

MSC Tackle Box

www.marcosportfishingclub.com Howard Laskau - President

Dedicated to Safe Fishing in and Around Marco Island



President's Message for March, 2017



All the work and preparation that went into planning our events for this year has definitely paid off. I'm sure you will agree that 2017 is off to a great start. After an action-packed January, the annual Sheepshead Tournament in February was an outstanding success. Member participation was near an all-time high and the Pirate Bash/Awards dinner was marrrrrverlous!. Tournament Directors Jim Mueller and Allan Bristow put on a great show. On behalf of the anglers and their guests, we thank you! Please see the article in this newsletter and browse the pictures of the event that are on the website. This was one of our best ever!

Our 2017 Membership "season" is now closed and the Marco Sportfishing Club has grown again. MSC now has 460 individual memberships, including 95 new members. But, since our memberships are "family" memberships and include spouses/significant others, our total membership stands at 867. A number of our new members took part in a "New Member Workshop" that was offered prior to the February General Meeting. The "workshop" was designed to show what the Marco Sportfishing Club offers and let our new members know that by getting involved they would gain the maximum benefits from their membership. That's really good advice for all of our members to follow!

Please view the calendar in this newsletter or the one on the website to see the full list of activities for the month of March. Fishing events, Buddy Trip, Pied Piper, Kayak event, Picnic...we have it all!

Sam Young, our Director of Fisheries Management, has "pulled a few strings" and was able to get some of the top people from FWC and NOAA to come speak at our March meeting. If you are concerned about the future of our fishery, upcoming regulations, or if you have specific questions you want answers to...then make it a point to attend. Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 PM. See you there!

I look forward to seeing you out on the water.

Get hooked!

Howard

Thought for the month: Is fishing a sport or a way of life?



**The Compass Group
at Morgan Stanley**

Stephen D. Macko, CFP® Portfolio Manager Vice President Financial Advisor	David A. Caruso First Vice President Financial Advisor	Jason M. Zapalski, CFP® Vice President Financial Advisor
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Marco: 928 N. Collier Blvd., 3rd Floor
Marco Island, FL 34145
239-393-2903

Morgan Stanley

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LEADER BOARD Updates as of February

Get LEADER BOARD updates using the link below.

[Link to LEADER BOARD](#)

Fish of the Month (FOM) as of February

Get FOM updates using the link below.

[Link to Fish of the Month](#)

Kayak Fishing in Rookery Bay

January 25, 2017

by Victor Ordija



On this day, nine kayakers set out from Shell Island Road to fish Rookery Bay. Breezy conditions a couple of days before had subsided and water clarity had improved. The group decided to try fishing Stopper Creek. Several Snook were caught at the entrance of the creek and Dave Dodd lost a big Snook in the same area and in the process lost one of his favorite Yozuri lures.

In addition to Snook being caught, kayakers caught several good size Spotted Seatrout. The largest trout was caught by Mike Larsen and he now leads the 2017 Kayak Fishing Challenge with a 17.25" fish.

While fishing was still a bit slow, the group had a nice day on the water travelling about seven miles in the bay.

The next event will take the kayak group to the Imperial River in Bonita Springs.



Kayak Fishing the Imperial River

February 14, 2017

by Victor Ordija

Six kayakers fished the Imperial River located in Bonita Springs. This is a fairly wide river with a depth averaging around five feet with numerous docks and pilings. During this time of year the river is more brackish and the group caught a variety of fish, including Snook, Redfish, Trout and Snappers.

On this day, Mike Larsen had the best catch recording a 28 inch Redfish and a 19.25 inch



Spotted Seatrout. Mike also reported losing an above slot Snook. Most of the fish were caught in the lower stretch of the Imperial River primarily in the meandering section located in the isolated Mangrove forest. Several fish were also caught in Fish Trap Bay.

Both Mike Larsen and Vic Ordija registered a Southwest Florida Slam; a fish trio consisting of a Snook, Redfish and Spotted Seatrout.

