

Key West

MARLIN

2014



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GUIDE AND YEARBOOK



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Table of Contents

Welcome

- 6 Tim Greene—
Chairman, The Key West Marlin Tournament
- 8 Scott Greene and Debora Bent—
Directors, The Key West Marlin Tournament



Key West Marlin Tournament

- 10 Schedule of Events
- 12 Sponsor Recognition
- 14 Tournament Rules
- 18 Swordfish Catch Fulfills a Dream
- 24 History of The Tournament



Florida Keys & Key West

- 32 Out-of-the-Way Attractions
- 34 Island Nightlife: Revelry and Rhythms



Hemingway Days 2014

- 38 Hemingway Days Welcome
- 40 34th Annual Hemingway Days
- 42 Hemingway Days Literary Events
- 44 "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest



- 46 Discover the Keys Connection
- 48 Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition
- 50 2013 Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition 2nd Place Winner
- 54 Helpline's Caribbean Street Fair
- 55 5k Sunset Run & Paddleboard Race
- 56 Hemingway Days Schedule of Events
- 64 An Insider's Guide to Keys Cuisine

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Special thank you to cover artist Stephen Muldoon (see page 21).

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JULY 16-20, 2014



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Welcome

Fun-Filled and Action-Packed

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you to the 2014 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament; your participation in this event is greatly appreciated.

The staff, sponsors and board of directors have been working hard during the past year to provide a tournament experience that combines fun and friendship with the fishing experience; and we appreciate the many ideas and suggestions that have been given to help us in making this one of the top marlin fishing tournaments in the country.



Last year's tournament once again lived up to its reputation as an exciting world-class fishing event, with team *High Stakes* winning the \$25,000 first-place prize.

At times I have heard that marlin fishing can be slow and wear on one's patience, but the fellowship and camaraderie of this tournament is second to none. With the fun-filled evening activities and the famous Duval Street entertainments available, our event tends to raise the adrenaline level of our anglers to new heights.

This year's tournament is shaping up to be better than ever. With \$50,000 in guaranteed cash prizes this event will once again be an exciting fun-filled fishing adventure in beautiful Key West. The tournament again coincides with the Hemingway Days Festival, celebrating the birthday of one of our most loved and respected American authors. You will find a comprehensive Festival schedule, along with fishing, local interest, and Hemingway Days events articles in this program.

Once again we would like to thank our fine sponsors that have supported this event; their gracious financial contributions insure a tournament that is a good time for all anglers and guests. We would like to extend a special thanks to our Title Sponsor Drambuie Liquor, Ltd, and their USA distributor Bacardi, along with Marine Max, Boston Whaler, DoubleTree Grand Key Resort, First State Bank, Stay in Costa Rica, Conch Republic Seafood Company and the Monroe County Tourist Development Council. Please support them as they have supported us.

Tight Lines and Fair Seas,

Tim Greene, Tournament Chairman

The Norman B. Wood

Key West Marlin Tournament Perpetual Trophy



Capt. Norman Wood searched the waters off of Key West to find the blue marlin that were so abundant in the neighboring waters of Cuba, the Dry Tortugas and the Bahamas.

Capt. Wood believed that the mighty blue marlins were migrating between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Mapping out the most likely route he determined that the best big game fishing should be just 20 miles off Key West. After days of exploration and offshore fishing, he found the big blues! Now known as "Woods Wall", depth soundings provided Capt. Wood with the reason for great fishing - a sharp drop off in the ocean floor, where the depths plummet from 900 to over 2,000 feet, a "hot spot" for blue marlins.

Capt. Norman Wood has been instrumental in establishing Key West as a world class sport fishing center for decades. Whether in his role as a founding member of the Key West Marlin Tournament or as a Retired Director of First State Bank of the Florida Keys, Capt. Wood is loved, respected and admired for his community leadership and commitment to the Keys.

First State Bank of the Florida Keys

Main Office

Proud Home of the

Norman B. Wood

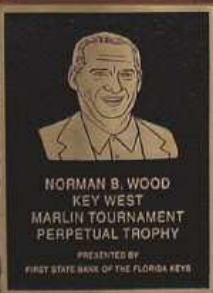
Key West Marlin Tournament

Perpetual Trophy



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Welcome

From The Directors

We are very excited to welcome everyone to the 2014 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament. For those of you who have participated with us previously, "Welcome back," and for those joining us for the first time, "Welcome aboard." Whether you have participated in previous years or it's your first time, this year's tournament is guaranteed to be another fun and memorable event.

The four-day tournament will again feature our live Auction and Raffle hosted by the Conch Republic Seafood Company; the Island Pig Roast and Cocktail Party hosted by the Double Tree Grand Key Resort; our Dockside Cocktails and Fish Fry again at the Conch Republic Seafood Company; and finally our spectacular Silent Auction, and Banquet and Awards Ceremony, hosted by the Westin Key West Resort and Marina. Memorable indeed!

Planning and directing this exciting tournament is a challenging adventure, but the high amount of positive feedback from the participants and sponsors alike make it truly a rewarding experience. Our Board of Directors is dedicated to continuing to enhance the Key West Marlin Tournament in order to fulfill our vision of making it one of the premier billfish tournaments in the world. Please take a moment while you are enjoying the event to pass on to us any comments or suggestions that you may have.

In closing, I hope that you will also take a moment to thank and patronize the terrific sponsors who make this event a reality. I can't say enough about what great companies and people they all are. We really appreciate their contributions.

Good luck and Tight Lines!

Scott Greene
Tournament Director

Debora Bent
Tournament Co-Director



SCOTT GREENE
Tournament Director



DEBORA BENT
Tournament Co-Director



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Schedule of Events

WEDNESDAY JULY 16, 2014

4-6 PM —
Tournament
Registration
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

6-7 PM —
Captain's Meeting
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

7-8 PM —
Auction and Raffle
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

THURSDAY JULY 17, 2014

7:20 AM —
Boats assemble
for traditional Bimini Start

7:30 AM — Bimini Start

8:30 AM —
Lines in the water

4 PM —
Lines out of the water

4-6 PM — Weigh In
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

6:30-8 PM —
Island Pig Roast and
Cocktail Party
(DoubleTree Grand
Key Resort)

FRIDAY JULY 18, 2014

7:30 AM —
Boats leave control area
for Day 2 fishing

8:30 AM —
Lines in the water

4 PM —
Lines out of the water

4-6 PM — Weigh In
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

6:30-8 PM —
Dockside Cocktails
and Fish Fry
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

SATURDAY JULY 19, 2014

7:30 AM — Boats leave control
area for Day 3 fishing

8:30 AM — Lines in the water

3 PM — Lines out of the water

3-5 PM — Weigh In
(Conch Republic Seafood
Company)

6:30-7:30 PM —
Awards Banquet Cocktails
(Westin Key West Resort
& Marina)

6:30-8:30 PM — Silent
Auction (Westin Key West
Resort & Marina)

7:30 PM — Awards Banquet
Dinner and Awards
(Westin Key West Resort
& Marina)

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

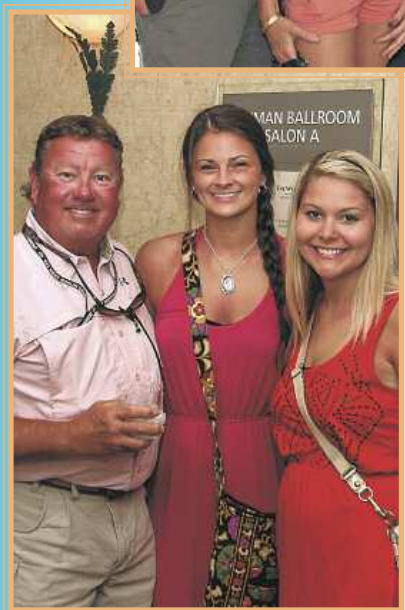
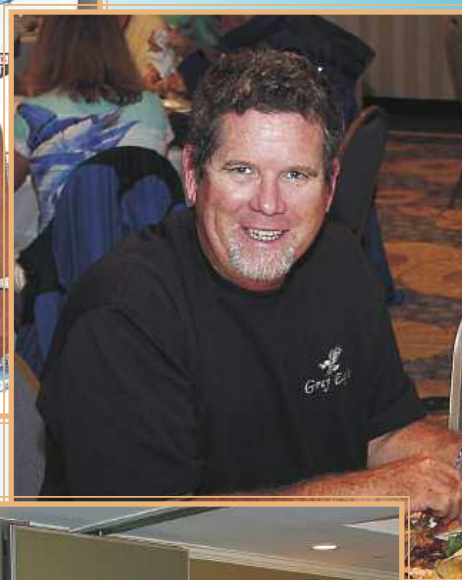
\$50,000 In Cash Prizes

	MARLIN	DOLPHIN	TUNA	WAHOO
FIRST PLACE	\$ 25,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 750	\$ 750
SECOND PLACE	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 350	\$ 350
THIRD PLACE	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 150	\$ 150

The 2015 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

The dates for the 2015 Drambuie Key West marlin tournament have been selected. Please mark your calendar for July 22 thru July 25, 2015, and plan to join us for another great tournament. If you would like to be added to our mailing list and/or receive a brochure for next year's tournament,

please e-mail your name, address, phone, and e-mail address to info@keywestmarlin.com. You can now register and pay for the tournament on-line and obtain all the information, pictures and merchandise through the website. Please join us next year for a great tournament.



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Tournament Thanks

Major Sponsors of the 2014 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



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*The 2014 Key West Marlin Tournament thanks all of it's sponsors
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Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Tournament Rules

Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament Official Tournament Rules *All Decisions By Rules Committee Will Be Final*

TOURNAMENT BOUNDARIES, DATES & TIMES

Fishing will be on Thursday, July 17; Friday, July 18, and Saturday July 19, 2014. There are geographical boundary limits as follows; External boundary limits: E81° 0"; N25° 0"; W82° 40"; S23° 40". The controlled daily departure location will be in the Lower Keys Area. Boats must assemble each morning inside the reef line between Looe Key Reef off Big Pine Key and Sand Key Light off Key West. The Committee Boat will broadcast over VHF Channel 78 at 7:30 a.m. a signal authorizing all boats to depart the assembly area. Boats must pass through the controlled assembly area after 7:30 a.m. and before they begin fishing. Boats must remain in the water i.e. NOT transported in any manner to another location. Dates and times are final. There is no weather day. On Thursday July 17, boats are requested to assemble at 7:20 a.m. in the area of the airport marker for a traditional bimini start.

8:30 a.m. — Lines in the Water on a Radio Signal from the Committee Boat

4:00 p.m. — Lines out of the Water on a Radio Signal from the Committee Boat

On Saturday July 19, lines out of the water will be at **3:00pm**.

Bait — Bait may be obtained by any means before commencement of fishing hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. During fishing hours boats may catch their own bait but may not obtain bait from any other boat.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Fishing must be performed in accordance with principles of good sportsmanship, and in compliance with these and IGFA rules as published in the '2008 Edition' of the IGFA World Record Game Fishes' book under 'International Angling Rules'.

2. This is a boat event. Each boat participating must pay an entry fee of \$1800 which allows two anglers to fish in the tournament and provides two additional social privileges. There is no maximum number of anglers per boat but each additional angler must pay \$200 to enter. Angler substitutions may be made but must be called in to the Committee Boat before 'Lines in the Water' each day. Boats may only be changed as a result of mechanical breakdown and the change must receive prior approval of the Rules Committee. There is no maximum number of lines in the water.

3. **ENTRIES:** Entries must be postmarked or received by June 15, 2014 to be eligible for the early entry fee of \$1500. After June 15, 2014, the entry fee will be \$1,800.

Entries will be accepted up until the start of the Captains' Meeting at Conch Republic Seafood Company on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at 6:00pm.

ENTRY REFUSAL: The Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse tournament applications or entry from any prospective entrant with or without cause in its sole discretion. Entrants and/or entrants proposing to fish on boats that have been barred from other fishing tournaments can expect to have their entry rejected. Any applicant refused entry shall be entitled to a refund of entry fee.

4. **THIS IS AN OPEN EVENT:** Professional Guides, Captains, and Mates are eligible to participate as anglers.

5. All tackle must meet specifications for each category.

6. Angler must hook and play fish without help. Rod, reel and line must not be touched by anyone until the leader is brought within the grasp of the angler, other angler, captain or mate at which time more than one person is permitted to hold the leader.

7. Fish injured or mutilated are not eligible.

8. Double line, if used, must leave rod tip during the fight and fish must be fought most of the time on specified class line.



9. **Line Test Limits:** It is the responsibility of the angler to insure that the proper test line is used. Line test limits must be adhered to. Manufacturer's stated test line is a maximum of 130#. Lower test line may be used, but no bonus is awarded for using lower test line.

10. **Beginning January 1, 2008,** anglers fishing from HMS permitted vessels and participating in billfish tournaments must use only non-offset circle hooks when deploying natural bait or natural bait artificial lure combinations. Tournament anglers may deploy "J" hooks with artificial lures.

VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **PHOTOGRAPHS**—Each boat will provide their own video camera in order to record the fish during the fight and before the release showing the mate's hand on the leader. The tournament will provide each boat with a series of validation sheets that each morning will be instructed by the committee boat a photo of the designed sheet which will precede all other photos of that day. The boat must provide to the weigh master a means to download the camera to the official records of the tournament, this can be achieved by either having a removable sim card or having a cord to download to a computer. All fish caught and released should be photographed several times during the fight and at the time of release. Failure to photograph a fish may result in disqualification of that particular



fish. In the event that a camera malfunctions or some other unusual circumstance results in no photographs, the angler may petition the Rules Committee to have his catch allowed. The Rules Committee may request special polygraph tests or other corroborating evidence that would help validate the catch. The decision of the Rules Committee is final.

2. **LINE / LURE**—Boats which have caught and released a target species must turn in the camera, along with the leader, or a portion thereof, the double line, and at least 10' (ten feet) of the single line closest to the double line after each day's fishing. Cameras and line must be turned in at the weigh station, Conch Republic Seafood Company in the Historic Seaport, within two and one-half (2 ½) hours after the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the water' but no later than 5pm on the final day of fishing.

3. **POLYGRAPH**—All winning teams may be subject to and must pass polygraph testing. Refusal to take the test will result in disqualification. Any person

aboard the boat may also be subject to and must pass polygraph testing. Refusal to take the test will result in disqualification. Polygraph tests will include questions on angling and release procedures and species of fish. Polygraph tests are final and winners are not official until all test results are completed.

4. **RELEASE**—Proper release techniques must be used. Release is official only if the following conditions are met:

A. For blue marlin, white marlin, spearfish, and sailfish—ALL billfish MUST be released.

B. Fish must be fought on the specified class line (i.e. the double line and the leader must leave the reel) for the majority of the time the fish is hooked-up.

C. The fish must be brought close enough to the boat for the mate, angler, or captain to touch the leader (and photo should be taken of the fish at this time) to qualify as a catch and release. After the leader has been touched, the angler may continue to fight the fish in an effort to tag it. If possible, multiple photos of the fish, angler, and tag should be taken. There are no additional points for tagged fish.

COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTING

1. The Committee Boat will monitor VHF Channel 78.

2. All boats must report 'Hook-ups' and 'Releases' to the Committee Boat at the time of the occurrence, identifying the species and the Anglers name. Reports

Tournament Rules

continued



may be relayed by another boat or may be by telephone if the reporting boat cannot reach the Committee Boat.

