



ACFA

Club Officers and Chairpersons for 2007

President:	Doug Smith	604-4758	Vice
Pres:	D.W. Garrettson	599-8701	Treasurer:
Jep Hill	476-1796		Secretary: Judy
Smith	379-7195		
Statistics:	Vince Hawkins	452-3899	
Membership:	Erik Nelson	331-3804	
Weighmaster:	Pat Hughes	422-6992	
Donations:	Jimmy Quint	377-4879	
Logo Items:	Alvin Bell	455-5739	
Awards:	Bryan Hack	510-4196	
Food:	Randy Wiscaver	662-3628	
Newsletter:	David Thornton	458-2775	
Webmaster:	Chris Massey	422-2518	
Advisor:	Mike Thompson		

August 2007 (Newsletter No.7)

Well, summer is 'roasting' right along and it's almost time for our August meeting to be held Thursday August 2 at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road (the usual place). The meeting starts at 7pm so be there early to get a good parking spot.

Our guest speaker for the evening had not been determined at press time, but Donnie Garretson is trying to get a certain "well known local inshore guide" to come in and talk about current fishing techniques. I can tell you our own Lee Minto (aka Deltaman) will do the 'Quick hits' this month sharing his lifetime of love of the outdoors, fishing prowess and quick wit all in 10 minutes or less. That alone should be worth the price of admission ;-)

President's Message:

It's hard to believe we only have 3 more tournaments left for the year!!! I hope everyone will come out and fish the last few tournaments or at least make it to the weigh in and get on the good grub and fellowship. Doug

July Tournament Results...

This year's July 'Rodeo Warm-up' Tournament held Saturday July 7th turned out to be a fine day (at least from my perspective ;-). Despite the NEAP tide, early am storms in the south end of the bay and increasing southwest winds during the day some outstanding fish were weighed in though white trout were hard to come for some reason.

<u>5 Speck Creel (18 teams)</u>	<u>Redfish (15 entered)</u>	<u>Flounder (19 entered)</u>
Pat Garmeson/David Thornton - 16.15#	Judy Smith (L) 6.65#	Carson Tierce (J)(N) 3.30#
Bill Midgette/Mutt Burke - 15.70#	John Burke 6.25#	Dane Tomberlin 3.00#*
Chris Conken - 14.80#	Butch Pierce (N)(?) 6.15#	Doug Tierce (N) 3.00#
<u>White Trout (4 entered)</u>	<u>Blackfish (1 entered)</u>	<u>White Trout Juniors (NONE entered)</u>
Randy Wiscaver 1.25#	Rick Tourne 7.15#	
Belinda Smith (L) 1.20#		
Mike Foster 0.85#		

(N) New member 2006 (L) Lady angler (J) junior angler (*) Weighed in first (?) Problem w/Membership verification

With the inclement weather, the upper part of the bay seemed to a more favorable place to be.

My partner, Patric Garmeson (aka Ugly Stik) and I were fortunate enough to have found an area with some cooperative nice sized specks that turned onto the big live shrimp we had. The last trout we caught (after noon) upgraded our creel just enough to edge out the team of Bill Midgette and Mutt Burke who caught their specks throwing nothing but artificial baits.

A contrast in styles with similar results shows some of the diversity of the fisher folk that make this fishing club so great!

Thank You!

To our all volunteer cooking team headed by Brenda Pate (aka Velvet Tines), Scott Godwin (aka flyonwall9) and Mike Lee (aka cypressshoresdecoys) and their assistants: Shannon, Austin and "Mrs. CSD".

The bar-b-que and smoked chickens were just fantastic (and ohhhh, that sauce ;-) NObody went away hungry for sure!

A follow up: please keep Scott in your thoughts and prayers as he was admitted to the hospital this past week.

The Redfish Roundup Raffle...

Donald Wayne "Daktari" Garrettson won the raffle held during the July meeting for a full day inshore (marsh) redfish sight fishing charter trip for two anglers with Captain Paul "Moondoggie" Smith. Donnie said he would 'kidnap' his brother David to get him out on the marsh to chase those 'pond punkins' ;-) Thanks to Capt Paul Smith for donating the trip and the raffle raised \$175 for the club.

July Junk Sale Recap:

The July Junk Sale generated sales somewhere between \$350 and \$400. Be sure and give 10% of the proceeds back to the club. A check in the proper amount can be made out to the ACFA and given to our Treasurer Jep Hill or President Doug Smith at the meeting.

ACFA August 'Mobile Bay Grand Slam' Tournament and Membership Shrimp Boil...

will be held on Saturday August 4th with the weigh-in from 3-5pm at (the usual place) the American Legion Post 250 on Dauphin Island Parkway just two drives south of the Greer's Foodtiger store.

