



ACFA

Club Officers and Chairmen for 2005

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	422-6992
Donations Charlie Dowdle	661-7770
Logo Items Donald Garrettson	479-3498
Awards Bill Midgette	473-4768
Advisor Mike Thompson	

May 2005 Newsletter

Next meeting: Thursday May 5th, at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road. Be on time to insure a good seat.

Speakers for the evening: A) Capt. Joey Abruscato, well known successful inshore fishing guide and member of the "A Team Fishing Adventures" guide service. Joey will give us some tips on finding specks in May which could help us as we try to win the "Challenge" next weekend. B) Jim Duffy, Reef Coordinator with Alabama Marine Resources will update on all the inshore reefs and how they fared thru Ivan last Sept.

Display: Fish 'N Fever from Saraland will be at our meeting.

President's Message

Hey guys I'm sorry I missed you at the last meeting but, we had a full night of speakers for you to enjoy and hope you got your money's worth. It's only May and we have more for you to enjoy. I don't know where else you can get this much information on fishing, fishing tourneys, and making good friends for such a small amount of money (it's priceless).

On the fishing front the saltwater is moving back up the bay and the fish are starting to bite. But, because of a (gag order) I can not mention it because this might fall in the hand's of the challenger's. But, the trout bite is on if you know where to look. New members that is what this club is all about, to show or tell the one's that are wanting to learn how to catch fish so don't be afraid to ask.

See you at the meeting,

Bruce Sr. AKA TOP DAWG

P.S. Congratulations to Steve and Jackie Parks on the birth of their 1st baby Madelyn Leighann. (7lb6oz 21in)

April Tournament Results

Great day for fishing, good turnout of fisherpersons, and over 20 ACFA boats inspected by the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Delicious hotdogs thanks to Doug Smith. Another thank-you to Charlie Dowdle who filled in as weigh master. Results follow:

<u>Speckled Trout</u>		<u>Sheepshead</u>	
Jimbo Miller*	3.95	Doug Smith	10.20
Jep Hill, Sr.	3.95	Randy Wiscaver	8.65
Tom Duncan	3.55	Dewayne Overstreet	8.40
<u>Flounder</u>		<u>Ground Mullet</u>	
Wayne Tubbs	2.20	Bill Brady	.90
Kelli Hurn	1.90	Chris Massey	.85
Rick Tourne	1.75	Chris Calloway	.60

*First to weigh-in.

ACFA Taking The Troops Fishing (Up-Date)

Tentative date for this event is June 4th. Approx. 10 veterans will be treated to a fishing trip aboard ACFA boats and a fish fry for those fishermen and their families is planned at Post 250 on D.I.P. (our usual weigh-in site) afterward. Members wishing to volunteer their boats should contact Mike Thompson @ 633-3333. Additional volunteers are needed for first-mates, the cleaning/cooking crew, and for fundraising and paperwork. Frozen fish fillets around Fri. June 3rd would also be desirable. Can you please help? If so, tell Mike. More info on Thurs. nite.

May Tournament--The Speckled Trout Challenge

Background: As the "new kid on the block" ACFA challenged the older club in town (The Saltwater

Sportsman's Ass'n) to a speckled trout tournament to be held in May of each club year. After six successful years, during which ACFA prevailed most of the time, the Saltwater Sportsmen acknowledged ACFA as the winner of the challenge trophy and opted out of the friendly competition in 2004. At that time another, newer fishing club from Baldwin County asked if they could compete against ACFA and continue the contest. ACFA agreed and that new club known as the Weeks Bay Fishing Club began our series of the Challenge last year (2004). ACFA won last year's initial tourney and presently has possession of the new rotating trophy.

Scoring: The top 10 specks entered by either club are awarded placement points from 10 points for the largest down to 1 point for the 10th largest fish. (1E-4th largest speck is worth 7 points while the 8th largest is worth 3 points.) The available 55 points will then be totaled up by club catching these positions and the 2005 champ will be decided, and the trophy will reside with that club for a year.

Weigh-in: Weigh-in for the challenge, complete with fried fish, will be held on the back porch of Liz's Haven (across from the Battleship) on the Causeway from 3 to 5pm on Sat. May 7th. Only one speck per club member is allowed to be weighed in and no check weights are allowed on the weigh master's scale. All "challenge" fish will be weighed on the same, single scale! Note: ACFA Big Fish Contest fish such as Reds, Flounders, White Trout, etc. can also be weighed for your Big Fish cards.

ACFA participation points will be awarded to all our members who weigh a speck or a red. Additionally 2 tournament points will be awarded to all ACFA members who make the top ten specks entered!

Other: Volunteers are needed on Sat. for the cooking crew and for fish cleaning on Liz's back pier. Please help our club and let the president know you will assist! Also--if you have any amount of frozen fish fillets please bring those to the meeting Thurs. the president will have an ice chest available for them since we need some to get started with on Sat.