3. If any boat is 'Hooked-up' at the time the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the Water', the boat must reaffirm the 'Hook-up' with the Committee Boat.

4. Cameras and line must be submitted within two and one-half (2½) hours after the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the Water'. An exception to this rule will be allowed in the event that a 'Hook-up' was reaffirmed with the Committee Boat at the time of 'Lines out of the Water' in which case the camera and line may be submitted up to two and one-half (2½) hours after the Release time reported to the Committee Boat but no later than 5:00 p.m. on the final day of fishing.

ACTS OR SITUATIONS THAT WILL DISQUALIFY A RELEASE:

Any violation of these Rules or violation of the guidelines as published in the '2009 Edition' of the 'IGFA World Record Game Fishes' book under 'Angling Regulations' will disqualify a fish. If an angler has a fish disqualified he/she may attempt to catch another fish of that species during the tournament timetable. All decisions of the Rules Committee are final.

PROTEST

All protests must be in writing and submitted to the Rules Committee on the day of the alleged violation with a deposit of \$500.00. If the alleged violation is upheld, the deposit will be refunded. If not upheld, the

deposit will not be refunded. The decision of the Rules Committee will be final.

SCORING SYSTEM

1. Blue marlin score 400 points for a release. Any blue marlin killed for record consideration will also receive 400 points provided it weighs a minimum of 600 pounds. If a blue marlin is killed for record consideration and weighs less than 600 pounds it scores zero points.

2. All white marlin releases score 400 points.

3. All spearfish releases score 400 points.

4. *One fun fish per day* can be entered for additional points as follows:

SAILFISH — release 50 points
(must turn in camera).

DOLPHIN — 1 point per pound.
i.e. 38.5 pounds scores 38.5 points.

WAHOO — 1 point per pound.

TUNA, YELLOWFIN,
BLACKFIN, and SKIPJACK —
1 point per pound.

Minimum weight on dolphin, wahoo and tuna is 15 pounds.

5. In the event of a tie on points, the boat with the earliest catch or release time on their last scored fish will be the higher placed boat.

6. Boats entered in the Marlin Division of the Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament may pay an additional \$300 entry fee to compete for a total of \$10,000 in cash prizes for the three heaviest dolphin, wahoo, and tuna (yellowfin, blackfin, and

skipjack), in the Fun Fish Division. Minimum weight for these species is 15 pounds. All dolphin, wahoo, and tuna, must be weighed at the Conch Republic Seafood Company in the Historic Seaport within two and one-half (2 1/2) hours after the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the Water'. An exception to this rule will be allowed in the event that a 'Hook-up' was reaffirmed with the Committee Boat at the time of 'Lines out of the Water' in which case the fish may be weighed in up to two and one-half (2 1/2) hours after the fish boated time reported to the Committee Boat but no later than 5:00 p.m. on the final day of fishing. Boats wishing to weigh-in dolphin, wahoo, or tuna should notify the Committee Boat that they are bringing in a fish to weigh. Wahoo, dolphin, and tuna may be transported to the weigh station by land or by sea, thus allowing boats fishing out of Big Pine and the Lower Keys to return to their home dock and bring their fish to the Conch Republic Seafood Company by car or truck. The Weighmaster's announced weight at the time of weigh-in will be entered into the record as the official weight and the Captain and/or Angler will be asked to witness the weight. In the event of a tie, the boat with the earliest fish weighed in will be the higher placed boat. It is not necessary to turn in camera, line, and leader for these fish except for sailfish releases where the camera must be turned in.

TOURNAMENT WINNERS

1. Cash prizes totaling \$40,000 will be awarded to the three boats with the highest points in accordance with the Tournament Scoring System.

2. Cash prizes totaling \$10,000 will be awarded for the three heaviest dolphin, tuna and wahoo weighed in by the boats entered in the Fun Fish Division.



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Florida Keys Swordfish Catch Fulfills a Dream



NICK STANCZYK

Logan Prickett (center), mate Colby Mason (left) and Captain Nick Stanczyk show off the 105-pound swordfish Logan reeled in.

Since Islamorada charterboat skipper Nick Stanczyk earned his captain's license 11 years ago, he has led clients to numerous swordfish and other trophy gamefish catches off the Florida Keys.

But the 29-year-old captain never wanted to find a swordfish for a client more than he did recently for Logan Prickett of Montgomery, Ala.

Now 19 years old, Logan is legally blind and has been confined

to a wheelchair since 2008. In September of that year, he had an almost fatal reaction to intravenous contrast dye administered during a routine MRI test to examine his pituitary gland.

He was without a natural heartbeat and breath for 45 minutes, and doctors told his mother Tammy Prickett he would not survive. But he did — and subsequently proved doctors wrong again when he emerged from a 12-day coma,

his mother said.

Despite having significant motor-control deficits and not being able to speak above a whisper, Logan endured more than three years of physical and occupational therapy. He recently graduated in the top 10 of his magnet high school class and continues rehabilitation at home.

Before the life-changing medical incident, Logan enjoyed the outdoor world of hunting and fishing. Afterward, his chances of experiencing that again seemed slim.

But during the last few years, his mother has seen her son overcome obstacles that neither of them ever envisioned.

A new opportunity arose when Logan's neighbor and classmate, Hunter Mills, was exploring online and discovered an episode of the 2013 Weather Channel television mini-series called *Reel Rivals*.

The show chronicled the daily competitive lives of four charterboat fishing captains at Bud N' Mary's Marina in Islamorada.



The segment Hunter found focused on swordfishing off the Keys. He watched it with Logan, explaining the visuals to his friend.

And so earlier this year, when Tammy Prickett began discussing a post-high school graduation trip, both teens immediately told her, “We want to go to the ‘Sportfishing Capital of the World’ to catch a swordfish.”

They chartered Nick Stanczyk, skipper of the Bn’M2. On May 30, their first day of fishing, they lost two swordfish.

“We were heartbroken,” Nick said. “Logan sat in the blazing sun for six hours next to that swordfish rod and reel and never complained.”

But the following day proved to be very different. The first swordfish that was hooked stayed on the line — as Logan, using an electric-assist reel, helped crank the 105-pounder to the boat with the rod and reel in the boat’s rod holder.

Nick Stanczyk said that when the fish was boated, Logan methodically ran his hand along the fish’s tail and bill.

“Logan had the biggest smile of anyone I’ve ever seen,” stated Nick. “I cried. It’s the happiest I’ve ever felt for someone catching a fish.”

Nick reported that the Prickett family commissioned a reproduction mount and there will be plenty of swordfish steaks for a very large dinner party in Montgomery.

Later that same day Logan reeled in a second swordfish, but the small 40-pounder was released.

Tammy Prickett is getting used to her son fulfilling dreams and objectives.

“He wants to overcome as much as he can and prove to himself that he can,” she said of her son, who will study at Auburn University in the fall. “It shows to other people that we don’t have to let our circumstances be limited.”

It certainly does. Heartfelt congratulations to Logan for his triumphant swordfish catch — and the other triumphs he achieves as he continues to prove that life can be lived without limits.

—Andy Newman,
Florida Keys News Bureau

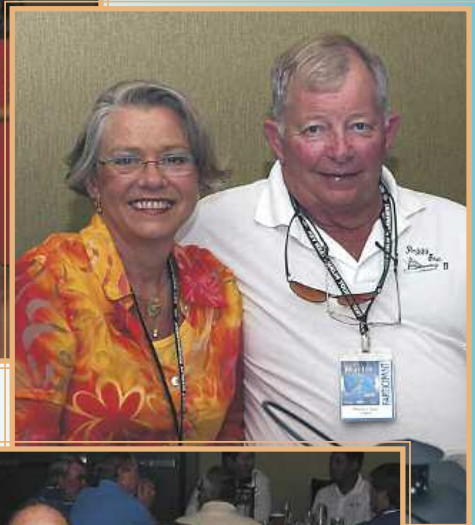


ANDY NEWMAN/FLORIDA KEYS NEWS BUREAU



NICK STANCZYK

Logan Prickett cranks on an electric-assist fishing reel endeavoring to catch a swordfish off the Florida Keys near Islamorada.



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Wyland Galleries of Key West Welcomes



Stephen Muldoon

"I am honored to be a part of the Hemingway Drambuie Marlin Tournament, and to introduce my new work on copper and aluminum," the artist enthused. "I hope my work captures the spirit of all anglers here for the tournament and wish all teams the best of luck."



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EXCITING
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ANGLERS**

"Copper has served as an artistic medium for centuries," says Stephen Muldoon.

"My new collection layers patinas with metal dyes, flame painting, and oils to produce stunning depth, luminescence, and life from this age-old medium." Known for his beautiful sunset scenes on canvas, Muldoon brings them enhanced vitality by presenting them on copper. Because of the medium, the colors change as the viewer moves past them, creating a unique viewing experience.

KEY WEST

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KEY WEST

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Fort Lauderdale, FL
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Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



History of The Tournament



It is interesting to me that when people think of Ernest Hemingway, Key West immediately comes to mind, but when thinking about Hemingway fishing for giant blue marlin they usually don't connect marlin fishing and Hemingway with the gulf stream south of Key West. Founders of the Key West Marlin tournament Capt. Norman Wood and Wayne Hunt believed that marlin fishing in Key West could rival marlin fishing in many other spots in the world. Did Hemingway know about the great marlin fishing off Key West 40 years before? You bet he did! It wasn't to prove the point but in 1981 Norman

Wood invited Miami Herald writer Jim Hardie to Key West for a trip aboard the *Petticoat III*. Little did they know this trip would make history. After that fishing trip the *Miami Herald* headline read; "Hemingway Never Had It So Good". When the *Petticoat III* returned to Oceanside Marina in Key West, four marlin flags flew from the outrigger; three release flags and a fourth a silhouette of the captured blue marlin weighing 285 pounds. The released marlin were estimated at 150, 275 and 400 pounds. As exciting as that trip was, the full story was even more unbelievable. Seven blue marlin were hooked on that day, setting the stage for one of the greatest fishing tournaments in history. Shortly after that historical day of fishing aboard the *Petticoat III*, another Key West sportfishing boat recorded nine blue marlin hook-ups in one day. News of the red-hot marlin fishing on the Key West Wall spread through the sport fishing community like wild fire.

The Key West Marlin Tournament Is Born

In 1982 the inaugural Key West Marlin Tournament took place October 23 – October 25 with 92 boats and 400 anglers testing the waters south of Key West on the Wall. It was a rousing success.

1982 was the year of the 400 pounders with first prize going to Key West attorney Jack Spottswood with a 462 pounder, aboard the *Chelsea*. Micky Rupp aboard his boat *Rupp Rigger* was the winner of the tag and release division with two marlin.

1983 was the year of the 300 pounders. Only 4 ounces separated the first and second place marlin winners and only 23 pounds separated the first through eighth-place marlin. Aboard Captain Dick Myers *Fair Star* angler Harold Shappel



landed a 328.12 pound blue marlin to claim first place. Navy Captain Red Best commanding officer of the NAS Key West Base won the marlin tag and release division fishing with Captain Junior Rendueles.

1984 was the year of the 500 pounders. Mary Jo Spence landed a 500-pound blue marlin to claim first place fishing aboard the *Mary Jo* with captain Matt Borkowski. A second 500-pound blue was weighed in on the last day of the tournament to take second place based on time of catch. Angler Kent Smith aboard Capt. Frank Smith's *Renegade* was the tag and release champ with two marlin releases.

1985 was the year of excitement and variety of catches. Angler Charles Lewis fishing aboard the *Amours* with Captain Jr. Rendueles captured the winning blue marlin with a 466.8 pounder. Shirley Wood fishing aboard the *Petticoat III* with her husband Norman took top honors for most releases.

1986 was the year of the small boats with two marlin in excess of 300 pounds being caught in 25-foot boats. Angler Findlay Sinclair's 348.75 pound blue marlin took first place, he was fishing aboard the *Katherine Louise* with Capt. Tom Walker and Ed Allie. The second place weight marlin went to angler Ramón Rodriquez and Capt. Pat Tuper. Rodriquez's marlin just made the 300 pound minimum weight with a blue marlin weighing 301 pounds 12 ounces. Bill Voegeli's two tag and releases were tops overall. First tag, *Sonny Boy*, Sonny Tilman. Second Tag, *Sea Boots*, Capt. Jim Sharpe and angler Todd Badd.



1987 was the year of the 500-pound blue marlin, as predicted in the welcoming letter prior to the tournament. A new tournament record was set by angler Rosie Morrison fishing aboard the *Sea Boots* with Captain Jim Sharpe, Rosie's marlin weighed in at 520 pounds. Angler Gene Stone took top honors in the release division.

1988 returned to the year of the 400-pounder. Angler Walter Milo fishing with Captain Jay Weed aboard the *Lucky Two* landed a 422.25-pound blue marlin to make the winners circle.

1989 was once again the year of the 300-pounder. Angler Roy Spear fishing with Capt. Patrick Sheppard aboard the *Dream* made the winners circle with a

300-pound blue. Angler Tim Greene fishing aboard the *Beachcomber* with Capt. Mike Cyr took top honors in the release division.

1990 was back to the 500-pounders and a new tournament record. The brother team of Captain Bryan Bennett and Glenn Bennett fishing on the *Thunnus* captured a blue that weighed in at 570-pounds. The release honors went to the *Sea Boots 34* angler Chuck Stitzel and Capt. Todd Badd.

1991 featured all releases; first marlin release was angler Tom Daniels and Capt. Larry White fishing on the *Chief*, second marlin release went to angler Scott Ricket on the *Serenity* and the third marlin released went to Warren Worlin Sr., fishing with his son Warren Worlin Jr. on the *Go Gether*.

1992 Angler Steven Lewis and Capt. Lindsay Forde on *Freebee* won first place, angler Phil Eaton and Capt. Ky Lewis on the *Dazie Mae* came in second and angler Dennis Captik and Capt. Bill Wickers aboard the *Linda D IV* took home third place.

The Key West Marlin Tournament Is Reborn

1999 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

The tournament is reborn with a new and exciting scoring format that keeps every boat in the tournament until lines out on the final day. In 1999 the first place boat in the marlin division was the *Talisman* with angler Jim Sharpe Jr. and Captain Mike Friday with 470 points. Second

Tournament History

continued

place boat was the *CC Rider* with 461 points. Third place boat was the *Sweet Deal* also scoring 461 points but losing second on time of catch.

2000 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

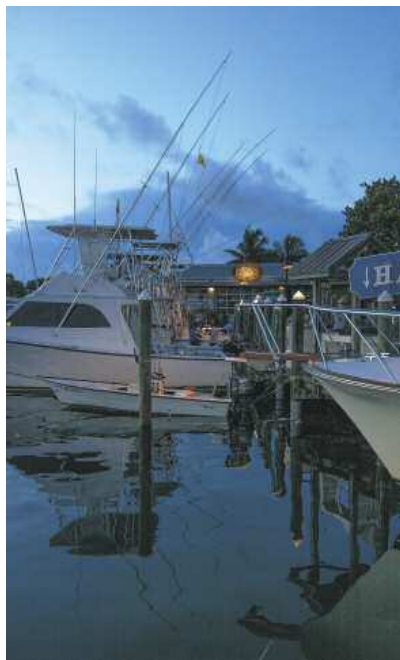
The first-place boat in the marlin division was the *Summertime Lady II*, with anglers Mike Sullivan and Capt. Marco Gaona and Mike Weinhofer. Second-place boat was *Molly Good Heads* with angler Jason Gilbert. Third-place boat was *Leprechaun* with angler Joe Richardson and Capt. Andy Fortin.