The Imperial River is a new venue for the kayak group and required the group to paddle slightly over ten miles to complete the trip. While a significant amount of boat traffic was encountered during the event, everyone caught fish and a return visit is warranted.



Contact Victor Ordija at vicord1@comcast.net to sign up for the Kayak Group and receive information regarding upcoming trips. You can also sign up at the next General Meeting.

2017 Sheepshead Tournament and Pirate Bash

By Allan Bristow

When the Marco Sportfishing Club's 2017 Sheepshead Tournament rolled around this year, excitement was in the air! With 32 boats and 92 anglers this year's tournament marked one of MSC's biggest fishing tournaments. Anglers first met at Mario's Bar and Grill to kick off the Captain's meeting. Anglers were given a tournament T-shirt along with pizza and beverages. Tournament Directors, Jim Mueller and Allan Bristow, went over tournament rules. You could see the anglers were serious about their fishing, as each team huddled with their crew to talk fishing strategy. With almost perfect weather conditions on fishing day, Captains and their crew took to the seas to find and catch a couple of lunker Sheepshead. Boats weighed in their 2 biggest fish at Sarazen Park. Using the club's fishing scale; anglers' enjoyed watching their catch being weighed-in while enjoying refreshments. The top three fish entries were displayed on ice so everyone there could see them. Final results were not official until Thursday when the Sheepshead Award Pirate Bash was held at the Old Marco Lodge in Goodland. Angler's and their guest gathered together for an evening of food, fun, and entertainment by Rosetta Stone. As an added treat, awards were given for the Pirate Costume Contest. Pirate judges scanned and pared down the attendees to eight brave men and eight beautiful women. The buccaneers strutted their stuff in front of the excited and rowdy audience! Paul Milici and Shelly Hertz were chosen 2017 Pirate King and Queen. Congratulations to all the winners both in the fishing and costume contest. A special thanks to Walker's Marine as tournament sponsors. Below are the results.

Boat Awards (weight of 2 fish)

1. Captain George Merklung crew: Danny Eagle, Mike Redmond (6.62)
2. Captain Victor Ordija crew: Bobbie Ordija (6.32)
3. Captain Ralph Crowell crew: Ed Brown, Mark Tanner (6.14)
4. Captain Dick Yeaton crew: Watt Turner, Bill Welter (6.12)
5. Captain Ken Robertson crew: Gloria Robertson (6.08)
6. Captain Jim Mueller crew: Allan Bristow (6.0)
7. Captain Humberto Del Rio: crew J. Turkiewicz, D. Rasmussen (5.9)

8. Captain Jay Jones crew: Dick Larson (5.02)
9. Captain John Moore crew: M. Larsen, D. Dodd, B. Schneider (4.74)
10. Captain Bob Horst crew: Charlie Oliver, Ron Amann (4.60)
11. Captain Ron Linn crew: John Baker, Ed Adams (4.50)
12. Captain Jeff Erickson crew: Cathy Erickson, John Rafen (4.16)

1. Top Fish of Tournament: Allan Bristow (4.40 lbs.)
2. Top Fish of Non-Boat Winners: Dennis Enstrom (2.74 lbs.)

Pirate Costume Contest:

1. Shelly Hertz (Queen)
2. Marcia Orsolini
3. Betsy Woltman

1. Paul Milici (King)
2. Jim Mueller
3. Howard Laskau



Buddy Trip
February 4, 2017
by Joe Perino



**Jim Gloster
w/Seatrout**

This Buddy List outing was to the southern part of the island out past and around Coon Key and Sugar Bay. The weather was perfect; the temperature was pleasantly warm and the wind was gentle. Among the fish caught were: whiting, silver trout, sugar trout, spotted sea trout, jacks, and lady fish. Fortunately, we did not

catch many catfish on this trip. The group consisted of 9 boats and 30 anglers. That evening 56 people enjoyed cocktails and dinner at Old Marco Lodge & Crab House. It was a perfect end to a wonderful day of fishing with an evening filled with a fantastic combination of laughter and friendship. The camaraderie that filled the restaurant always makes the Buddy outings an extraordinary experience. The Buddy family continues to grow as we took on 22 new members this season.



