

MINUTES  
Fishing & Boating Club Meeting  
Monday November 6th, 2023

The November meeting of the Fishing & Boating Club was called to order by Commodore Sue Redding at 6:05 pm at the Marathon Moose Lodge.

Commodore Sue Redding asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sue stated that the purpose of the Club is to promote fishing, boating and good fellowship among members.

Past Commodores and Charter Members were recognized. Veterans were asked to stand.

Beer, wine and cocktails were available at the bar at 5:30 pm.

The minutes of the April meeting were accepted on a motion by Jerry Regan which was seconded by Bob Merna and passed by the members.

Recording Secretary Diane Slusher had no report.

Commodore Sue Redding announced Treasurer Stephanie Withrow is absent tonight, traveling in Spain. Sue proceeded to read the Treasurer's Report.

Membership Chair Pat Fischer announced that moving the due date for membership dues has been a great change in managing the membership list. She announced that we will soon be able to take online payments for membership dues and events. She reminded members we will no longer be publishing a newsletter so for up-to-date club news, visit the website at <https://keycolonyfishing.com>.

Tournament Director Tim Husel announced tournament entry fees will remain the same this year. He announced he has secured a new sponsor in Petersen Repair and Maintenance and noted Centennial Bank will no longer be supporting the club. Tim announced amberjack are being dropped from the tournament because of dwindling entries and getting confused with lesser amberjack which were not intended to be included. He has added lane snapper throughout season and added yellow-jack for the months January thru April when grouper is closed. Tim then proceeded to announce the tournament winners from last April. A complete list of winners will be posted on <https://keycolonyfishing.com>.

Commodore Sue Redding announced Vice Chair Tom Alferes was absent tonight due to being on a cruise in Italy so we will not have Uncle Manny jokes this evening.

Fundraising Chair Joey Raspe announced the Kids Fishing Derby was a success again this summer but had fewer participants than ever before. He suggested it was due to ever rising housing costs. Joey stated Grace Jones School, who normally provides the largest list of candidates, only had 10 students listed for the program this year. With the lower turnout, he has a lot of left over supplies for next summer's event. Joey announced that October 2nd has been officially proclaimed as Ron Sutton Day which was met with a resounding round of applause from the membership.

Fundraising John Fruhmorgen announced the club is in its second year with a Toys for Tots program and asked for donations to be brought to next month's meeting. Gift bags are being prepared for children 12 and under. The first-year efforts yielded 89 bags and John plans to surpass that number this year. He thanked Joey Raspe for the \$1,000 donation from the Kids Fishing Derby. John reminded members to save their unwanted household and fishing items for the upcoming event at the Clam Bake in February.

Past Commodore Joe Schmidt announced that One Blood will be in town Thursday from 9:30 - 2:30 and encouraged everyone to make an appointment. Joe also encouraged membership to attend the upcoming commissioner meeting November 16th at KC Inn as there is an effort underway to try and reopen Marble Hall.

Social Chairman Ron Teke announced a Sunset Moonrise raft up event will be held Monday, November 27 with Sunset 5:33 and Moonrise 5:46. He asked the members to please stay in the calm water as he would like to try a new anchor

system where half the boats tie backwards to those set up traditionally which should lead to more direct interaction of members.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Commodore Sue Redding announced the golf bag carts for the Key Colony Beach Golf Course from last year's event, Chaired by Rich Vieth, have been ordered and are expected in around November 21st.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The Commodore announce New Year's Eve's will be held at the Elks again this year with a steak dinner for \$50 offered. With Rick and Dayna unavailable, 4 Sheets to the Wind will provide the entertainment. Rick and Dayna will return for our event in 2024.

Commodore Sue Redding stated the Coast Guard boating safety class that was organized last season will finally be held January 20th & 21st for Marathon High School Students. If any members are interested in joining the event, please contact Sue.

New Christmas Boat Parade Chair Steve DeCrow announced the event is quickly approaching. The event is Sunday December 10th. He stated he has half of last year's captains committed but needs your help in spreading the word. Steve announced Boot Key Harbor will not be hosting an event this year so is hopeful he will beat former Chair Ted Fischer's record number of boats last year. He thanked the sponsors of the event that were present including Karen Raspe and Tracy Chacksfield of Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate.

Member Ann Vieth reminded members the Key Colony Beach Community Association's annual welcome back party is Saturday, November 18th at 5 PM at the Key Colony Inn. She announced it is themed to the 70s this year and costumes are encouraged but not required. Tickets are still available and can be purchased online at [kbcba.org](http://kbcba.org).

Commodore Sue Redding thanked Renee, Jerry and team for hosting us at the Marathon Moose Lodge. Sue thanked tonight's volunteers including greeters Mike Yunker, Sue and Brad Thompson, 50/50 ticket sales with Kitty Sutton and her sister Connie White. She thanked Cindy and Bill Cato for tonight's Gumbo dinner along with Tom DiFransico and Sandy Bachman for their help serving.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 pm on a motion made by Joe Schmidt, which was seconded by Florence Schmidt, and passed by the members. Congratulations were given to the Schmidt newlyweds by the members.

The winner of the \$125 prize from the 50/50 drawing was Florence Schmidt.

Submitted by,  
Diane Slusher, Recorder  
November 7th, 2023