

# Brevard County Airboat Association

POST OFFICE BOX 192

MELBOURNE, FL. 32902

www.brevardairboatclub.com



## NEWSLETTER FOR MAY

As of the end of the April meeting the club had 138 members including 13 family memberships. Twenty members were dropped from the club roster for non-payment of dues.

As of the end of April the club had \$8,005.70 in its bank account. An abbreviated Treasurer's report for March is located near the end of the newsletter.

Freak my freak out ya'll, we had a great dinner of pork chops, macaroni's and green beans. The cook extraordinaire was none other than **Corey Nail** and that chick he's shackin' up with, **Tina**. Now this whole "Dinner & a Meeting" idea seems to be takin' off at a pretty good clip. It's a workin' for me because that's twice now I've run right from work to the meetin' and was glad to have a supper to woof down so's I didn't have to try an' listen to ya'll over my stomach growlin'. (and an occasional cell phone ringin'). This is a new benefit we're tryin' to promote to gain attendance at the meetings as well as stuff our pie holes, so, that bein' said I'd like to mention just to ya'll that this food ain't free, it's supported by donations from all of us to keep this program workin'. I got an estimate from the last few dinners we've served and it appears that we're startin' to look like a bunch a cheap white trash rednecks (not that there's anything wrong with that) but the dinners are costin' us more than the donations and if it weren't for a few members throwin' in a little extra (3 of ya threw in 20 bucks) we'd be losin' money every month. If ya wanna keep this function happenin' I suggest ya start chippin' in a little more moolah. I ain't suggestin' a price per plate but ya'll got common sense and the average of 85 cents a plate donation ain't cuttin' it. If you're really hungry and ya can't afford to chip in a few bucks, talk to **Joe Horschel**. If ya can afford

it but don't want to part with the money, once again, talk to Joe Horschel.

Meeting Called to Order @ 7:30PM

We recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pres. Report- The old "Thanks ya'll for showin' up and we got a lot to squeeze in this hour so bear with me" speech was the setting for how this meetin' was a gonna go. **Walt Lorraine** said that **Ken Willis** from Brevard County Sheriff's Office was here to speak with us tonight. Walt also thanked **Jim Rosasco** for attending the SJRWMD Meeting in Palatka to extend our appreciation for their consideration and adaptation and acceptance of the proposed rule change concerning the "walk-in-during-hunting-season-only" areas in our area of the St. John's. Walt mentioned that he received a couple of phone calls from related governmental officials who also extended their appreciation of our club working with them for a common solution. They also noted that it was unusual and an unexpected pleasure to receive a "Thank You" from a private conservation group such as ours and the effort and time to show such appreciation was not unduly noted. Actually, a "Thanks ya'll" would a done it but we'll take the kudos, modestly, of course.

A Motion was made to accept the Meeting Minutes for the April meeting and was seconded and accepted.

**Mike Helms** volunteered to perform the ("Let's make sure Jim is doing his Treasurer's job right") perfunctory audit and after talkin' about a bunch of numbers that kinda made sense to all of us he reported that Jim wasn't off by even one little red cent for the whole past year. (I can't even do that in one day, but that's why I ain't treasurer.) Jim got himself a big round of applause and I even thought his chest might a' swelled up a bit or maybe he was jus' fixin' to cough, but anyways we're all square with our books and our money keeping business.

V.P. Report- Hmmmm, guess what she had to report this month? Nothing, for a woman that does a lot for this club she sure doesn't have a lot to say. I can't believe I actually wrote those underlined words in the same sentence. Maybe Carol should get me another beer. ☺ (Ouch! she hits hard.)

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

Board of Directors Meeting- **Joe Harrison** started out by thankin' Corey & Tina for puttin' out the vittles. He went on to say that all members of the board were present. First of all, we got ourselves a soda pop machine. It ain't at our clubhouse, we're storin' it over at a friendly airboat manufacturer for now. But we got one. Thank you to the **Kiwi Tennis Club** for that donation and Walt for procuring and repairing/maintaining it. There also seemed to be a bit of a conflict between the **FAA President Bishop Wright** and our club on how we handled the "walk-in-during-hunting-season-only" area's problem that we've been working on the past few months. Apparently the FAA wanted us to utilize our club membership with them so they might help us with this issue but it turns out that it really was a local issue that at this time we have procured a tentative agreement with the **SJRWMD** and we don't have to needlessly waste the resources of the FAA so that other urgent matters, such as the issue in concerning the navigable waterway controversy and night curfews on Airboating in the lakes can be effectively enacted upon. Not to mention that we had a very short time frame to respond effectively according to the deadline for rule change proposals and barely met that deadline. The board approved of a \$150.00 food allowance for our annual clean-up.

