

Brevard County Airboat Association

POST OFFICE BOX 192

MELBOURNE, FL. 32902

www.brevardairboatclub.com



NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH

As of the end of the March meeting 86 of last year's 152 members had renewed their memberships, including 6 families. Thirteen of last year's 40 senior members have paid their discounted dues. As of the end of February the club had \$5,366.78 in its bank account. An abbreviated Treasurer's report for February is located near the end of the newsletter.

President's Message- What a Month March was!!! We started our new year and I'm happy to say the membership is growing. We unfortunately lost a couple of members, but we picked up a few new members who I'm sure will step up when needed.

We had our first fundraiser for Bozeman camp, the poker run! Fantastic showing. We had about 30 boats and the weather was perfect. Thanks to Scott and all involved, Great Job. The same weekend John Radencic and several of us assisted the local Boy Scouts get to their camp, and home on Sunday. We had plenty of help and the boy scouts loved it! Thanks to everyone who got involved, we had a great time.

I look forward to seeing everyone Wed night. Be Safe and happy boating Walt Lorraine

All right ya'll, that cold northern wind is a lettin' up and we're a gittin' back to the southern climate we all love so much. We're blowin' our boats along while them damn Yankees are a still blowin' snow off their driveways. Can I git a screamin' YeeHaw and a humble Amen?

Speakin' of humble, the dinner we had fixed fer us was some grilled burgers and dogs with the fixins', some kind a rice stuff, pickled cucumbers and banana puddin'. It mighta been simple but it sure filled me up jus' fine and dandy. If'n ya showed up late at this one you were outta luck 'cause this is the first time we run outta food.

Meeting Called to Order at 7:30PM.

We recited the Pledge of Allegiance and ya know we got it right. O' course we weren't under the pressure Christina was when tryin' ta sing the National Anthem at the Super Bowl.

We started a new thing where we send a paper around during the meeting and ya write your name on it, or in some cases make your mark (fer them ole' timers that have been around before writin' was). This'a ways we can tell who was'a here and who didn't bother or, in that rare instance, who couldn't make it.

Motion made to accept the Meeting Minutes for the February meeting, seconded and accepted.

Pres. Report- Walt **Lorraine** welcomed everyone to the meetin'.

V.P. Report- **Tina Nail** said she and **Dennis Meyers** were helping me organize the paperwork associated with the position of Secretary. Dennis also got a fancy new roly cart that can hold and organize more club paperwork. At first I was looking for a drop chute in the top so I could go on filin' stuff like I was used to doin' but then Tina let me know she was gonna help to file it all proper like. One'a my biggest fears bein' Secretary of this here club was that somebody was gonna ask me for somethin' I'm supposed to have an' I know damn well I ain't gonna be able to find it. Let me tell ya what I'm thinkin' right about now..... For the love of God, thank you ya'll for pitchin' in, cause I may be able to slap some words down for the minutes but filin', sortin' an keepin' track a stuff jus' ain't my strong suite, jus' ask my wife, or for that matter anyone that's known me longer than five minutes. Tina also mentioned that **The Indian River Airboat Club** organized a ride up our way and she said there was a good write up about it in the Marsh Rider Magazine.

Treasurer's Report- **Jim Rosasco** made mention after his usual number spittin' scenario, that he wrote a check to reimburse **Doug Hawley** for new clubhouse keys and pleaded with Doug to PLEASE cash the check this time so it wouldn't screw up his book keepin' for the next six months again. Of course Doug probably didn't hear him. Jim also asked for a volunteer to audit the books this month as it's time again for that dreaded annual audit.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report as read by **Jim Rosasco**, seconded and accepted.

Announcements & Entertainment- **Dennis Myers** reiterated that the current Board of Directors Meeting Minutes will now be included in the newsletter. He also asked members to become involved in writing, phoning or e-mailing their representatives concerning the **Everglades National Refuge Proposal**. He asked that you read up on it and check it out for yourselves online at <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/gretereverglades/pdf/GEPIProjectProposal.pdf> so you can educate yourselves on this proposal, preferably, before contacting them. Dennis also suggested that if any members are havin' a hard time makin' ends meet and might need some extra money to put food on the table; they could clean the clubhouse before a meeting.

April 30th is gonna be the date for our 4th Annual Neil Ridenour Swamp Clean-Up. Once again it'll be in conjunction with **Keep Brevard Beautiful St. John's River Celebration of Clean-ups**. On March 12th **Jon Radencic** needed some help gettin' **Boy Scout Troop #365 to Preacher's Camp**. There was gonna be about 10 Scouts and their gear. They was gonna need help getting' back in on March 13th too. **The 1st Annual Bozeman's Camp Poker run was on March 12th**.

