

The Villages Deep Sea Fishing Club May 6, 2024

President Ken Jagodzinski called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 97 members in attendance.

Sad news

President Ken shared the sad news of the passing of Jaye Wolfe – a long time Club member and Charter Coordinator. He asked for members to hold him in their thoughts.

Fishing Trip Coordinator reports

Coordinator reports highlighted current fishing reports and openings for May trips. Presenters included Jim Scheer, Gary Doerfert, Joe Cicman, Dave Easton, Bruce Speck and Steve Newman.

American Patriot raffle

President Ken announced that tickets are now on sale to win one (1) seat on the Club private trip on The American Patriot in October 2024. Ticket cost is \$5 for 1 ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets. The drawing will be at the Club meeting in July.

American Patriot – June 2025 long haul trip

President Ken shared that the Club's 4-day deep drop fishing trip only had 3 spots available and encouraged members to sign up if they want to go on this trip. The dates are June 22-25, 2025. He advised that signups are now underway. He asked anyone interested in this trip to see Ken for more details.

Safety

Ken shared that even though our Club is about catching fish, there is an element of being safe and aware while on the water. Ken introduced Jamie Fowler of the Freshwater Fishing Club to speak to the recent episode he experienced with a sting ray bite while trying to get the fish off his line. Jamie explained the painful and dangerous experience and strongly encouraged members if they catch a sting ray "to just cut the line."

NEW members

Dave Easton advised there were 8 new members that signed up at the meeting. All new members were asked to stand and introduce themselves. Dave invited the new members to stay for a brief orientation meeting following the regular meeting.

Open Forum

There was no activity to report for the Open Forum segment this month.

Financial Report

Treasurer Steve Newman gave the financial report.

Guest Speaker – John Rohan of The Villages Recreation Department

Our Club warmly welcomed Mr. Rohan who shared an update on the many recreational happenings in/around The Villages. He spoke about the retention ponds – their purpose and fishing opportunities. He was complimentary to our Club for the innovation and enthusiasm we bring to our Club members. A Q&A session followed.

100% Raffle

The club raffled off eight (6) \$50 vouchers that can be used on any Club trip. Congratulations to the winners.

Next meeting is Monday, June 3, 2024 at Everglades Recreation Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.