

# PEOPLE TO WATCH

## Capt. Herb Schulz

**C**apt. Herb Schulz doesn't need to tell fish stories. During his 50 years at the helm of charter fishing boats using the Boynton Beach Inlet, he's witnessed real-life dramas that would sink any fish story.

There were those unforgettable times over the years when the late Col. Robert McCormick, then publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*, boarded Schulz's boat wearing white gloves.

"Mr. McCormick was the only person who ever wore white gloves on my boat," Schulz said. "He wore the gloves every time and never took them off. His chauffeur always reeled the fish in for him."

Schulz, who once helped comedian Jonathan Winters catch "a big one," is longer on people stories than on fish stories.

The genial man with the warm smile grew up in Boynton Beach. A fishing addict since he was seven, Schulz skippered his first charter boat in 1939, when he was 16.

Schulz, 66, who served as a Navy boatswain overseas for 3½ years during World War II, has rescued dozens of people at sea during his 50 years as a charter captain.

Some were rescues off the Boynton Inlet were during World II, after German submarines torpedoed U.S. ships.

For years, Schulz has been skippering boats out of Sportsman's Park on East Ocean Avenue in Lantana where he also is dockmaster for the B-Love Fishing Fleet.

The B-Love fleet includes Schulz's special delight, the Southern Comfort III, a 42-foot Bertram.

Bottom fishing has been declining for years, partly because of illegal trapping, Schulz laments. "The fish traps are large enough to swim through."

Schulz doesn't recommend



GREG LOVETT/Staff Photographer

The real-life stories of charterboat skipper Capt. Herb Schulz of Boynton Beach rival even the best fish tales.

charter sport fishing business as a career.

"The business has declined terribly in recent years. It's pathetic."

But, Schulz has no intention of packing in his rods and reels.

"I'll stay at it as long as I'm healthy and feel good. After all, being a charter boat captain has kind of grown on me . . ."

**Personal:** Married with four children.

**Birthplace:** Michigan.

**Car:** 1978 Chevrolet El Camino.

**The best thing about Boynton Beach:** The beaches and good fishing.

**The worst thing about Boynton Beach:** The population growth.

**My greatest asset:** The ability to get along with people.

**My biggest weakness:** Where my kids are concerned, I'm soft-hearted. The kids can get anything from their dad.

**My biggest accomplishment:** My successful career as a charter boat captain.

**My personal hero:** I don't have one.

**The best part about being a charter boat captain:** Being my own boss.

**The worst part about being a charter boat captain:** The hours. To be successful, I must work seven days a week.

**Favorite midnight snack:** I rarely snack at night.

**Last good book I read:** I don't read books.

**Last good movie I saw:** *Rambo III*.

**My most embarrassing moment:** I can't recall any one in particular.

**If I couldn't be a charter boat captain, I'd be:** Owner of a tackle store.

**My personal philosophy:** Avoid drugs, including tobacco.

**Any other words of wisdom:** Live one day at a time.

— JOE SULLIVAN