



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 Mitternacht 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

December 2005 Newsletter

Here we are, folks--nearing the end of another club year of inshore fishing. We think you'd agree that this year's trek, with all its ups and a few downs (a.k.a.-hurricanes) has been, to say the least, very interesting. We sincerely hope you've enjoyed your year as ACFA members and have no regrets for being crewmembers on our fishing vessel throughout 2005.

And the great news is it's not quite over yet! Our final get-together of this year is set for Saturday night Dec. 3rd at 7pm at the American Legion Post 250, 10950 Dauphin Island Parkway. This is our weigh-in location for most of the year and if you've never attended it's located on the west side of D.I.P. next to the Family Dollar Store and approx. one block south of Bayley's Restaurant and Greer's Food Tiger. More info on this occasion later in this newsletter.

Presidents Message

Hey guys it's almost December and another great year has come to an end with even a better one to come with your new leadership taking over the helm. Doug Smith and his staff will be leading the way and have passed a few of their ideas on to me and it sounded great so give these guys a warm welcome when they take their positions at the close of the Dec. get-together.

Guy's it has been a pleasure to be the pres. of ACFA for the last 2 years. It has changed me as a person in a lot of ways. I've made a lot of new friends and enjoyed the fellowship from some of the most down to earth people that I didn't even know existed anymore. I want to thank all the members that helped me make ACFA the best inshore fishing club around. Because without your help the club does not exist. So, get behind your new leaders and support them. ACFA has a bright future.

There will be some slips of paper for members to fill out suggestions on what you would like to see ACFA do in 2006 on one of the tables in the back and a box to put them in, if you would like you can write your suggestions down at home and bring them with you.

As most of you know my daughter Brittney plays softball 9 month's out of the year and the team is trying to raise money for the traveling team to be able to buy equipment for next year. I have opened my mouth and said that members of ACFA will gladly donate the fish fillets to do a fish fry on Dec. 17th. So, if you have any to donate I need as many as I can get and will have an ice chest on the back of my truck to put them in. I know I can count on you guys'.

Once again, thank you, the members of ACFA for 2 great years, it's been fun
See you at the Christmas party,
Bruce Sr. aka TOP DAWG

ACFA Rule-Of-100 And Rule-Of-125

By way of explanation--when our club was growing and we had less than 100 members we awarded plaques to only the eight people who had the first place big fish. When we went over the 100 membership mark we awarded plaques to 1st thru 3rd big fish winners. And when we topped 125 members we started giving plaques to all on the big fish board--a practice that continues this year.

A word of further explanation--although each member can place two fish on the big fish board for each of eight fish species we will award only one plaques per angler in each species category. Example: John Doe holds 2nd place in redfish and holds 1st and 3rd in specks. John will receive a second place plaque for redfish and one first place (size) plaque for specks that reads 1st place and 3rd place on the plaque.

So be sure to take a good look at our final big fish standings for 2005 because we'll be awarding up to 40 plaques at our Dec. function and you may be a recipient. Congratulations to all of our finalists, and a big "thank you" to member Charlie Crawford, owner of Souther-N-Bama, for once again sponsoring our 8 first place big fish awards.

2006 Big Fish Contest

Our '06 Big Fish Contest is in full swing as of Nov. 15th. Entries must reach our new statistics person, Donald Wayne Garrettson, within 30 days of your catch. Send your big fish cards to :

D.W. Garrettson
3811 Del Monte Court
Mobile, Al 36605

Current ACFA Club Records

Blackfish	24.40lbs.	Del Delchamps	1999
Flounder	7.80lbs.	Darin Grizzle	1997
Ground Mullet	2.32lbs.	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2004
Redfish (16"-26")	7.75lbs.	John Fassbender	1999
Sheepshead	12.80lbs.	Doug Smith	2004
Speckled Trout	9.65lbs.	Bobby McElroy	2005
Spanish Mackerel	7.88lbs.	Bekki Ludlam	2000
White Trout	3.14lbs.	Bruce Howle, Jr.	2001

2005 Grand Attendance Prize

Your membership chairperson Bekki Ludlam informs us that around 60 members are eligible and your names will be included in the hat for drawing for '05 attendance prize (7 out of first 9 meetings). The value of this loot should be approx. \$200 and you don't have to be present to win. Good luck to all who are eligible!

