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**The Marine Industries Association of South Florida presents Inaugural Year- Round Environmental Stewardship Award at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Waterway Cleanup Press Conference.**

**FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (March 5, 2010)** - Arnaldo “Arnie” Correia was presented with the Inaugural Year-Round Environmental Stewardship Award at the Marine Industries Association of South Florida’s (MIASF) 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Waterway Cleanup Press Conference. This new community award was designed to recognize an individual or group for their efforts to keep our environment and waterways clean year-round.

Arnaldo, or “Arnie” as he prefers to be called, is a Waterway Cleanup Committee member and the coordinator of the Derecktor site in Dania. He is very involved with the local Sea Scouts and works with them throughout the year to clean up the waterways and ensure that these young kids learn the importance of environmental responsibility.

Arnie and his wife Sandi moved to Broward County in April of 1980 while he was still serving active duty with the US Navy. He is now a retired Chief Petty Officer and is an active member of the South Florida Chiefs Association. Correia is employed at Beard Marine and knows a lot of people on the waterway, and industries connected to the waterways. He is always talking to these individuals about both volunteerism and the importance of maintaining Florida waterways, both of which he considers year-round, life long efforts; not just one weekend a year.

On weekends, Correia goes kayaking in the waterways and always makes sure to bring two garbage bags with him. He always brings the full garbage bags back to the dock and disposes of them properly. He has collected money through raffles and has donated the proceeds to the Sea Turtle Hospital in the Florida Keys. He also takes pictures of fishing lines and lures, beer and soda rings and plastic

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grocery bags in the canals and mangroves and turns them into posters to show how dangerous these items are to the marine life in Florida's waterways. Correia uses these posters to lecture young children and adolescents at groups and gatherings to make them aware of the issues facing our waterways.

Above all else, Arnie is a true American. He has donated supplies and his time to make proper display holders for the flags at the annual Memorial Day ceremony in Hollywood. He is also the only person on his street to fly the American flag everyday, not just on holidays, because he says this country that he has adopted as his own has done so much for him that he wants to do all he can for it!

For more information about the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Waterway Cleanup presented by the Florida Inland Navigation District, the Inaugural Year-Round Environmental Stewardship Award, or Arnaldo "Arnie" Correia, contact Melanie Daily, MIASF's Public Relations and Events Coordinator at (954) 524-2733 or at [Melanie@miasf.org](mailto:Melanie@miasf.org).

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