

Force Newsletter February 2007

#### Next Meeting

The next Rivers Coalition meeting is Friday, February 23, 2007, 11 a.m. at the Blake Library, 2351 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL (near Ocean Blvd.) This is our regular monthly meeting and, as always, we welcome public participation and support.

#### Port Salerno Seafood Festival A HUGE Success!

On January 27, 2007 the Rivers Coalition participated in the 1st Annual Port Salerno Seafood Festival presented by the Port Salerno Commercial Dock Authority.

This fundraising effort had been in the planning stages when the Rivers Coalition Defense Fund was invited to share 50/50 in any profits with the Port Salerno Commercial Dock Authority, a member of the Rivers Coalition. The Rivers Coalition funds will go toward the lawsuit and the PSCDA will be using the proceeds to design an environmentally friendly dock concept to allow public boat access to the Manatee Pocketwalk.

The Seafood Festival was held along the waterfront between Pirates Cove and the Fish House Art Center on a beautiful, sunny day. Crowds of perhaps 5000 were anticipated but estimates by the Sheriffs Dept claim close to 15,000 people attended!

Special thanks to Steering Committee members Jan Timon, Jamie Burns, Danielle Adams & Helen Harrelson who represented the Rivers Coalition and volunteered their participation in event development starting in June of 2006.

Kudos to Mike Baker, President of the Port Salerno Commercial Dock Authority and Chairman of the Seafood Festival for his vision of the Seafood Festival for the benefit of the community and the Rivers Coalition. Special thanks to the other Steering Committee members who devoted so much time and effort in the successful event; Tish Gelineau, Kit Munroe, Liz Huggins-Thompson & Betsey Riley. Thanks also to the 200+ volunteers that came out that day to make it happen.

Preliminary figures indicate the festival grossed over \$70,000 so the Rivers Coalition is expecting a pretty hefty check to be added to the coffers of the Legal Defense Fund!

All the Seafood committee members barely had time to catch their collective breath from the event on Sunday when they were busy the following week wrapping up loose ends and making plans for next year!

#### Boat Raffle

The Rivers Coalition Boat Raffle is still in full swing and the boat itself is making a grand tour of variety of events and Jim Harter on our Raffle Committee makes sure it gets where it needs to be!

Thanks to Henry Caimotto and all the staff at the Snook Nook. They love to have the Hewes 16' Redfisher on display outside the store and actively promote sales of our raffle tickets.

Special thanks to Florida Sportsman magazine for donating a full page ad to the Boat Raffle and increasing our online raffle tickets sales through our website!

Florida Sportsman also tapped Diana Matthews & Jeff Weakley to bring our boat to their Fort Meyers show in January and sell raffle tickets. Diana worked with west coast PURRE activist Mary Rawl to round up some volunteers to assist her that day selling tickets and they did a fabulous job!

It was a long but gorgeous day for a festival on the water and selling raffle tickets at the Port Salerno Seafood Festival on January 27th. We had some of our experienced 'rafflers' from the Stuart Boat Show and some new volunteers. Thanks to Jessica Briske our Team Leader for the day and to volunteers; Ginny & Barry Douglas, Mary Dawson, Laurie & Ed Lorch, Bonnie MacDonald, Grayson Kyte with Rachel & Friends!

Extra special thanks to the MCHS Junior Class of 2008 for coming to our aid at the last minute when we needed extra hands; Elyse Levy, Erica Schmidt, Sarah Bowsman, Kelly Knoth, Alex Klein, Haley Garverick

Help Save The River and a chance to Win!

First Prize, a custom 16' Hewes, with a 90hp Yamaha, E-Z loader trailer and all the bells & whistles.

Second Prize a 13" Ocean Kayak Prowler Angler

Third Prize a pair Crowder Rods with Penn reels

Our boat raffle Tickets are only \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and are available for purchase on our website and at these locations;

Lindsay Marine, 2391 NW US Highway 1, Stuart, 772-692-3080 Kevin Lindsay

Snook Nook, 3595 Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, 772-334-2145 Henry Ciamotto

Mitchell's Bait & Tackle, 4480 SE St. Lucie Blvd. Stuart Tel. 772-267-0486 Carl Hoenes, Jr.

Southern Angler, 3585 SE St. Lucie Blvd. Stuart, Fl. 34997 Tel. 772-223-1300 contact Scott

West Marine, 545 SE Dixie Hwy., Stuart, Fl. 34997 Tel. 772-223-0863 contact Ashley

West Marine, 3523 NW Fed. Hwy Jensen Beach, Fl. 34957 Tel. 772 -697-3092 Bill Summers

Pirates Cove Marina, 4307 SE Bayview St. Stuart, Fl. 34997 Tel. 772-223-9216 Grant Stokes

Sailfish Bait & Tackle, 3565 SE St. Lucie Blvd. Stuart, Fl. 34997 Tel. 772-221-9456 Robby Archer

John B's Light Tackle, & Fly 4330 SE Fed. Hwy Stuart, Fl. 34997 Tel. 772-287-6535 John Sweeney

Gordo's Bait & Tackle, 494 SE Monterey Rd. Stuart, Fl. 34994 Tel. 772-220-0450 contact Gordo

Billy Bones Bait & Tackle, 10602 S. Fed. Hwy Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 772-335-3715 Capt. Bruce

Master Repair, 446 SE Commerce Ave Stuart, Fl. 34997 Tel. 772-220-7777 Mike or Rose Flavin.

Become a Rivers Coalition Member

If you would like to represent your organization as a member of the Rivers Coalition, eMail us at

[info@RiversCoalition.org](mailto:info@RiversCoalition.org)

Currently, application is free and you need only represent an organization of 25 or more members.

Visit our website at [RiversCoalition.org](http://RiversCoalition.org) or call us at 772-225-6849

Pass this newsletter on!

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