	Apr 10	57.1%
	Spanish Mackerel	Missy Becker	28.0	2007	Joanne Widney	20.0	Mar 7	71.4%
		Lynn Reeves	28.0	2019				

This Year's LEADER in BLUE

XX Denotes New Club Record

New Entries This Month are in RED

2009	Rich Brennan, Christine Jordan	2018	Joe Udvari, Dianne Bukowski
2010	Kel Krotzer, Margie Hofman	2019	Joe Udvari, Lynn Reeves
2011	Greg Chestnut, Joanne Landacre	2020	Mike White, Dianne Bukowski
2012	Jim Quorollo, Rose Ann McCaffrey	2021	Rich Kale / Tim Gibbons, Dianne Bukowski
2013	Steve Landacre, Missy Becker	2022	Rich Kale, Christine White
2014	Vinnie Madsen, Margie Hofman	2023	Mike White, Wanda Zimka
2015	Bob Mays, Karen Lodge	2024	Mike White, Cathy Hunt
2016	Gary Reeves, Rose Ann McCaffrey	2025	Mike White, Elaine Bretts, Donna Sullivan
2017	Rich Kale, Darlene Madsen		

BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	LIFETIME LEVEL I SNOOK	LIFETIME LEVEL II REDFISH	LIFETIME LEVEL III TARPON	GRAND MASTER ANGLER	
						GMA	TOTAL STARS
Andy Athens	Jeff Bellairs	Gary Adams	Paula Arnold	Doug Du Fresne	Doug Arnold	Jeff Barnhart	★★★★★
Kathlene Avila	Joanna Boeckl	Jack Botbyl	Carl Cucco	Jenny Goodell	Frank Barrett	Ron Baxter	
Sherry Barrett	Marc Boeckl	Steve Fritz	Mark Cummins	Bill Guenther	Rick Brown	Fred Benson	
Trudi Baxter	Todd Brooks	Ken Garden	Mary Heins	Ken Hardesty	Dick Conant	Larry Benz	★
<b>Rick Booth</b>	Anne Careau	Dale Hall	Chuck Henry	Jack Howarth	Mike Dougherty	Rich Brennan	★★★★★★★★★★
Tori Brown	Don Cummins	Don Harter	Tom Hunt	Julie Kale	Marv Dyrstad	Donnie Brennan	★
Bob Critchfield	Ron Deroche	Bill Hess	Larry Kissner	Jonathan Landon	Theresa FitzGerald	Bob Bretts	★★★★★★★★★★
Colleen De Mella	Yvette Du Fresne	<b>Dave Joe</b>	Michael Knipe	Mark Lee	Ed Girzi	Elaine Bretts	★★★★★★★★★★
Tom desEnfants	Kathy desEnfants	Karen Lodge	Jim LaRocca	Marty McCaffrey	Bob Mays	Rick Brown	
Sharon Dyke	Tony Destefano	Joe Lombardi	Marie LaRocca	Rose McCaffrey	Diana McKenna	Dianne Bukowski	★
Mike Endres	Tamara Dillman	Sonia Nelson	Tom Lodge	Dennis McKenna	Nancy Pearson	Joe Bukowski	★★
Richard Farmer	Joanell Dyrstad	Wayn Nelson	Sherry Moerke	Gary Moerke	Lynn Reeves	Jim Crawley	★
Ted Flanders	Richard Embury	Cheryl Panetta	William Neff	Chip Peterson	Jack Spies	Fred De Mella	★★★★★
Chris Gibbons	Joe Esposito	Glenn Ranfos	Gary Selzer	John Saitta	Mark Storm	Mark Dillman	
Frank Grazier	Ted Flanders	Steve Trego	John Simonieg	Craig Setter	Gretchen Sunderland	Dick Doster	
Renee Gibbons	Gary Frost	Sheree Wolfinger	Ed Verminski	Paul Whiting	Karen Udvari	Randy Douet	★★★★★★
Bob Giffin	Tim Gibbons	Lenny Zimka	Greg Widney	Greg Widney	Allen Wade	Dave Dyke	
Sheryl Hatch	Art Goodell		TWierzbanowski	Joseph Zurad	Rich Willingmyre	John Fitzgerald	
David Hatch	Jim Gregory					Christine Fontaine	★
Tom Hay	Randy Hall					Bob Gariepy	★★
Scott Hutchins	Roz Hickey					John Gettinger	★★★
Ray Iannucci	Don Harter					Mike Gilger	★★
Jack Jonaitis	Jack Hinnenthal					Tom Hickey	★
Dennis Jones	Larry Hofmeister					Jim Hoffman	★
Fran Krausman	Dave Joe					Margie Hoffman	
Buddy Krauss	Shep Johnson					Jan Holm	
Jim Kunard	Lisa Kellythorne					Cathy Hunt	★★★★★
Patti Kunard	Mike Knipe					Bud Johnston	
Richard Larson	Ron Kruse					Cindi Johnston	
Mark Majestic	Denys LaChance					Rich Kale	★★★★★
David Morgan	Kevin LaPointe					Dennis Krausman	★★★★★
Bob Mueller	Tim Locke					Kel Krotzer	★★★
Patricia Nalipi	John McFarland					Carl Leicher	
Ann Northen	David Morgan					Joe Maillet	
Connie Nowicki	Mike Nalipi					Pete McGregor	★★
Tony Nowicki	Randy Page					Bill Muir	
Chuck Pearson	Kim Pflaum					Jude Panetta	★★★★
Bruce Peterson	Paul Robinson					Tom Parsons	★★
Chris Pflaum	Lyle Ross					Gary Reeves	
Chris Pollinger	Hezzie Samons					Rick Sarkisian	★★★★★★★★★★
Dan Roda	Mike Sandling					John Stockinger	★
Doug Salminen	Deb Sarkisian					Donna Sullivan	★★★
Mark Schruer	Tom Schmitt					Ron Topper	★★★★★★
Alan Schulman	Gary Skillicorn					Joe Udvari	★★★★★★★★★★
Jess Searle	Lynne Stockinger					Aaron Wagner	
Miriam Taylor	Don Taylor					Mike White	★★★★★★
Patti Topper	Mike Trost					Paul Whiting	
<b>Jim Waters</b>	Roxie Trost					Jeff Wilson	★
Beth Watkins	Mike Wagner					John Wolfinger	
Joanne Widney	Stella Wagner						
Wanda Zimka	Greg Widney						
	S Wierzbanowski						
	Tom Youngblood						
	Wanda Zimka						