Ducks Unlimited was also having a git together with an auction and raffles at **Camp Holley** on March 12th. It was startin' at 1PM, a donation dinner was beginning at 4PM and the cost was \$35 a person or \$50 a couple.

Happy/Sad Dollars- Tina did this again this month to help us raise money towards the **Christmas Parade** and them youngin's that are unfortunate and need toys and food and such. Thanks Tina.

Building Update- **Corey Nail** let us know that he thought the building is in good shape. **Walt Lorraine** said he noticed some mold cropping up here and there. Walt also said it's about time for our spring cleaning of the building. We did a good job last time and he'd like to see the same enthusiasm when we clean it next. If you're interested in helping out, get with Walt. It was also mentioned that for those who don't know, or have never stopped in the clubhouse in the summer, we don't keep the A/C on 24/7. This might be a cause to

some mold developing. Someone suggested the possibility of running a dehumidifier.

Bozeman Camp Update- **Dave Winnett** said he and his kinfolk have been cleanin' up around **Bozeman's** and **Bulldozer** since the **SJRWMD** did that last real good burn from **Hannah's Camp** to the cabins. He said after everything was burned up, it sure made the trash a lot easier to see, they was findin' beer cans that must a been twenty years old out there. However, he said the downfall was ya ended up blacker than the ace of spades from pickin' through all the burnt bushes and palmettos. (I know there's a cotton pickin' joke in there, but I jus' couldn't find a way to write it out.) A big thanks to Dave for getting' a lot of that area cleaned up.

Merchandise Update- New hats are coming soon.

Old Business- The trail and willow trimming has been continuing, it's been a slow process with few volunteers but it's getting' done. (A lot more's been getting' done lately 'cause a bunch of old guys have been chippin' in.) There's still a pot load a trimmin' that needs or could be done so's any of ya that can still swing a sickle git your butts in gear and git involved, trail trimmin's also a good excuse to the wife as to why ya ain't getting' chores done around the house.

Walt said the **Bylaw Committee** needs to get a date set so's we can get a move on those issues that need attending to. **Jim Rosasco** asked that committee members can start by e-mailing to each other to get the ideas flowin'. **Dennis Myers** said both he and **Walt Lorraine** are on the committee but would like to remain neutral.

Corey Nail found himself locked in the closet, but once he figured his way out, he let us know that he found a spot to organize a 5K run. He looked into the insurance on the event and it'll cost around \$400.00. He needs help making out a flyer and getting sponsors. He'd like it to be a wetlands/conservation run. The people he's working with to organize this event need about 4 to 5 months advance notice. The overall out-of-pocket cost would be about \$1800.00. He feels this will help us get more funds in the kitty. The organizers have told him this would be a great idea. As far as airboat races, Corey said the Sarno Mud Pits he looked into just weren't gonna "cut it". It ain't a good venue for airboats, there's jus' too much dirt

and mud and not enough grass. Basically he said we need a good spot for runnin' the races. Walt asked about water racing?

Brandy Hall Search- **Tina Nail** let us know that so far, Brandy's husband **Jeff Hall** has been cleared of any charges pertaining to her disappearance. Also, on **March 21st at 9PM the Discovery Channel** was doing a show called "**Lost Hero**" about her disappearance and circumstances related to it that was supposed to receive nationwide coverage. We all hope this might lead to further clues and help towards the search for Brandy.

Boat Ramp- We is still using it but them holes have more lives than a ring-tail cat.

New Business- Walt informed us that **Chris and Charity Chardt** wrote him an e-mail stating that they were not renewing their membership. Charity asked that her e-mail be read at the meeting and **Tina Nail** did. I ain't writin' it all, but in a nutshell, they quit because the **BCAA** quit the **FAA**. Tit for Tat so to speak.

Speaking of quitin' the **FAA**, Walt did mention that although our club has opted out this year, any members who still wanted to support the **FAA** could certainly do so, the **FAA** offers individual memberships. **Albert Henderson** pointed out to us that the Board had decided that they ain't against the concept of a state wide organization representing airboaters, but that we weren't in agreement with some of the decisions of the **FAA's** current regime. I reckon we're gonna kind a lay back for the time bein' and see what plays out with the **FAA's** political agenda and the positions they take on various issues.

Dennis pointed out that we got a new (to us) TV/DVD for presentations at the meetings. If anyone does have some topics they'd like to present to the membership using this format, please let Walt know so he can plan for it and still keep the meeting short. Tina got the new bronze plaque with **Ed Bozeman's** name on it for our Membership Memorial Board.

ELECTIONS:

Corey Nail explained the election process.

He then asked for any further nominations.

