



*Palm Beach County Airboat and Halftrack  
Conservation Club, Inc.*  
www.pbcairboatclub.com

**February 2012**

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Palm Beach County Airboat and  
Halftrack Conservation Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 17038  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416

**Club Officers:**

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Walt Brandon (1 yr)  
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**A message from your President:**

A big thank you for those who volunteered in our spot at the South Florida Fair.

Another big thank you goes to Butch Danison, Bryan Swink and Mary Ann Westwood for the great job they are doing on our upcoming Airboat & Buggy Show. We need volunteers and hope you can donate a couple of hours to make the show a success. We're looking forward to a really good show this year and need to keep in touch at a buggy show meeting before the Show. Next meeting is on February 8<sup>th</sup> at our regular meeting.

Nominations will begin in March, so keep this in mind to attend the March meeting. Elections will be held in May. This is your club and you have a say in all that is done by our club.

Remember you can't vote in the election if you haven't paid your dues.

Following our show, the t-shirt trailer will make the trip south to the Broward Airboat, Buggy & Halftrack Club's annual show at the Bergeron Rodeo Arena, March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Come and join in the fun.

See you at the meeting,

*Glenn*

Glenn Brandon, President

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We would like to send a note of sympathy to the family of Fireman William "Bill" Elliot from Broward County. He was a member of the Never Rest Camp and will be missed by all who knew him as a caring and generous guy.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

February 3-5<sup>th</sup> – Florida Crackerfest  
February 4<sup>th</sup> – Youth Day, sponsored by FSCA at Everglades Youth Camp

February 11<sup>th</sup> – Broward Airboat, Buggy & Halftrack Annual Banquet, call Kellie at (954) 931-6761 for info.

**February 14<sup>th</sup>- Valentine’s Day!!**

February 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 2012 Youth Hunt Quail, Charlotte County, Where: Clay County, Palm Beach County Contact Renee Hays [renee.hays@MyFWC.com](mailto:renee.hays@MyFWC.com)

February 17<sup>th</sup> 2012 Youth Hunt Deer/Hog, Where: Gulf County, contact Carrie Ream [carrie.ream@MyFWC.com](mailto:carrie.ream@MyFWC.com)

February 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> 2012 Babcock Ranch Preserve Youth Hunt/Quail, Charlotte County. Contact Renee Hays [renee.hays@MyFWC.com](mailto:renee.hays@MyFWC.com)

March 3<sup>rd</sup> GTO Swap Meet, USAA, held 4600 West Hwy326, Ocala.

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Youth Hunt/Gator STA 2, Palm Beach County contact Carrie Ream [carrie.ream@MyFWC.com](mailto:carrie.ream@MyFWC.com)

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012, JW Corbett Area Cleanup more info at later date.

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Check out what’s new at the website for FWC, [www.MyFWC.com](http://www.MyFWC.com) and keep up with the latest information in the management areas and on the water.

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WANTED! Dead or Alive!  
Model “A” Buggy  
Call C.R. Brown  
(561) 248-0969

**February Birthdays:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Susan Mitzelfeld
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kevin Swink
- 4<sup>th</sup> Bobby Downs, Teresa Marte
- 6<sup>th</sup> ROY HIGHTOWER, Cindy Palmer
- 7<sup>th</sup> Annalina Felicella, Jessica Spetla, Scott Sprague, Bishop Wright, Jr.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Patricia Viola, Tim Barton
- 10<sup>th</sup> Logan Locklear
- 13<sup>th</sup> Olivia Cline
- 14<sup>th</sup> Travis Bullard, Laurance Jones, James Winstead
- 19<sup>th</sup> Tyler Smith
- 20<sup>th</sup> Bill Kirkland, Jr. Lanny Haff
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Turkey Goddard, Mitch Kline
- 24<sup>th</sup> Buddy Palmer
- 27<sup>th</sup> Rich Howard
- 28<sup>th</sup> Austyn “18<sup>th</sup>” Taylor

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**Have you paid your 2012 dues yet?? Or did you forget??**  
**The dues are due by January 31<sup>st</sup> each year, so get busy and make sure you have paid them. You cannot vote in our election of Officers and Board members if your dues have not been paid!!!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Nominations will be in March, 2<sup>nd</sup> in April and voting takes place in May.....**



**A SPECIAL EVENT NOTICE TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS:**

**SAVE THE DATE AND DON'T FORGET!!!**

2012 Airboat & Swamp Buggy  
Show

Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup> & Sunday  
February 26<sup>th</sup> 2012

12 noon to 9 pm  
10 am to 5 pm

*Everglades Youth Camp  
12100 Seminole-Pratt Whitney Road  
West Palm Beach, FL*

Come out and join in the fun, live  
entertainment, good food and  
airboat & buggy rides for all!!!

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BROWARD Airboat & buggy Show at  
Bergeron Rodeo arena will be March 10<sup>th</sup>  
& 11<sup>th</sup> 2012 in Davie, Florida

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**Our next Membership meeting  
Wednesday February 8th @ 7:30 p.m.  
at the FWC South Regional Office  
8535 Northlake Boulevard  
West Palm Beach, FL**

**INFORMATION NOTE:**

**wanting to buy used items from someone, boats, guns, trailers, etc. Fla Department of Law Enforcement has a great tool to verify if it has been stolen, go to:**

[www.pas.fdle.state.fl.us](http://www.pas.fdle.state.fl.us)

**to find out before you buy!!!**

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**We need more volunteers at the Buggy Show, so please come to the next meeting and tell us what you can commit to help with. This is one of our most important events and we really need a lot of volunteers to make it a big success.**

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**Can you get a new member to join our club??, we are hoping to get a lot of new members to join our club and be a part of the different events we are sponsoring and are a part of during the coming year.**