**Joe Perino
w/Whiting**

The next Buddy Trip will be March 8, 2017.

If you have any questions/comments or wish to be added to the Buddy List contact Joe Perino rivpress@aol.com



Important Dates

Fishing Days
March 2nd or 3rd – one
fishing day per entrant

Picnic Sarazen Park
March 3rd 3:30PM to 6:00PM –
pre-Paid individuals only



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March Events

Fish of the Month		Spotted Seatrout
General Meeting 6:30PM Doors Open at 6:15 Speaker Representatives from FWC and NOAA	Mar 2	Rose Hall at Marco Museum
Baiting Beauties Fishing Days – one fishing day per entrant	Mar 2 or 3	
Baiting Beauties Picnic 3:30PM to 6:00PM Pre-Paid individuals only	Mar 3	Sarazen Park
MSC Board Meeting 8:30AM Doors Open 8:15AM	Mar 6	CG Aux. Bldg. Caxambas Park
Buddy Trip	Mar 8	See Website
Kayak Event Hells Gate	Mar 9	See Website
Pied Piper Trip Marco to Naples	Mar 10	See website
MSC Picnic Sister Kaite	Mar 15	See Attached Flyer
Trout Teaser Captains' Meeting	Mar 23	Crazy Flamingo
Trout Teaser Fishing Day	Mar 27	Details to Follow
Newsletter Deadline	Mar 29	

April Events

Fish of the Month		Red Grouper
Spring Slam Captains' Meeting 4:00PM	Apr 3	Crazy Flamingo
Spring Slam Fishing Day (alternate 4/5)	Apr 4	See Attached Flyer
General Meeting 6:30PM Doors Open at 6:15 Speaker Sam Young Grouper Fishing	Apr 6	Rose Hall at Marco Museum
MSC Board Meeting 8:30AM Doors Open 8:15AM	Apr 10	CG Aux. Bldg. Caxambas Park
Kayak Event Fresh Water Canal (Port of the Islands)	Apr 13	See Website
Super Grouper Captains' Meeting 4:00PM	Apr 24	Sarazen Park
Super Grouper Fishing Day (alternate 4/26 or 4/27)	Apr 25	See Attached Flyer
Newsletter Deadline	Apr 27	

Notice

There will be no April picnic!

Updates from the Editor February 2017

February has been a great month for fishing, catching, and Club activities. It was also a notable month for advocacy. The Marco Island Waterways Committee had a meeting on the 16th. This was the first session for the reconstituted committee. Among the topics discussed was the issue of storm runoff and its' effect on water quality. MSC had 10 members in attendance, and two members presented verbal and written concerns to the committee. I believe we got the message across, that the club is concerned about the committee's actions and the Water Quality in the Islands' waterways. More updates will follow. All members should think seriously about what would happen to the "Marco Lifestyle" if our waterways become polluted!!

Should you wish to contact the Editor I can be reached at pfwanzenberg@yahoo.com.

St. Patrick's Picnic With Sister Kaite



**Sarazen Park
Wednesday, March 15th Noon
\$15 (Guests \$18) Each
\$20 (Guests \$23) after March 8th
\$25 at the door**

Jason's famous New York Yankee Sandwich



**Beer, Wine, Pop and Water included
Questions?? Call Dave Walsh 239 389 9755**

**See [St. Patrick's registration form](#) below
See [HOW TO PARK AT SARAZEN](#) below**

RESERVATION for March 15th St. Patrick's Picnic

NAME _____

No. Attending _____

Members/Spouses @ \$15 \$ _____

Guests @ \$18 \$ _____

Late Fee @ \$5 per person* \$ _____

Total \$ _____

*Checks must be received by March 8th
Make checks payable to MSC and mail to:
Dave Walsh
1530 Caxambas Ct.
Marco Island, FL 34145

Separate checks required for each picnic, but can be sent in one envelope.
Checks are not cashed until after the event.

