

FORT MYERS BEACH TARPON HUNTERS CLUB.



TARPON TALES

CLUB MEMBERS NEWSLETTER www.fmbth.com

July 2011

It's a sad, sad situation

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*And it's getting more and more absurd That, in the words of one of my favorite singer/song writers **Elton John (Sir)** is about the extent of it, for July 2011. Possibly the worse month on record for Tarpon caught by our club. A total of ONE reported release since the last newsletter. As of last month, which I boasted about, we had a good start to the year with 113 releases, but for July, just add one more! What on earth is happening? We run the normal places, off the beaches of Fort Myers, Sanibel and Captiva and back down the inside, Power lines, Markers 18 to 4 etc, sometimes without even seeing a Tarpon. A different but sad story "up river at Cheatersville" the Tarpon are still showing, not in great numbers (a beach fisherman would be pleased to see them) ... but they're not biting. The hunts were all a bust including the Gena Clark Ladies Hunt (*Corinne should I rephrase that?*) The last Tarpon released, except the one mentioned above, was by **Gary Reichart** on 25th of June. Of the other top leaders, **Ronda Fyffe's** last fish was June 15th, June 12th for **Ben** and **Jerry Stephenson** (what great ice cream they could make) and **Rick (RD) DuJardin** was way, way, back on June 8th. RD and Ben have at last forsaken the river but like everybody else, having no joy finding Tarpon in the gulf. What is causing this lack of fish? Yes the bait is sporadic, some days it's hard to find birds diving. There is a severe lack of mackerel, normally a good indication that there will be Tarpon around. Others are saying that a fast rise in water temperature early this year has something to do with it. Or is too much pressure on the fish may be keeping them away from our area. Oh yes, that only Tarpon released July 17th was off the Sanibel lighthouse, by your President! And the chorus sang "*It's a sad, sad situation and it's getting more and more absurd*" Well, we hope not.*

Ray Lister – Just Lookin' *My plea last month for a 4 Tarpon starter each year fell on deaf ears, so I've added it into the rules – nobody reads them!*

In case you members don't remember, these are Tarpon, Silver Kings, or aka "the man in the silver suit"



50th Anniversary of Fort Myers Beach Tarpon Club in 2012

As there is no Tarpon news to relate, I'm having to fill this newsletter with other related topics. So - at our June meeting I brought up the upcoming anniversary of our club in 2012. I asked our members if they had thoughts as to celebrations to mark this great event. My own idea is to have a nice buffet dinner at a local restaurant, publicize the event by way of radio, newspapers, fliers, Florida Sportsman etc. and the internet. Inviting past and present members of the club and our sponsors to join us for the evening. The club should have enough money to fund such an event – if John Jay will let us spend it. Perhaps John can find enough cash in his slush fund!

Other ideas that were suggested by our members that evening were, renting a boat for a dinner cruise or a trip on the Pirate ship; apparently it has a full liquor bar!!! Kevin Vertesch suggested that we have a Tarpon fishing event with money prizes and this could be in conjunction with other festivities. We have plenty of time to get things organized. The club was officially formed in February 1952. The fishing competition would need to be later in the year, when we hope there are Tarpon in the gulf! Think about it, any suggestions are welcome, but whatever happens, let's have one hell of a party. Not many clubs keep going for 50 years. But we are the oldest Tarpon fishing club in the world.

2011 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: RAY LISTER
481-2201 Cell-850-3275
raylisters@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT: RICK (RD)
DuJardin 482-5129 910-4308

SECRETARY: DON COOK
395-3459

TREASURER: JOHN JAY
466-7624

WEIGHMASTER: GARY DANIS
848-5370 (Ask Gary)

2011 BOARD of DIRECTORS

ANDY HEROLD ~ 947-6271

CARL KEUTGEN ~ 543-1966

MAC & LOIS MACKENZIE
437-2487

CRAIG (KEG) McLUCAS
848-6349

BOB REED 283-4427 344-6697

JERRY STEPHENSON
463-1745

KEVIN VERTESCH ~ 425-5672

Tarpon Releases – Honor Roll – as of July 29th 2011

Standings	Club Members Name	# of TARPON	LAST TARPON	TIME of 1st FISH	1st TARPON	Capt Pts.
1	BEN ALDERMAN	23	12-Jun	7:27	4-Apr	3
2	RICK DuJARDIN	16	8-Jun	8:48	24-Mar	11
3	JERRY STEPHENSON	14	12-Jun	7:50	16-Apr	1
4	GARY REICHART	10	25-Jun	8:30	30-Apr	
5	RONDA FYFFE	7	15-Jun	11:00	16-Apr	
6	MELISSA STANDLEY	6	8-Jun	9:30	9-Apr	
7	RICH CHRISTIAENS	5	18-Jun	12:00	29-May	
8	KEG MCLUCAS	3	11-Jun	10:05	20-Mar	
9	BOBBY RATTERREE	3	18-Jun	9:02	1-May	1
10	JEFF DOYAL	3	27-May	9:30	7-May	
11	RYAN BRANDT	2	18-Jun	9:20	16-Apr	
12	LOIS MACKENZIE	2	28-May	11:39	18-Apr	
13	JOHN MCDANIEL	2	26-Apr	10:15	26-Apr	
14	ROB PHELAN	2	7-May	13:00	6-May	
15	PETE MAASTRICHT	2	17-Jun	7:30	8-May	
16	MAC MACKENZIE	2	25-May	14:00	11-May	1
17	DALE JOHNSON	2	20-May	8:40	20-May	
18	TOMMY STEPHENSON	1	16-Apr	9:15	16-Apr	
19	MATT STANDLEY	1	17-Apr	12:00	17-Apr	
20	CALEB KLINE	1	23-Apr	9:50	23-Apr	
21	PETER CUTLER	1	5-May	11:30	5-May	
22	JESSICA ALSOP	1	15-May	9:48	15-May	
23	BOB REED	1	21-May	8:00	21-May	
24	NICOLE REED	1	21-May	18:00	21-May	
25	CHRIS VERTESCH	1	22-May	11:40	22-May	
26	TAYLOR DuJARDIN	1	8-Jun	9:00	8-Jun	
27	KEVIN VERTESCH					2
		Total 113 June				
28	RAY LISTER	1	17-July	10:15	17-July	
		Total 114 July				

Club Schedule – End of July to Labor Day Weekend – Good Fishing Club Members!

<u>July</u>	Sun.	31 st	One Day Hunt	
<u>August</u>	Wed.	3 ^d	Monthly Meeting	7pm Bonita Bills
	Sat/Sun	6 th & 7 th	Two Day Hunt	3pm Weigh-in Sun at Bonita Bills
	Sun.	14 th	One Day Hunt	
	Sat/Sun	20 th & 21 st	Two Day Hunt	3pm Weigh-in Sun at Bonita Bills
	Sat	27 th	One Day Hunt	
<u>September</u>	Sat/Mon	3/4/5 th	Three Day Hunt	3pm Weigh-in Mon at Bonita Bills (Labor Day Weekend)

Many thanks to Matt Ponzio for printing this newsletter. Visit Matt at his UPS store – 16970-3 San Carlos Blvd.
 Matt is also a drop off point for the Tarpon DNA sample program – Matt's been lonely this month (no DNA's) go see him