The ACFA recognizes speckled trout, redfish, and flounder as the three species comprising a Grand Slam for Mobile Bay and its connecting waterways. Catching fish of all three species in a single day is considered a fine accomplishment among inshore fishers and to do it during a tournament is even finer. So to 'sweeten the pot' as it were the ACFA is awarding plaques and points for 5 places (1st through 5th) for these three species. In addition any angler who completes the Grand Slam **and places in each** of these three categories (1st -5th) will be awarded 5 additional (bonus) tournament points!

To the best of our knowledge this has only been accomplished three times since 1997, the last time was in 2004 by Bill Midgette. And new this year, the angler who weighs in the heaviest aggregate weight of the three Grand Slam species in the tournament will receive a special plaque of recognition for the feat, even if none of the fish place in their respective categories.

White trout and blackfish will be the other two species eligible for plaques and points (places 1st through 3rd) and the Junior anglers will have their own category in croaker where plaques will be awarded for places 1 through 5 (NO points for croakers though). But the total of 27 plaques makes this the biggest award cache in ACFA history! Good luck, fish hard and get your share of the action.

Also in appreciation of ALL our members, the ACFA is planning a Shrimp Boil 'feed' at the weigh-in site. All paid members, their spouses and children are invited to attend and partake in the boiled shrimp and other 'fixins'. Guests (as always) are welcome, but PLEASE if they are not eligible for ACFA benefits, please make a \$5 per person donation to help the club cover the cost.

Our food chairman Randy 'Bigun' Wiscaver could use some extra hands on the cooking crew, so consider volunteering your time and talents. You can approach Randy at the meeting (before, during or after) or call him at 662-3628, or just pitch in at the weigh in.

So when you bring your fish to the weigh in, bring your 'feed bag' too (appetite) and the family for an afternoon of good eats and good company compliments of YOUR fishing club, the ACFA!

Congratulations!

To all current and former ACFA members who have successfully competed in other tournaments, especially those on the professional level. IF someone is overlooked please accept my apologies and appeal that you let me know to give credit where it is due. So we'd all like to extend to you a hearty "WELL DONE!"

Hundreds of kids participated in **the Roy Martin Young Anglers Tournament** Saturday July 14th, and it was pointed out that several among the ones who finished at the top of the pack are children of ACFA members. Apparently, the specks were not cooperating for Cody Pierce (Butch's son) nor were the white trout, but he did snag first place and a potential Alabama State Record with his hardhead catfish that weighed 3.01#. And Alison Pierce (Mike's daughter) caught the third place hardhead catfish of 2.36#. And Keith McGraw's son Garrison brought in the first place ground mullet of 1.91# (bigger than any on the ACFA Big Fish Board so far ;-)

Among the 'honorable mentions' of the many parents and caring adults who took kids fishing was George Koulianos who took a group of his son Theo's friends out on the charter boat Mar-T. In addition to them catching a fine box of fish, young Evangelos Savaides of Greece on his first fishing trip caught the second place triggerfish of 5.00#. They said he was "all smile."

This past weekend was the granddaddy of them all **the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo**. There's no telling how many ACFA members fished in the tournament, and fished HARD. And more than a few members' names came and went on the leader board during the course of the weekend in what Vince "Hawk" Hawkins called "our 15 minutes of fame." But when it was all done two ACFA members' names remained: Vicki Foster 3rd place Black Drum 42.08# and Rick Tourne 3rd place Blackfish 20.50#. Way to go!!

Also on Saturday (July 21st) at least 7 ACFA member teams participated in **the IFA Redfish Tour in Grand Isle, Louisiana**.

The event had a field of at least 91 boats and two of the ACFA teams were in the top 10 finishers. Congratulations to Scott Ritter and Bobby Abruscato who placed 3rd with 16.25# and Bernie White who (+ his partner) placed 7th with 15.58#

Logo Items

Alvin Bell says he still has plenty of ACFA logo items to sell, and will have them at the August meeting.

Also he has **the latest Top Spot maps** for \$10 donated by Barry Keith of Keith Map Service @ 60 Schillinger Road 633-5588

We ask that you please bring the correct change, or pay by check to facilitate the sales.

Last Chance Raffle...

Donnie Garretson graciously donated a brand new 7 foot Medium Heavy action Kifpler Silver Series rod and Abu Garcia Record bait casting reel to be given away during the August meeting. See Erik "TIC" Nelson at the check-in table for tickets: \$5 each

The Mini-Seminars are back!

