

FORT MYERS BEACH TARPON HUNTERS CLUB.



TARPON TALES

CLUB MEMBERS NEWSLETTER www.fmbth.com January 2011

2011 - Great Year for Tarpon Fishing?

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It's a new season for our club, ready or not, it's coming up fast. Did you ever replace that line with a nick in it? Now's the time to do it, don't want to lose that hunt winning Tarpon. Is your boat ready, has the engine been serviced? Do you even have a working engine (RD) With gas prices going up and up, perhaps we can all fish on AFTICA-2 How about it **Gary Danis**, gosh Gary, think of all those Captains Points!

We finished the 2010 season with our annual Tarpon banquet. Held for the first time at Nervous Nellie's on FMB. 65 members and friends packed into an area a lot smaller than promised, but we managed. The food kept on coming and coming and I think from the member comments, a good time was had by all. **Mike Drexler** did us proud locating/organizing the venue. But next year we need more room!!!

Gary Danis, with little help from me, did a great job as MC handing out trophies, prizes and plaques all night long. The raffle as usual, went down very well. Due to the economy, we didn't solicit raffle prizes from our sponsors, but purchased prizes with our club money. Other prizes were donated by club members and we thank them for their generosity. One exception to our not receiving gifts was **Lehr's Economy Tackle**, The club purchased some tackle from **Dave Westra**, but Dave insisted on donating a Penn reel. If you're buying tackle ,go to Lehr's. Dave has supported our club with raffle prizes, for many years.

2010 was, I believe, a good year for the club. Treasurer, (man about town) **John Jay** (yes, he's still chasing the girls) tells me we have about \$4,000 in the bank at the start of this year – including the infamous "slush fund" We finished 2010 with 186 releases by 36 members, of that total, 15 rookies (the largest number we have ever had in the history of our club) released 22 Tarpon. Well done rookies, it's a great start. With 45 Tarpon, **Dale (Sparky) Johnson** came top of the leader board and won the Release Trophy. 2nd was **Rick (RD) DuJardin** with 28 releases and won the **Gibby Gibbons** plaque for the most releases (3) during a hunt plus the DNA Trophy. 3rd was **Jerry Stephenson** with 20 releases – most impressive, because of the few times he fished, winning the Light Tackle Cup (20lb line class or less) and the **Al Jackson - Al Thomas** 3 day Memorial hunt with 5 Tarpon. **Ben Alderman** came in 4th with 14 releases. 5th was **Nichole Reed** with 13 Tarpon, which won her the Ladies Trophy. I came 6th with a measly 6 fish! The "venerable" **Mac Mackenzie** in 9th place won the **Skeet Applegate** Memorial plaque – possibly Mac and Johnny Jay are the only two members who remember who Skeet and Gibby Gibbons were! **Kevin Vertesch** took the Captain's Cup with 13 points. *President's comment – I wuz robbed of that cup – Kevin, in the closing weeks brings in all his northern friends/rookies to earn him the winning points! Congratulations everyone, even Kevin!*

Tat ta for now – Ray Lister – Not Lookin' yet

2011 OFFICERS

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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

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437-2487

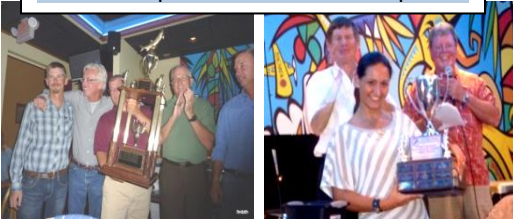
CRAIG (KEG) McLUCAS
848-6349

BOB REED 283-4427 344-6697

JERRY STEPHENSON
463-1745

KEVIN VERTESCH ~ 425-5672

2010 Tarpon Club Awards Banquet



Interclub Trophy

Nicole Reed



Dale Johnson 1st Place, 45 Tarpon

Proud Winners Receiving their Prizes



Rick (RD) DuJardin

Jerry Stephenson

Send in your membership application – Tarpon don't count if your not registered

Don't forget, our treasurer, John Jay doesn't collect money boat side. If you've just released that first tarpon of 2011 but didn't sign up – it don't count. I may allow it for a huge amount of cash – so you could give that a try!

Release Review for 2010 – “Weighty Matters” by Gary Danis - Weighmaster

2010 was a very good season for us; we released 186 Tarpon, 14 more than last year. The breakdown for this year, very similar to last year with the doubles off FMB being the most productive. Junkanoo's area produced, but not as well as 2009. The C span to the Sanibel Lighthouse did well; Don's hole fared well late in the season. That whole area produced 37 Tarpon. Around Captiva, the pass produced 11 releases and Bowman's Beach 17 for 2010. Franklin Locks only produced one Tarpon in 2010, but 18 early in 2009! As usual for baits, Catfish tails was by far the best, followed by live pinfish, threads and crabs, especially earlier in the season. 3 Tarpon were caught using fly rods.

Location	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	Totals
Boca Grande			1	1	2	1			5
Captiva Pass			2	6		2		1	11
Redfish Pass			2		1				3
Bowman's Beach				10			3	4	17
Blind Pass									
Knaps Point			5				1		6
Sundial				1				3	4
C Span to Light House		3			10	11	13		37
M4 to Picnic Island		1	9			2			12
M11 to M18			2		1				3
Matlacha Pass		1		2	2				5
Iona Cove									
Bunche Beach						1			1
Causeway A & B									
Doubles			5	20	24	9	6	1	65
Junkanoo			3	1	1		2		7
Triples									
May Reef									
Tripod FMB		2	7						9
Franklin Locks				1					1
	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	Totals
Totals	0	7	36	42	41	26	25	9	186

All made up for a good season - Thanks for helping me keep good records with your release info.
Looking forward to a great 2011 season. Gary Danis – Weighmaster.