**You could be eligible for a bonus if you get a new member or more than one new member!!!**

**A Poem About Love, Redneck Style:**

Okra is green, my dog's name is Blue  
And I'm so lucky to have a sweet thang like you.  
Yore hair is like cornsilk, a-flapping in the breeze.  
Softer than Blue's and without all them fleas.  
You move like the bass, which excite me in May.  
You ain't got no scales, but I luv you anyway.  
You're as graceful as bacon, jist a-dancin' in the pan.  
Yo're as fragrant as SunDrop, right out of the can.  
You have all yore teeth, for which I am proud;  
I hold my head high when we're in a crowd.  
On special occasions, when you shave yore arm-pits,  
Well, I'm in hawg heaven, plumb outta my wits.  
Still them fellers at work they all want to know,  
Whit I did to deserve such a purty, young doe.  
Like a good roll of duct tape, yo're there for yore man,  
to patch up life's troubles and stick 'em in the can.  
Yo're strong as a four-wheeler, racin' thru mud,  
Yet fragile as that sanger, named Naomi Judd.  
Yo're cute as a junebug a-buzzin' overhead.  
You ain't mean like no fire ant upon which I oft' tread.  
When you hold me real tight like a padded gunrack,  
My life is complete; Ain't nuttin' I lack.  
Yore complexion; perfection, like the best vinyl sidin'  
Despite all the years, yore age, it keeps hidin'.  
And when you get old, like a '57 Chevy,  
Won't put you on blocks and let grass grow up heavy.  
Me 'n' you's like a Moon Pie, with a RC cola drank,  
We go together like a skunk goes with stank.  
Some me, they buy chocolate, for Valentine's Day,  
They git it at Wal-Mart, it's romantic that way.  
Some men git roses on that special day from the cooler at Kroger. "That's impressive" I say.  
Some buy fine diamond from a flea market booth,  
But for this man, Honey, these will not do.  
For you are too special, You sweet thang you,  
I got you a gift with out taste nor odor.  
Better than diamonds-----

**It's a new trollin' motor, with love from  
Yore husband! Happy Valentine's Day!**

## SWAMP BUGGIES SOON MAY GET NEW ACCESS TO BIG CYPRESS PRESERVE, OR WILL THEY?

By ERIC STAATS

Updated Tuesday, December 20, 2011

**BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE** —When Florida finished building Alligator Alley between Naples and Fort Lauderdale in 1992, it came with a deal on the side.

Swamp buggies would be allowed access to the Big Cypress National Preserve in eastern Collier County from a rest area at Mile Marker 63, replacing what had been unlimited access before the former two-lane state road became an interstate highway lined by tall fences.

Some 20 years later, the state Department of Transportation has dusted off those plans and could start construction by November 2012, spokeswoman Debbie Tower said.

It's about time, say sportsmen who are fighting conservation groups and the National Park Service to get more off-road vehicle access to the preserve.

"We are most disappointed we've waited that long for that access point," Big Cypress Sportsmen Alliance President Lyle McCandless said.

Mile Marker 63 is one of the three access spots the National Park Service is required to provide. One already exists at Mile Marker 70. A second one is under construction at Mile Marker 51.

"I feel like the state is working very hard and the timing is working out right," Preserve Superintendent Pedro Ramos said.

Ramos said the two new access points had to wait until the Interior Department signed off on what has turned out to be a litigious plan for swamp buggy access to part of the preserve known as the Addition Lands along I-75. That happened in February.

Since then, though, environmental groups have filed two lawsuits seeking to further restrict off-road vehicle access to the Addition Lands.

The Park Service proposed to designate 47,000 acres of the 146,000-acre Addition as wilderness and proposed to build 130 miles of swamp buggy trails, one of which would connect with the Mile Marker 63 rest area. For now, the only access from the rest area is on foot.

A representative of one of the groups suing over the plan said whether the lawsuit will block swamp buggy access from the rest area is an unanswered question.

"Is it something we're seeking? No," National Parks Conservation Association regional director John Adornato said. "Is it a possibility? I'm not sure."

The DOT has applied for federal environmental permits for the \$10 million rest area renovation that includes the swamp buggy access and a new Collier County emergency medical services and fire station.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has raised questions about the effect on 12 acres of wetlands and habitat

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for endangered Florida panthers and wood storks.

Plans calls for replacing the existing building and removing a covered picnic shelter. Two new parking areas are proposed north and south of I-75. Each parking area would have 15 parking spaces for motor vehicles and 25 spaces for vehicles with trailers.

Environmental reviewers have suggested lessening the project's footprint by building one large parking area either north or south of the interstate rather than two separate parking areas.

DOT planners say that isn't feasible because it would restrict legal access to only one side of I-75 in violation of the federal law that expanded the preserve to take in the Addition Lands.

McCandless, with the sportsmen's group, bristles at what he says is a bottleneck over permitting for swamp buggy access to the preserve.

"They've agreed to do it," he said. "They can't put it off forever."

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**ALERT TO PROTECT PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS: PLEASE CALL NOW!**

**Senate Bill 1362 and House Bill 1103, now being discussed in the Florida Legislature, will drastically change who owns lands on our rivers and lakes. These bills, if passed, will give these lands, which the public presently owns, and use for boating, fishing, sightseeing, bird-watching and hunting, to private landowners, who will then be able to keep us, Florida's public out!**

**Please call:**

**Senator Alan Hays (850)487-5014 (as to Senate Bill 1362) and**

**Representative Tom Goodson (850)488-3006 (as to House Bill 1103)**

**And tell them to pull these bills that would steal the land of the public. Kindly remind them they represent all Floridians, not special interests.**

From Preston Roberson, Florida Wildlife Federation

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