Minutes The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club May 1, 2023

President Ken Jagodzinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 126 members in attendance.

Weather impacting fishing trips

There was member consensus that the weather has been having significant impacts on the Club's ability to get out fishing. Many trips have been cancelled due to the high winds making it unsafe to venture out.

Odds & Ends

President Ken encouraged members to step up and volunteer to fill the current openings. Specifically, the Club has an immediate need for a Secretary and Trip Coordinators. Ken shared that Club's paid membership was over 600 members and that "we are a vibrant and energetic Club." He added that the time commitment was about 7 -10 hours a month. He urged members to contact him if interested in volunteering.

Coordinator reports from March

All coordinators reported mixed fishing reports for their Captains. The general consensus amongst the Coordinators' message was "The fish bite is good – if you can get out on the water." Presenters included Steve Newman (Thunder), Jim Scheer (numerous Captains), Bruce Speck (Carl Robinson), Tony Delli Carpini (Circle Hook), John Hogan (Stars & Stripes) and Jaye Wolfe (Ray Moses), Gary Doerfert (Charlie Harris).

Logistics for long haul Club trip July 31st

President Ken reported that car-pooling arrangements were underway and that Greg Rottet has stepped up to coordinate this effort. An email was sent to those signed up to determine who needs rides to Marco Island for this trip and who is able to drive.

American Patriot drawing

President Ken shared there are only 1more opportunity (after tonight) to buy tickets for a spot on the 4-day private Club trip on the American Patriot. He added that the drawing would be held at the June 5th Club meeting. The value of this trip is \$1,560.

NEW members

Ida Donegan reported 22 new members signed up at the March meeting. All new members were asked to stand and introduce themselves. Ken invited the new members to stay for a brief orientation meeting with Dave Easthon.

Open Forum

Several members shared items during this segment.

Financial Report

Treasurer Steve Newman gave the financial report.

Guest Speaker

Captain Red Ed of Red Ed's Adventures was our guest speaker. He spoke about his boat and his expertise – specifically strong in catching Cobia. The Captain brought numerous fishing rigs to show members the type of tackle he uses and explained the techniques needed to attract Cobia and how to fish for them once they are around the boat. There was significant member interest in questions and examining the fishing tackle he brought.

100% Raffle

The club raffled off nine (9) \$50 vouchers that can be used on any Club trip. Congratulations to the winners.

Next meeting is Monday, June 5, 2023 at Everglades Recreation Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.