More Info On Our Dec. Get-To-Gether

Over 50 awards of recognition will be presented to individual members in Dec. and the main menu will be provided by your club on this special occasion. Soft drinks, wine, and beer will be available for purchase from the Post 250 bar, and a set-up package consisting of liquor, ice, and mixer is also available. As is our custom we ask that you bring an hors d'oeuvre item (appetizer) or a sweet item (from candy to dessert) of your choosing to compliment our meal. This definitely a "family affair" and all members, their spouses or dates, and member's children are invited to attend. Any adult guests, other than immediate family of dates, will be \$5.00 ea. (We request that you pay the treasurer on that evening.)

Our menu for the evening will be: Smoked Boston Butt and Smoked Ham, Potato Salad, French Green Beans, and Dinner Rolls. Live music will be available for your enjoyment immediately after supper. And, if we may, can we ask your indulgence for one last time this year, due to the children present, would you please try to refrain from smoking in our meeting room until after supper is completed. We thank you and so do our junior members.

Now please, please help us! We must know how many to plan for. If you weren't at the Nov. meeting and have not signed the expected-to-attend-in-Dec. list, take just a moment of your valuable time right now and call Charlie Dowdle at 661-7770. Let him know how many adults and children (in your party) to plan for. With membership at an all time high we're expecting a large crowd so don't forget to sign-on now and then attend in December and Charlie would like for those of you who haven't signed up to call him by Nov. 27th.

Transition '05 to '06

We ask all 2005 officers and chairmen to help ACFA with the transition of all new officers and chairmen who are now assuming the position which you have held for this past year. Please sit down with these new folks and thoroughly explain all the facets of the job they are just starting to undertake. Every helpful hint, every piece of paperwork, and every contact that you've made will be of invaluable aid to them as they begin their "new" duties. Only with your personal help can we expect ACFA to continue into the future on a steady course as it has in the past.

Help?

Due to the steady growth of our club our tournament participation has also experienced a related increase. In order to aid our weigh master we are seeking one or more assistant weigh masters for the 2006 season. The weigh-in procedure gets backed up at times due to surges of participants coming to the scales during some periods inside the 2 hour timeframe. With a reliable assistant to record, or weigh, we believe we could smooth out the weigh-ins quite a bit. If we could get volunteers for certain months it would be a great help. If you fish on tourney days but usually quit early to weigh-in early you could join our weigh master after the first 30 min's. and assist 'til closing of the scales. We could use you under almost any scenario in order to help our club as long as we can depend on your presence. Non-fisherman are also totally acceptable. Please contact Pat Hughes or our president if you're of a mind to aid our club next year.

Reminders

1. Our club Member-Of-The-Year will be recognized with the Founder's Award at the Dec. get-to-gether.
2. Our next meeting will be our first of 2006 on Thurs. Feb. 2nd. We do not meet in Jan. You will be notified via the Feb. newsletter.
3. Our first tournament of 2006 will probably be held on Sat. Mar. 24th. We don't hold a Feb. tourney.
4. Dues will again remain at \$45 for the '06 club year.
5. ACFA will hold another custom rod raffle next year which will probably commence in Mar. '06.
6. Bruce Howle will be in charge of lining up "quick hits" speakers for next year's meetings.

Retention 2006

Success is always a hard act to follow. But that's exactly what we of ACFA intend to do next year. Our goal is to retain each of you as members in 2006 and with your help increase our rolls by exposing all the facets of ACFA to those members of the fishing fraternity who don't know about us yet. We know that what we offer the casual fisherman is priceless. We think that you realize this too. So help us--talk up ACFA, pass out our business cards to potential members, and try to get new faces to our meetings. You are our best advertisements. Recruit for ACFA in Dec. and Jan. It's sure to pay off in Feb. and throughout 2006. We're counting on you.