Jim Rosasco Nominated **Lacy Everett** absentia for President. Lacy wasn't there to accept the nomination. **Albert Henderson** Nominated **Roy Reynolds** for President, Roy nonchalantly accepted.

There weren't no other new nominations.

Dennis Meyers went on to explain some other particulars, as far as the Board of Director's positions, there were two; one position, the one **Doug Hawley** just held is for a term of five (5) years. The other one was to complete the term **Joe Harrison** resigned from and that is for a term of three (3) years. The ballots were passed out. The first vote we took concerned the three (3) year seat. Well, not everybody was a listenin', or maybe Corey just screwed up the explanation but a lot a people just voted on everyone anyways, just like a real Florida voting process, we screwed it up but at least we didn't have hanging doors, chads or pregnant dimples on our ballots. So we had to discard that ballot, explain it more thoroughly and recast the ballot.

The first vote (that counted) was for the three (3) year term for Director and was won by **Jon Radencic**. Runner ups were: **Tina Nail, Dave Porterfield, Joe Kohler** and **Doug Hawley**.

The second vote was for the five (5) year term for Director and was won by **Doug Hawley**. The runners up were **Dave Porterfield, Tina Nail** and **Joe Kohler**.

The second vote was for the positions of **President-**(between **Walt Lorraine** and **Roy Reynolds**), **Vice President-Tina Nail** (Unopposed), **Treasurer- Jim Rosasco** (Unopposed), **Secretary- Scott Smith** (Unopposed) and **Sergeant at Arms – Corey Nail** (Unopposed).

Walt Lorraine was elected President.

All the unopposed positions campaigned endlessly, ran a close race, fought to the bitter end, and finally took victory by the horns elevating themselves to electoral positions usually reserved to only what some persons may only dream of, yea, a few brave, foolhardy souls unselfishly sacrificing life and limb for these humble positions. (More accurately, nobody else would do it, but the other description sounds a lot better.)

Scott's campaign against himself was particularly fierce, there was no holds barred on that one. Scott attacked Scott's lack of formality on writing the newsletter. Scott immediately retaliated by pointing out his sloppy dressing habits and called him a long hair good-for-nothing. Scott stood his ground asking Scott what his credentials were, did Scott, for one instant, think Scott could do just as good a

job at Secretary as Scott could? Scott replied that not only could he do Scott's job, but he could do it with one arm tied behind Scott's back. Scott also attacked Scott's lackadaisical filing skills. Well Scott really took offense to that remark and told Scott if he really thought he could do it then he'd just have to prove it, and on that note Scott conceded the position of Secretary to Scott. I guess now that Scott's been elected, we'll all have to just wait and see what kind of Secretary Scott's gonna turn out to be. Well, good luck Scott and don't let Scott get under your skin, I still love ya.

As secretary I have to officially declare one vote for all of the above candidates that ran unopposed.

Safety Tip- If'n your runnin' west down the south canal from the clubhouse, just past the gas line canal and ya see an alligator, be careful turnin' around to take pictures. Try to let your wake dissipate first especially if you're carryin' a heavy load, it's not your airboat or you're not familiar with driving that airboat.

50/50 Drawing- I ain't got a clue who won last month.

The Book- I got this one, Jim Rosasco won the book and it starts again next month at zero.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30 pm.

Remember how the book works: To win you have to be entered the month your name is drawn **and** the month before. If there is no winner the donations to the book are carried forward until there is a winner. At that time the winner will get 75% of the balance in the book including that month's donations. The other 25% is donated to the club.

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We've started distributing the newsletter via email and this has saved us over \$50.00 per month. If you have an email address but have not been getting a copy of the newsletter electronically please send Jim Rosasco (jrosasco@msn.com) your email address so you can be added to the distribution. There is also several email notices of interest to club members sent during the month which you are missing if you are not on the distribution list.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Walt Lorraine	259-5156
Doug Hawley	863-5157
Jim Rosasco	298-4545
Scott Smith	508-7959
Tina Nail	863-7336

AIRBOATER'S CODE OF ETHICS

Respect the right of everyone to enjoy Florida's waterways.

Learn and observe all State of Florida boating regulations, navigation rules and vessel safety equipment requirements.

Recognize that the noise generated from an airboat propeller and engine exhaust system may annoy others.

Equip the airboat with an automotive-style muffler and operate it in a manner that will reduce engine exhaust sound levels.

Operate at a slow speed on or near boat ramps and move away an adequate distance before powering up, and where possible no power loading.

Use slow speed to reduce noise near residential and public use areas.

Be extra cautious to reduce sound levels during nighttime hours.

Understand that the public will judge by one individual's action all airboaters.

Protect natural resources and do not needlessly disturb wildlife

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