

Daily Topics
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Heard on The Beat

NEWS FROM KEY COVERAGE AREAS IN OUR COMMUNITY

VILLAGES FRESH WATER FISHING CLUB HAS PLENTY OF PLACES TO CAST THEIR LINES

Have a passion for fishing, but don't want to travel far from home? You're in luck as The Villages has more than 25 fishable bodies of water. The Fresh Water Fishing Club offers a way to fish and spend some time with fellow anglers. For more information, visit vfishing.wordpress.com. (Ryan Weiss, Daily Sun)

FWC WAIVES ITS AUGUST CLOSURE OF BLUE CRAB TRAPS

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission waived the August closure of recreational and commercial blue crab traps in northeast water off the coast of Florida on Wednesday. The closure previously scheduled for Aug. 20-29 was for all waters from Nassau through Volusia counties. (Ryan Weiss, Daily Sun)

TODAY'S TOPIC
FLORIDA TRENDS

Three volunteers step up to help the growing Deep Sea Fishing Club welcome new members, freshen its website and social media, and coordinate its programs.

By **RYAN WEISS**
Daily Sun Staff Writer

Over the course of the past couple months, The Villages Deep Sea Fishing has rapidly grown.

With a growing membership base, there was a need for more volunteers to help the club out with all the things a growing club needs — logistics, planning, organization and outreach.

Three members of the club volunteered to take on new roles in the club. Steve Bowlus is the club's new program coordinator. Al Anderson is the club's new website and social media coordinator and Dave Easton is the club's new

member coordinator. All three men play vital roles in the club. Easton works with new members to the Deep Sea Fishing Club and helps them become more acquainted with the club and its processes.

Easton is passionate about fishing and loves to talk about his hobby with other people in The Villages. He also has plenty of years of volunteer experience in the past so it seemed like a natural fit to take on the role.

After meetings, Easton meets with new members for about 10 or 15 minutes to go more in-depth on how things work in the club and how to go about booking charter fishing trips. It's one way Easton helps out members

in the club — something he really enjoys.

"I've always been volunteering, doing something," said Easton, of the Village of Chitty Chatty. "It was just natural for me when I got involved with the club."

Al Anderson's main role is to help improve the club's website and social media presence.

Anderson has 25 years experience in his professional career with helping operate and build websites, and he is hoping to help bring some of that knowledge to the club.

When president Ken Jagodzinski began his tenure in January, that was one of his main goals.

With the help of Anderson, the Deep Sea Fishing Club is doing just that. The club is revamping its website to give it a more modern interface and have an electronic calendar on the website, as well as a place that can accept electronic payments.

"I'm hoping to streamline the website," said Anderson, of the Village of Briar Meadow. "Make it more efficient and more effective for club members to use."

As the program coordinator, Bowlus plays a big part in the meetings. One thing the club likes to have at meetings is guest speakers who can impart knowledge to members about specific



Dave Easton, of the Village of Chitty Chatty, is the Deep Sea Fishing Club's new member coordinator.

Submitted photo

regions the club may fish in. "He'll do great," said Jagodzinski, of the Village of Pinellas. "He's persistent."

their predecessors. "We've only scratched the surface in terms of where we can go," Jagodzinski said.

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Jagodzinski has been a fan of the work all three men have done so far. He always appreciates anyone who steps up for a volunteer position.

The club has nearly doubled in size since Jagodzinski took over and he has greatly appreciated the help the volunteers have brought. And with the help of more volunteers, the club can continue to improve and build on the legacy left by

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