WBFC is composed of a great group of guys who are very good speckled trout fishermen. ACFA will need a good turnout of our fisherpersons to have a chance of winning this challenge. This event will go on rain or shine so please support your club and fish! Also, at the weigh-in, get to know as many of the challengers as you can. It will be to your benefit since we all have a great sport in common. More at the meeting!

ACFA Website

Many thanks to Chris Massey (aka: The Webmaster) for setting up the new ACFA website "ACFAFISHING.com." His great job deserves our sincere appreciation and the many "hits" the new website is experiencing. Keep up to date on ACFA----log on!

2005 ACFA Rod Raffle

Many thanks to rod builder/member Steve Parks for a great inshore casting rod. Specifications: 7' light, fast action; 11 Fuji guides; spiral wrapped; w/an eva foam grip. This rod will be personalized with the winner's name. Our raffle begins at this May meeting and the winner will be drawn at our Aug. meeting. Chances are \$2ea. Or 3 for \$5. See Bekki at the door to make your purchase. All proceeds go to the club. Please support ACFA and you could be the winner of this expensive rod.

Attention Junior Anglers And Their Parents

If a junior angler has a different last name than his parent or family sponsor (paid member of ACFA) that junior angler should add the sponsor's name in parentheses immediately after the "J" (for junior angler). Otherwise no credit/points will be awarded since it's nearly impossible to determine the connection to the paid member on our rolls. Thank you for your cooperation!

Wanna Volunteer?

When the Redfish Nation brings it's "Oh Boy Oberto Redfish Cup Series" to town on May 12-14th local folks will be needed to help work the tourney out of Battleship Park. This may be a real opportunity for any of our members who might like to see the tournament from the inside and rub elbows with some of the best inshore fishermen on the water today. Check it out.

ACFA Logo'd Items

Our special sale on '04 t-shirts (\$8) and fishing caps (\$5) continues. Fishing towels are only \$3 and our patches are 3 for \$5. And---we've replenished our supply of our new "Slam" t-shirts. So bring money and wear our colors. See Donald Garrettson! We will not sell any of these items in June or July so be advised, get what you want on Thurs. nite. An important announcement regarding our logo'd fishing shirts will be made on Thurs. night--stay tuned.

'05 Membership Drive Dinners To Be Awarded

We will award a dinner-for-two to the member responsible for the most new members signed up this year. We will also hold a drawing of all members who signed up at least one new member in '05 and one lucky, eligible member will also win a dinner-for-two. All this at the meeting Thurs., and, no, you don't have to be present to win.

Reminders

1. Sign-in, wear your nametag, and be eligible for the '05 grand attendance prize. Thanks to Bekki for the "new member" kits she has available.
2. 39 members were eligible and Bill Faircloth won the "Treasurer's Treat".
3. Our '05 Big Fish Contest continues--send your cards to: Jennifer Mitternight, 9430 Yorktowne Way, Mobile, AL 36695.
4. If you failed to get your 2 ACFA boat decals in April a fresh supply will be on hand Thurs. night. All new members receive 2 ea.
5. Another ACFA record! 149 paid members at press time!
6. Be ready on Thurs. for a subscription drive/ACFA fundraiser sponsored by the very popular monthly magazine Great Days Outdoors (new name of Gulf Coast Outdoors magazine) full details at the meeting.
7. Our 2005 roster of members will be available for pick-up at the June meeting.
8. Start sorting through your tackle and boating items because our ACFA Junk Sale is scheduled for our July meeting.
9. Thanks to Jason Miller for the LNG Gulf Terminal update at the April meeting. More updates to come.
10. Capt. Jon Morgan will present "quick hits" on Thurs. night.

Fishing Contest Anyone?

Our ACFA leadership has been approached by the Saltwater Sportsman's Assoc. about the possibility of some sort of speckled trout tournament between the two Mobile clubs. They indicate that they would put approx. 10 boats on the water for such a contest. Since ACFA and SWSA have terminated the official "Spec Challenge" and we already have a full slate of events scheduled for '05 we are opting out of an officially sponsored ACFA event. But that doesn't mean we're backing off from challenge regarding just who's best at catching trout in the Mobile area. If there's enough interest among our members it's been suggested that our president (or designated captain of the team) select (by drawing or otherwise) the same number of boats as SWSA and work out all details as required to include a weekend date that won't interfere with the current ACFA calendar of events. And since SWSA had proposed the idea, that they run the weigh-in with their weigh master and their scales. All details are yet to be worked out. More at the meeting. Anyone interested?

Please, Please Consider Volunteering

We have a record number of ACFA members and we realize that many of you are new members in 2005. As you read this newsletter everyone can see just how much we have going on within our club. In order to accomplish all we are attempting we need you to help our club and volunteer to assist us with club activities. Any organization of over 145 members just can't exist and survive when less than 25 people do all the work. There are many, many opportunities for each of you to help ACFA ranging from the simple tasks such as bringing some frozen fillets to a meeting, or obtaining almost anything to be given away as an attendance prize, or volunteering to help with our veteran's project. You could also volunteer to clean fish or help cook at a monthly tournament or help obtain the necessary supplies for feeding the attendees. We also need volunteers to head-up many club projects and of course, we're always looking for good folks to fill our leadership positions (see masthead of this newsletter).

