

The Brooks Fishing Club Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2018



1. President's Report: Jim Holmes

Jim called the meeting at the Enrichment Center to order at 9:00AM and requested that all cell phones be silenced. There were 60 members in attendance. Jim reminded members that the password to the member-only portion of the website had been changed and could be found on page 12 of the Member Book.

2. Secretary's Report: Roger Whited

Roger called for the approval of the December 12, 2017 meeting minutes, which were then unanimously approved by the members to be posted on the BFC website. In addition, Roger informed the members that there had been 14 new members added in September, and that there are currently 28 on the wait list.

3. Treasurer's Report: Mike Gleysteen

Mike reported that the BFC bank account currently has a balance of \$14,425.

4. Guest Speaker: Dr. William Mitsch, Director of Everglades Wetland Research Park

Dr. Mitsch has been the Director of the Everglades Wetland Research Park at Florida Gulf Coast University in Naples, Florida since 2012. Before that he was the Distinguished Professor of Environmental Science at The Ohio State University for 26 years and was the Founding Director of the 50-acre Olentangy River Wetland Research Park. His research and teaching have focused on wetland ecology and biogeochemistry, wetland creation and restoration, and ecological engineering of wetlands, rivers, and landscapes. His many publications include the text/reference book Wetlands. He is the founder of the international journal Ecological Engineering, the American Ecological Engineering Society, and the Society of Wetland Scientists.

Dr. Mitsch provided an interesting discussion of his work and how it relates to the Everglades environment, which is currently about one-half of its original size due to agricultural encroachment. His studies of this dynamic landscape, which is unique in the world, can only be described as heroic in the face of the political pressure to aid the corporate agricultural efforts in their zealous attempt to drain the Everglades starting in the 30's, as well as the continued alterations of the southward water flows with the construction of Lake Okeechobee, and the continued inundation of phosphorus based chemicals. Dr. Mitsch also discussed in great detail what appears to be the changing political sentiments that have affected the discharges of contaminated water from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee and what solutions have been proposed, as well as their likely results.

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5. Board of Director Nominations – Jim Holmes

Jim discussed that the terms of two positions on the BOD were going to expire and therefore needed to be elected at next month's meeting; and that while both Mike Gleysteen and Roger Whited have indicated their willingness to continue on the BOD for another term, he requested that any additional nominations be made before next month's election.

6. Offshore Charters: Jack Paster

1. Findictive II – (Paster & Jamieson) – while the January 31 trip is full, the February 23 trip is open for 5 fishermen (\$215 each all in for 5 fishermen.)
2. Capt. McQuade – (Paster & Jamieson) – the January 30 trip is full, as is the February 15 trip (\$270 each all in for 6 fishermen.)
3. Cuda – (Wickens & Denesha) – the January 12 trip had to be cancelled, the February 12 trip is open for 6 fishermen (\$235 each all in for 6 fishermen.)
4. Capt. Marvel – (Shannon & Asst. needed) – the January 16 trip is full, the March 1 trip is open, as is the March 21 trip (\$260 each all in for 6 fishermen.)

7. Back Bay Charters: Phil Ferrara

1. Capt. Russell – (Ferrara & VanKampen) – the Capt. Bill Russell trips scheduled for January 17 and 29 are both open (\$150 each all in for 3 fishermen.)
2. Capt. Fontana – (Ferrara & VanKampen) – the Capt. Tony Fontana trips scheduled for January 10 and 26 are full, the February 5 and 14 trips are both open (\$150 each all in for 3 fishermen.)

8. Beach Fishing: Phil Ferrara

January 15 is the next opportunity for fishing at the beach at Lover's Key State Park, weather permitting.

9. Pontoon Fishing: Tom Heaton

Trips are scheduled for January 11 and 30, February 8 and 27, March 8 and 27, and April 12. Tom will advise day and time via gmail notices based on tides and temperatures.

10. Instructional Saltwater Fishing Classes: Tom Heaton

Capt. Rob Modys will be teaching the Tuesday evening sessions of the free saltwater fishing classes at the Bass Pro Shops starting on January 9. Call 239-461-7800 ASAP to sign up.

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11. Bass Fishing Derby and Freshwater Fishing Clinic: Larry Winston

Bob Lienesch was last month's winner of the Bass Fishing Derby. In addition, the Freshwater Fishing Clinic will be held immediately following today's meeting.

12. New Member Orientation: Bob Lienesch

New Member Orientation will be held at 9AM on January 30 at the Commons Club's Enrichment Center.

13. Lake Okeechobee Bass Fishing Trip: Bob Lienesch

The trip to Lake Okeechobee will leave The Commons Club at 7AM on January 17 for a day of Bass fishing (estimated to be \$300 each all in per fisherman) with all tackle provided.

14. Instructional Luncheons: Bob Seidell and TJ Wright

The first Instructional Luncheon of the season will to be held on January 16 at SWCC. Cost is \$30, which includes one glass of wine (additional wine is \$5 per glass, all in, on the BFC honor system to Bob Seidell.) Payment by check (made payable to BFC) should be sent to Bob at the address provided in the email, but not later than today's meeting. The 2nd Instructional Luncheon will be held on February 8 at the Real Seafood Company. Cost is \$30, which includes one glass of wine, with additional wine and beer available. Payment by check, made payable to BFC, should be sent to TJ Wright at the address provided in the email, and paid not later than January 31, 2018.

15. Annual Dinner: George Taylor

The Annual Dinner will be held on March 19 at the Spring Run Golf Club. Cost is \$20 for members and \$40 for a spouse or guest. Cocktails start at 5pm, with dinner at 6pm. Payment by check, payable to the BFC, should be sent to George Taylor at the address provided in the email.

16. BFC Raffle Winner: Joe Kallial

Next Meeting: 9:00AM, Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at the Common Club's Enrichment Center.

Minutes submitted by Roger Whited, Secretary