

Marco Sportfishing Club
PO Box 2104
Marco Island FL 34146-2104
www.MarcoSportfishingClub.com

FIRST CLASS MAIL

MSC Newsletter April 2011

MSC Board of Directors 2011

Elected Officers

President	Pete Arcidiacono	821-7499	peterarchie@comcast.net
Vice President	Al Musico	642-9729	alanmusico@embarqmail.com
2nd Vice President	Fred Kouhi	642-4645	Fred_kouhi@comcast.net
Treasurer	Al Cohoon	776-5870	cohoonfam@msn.com
Assistant Treasurer	Bill McIntosh	642-9051	Mcintosh2466@embarqmail.com
Secretary	Carl Bressan	394-7451	cncbressan@aol.com
Assistant Sec'y.	Al Cohoon	776-5870	cohoonfam@msn.com
Past President	Frank Sroka	389-1087	fsroka@marcocable.com

Directors, Committees and Chairs

Fishing Chairman	Al Musico	alanmusico@embarqmail.com
Offshore	Fred Kouhi	fred_kouhi@comcast.net
	Ed Shebert	eshebert@savatree.com
Backwater	Ed Vesely	evesely@aol.com
	Allan Bristow	Aesj2323@aol.com
Buddy List	Joe Perino	rivpress@aol.com
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Gov't Affairs\Public Info	Howard Laskau	hlaskau@comcast.net
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	Bert Hoell	canpakman@aol.com
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Historian	Ed Shebert	eshebert@savatree.com

MSC Newsletter

www.MarcoSportfishingClub.com

Pete Arcidiacono, President



Dedicated to fishing in and around Collier County

President's Message

April 2011



Peter Arcidiacono 821-7499
peterarchie@comcast.net

APRIL WILL BRING US
SOMETHING DIFFERENT.
Our meeting on April 7th will
be at **WALKER'S MARINE**

ON MARCO STARTING AT 6:00 PM.

I will need a RSVP by April 5, since this will be catered. I would like to encourage all spouses to attend. We will have presentations from Pursuit and Yamaha. So please mark your calendar now. **The meeting will be at Walkers and not the Jewish Community Center.** There will be separate email going out to request the RSVP.

You would think things would cool off since the high part of the season is soon coming to an end. Our 2nd Annual Chili Cook-off will spice things up and I understand there are 8 of the best Chili Chefs in all of Marco preparing their secret recipes for the April 20th event. Please see end of newsletter for details. Don't miss this event and don't forget the Tums!

I would like to thank Howard Laskau and his educational team for doing a great job at the Goodland Birthday event. Also we all should be aware that Howard will be

assembling another educational team for the Cub Scouts on April 21st and Naples' Kid's fishing clinic on the 30th for rod rigging. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Howard via email at marcofish@comcast.net.

Another important note: **our picnic for May "Quattro de Mayo" will be held on May 4th**, a day before the general meeting. So sign up this month so you don't miss this gala affair!

Fish of the month for April is any type of snapper. Please call in your award winning catches and see if you get the prize.

April 7 Meeting
6:00 PM
Walkers Marco
Marine

Last note: Hopefully, there will be important announcements regarding our REDFISH RODEO, coming in October, at the meeting on

April 7th at **WALKER'S MARINE STARTING AT 6PM.**

Hope to see you all there.

Remember, be nice to your shrimp and they will be nice to you.

See ya' at the bait shop. Pete

Recent Catches



Dr. Joe Perino sent in a photo of a HUGE 32 ½" Black Drum he caught on March 15. He used shrimp for bait off of Coon Key in about 10 feet of water. Nice Catch Joe!



Barry French's nice 25" Black Drum caught in Rookery Bay on March 11 during the Buddy Trip

FEB 25th PARTY BOAT FISHING TRIP RESULTS

The Marco Sport Fishing Club hosted and teamed up with the Naples Fishing Club for the first Off Shore, Party Boat Fishing Trip. This will set the standard for everyone for the rest of their lives! This was a Fishing Trip, Fish Tales, Club Picnic (BYOF&D) and Men's Club, complete with all the BS you could imagine or handle. The day was all rolled into one ten hour fishing trip.

Thirty-eight brave men ventured out to sea with no expectations other than to have a good time on the water with both old and

new friends.