In the dolphin division the top dolphin were separated by only three pounds. The *Do Fish* with angler Kevin Firestone weighed in a 43.05-pound bull to take first place. In second place was *Talisman* with angler Jim Sharpe Jr.'s 42.65-pound bull. Third place was the *Super Equity* with angler Pete Rutskin with a 38.05-pound bull.

2001 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

The first-place boat in the marlin division was the *Finesse* with angler Clay Harris and Captain Ken Harris. The second-place boat was *Rampagous* crewed with angler John Crockett and Captain Brett Taporowski. Third-place went to the boat *Looney Tunes* with angler Bob Scerrato and Ed Steinmetz fishing with Captain Carl Rees.

In the dolphin division the top prize went to angler Tom Payne on the boat *Relentless* with Captain Paul Ross. In the wahoo



division the top boat was *Lucky Charm* with angler Rick Bodett and Captain Jay Weed. The top tuna was caught on the boat *Peg Leg* with angler Alan Finnieston.

2002 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

The 2002 tournament once again lived up to its reputation as an exciting world-class fishing event. Marking the 20th anniversary of the tournament, the first-place winner was *Mar-Joe* with Captain Scott Henley, George Castro, and Frank Bolin releasing three blue marlin to add their names to the Norman Wood trophy. The second-place trophy went to the *Bull Gator* team, with Bob Sullivan and Bill Caulfield releasing two blue marlin. Third-place went to *Summertime Lady* with one blue marlin release based on time.

The Fun Fish Division first-place dolphin was caught on

the *Erica* by Jimmy Butters weighing 35.35-pounds, second-place went to *Sweet Deal* with Scott Fricke with a 32.2-pound dolphin and third-place was *Super Grouper* with Chip Veach weighing 29.95-pounds. The top wahoo was caught on the *Lucky Charm* by Rick Cresse.

2003 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

The first-place boat in the 2003 tournament in the marlin division was the *Beachcomber*, with captain Daryl Simeon and anglers Rick Kirvan, past winner of the Hemingway Look-Alike Contest, Matt Pumbo and Tim Greene, releasing two blue marlin for the win. Second place went to the *Game Hunter*, skippered by Alex Alder with anglers Brian Baugher, Chris Claypool and Anthony Delduca. *Get Lit* captured third place with Captain Ray Rosher and anglers Chris Toomey and Peter Miller.

In the Fun Fish Division top dolphin prize went to angler David Lively on the *Y2k* with a 50.5-pound dolphin. The *Kilcare* caught the largest tuna with angler Ned Dickman. The largest wahoo was captured by the *Triple Time* with angler Rob Camis.

2004 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Miami Beach angler Bob Cristoph, Sr., caught and released a sailfish Saturday, adding points to his team's tally that included a released blue marlin and a 17.2-pound dolphin to win the 2004 tournament.

Cristoph's son Bob Cristoph, Jr., Ryan Flannery and Bill Mosher fished on the *Hook*, skippered by Rick Morrell of Miami.





Randy Reynolds of East Montpelier, Vermont, released a blue marlin to give *Business Calls'* team second place with Captain Bill Rohde of Summerland Key.

Third place was garnered by the team of *Sir Veza III* of Channelview, Texas.

In the Fun Fish Division top dolphin prize went to angler Kevin Speidel on the *Triple Time* with a 37.25-pound dolphin. The *Ambitious* took first place in the tuna division with a 66.3-pound yellowfin. Tim Trivett was the angler with Mark Baumgarten on the *Cowboy* which took first place in the wahoo division with a 33.4-pound.

2005 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

By less than one point, the *Julie Jean* captained by Jimmy Robertson of Boca Grande, Fla., won the top prize in the 2005 edition of the Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament.

Chase Wise released a blue marlin and a sailfish on the first day to hang on for the win. Eight other boats also released one blue marlin and the top prize was determined by entries in the Fun Fish Division, where each day either one dolphin, wahoo, or tuna could be weighed or sailfish released to add to the marlin points.

Finishing second was *Dreamin' On*, skippered by Randy Hodgekis with a marlin release and two dolphin weighing 21.1 and 28 pounds, with Steve Keinath and Bob Stewe of Rifle, Colorado.

Business Calls was third, with a blue marlin release and a 46.8-pound wahoo. The boat was skippered by Bill Rohde with Darren Doop and Mark Staats.



The largest marlin of the tournament was estimated at over 550 pounds, and released by Bruce Wood fishing on the *Petticoat III* with Capt. Norman Wood.

Bradley Wells, age 10, of Naples, Florida caught a 31.6-pound dolphin to win the dolphin division.

More than 320 anglers, aboard 67 boats fished the tournament.

2006 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Congratulations went to two brother-in-law, Roy Miller of Clearwater and John Burket of St. Petersburg. The adventure began on the final day of fishing with just one 27.55-pound dolphin while not having seen a billfish during the first two days. With time running out, the *Serenity* team realized their luck was changing as they caught

and released a blue marlin in the first 20 minutes of the final day of fishing. They managed to hook up another blue marlin of approximately 300-pounds and fought it for over an hour. Unfortunately, the release was lost just inches from touching the leader. However, they still went on to finish the day with the win and honor of having their names added to the Norman Wood Trophy.

The second-place trophy was awarded to *The Finesse*, captained by Kenny Harris with angler Andy Glyn of Marshfield, Mass. Third place was garnered by *The Janice 43*, skippered by Ed Wilson of Fort Myers, Florida, with angler Loren Farinelli of Lighthouse Pointe, Florida. In the Fun Fish Division, *The Key West Fire Department*, captained by Ed Gates of Key West won the dolphin category with a 55.2-pound fish. The wahoo category went to *The Lucky Charm* with a 53.1-pound wahoo reeled in by Richard McGinley of Ocala, Florida. More than 300 anglers aboard 58 boats fished the 2006 tournament.

2007 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

After fishing the Drambuie Key West Marlin tournament for four consecutive years with lackluster results, Jack Strack told his son Jeff he was indecisive about competing in this year's event.

But the owner of the *Giggling Marlin*, a 56-foot Viking sport-fishing boat, decided to enter the 25th anniversary of the tournament anyway.

It's a good thing he did. Jeff Strack released a white marlin and caught a 22.6-pound dolphin Friday, and released a

Tournament History

continued

blue marlin Saturday to give the *Giggling Marlin* team a total of 822.6 points and the \$25,000 top cash prize in the tournament's marlin division.

The blue marlin hit a skirted horse balao at about 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 21, the third and final day of the tournament.

"My mom and I moved up our first beer from 10:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., gave a little to the fish gods and threw some money out like we always do," said Jeff Strack, a Chicago grocery executive. "I didn't even finish (the beer) and the marlin hit."

It took Strack about 25 minutes to bring the fish to the boat.

After that release, they continued fishing without success except for a small dolphin that was below the 15-pound minimum required for weigh-in.

"Those last two hours (of the tournament) were pretty nerve-racking because we didn't have any idea where we stood in the rankings," Jeff Strack said.

On Course, skippered by Bill Currie, took second place with releases of a blue marlin and a spearfish by Mike Zalewski of Tampa and Dan Harrington of Terra Verde, Fla., respectively. In third place was *Easy Rider* skippered by Rob Harris of Cudjoe Key, Fla. Harris' team combined a blue marlin release and catches of a 25.3-pound dolphin and a 39.65-pound wahoo, the largest wahoo of the tournament.

Captain Billy Wickers III, on



the charterboat *Linda D V*, won the tournament's inaugural Jim Hardie Memorial Trophy for the largest marlin released during the tournament. The impressive fish had an estimated weight of 350 pounds and was caught by angler Micah McDowell of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Hardie, a former "Miami Herald" outdoors writer who died in 2006, was the first journalist to write about the blue marlin fishery off Key West. In 1981, Captain Norman Wood invited Hardie to Key West for a trip aboard the *Petticoat III*. When they returned, four marlin flags flew from the outriggers. Three were released and one boated. The headline that followed several days later proclaimed "Hemingway Never Had It So Good."

Clay Harris of Key West, fishing with his father Captain Ken Harris on the *Finesse*, caught the largest dolphin at 48.95-pounds.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, the tournament had 324 participants fishing on 56 boats. The angling field tallied releases of seven blue marlin, two white marlin and the spearfish.

2008 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Risky Business had an operator error slowing their takeoff, then things got worse. The fish they had released Friday was deemed by officials reviewing photographs to be a sailfish, not a marlin worth 400 points. While knocking off 350 points changed their strategy, Danny Coll and Bernard Davis were not deterred.

The two-man team released two marlin on Saturday and added a dolphin to win the Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament and the \$25,000 first-place prize. "I have no words to describe this. It is amazing," said Coll of Cudjoe Key, Florida.

Fishing on a 35-foot Cabo sportfisherman, the team had little time for anything else as they trolled as many as eight lines at the same time.

"We're running 7, 8 lines; I'm busy all day," Coll said. "Changing baits, deweeding... I don't have a lot of time to drink beer."

Early Saturday, Drambuie tournament chairman Tim Greene informed Coll and Davis that photographs showed the marlin they thought they caught Friday was actually a sailfish.

"We thought it was a marlin," said Davis of Big Pine Key. "It never showed a sail, it never indicated anything. Until a picture said something else, we were all convinced."

The setback was shrugged off quickly.



"We had a plan today," Coll said. "We knew this was a marlin tournament and went out (Saturday) expecting to catch fish. So we changed our strategy, I thought, we've got to get away from baits and use all lures.

"Once we got the first (marlin), we said, 'We're back in it. Let's do it.' After the second one, we went dolphin fishing."

After going through the polygraph test, Coll and Davis were happy with the victory, but exhausted after fishing so hard with such a short staff. "It's very tiring to fish all those lines," Coll said.

The Cajun Queen, made up of Greg Eklund and Mike Nichols, both of Islamorada, Fla., plus Brad Whitlock, Bob Whitlock, and Trey Myers, all of Fort Myers, Fla., finished second.

In third place was *BFB* with Jody Briad of Key West, and Paul Barret, Paulette Barret, Donna Barret and Steve Tucker of Gulfport, Fla.

In the Fun Fish Division, Robert Beck of Plant City, Fla., won with a 73.3-pound wahoo. Randy Sterling Sr., of Key West, was second with a 42.2-pound dolphin, and Robert Collins of Miramar, Fla., was third with a 20.45-pound tuna.

2009 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Rene Cruz, of the *Dock Cruiser II*, fishing with Rick Sheriff, won the tournament's top prize of \$25,000 and their name added to the Norman Wood trophy. They released a blue marlin on Thursday and weighed a dolphin weighing 23.05-pounds Friday to clinched the win with 423.05 points.

The tournament was once



again very close until the very end with less than six points separating first from third place.

In second place was the *Shockwave* fishing team with Captain Marco Gano leading his angler Jim O'Malley to release a blue marlin estimated to weigh 550 pounds. The fish was caught on the last day of fishing and was released after four hours of hard fighting. That, paired with a dolphin weighing 21.45 pounds caught on Friday, gave them 421.45 points to garner second place; less than two points out of first.

Third place went to *Cracker*, skippered by Mark Schultz with angler Maurice Gibson releasing a blue marlin on Thursday and catching a dolphin weighing 17.8 pounds on Friday for a total of 417.8 points.

Bill Currie of the *On Course* was awarded the Jim Hardie Memorial Trophy.

The tournament had 53 boats with 390 anglers participating in the event.

2010 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

This was the year of the oil spill and the tropical storm. For

six weeks before the tournament BP was trying to cap an oil well in the Gulf that was releasing millions of gallons of oil that was forecast to enter into the gulf loop current and come to the Florida Keys, which never happened. There also were tropical storm warnings during the first day of fishing which fortunately never materialized.

The *Contingent Sea* with angler Clayton Syfrett caught and released the winning marlin in the last hours of the tournament to capture the tournament win. Second place went to *Whiskey Tango* with Steve Doss and in third place was *Dream Catcher* with angler Brian Wenrick. The first-place dolphin was caught by Rob Gothier, Jr., fishing on the *Bar South*. The first-place tuna was caught by *Play Time* with angler Michael Cioffi and the first-place wahoo was brought in by Steve Doss on the *Whiskey Tango*.

The Jim Hardie trophy was awarded to Dave Claffy for his many contributions to the tournament.

2011 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Two Fort Myers, Florida, anglers each caught their first blue marlin to elevate the *Moppy Dick II* team to the top position and the first-place prize.

Dan Richards released his fish, estimated to weigh 125-pounds, on Saturday and his teammate Harry Cameron reeled in his approximately 150-pound marlin on Friday, the second day of the tournament.

Ironically, both fish were caught on the same lure, a green and yellow jethead, within a mile of each other and about the same time in the mid-morning.

Tournament History

continued



On Course, captained by Bill Currie of Tampa, Florida, took second place with a blue marlin release and two weighed dolphin.

Blue Heaven, with Tampa angler Steve Swindle, was third with a released blue marlin and a wahoo.

2012 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

The *Risky Business* with Danny Coll and Bernard Davis released a white marlin to gain first place and win the \$25,000.

The second-place team was the *Reel Darlins* with Cyd Tuskowski of St. Petersburg, Fla. and Laura

Russell, also from St. Petersburg.

Third place was the *Cajun Queen* with Captain Greg Eklund and angler Jordan Wolk of Tavernier, Fla.

2013 Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament

Mark Truett made the most of his first saltwater fishing trip, catching and releasing a 500-pound blue marlin to win the tournament.

Truett, of Duncan, Okla., needed about 2.5 hours to land the blue. Later that day Bobby Shannon caught a 17.9-pound dolphin to add to the boat's point total and give *High Stakes* the \$25,000 first-place prize.


Capt. Jason Jonas, 27, said that he and his team were a bundle of nerves during the final hours of fishing.

"We caught the blue and the dolphin the first day, but couldn't score a weigh-in fish the last two days," he said. "We tried every opportunity to put more points on the board, but all the dolphin we caught were too small."

It didn't matter. Even though four other teams each released a blue marlin, none of them weighed any fun fish.

Perry Brown, of Jacksonville, released a blue marlin Friday on *High Class Hooker*, skippered by Gene Chrzanowski, of Key West.

Troy Martin, of Key West, released a blue marlin Saturday on *Mr. Z* with Key West captain Phil "Curly" McGinn to finish third in the 31-boat fleet.

