

MINUTES
Fishing & Boating Club Meeting
Friday December 1st, 2023

The December meeting of the Fishing & Boating Club was called to order by Commodore Sue Redding at 6:00 pm at the Key Colony Beach City Maintenance Garage.

Commodore Sue Redding asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Veterans were asked to stand. Past Commodores we recognized.

Sue stated that this year marks the 30th Anniversary of The Club and asked Charter Member Chet Dunn to stand. Chet made remarks on the history of The Club to all of our delight. Sue announced two customized shirt options were available for members to order to commemorate the anniversary. See Barb Heitman & Diane Merna who are taking orders and have sizes available to see in each size.

Sue stated the purpose of the Club is to promote fishing, boating and good fellowship among members. Sue announced the meetings will be held here on the 1st Friday of the Month the rest of the season.

Karen Raspe, Tracy Chacksfield and Jerry Ong began serving beer, wine and cocktails at the bar at 5:30 pm.

The minutes of the November meeting were accepted on a motion by Flo Schmidt which was seconded by Jim Withrow and passed by the members.

Treasurer Stephanie Withrow read the Treasurer's Report which was accepted on a motion made by Joe Schmidt, seconded by Pat Fischer.

Recording Secretary Diane Slusher had no report.

Membership Chair Pat Fischer announced she has New Year's Eve tickets for sale tonight. The event will include entertainment by 4 Sheets to the Wind and a steak or chicken dinner offered for \$50a. The Little Palm Island trip was sold out so a 2nd trip has been added. See Pat if you are interested in signing up.

Director at Large Carman Slusher announced he has club burgees for sale tonight. \$25 for the burgee only or \$35 for the flag and mounting hardware combo. Carman stated he had 12 Club Members as well as waiting list folks help with the setup for tonight's meeting. He thanked members for their contributions last season and reminded everyone the club has a 2 hour per year volunteer requirement.

Commodore Sue Redding asked members to be generous when the bar tip comes around tonight in Fundraising Joey Raspe absence.

Fundraising John Fruhmorgen reminded members what a great value our club is and said Duck Key charges \$1,500 per year for their club. John thanked Greg Chorebanian of The Wicked Tuna who again donated a handmade fishing rod to be auctioned in the silent auction at this year's Clam Bake. John stated the club is in its second year with a Toys for Tots program and thanked members for their generous donations brought to tonight's meeting. John reminded members to save their unwanted household and fishing items for the upcoming event at the Clam Bake in February.

Commodore Sue Redding introduced our newest sponsor, Charlie Rosato from Emerald Marine Repairs. Charlie gave us some background on his experience, listed his services and said he is always on time and will always show up!

Tournament Director Tim Husel announced that this year if he has 56 tournament entries, he will carry over the \$50 prize to the following month if no one enters a fish for the previous month. He announced the tournament winners from November. A complete list of winners will be posted on <https://keycolonyfishing.com>.

1st year Christmas Boat Parade Chair Steve DeCrow announced the event is approaching quickly and will be held Sunday December 10th. The Boot Key Harbors' Parade was in question but will again be held the night before ours as in years past. Steve thanked everyone for their generosity offering dock space for those out-of-town participants in this year's parade. Steve stated he had 13 boats ahead of tonight's meeting but received 2 cancelations so encouraged members to sign up for the festivities. Recording Secretary Diane Slusher raised her hand and volunteered to join the event.

Past Commodore Joe Schmidt reminded members to wear red on Fridays to honor our military service men and women serving our country abroad.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commodore Sue Redding announced the golf bag carts the club is donating to Key Colony Beach Golf Course from last year's event, Chaired by Rich Vieth should be in any day. Sue thanked Bob Merna for his help on the project.

Commodore Sue Redding stated the Coast Guard boating safety class that was organized last season will be held January 20th & 21st for Marathon High School Students. The certification will typically save you 15% on your boat insurance. If any members are interested in joining the event, please contact Sue.

Doug Cuje reminded members he has the catch and release device available and thanked members for their previous purchases.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commodore reminded members our New Year's Eve's party will be held at the Elks again this year with a steak or chicken dinner for \$50 offered. We are looking for 3-4 volunteers to help serve dinner. There will be available parking across the street. With Rick and Dayna unavailable, 4 Sheets to the Wind will provide the entertainment with a 5-piece band. There will be a champagne toast at 10:00 PM. Rick and Dayna will return for our event in 2024.

Commodore Sue Redding announced the Golf Tournament will be held March 9th. Sue thanked Bruce Vieth who volunteered to chair the event once again.

Vice Commodore Tom Alferes was welcomed back from Italy by the Commodore. Tom reminded us of the loyalty Rick and Dayna have shown us over the years. They have played our Clam Bake 14 years and our New Year's Eve party 10 of 12 years. Thanks to Rick and Dayna! He reminded members it takes 110 volunteers for the Clam Bake. Tom proceeded to entertain the members with an Uncle Manny joke.

Commodore Sue Redding thanked tonight's members for their help including Kitty Sutton and her sister Connie White for 50/50 sales, Jo and Chris Corso who served as tonight's greeters along with Karen Raspe, Tracy Chacksfield and Jerry Ong for the bar service and Karen Raspe for providing the pizza from Driftwood Pizza.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 pm on a motion made by Joe Schmidt, which was seconded by Doug Cuje, and passed by the members.

The winner of the \$100 prize from the 50/50 drawing was Lynn Goodwin who generously donated some of it back to the club.

Submitted by,
Diane Slusher, Recorder
December 3rd, 2023