Announcements & Entertainment-

Tina wanted to get a shout out to **Charity Chardt** for writin' up a nice article on her Dad's passin' and including pictures in the **Marsh Rider Magazine**. That was really cool of ya.

Someone mentioned that a fellar named **Dustin Bashem** passed away. For those that knew him and his kinfolk, our condolences go out to you and yours. There was to be a memorial for him sometime in June and for more info check in on **SouthernAirboat.com**.

Building Update – **Tom Whisner** cleaned the oven, the back-up frig, organized the closet, put salt in the water softener and went so far as to set up a chair holder at the back of the room using Velcro strips stuck to the floor. So when ya'll are done with the extra chairs at the end of the meeting ya gotta put them back on the black strips on the floor or your gonna answer to Tom. Now Tom's been around the block a time or two so I'd advise you to git it right 'cause any crooked or misplaced chairs might find ya on the wrong side of them hard starin'eyes or that big fisted, no nonsense "you jus' better do it right" attitude that Tom's known for in this here club of ours.

Merchandise Update- I ain't got a clue on this agenda, no notes on it whatsoever. All's I can figure is we were so darn busy with everything else poor **Jim Kuhman** was left in the corner all by himself.

Old Business- I don't really recall, but I think **Glen Frasier** spoke up and it seemed like he was tryin' to pick a fight with someone. I'm still not sure who, but it was certainly someone.

St. John's Clean Up- O.K., now about our clean-up; a.k.a., the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Neil Ridenour Swamp Clean-up**. We did a pretty good job again this year and had a good time doin' it. There were about 36 people that showed up to help us out. We covered a small portion of the area north of Lake Washington and included Sarno Extension and went on down south as far as Bulldozer Canal. **Dennis Myers** and **Dave Porterfield** among others held down the fort at the clubhouse and Tom Whisner volunteered to help cook. The menu featured grilled chicken and corn on the cob, hot dogs and hamburgers as well as all kinds of side dishes brought in by everyone attending. We had a bunch of area businesses that helped support our cause this year; **Ace Hardware of West Melbourne, Pennie Annies, Camp Holley, T.G. I Friday's, Bonefish Willy's, Applebee's, Dustin's Bar B. Q., Mister Tony's, Duck's Unlimited, Doug's A-1-A Locksmith's, Airboats Inc. and even a personal donation by that Canadian Yankee Bill Robson. Jack and Ann Horschel** as well as **Jim Patterson** showed up early (actually "on time") and gave me a good tongue thrashing cause I showed up later than I said 'cause I forgot about the early morning Denny's tradition. (If Ann woulda had a hickory switch I never would have thought I'd a made it outa there

alive). A couple of them good folk from Fellsmere showed up for the cause too, ya'll know who ya are and I gotta tell it's much appreciated, but I gotta stop the name droppin' somewhere. All of ya'll that came out and helped did the right thing and we're mighty glad ya came out and shared the day with us and helped clean up this area of the swamp. **Tina Crowl** helped out with the gift and give-a-way sorting and served as the primary judge of the award ceremony. So here's to the prize winners.....Ta tad a tat a tad a tat a da ta..... (that's supposed to be a bugle blowing an announcement but I don't really know how to write it out in words and I'm tone deaf anyway, that big black guy on American Idol would probably tell me I'm a little "pitchy")

So here goes;

**Most Volume of Trash** was won by: **Richard Chambers**

**Heaviest Trash** was won by: **Kurt McKinney**

**Most Unusual** was won by: **Roy & Crissy Reynolds**

**Smelliest Trash** was won by: **John Radencic**

Our collective efforts resorted in a total of 1720 lbs. of trash taken to the landfill in Walt's dump trailer, approximately 600 lbs. of trash collected in our clubhouse dumpster and an additional 400 lbs. of tires from Sarno extension. Not bad for a four hour clean-up, a good ride, yummy food and fraternizing with the natives. We had a bunch of door prizes and of course prizes for the categories mentioned above so thanks again to our sponsors for helpin' us out and we hope ya'll patronize these businesses if'n ya get the chance.

Brandy Hall Search- Well, Palm Bay Police Department went and got themselves some paragliders from drug money and whatnot, maybe they'll turn somethin' up. We still ain't heard nothing lately on Brandy's where-a-bouts. God Bless you Brandy, we're still rootin' for ya.

Boat Ramp- The water was at the bottom of the concrete last meeting. It ain't there now, here come the rains.

New Business- Walt brought to our attention that there was a new rule change proposal solicited to the SJRWMD concerning the proposed use of "track" vehicles, and what we thought about the idea?