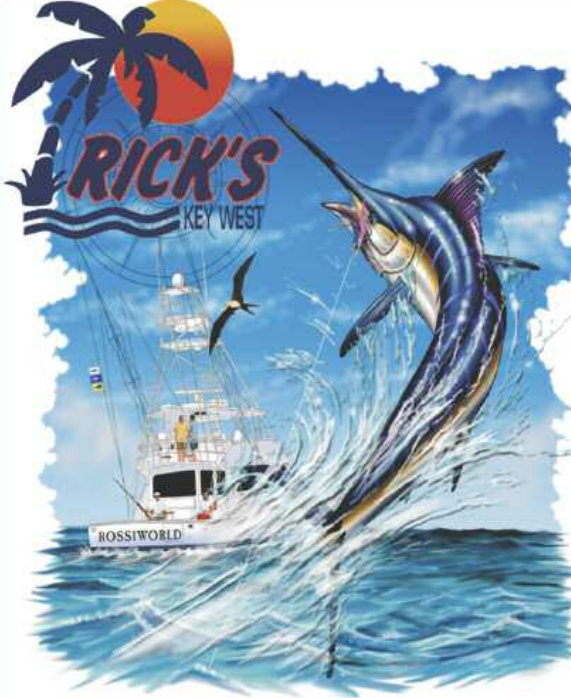


STRENGTH

Good Luck and Tight Lines, Anglers!

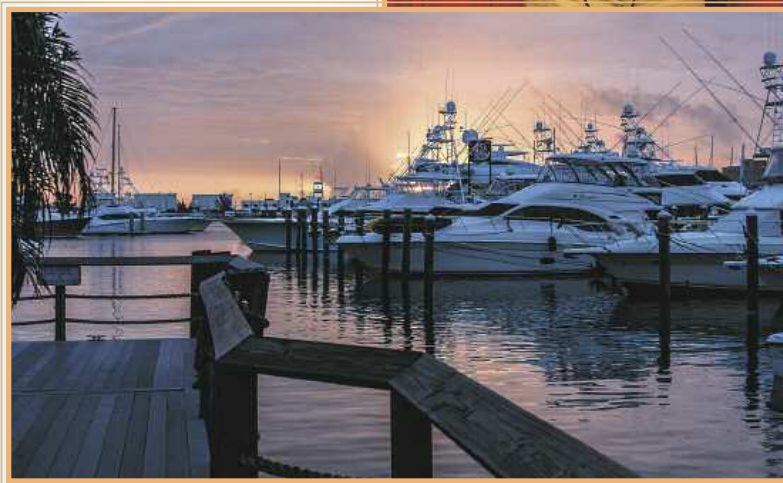
"You put that line in the water and you don't know what's on the other end. Your imagination is under there."
— Robert Altman

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Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Enrich Your Keys Visit **Out-of-the-Way Attractions**



Sometimes the Florida Keys' hidden treasures and colorful locales can be eclipsed by better-known spots. For a unique and enriching Keys vacation, explore intriguing attractions away from the mainstream haunts — whether secluded natural areas, historic spots or unexpected emporiums.

For example, did you know Key Largo contains a mecca for chocolate lovers? If you've got a sweet tooth, stop at Key Largo Chocolates, home to the Florida Keys' only chocolatier, located at mile marker (MM) 100.5 bayside. Self-described as a "grandma and grandpa operation," Key

Largo Chocolates infuses local flavors into handmade chocolate treats — like Key lime white chocolate truffles and quirky "chocodiles" shaped like tiny crocs. Check it out by visiting their website, keylargochocholates.com.

Travel the Florida Keys Overseas Highway to the southern end of the Islamorada area, and you'll find Long Key State Park on the Atlantic Ocean at MM 67.5. The Spanish named this island "Cayo Vivora" or Rattlesnake Key because it's shaped like a snake with its jaws open.

In the early 20th century, Long Key was home to a fishing resort frequented by

legendary western writer and passionate angler Zane Grey. Today, you can explore the island by paddling through its connected lagoons or hiking two land-based trails. Check out the Golden Orb Trail, meandering through five natural communities to an observation tower that offers a panoramic view of the island. For details visit floridastateparks.org/longkey.

Head down the highway to Marathon and spend some time at the 63.5-acre Crane Point, one of the Keys' most sensitive environmental and archaeological sites. A one-of-a-kind living record of Keys history, the property contains evidence of prehistoric Indian artifacts and was once the site of a Bahamian village.

Located at MM 50.5 bayside, Crane Point also features the Museum of Natural History of the Florida Keys, the Marathon Wild Bird Center and the historic Adderley House. Stroll along the rustic interpretive nature trails to discover endangered native foliage, unusual geologic features, colorful exotic vegetation and even ancient ocean fossils. Explore further at cranepoint.net.



If you've ever visited Big Pine & the Lower Keys, you probably looked for the tiny, shy Key deer that are protected in the area. These skittish creatures are most likely to be roaming around at dawn or dusk, and it's a real treat to spot one.

Make a stop at the National Key Deer Refuge Visitor Center in the Big Pine Key Plaza, located off the Overseas Highway at MM 30 bayside, and learn about the unique deer and their recovery from extinction — a genuine environmental success story. You'll find more information at fws.gov/nationalkeydeer.

Unexpected discoveries await in Key West, too. Among them is the historic, never-used Civil War-era fort called West Martello Tower, located overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at White Street.

It's now headquarters for the Key West Garden Club, where beautiful indigenous plants and rare palm trees bloom against the weathered brick fort. Wonders include a huge tree grown over a narrow tunnel-like archway that

you can actually walk through. Information is available at keywestgardenclub.com.

And if you enjoy prowling around unusual shops, Key West offers one of the best: an honest-to-goodness "curiosity shop" called 90 Miles to Cuba.

You'll find everything from local art to nautical antiques, vintage jewelry and Hardy Boys books. It's located at 616 Greene St. and its hours are as eccentric as the emporium itself; just keep checking back till the weathered wooden door is open. For a glimpse of the goods, visit 90milestocuba.net.

Of course, these are only a handful of the out-of-the-way spots worth exploring in the Florida Keys. So start planning your next trip to the colorful island chain, and compile your own list of hidden gems.

— Carol Shaughnessy



West Martello Tower, a former Civil War-era fort overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, is now the home of the Key West Garden Club, where orchids and unique foliage bloom against a backdrop of weathered red bricks. Visitors can explore the tranquil spot to marvel at the blend of history and natural beauty.

Tiny, shy Key deer are protected within the National Key Deer Refuge in the Lower Keys. Established more than half a century ago, the refuge has helped bring the miniature deer back from near extinction.





Island Nightlife: Revelry and Rhythms



Jimmy Buffett, who developed his signature style while living in Key West, grew his Margaritaville Café into one of the island's most popular spots for cocktails and live music.

Key West nightlife means the rhythms of reggae, salsa and island rock spilling from the open doorways of clubs and saloons, the whirr of a blender as a bartender concocts a perfect frozen margarita, and the laughter and clink of glasses as new friends toast the evening's promise.

Especially on lively Duval Street and in the waterfront Historic Seaport, the Key West scene really heats up once the sun goes down. You might sip a tall cool drink at an outdoor bar on Lower Duval, wander into a sultry jazz club or wine bar, or stop by a seaport tavern where regular patrons' pooches enjoy their own

"cocktails" — bowls of ice water.

So where do hearty partiers go? One popular spot is Rick's/Durty Harry's Entertainment Complex at 202 Duval St. Its eight venues include the Tree Bar featuring laid-back bartenders and premium spirits, a contemporary dance club dubbed Rick's Upstairs, the upscale Rick's Loft specializing in signature martinis, and the live rock hotspot known as Durty Harry's.

Jimmy Buffett, the famed singer/songwriter/author who honed his creative chops in Key West, also operates a bar and restaurant on Duval Street. The island is credited with inspiring his hit song "Margaritaville" among others — and Jimmy's Margaritaville Café, located at 500 Duval, offers tasty casual food, cocktails and great music by performers including his musical friends and band members (and occasionally JB himself).

Back in the day, Jimmy was a regular at the Chart Room at the Pier House Resort, 1 Duval St., a hideaway where Key West movers-and-shakers plotted and partied in the late 1970s and early '80s. Venture inside today for what Chart Room bartenders still call "a sensible cocktail," and you just might hear a hint of their long-ago laughter.

Many notable musicians and performing songwriters favor the Smokin' Tuna Saloon, 4 Charles St. The mostly open-air establishment features quality bands that showcase a wide range of musical stylings. The Tuna is also headquarters for the nationally acclaimed Key West Songwriters' Festival, which brings more than 100 chart-topping songwriters to the island each May.

While Jimmy Buffett and other songwriter-musicians draw music fans to Key West spots, another favorite son left a different kind of legacy at two local bars.



Rick's/Durty Harry's Entertainment Complex is legendary for its nightlife options.



Sloppy Joe's, a Key West landmark for decades, stands at the corner of Duval and Greene streets.

Legendary writer Ernest Hemingway spent most of the 1930s on the island, penning fiction that changed the face of American literature — and hanging out with friends like saloonkeeper Joe “Josie” Russell at his Sloppy Joe’s Bar.

Josie’s bar was located at 428

Greene St. until a rent dispute caused him to move it around the corner to 201 Duval St., where it’s now an internationally known watering hole. Each July, Sloppy Joe’s hosts the “Papa” Hemingway Look-Alike Contest — and visitors flock to the place year-round for its live entertainment, ample drinks and Hemingway heritage.

Josie’s original Sloppy Joe’s is now called Captain Tony’s Saloon after another colorful former owner. The late Captain Tony Tarracino was a gambler, gunrunner, charterboat captain and Key West’s one-time mayor. Bar patrons enjoy live music and cold libations surrounded by offbeat memorabilia.



The late Captain Tony’s renegade spirit is captured here in this portrait by Keys photographer Rob O’Neal.

Whether you’re seeking side-street shenanigans, island rhythms or the chance to attempt the “Duval Crawl” of main-street establishments, Key West has what you’re looking for. So come on down and enjoy our nightlife for yourself!

—Carol Shaughnessy



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Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



2014 Hemingway Days Welcome...



By LORIAN HEMINGWAY

Fishing! Ernest Hemingway revered not only the pure art of writing, but the art of fishing as well – and indeed it is an art form. Ask those who have spent years attuning their instincts to the habits and mysteries of the waters that surround Key West and beyond. They know that Hemingway got it right when he said that the ocean is mother to all. They know, too, that he got it right when he wrote that during a struggle with the great marlin

one begins to love the fish. I am one who is lucky enough to know what he meant.

It has never occurred to me to write about fishing in my customary welcome page. Shame on me. As I write this I look to my left and see, in a place of honor on my office wall, the leather belted gimbal that was once my grandfather's. In pictures taken of Ernest aboard the *Pilar* he is often wearing it, ready for the fight. He is lean and young and smoothly muscled in the photos, and the leather gimbal suits him, seems an integral part of him. That it would come to be mine would have seemed, when I was a bobber-and-worm fishing kid in Mississippi, a thing entirely alien. Then I had yet to be initiated into the mystic, the hallowed ground my grandfather sought with reverence and determination in the waters of the Gulf Stream.

But in time I was initiated, with trials by fire from my great uncle Leicester Hemingway, Ernest's only brother, and Les's best friend Dr. Howard Engle. And in time I caught, in one grueling and touched-by-grace day, two blue marlin off the coast of Bimini. I ruptured the muscles

in my right arm during the fights and proudly wore the wire leader that had held my last marlin wound around my arm as Dr. Engle hauled me off to the ER. I wasn't using the leather gimbal. No. It was yet to become mine. After Les Hemingway left this earth and the waters he loved as deeply as his brother, in the same violent way Ernest left us, his daughter gave me the gimbal. Ernest had given it to Les, a passing of the torch, a touchstone and talisman. I remember when she handed it to me, an offering, and how strong and thick the leather felt, the smell of saltwater still deep in it, and the look of conviction on her face when she said, "Here. You are the one who earned it."

I do not know if I truly did, but here is what I like to think: that on certain perfect days for fishing my grandfather slips the gimbal off the wall, straps it on and heads out in the black-painted *Pilar* upon those waters that have been a benediction to three generations of my family. If you happen to see him out there when you are deep into the fight, know it is because the fishing soul never dies.



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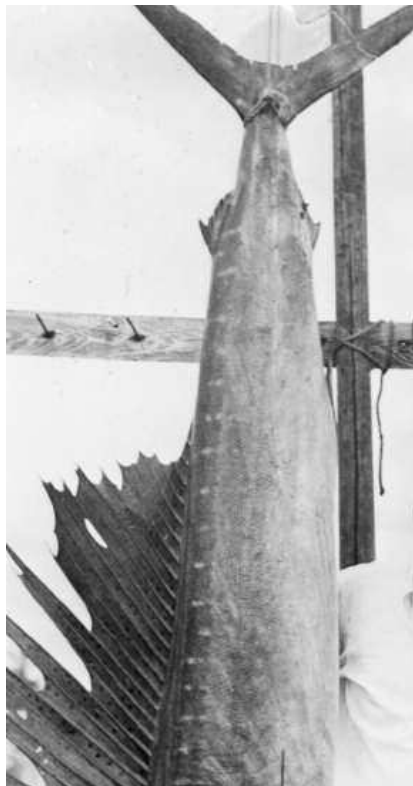
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The 34th Annual **HEMINGWAY DAYS**

JULY 15-20, 2014



achievements, sporting pursuits and enjoyment of the island's easygoing lifestyle.

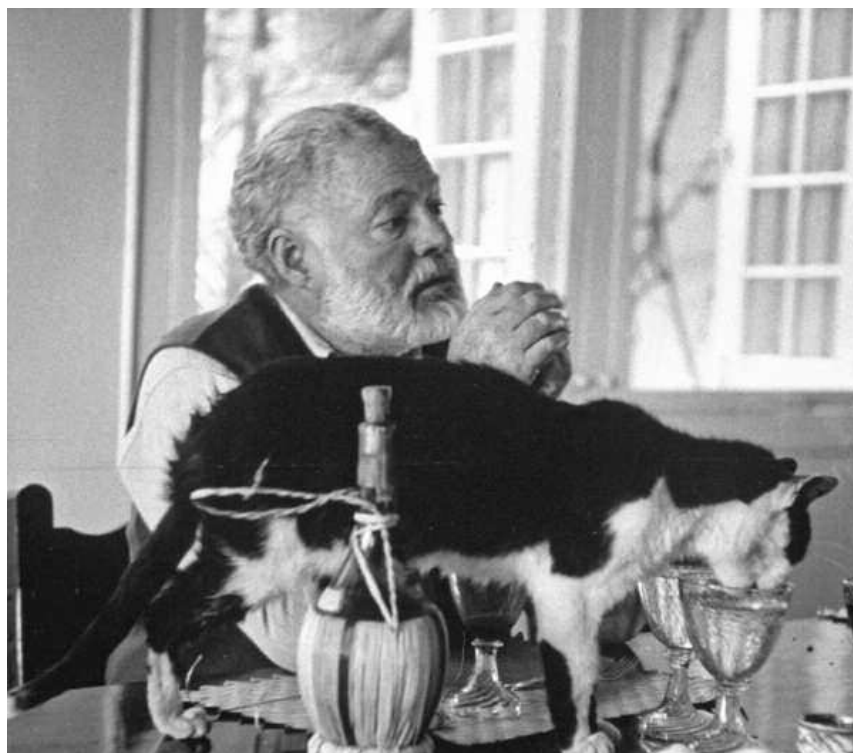
Highlights include a "Papa" Hemingway look-alike contest, prose and poetry readings, an offbeat "Running of the Bulls," a street fair on Key West's famed Duval Street, a marlin tournament and the culmination of an internationally recognized short story competition directed by Ernest's author granddaughter Lorian Hemingway.