Starting at 6pm prior to the August meeting, the mini-seminar series resumes featuring longtime ACFA member John Fassbender. John will share his tripletail fishing techniques and answer questions about how he has put up the largest blackfish in the club's year-long Big Fish Contest the last four years in a row. This is your chance to learn more about a really neat fish from one of our best! Also, Mike Patrick will present a program on "Tag & Release for Tomorrow". He has an exciting story to tell, so don't miss out. Be there by 6pm to get a good seat! Send comments or suggestions about future seminars to Joe Sirmon (joesirmon@bellsouth.net).

A Storm Statement:

was added to our by-laws after 2005's busy hurricane season interrupted our schedule.

Let's hope bringing this up doesn't 'hex' us, but it seemed timely to republish it with the heart of the season upcoming.

"IF a named tropical storm or hurricane is predicted to strike the Gulf Coast within approximately 140 miles east or west of Mobile (including the area between New Orleans, LA and Panama City, FL) on or close to a scheduled ACFA Saturday tournament, that tourney will automatically be postponed until the following Saturday (unless that Saturday falls on the weekend of the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo in which case it will be postponed 2 weeks later)."

Additional note: IF a hurricane is immediately threatening our area or a curfew is in effect in the City of Mobile (following a hurricane landfall) at the time of our scheduled monthly meeting, that meeting will be cancelled (and not rescheduled). All business pertinent to that meeting (plaque presentations, etc.) will be done at the next scheduled meeting the following month.

Hopefully, we won't have to implement this but we wanted everyone to be aware of our procedures in the event of a hurricane.

You can rest assured there will be a discussion about it on our website IF conditions warrant or you can contact one of our club chairpersons listed in the masthead at the top of this newsletter.

Our Apologies...

IF you've missed your newsletter, or it was delayed in getting to you!

Our goal is to have your newsletter DELIVERED at least one week prior to the tournament date.

IF you experience any problems with the timely delivery of the newsletter please contact our secretary Judy Smith.

Speaking of newsletters...

ALL of our 2006 and 2007 newsletters can be found on the ACFA website @ <http://acfafishing.com/news.htm>

Kudos to Chris Massey, our webmaster for posting those for us. **Check Us Out Online @ <http://acfafishing.com/>**

This is YOUR newsletter. Please address comments, suggestions or corrections to the Newsletter Editor: David Thornton

1711 Jasper Road Mobile, AL 36618 (458-2775) or email pierpounder2001@hotmail.com

It's about "Tarpoonapalooza" time...

More than a few members on the ACFA website have expressed interest in getting together again this summer for a day of fun and tarpon fishing August 12th. Last year's get together was marked by some 'spiffy' winds, giant gafftop catfish, a few rod bending jack crevelle, and at least one near sinking. Alas no tarpon (nor anyone else thank goodness) were injured or killed in the making of this great fishing story. See Jason Miller "Jason M" or Rick Gaines "Red October" at the meeting for details pertaining to this "unofficial" event or logon to our website in the 'Fishing General' forum @ <http://acfafishing.com/phpBB/viewtopic.php?t=9459>

Coming Down the Stretch...

so be sure and continue to sign in to register for our Grand Attendance Prize Package (ice chest full of "goodies" worth in excess of \$200) to be given away at our December awards banquet to a lucky member who has attended at least 8 of the 10 meetings.

We would appreciate any appropriate items to add to the prize package or as door prizes for the meetings, or (IF you wish) make a cash donation that we can buy items with. See Erik Nelson 'TIC' at the check in table.

REMINDERS-

- **Please wear a nametag at the meeting to facilitate getting to know one another**
- **Be sure and sign in (for the Attendance Prize given away later this year)**
- **Donations are needed for the Attendance Prize (see Eric Nelson at the sign in table)**
- **Donations are also needed for the Door Prizes (see Jimmy Quint or call 377-5739)**
- **NO SMOKING inside the meeting hall please**
- **NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL at the meeting hall premises (Post 88)**
- **Please be respectful to our speakers and save questions to the end of their presentation**
- **A separate Junior Angler category for croaker in the August Tournament (plaques will be awarded for 5 places)**
- **Kon Rico seasoning is available in several varieties at Jimmy Lowes Fruit stand (Hwy 90 in Theodore)**

Your Big Fish entry must be made within 30 days of the catch and please be sure and make a photocopy of your Big Fish Card before entrusting it to the mail service. Better safe than sorry!

