



ACFA

Club Officers and Chairmen for 2004

- Pres. Bruce Howle Sr. 479-2911
- VP David Hare 343-5875
- Treas. Tom Duncan 626-0219
- Sec'y. Angie Howle 479-2911
- Stats. Jennifer Mitternight 634-9716
- Membership Bekki Ludlam 649-8757
- Weighmaster Pat Hughes 443-6686
- Donations Charlie Dowdle 661-7770
- Club Logo Items Bud Barr 602-1982
- Awards Bill Midgette 473-4768

Advisor Mike Thompson

October 2004 Newsletter

Our October meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday Oct. 7th at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road. Including this meeting we have only three remaining in 2004. We hope that you will attend.

In case you weren't one of the eighty or so in attendance in September we thought that we'd quickly recap the speakers for you. Instead of Jeff Dute we had the opportunity to hear representatives from Baywatch (the local watchdog group for Mobile Bay) and the Coastal Conservation Association (advocates for protection of our recreational fish species) explain just what is currently happening regarding the clean-up of our bay and the recent conservation enactments regarding shrimping in the upper areas of the bay. A spirited question and answer session followed their presentations.

But not to worry--Jeff Dute has been rescheduled for this meeting! So if you want to learn more about fishing the fall transition of our most targeted species be in attendance next Thurs. when Capt. Dute tells all.

President's Message

Hey guys and gals it's that time again when we get to hang out and talk about fishing. I was not sure this was going to be possible when (Ivan) started moving toward the coast but thank God we dodged a bullet. I know a lot of us got very cranky without power (but think of it this way) it could have been a lot worse. I hope everyone came out of it with very little damage or none at all. After doing a couple of small jobs of fixing leaks and running around town looking at damage I picked up Sunday's paper and one of the headlines read (waterways south of I-10 closed to recreational boaters until further notice) I could have done without power but closing the waterways is torture.

Well, guys if you don't already know, the Mobile Delta has some of the best fall and winter fishing around the gulf coast and Capt. Jeff Dute will be at the Oct. meeting to tell how, when, and where to fish. I personally have fished these waterways for well over 20 years myself so don't miss out on the secrets of fishing fall and winter specks, because if you miss out Jeff and the rest of us won't mind catching your share of fish.

See you at the meeting,
Bruce Sr. AKA TOP DAWG

September Tournament Results

A beautiful but slightly windy Sat. allowed our members to get out and give'em a try. Fishing from the Causeway to south of Dauphin Island was relatively slow but approximately 30 of our intrepid fisherpersons managed to post the following results:

<u>Speckled Trout</u>	<u>White Trout</u>	<u>Flounder</u>	<u>Spanish Mackerel</u>
Billy Hurd 3.10	*Jad Pope 1.70	Bruce Howle, Jr 3.05	*David Thornton 1.55
*Austin Lee 3.05	Ocie Wade .85	Lee Minto 3.00	-----
*Rick Tourne 2.50	*Steve Parks .75	*Therese Miller 2.95	-----

*All new members in 2004!!

Congratulations

Results from the recent Sertoma Fishing Rodeo show these ACFA members in the winners' column: Sharon Markow with 3rd place Flounder and 1st place Founder jackpot and Trey Pitt with 1st place Blackfish. Way to go!

Our Last 2004 Tourney: The Causeway Classic

Please note the Oct. tournament date is Sat. Oct. 23rd. Not only is this tourney set for later in the month of Oct. but it's also our last fish fry of this year. That's right--we'll have fried fish with trimmings on the back porch of

Liz's Haven, our Classic weigh-in site, directly across from the Battleship on the Mobile Causeway.

The Oct. species will be Speckled Trout, Redfish, White Trout, and Sheepshead. Pat Hughes will run the scales and Charlie Dowdle and crew will be cleaning our catch and "frying 'em up" for all in attendance. Don't miss this one!

Weigh-in will be from 3pm until 5pm and we should have some fried fish by 4. According to ACFA custom all members must launch from and return to a ramp somewhere along the Causeway between the tunnels and Spanish Fort Hill. This is done to assure a level playing field for all our tourney participants. Since Liz has been nice enough to let us use her on-the-water facility we encourage as many of you as possible to launch at her establishment and purchase your fish fry refreshments for the bar inside.

Got Fish??

Thanks to all our Sept. tourney fishermen who donated fish for our Oct. fry. And special thanks to Glen McDonald, Earl Hopper, and Bill Midgette who helped Charlie Dowdle clean 2 boxes of fish on the following Sunday afternoon. This is a good start, but judging from past Causeway Classics we'll need even more fillets to satisfy the crowd of hungry fishermen. To that end we need your help. Charlie requests that any member who can donate some frozen fillets of any edible fish please bring same to this Oct. meeting. Charlie will have an ice chest on hand to accept your donation and all donations of any size will be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, if you will be available to clean fresh fish (if required) or can volunteer for the frying crew please contact Charlie at the meeting or give him a call at 661-7770. Please remember—we always need help to put these events on and we can't continue to do it without volunteer assistance.

Reminders

1. Sign-in at the door, wear a nametag, and be sure to get a ticket for our end-of-the-meeting drawing and gift give-a-ways.
2. Remember that big fish contest cards for our competition, that runs every day of the year, are always available at the door. You're eligible to enter each and every day/time that you fish.
3. Be sure that you have received everything that goes with your ACFA membership. Check with Bekki at the door.

Of Note

- A. Bill Midgette's got some more helpful info and will deliver quick hits at this meeting.
- B. Bud Barr will have the embroidered ACFA fishing shirts that many of you ordered at our last meeting. Please be in attendance so that you can pick yours up on Thursday night.
- C. All other ACFA logo items will not be sold at this meeting, but will be available for the final (last) time this year at our November meeting only. Be sure to see Bud at that time!
- D. We have welcomed almost 60 new members into our ACFA ranks in 2004, and we hope that every one of you has gained from your association with our club.