The boat ran as smooth as a multimillion dollar cruise ship. Everyone relaxed and enjoyed great conversation during the 2 hour ride to the fishing grounds. Upon arriving, the Captain wasted no time anchoring up on the structure. Within seconds a member of the MSC had the first fish on the boat and prize money in his pocket. The fish came over the railing one after the other all day long. Grunts, Grouper, Lane Snapper, Vermillion Snapper, Lizard Fish (biggest I have ever seen), Octopus, Blow Fish, Flounder, Triggerfish, and more. Whenever I looked down the railing of the boat I saw rods bending under the weight of fish. We moved several times that day looking for bigger fish and more keepers. We discovered that Red Grouper are alive and well on the gulf. More than one hundred grouper were caught. Largest Red Grouper weighed sixteen pounds. With thirty minutes remaining to fish, I thought I had won the "Big Fish" Pool with a 24 1/2 inch grouper. Quickly, four more grouper were caught, each fish being larger than the previous one. Five happy anglers all received cash payouts from the fishing pools.



Before we knew it, the call came for all lines out and we started back to Ft. Myers Beach. The mates got to work cleaning the bushel baskets of fish (of no size limit fish) on the way in and saved anything with a size limit to clean at the dock. Some anglers took this time to nap while others continued socializing. When we entered the no wake zone it was time to draw raffle numbers. More cash prizes were awarded to those lucky people who had their number drawn and did not lose or destroy their name tags.

A good time was had by all and most asked to be notified of future trips. If you did not have a good time fishing on Friday, it's because you were not with us on **The PARTY BOAT !**

Thanks to "I'm Available Bob" for making the arrangements with Capt. Tony's Fishing Adventures.

By Mike Kropp-Kayaks and Charter Trips

If you have Tales, Photos or Info of recent catches, please forward to David Rasmussen at drasmussen@mdaturbines.com.

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March Buddy Trip Results

Buddy trips are a way for people with and without boats, to enjoy fishing together.

The March outing consisted of five boats and sixteen fishermen. The weather was cool with high winds and moderate tides. We started fishing at the mouth of the river but found the wind difficult to deal with. We moved on lee side of Keywaydin Island and fished a few different spots. We made our final destination at Rookery Bay and the surrounding areas.

The catch consisted of some ladyfish, whiting, snappers, sheepshead and of course, some catfish. Barry French caught a nice 25 inch Black Drum (photo above). Although there were only a few keepers from all the boats, the trip was enjoyed by all.

As usual, the trip ended with 22 people attending a great social event with cocktails and dinner at Cocomo's. It was a great day to be among fellow fishing buddies. Any questions and to join next time, contact Joe Perino, rivpress@aol.com

APRIL EVENTS

<p>General Meeting 6-7:15 PM Seminar on Pursuit Boats and Yamaha Outboards. <u>At Walkers Marine Open House</u> Special Event for MSC Members and Guests. 7:15-8:15 Social hour Catered by Pursuit Boats, Yamaha & Walkers. Be there!!</p>	<p>April 7</p>	<p>Note Meeting Location is at Walkers Marine on North Bald Eagle.</p> <p>NOTE 6 PM EARLY START TIME!</p>
<p>MSC Board meeting 9:30 AM Doors open at 9:15.</p>	<p>April 11</p>	<p>5th\3rd Bank</p>
<p>Fish Anywhere Tournament - Reefs/Passes. For Both Inshore and Offshore Fisherman. Sign up at April 7 meeting or call Ed Vesley 239-642-8294. No Captain's meeting</p>	<p>April 14</p>	
<p>MSC Chili Cookoff Picnic-NOON 8 of MSC's Master Chili Cooks will compete for Title and Grand Prize! Bring Your Sig Other and Enjoy!</p>	<p>April 20</p>	<p>Sarazan Park</p>
<p>Cub Scout Fishing Event from Seawall. Help teach a Scout a lifelong hobby. Thursday afternoon. Contact Howard Laskau 970-0357</p>	<p>April 21</p>	<p>Methodist Church-South Barfield Seawall</p>
<p>Rod Rigging for May's Naples Kids Fish Event Saturday 9:30-11AM at Naples Yacht Club</p>	<p>April 30</p>	
<p>Fish of the Month</p>	<p>Any Snapper</p>	<p>See article below</p>