Mail to: Vince Hawkins 112 Baratara Drive Chickasaw, AL 36611 (452-3899)

Big Fish Contest Standings as of July 20, 2007

	Blackfish	WT		Flounder	WT		Ground Mullet	WT		Redfish	WT
1	Kyle Mitternight	22.00	1	Dane Tomberlin	4.11	1	Daniel Ford	1.47	1	Vince Hawkins	7.40
2	Kyle Mitternight	18.69	2	Gerald Markow	3.75	2	Daniel Ford	1.45	2	Judy Smith (L)	6.65
3	Rick Tourne	7.15	3	Nick Redding	3.63	3	David Hare	1.35	3	Mutt Burke	6.50
4			4	Carson Tierce (N)(J)	3.30	4	Austin Lee (J)	1.21	4	John Burke	6.25
5			5	Heath Harwell (J)	3.19	5	David Hare	1.20	5	Butch Pierce (N)(?)	6.15
	Sheepshead	WT		Spanish Mackerel	WT		Speckled Trout	WT		White Trout	WT
1	Henry Nall	12.20	1	Terry Quint	3.94	1	Chris Massey	7.40	1	Randy Wiscaver	1.25
2	Jason Miller	10.90	2	Bekki Ludlam (L)	3.00	2	Kelly Fulmer	6.83	2	Belinda Smith (L)	1.20
3	Chris Massey	10.65	3	Don Ludlam	2.90	3	Bill Midgette	6.20	3	John Burke	1.10*
4	Ted Kiefer	10.20	4	Shane Ford	2.75	4	Bill Patterson	6.10	4	Sam Clark IV (N)(J)	1.10
5	Leslie Smith	10.00	5	Tim Harwell	2.35	5	Kelly Fulmer	5.93	5		

* First to weigh in (N) New Member (J) Junior Angler (L) Lady Angler (?) Problem w/Membership verification

ACFA Tournament Point Standings as of July 7, 2007

Pos.	Angler Name	Pts.
1	Henry Nall	21
2	Chris Massey	20
3	Bill Midgette	19
4	Mutt Burke	17
5	Patric Garmeson	16
6	David Thornton	15
6	Mike Pierce (N)	15
7	John Burke	14
7	Rick Tourne	14
7	Steve O'Dell (N)	14
8	Billy Pierce (N)	13
9	Bubba Williams	12
9	Mike Foster	12
10	Richard Suk (N)	11
11	Butch Pierce (N)(?)	10
11	Erik Nelson	10
11	Randy Wiscaver	10
12	David Hare	9
12	Belinda Smith (L)	9
12	Doug Smith	9
12	Jason Miller	9
12	Theo Koulianos (J)	9

8 points: Brittney Howle (J), Carson Tierce (N)(J), Dane Tomberlin, Del Delchamps, Eugene Pierce, Judy Smith (L), Vince Hawkins

7 points: Phillip Guy, Tom Duncan

6 points: Larry Watkins, Ted Kiefer

5 points: Barry Keith, Don Ludlam, Trey Pitt, Vickie Foster (L)

4 points: Bo Winter, Chris Conken, Doug Tierce (N), Kelly Fulmer

Kim Guy (L), Mike Tew, Nick Redding (N), Sam Clark III (N), Tim Harwell

3 points: Alvin Bell, Austin Lee (J), Bekki Ludlam (L), Ben Hurn,

Brenda Pate (L), Cameron Calhoun (J), Donnie Howell, George Koulianos,

Les Smith, Shane Ford, Tim Pierce (N)

2 points: Bill Patterson, Billy Hurd, Billy Pierce Jr (N)(J), Bobby McElroy,

Brandie May (N)(L), Daniel Ford, Frank Parker III (J), Gerald Markow, Jad Pope,

Jeff May (N), Joe Sirmon, John Fassbender, Lee Minto, Marc Kruse, Mike Lee,

Margaret Miller (L), Pete Burns, Scott Godwin, Stephen Laurendine (N), Tommy Pond

1 point: Adam Barker (N), Allison Pierce (N)(J), Austin Key (N), Barney White,

Betty Harwell (L), Bill Lawler (N), Brandon Parker, Bruce Dyess (N)(J) (re:Dana?),

Bruce Howle Jr (J), Byron Webb (N), Chase Laurendine (N)(J), David Garrettson,

David McNew, David Wright (N), Dewayne Johnson, Dewayne Overstreet,

Donna Keifer (L), Donnie Fassbender, Evan Fassbender, Frank Mitternight,

Frank Parker (?), Frank Parker Jr, Gary Tingle, Heath Harwell (J), Jep Hill,

Jerald Bolen, Jim Foster, John Parker (J), Jon Barry (N), Kirk Hoven (N),

Mike Thompson, Norman Stockman (N), Pat Hughes, Pete Keith (N),

Russell Schmitz (N), Sam Clark IV (N)(J), Savannah Calhoun (J), Sharon Markow (L),

Ted Lawson, Todd Golomb, Trent Dowell (N), Wayne Garrettson,

Wayne Tubb (Ira?), Will Parker (J), Zack Dyess (N)(J) (re:Dana?)