Here's the proposed rule change;

**What is the problem or opportunity?** Establish quota hunt for ten tracked vehicles on the Upper St Johns Marsh WMA to expand hunting opportunities on portions of the 125,000 acre WMA that have limited accessibility. The expanded hunting opportunity could be established as a pilot program and the area monitored by the WMD for 5 to 10 years to see if tracked vehicles were causing environmental impacts. If environmental degradation occurred, the tracked vehicle quota hunts could be reduced or eliminated.

**What is your suggested regulation change?** Amend the WMA prohibition on tracked vehicles and issue 10 quota hunt permits to allow permit holders to use tracked vehicles for hunting and scouting on the area west of the C-40 and C-2 canals, north of the L-74 West levee and south of Highway 192. Limit use of tracked vehicles from 2 weeks prior to the General Gun season until 8 pm the day following the close of the season.

One member was wonderin' why the SJRWMD asked our opinion and if there was a negative aspect to answering one way or another? Someone else stated that the SJRWMD asked us, apparently because we are frequent users of and very familiar with the area in question, "What is our opinion of the proposed rule change?"

So, Walt asked the membership in attendance "what we all thought of such a proposal?" Well, as you can imagine, this topic caused a big hubaloo. A few of the "old timers" brought up the fact that "tracks" used to be allowed out here but they tore it up real bad. Stories started flyin' on how they'd tied chains from one to the other and just mow down a whole field, vegetation and wildlife be damned.

Another member mentioned how there's still an old track motor engine still left abandoned out at 10 mile. It was also brought up that the track vehicles have been tearin' up the swamp land down south.

It was brought up that by voicing our opinion against this proposal that it may somehow affect us negatively either down the road or with some of our peers. (Remember our good intentions with the walk-in-areas-during hunting-season-only and how that got turned around on us and the trouble it is taking to get it put back right?) It was mentioned that this could be a slippery slope. Someone suggested that maybe only rubber tires could be used but then that slippery slope prospect was

brought up again. Jeez, it's getting' awful hilly around here for us Florida Crackers with slippery slopes and opinions worth a hill a beans. Anyways, Walt asked for a vote from the membership on which side of the fence we were gonna sit on and over whelmingly we voted against tracked vehicles being allowed in the areas proposed in the proposed rule change. There was one gentleman that voted for it, or at least had his hand up when asked "All for tracked vehicles in the swamp?" but when I looked again his hand was down and I didn't catch who he was or if he changed his mind. So, the majority of us voted against track vehicles in the area proposed if'n it was up to us and God help us if we screwed this up somehow, but considering the damage they purportedly do to the environment let's hope we're on the right track (no pun intended) Next topic, it appears that the city of Melbourne is interested in annexing Platt's Property next store to us. If that's the case and **Mr. Platt's sellin'-out** you can be sure as hell that development's on its way to us. It was mentioned that we better start attending more commission/council meetings to keep up with this type of issue, because before ya know it there's gonna be a housing development or shopping mall right next door and then there's gonna be complaining about noise or gunshots or some other frivolous nonsense because someone didn't warn 'em that they've moved next to a swamp where the tradition of alligators being hunted at night and deer, hog & turkey are hunted during the day and some of them there piccadilly little pansies are gonna get their panties in an uproar and start their whinin' and a cryin'. We got to remind people that as a conservation group, we not only have to help protect the quality of the water & vegetation for future use but find ourselves furthermore with the responsibility of keening the wildlife for minimizing disease, over abundance and also so Allie the Alligator don't eat Minnie the Moocher's pet poodle.

**Joe Horschel** mentioned that maybe we could ask the State of Florida to purchase a "buffer zone" to help protect the swamp areas from the population encroaching upon the swamp. (yeah, he really talks like that). **Glen Frazier** motioned that Walt write a letter to the Florida State authorities/representatives to bring up mitigation for a buffer zone to swamp/marsh areas. Nobody seconded the motion.

Moving right along, Walt welcomed three of **Camp Holley's** big wigs **Kurt McKinney, Danny Hite and Jay Gordon**.. Kurt seemed to be the spokesperson. (Nice guy Kurt but ya talked so darn fast I hope I got this right.) So, first thing he let us know was that "Camp Holley is a fish camp, always was and always will be. Kurt brought up that since they took that business over he's been a noticin' that our north canal access has been a little on the busy side of things. Who'd a thunk it? I'm out there and it don't seem that busy to me but I ain't there all the time and he has been so as he's been layin' back drinkin' his coffee in the mornin' he been payin' more attention and he's noticin' that there's a hell of a lot of traffic coming outa that north canal adjacent to SR-192. Now the reason he's bringin' this up ain't to condemn our noble, yet elegant and courteous club but to bring to our attention that many folks besides us are using our landing to access the swamp and a few misbegotten cretins are screaming outa that there canal on a full plane with a woeful disregard for their or anyone else's safety. We all know that good horse sense deems ya exit that canal where it meets the river oughta be done at a trot and not a gallop so's ya can git your wits about ya, survey your surroundings and use due care when roundin' that bend. The same thoughts oughta enter your head when you're approaching the canal from the river. What he's bringin' to our attention is that it's a dangerous corner, what with jet skis out there, kicker boats, kayaks, canoes, tour boats and naked women on inner tubes, if ya ain't careful ya might hurt someone or yourself. Be careful, even if ya don't care about yourself; please think about the other people using the river, especially the ones on the inner tubes. Joe Horschel brought up that as the Captain of your vessel you must maintain steerage and keep control of your boat. As the Captain of your boat you are responsible so in a nutshell, please ya'll, **BE RESPONSIBLE**.

