

# ACFA



Club Officers and Chairmen for 2003  
 Pres. Don Ludlam 649-8757  
 VP Lee Minto 607-0121  
 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 Joe Sirmon 973-1973  
 Club Logo Items Bud Barr 602-1982  
 Awards Bill Midgette 473-4768  
 Advisor Mike Thompson

## August Newsletter

Our monthly ACFA meeting for August will be held on Thurs. . Aug. 7th at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road.

Our speaker for August will be Mr. Jeff Vadikin, fishing rod builder and crafter of the "fishtix" line of custom fishing rods. Jeff is a resident of the eastern shore, a pilot for Delta Airlines, and will be making his first appearance at an ACFA meeting. Jeff will discuss the art of building a rod to the specifications of the individual fisherman when rod length, taper, action, hardware, and overall appearance all contribute to the satisfaction of the owner.

### President's Message

#### "ODE TO THE RODEO"

TO ALL WHO FISHED THE RODEO  
 THIS IS FOR YOU AND YOURS  
 FOR ALL THE BAIT YOU BOUGHT AND LOST  
 AND FOR ALL YOUR FIVE DOLLAR LURES.

FOR ALL THE HOURS YOU DRUG YOUR NET  
 TO GET THAT SPECIAL BAIT,  
 THERE'S NONE IN THE WATER AND NONE IN THE BAIT SHOPS  
 BUT THERE'S PLENTY IN ANOTHER STATE.

FOR THOSE STINKY RED SHRIMP THAT YOU FORGOT ON THE BOW  
 AND THE CROAKERS WHOSE BELLIES TURNED RED,  
 AND THOSE EMPTY BEER CANS YOU FOUND THE NEXT DAY  
 THAT EXPLAINS THE BAD THROBBING IN YOUR HEAD.

FOR THOSE LONG WALKS TO YOUR TRUCK AND TRAILER  
 AFTER FIGHTING FIVE FOOT SEAS,  
 AND WATCHING THE "BLANKETY BLANK" TIE UP THE RAMPS,  
 WHILE THEY SEARCH FOR NEW SPARK PLUGS OR KEYS,

FOR THOSE LOOKS FROM YOUR WIFE WHEN YOU RETURNED TO SHORE  
 WITH ONLY A CATFISH OR TWO,  
 AND THE EMPTY WALLET AFTER FISHIN' THREE DAYS  
 AS YOUR DREAM OF A RECORD CATCH JUST DIDN'T COME TRUE.

AND LET'S NOT FORGET THE AFTERNOON RAINS, THE BUGS, AND THE  
 SWELTERING HEAT,  
 THE SANDWICHES YOU ATE AND LATER "CHUMMED " UP  
 MADE OF CHEESE AND A MYSTERY MEAT.

WE DARE NOT LEAVE OUT THE MANY TRIPS UP TO BURGERS  
 TO PURCHASE SOME NECESSARY THINGS,

AS YOU PULL OUT A TWENTY TO PAY FOR 10 HOOKS  
OL' BENS EYES TWINKLE WHILE THE CASH REGISTER SINGS.

SO NEXT JULY WHEN IT'S RODEO TIME  
AND LAST YEAR'S MEMORY IS STILL VERY CLEAR;  
GET PLENTY OF ICE, ASPIRIN AND RUM,  
AND AT LEAST 6 CASES OF BEER.

AS YOU SIT ON THE DOCK WITH A DRINK IN YOUR HAND  
AND WHISTFULLY GAZE OUT AT THE SEA,  
YOU'RE GLAD THAT YOU DIDN'T REPEAT PLAN "A"  
YOU'LL JUST PARTY 'CAUSE THAT IS PLAN "B".