Events begin Tuesday, July 15, with museum exhibits celebrating Key West's leading literary residents. Attendees can explore "Hemingway in Key West" at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St., and the Tennessee Williams Exhibit at 513 Truman Ave. behind the Key West Business Guild Visitor Center.

Approximately 125 burly, bearded contenders are expected for the "Papa" Hemingway Look-

Fans of Ernest Hemingway's literary greatness and zest for life can start polishing their prose and practicing their "Papa" personas for the 34th annual Hemingway Days set for Tuesday through Sunday, July 15-20.

The Nobel Prize-winning author lived in Key West from 1931 until late 1939, penning classics including "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "To Have and Have Not," fishing for deep-sea prey and relaxing with local and literary cohorts. The festival celebrates his writing





Alike Contest starting Thursday, July 17, at Sloppy Joe's Bar, the author's former hangout at 201 Duval St. "Ernest" entrants are to parade their "Papa" personas before a judging panel of previous winners during preliminary rounds Thursday and Friday, followed by finals set for Saturday, July 19.

At noon Saturday, look-alikes plan to stage "Photos with Papas" outside Sloppy Joe's and then spearhead the annual "Running of the Bulls" — a wacky take-off on Pamplona's renowned run that features man-made bulls indigenous to Key West. Afterward, the bearded brethren are to host a pre-birthday event recognizing the 115th anniversary

of Hemingway's July 21 birth.

Ernest's literary legacy is honored each year with the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition winners announcement and reception. Scheduled Friday, July 18, it typically takes place at Casa Antigua, 314 Simonton St., the legendary author's first Key West residence.

Also planned are readings and book signings presented by Literacy Volunteers of America-Monroe County, as well as the Key West Poetry Guild's "The Poems of Papa."

For anglers, the Key West

Marlin Tournament provides a chance to emulate Ernest's passion for deep-sea fishing. The July 16-19 challenge offers cash prizes for top catches of marlin and other fish.

The Hemingway Days Street Fair is scheduled all day and evening Saturday, transforming Duval Street into an open-air marketplace with arts, crafts, food vendors and the inaugural Bubba Cuzzy Shrimp-Off Competition. The fun benefits the vital work of Helpline of the Florida Keys

Festival events also include the 5k Sunset Run and Paddle Board Race, and Sloppy Joe's 28th annual Arm Wrestling Contest.



Ernest Hemingway look-alikes push life-size, fake bulls during the "Running of the Bulls" outside Sloppy Joe's Bar. The hijinks spoof the event of the same name in Pamplona, Spain.



Hemingway Days Literary Events Honoring Past and Present Talents

A rich roster of literary events awaits readers and writers during Hemingway Days 2014, set for Tuesday through Sunday, July 15-20. The festival celebrates the literary accomplishments and exuberant Key West lifestyle of legendary writer Ernest Hemingway, who lived on the island throughout the 1930s.

Attractions include author readings and presentations, a look at Hemingway's little-known poetry and the announcement of the winners of the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition.

Lorian Hemingway, critically acclaimed author of "Walking Into the River," "Walk on Water" and "A World Turned Over," is a granddaughter of Ernest Hemingway. She has directed the competition for emerging writers since its 1981 inception.

The winners of the internationally recognized short story contest are to be announced at 8 p.m. Friday, July 18, at Casa Antigua, 314 Simonton St. Famed as Ernest Hemingway's first Key West residence, the property is now a showplace with a central atrium garden.

The free-admission awards

reception includes a reading of the winning story, a presentation on Casa Antigua's history by owner Tom Oosterhoudt and tours of the architecturally unique property.

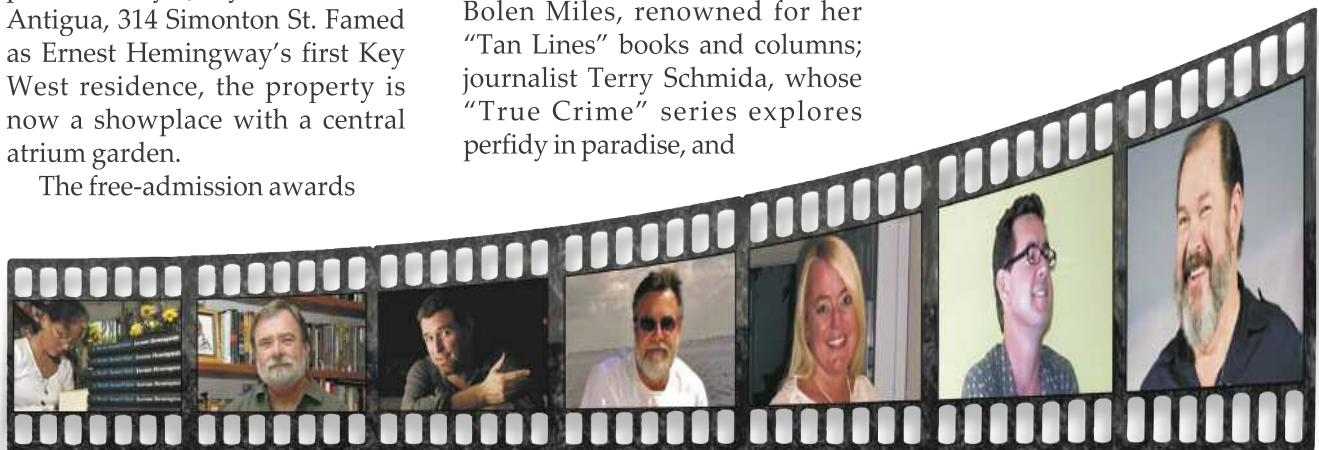
Contemporary writers also star in an evening of readings Wednesday, July 16. "Voices, Places, Inspirations" is set for 7:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Key West Resort and Spa, 601 Front St., with parking available at the nearby Mallory Square lot.

Scheduled participants include Michael Haskins, whose acclaimed Key West crime thrillers feature "Mad Mick" Murphy; David Sloan, author of "The Key West Bucket List" and co-author of "Quit Your Job and Move to Key West," among others; Steven Hull, who penned the gritty Hunter Benson series; journalist Mandy Bolen Miles, renowned for her "Tan Lines" books and columns; journalist Terry Schmida, whose "True Crime" series explores perfidy in paradise, and

Canadian actor/playwright/author Brian Gordon Sinclair, creator of "Hemingway On Stage."

The free-admission event, which includes a meet-the-authors reception, is presented by Literacy Volunteers of America-Monroe County. LVA-Monroe offers free, confidential, one-to-one and small group literacy training to Florida Keys residents seeking to improve their reading, writing and English communication skills.

In addition, festival attendees can enjoy a reading and celebration of Hemingway's little-known poetry at a site the author used to frequent. At 5 p.m. Thursday, July 17, the Key West Poetry Guild presents "The Poems of Papa" at the Blue Heaven restaurant, 729 Thomas St. — where Ernest once refereed neighborhood boxing matches. Admission is free.



Authors from Key West and other locales play a role in Hemingway Days. From left are Lorian Hemingway, Michael Haskins, David Sloan, Steven Hull, Mandy Bolen Miles, Terry Schmida and Brian Gordon Sinclair.



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"Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest

'Papas' to Vie for Look-Alike Honors

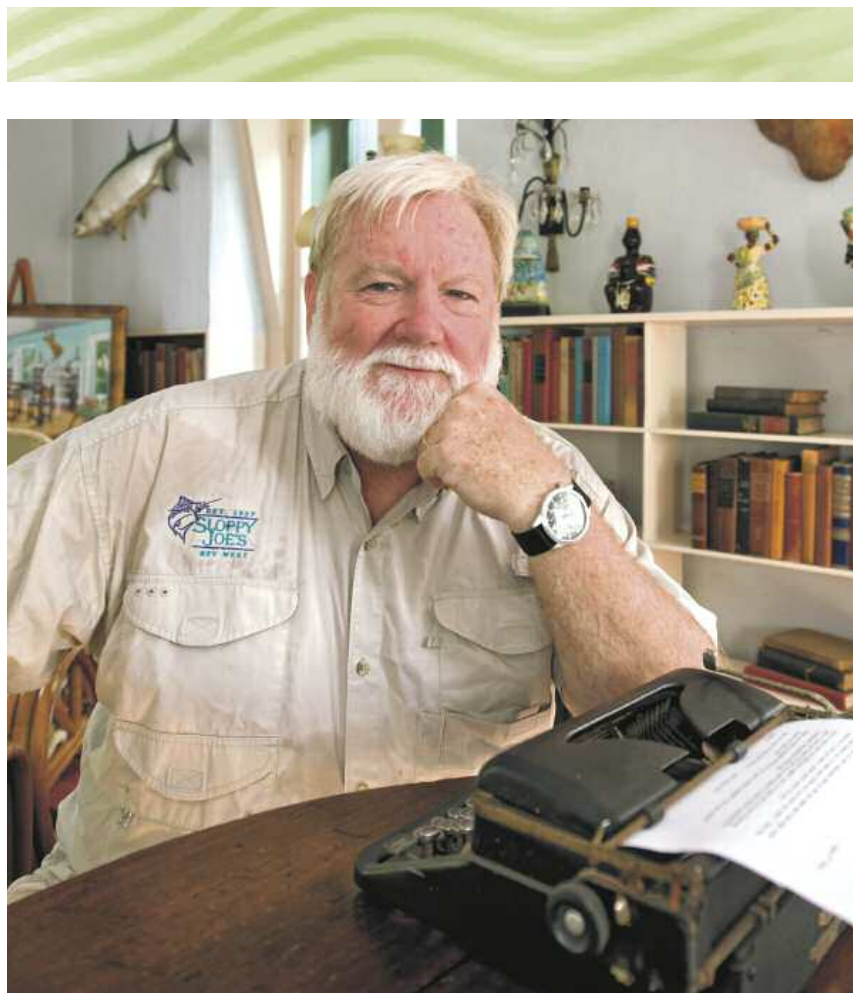
For about 125 stocky, bearded men gathering in Key West in mid-July, donning a sweater won't be just a fashion statement or reaction to a cool breeze. Choosing to wear a cream-colored wool fisherman's sweater could mean the difference between victory and defeat in Sloppy Joe's 34th annual "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest.

A highlight of Key West's July 15-20 Hemingway Days festival, the look-alike challenge takes place at Sloppy Joe's Bar, 201 Duval St., frequented by Hemingway when he lived and wrote on the subtropical island throughout the 1930s.

The contest's preliminary rounds are set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, July 17 and 18, and the newest "Papa" is to be chosen during a final round beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 19.

Past look-alike entrants have come from as far away as Australia and Kazakhstan to compete in the quirky contest, dressing in safari togs, wool fisherman's turtlenecks and other garb associated with the Pulitzer and Nobel winner's "Papa" persona.

Some are longtime repeat contenders, and all must prove their resemblance to a judging panel of past contest winners including 2013's Stephen Terry



Stephen Terry poses in Ernest Hemingway's one-time study at the Hemingway Home and Museum the day after he won the 2013 "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest at Sloppy Joe's Bar.

of Palm Harbor, Fla.

Look-alikes also take part in many other Hemingway Days events, including an offbeat "Running of the Bulls" that is a lighthearted salute to the annual event in Pamplona, Spain.

The fun begins at noon Saturday, July 19, with photo opportunities with "Papas" outside Sloppy Joe's. At 1 p.m. they stage the popular sporting spoof, promenading alongside fake bulls on wheels, and later

ANDY NEWMAN/FLORIDA KEYS NEWS BUREAU



Matt Gineo, left, the 2011 contest winner, gets a faceful of birthday cake from 2010 winner Charlie Bicht to celebrate Ernest Hemingway's birthday.



host a "pre-birthday party" honoring the 115th anniversary of Hemingway's July 21 birth.

Additional look-alike events include a Wednesday evening welcome party for contestants and their fans, a catch-and release "fish-off" and the announcement of the Hemingway Look-Alike Society's annual scholarship recipients.

Many "Papas" show their strength in Sloppy Joe's final festival event, the 28th annual arm-wrestling championship. Registration is set for 11 a.m. Sunday, July 20, with the contest at noon.



Ernest Hemingway look-alikes ride and push fake bovines on Duval Street during the annual "Running of the Bulls."



Stephen Terry, second from left, celebrates his 2013 "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest victory with previous winners.



Discover The Keys Connection



BOB CARE/FLORIDA KEYS NEWS BUREAU

A diver explores the coral reef in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary off Key Largo, Fla. The reef system parallels the Florida Keys.

The Florida Keys & Key West aren't just another vacation destination where you arrive, soak up some sun on a pretty beach, maybe do a little shopping or take a sightseeing tour, sample the local cuisine and depart—essentially unchanged—after a few days.

Sure, you can do all those things just about anywhere along the 125-mile subtropical island chain. But the destination's vibrant and multifaceted opportunities mean you can (and should) do far more than passively "see the Keys" or "visit the Keys."



Let's face it—these days, when too many people are settling for a life that's passive and bland, don't you deserve to break out and throw yourself into an experience that makes your senses tingle? Well, that's what you'll find in the Florida Keys.

The Keys combine the features of a welcoming American small town and those of a Caribbean outpost rich in mañana mindset, irreverent humor and unexpected joys. So if you escape the daily grind by heading for these unique and individualistic islands, experience them with zest and exuberance—as a participatory adventure.

For example, try kiteboarding for the first time, fueled by the ever-present breeze on the shallow flats of the Middle Keys. Catch and release a silvery tarpon off Islamorada, feeling that throat-catching wonder when you let it slip back into its saltwater home. Savor cool, tart Key lime pie at a waterfront restaurant while the sound of an island band sets your feet tapping. Dive into the spectacular underwater world off Key Largo and discover the continental United State's only living coral barrier reef.

Whether the adventures are large or small, a Keys vacation can fill your senses and leave you feeling vibrantly alive. Equally important, in the Keys' relaxed atmosphere, you'll

find the freedom to make personal connections with the things and people that matter to you.

Reconnect with your kids by sharing the thrill of a swim with friendly dolphins in a saltwater habitat. Connect with the natural world while kayaking through the tranquil Lower Keys backcountry, watching the graceful sway and dance of sea birds and tropical fish.

Reawaken your creativity during classes and seminars led by Keys artists and artisans, or satisfy your sense of heritage by following the route of the historic Over-Sea Railroad. You might even want to reconnect with your artistic side in the Keys—assisted by a friendly dolphin.

Make a lasting difference during your vacation by helping to preserve the Keys coral reef environment. Or reconnect with your significant other on a slow, romantic sunset sail followed by a

water's-edge seafood dinner under the stars.

I was lucky enough to stumble upon the Keys 30 years ago, when the pace was a little lazier and the island chain was spiced by a renegade, end-of-the-world flavor that was completely irresistible. After two days in Key West, I realized I'd found my home—and that feeling has never changed.

Maybe your visit won't inspire you to make the Florida Keys your forever home. But if you immerse yourself in the Keys experience, you'll forge your own connection with the offbeat, magical islands ... as you reconnect with your priorities and the person you really want to be.

— Carol Shaughnessy



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Visitors to the Florida Keys can tour the world's only state-certified veterinary hospital for sea turtles, located in Marathon.



