



# ACFA

Club Officers For 2002  
 Pres. David Hare 343-5875  
 Vice Pres. Charlie Dowdle 661-7770  
 Stats. Jennifer Mitternight 634-9716  
 Secretary Angie Howle 479-2911  
 Treasurer Earl Hopper 665-7057  
 New Membership Becki Ludlam 649-8757  
 Board Adviser Mike Thompson

## December Newsletter

The December meeting of ACFA will be held on Thursday Dec. 5th at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road. This meeting will be our 2002 ACFA awards night and Christmas party and we won't get to see many of you again until our first meeting next year, which will be in February (no meeting in Jan.). So-----be there or be square!

### Message from the President

It's been a great year. Not that I have done anything that great, but you were blessed with a fantastic board, and a bunch of people that pitched in and helped out. I know it will continue into next year. I won't try to thank anyone in particular for fear of leaving someone out.

When I think back to the highlights of this past year, the coolest has to be the dismantling, trainwrecking, slam dunk victory in the speckled trout challenge. We may have lost our adversaries SWS as a result. Not to worry, I hear there is a new club on the eastern shore called the Eastern Shore Inshore something or other. Nothing like fresh meat!

Other highlights include the great fish fries, the new weigh in site, the great speakers, and fishing with and against all of you folks. I feel like I have become a much better fisherman by being around some of the best speckled trout fishermen anywhere.

Thanks for letting us in on a few of your secrets.

I am excited about next year, I know the club is in good hands with Don and the new board. I do hope that if you are asked to help out that you roll up your sleeves and jump in.

We hope to see all of you at the Christmas party on December 5th. Charlie D is cooking up some good grub, and it will be a great time.

See you soon  
 Dave

### Club Awards and Christmas Party to Highlight Dec. Meeting

A total of 23 awards of recognition will be passed out at the meeting on Thursday night--the largest number of trophies and plaques that ACFA has ever bestowed at the end of a club year. Food will be provided by the club on this very special occasion and Charlie Dowdle will have a menu consisting of smoked ham, baked beans, coleslaw, and bread. A limited number of soft drinks will be available and, of course, the Post 88 bar will be open for optional liquid refreshments. We ask that you bring a sweet item (from candy to dessert) of your choosing to compliment the meal. This is definitely a "family affair" and all members, their spouses, and children are invited to attend. Any guest, other than family, will be \$5 each at the door.

Now, will you give us just 2 or 3 min. of your time? In order to ensure plenty of food for all attending would you please call Charlie Dowdle @ 661-7770, by Wednesday, and leave your name and the number who will attend including yourself. Thanks! ---or you may fill out and send the tab at the bottom of this page on Monday---

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Send to: -----ACFA Dec. Party-----  
 Charlie Dowdle  
 5354 Dogwood CT. E. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobile, Al 36693 No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_

### 2003 Big Fish Contest Now Underway

Our Big Fish Contest for 2003 has begun. Any fish caught by a member in good standing starting Nov 15, 2002 may be entered by mailing your big fish card to Jennifer Mitternacht--9430 Yorktown Way--Mobile, AL 36693.

### Attendance Prize To Be Awarded

On Thursday night our ACFA 2002 attendance prize will be awarded to one of our members who has qualified for this drawing. (Qualification was sign-in at any 8 of our first 10 meetings.) As you know Mutt Burke has manned the sign-in sheet during the club year, and he informs that well over 30 members are in the running to win this prize, which now includes a brand new Ambassador bait casting reel thanks to Mutt's generosity!

### New ACFA Leadership

All 10 of our leadership positions for the 2003 club year were filled at our Nov. meeting when the membership voted unanimously to accept the slate presented. This new team will take over the reigns of ACFA at the close of our Thurs. meeting. We congratulate each of you and wish you the best in the coming year. Thank you for caring enough about the future of ACFA to accept the challenge to serve in 2003. And in that vein we want to salute David Hare and his folks for a very productive year in 2002. We would not be where we are without your dedicated service to the club. Thanks to all of you! It has been a great year!

### 2002 Milestones

Some of the accomplishments of this club year have been:

1. Record number of ACFA members at 119.
2. First summer fish fry (after the June tournament weigh-in).
3. Club tee shirts made available in 2 colors.
4. Second ACFA cap available (with name of club) at a competitive price.
5. Purchase of 2 new smoke reduction units for the club meetings and a "no smoking" area during meetings.
6. A lockable container to safeguard all weigh-in items with new tournament weigh-in sheets and permanent records binder.
7. Purchase of a public address system for the club.
8. First ever member junk sale.
9. Active pursuit of donated door prizes with a record number given away during club year.
10. A boat inspection in conjunction with the March weigh-in to assist members with safety on the water.
11. Expanded newsletter contents, the first ever membership survey published, and the on-time delivery of our monthly newsletter.