MAY EVENTS

Quattro de Mayo Picnic-NOON See Ad below	May 4	Sarazan Park
General Meeting 7:00PM Seminar on catching Spanish mackerel. Collier County Sea Grant Rep, Brian Fluech, to discuss proper boat equipment and regs regarding firearms on boats.	May 5	Jewish Temple on Winterberry
Naples Kids Fishing Clinic	May 7	Naples Pier
MSC Board meeting 9:30 AM Doors open at 9:15.	May 9	5th\3rd Bank
“Holy Mackerel” Captains Mtg 3:30 PM	May 17	Porkies
“Holy Mackerel” Tournament Inshore-Contact Ed Vesely 642-8294 Offshore-Contact Fred Kouhi 642-4645	May 19	Spanish Mackerel is Fish Of Month
Fish and Dine Backwater Outing- Contact Ed Vesely 642-8294	May 26	Catch Fish and Restaurant Cooks It!
Buddy Trip Early May-Contact Joe Perino rivpress@aol.com	TBA	
Fish of the Month	Spanish Mackerel	Article Next Month on how to catch them

April Fishing Trip-APRIL 14

Sign up by phone or at April 7th Meeting

Fish Anywhere - Docks/Reefs/Passes/Backwater. For Both Inshore and Offshore Fisherman. Any type of Snapper is Fish of Month. Sign up at April 7 meeting or call Ed Veseley 239-642-8294. Need a boat to go fishing on? Contact Ed and he will help you find one. No Captain’s meeting.

FISH OF THE MONTH

For March, Spotted Sea Trout is FOM. At press time, Newt Weiss, is in lead with 19”!

Sheepshead Fishing Tips By the Unknown MSC Fisherman

At the March Membership meeting after prizes were awarded for the February Sheepshead Shootout, someone asked how to go about catching them. Here are some basics:

Sheepshead are silver with alternating black vertical stripes. The largest concentration of Sheepshead occur right here in Southwest Florida. Their teeth appear to be “sheep” like. Also called “convicts” for the stripes and “bait bandits” (they steal the shrimp right out of the shell) They are great table fare due to their diet of crabs, shrimp and barnacles. They can pick barnacles right off pilings and rocks simply by crushing them with their strong teeth and jaws.

They are difficult to fillet, due to their tough skin, so while 12” is the legal limit, we normally only keep 14” or bigger.

They occur throughout the year but February is the prime spawning time when the big females come into shallow water. Hence the Sheepshead Shootout. Look around dock pilings, submerged rocks, seawalls, bridge piers, mangrove roots, etc. in 5’ to 10’ of water. You can often see them swimming around. Some guys use shovel scraped dock barnacles as “chum”.

Tackle is usually a medium action spinning rod and reel but I also sometimes use a bait caster. Ten to twenty pound braided line is typical with an egg sinker, swivel, length of 20# fluorocarbon and a SMALL hook. We usually catch fish in the one to five pound class around here. The Florida record is 15lbs 2 oz.

Ken Robertson, who won this year’s shootout for the largest number of fish, caught (45) uses sand fleas for bait that he catches on the beach. They are smaller than the ones you can buy. He blanches them (presumably to keep them firm on the hook) and free lines them around structure, - no weight. Interesting, can’t argue with success!

Barry French, who tied for the largest Sheepshead, uses a ½ oz to ¾ oz egg sinker, 3’ of fluorocarbon, a #2 circle hook (that he uses for everything) and a SMALL piece of shrimp for bait. When he feels the light hit he retrieves that bait slowly and the fish sets the hook.

John Walker, a seasonal member, uses a number 6 (small) J hook. He uses a 1 oz to 2 oz egg sinker which I always think is too much but he catches lots of fish. He uses a slow rod lift technique with a small shrimp.

I have found that Sheepies can bite right through the shank of a smaller hook so I use a #8 J hook with an extra heavy (4x) shank.

Tide doesn’t matter as much as with this fish - Good Luck!