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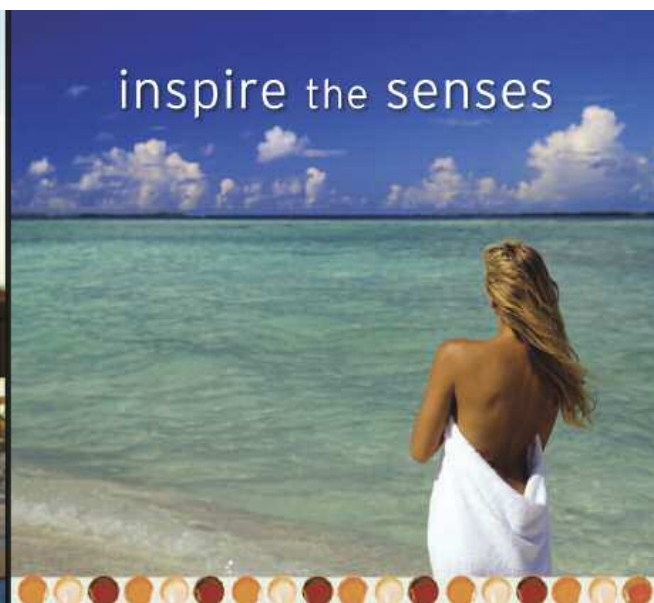
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Celebrating New Voices In Literary Fiction

Lorian Hemingway's Short Story Competition



PHOTO BY CAROL SHAUGHNESSY

The Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition winners announcement and reception is held at Hemingway's first Key West residence, Casa Antigua. Events include a presentation on Casa Antigua's history by owner Tom Oosterhoudt and a reading of the winning short story.

When Lorian Hemingway judged Hemingway Days' first short story competition in 1981, she and her fellow judges sat in a Lower Keys cottage reading and evaluating the few dozen entries with care. They couldn't possibly imagine that the competition would grow into a highly respected international literary contest.

Now, more than three decades later, the competition draws at

least 1,000 entries each year from around the U.S. and other countries as far-flung as India and Romania. Lorian and her small judging panel still give every single story their complete attention and respect.

Since its beginnings, the competition has been dedicated to recognizing and supporting the work of emerging writers whose fiction has not yet achieved success. For some, this recognition is the first validation of their worth as writers.

Coordinating the competition is a pleasure and a passion for Lorian, author of three critically acclaimed books, "Walking into the River," "Walk on Water" and "A World Turned Over."

"Reading a story of talent and craft, and knowing that perhaps you can help further the career of a gifted writer, is truly one of the greatest joys," says Lorian. "I consider it my job to honor the talent of emerging writers — and if those who enter this competition are compelled to continue to write as a result of receiving the recognition they so deserve, then we are all richer for it."

The longtime judging panel includes Dr. Rob Merritt, a noted author and Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at Bluefield College.

To date, the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition has awarded nearly \$75,000 to emerging writers of merit.



Listeners enjoy the reading at the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition reception at Casa Antigua.

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Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition

The directors of the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition are proud to present the 2013 competition's second-place story, chosen from among 1,197 entries.

BETO ORDONEZ

By
Bryan Allen Fierro

Beto sat in the convent basement and watched the Space Shuttle Challenger explode over the Atlantic Ocean and rain down million-dollar space trash. He watched the CNN live feed with his class on a black-and-white Magnavox that he had helped wheel from the rectory across the playground for Sister Viramona. Think Nyguen and Chris Chavez pressed their fingers to the screen, announcing solid rocket boosters here and fuselage *there* until seventy-three seconds into it when everything space-aged burst into a pitched-fork column of smoke and indistinguishable super-plastic parts. While the other kids huddled together in front of the television, Beto sat in the back of the room, his feet propped up on the desk. He held the remote control out in front of his body in a way that suggested he might've masterminded the whole thing, right there from Continuation Catholic Development camp.

"Say something," he commanded the television with escalating ticks of volume as the telecast fell silent. "Man oh man, did you see that? That was something else. There are special effects and *then* there are special effects."

Sister Viramona pushed Beto's feet off the desk and took the controller. "I expect more from you. Especially you."

"I'm sorry, Sister, but did you see that thing all blown apart to smithereens?"

Sister Viramona grabbed Beto's arm and directed him to stand with the other children who had all come together to make a circle in the prayer room, under the large crucifix that filled the space on the far wall from floor to ceiling.

"That's a giant-ass Jesus," exclaimed Beto.

Thinh Nyguen nodded in agreement.

Sister Viramona passed out a prayer book to each child with very specific instructions on how to pray at a time like this. She said it was a sad time in history and that all of the children would remember this day forever. "We need to say a prayer for the families that suffered a great loss today."

Beto leaned back on his legs to get a look at the television. He tapped on Chris Chavez's shoulder to get his attention, "Check it. Space trash takes a long time to fall." He watched the looping footage of the shuttle breaking apart into a fireball that seemed to eat up everything inside itself before spreading outward across the sky. He was surprised every time the shuttle took flight, that it did the same thing over and over again, anticipating its destruction, each time with a great

Whoa! "I bet it's ten-thousand degrees in that cockpit."

Some of the kids continued to sniffle and cry softly. Giant-ass Jesus has that effect on the little ones, Beto thought. "What are you crying about?" He addressed two girls holding hands. "You didn't know no one on that rocket ship."

"That's enough, young man. And when we're done here, we are gonna have a little talk."

He inhaled deeply Sister Viramona's lavender scent as she walked back to change the channel. Little bolts of blue static shot from under her polyester robe as it dragged along the carpet. "You don't smell like a nun," said Beto. "You smell like the perfume my mom used to wear when she'd go out dancing."

"I don't wear perfume. And I don't appreciate..."

"You wear makeup, too. I can see it, right there. It's not as much as my mom used to wear. It would take her almost an hour sometimes to get her eyebrows just right." Beto clasped his hands in prayer and bowed his head. "It looks tight on you, though." Beto concentrated on the last image he had of his mother. Her hair arched high in a great wave. He had buried his face in her chest to say goodbye, and the glitter from her lotion stayed on his cheeks the entire weekend. Beto thought she resembled the caged naked woman in the oil lamp that



hung over the far end of the couch for most of his life. They both had wide hips and sparkled. The bars of the cage were set at an angle so droplets of hot oil could run down in a spiral, evenly spaced and lighted by a red bulb.

Sister Viramona wore soft hints of makeup that he had never seen on a nun before. That's the only reason he had mentioned it. Beto had never seen such a pretty, young looking nun. She looked as young as some of the high school girls who lived three doors down from his grandparents. Her habit cupped the edge of her face and forced the flesh around her lips into a pucker. She was attractive, much like the makeup counter girls at the Pico Rivera Towne Center. They were the same height. He noticed their hands were the same size, hers matching evenly over the top of his as she dragged him to the prayer room. They were soft baking hands, always in oil and corn flour, and unlike the other nuns' hands, the old nuns who looked like the stocking dolls he had made for the craft fair, potato faces and pinto bean eyes. Their hands were callused stumps from spending so much time in the church garden pulling up crab grass and daffodils. No, Sister Viramona was the freshest nun he had ever seen and was someone he might consider inviting out for a game of bones with his boys. When the other kids Our Fathered, Beto repeated in his head, *You are the prettiest, you are the prettiest*, to Sister Viramona, then he prayed that she had somehow gotten the message.

"I don't know what you are up to, but you better take a moment young man to realize there is no room for your actions," said Sister Viramona.

"The Space Shuttle don't blow up every day, Sister," answered Beto, "I know peoples died, but peoples die."

"You scare the other kids, you know. They look up to you because you are older."

"Eleven years old ain't old," said Beto. "Someday they'll be all baptized up like me."

"Who used that word, baptized?"

Beto pointed to giant-ass Jesus across the room. "Baptized by fire," said Beto, "Just like them, all burned up." Beto tapped on the screen and counted down the seconds until the shuttle vaporized for the twentieth time that morning. "Right there, see that. It's the metal box that holds all the astronauts. Falls any faster and there'll be a mile of dead fish in the ocean before it slows down."

Sister Viramona shook her head at his response.

"Torpedoes!"

Beto turned his attention away from the television to a collection of crows outside the classroom window. Crow after crow dipped into the church garden, heads pecking at felled tomatoes like it was some kind of game. They were on the convent roof that stretched around the courtyard to the rectory. They flew out from the garden and landed on the telephone wires. They cawed and pecked at the plumage that rose from their backs in blue-black mohawks. It were as if they were taunting Beto, who could do nothing but watch their growing numbers from inside.

Beto karate kicked the curtains and banged on the window before unplugging the television. He pushed it back across the playground, past Father Lynch, who smoked a cigar and played kickball with some of the children, ash swirling around and on them like some sort of blessing. He pushed the television up the back ramp into the living room of the rectory, and lined up the wheels with the divots already cut into the carpet.

He plugged everything back into the outlets and turned it on. This time there was no footage of the Shuttle, only a picture of a woman he had seen on the news for the last few months. She was the teacher, Christa McAuliffe. Under her image it read, *First female teacher in Space*. Beto looked around to comment to someone that she never actually made it into space, but the rectory was silent. The entire Challenger crew had their picture on the television. One looked like Sulu from Star Trek. Another, Issac from the Love Boat. When CNN came back to McAuliffe's picture, planned in parenthesis had been added to her title. He felt relieved knowing NASA wouldn't be sending Carmelite nuns into the space program anytime soon. The newscast said that it was possible that the crew could still be alive, that the cabin of the shuttle was made of reinforced aluminum and could handle a significant amount of G-force. Beto thought about the time he had ripped a Coke can in half in one try then shut off the television.

The morning's excitement had driven a hunger stake through Beto's stomach. "Gotta get me some eats." He remembered the altar boys telling him after serving mass on Sundays, how they had to stock the Christ crackers. He knew what these were. Beto grew up going to mass with his grandparents. This was so his mom could get away for a while, take her trips to visit her cousins in Monterey Park, when she'd go dancing all night at Peppers. He'd go to mass those weekends and be amazed every time that Father Lynch reached into the chalice after the consecration, that there were enough pieces of Christ's body for everyone to get their fill, like some kind of magic trick. Every time, he thought that Sunday would be the Sunday they'd run out of Christ. It never happened. The more people who came to the front, the more pieces the Father held in front of his face reciting, *The body of Christ*. But it made sense now, standing in the rectory

BETO ORDONEZ

continued



storeroom, there on the shelf in a cardboard box, Jesus, wrapped all up in wax paper like a Ritz.

He rubbed his sweaty palms against his jeans and opened the package's seam at one end. The hosts appeared like a roll of gold coins, each with a cross on one side in relief. Beto pulled one cracker out and hesitated then put it deep into the back of his mouth, half-expecting his head to explode. Instead, he felt a slow dissolve on his tongue, and a wood-like taste that he surprisingly did not mind. Jesus dried Beto's mouth all up, and when the good Lord started to stick to the roof of Beto's mouth, wine did the trick to help pry Him out.

He couldn't wait to tell his boys. He would stand in baggy-pants on the corner and his boys would say, *you did what?* And Beto would respond, *that's right, putos*. And when they called him "crazy-ass Beto," he'd do his best to act as though the next thing didn't happen. He wouldn't mention how the scent of vanilla mixed with lavender from around the corner filled his head, or that he never expected act like a girl the way he did after spilling a box of red wine down the front of Sister Viramona's robe. It froze the nun in place. He could tell that she was using all her divine interventions to stop the words coming from her mouth, a hundred different responses broken up into fractured syllables that floated and fell on Beto like scorched space-trash.

"Why in God's name do you do these things, Beto?"

He shrugged, "It just takes over sometimes."

"Beto, I think you are talking about the devil," she corrected him while drying herself with Kleenex from her pockets. "What do you expect from life, acting the way you do?"

His mom would ask him the same question when he'd get in trouble at home, usually for coming home late from Cabrillo Beach. He gave her the same answer he always gave his mother, "To take over the World."

"Great, we have ourselves a super-villain."

He liked the sound of that, and fist pumped.

Sister Viramona shook her head and told him that he just needed a clean slate and that his next confession might very well be his longest. She told him that he would be spending a late afternoon at the convent cleaning the largest Jesus in the World as the first act of penance before a sit down with Father Lynch.

"I have to get cleaned up. Come with me because I don't want you out of my sight for too long."

Beto had already had his first and last confession. The confessional always smelled like old Mexican women, incense and bacon grease. And you know, that sour body odor. They were the ones who went to confession most often. He wondered what old women did to warrant going to confession once a week. Then he remembered Mrs. Mendoza. Mrs. Mendoza had taught first grade to three generations of his family. She was the oldest teacher in the school district when she retired at dinosaur. On Thursday nights, she chased Mr. Mendoza down the block with the family molcajete. Thursday night was the night he came home drunk and only spoke of pretty girls named Lola. Everyone knew this. Go ahead and ask. And after the couple attended mass and confession on Sunday, all was forgiven. Just like that. Beto watched them on those Sundays as

they walked out after mass, hand in hand, laughing like the school children. He knew confession worked. So, as long as the confessional did not shift and fly like the Swirl-n-Whirl amusement park ride at the Santa Monica Pier, Beto felt okay about some small talk inside. He threw up two years in a row on the Swirl-n-Whirl. His mother had yelled at him for wasting good money on churros and hotdogs. She told him they would never come back to the pier because, after all she has done for him, including giving up streamlined hips to bring him into the World, that he was becoming the kind of boy who would have to make his own way into manhood. That was a week before she died in the rollover on the 60, driving home from Peppers with her girls, like some kind of stupid motherly lesson.

Beto stood in the hall while Sister Viramona changed into new clothes.

"You know, Beto, you're lucky no one else is here." She walked out from the bedroom and pulled her black straight hair into a plastic clip. "Because I'd get in trouble for not having another habit to wear." She had on navy sweatpants and a 1972 Sacred Heart Volleyball sweatshirt. "I didn't plan on you pouring wine on me."

Beto's body felt like a firecracker, his spine the lit fuse to a head that was going to jettison at any moment. He swallowed hard. "Nuns play sports?"

"They actually play four years on varsity."

Beto stepped closer to her. "My mom went to that school."

"I know she did, Beto. Stay here, and I'll get the supplies you'll need." She walked into the kitchen.

The crows were back, darting from the roof again into the remains of the garden. Beto pointed out the crows' tactics to Sister Viramona as she reentered the room, tracing their flight



patterns overhead with his index finger against the large bay window. "See how they look out for each other? It's a damn stupid thing, those crows."

"You missed them this morning, Sister. *It was just like that movie The Birds*. You watch. I bet Father Lynch goes crazy and machetes those birds someday. That'll be a day to remember for the parish, sister. Every year there will have a parade. I wouldn't blame him. If they poked around in my trash, I'd do the same thing."

Half dozen crows danced in the middle of the street with a ripped apart, unripe tomato.

She placed her hand on Beto's shoulder. "You know that I didn't know her."

Beto nodded as she handed him a bottle of lemon oil and two rags made from t-shirts from the last year the Dodgers made it to the post season, a cartoon version of catcher Steve Yeager leaning on a large-headed cartoon version of Fernando Valenzuela. Beto had the same shirt and was excited to mention it, but thought twice. He took the rags from her hands, again feeling the softness of her touch.

You're the prettiest, he tried one last time.

She let go, and for the first time Beto could smell the real air in the convent, no vanilla or lavender. Only lemon oil and the musty convent rot of a building that had trapped moisture problems.

Sister Viramona bent at her waist to

get a good look at Beto. He tightened his body like a statue, and through the slits in his eyelids, he watched as she ran her finger between the top of her head and the plastic band, pulling her hairline tight. She squeezed his arms to undo his spell. Her warm breath on his face pried his eyes open like oysters.

