



2025 - - What an amazing year it's been!

Just when you thought our Club couldn't get any better, 2025 came through with some exciting updates and new milestones! Here's a quick look at all the good things that happened:

- We were thrilled to welcome over 300 new members, bringing our dues-paying member base close to 600—what an incredible community!
 - Our Club hosted over 250 charters and successfully ran 227 of them—weather challenges aside, that's a lot of fishing fun!
 - In December, we launched a fresh, user-friendly website to make it easier than ever for you to find the info you need.
 - Our 30th anniversary celebration was a blast, with 217 members joining the festivities—here's to many more years to come!
 - We also added some fantastic new Captains to our team, bringing fresh fishing opportunities at great prices. So, why not book your next trip now?
 - Thanks to our growing community and all the fishing activity, we were able to bring in top-notch speakers on a variety of fishing topics. And we're just getting started—2026 will be even better!
 - We're excited to introduce our new Officer team, with Bob White stepping in as Treasurer. A big thank you to Steve Newman for his dedicated years of service as Treasurer.
- And the best part? We're still offering all of this for just a \$10 annual dues contribution. Can you believe it?



January Monthly Meeting at Everglades Recreation Center

Our guest speaker for the January 5th meeting will be one of our very own Club members, Captain Keith Kalbfleisch

With over 30 years of fishing experience in the Mosquito and Indian River Lagoons, Captain Keith brings a wealth of knowledge he's excited to share with fellow members. He'll lead an in-depth, hands-on seminar



on bottom fishing, covering everything from gear selection and bait to proven techniques and expert tips.

Whether you're a seasoned angler or just getting started, this presentation will offer valuable insights on catching great-tasting fish like snapper and grouper. Get ready for a practical, "how-to" session designed to help you reel in bigger catches and take your fishing skills to the next level!

Doors open at 6:00 PM

Meeting begins at 6:30 PM

You don't want to miss this meeting!



Change to By-Laws proposed

There is a proposal to modify Section VI (Executive Committee), Clause A of our Club's By-Laws.

- **Current Wording:** "The Officers, Standing Committee Chairs, and the Immediate Past President shall constitute the Executive Committee."
- **Proposed Wording:** "The Officers, Standing Committee Chairs, and a Member in Good Standing (recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by membership vote) shall constitute the Executive Committee."

Reason for Change: The role of Immediate Past President is currently vacant as the previous officer is no longer a resident of The Villages. This amendment allows the club to maintain a full and active Executive Committee by appointing a qualified member in their place.

Meeting Notice: This proposal will be discussed at the monthly meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026. A membership vote will follow the discussion.



Atlantic Red Snapper Updates

On November 14th, 2025, U.S. Congressmen John H. Rutherford (FL-05) and other co-chairs of the South Atlantic Red Snapper Task Force sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick. The letter strongly supports the Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) applications from Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. These applications request approval to:

- Improve state data collection
- Implement state-led management of the recreational red snapper fishery in federal waters of the South Atlantic region.

Proposed 2026 Season Highlights:

- Season Length: 39 days
- Summer Segment: May 22 – June 20
- Fall Weekends: October 2-4, 9-11, 16-18

Next Steps:

- The U.S. Department of Commerce must approve the EFP for the 2026 season to proceed as planned.

Until next month, tight lines!

Ken Jagodzinski
