

**Steinhatchee River Inn & Marina** | | 352/498-0709 or 352/498-4049

When the Moon hits your Eye like a big Pizza Pie, that's Amore

### Love is in the Air and on the Sea

We've all heard "there's plenty of fish in the sea" but did you know that there are only a handful that are completely committed to their partner and never play in the plankton with others? It is true... the Seahorse, French Angelfish, Hawksbill Sea Turtle, Butterfly Fish and the Mantis Shrimp are all completely monogamous sea creatures of the Gulf, loving hard and mating for life. (Fish photos courtesy of *This Thing Called Love: Meet 5 Monogamous Sea Creatures of the Gulf - 30A.*)

While most are perusing the Hallmark card isle to pick out the perfect words another has written for their love or trying to figure out how to afford a dozen "I love you" red roses, we turned our attention to the simplest of memorable loves stories we've seen here at the River Inn & Marina. Stories that have a tang of salt and a whole lot of romance that will be forever remembered as that special day. We are so indebted to have been part of your very special day and thank you for sharing it with us.

But, before we tell you their stories, let us tell you that each of you are our very special valentine. We take this moment to thank you, our Patrons and Guests, and tell you that you are each loved in your own special, unique way. We extend that love to our staff and Captains as well. They work very hard to make us the best of the best and succeed every day.

From our hearts to yours – Happy Valentine's Day!



Peacock Mantis Shrimp



French Angel Fish



Hawksbill Sea Turtle





Rick and Stephanie Martin were engaged summer 2020 while scalloping. As Rick tells the story, Stefanie had no idea and actually carried my bag into the room that had the ring in it. I got the ring insured because I wanted to propose to her out on the water. I had the ring tied to my swim trunks with a piece of braid fishing line. As soon as I got on the boat, she remarked what's that string for? I told her not to worry about it, it was from when we were fishing earlier. She had to take off the promise ring that she'd been wearing for 5 years to put on the engagement ring. I couldn't think of a better place to ask my best friend to spend the rest of my life with me. The knot from the braid fishing line is still on the ring and she refuses to remove it. I'm a saltwater fanatic and I finally found something that she loves to do. Sometimes when we have gotten our limit, she still keeps searching for more scallops. She says it's like an Easter egg hunt. Staying with y'all is one of our happier places.







**Norman and Marian Cooke** were staying at the Inn and spur of the moment decided to get married while enjoying the view from their balcony. So quick, fast and in a hurry the staff at the Inn found a Notary (Lydia), guitar player (Ben) and a scenic place (the garden at the Inn) for Marian and Norman to tie the knot before they got cold feet. May God Bless You. We love and miss you Marian and Norman.







**Capts. Mike and Melanie Farmer** tied the knot aboard their boat at sunrise, followed by a full day of fishing.







What is a wedding without a bachelorette party?! **Tim and Molye Henley** spent a lot of their courtship in Steinhatchee, with it being a halfway point between Tim's home in the Panhandle, and Molye's in Ocala. When they decided to marry, Molye's Mom knew just who to contact for a unique and beautiful bachelorette party. She reached out to Capt. Laura Currier and booked a sunset bachelorette cruise that was filled with music, laughter, wine and scrumptious food! There might have been a little dancing onboard... but that's a whole other story! Tim and Molye bought a home in Keaton Beach and are still frequent visitors to Steinhatchee and the River Inn's Dockside grill.

### Fiddler Crab Festival Weekend!

Happening this weekend! Come enjoy all the festivities and entertainment. A schedule is available online: <a href="http://steinhatcheechamber.com/the-events-calendar/fiddler-crab-festival/">http://steinhatcheechamber.com/the-events-calendar/fiddler-crab-festival/</a>. Some of the signature classics of the Festival is the Fiddler Crab Race (a total hoot to watch!) and the Taste of Steinhatchee Swamp Water Cookoff. We couldn't fit it all in, but below are some of the highlights happening this year. Our sincere appreciation to the Steinhatchee Chamber of Commerce and the Fiddler Crab Festival Committee for all the hard work they put in to make the Fiddler Crab Festival an annual event.

Due to the festival, our boat lift will not be in operation Friday-Sunday. Our Marina store (come in and check out our new line of shirts!) and the Dockside grill will be open and available by foot traffic only.

Stop in during Fiddler Crab Festival for our first **opening of the Dockside grill!** We will be serving up fresh salads, yummy burgers, and lots of other menu items. **New this year - crab poppers!!** 

Beer, Wine, Sodas and Water will also

be available.





The Dockside is also a great spot to watch the **fireworks!** Beginning around 7:30 p.m. on Friday night, the fifteen minutes fireworks display will be one of the most professional displays you'll ever see!

Come early - seating is limited and Dockside is a favorite spot for festival-goers and locals alike.



The stage for live **entertainment** is located directly across the street from both the Marina and in the Inn's parking lot. We are excited about the entertainment line up this year, which opens on Friday night with **Sadie Miller** and continues throughout the day Saturday, ending with **Jamie Davis** beginning at 9:30 p.m. For sure, don't miss the Irish River Dance Band at 2:00, a new genre for the Fiddler Crab Festival.