"Beto, there is a *time and place* for everything," she told him.

These words, time and place, sounded like something he'd expect an adult to tell him.

"Time and place for what?" asked Beto.

"Taking over the world." She turned him around to face the prayer room, and whispered across the back of his neck. "And falling in love."

Beto balled up his fists and shadow boxed his image against the wall. "Man, oh man, watch out, watch out."

"The Lord won't let you off so easy." Sister Viramona lined up the cleaning supplies on the counter and walked to the back of the convent.

Beto mumbled as she turned the corner out of the kitchen. "I'm gonna need me a good woman, you know."

The only thing left to do was clean that giant Jesus all up. He scrubbed between each toe, both calve muscles,

the knees and behind each thigh. He cleaned the concave of the stomach and gently over the cut below the ribcage, looking to Jesus' face to measure His pain. Beto moved to the chest and under each arm, where he spent a considerable amount of time measuring the biceps. "*Boy, you all ripped up.*" Down each arm to the nail in each palm. He used WD-40 on any part that looked metallic and moveable. He didn't miss a finger, then under the chin and behind each ear. It looked as though it was the first time this Jesus had been cleaned. The water in the pail was black. With a life-sized crown, he was careful not to cut himself on the already bloodied thorns as he leaned in from the top step of the ladder.

When he finished, Beto put the rags and oil under the sink in the kitchen. He didn't know if it was where they belonged, but it was where his mother had kept such things. Sister Viramona was in her room at the end of the hall. She hadn't told him to check with her before leaving. He could hear music coming from her far room, a popular song he knew from the radio. He wanted to go down to her, to let her know he was no mistake. The shadows in her room flickered and the music grew louder. The other nuns were off on retreat. Beto thought about the first time he was alone at home, back when his mother had to work two full-time jobs. He spent the evening practicing the dance moves she had shown him from the club. He ate ketchup and pickle sandwiches, turning the television volume to fifty and running around the empty house at full-speed, stopping for no one.

BRYAN ALLEN FIERRO grew up in the environs of Los Angeles, California. He received his B.A. in English-Writing from the University of Colorado at Denver, and his M.F.A. in fiction from Pacific University's low-residency program in Oregon. He currently lives in Anchorage, Alaska, where he serves his community as a firefighter/paramedic for the Anchorage Fire Department. He is the 2013 recipient of the Poet & Writers Maureen Egen Writers Exchange Award in fiction.



Fun for a Keys Cause Hemingway Days Caribbean Street Fair



shrimp devotees are invited to enjoy the inaugural Bubba Cuzzi Shrimp-Off Competition from noon to 3 p.m. Sponsored by



The annual Caribbean Street Fair, again presented by Helpline of the Florida Keys, will take place on Key West's Duval Street from noon until 9 p.m. Saturday, July 19 — with the famed avenue closed to vehicular traffic and open to fun from Front to Eaton streets.

Duval Street will become a lively open-air marketplace for pedestrians, who can explore several blocks of booths displaying original arts and crafts. Local and regional vendors will show and sell items from jewelry to clothing to gifts to paintings. In addition, fair attendees' taste buds will be tempted by the aromas of delicious island and ethnic dishes prepared onsite, while beverages will be available to slake their thirst.

And speaking of taste buds,

Fishbusterz on Stock Island, which will donate prized Key West pink shrimp, the contest features four local culinary wizards competing for the title of "Best Chef." Two awards will be given: the Judges' Top Pick and the People's Choice Award. Shrimp lovers will surely want to be part of the sampling — and judging — at this savory spectacle.

Strolling street fair attendees are likely to run into one or more "Papas" hanging out around Sloppy Joe's Bar, a regular Hemingway watering hole when the author lived and wrote in Key

West. These bearded "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alikes will stage a photo op at noon, followed by the hilarious "Running of the Bulls." Key West's version of the famous Pamplona event, using manmade bulls, will begin outside Sloppy Joe's at 1 p.m.

The popular street fair benefits Helpline, formed in 1982 and now managed by Switchboard of Miami to provide vital services to Florida Keys residents. These include operating a 24-hour confidential information, referral and crisis intervention hotline as well as providing a reassurance call program for the Keys' elderly and homebound population. In addition, Helpline answers calls for Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon lines and an LGBTQ line.

"All money collected from the festival will benefit Switchboard's 2-1-1 Helpline of the Keys," said Mary Lou Hoover of Switchboard Helpline of the Keys. "We are excited to expand our umbrella of services to serve more residents of the Florida Keys."

For more information about the exuberant Hemingway Days Caribbean Street Fair, and about the important services provided by Helpline, call 305-292-8445 or visit www.keyshelpline.org.



Hemingway Days

5k Sunset Run & Paddleboard Race



Racers can compete either on foot or on paddleboards in the spirit of Ernest Hemingway's active outdoor lifestyle during two racing challenges set for Saturday, July 19.

The Malibu Rum Hemingway 5k Sunset Run and Paddleboard Race are sporting highlights of Key West's annual Hemingway Days festival, celebrating the life and work of the author who lived in Key West throughout the 1930s. In February 2014, the endurance magazine "Competitor" called the run one of the 20 must-do Southeast regional races.

The Lazy Dog Paddleboard Race is to kick off at 6 p.m. at the

island city's Southernmost Beach, 1405 Duval St. on the Atlantic Ocean. Entrants are tasked with paddling a 3-mile ocean course before finishing back at the beach.

Those who don't have their own paddleboard can rent one from Lazy Dog Outfitters for delivery to Southernmost Beach.

The 5k run is to begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Southernmost Point in the continental United States, located overlooking the ocean at the corner of Whitehead and South streets. The fast, flat 3.1-mile course takes runners through picturesque Old Town Key West, past landmarks including the Ernest Hemingway

Home & Museum. A walking division is offered as well.

A post-race awards party is scheduled poolside at the Southernmost Hotel, 1319 Duval St.

Paddleboard awards are to be presented to the first- through 10th-place male and female finishers. For participants in the 5k, awards await the top three male and female overall finishers, top three male and female masters, and top three male and female finishers in age categories ranging from 9 and under to 75 and over.

A registration booth is to be open 3-7 p.m. race day at the Southernmost Hotel. Race packets can be picked up there.

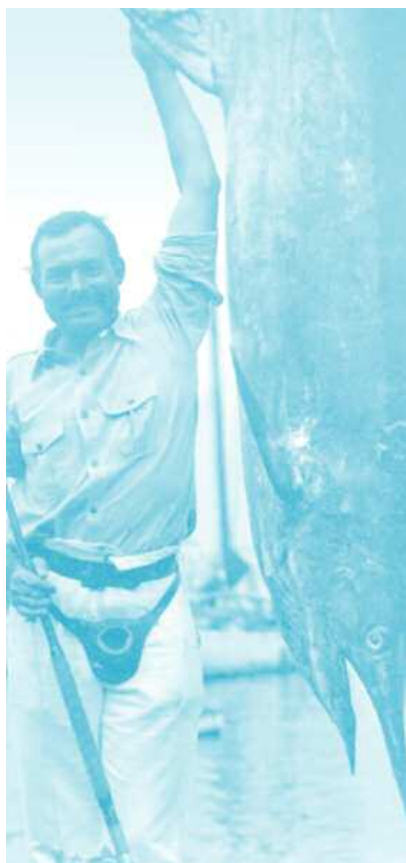
Registration is available online at www.active.com. Registration forms can be downloaded from www.keywestspecialevents.com or picked up at local hotels and fitness centers.

The advance registration fee for either race is \$45 per adult, \$35 for military entrants and \$35 for entrants under age 15. A combo rate of \$75 (\$65 for military) covers entry to both races. An additional \$5 per person will be charged those registering on race day. Fees include a collectible race tech shirt, food, libations and giveaways.



Hemingway Days Celebration

Schedule of Events



HEMINGWAY DAYS 2014 JULY 15-20

DAILY

Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum guided tours. Visit the home where Hemingway lived throughout the 1930s and wrote some of his most enduring

classics. 907 Whitehead St. For info and ticket prices, visit www.hemingwayhome.com.

TUESDAY JULY 15

9:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M. — “Hemingway in Key West” museum exhibition. Explore Ernest Hemingway’s life in Key West, including fishing adventures, and view rare Hemingway photographs and memorabilia. Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Mention Hemingway Days upon entering and receive discounted admission. Exhibition continues throughout Hemingway Days and beyond. For info, visit www.kwahs.org.

10 A.M.-5 P.M. — Tennessee Williams in Key West Exhibit. Learn about playwright Tennessee Williams’ longtime residence on the island while exploring his beliefs and legacy. Highlights include personal photographs of Williams at home with his partner and friends, first-edition plays and books, a typewriter he used in Key West

and much more. 513 Truman Ave. behind the Key West Business Guild Visitor Center. Free admission; donations accepted. Exhibition continues throughout Hemingway Days and beyond. For info, visit www.twkw.org.

WEDNESDAY JULY 16

4 P.M. — Final registration for the Key West Marlin Tournament. Anglers compete for \$50,000 in guaranteed cash prizes for targeting marlin, spearfish, dolphin, tuna and wahoo. Conch Republic Seafood Co., 631 Greene St. For info, visit www.keywestmarlin.com.

5:30 P.M. — Meet the “Papas.” Get to know the contestants and previous winners of the “Papa” Hemingway Look-Alike Contest. Attractions typically include a cash bar and Hemingway-esque hors d’oeuvres. Smokin’ Tuna Saloon, 4 Charles St. For info, visit www.smokintunasaloon.com.

6-8 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament captains meeting, auction and raffle. Conch Republic Seafood Co.



7:30-10 P.M. — “Voices, Places, Inspirations.” This evening of readings and presentations features authors Michael Haskins, Steven Hull, Mandy Bolen Miles, Terry Schmida and David Sloan, as well as actor/playwright/author Brian Gordon Sinclair. Presented by Literacy Volunteers of America—Monroe County, the event also includes a “meet the authors” reception. Hyatt Key West Resort and Spa, 601 Front St. Free admission; suggested parking in Mallory Square lot. For info, visit www.hemingwaydays.net.

THURSDAY JULY 17

8:30 A.M.-4 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament first day of fishing. For more info, visit www.keywestmarlin.com.

9 A.M. — Coffee and donuts with the “Papas.” Join past Look-Alike Contest winners and current competitors for a lighthearted “coffee break” at Cypress House, a historic inn at 601 Caroline St. Visit www.cypresshousekw.com.

4-6 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament weigh-in. Conch Republic Seafood Co. docks.

5 P.M. — Key West Poetry Guild: “The Poems of Papa.” The Key West Poetry Guild presents a reading and celebration of Ernest Hemingway’s poems at the Blue Heaven restaurant, a site where the author once refereed neighborhood boxing matches. Blue Heaven, 729 Thomas St. Free admission.

6 P.M. — Hemingway Look-Alike Society scholarship presentations. The society is to announce the winners of its annual scholarships for Florida Keys students. Sloppy



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Joe’s Bar, 201 Duval St. For more info, visit www.sloppyjoes.com.

6:15 P.M. — Canada’s “Hemingway On Stage” award presentation. Brian Gordon Sinclair is to present the “Hemingway On Stage” award for extraordinary dedication to the festival. Onstage at Sloppy Joe’s Bar, 201 Duval St.

6:30 P.M. — Sloppy Joe’s 34th annual “Papa” Hemingway Look-Alike Contest, first preliminary round, to be judged by former contest winners. Sloppy Joe’s Bar. \$35 entry fee. Free to watch. For look-alike event info, visit www.sloppyjoes.com.

6:30-8 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament cocktail party. Festivities for anglers include a Key West-style pig roast. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Grand Key Resort, 3990 S. Roosevelt Blvd. Free to tournament participants.

FRIDAY JULY 18

8:30 A.M.-4 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament’s second day of fishing. For more info, visit www.keywestmarlin.com.

1:30 P.M. — “Papa” Hemingway Look-Alike Fish-Off. Cheer your favorites as the “Papas” compete in this dockside catch-and-release challenge using traditional “Cuban yo-yos.” Conch Republic Seafood Co. docks. Free to watch.

4-6 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament weigh-in. Conch Republic Seafood Co. docks.

6:30-8 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament dockside cocktail party and fish fry. Conch Republic Seafood Co. docks. Free to tournament participants.

6:30 P.M. — Sloppy Joe’s 34th annual “Papa” Hemingway Look-Alike Contest, second preliminary round, to be judged by former contest winners. Sloppy Joe’s Bar. \$35 entry fee. Free to watch.

8 P.M. — Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition winners announcement and reception. This literary highlight takes place at Hemingway’s first Key West residence, Casa Antigua. Events include a presentation on Casa Antigua’s history by owner Tom Oosterhoudt and a reading of the winning short story. 314 Simonton St. Free admission. For info, visit www.shortstorycompetition.com.

8:30-11 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament party with the Drambuie team. Enjoy an exuberant island-style gathering for tournament participants at Key West’s popular Dirty Harry’s at Rick’s, 202 Duval St.

Hemingway Days Schedule

continued

SATURDAY JULY 19

8:30 A.M.-3 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament's third day of fishing. For more info, visit www.keywestmarlin.com.

NOON-9 P.M. — Caribbean Street Fair presented by Helpline of the Florida Keys. Much of Duval Street is closed to vehicular traffic and transformed into an open-air island market with arts, crafts, jewelry, tropical clothing and food. From noon to 3 p.m., seafood fans are invited to enjoy the inaugural Bubba Cuzzy Shrimp-Off Competition. For info, call 305-292-8445 or visit www.keyshelpline.org.

NOON — Photos with "Papas." Hemingway look-alikes provide a photo opportunity for fans. Greene Street outside Sloppy Joe's. For info, visit www.sloppyjoes.com.

NOON-2 P.M. — Key West First Legal Rum tasting. Sample chef-distilled rum from Key West's only distillery. Donations are suggested to benefit the Hemingway Look-Alike Society scholarship fund. Greene Street outside Sloppy Joe's. For more information, visit www.keywestlegalrum.com.

1 P.M. — Running of the Bulls. This wacky event is sponsored by Sloppy Joe's Bar and features past "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest winners dressed in their Pamplona best — and a breed of "bull" found only in Key West. The fun begins and ends on Greene



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Street outside Sloppy Joe's. For info, visit www.sloppyjoes.com.

1:30 P.M. — Hemingway's Birthday Party. Proud "Papas" are to celebrate the 115th anniversary of Ernest's July 21 birth with a pre-birthday cake and other attractions outside Sloppy Joe's. Visit www.sloppyjoes.com.

3-5 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament weigh-in. Conch Republic Seafood Co. docks.

3-7 P.M. — Malibu Rum Hemingway 5k Sunset Run and Paddleboard Race registration. Register and pick up race packets for the very popular run and paddleboard challenge. Southernmost Hotel, 1319 Duval St. \$45 adult entry fee for either race (\$50 on race day). For info, visit www.keywestspecialevents.com.

6 P.M. — Lazy Dog Paddleboard Race. Competitors follow a 3-mile Atlantic Ocean course that begins and ends at Key West's Southernmost Beach, 1405 Duval St. on the ocean. For more information and registration, visit www.keywestspecialevents.com.