2011 LEADERBOARD STANDINGS

SPECIES	ANGLER	SIZE	SPECIES	ANGLER	SIZE
Cobia	J. Cavanaugh	33"	Mangrove Snapper	K. Bullock	21
Black\Gag Grouper	Ed Shebert	28	Yellowtail Snapper	D. Rasmussen	24
Red Grouper	Jim Mueller	31-3/4	Snook		
Kingfish			Amberjack	K. Bollock	56
Spanish Mackerel	H. Handlesman	22	Triggerfish		
Permit			Blacktip Shark	J. Erickson	70
Pompano	D. Pace	18.5	Tarpon		
Redfish	J. Mueller	26.5	Tripletail	S. Aldrovandi	30
Sheepshead	Jeff Erickson	22"	Spotted Seatrout	Ron Shudes	22
Lane Snapper			Gulf Flounder	B. Mordecai	14

FISH OF THE MONTH AND LEADER BOARD RULES*

Fish either gulf or backwater, anytime, for any species. Fish must be caught on hook and line within 60nm of Marco, no charters, and use of guides is prohibited. All fish must be either boated, or immobilized alongside the boat and measured with a tape or ruler. Swim by guesstimates are not accepted. Fish are to be measured either with pinched tails or fork length as per FWC size limit rules. Fish not specified as pinched length will be measured to fork length (e.g. shark).

Use MSC Website, www.MarcoSportfishingClub.com, to report your catch. In case of a tie, the first entry reported will win. Use of the website is the preferred reporting method since it will time stamp all entries and automatically send you an email confirmation. Entries reported by other means will be recorded when they are received and acknowledged, not when they are sent. If you do not have access to the website, you can send your entry to alanmusic@embarqmail.com or call 239-642-9729. The following information is needed: Name, Email Address (or phone number), Species, Size in Inches, Bait or Lure Used, Location (ex. Cape Romano, 5Mile Reef etc.), Fishing Method (ex. Casting, Drifting, Anchored, Chumming etc.), Tide (ex. Incoming, Outgoing etc.). Entries with incomplete or missing information will not be eligible. Entries are counted toward both contests. **Entries must be reported by 12 Noon on the 1st day of the month following the catch.** Winners of both the Fish of the Month Contest and the new Leader Board entries will be announced at the following Monthly Meeting.

Details of each catch are available on the MSC Website-
www.Marcosportfishingclub.com including method, bait, location, tides etc. Learn
 how the *experts* fish.
 Webmaster is off for another month.

How to Catch One Type of April Fish of Month-Mangrove Snapper,

These hard fighting members of the snapper family are pound-for-pound one of the fiercest fighting fish in the ocean. And, as for table fare, they rank right up at the top of the list for sweet, white, flaky meat!

Called snappers for a reason, these guys will put a real hurt on your finger or hand if you don't handle them with care. Their upper jaw has two canine like teeth that are used to tear into their food. Once caught, their jaws will lock down hard on a hook. As the hook is being removed they snap their jaws open and shut with great force, often catching a careless angler by surprise.

Most "Mangs" that are caught are around one to two pounds. A five-pound fish is a big snapper! 10" is minimum legal size but most only keep 'em at 12" or more.

These snappers are called mangrove snapper because they breed and start their lives in areas where mangroves grow, they will be found in, under, and around the root structures. Mangrove shorelines or islands generally are deeper right up next to the roots of the trees. Water can be as shallow as a foot or less approaching a mangrove and will drop off to three feet or more under the roots. These snapper patrol the entire root structure looking for food and using the entangled roots as protection from larger predators. As fish get larger, they begin to move offshore.

In general, the warmer the water, the more snapper you will find. Snapper are known as one of the wariest fish in the ocean. They have keen eye sight and a good sense of smelly bait.

Terminal tackle with heavy leaders, big swivels or snap swivels and crimped wire need to be avoided if you plan to fish for snapper.

Probably the best rig consists of light line tied with a Uni to Uni knot to a two foot minimum long 12-20# fluorocarbon leader. Also use a SMALL short shank hook, which is easier to hide in a bait. In line Circle hooks are required on reefs.

As far as bait is concerned, the all time favorite bait is probably live shrimp. Short of that, cut bait comes in at second place. Snapper seem to prefer neat baits. Cut bait needs to be in chunks – square or rectangular shaped pieces work well. Once a piece of bait has been shredded and tattered by smaller fish, it's time to put on fresh bait.

Offshore, cut squid and cut bait will work well fished on a bottom rig. Small live minnows or frozen Spanish sardines are almost irresistible to larger snappers over and around the reefs and wrecks. Be sure to use a 12-20# fluorocarbon leader – the snapper can see everything! If fishing is slow, try a fresh bait, smaller hook and thinner and longer leader!

Small nylon or buck tail jigs can often work as well as live bait. Choose one with a white head, white hair, and red tying thread. They prefer this color combination, and a jig tipped with a small piece of cut bait can be deadly. These fish are an ideal species to pursue as a beginning angler as there is plenty of fighting and biting action!