With more than 140 **vendors** - you'll be sure to find just about anything your heart desires! From woodworking to glass work, homemade soaps and jams, to treats for kids and pets - artists will be selling their creations and are ready to welcome you!

If food is your choice - the road along the river's edge will become your happiest of places! Food vendors galore will be on hand to whet your palette.



The Steinhatchee River Inn & Marina is offering River Tours on Saturday, February 13th! Tours will begin at 11:00 a.m. and continue every hour, with the last boat leaving the dock at 3:00 p.m. Tours last 45 minutes. Tickets will be on sale in the ship store, the cost is \$10/person. Children 12 and under are \$5.00 each. Cash only, please. Thank you to our volunteer captains – Mike Baker, Steve Kroll, and Buddy Moorman – for donating their time, boat and gas.

## **Plan Your Next Group Event**





We have lots of incentives to offer and plenty of space to spread out. We have 22 rooms, and 1 riverfront cottage. Six of the suites feature full kitchens. All of the suites have a coffee maker, refrigerator and microwave. WIFI available in all rooms and Dockside.

The large pool and lounge area offers plenty of personal space for enjoying the scenic Steinhatchee River.

We are perfect for corporate outings, team building, wedding groups, and family reunions. The Steinhatchee Community Center is 3 doors away and holds 100 guests easily. We have several catering options available.

## **Autism Anglers**



#### **Meet the Founder!**

Don Morse will be at the Marina during the **Fiddler Crab Festival** on Saturday to tell you in person about Autism Anglers.

We are hearing a rumor that he has an interactive activity with the kids up his sleeve too! Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about one of our favorite charities, first hand!

# Fishing Package!

### Fishing & Hotel Package

# Fishing and Hotel Package for Two \$550 plus tax

Purchase a deeply discounted two night stay and fishing adventure for two guests with a US Coast Guard licensed Captain from the Steinhatchee flats in the Gulf of Mexico.

Package includes two nights of hotel



accommodations, 4-5 hour excursion, all fishing equipment and bait, local knowledgeable Captain and boat. Have fun fishing for Monster Trout and Redfish. Valid December, January and February (excluding Fiddler Crab Festival).

## We Have a Winner!

Bobby Crosby "Uncle Bobby " won a t-shirt of his choice for replying to the newsletter with his opinion.

Congratulations!

**Subscribe to our Newsletter** 



# A love note to my hubby...

Rob you're better than I ever dreamed; God is good. 21 Years later saving the best for last - the Hatch!

I love you, Barb



## **Our Charter Captains are the Best!**

#### **Directory of Charter Captains**

Reserve a charter for an unforgettable lifetime experience.

#### **Captain Mike Baker Charters**

Offering a complete guide service for fishing, Captain *Mike Baker*, USCG certified. A full-service charter business for scalloping, trout fishing, red fishing, or whatever you desire. Call (352) 433-6301 or email captmikebakerfishing@gmail.com.

#### **Her Tanning Bed Charters**

If you are interested in Scalloping or Fishing inshore, Captain **Don Campbell** can help you have the adventure you are looking for. Call 352-303-6498.

#### **Salt Addiction Charters**

A USCG Licensed Captain and Flats Guide, Captain *Mike Farmer* is available for inshore fishing and scalloping charters. Call 352-210-1551.

#### Fishing With Captain Jim

A USCG licensed Florida flats guide, Captain *Jim Henley* is available for inshore fishing and scalloping charters. He is the only Captain with a 100-ton Master, and holds a tow license. Call 423-330-0101.

#### TJ's Charters

Fish the Flats with USCG licensed Captain *Tony Jackson*. Call 386-688-0874.

### **Captain J's Charters**

USCG licensed, Captain *Rick Julius* is waiting to take you on the adventure of a lifetime, fishing the flats out of Steinhatchee, Florida. Call (352) 745-0968.

#### **Steinhatchee Flats Fishing**

USCG licensed, Captain *Dicky King* offers inshore fishing and scalloping charters out of Steinhatchee, Florida for families, novices, and expert anglers. Call (850) 371-9164.

#### Pepperfish Key Charters

USCG licensed Captain *Steve Kroll* is your host and guide for a great day of near shore and flats fishing on the beautiful Big Bend region. Call 352-222-4085.

#### YKnotFish.Com

Fishing charters targeting redfish, trout and scallops in season. Over 40 years' experience fishing the Gulf. Multiple captains available. USCG licensed, Captain *Tony Mathis*. Call 904-545-0433 or email Tony@yknotfish.com.

#### My Fishing Buddy Charters

USCG licensed, Captain **Buddy Moorman** offers inshore fishing and scalloping charters out of Steinhatchee, Florida . Call (352) 812-3318.

#### **Big Bend Charters**

For your inshore and offshore fishing needs and scalloping, call USCG licensed and insured, Captain *Brian Smith*, (877) 852-3474. Capt Brian has been offshore fishing the Gulf for over 25 years, 17 years out of Steinhatchee. Offshore fishing includes grouper, amberjack, snapper, kingfish, seabass and cobia. Offering trips from 6-12 hours!

### **Weather & Marine Forecast Center**



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CONNECTED