Composed by Don & Bekki while under the influence of Plan "B"  
see you at the meeting,  
Don

#### ACFA August Tourney

After a one month vacation we return to our tournament schedule on Sat. Aug. 9th with the "Mobile Bay Grand Slam" when our members attempt to catch and place with each of the "Big 3" species common to Mobile Bay and its environs---Speckled Trout, Redfish, and Flounder. In addition to the "slam fish" the fourth species targeted in Aug. will be Blackfish for our bouy, marker, and pole aficionados. We will award winner's plaques for first (1st) thru fifth (5th) place for the 3 slam species and the usual 1st thru 3rd awards for the best Blackfish. Remember now, 15 awards to be given for the 3 slam species---the only time during the year that we award so many plaques for so few species in order to make it easier for someone to complete the slam and add an additional 5 (bonus) tournament points to their score. A grand total of 18 plaques to be given out during our Sept. meeting means a better chance for each of you to win than at any other time in 2003! We hope that many of you will fish and we wish each of you much success. We'd like nothing better than to see a big bunch of new faces accepting those awards!

Any questions? Bring them up at the Aug. meeting. Weigh-in will be from 3pm to 5pm at the American Legion Post 250 on D.I.P. (on west side of hiway next to the Dollar Store) approx. 1 block south of Bayley's Restaurant and Greer's Food Tiger. See you there!

#### July Junk Sale Report

Our second annual junk sale netted approximately \$65.00 for our club. At 10% of sales that equates to about \$650.00 exchanging hands during the last meeting. Since most of the items offered by our members were priced at around 50% of new value we would guess that original value was about \$1,200.00. Not bad at all. Thanks to all who participated.

#### On-going Club Business

1. Bekki Ludlam, membership chairman, informs us that approx. 30 members are presently in the running for our attendance jackpot which is still growing toward \$100.00 or more. Be sure to sign in at the door as you arrive and, please, wear your nametag.
2. Do you have your new (free) ACFA decals? Have you put them on your boat? We hope to be able to identify you as a member on the water; offer assistance if necessary; and, of course, help you catch fish.
3. Our ACFA fishing caps, fish towels, and a few remaining tee shirts will be available at this meeting. See Bud Barr for your requirements.

#### ACFA Rod Raffle

Our custom rod raffle has begun: 6 1/2' med. power w/fast action tip, 8 fuji eyes, cork handle, and your name on the rod. Retail about \$100.00. Raffle chances are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. See Bekki for your tickets. Winner to be drawn at our Nov. meeting. Support your club, and good luck.

Tourney standings remain as published in July

### **Big Fish Contest Standings 2003**

7/28/2003

	<b>Blackfish</b>	<b>WT</b>	<b>Flounder</b>	<b>WT</b>	<b>Ground mullet</b>	<b>WT</b>	<b>Redfish</b>	<b>WT</b>
1			Bill Midgette	4.20	Mike Thompson	1.91	Bud Barr	7.05
2			Kyle Mitternight	3.72	Bruce Howle, Jr.	1.67	Charlie Dowdle	6.80
3			Eugene Pierce	3.65	Butch Pierce	1.42	Gerald Markow	6.65
4			Patrick Hughes	3.25	Michael Pierce	1.24	Bobby McElroy	6.65
5			Bruce Howle, Sr.	3.00	Doug Smith	1.20	Mike Thompson	6.20
	<b>Sheepshead</b>	<b>WT</b>	<b>Speckled Trout</b>	<b>WT</b>	<b>Spanish Mackerel</b>	<b>WT</b>	<b>White Trout</b>	<b>WT</b>
1	Bruce Howle, Jr	9.88	Michael Pierce	7.00	Becki Ludlum	6.15	Kyle Mitternight	2.33
2	Don Ludlam	9.55	Billy Hurd	6.98	Don Ludlum	5.25	Del Delchamps	2.25
3	Angie Howle	9.25	Bruce Howle Jr.	6.96	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2.58	Bud Barr	1.90
4	David Hare	9.15	Alvin Bell	6.95			Eugene Pierce	1.93
5	Brooke Jemison	8.50	Bruce Howle Jr.	6.58			Eugene Pierce	1.82