CURRENT PICNIC PARKING RULES

Beginning in October 2016, MICA no longer issues stickers for vehicles, rather requires that vehicles have a person aboard with a current MICA membership card. In the past, as a courtesy to the club, they had allowed club members without MICA membership to park in the lot if they were attending the picnic. However, due to complaints from MICA members that the lot was full during picnics, we no longer have that luxury.

Please be aware that the fine for parking on a swale within the vicinity of Sarazen Park is \$95.

HOW TO PARK AT SARAZEN:

- 1) Marco Island residents can purchase an ID card at the MICA office (above the Mutual of Omaha Bank on San Marco and S. Barfield) for \$140. You will need a tax bill or homeowners insurance policy with your name on it. Application forms available [here](#). The ID for your wallet (or on a lanyard) allows you to park any vehicle in the lot. However, it appears that the ID card does not replace the old sticker, i.e. you can't let someone else drive your car, they will look at your card to make sure you are in the vehicle. Also, MICA has been leaving notices on cars (including convertibles) that the card must be left on the windshield (not on list of 27 rules or on MICA website). Be aware if someone steals your ID card for following this dumb rule, it will cost you \$25 to replace it. Maybe leave a copy of your card on the dashboard instead?
- 2) Get a Collier County beach sticker from the library or Caxambas boat ramp, and park in the Collier County parking lot, which is adjacent and east of the MICA lot. You cannot park in the MICA lot with this sticker. The stickers are free to Collier County residents, but you need your car registration. Note that in season on very nice days, the Collier County lot could be full by mid-morning*.
- 3) Pay the fee for parking in the Collier County parking lot of \$8 (correct change required).
- 4) Find a ride from someone who has a MICA card.
- 5) Be aware that MICA rule #15 states: "MEMBERS MAY NOT SHUTTLE GUESTS. MEMBERS MAY ENTER ONCE WITH FIVE PERSONS ONLY."
- 6) Park at a friend's house/condo that lives within walking distance. I'm not allowed to say who they are (we have many) but you can check the roster. Maybe buy him/her some beers at Happy Hour.

*The Collier County rangers who sometimes patrol the Collier County parking lot, have been telling picnic goers that the lot is for "beach parking only" and not for attending picnics (I doubt if this has been tested in court). So if you park there you should appear as if you are going to the beach. Passing chairs over the fence will probably get you busted.

Trout Teaser

SIGNUP AT THE MARCH MEETING OR THE CAPTAINS' MEETING

Date: Monday, March 27, 2017

Backup Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Captains' Meeting: Thursday, March 23rd, 4:00 PM, Crazy Flamingo

Fishing Hours: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Tide Info at Coon Key: Low: 8:22 AM (-0.1')
High: 2:18 PM (+3.8')

Solunar Activity: Major Period (1:19 PM – 3:19 PM)

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per person due at the **Captains' Meeting, Thursday March 23rd** 4:00 PM at Crazy Flamingo, Marco Towne Center

Prizes: Prize amount will depend on the number of participants, **PLUS \$400 Club money**.
Angler - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th largest Spotted Seatrout, with photo.
Angler - Largest Bonus fish with photo.
Boat – 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th highest inches per angler (Total inches for boat divided by the number of anglers in boat).
Prizes to be given out at the April Meeting.

EVENT RULES

Captains of all boats must be MSC members.

Guests can participate as an angler only, same fee as member.

No limit on the number of anglers per boat.

MSC boundaries apply.

No Guide Rule applies.

Photos of the largest fish are required for a tiebreaker for the largest fish prizes.

Photos of the entire catch, before cleaning, for boat prizes.

Angler can only win one largest fish prize.

Measure fish to the nearest 1/4".

Turn in Tally Sheet, **and photos**, to Jerry Keyes, or Mike Larsen, by 5:00 PM, on Wednesday, March 29th in person, or email.