For you new members these voluntary tasks will help you get to know more about ACFA and the people in it. We guarantee that you will not only make new acquaintances but many good friends as well, and either way you won't regret it. And if you're an older member who, for whatever reason, just hasn't stepped forward yet it's high time that you consider what this club has meant to you and for you to give something back to ACFA.

Choose what you'd like to help with and see that committee chairman or just contact Bruce our president if you can lend a hand. We need more help! If you believe that ACFA and what it stands for is a worthwhile venture then jump right in. The water's fine. We hope that we can depend on more of you helping us in the future.

Classified

Inshore, Speckled Trout Fishing Rig. 15'-3" fiberglass boat with 6'-2" beam. 2001 40 tiller Tohatsu, elect. Start, T&T, ss prop, and 12 gal. Tank. Magic tilt galv. Trailer with poly rollers and mounted spare. 43lb. Foot control trolling motor, 2 depth finders, bilge pump, compass, 2 anchors, 3 folding upholstered seats, and many other extras. Excellent condition. Call Bill Midgette, 473-4768. \$4,950.00.

ACFA.....We catch fish.....get the net!!!

2005-05-4

Big Fish Contest Standings 2005
4/27/2005

2005 Tournament Standings		
Place	Name	Points
1	Jep Hill, Sr.	10
2	David Hare	9
2	Bill Midgette	9
2	Doug Smith	9
2	David Thornton	9
2	Wayne Tubbs	9
3	Bill Brady	8
3	Jimbo Miller	8
3	Lori Tourne	8
4	Kyle Mitternacht	7
5	John Fassbender	6
5	Bruce Howle, Sr.	6
5	Kelli Hurn	6
5	Chris Massey	6
5	Jimmie Quint	6
5	Randy Wiscaver	6
6	Chris Calloway	5
6	Tom Duncan	5
6	Donnie Fassbender	5
6	Bruce Howle, Jr.	5
6	Dewayne Overstreet	5
6	Rick Tourne	5
7	Jennifer Mitternacht	4
8	Alvin Bell	2
8	Del Delchamps	2
8	John Fassbender	2
8	David Garrettson	2
8	Donald Garrettson	2
8	Jim Glass	2
8	Phillip Guy	2
8	Mike Herring	2
8	Jep Hill, Jr. (J)	2
8	Donnie Howell	2
8	Barry Keith	2
8	Theo Koulianos (J)	2
8	George Koulianos	2
8	Marc Kruse	2
8	Glenn McDonald	2
8	Bobby McElroy	2
8	Margaret Miller	2
8	Frank Mitternacht	2
8	Thomas Murray	2
8	Jad Pope	2
8	Leslie Smith	2
8	Mike Thompson	2
8	Bubba Williams	2
9	Mutt Burke	1
9	Pete Burns	1
9	Cameron Calhoun (J)	1
9	Chip Cummings	1
9	Sonny Gause	1

9	Roger Glass	1
9	Bob Gray	1
9	Billy Hurd	1
9	Jim Jernigan	1
9	Karen Kelly	1
9	Brandoh Lane	1
9	Austin Lee	1
9	Mike Lee	1
9	Bekki Ludlam	1
9	Don Ludlam	1
9	Gerald Markow	1
9	John Markow, Jr. (J)	1
9	Michael McDonald	1
9	Frank Miller	1
9	Jason Miller	1
9	Lee Minto	1
9	Derek Murphy	1
9	Steve Parks	1
9	Bill Patterson	1
9	Howard Perry	1
9	Matt Perry	1
9	Trey Pitt	1
9	Belinda Smith	1
9	Nancy Thompson	1
9	John Vereen	1
9	John Westover	1
9	John Winter	1
9	Josh Woolums	1

Blackfish	WT	Flounder	WT	Ground Mullet	WT	Redfish	WT	
1		Jerry Markow	3.86	William Brady	1.50	John Markow, Jr. (J)	6.05	
2		Wayne Tubbs	2.20	David Hare	1.15	Donnie Fassbender	5.55	
3				Jimmie Quint	1.00	John Fassbender	5.35	
4						Donnie Fassbender	5.30	
5						Bill Patterson	5.30	
Sheepshead	WT	Speckled Trout	WT	Spanish Mackerel	WT	White Trout	WT	
1	Doug Smith	10.20	Keith Vaughn	7.52	Jim Glass	3.10	John Fassbender	1.65
2	David Thornton	10.10	Kyle Mitternacht	6.67	Glenn McDonald	2.85	Bruce Howle, Jr.	1.64
3	Bruce Howle, Sr.	9.90	Bill Midgette	6.34	Marc Kruse	2.75	Joe Sirmo	1.50
4	Kyle Mitternacht	9.50	Ted Klefer	6.32	Bekki Ludlam	2.10	John Fassbender	1.49
5	Kyle Mitternacht	9.34	Cindy Yeend	6.32			Bill Midgette	1.36

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