**RED** = Awards  
This Month

Club Hats

**Jeff Johnson**  
**Jim Waters**

**LADDER**  
**OF**  
**ACHIEVEMENTS**  
  
**APRIL**  
**2026**

**(BOLD star = earned this year)**

# APRIL RESULTS

## MASTER ANGLER

### MASTER ANGLERS TOURNAMENT, 2026 STANDINGS

PLACE	AMBER JACK	BLACK DRUM	COBIA	GROUP-ER	KING MACKEREL	RED-FISH	SEA-TROUT	SHEEPS-HEAD	SNOOK	SPANISH MACKEREL
1st	Glenn Ranfos 35.0	Mark Majestic 40.5		Richard Romano 32.0		Tim Locke 30.0	Dave Joe 24.0	Thomas Christl 25.0	Craig Setler 33.0	Lenny Zmika 22.0
2nd		Allen Wade 38.0		Donna Sullivan 31.0 Jeff Barnhart 31.0		Allen Wade 27.0	Mike Dougherty 21.5	Fred DeMella 19.5	Larry Kissner 30.0	Bobby Brefts 21.0
3rd				Greg Widney 30.5		Dave Joe 21.0	Mike White 21.0	Mike White 19.0	Jim Gregory 25.0	Joanne Widney 20.0

New this month are shown in Red



# SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 2026

## **FISHING CLUB SPRING PICNIC THIS FRIDAY**

**PLEASE JOIN US & STAY TUNE FOR THE  
SILENT AUCTION ITEMS TO BE SENT OUT  
PRIOR TO THE EVENT**

**MAY 8TH  
PGICA PAVILION  
5PM - 8PM  
BYOB & DISH TO SHARE**

**CLUB PROVIDES  
PULLED PORK, FIXIN'S, DESSERT  
SODA, WATER  
\$5 PER PERSON**

**SILENT AUCTION!  
CASTING CONTEST!  
NAME THAT FISH!**

# Meeting Notes From April 2026

## PGI Fishing Club April 14, 2026

### General Meeting Minutes

**Location:** PGICA Auditorium

**Start time:** 6:03 pm

**President:** Fred DeMella

**Members in attendance:** 46

**Speaker:** *Captains for Clean Water – Captain Josh Greer*

- 2018 high volume toxic discharges from Lake Okeechobee detected killing thousands of fish and hurting tourism
- Flow is from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee and St Lucie Rivers
- Trying to restore flow from Orlando to Florida Bay
- CERP working to fix problems like red tide blooms
- Approximately 65 of 68 projects are underway including a huge reservoir near Lake Okeechobee
- They lobby in Tallahassee and Washington D.C. and need our voices to be heard
- We can help – go to their website and subscribe to newsletter and email politicians when called upon