On Our Horizon

Although we're finally into the fourth and final quarter of 2004 our club year still has mileposts ahead and you should be aware of these. So here goes:

- *Oct. 7- meeting with speaker and nominations for 2005 leadership
- *Oct. 23- Causeway Classic with fish fry at Liz's Haven on the Causeway
- *Nov. 4- Last regular monthly meeting with speaker and club elections
- *Nov. 14- 2004 Big Fish Contest closes at Sunday midnight
- *Nov. 15- 2005 Big Fish Contest begins at 12:01am Monday
- *Dec. 2- Final meeting with all the family invited for dinner, over 20 award presentations, drawing for the big yearlong attendance prize, and introduction of next year's leadership team

Nominations For 2005 Leadership Positions

We are always looking for volunteers to help lead our club into the future. Please direct your attention to the right hand top of page one of this newsletter. The 10 positions listed there (and that of newsletter editor) are all vital to the smooth operation of this organization. With a membership of well over 100 we should be able to find "a few good people". Are you interested in helping your club? If so, please contact our President Bruce Howle or Charlie Dowdle of the nominating committee and make your interest known. As stated at the last meeting nominations will be accepted at this (Oct.) meeting for our elections in November.

ACFA: We Catch Fish! Get The Net!

****Under no circumstances will the Alabama Coastal Fisherman's (ACFA) be responsible for the welfare of any members, guests or equipment while attending meetings or engaging in ACFA tournaments or the challenge.****

2004 Tournament Standings

PLACE	MEMBER	POINTS
1	Kyle Mitternight	42
2	Bill Midgette	35
3	David Hare	28
4	Doug Smith	27
5	Tom Duncan	23
6	Del Delchamps	18
7	Bruce Howle, Jr.	17
8	Earl Hopper	16
8	Billy Hurd	16
8	Rick Tourne	16
9	Bill Patterson	15
10	Ocie Wade	14
11	Sonny Gause	13
12	Bobby McElroy	12
12	Steve Parks	12
13	Mutt Burke	11
13	Frank Dunlevy	11
13	Kelly Fulmer	11
13	Gerald Markow	11
13	Tommy Pond	11
14	Alvin Bell	10
14	Jeff Vadakin	10
15	Jimmy Holmes	9
15	Jad Pope	9
16	Johnny Fassbender	8
16	Jim Glass	8
16	David Thornton	8
16	Bud Turner	8
17	Barry Keith	7
17	Frank Miller	7
17	Frank Mitternight	7
17	John Winter	7
18	Bobby Abruscato	6
18	Mike Herring	6
18	Brittney Howle	6
18	Bruce Howle, Sr.	6
18	Austin Lee	6
18	Lee Minto	6
18	Jennifer Mitternight	6
18	Butch Pierce	6
18	Hal Scheurich	6
19	Belinda Smith	5
20	Donald Garrettson	4
20	Jep Hill, Jr.	4
20	Trisha Lowry	4
20	Therese Miller	4
20	Thomas Murray	4
20	Beverly Pierce	4
20	Trey Pitt	4
20	Jimmy Quint	4
20	Shaun Sullivan	4
21	Mike Coffee	3

21	Charlie Dowdle	3
21	Wayne Garrettson	3
21	Jep Hill, Sr.	3
21	Marc Kruse	3
22	Bud Barr	2
22	Patrick Hughes	2
22	Jim Jernigan, Jr.	2
22	John Markow	2
22	Nick Markow	2
22	Sharon Markow	2
22	George Turner	2
23	Donnie Fassbender	1
23	Sid Fern	1
23	Phillip Guy	1
23	Donnie Howell	1
23	Angie Howle	1
23	Jackson Hughes	1
23	Joseph Hughes	1
23	Marion Jernigan, Sr.	1
23	Wes Knight	1
23	Mike Lee	1
23	Larry Markow	1
23	Jim Mason	1
23	Chris Massey	1
23	Glenn McDonald	1
23	Jimbo Miller	1
23	Dustin Moore	1
23	Matt Perry	1
23	Michael Pierce	1
23	Darrell Raley	1
23	Joe Sirmon	1
23	BH Smith	1
23	Mike Thompson	1
23	Cindy Yeend	1

9/27/2004

Blackfish	WT	Flounder	WT	Ground Mullet	WT	Redfish	WT
1 John Fassbender	23.86	Larry Markow	5.16	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2.32	Bill Midgette	7.15
2 Bruce Howle, Sr.	20.12	Mike Herring	4.94	Bruce Howle, Sr.	1.86	Lee Minto	6.20
3 Del Delchamps	15.84	Gerald Markow	4.70	Bruce Howle, Sr.	1.60	Kyle Mitternight	5.75
4 Rick Yeend	14.32	Frank Mitternight	4.50	Bruce Howle, Jr.	1.58	Mutt Burke	5.70
5 Rick Yeend	14.34	Del Delchamps	4.34	Del Delchamps	1.20	Kelly Fulmer	5.50
Sheepshead							
1 Doug Smith	12.80	Rick Yeend	7.94	Bruce Howle, Jr.	4.00	Bruce Howle, Sr.	1.86
2 Brittney Howle	10.80	Bruce Howle, Sr.	7.58	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2.79	Jad Pope	1.70
3 Kyle Mitternight	10.26	Kyle Mitternight	7.55	Doug Smith	2.36	Rick Tourne	1.60
4 Belinda Smith	10.05	Bruce Howle, Sr.	7.06			Tom Duncan	1.15
5 Barry Keith	10.00	Kelly Fulmer	6.74			Earl Hopper	1.10

Big Fish Contest Standings 2004