Jerry Keyes
167 Muirfield Circle
Naples, FL 34113
Jkeyes3548@gmail.com
616-890-0230

Mike Larsen
581 Elk Circle
Marco Island, FL 34145
mike_larsen@keysight.com
262-844-0467

Spring Slam

SIGN AT THE APRIL MEETING OR CAPTAINS' MEETING

Date: Monday, April 4, 2017

Backup Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2017

Captains' Meeting: Monday, April 3, 4:00 PM, Crazy Flamingo

Fishing Hours: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Tide Info at Coon Key: High: 9:42 AM (2.7')
Low: 3:23 PM (1.6')

Solunar Activity: Major Period (8:15 AM – 10:18 AM)
Minor Period (1:55 PM – 2:55 PM)

Event Target Fish: Snook, Redfish, Spotted Seatrout

Prizes: **Boat** – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd highest inches of **one each** (Snook, Redfish, Spotted Seatrout) w photos, divided by the number of anglers on board.

Angler - Largest Snook, largest Redfish, largest Spotted Seatrout, with photo.

Angler can only win one largest fish prize, and not be on a winning boat.

Prize amounts will depend on the number of participants.

Prizes to be given out at the May Meeting.

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per person due at the **Captains' Meeting, Monday April 3rd** 4:00 PM at Crazy Flamingo, Marco Towne Center

EVENT RULES

Captains of all boats must be MSC members.

MSC boundaries apply.

No Guide Rule applies.

Photos of the largest fish are required for the Largest Fish prizes.

Photos of the fish used for the Boat prizes are required.

Measure fish to the nearest ¼".

Turn in Tally Sheet, **and photos**, to Jerry Keyes or Mike Larson, by 5:00 PM on Thursday April 6th, in person or email.

Jerry Keyes
167 Muirfield Circle
Naples, FL 34113
Jkeyes3548@gmail.com
616-890-0230

Mike Larson
581 Elk Circle
Marco Island, FL 34145
mike_larsen@keysight.com
262-844-0467

BACKWATER

“NEW SALT - OLD SALT” PROGRAM

This program is for the new boat owner, or fisherperson, to Marco Island, and the 10,000 Islands, who would like an experienced Skipper, to accompany them on their boat, to learn where, and how, to get through the Back Country to fish, or cruise. This would allow the “New Salt”, to lay down a track on their GPS, for future use, and a starting point for future exploration in the area. This trip should be scheduled during an incoming tide, and start at a 2’ tide level.

If you would provide the following information, we will match you up with an experienced Skipper (Old Salt) to go on your boat, and show you how to get around the area of your choice.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

BOAT - MAKE: _____

MODEL: _____

LENGTH: _____

MAKE OF “GPS”: _____

MAKE OF TROLLING MOTOR: _____

MAKE OF POWER POLE: _____

AREA OF INTEREST: (A, B, or C) Label 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.

- A. NORTH (Keewaydin Island, Rookery Bay, Johnson Bay, Addison Bay, Upper Addison Bay, Unknown Bay)
- B. SOUTH – WEST (Caxambas Pass, Blind Pass, Cape Romano, to Coon Key)
- C. SOUTH – EAST (Coon Key to Indian Key)

Choices: 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

(Return this form to the BACKWATER EVENT LEADER.)

RECOMMENDED PHONE APPS AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

TIDE GRAPH

FISH WEATHER

TIDES

FISH RULES APP

TIDES PLANNER

MOON

GOOGLE EARTH

Note: The tide graphs do not take into account the wind effect on the water level. This can be very dramatic in this area.