BUY-SELL-TRADE

ROD AND REEL REPAIR

Capt. Pete
239-821-7499

CLUB CLOTHING NOW AVAILABLE

CAPS--\$10 POLOS--\$21

WINDBREAKERS---\$28

Sold at the meeting- new t-shirts on the way

FOR SALE

10'3" JOLLY DINGY\UTILITY CRAFT

- MI 2000 Yamaha 2 stroke w\25 hrs
- Bimini top
- Folding vinyl seats
- Fiberglass hull
- Storage, anchor, jackets
- Built in depth finder
- Good condition- rarely used



Jim Malerba- 239-642-1419

FOR SALE \$7900

2000 Mako 17' Fishing Ready Center Console

- Mercury 2 stroke 115 w\ 4blade SS prop
- New Min-Kota troller and Push Pole
- Swim Step , new oversize Bimini 2 bait wells
- Sony Am\Fm\ cd, new Hummingbird GPS & fish finder
- 35Gal fuel tank, 10 rod holders fish box anchor locker
- New canvas on helm and console seating



Mike Bonaguidi 360-270-9411 cell. He is looking for 20-23' Boat See website for more pictures

FOR SALE

1995 STRATOS WALK AROUND CUDDY-2006

- MERC OPTIMAX 175
- 340 HOURS WARRANTEED UNTIL 4-30-2011
- Garmin 440 -Raymarine 500 series fish finder- Icom DSC radio
- Stereo, portapotti, live well, cockpit cover etc.
- \$8000 NEW LOWER PRICE!



Call Mike 239-389-4526 or visit at Boat Place of Naples—Ray 239-734-8040

WANTED: Used Lowrance GPS in working order 239-394-7906

FOR SALE: Like new, left handed ABU Garcia Ambassador reel
New 169.00 - Sell for 80.00 obo 239-398-3429

FOR SALE-Only 4 Yrs Old!

2007 Mako 19' Long, 1901 Center Console

- **Mercury 150 Optimax W/ Warrantee through September 2012**
- **4 Blade S/S Prop**
- **Bimini Top and Center Console Cover**
- **Lowrance LCX 28 C GPS/Fishfinder**
- **Uniden VHF Radio**
- **47 Gallon Fuel Tank**
- **Jack Plate, New Cooler/Seat**
- **Wired for Trolling Motor, 110 V, AC Battery Charger**

\$13,500 Contact Steve Moore 642-3655 For Photo and Info.

Prize Award-Chili Cook-off



**Sarazen Park 12 Noon
Wednesday, April 20
\$10.00 Each***

***\$13.00 after April 15, \$16.00 Walk-ins**

Chilies, Johnnie Cake, Jalapeño Corn Bread, and other Southwestern side dishes

**Beer (including Yuengling and Coors Light) as well as
Wine, Pop and Water Included**

Contact Al Musico will be setting up a meeting with the 8 Chefs

Questions?? Call Dave Walsh 389-9755

Cut here RESERVATION for Chili Cook-off
MEMBER'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER

Number attending _____

@\$10.00 each \$ _____

@\$13.00 after 4-15 \$ _____

Quattro de Mayo



**Sarazen Park
Wednesday, May 4**

**Set up at 11:30, gather at noon
Bring your own hat!**

\$13.00 Each*

***\$16.00 after April 30 or
\$19.00 at the door**

**Fajita Bar Catered by Big C's
Specially Seasoned Chicken and Beef,
Mexican Rice, Refried Beans, Tortilla
Chips, Big C's Seasoned Salsa, Lettuce,
Tomatoes, Cheese, Sour Cream & Warm
Flour Tortillas**

**Beer,
Wine, Pop and Water Included**

Questions?? Call Dave Walsh 389-9755

Cut here RESERVATION for Quattro de Mayo

MEMBER'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER

Number attending _____

@\$13.00 each \$ _____

@\$16.00 after 4/30 \$ _____

**Need SEPERATE checks payable to MSC for
each event**

One envelope OK!!!!

**Mail to: Dave Walsh 1530 Caxambas Ct.
Marco Island, FL 34145**

Florida, Naples, Marco, Big Marco River

April 2011

N 25° 58.3' / W 81° 43.7'

Tide Tables, Charts and Scripts available at FreeTideTables.com