Odds & Ends, or Bits & Pieces, or Odds and Sods, call it what you want – just read on.

Website maintenance. We are coming up to the 2nd/3rd year of using Nancy Koucky of NRK Designs for the upkeep of our website, I email the club news, fliers, newsletters and photo's etc to Nancy and she puts it into what I consider is a very professional form. She charges us \$300 per year, which is due soon. Any comments let me know! If you go on line to our website www.fmbth.com you can see all the photos taken at our 2010 Tarpon Banquet

Social Networks – Yes, I have no idea what they are, but club member Matt Ponzio who does great work sending out our emails and newsletters for us, tells me he has set up a facebook page for our club and will keep it updated. I told Matt that I doubt if I would ever go on it – He said that's fine – Members can talk about me behind my back! I can see, that after all these years – still no respect! More details about facebook from Matt at our meetings.

The first hunt of the year was Jan 1st (yes, New Year's day!) Lois MacKenzie had named this the “freeze your butt off hunt. It's been fished in the past; Tarpon have been caught in living memory! Now days it is has become just a social event and about 12 of us endured the cold to partake of an adult beverage at Bonita Bills. I tell you this, to let you all know that according to a fairly reliable source at Guts & Glory a Tarpon estimated at 210 lbs was released over the holidays at – where else, the power plant. I won't see you there next year; we want to be in the warm Caribbean again!

Upcoming meetings: - The first two meetings of the year are board meetings, Feb 2nd and 23rd but all members are very welcome. We will be mainly discussing our annual Tarpon Clinic on March 2nd but many other topics can be talked about. With this newsletter we are sending out a 2011 schedule and a 2011 membership application. Hope to see you all at Bonita Bills ready for a fantastic Tarpon season. Release a “Silver King” and catch the fever.

Thanks to Matt Ponzio for mailing this newsletter/email. Visit Matt at his UPS store – 16970-3 San Carlos Blvd.
Matt is also a drop off point for the Tarpon DNA sample program

Tarpon Releases – Honor Roll - Final Standings for the 2010 Season

Standings	Club Members Name	# of TARPON	DATE last TARPON	TIME of 1st FISH	DATE of 1st TARPON	Captains Pts.	DNA
1	DALE JOHNSON	45	5-Sep	13:00	13-May	2	2
2	RICK DUJARDIN	28	25-Sep	14:30	13-May	1	12
3	JERRY STEPHENSON	20	12-Jul	7:30	7-May		
4	BEN ALDERMAN	14	25-Sep	11:35	15-May		
5	NICHOLE REED	13	5-Sep	20:20	31-May		
6	RAY LISTER	6	17-Sep	18:45	1-May	1+2	2
7	LES BOYLE	5	2-Oct	8:59	15-Apr	1	
8	MAC MACKENZIE	4	17-Jun	13:07	26-May		
9	PETE MAASTRICHT	4	16-Jun	9:30	30-May		
10	RICH CHRISTIAENS	3	17-Jul	16:00	22-Apr		
11	EDDIE ALSOP	3	12-Jul	10:56	8-May		
12	CHARLIE CUTLER R	3	14-May	13:30	13-May		
13	LOIS MACKENZIE	3	29-May	11:30	26-May		
14	TOMMY STEPHENSON	3	13-Jun	8:45	13-Jun		
15	CHUCK PRESSER	2	13-Jul	9:00	9-May		
16	PETER CUTLER R	2	14-May	10:30	12-May		
17	JESSICA ALSOP	2	26-Sep	10:30	15-May		
18	KEVIN VERTESCH	2	29-Sep	10:39	22-May	Total 13	
19	KEG McLUCAS	2	30-May	10:30	29-May		
20	MARK PETRITES R	2	28-Aug	7:00	7-Jun		1
21	WAYNE HOOPER R	2	31-Jul	10:35	16-Jun		
22	MIKE VERTESCH R	2	29-Sep	15:40	29-Sep		
23	ERIC RISK R	2	2-Oct	14:22	1-Oct		
24	KEITH POLK R	2	3-Oct	17:32	2-Oct		
25	JEFF KOEPKE	1	8-May	9:30	8-May		
26	MARY DEMIK R	1	16-May	11:53	16-May		
27	KEVIN WATTS	1	16-May	12:40	16-May		
28	DAVID JEDEL R	1	22-May	14:45	22-May		
29	CLIVE HASTINGS R	1	29-May	11:45	29-May		
30	PHIL LEMKE R	1	15-Jun	19:00	15-Jun		
31	GARY REICHART	1	21-Aug	8:13	21-Aug		
32	JOHN MCDANIEL	1	28-Aug	11:00	28-Aug		
33	BILL ZWICKER R	1	7-Sep	11:40	7-Sep		
34	JIM FAYE R	1	18-Sep	11:59	18-Sep		
35	DAVID CAMPBELL R	1	1-Oct	14:58	1-Oct		
36	DAVID WILLSEY R	1	2-Oct	18:32	2-Oct		
	RYAN BRYANT	0	22-Apr			2	
	Total	186					

R = Rookie