

Key Largo Conch House
100211 Overseas Highway ♦ Key Largo

Featured on the Food Network

We're Open! 8am - 10 Daily
Breakfast ♦ Lunch ♦ Dinner

Local Seafood
Vegetarian Entrées

Award-Winning
Lobster Bisque
—AND—
Conch Fritters

Cook Your Catch
Pet Friendly • Kids' Menu

Award-Winning Food & Coffee

Wine ♦ Beer ♦ Espresso
Homemade Desserts

305-453-4844
www.keylargoconchhouse.com

WE ARE OPEN
FACE MASK REQUIRED
NO-CONTACT DELIVERY
New Hours: Mon-Fri 10-3

Key Largo
Flowers & Gifts

305-451-3702 • 99551 Overseas Highway • KeyLargoFlorist.com

ATTENTION!
If you are experiencing the following symptoms, do not seek medical attention:
Headache
Body ache
Shortness of breath
Fever
Whiny
Difficulty sleeping
Easily frustrated
Feeling dizzy

This is NOT the Corona virus. These effects are caused by FISHING WITHDRAWAL.

Conch Captain Spotlight on
Captain Chan of Gulfstream Party Boat Fishing Charters
Fins to the Left, Fins to the Right...

by Marilee Free



For over 20 years, Captain Chan (Chandler Warner) has been the owner, operator and charter boat captain aboard the Gulfstream Party Fishing Boat. Living the dream as a successful fishing guide began when he moved to the Keys in 1985. He credits his many mentors, including Captain Slate. And Chan gives thanks to his crew mates, who work hard together to make fond fishing memories on the high seas.

Most of Capt. Chan's patrons are also his friends. They plan their time in the Keys around fishing on the Gulfstream and have chartered with him for decades.

Captain Chan is a member of the Upper Keys Fishing Guides Association. He routinely passes his Coast Guard inspections, keeps his captain's license current and his boat running smoothly.

When I asked him what he would say to youngsters who aspire to be boat captains, he replied, "Be ready for some hard work!" He also mentioned that millennials have social media for a marketing tool. In his early days, advertising was all by word of mouth, family and friends recommending more friends and family. He built his reputation as an experienced fishing 'Local Conch,' off the beaten path,

he is a weatherman, (he told me it was going to rain hard in about 3 minutes and it sure did!), a concierge, a marine mechanic, a mentor to his mates, and a Dad. His son, Jon, is in the Air Force, stationed in Guam. Jon trains canines for the military and has one proud father.

In a normal year, Captain Chan would enjoy spending the summer with his girlfriend Vickie, in Alaska, fishing for salmon and hunting caribou in the 'outside air conditioning' of this great wilderness. He has made many friends traveling there over the years. Once he met a prospector who helped him to pan for gold and showed him his secret fishing spot.

But this was no normal year at all in August 2019, Chan had triple-bypass surgery. He gives great credit and thanks to all the doctors and nurses at University of Miami Cardiac Unit and all the healthcare professionals who got him back on his sea legs. After 6 months of rehab, he started fishing charters again in February 2020. Then the coronavirus shut down happened in March. He handled both situations with positivity and productivity and made the most of his downtime. He didn't even run out of toilet paper!

Currently, he is going above and beyond the CDC regulations, by limiting his trips to 20 people, down from 49. He requires masks, provides hand sanitizer and bleach water to keep everyone safe. The Gulf-

stream Party Boat is a 65' vessel with room for everyone to keep their distance. He even has personalized buffs with a logo and picture of the boat available. Moving forward, he says to move slowly and safely, take one day at a time, realize that everyone has a different struggle, and to simply, be kind.

Hailing from Asheville, NC, Chan joined the Navy after high school and saw much of the world by ship. The first time he fished in the Keys was 1975. He marveled at the beautiful waters and bountiful fish that surrounded this island chain. He drove on the 'Old Road' before the Overseas Highway and the new bridges were constructed. He has watched the fishing industry grow faster than the fish, turtle and conch can regrow and repopulate. He remembers thinking, "the fish have no chance," when fish finder technology came about.

When Chan and Vickie took a drive to Key West in May, he said how surreal it felt to see everything closed and very few cars on the road. Almost like a flashback to 1975!

Ready to catch some fish? Let Key Largo Legend Captain Chan show you around his favorite spots. Visit Gulfstream Party Boat on Facebook and call 305-451-9788 for rates and availability.



With kindness that overflows, he makes more friends on every trip. While I did this interview, his phone never stopped ringing. He is a full-service captain, he answers his calls, fixes his boat motors and knows where to reel in the big fish. He shared pictures of some impressive red snappers caught recently.

The 'Ladies Let's Go Fishing' gals are some of his best clients. He says that those ladies are so knowledgeable, organized and well trained, it makes his day easy sailing.

located at 1313 Ocean Way, on the docks behind the Key Largo Fisheries. He admits that social media has skyrocketed his business, but prefers bookings done over the phone: 305-451-9788.

He did a segment on the 'Reeling in the Keys with Captain George Clark' series about sandball fishing, a method where you take chum, sand and oats and make sticky balls and then bait your hook with them. The fish just love those sticky balls!

As well as being a Captain,