MSC Logo Merchandise

General Items

Prices

APRONS	\$9.00
BUFFS	\$5.00
BURGEES	\$25.00
DECALS	\$0.50
HATS – BAITING BEAUTY 2016	\$5.00
HATS-CAMO	\$14.00
HATS-SHORT BRIM	\$12.00
KOOZIES	\$1.00
LICENSE PLATES	\$8.00
MEASURING TAPES	\$6.00
VISORS	\$9.00

Clothing

S - XL

2XL

<u>ALL</u> SHORT SLEEVE TEE SHIRTS	\$12.00	
GOLF SHIRTS, BLUE, GRAY OR WHITE	\$20.00	
<u>All</u> LONG SLEEVED T SHIRTS	\$16.00	
LONG SLEEVED SWEATSHIRTS	\$22.00	\$24.00
LONG SLEEVED PERFORMANCE SHIRTS	\$16.00	
JACKETS-BLUE	\$30.00	
COLUMBIA FISHING SHIRT (SPECIAL ORDER)	\$50.00	\$52.00

The “Ship Store” will be open at the February Meeting.

Watch for new items and special pricing in the months ahead.

Marco Sportfishing Club

2017 Board of Directors

Howard Laskau	President*	hlaskau@comcast.net
Keith Wohltman	Vice President*	squansurf@yahoo.com
Andrea Battaglia	Treasurer*	andrea1450@comcast.net
Jim Lane	Secretary*	jamesllane60@gmail.com
Paul Milici	Assistant Treasurer/Fishing Committee Chair	paul.milici@gmail.com
Jay Jones	Membership Chairman	jwjones2@live.com
John Marchetti	Quartermaster	jvmarch@msn.com
Allan Bristow	Past President/Sponsorships	aesj2323@aol.com
John Baker	MSC Equipment Manager	furndeals@comcast.net
Jerry Keyes	Backwater Events Coordinator	jkeyes3548@gmail.com
Mike Larsen	Asst Backwater Coordinator/Asst Quartermaster	mike_larsen@keysight.com
Phil Madonia	Offshore Events Coordinator	camillephil@hotmail.com
Victor Ordija	Leaderboard/Fish of the Month Coordinator	vicord1@comcast.net
Dave Rasmussen	Member at-large	drasmussen@mdaturbines.com
Tony Saputo	Public Relations/Community Outreach	saputotc@comcast.net

* MSC Officers

Marco Sportfishing Club

2017 Activity and Event Directors, Committee Chairs and Assistants

Fishing-related activities:

Fishing Committee Chair	Paul Milici	paul.milici@gmail.com
Backwater Events	Jerry Keyes	jkeyes3548@gmail.com
Baiting Beauties	Chris Laimbeer	chrislaim@comcast.net
Buddy Trips	Joe Perino	rivpress@aol.com
Kayak Events	Victor Ordija	vicord1@comcast.net
Pied Piper Trips	Howard Laskau	hlaskau@comcast.net
Offshore Events	Phil Madonia	camillephil@hotmail.com
Sponsorships	Allan Bristow	aesj2323@aol.com

Other Activities:

Advocacy	Sam Young	young456@aol.com
Assistant Backwater Coordinator	Mike Larsen	mike_larsen@keysight.com
Assistant Quartermaster	Mike Larsen	mike_larsen@keysight.com
MSC Historian/Name Tags/50-50	John Baker	furndeals@comcast.net
Membership	Jay Jones	jwjones2@live.com
MSC email Editor	Keith Wohltman	squansurf@yahoo.com
MSC Equipment/ Storage Manager	John Baker	furndeals@comcast.net
MSC Newsletter editor	Phil Wanzenberg	pfwanzenberg@yahoo.com
Public Relations/Community Outreach	Tony Saputo	saputotc@comcast.net
Picnics	Dave Walsh	davewalsh@att.net
Quartermaster	John Marchetti	jvmarch@msn.com
Webmaster	Ed Crane	marcoman357@aol.com

Member Privacy Statement

Marco Sportfishing Club's Board of Directors has established a privacy policy concerning the distribution of its members' contact information. For security and confidentiality reasons...phone numbers, email and physical addresses will be distributed only to MSC board members and event leaders. The club roster will never be sold or provided to any individual member, sponsor, outside organization or business.