6:30 P.M. — Key West Marlin Tournament awards banquet and silent auction. Cocktails and silent auction are set for 6:30, with the dinner and awards presentations to follow at 7:30. Open to tournament participants and their guests only. Westin Key West Resort, 245 Front St.

6:30 P.M. — Sloppy Joe's 34th annual "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest, final round, to be judged by former contest winners. Sloppy Joe's Bar. Free to watch.

7:30 P.M. — Malibu Rum Hemingway 5k Sunset Run. Racers start at the Southernmost Point in the continental United States at Whitehead and South streets, and proceed through Old Town Key West. An awards party is scheduled after the race poolside at the Southernmost Hotel. For info and registration, visit www.keywestspecialevents.com.

SUNDAY JULY 20

11 A.M. — Sloppy Joe's Hemingway Days Arm Wrestling Championship. Registration is set for 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and the contest begins at noon. Prizes await winners in seven weight categories. Sloppy Joe's Bar. \$5 entry fee; free to watch. For info, visit www.sloppyjoes.com.

This is a preliminary schedule and is subject to change.

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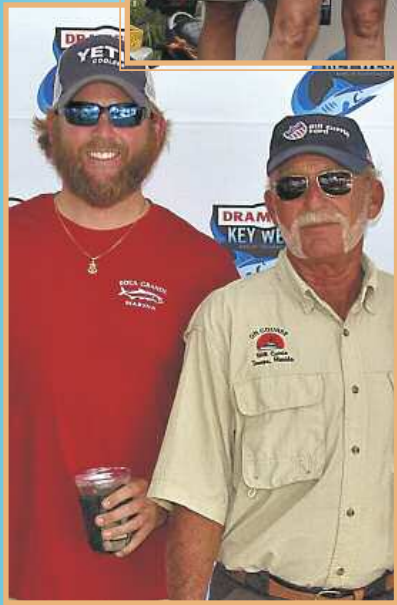
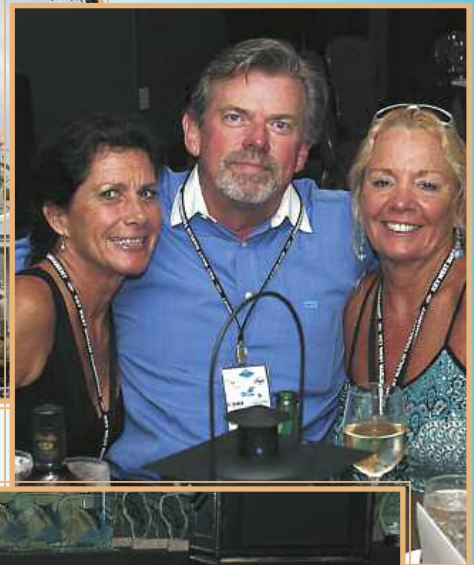


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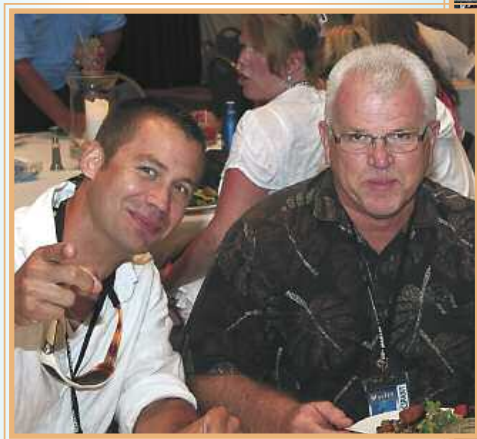
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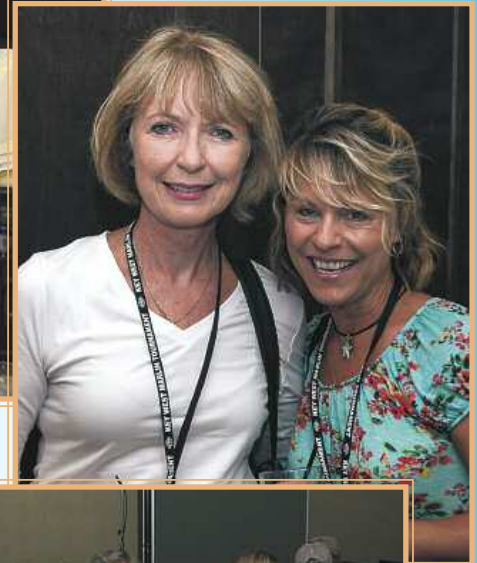
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Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament



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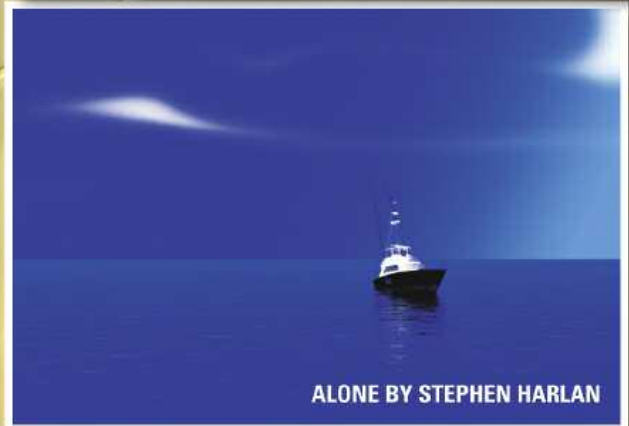
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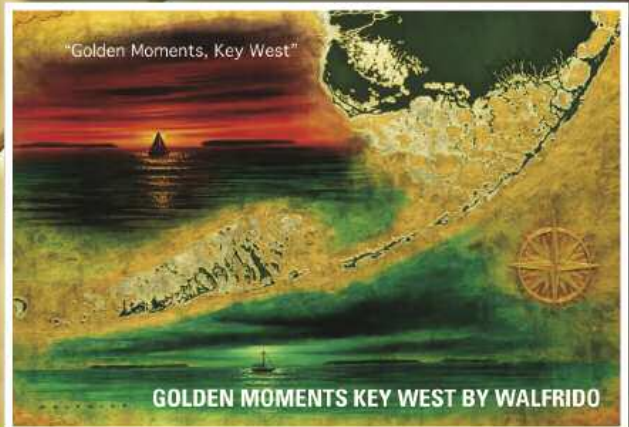
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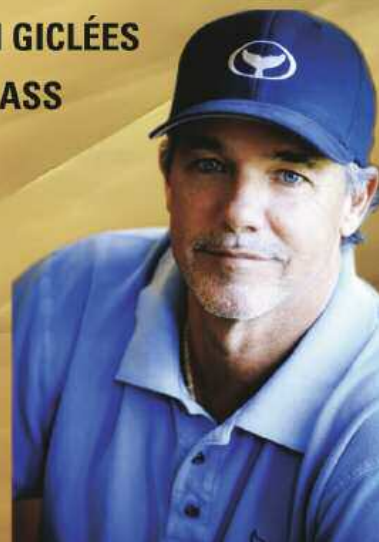
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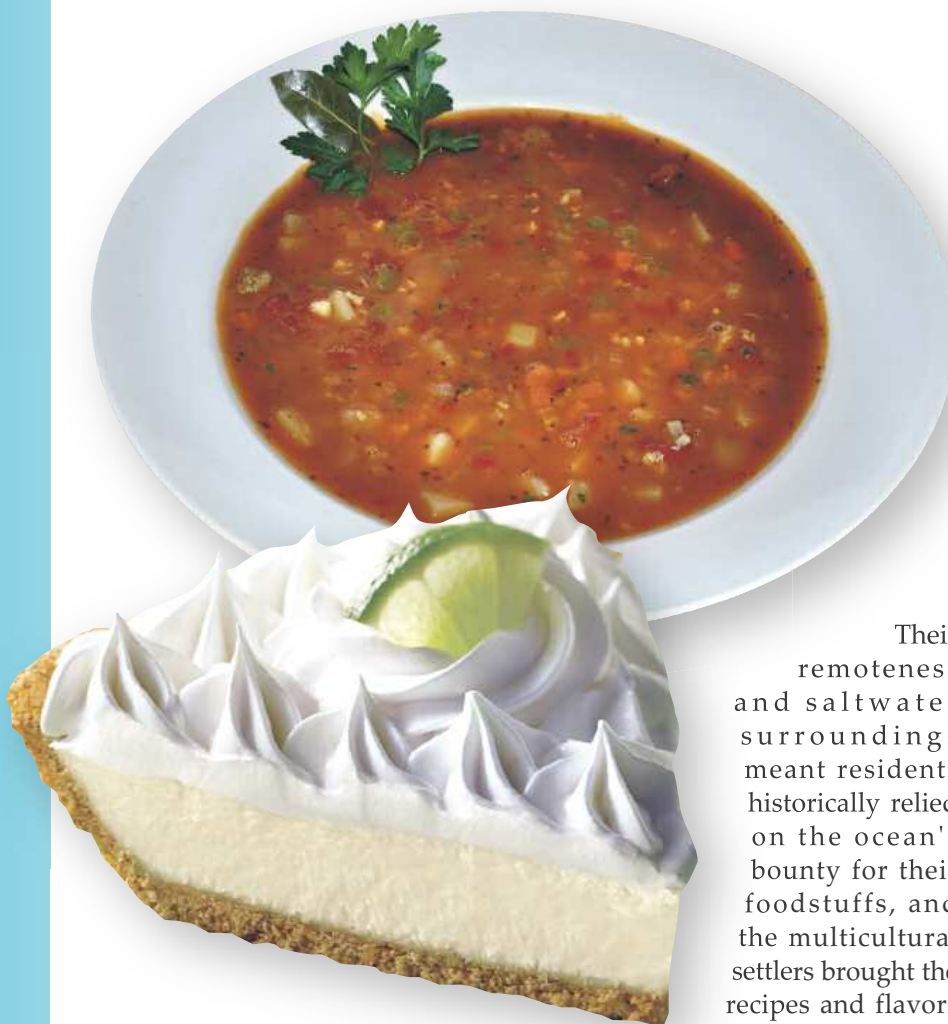
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From Conch to Key Lime Pie An Insider's Guide to Keys Cuisine



It's spicy conch chowder. Savory Cuban pork. Succulent pink shrimp dipped in a tangy mustard sauce. And Key lime pie, sweet and creamy with a hint of tartness. It's Florida Keys cuisine, as unique and appealing as the island chain itself.

The Keys' location and heritage played a big part in the development of the islands' cuisine.

Their remoteness and saltwater surroundings meant residents historically relied on the ocean's bounty for their foodstuffs, and the multicultural settlers brought the recipes and flavors of their homelands with them.

As might be expected in the seafaring island chain, many restaurants rely on fish and seafood for inspiration and menu staples. Popular "eating fish" caught in local waters include yellowtail, grouper, hogfish and dolphin (often called mahi-mahi to prevent confusion with the friendly mammal). Fish might

appear on the menu sautéed, broiled or blackened, prepared with a sauce containing mango or other tropical fruit, or fried and served as a sandwich on warm Cuban bread.

Shellfish are at least as popular with Keys diners as finfish, and conch tops the list. It's pronounced "konk" rather than "konch," and it's served in nearly every restaurant. It can be found in spicy tomato-based chowder, deep-fried fritters, salad with a hint of hot pepper and lime, and even breaded and fried as conch steak. No two restaurants prepare conch quite the same way, so it's fun to sample it in several establishments to compare tastes and cooking techniques.

Shrimp is another of the Keys' most popular foods: sweet, flavorful pink shrimp, steamed and served hot with drawn butter or cold with spicy cocktail or mustard sauce. Local chefs delight in applying their artistry to this crustacean, napping it in garlic sauce for a sinfully rich scampi, offering it battered and fried, or blackening it in Caribbean spices and using it to top a traditional Caesar salad.

Stone crab and lobster are bountiful harvests from area waters. With stone crab, only the claws are harvested and eaten, while the Florida lobster has no claws at all. Lobster is often served



stuffed with breadcrumbs and spices or boiled and dipped in butter sauce.

The most popular ethnic food in the Keys is Cuban, brought to Key West by the cigarmakers and their families who fled their homeland in the 1800s. Cuban delicacies include "ropa vieja" or "old clothes," a dish of shredded beef in red sauce; picadillo, a seasoned ground beef, and pork chunks marinated in a garlicky mojo sauce. Almost always, Cuban entrees are accompanied by black beans, yellow rice and a side of plantains.

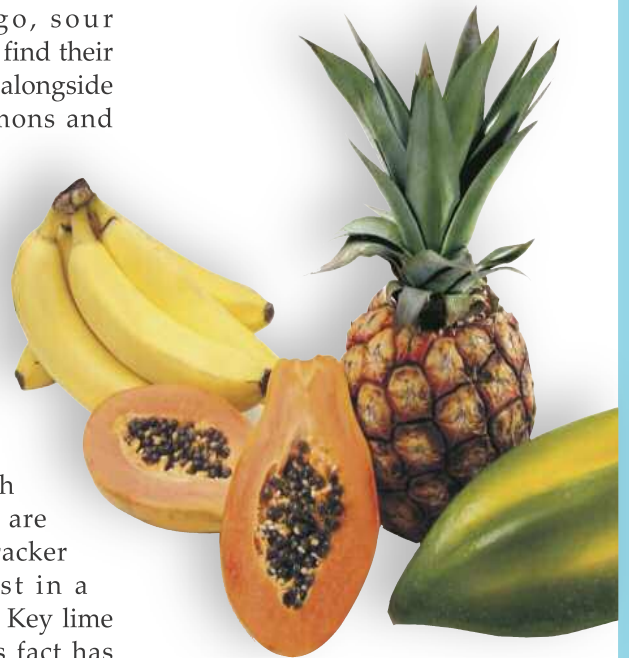
When it comes to a lighter Cuban meal, the Cuban mix sandwich is the biggest crowd-pleaser. The sandwich is a blend of meats and cheeses served on Cuban bread, warmed and flattened in a press that looks like a waffle iron.

Tropical fruits are a favorite accent used by island chefs. Passion fruit, mango, sour oranges, and carambola find their way into many recipes alongside the more ordinary lemons and limes. But for renown and popularity, nothing beats the tiny yellow Key lime that's the vital ingredient in the Keys' signature dessert, Key lime pie.

Some Key lime pies are topped with meringue and some with whipped cream. Some are nestled in a graham cracker crust while some rest in a chocolate crust. No two Key lime pies are alike, and this fact has

prompted many visitors to undertake dedicated taste tests to discover the finest.

—Carol Shaughnessy



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Index To Advertisers

Boston Whaler.....3	DoubleTree Grand Key Resort.....5	Mitchell J. Cook, P.A.39
Casa Marina and Reach Resorts...39	Hummingbird43	Rick's / Durty Harry's30
Centennial Bank30	Islander Resort.....49	Sloppy Joe's Bar39
Conch Republic Seafood59	Key West Engine Service59	Stay in Costa Rica ..Inside Back Cover
Debora Designs65	Key West Marine Hardware39	Stephen Muldoon21
DrambuieBack Cover	Lattitudes/The Spa47	Stock Island Marina Village.....35
Duncan Auto Sales.....59	Louies Backyard59	Susie's Estates59
Eden House66	Marine MaxInside Front Cover	Wyland Galleries63
First State Bank7	Mercedes Benz of Cutler Bay39	

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