### ACFA Strikes Again!

Once again Alabama Coastal members have corralled several winning positions in a local public tourney. Our congratulations to Bill Patterson (2nd place speck) and Bobby McElroy ( 2nd place flounder and 2nd place trout creel) on their showing in the recent American Red Cross spec. and flounder tourney.

### Points To Remember

- A. Our next meeting will be on Thurs. Feb. 6, 2003. Dues will remain \$45 per year (includes wife and all kids under 16 yr.. old), but please don't attempt to pay right now as we must balance and close our ledger for 2002 for the new leadership team.
- B. Our first tournament for 2003 will be in late March.

### New Year's Wishes For 2003

One of ACFA's objectives has been to introduce as many folks as possible to the pleasures of saltwater, inshore fishing and to broaden the fishing knowledge of our membership by presenting speakers who are known for their success on the water. Along this line we want to urge any of our members to share their tried and true techniques with other members of the club. Write a short article for one of our newsletters; share a new way to rig or a good place to catch bait; tell us of a new bait or a technique that you have had success with; inform us of a great website for info; and maybe even volunteer to speak to the club. We are constantly looking for new ideas for ACFA. If you think you have one please tell the president. No member contribution is too small in this club, so don't hold back in 2003!

### And Finally.....

Thanks for being with us this year. We hope you've enjoyed ACFA as much as we've enjoyed knowing each of you. We look forward to your return next year and we hope you'll bring a new member with you. Continue to talk up ACFA! We really have something here which would benefit all fishermen. Look how much we've accomplished in just 6 short years and remember---the sky's the limit! Until next year, may all your lines be tight, and we all hope that you and your family enjoy a wonderful and safe Holiday Season. If we miss you Thurs. nite we'll see you on the water.

P.S.-----Now go call Charlie!

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### Final Big Fish Contest Standings 2002

11/15/2002

	Blackfish	WT	Flounder	WT	Ground Mullet	WT	Redfish	WT
1	Del Delchamps	18.16	Bobby McElroy	5.85	Del Delchamps	1.80	Alvin Bell	4.69
2	Del Delchamps	16.09	Matt Perry	5.25	Bruce Howle, Jr.	1.64	Kyle Mitternacht	3.95
3	David Hare	14.55	Linda Burke	4.20	Bruce Howle, Jr.	1.48	Del Delchamps	3.90
4	David Hare	14.29	Rick Yeend	4.00	Del Delchamps	1.30	Rick Yeend	3.60
5	Bobby McElroy	13.79	Bill Midgette	3.78	Eugene Pierce	1.27	Frank Mitternacht	3.15
	Sheepshead	WT	Speckled Trout	WT	Spanish Mackerel	WT	White Trout	WT
1	Barry Keith	10.45	Bill Patterson	8.12	Kyle Mitternacht	4.58	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2.58
2	Keith Smith	10.25	Bruce Howle, Jr.	7.15	Bruce Howle, Jr.	4.05	Eugene Pierce	2.25
3	Bruce Howle, Sr.	10.12	Bruce Howle, Sr.	6.83	Bobby McElroy	4.03	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2.14
4	Bobby McElroy	9.75	Bill Patterson	6.75			Del Delchamps	2.00
5	Mike Thompson	8.85	Rick Yeend	6.57			Bill Midgette	1.77

### Final Tournament Standings 2002

PLACE	MEMBER	POINTS
1	Del Delchamps	56
1	Kyle Mitternacht	56
2	Bobby McElroy	33
3	Ricky Yeend	30
4	David Hare	29
5	Barry Keith	26
6	Frank Mitternacht	23
7	Matt Perry	18
8	Jeff Dute	17
9	Scott Lewis	16
10	Ocie Wade	13
11	Wayne Ladnier	12
12	Mike Thompson	11
13	Donald Garretson	10
13	Eugene Pierce	10
14	Bruce Howle, Jr.	9
14	Bill Midgette	9
14	Keith Vaughn	9
15	Mutt Burke	8
15	Guy Davis	8
15	Earl Hopper	8
16	Mark Bryant	6
16	Jep Hill	6
16	Connie Minto	6
16	Gary Richardson	6
16	Keith Smith	6
17	Brittany Howle	5
18	Charlie Dowdle	4
18	John Fassbender	4
18	Ted Kerfer	4
18	Butch Pierce	4
18	Cindy Yeend	4
19	Alvin Bell	3
19	Pat Hughes	3
19	Bill Patterson	3
20	Bud Barr	2
20	Angie Howle	2
20	Bruce Howle, Sr.	2
20	Gerald Markow	2
20	Lee Minto	2
21	Anna Davis	1
21	Kelly Fulmer	1
21	Jimmy Holmes	1
21	Donnie Howell	1
21	Dustin Moore	1
21	Howard Perry	1
21	Cliff Straubhn	1