On another note, Kurt brought up that they ain't gonna have a grand opening due to the lack of parking. Someone asked about the road behind Camp Holley. Kurt said it's about ¾ mile long but it cost too much to feasibly make it accessible for parking. He did mention that it could be cleaned up for private use. Walt volunteered that we'd be

happy to help out Camp Holley with the safety issue of the north canal.

**John Radencic** mentioned the Indian River Archers Tournament on May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9am on Kempfer's Property off West SR-192

**Glen Frazier** stated he wants to help the homeless Vets, he said there is 400 of them in our area.

There's a poker run or something at Lou's Blues & Cantina Dos Amigos.(That's all I got)

**Scott Swartley** had a petition to sign for the Youth Duck Hunt for 2009-2010.

Apparently some people living by the marsh in Polk County closed it down so they wouldn't hear gunshots in the morning. Basically it says;

*Polk County Commission vote to allow waterfowl hunting to continue on Circle B Bar Reserve in accordance with the regulations set forth by the FWC & the proposal submitted by United Waterfowlers of Florida. To support approximately 20 days of hunting annually across the entirety of the 2009-2010 season and seasons thereafter. Hunting to be conducted twice weekly during mornings only including the youth hunt. Asking Polk County Commission to uphold the rights of hunters to continue the enjoyment of lawful hunting practices as has been allowed on Circle B Bar Reserve.*

I think we all signed it.

Hmmmm, that sheriff guy never spoke, I seen someone in a sheriff uniform but then he disappeared so I don't know what was up with that.

Safety Tip- Go slow leaving or entering the north canal to or from the clubhouse until you deem it safe to throttle up.

**Walter Williams** name was called for the Book and he wasn't here so the book rolled over and starts at \$462.00

**Sandra Ashbury** won the 50/50 Drawing.

Meeting Adjourned a little later than 8:30PM.

#### EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Walt Lorraine	259-5156
Joe Harrison	724-5189
Doug Hawley	242-8159
Jim Rosasco	298-4545
Scott Smith	508-7959
Tina Crowl	863-7336

## TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF APRIL 30, 2009

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF  
APRIL 1, 2009 **\$8,391.18**

#### RECEIPTS:

Membership Dues	\$105.00
Late Fee	\$10.00
Book	\$24.00
Fifty/fifty	\$29.00
Building Rental (Jeff Crews)	\$40.00
Clothing Sales	<u>\$55.00</u>

**TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$263.00**

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

Waste Management (One months Service)	\$46.73
Central Florida Printing (March Newsletter)	\$64.81
Florida Power & Light (One month's service)	\$59.39
James E. Rosasco (March Newsletter Postage)	\$69.30
Doug's A1 Locksmith (Annual Key Change)	\$159.00
National Rifle Association (ILA Fund)	\$138.00
Division of Corporations (Annual Filing Fee)	\$61.25
Tina Crowl (March Cleaning)	<u>\$50.00</u>

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$648.48**

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF  
APRIL 30, 2009 **\$8,005.70**

#### RESERVES:

Building Fund	\$3,812.30
Book (75% of \$437.00)	\$327.75
Check 1570 Doug Hawley (Frog Festival Exp.)	\$4.82
D & O Liability Insurance (6/12 of \$1,174)	\$684.83
Property Insurance (4/12 of \$2,090)	\$870.80
Real Estate Taxes (4/12 of \$1,044)	<u>\$434.99</u>

**TOTAL RESERVES: \$6,135.49**

**FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL USE \$1,870.21**

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.

Printing provided by: **Central Florida Printing**

**&**

**Mark**  
**768-2084**

**Graphics**

3232 West New Haven Ave.  
Melbourne, FL 32904

**NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY  
JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 7:30 PM**

**JIM PATTERSON PASSED AWAY  
TUESDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

Brevard County Airboat Association  
P.O. Box 192  
Melbourne, FL 32902