**Door Prize Winners:** \$25.00 gift card to Rio Villa, Jeff – Measuring stick, Wayn – Laminated fish chart, Lyle

**50/50 Winners:** \$90.00 Captain Morgan -- \$40.00 Ken

**Rod & Reel Raffle Winner:** Patti Kunard

**Name That Species Winner:** Jeff Barnhart \$15.00 gift card, Mutton Snapper

*Fishing Events Report, Membership Report, Financial Report, Social info - see Newsletter*

# Meeting Notes From April 2026

## FOM March winners (Spanish Mackerel)

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> – Joanne Widney 20.0”  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Donna Sullivan 19.0”  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Paula Arnold 15.0”

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> – Lenny Zimka 22.0”  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Fred Benson 21.0”  
Bobby Bretts 21.0”  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Fred DeMella 19.5”

## FOM for APRIL is SNOOK

### March Tournament Results

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> – Donna Sullivan 39.0”  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Janet Holm 36.5”  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Patti Kunard 35.5”

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> – Allen Wade 63.5”  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Larry Kissner 53.0”  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Joahn Ward 39.0”

New Members: 1<sup>st</sup> – Mark Majestic 62.5”, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Edward Flanders 31.0”

Upcoming tournaments – See Newsletter for more details

April 24<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup> – Single Species Showdown

May 17<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> – Gulf of America 3 Fish

Crevalle, Canal, Carnivale June

Hot, Hot, Hot July

## AWARDS

Club Hat – Mark Majestic & John Ward

Bronze Pin – Mark Majestic

Silver Pin – Tim Locke

Lifetime Level II Tarpon – Doug Arnold

GMA Star – Rick Brown

**\*\*Paul Whiting was awarded Grand Master Angler status for exceptional service\*\***

**Happy Hour Every Wednesday @ the Elks Club 5:00 pm**

Meeting adjourned: 7:16 p.m.

Submitted by Patti Kunard

# Membership Report For April 2026



Remember it is time to renew your Fishing Club membership at \$30 per household. We have about 40 members from 2025 who have not renewed their 2026 PGI Fishing Club Dues. Remember PGI Civic Association dues renewal does not include PGI Fishing Club dues

We have brought the PGICA Club Express into the PGI Fishing Club so now you can renew membership with a credit card by logging into the PGICA website. You can reset your password if you have forgotten your previous one. Members can also renew by check or cash at a Fishing Club meeting or by dropping off payment at the PGICA Club House at 2001 Shreeve.

If you owe payments to any PGICA club or event, then a red \$ will appear at login. Click the red \$ and pay the dues you might owe. Please let me know if you think there might be an error.



Our membership count is down from previous years as you can see in the above. The numbers from 2024 and 2025 are end of the year values while 2026 is year to date.

I plan to send a reminder email to past members who have not renewed yet. Please let me know if you have already paid 2026 Fishing Club dues and get a renewal reminder.

The household cost is \$30 per year and membership has benefits, including: tournaments, Ladder of Achievement, fishing contests, great social activities and education at our general meetings.

**Questions or corrections? Contact: Tim Locke, Membership director, [membership@pgifishingclub.org](mailto:membership@pgifishingclub.org)**

# MEMBER WELFARE

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 reach-out for any reason, please let the Board know.

*Your family of friends care about you.*



# CLUB LEADERSHIP



## OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	<b>FRED DEMELLA</b>	president@pgifishingclub.org
VICE PRESIDENT	<b>GLENN RANFOS</b>	vicepresident@pgifishingclub.org
TREASURER	<b>LISA ROSS</b>	treasurer@pgifishingclub.org
SECRETARY	<b>PATTI KUNARD</b>	pattijmk@comcast.net

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSN	<b>BOB MAYES</b>	cca.cmac@pgifishingclub.org
FISHING EVENTS	<b>LARRY KISSNER</b>	fishingevents@pgifishingclub.org
GREETERS	<i>Vacant</i>	greeters@pgifishingclub.org
MEMBERSHIP	<b>TIM LOCKE</b>	membership@pgifishingclub.org
NEWSLETTER	<b>JIM KUNARD</b>	pattijmk@comcast.net
RECORD KEEPER	<b>PAUL WHITING</b>	recordkeeper@pgifishingclub.org
SOCIAL EVENTS	<i>Vacant</i>	socialdirector@pgifishingclub.org
SPONSORSHIP	<b>LYLE ROSS</b>	advertising@pgifishingclub.org
WEBMASTER	<b>RICHARD EMBURY</b>	website@pgifishingclub.org

# MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS



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](mailto:g2873477@hotmail.com)**
- **Gretchen Sunderland (Harbor Only, especially for beginner women), [gretchensun2@gmail.com](mailto:gretchensun2@gmail.com)**
- **Fred De Mella (Inshore or Offshore) [fdemella@gmail.com](mailto: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: [president@pgifishingclub.org](mailto:president@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)**

# MEMBER PERSONAL ADS



## 2022 E2 ELITE CRAIGCAT

Have some fun tooling around together in your personal watercraft! Tohatsu 30 Hp out-board with less than 80 hours (metered), 6-gallon tank for hours of cruising. New Battery last month, Collapsible Bimini Cover, 4 Rod Holders, Anchor Package, Blue Tooth Radio, Storage Trunk, Drink Holders, 2 Collapsible Paddles for skinny water navigating and a full length boat cover. Asking \$8,500 (\$15k new in Feb of 2022). Located in Punta Gorda Isles. No Trailer.

Call or Text Patti Kunard at 561-346-7451



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# ADVERTISEMENTS



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AUTHENTIC ENGLISH PUB & RESTAURANT

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Home



Beer, Wine & Cocktails  
The Bevvv Bible



Food Menu  
Tradition meets Flavour



Darts  
A Game of Skill & Beer



Shopping  
Get Cool Pub Swag



About  
The Icehouse

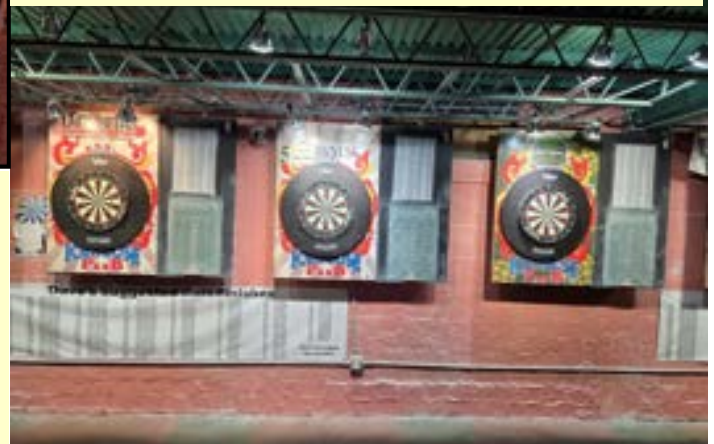
Built in the 1890s, the structure was used as an ice plant for the fishing industry. Hurricane Charley all but destroyed the building when it tore the roof off and the south wall collapsed, but the building's owner's refused to demolish this South Florida landmark pledging to rebuild it and-they-did.



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*Benjamin Franklin*



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# ADVERTISEMENTS



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# ADVERTISEMENTS



PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

**THE HIGHLY REGARDED  
PGI FISHING CLUB  
IS A PART OF THE PUNTA GORDA ISLES  
CIVIC ASSOCIATION (PGICA)**

## **Elena's RESTAURANT**

**Breakfast-Lunch-Dinner**

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## MANGROVE SNAPPER



GREG WIDNEY



RICK BROWN



JIM WATERS

## CREVALLE JACK



LYNDA

# FISH PHOTOS APRIL

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JEFF BARNHART

## NEEDLEFISH



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## PINFISH



JIM WATERS

## KING MACKEREL



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## CATFISH



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# FISH PHOTOS APRIL

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**REDFISH**



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## SNOOK



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JAN HOLMS

# FISH PHOTOS APRIL

## SPANISH MACKEREL



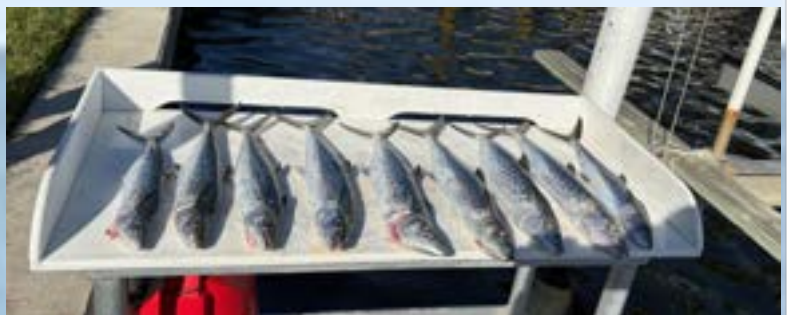
FRANK MALONEY



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JIM KUNARD



JEFF JOHNSON'S MACKS

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