You Ought To Be Proud

Once again, because you are a "coastie", our club has been able to post an enviable list of achievements during this 2005 club year. Just look at what was done this year with your help:

- 1) Attained another record membership with 189 members in 2005.
- 2) Improved our ACFA business cards to include (boater's) need-to-know phone numbers.
- 3) Added food to all tournaments.
- 4) Established a premier "go-to" computer website. (ACFAFISHING.com)
- 5) Introduced our colored Mobile Bay Grand Slam posket t-shirt.
- 6) Created the Treasurer's Treat contest to ease dues payments on our Treasurer.
- 7) Included 5 species at two club tournaments.
- 8) Established the ACFA Young Angler of the Year Award.
- 9) Developed a statement of purpose for ACFA.
- 10) Added paid member want ads to our newsletter.
- 11) Took the troops fishing.
- 12) Created "shirt-nite" for embroidered shirts, vests, and outerwear.
- 13) Introduced a new, embroidered back patch for members.
- 14) Relocated our Dec. get-to-gether to larger quarters at Post 250.

Kudos

Just in case you missed it two of our members, Bobby Abruscato and Scott Ritter, teamed up to fish the recent Wal-Mart FLW Redfish Series Championship fished out of Zeke's Marina in Orange Beach. With a three-day total of 35lbs. 15ozs. They took home 3rd place honors and a check for \$16,000. Our congratulations to both of these men. We are duty proud of them.

Hello And Good-Bye

This Dec. newsletter marks the end of four great years of keeping each of you informed about ACFA and what we are trying to accomplish. I hope each of you has gained an appreciation of our club and that we kept you up-to-date on what was happening throughout the club years. Next year this newsletter will be in the hands of one of our most capable members--David Thornton (aka: Pier Pounder). I know that our newsletter will only get better with David at the helm and I know that each of you joins me in welcoming him to these monthly bulletins.

Thanks,
Bill

And Finally

Sincerest thanks to all who worked so hard for ACFA and contributed to our successes in 2005, and thanks to each of you for joining us in this venture. We hope the water is right and all your lines are tight. See you in '06.

ACFA---We catch fish---Get the net!!!

Big Fish FINAL Contest Standings 2005

11/15/2005

	Blackfish	WT	Flounder	WT	Ground Mullet	WT	Redfish	WT
1	John Fassbender	18.85	Jerald Bolen	7.50	Karen Kelly	1.85	Margaret Miller	7.25
2	John Fassbender	18.67	Pete Burns	5.42	Bruce Howle, Jr.	1.67	Jimbo Miller	6.90
3	Keith Vaughn	18.00	Bud Barr	5.00	William Brady	1.50	Phillip Guy	6.85
4	Bubba Williams	13.28	Chris Massey	4.75	David Hare	1.45	Chris Massey	6.75
5	Kyle Mitternight	11.73	Jimmie Quint	4.45	Jim Glass	1.25	John Fassbender	6.45
	Sheepshead	WT	Speckled Trout	WT	Spanish Mackerel	WT	White Trout	WT
1	Bill Midgette	10.40	Bobby McElroy	9.65	Bekki Ludlam	4.13	Bruce Howle, Sr.	2.30
2	Doug Smith	10.20	Keith Vaughn	7.52	David Thornton	3.99	Ocie Wade	2.18
3	David Thornton	10.10	Phillip Guy	6.84	Henry Lee Nall, Jr.	3.76	Bill Midgette	2.13
4	Bruce Howle, Sr.	9.90	Tom Duncan	6.74	David Thornton	3.76	Bruce Howle, Sr.	1.95
5	Kyle Mitternight	9.50	Kyle Mitternight	6.67	Don Ludlam	3.74	Phillip Guy	1.81

FINAL 2005 Tournament Standings								
Place	Name	Points						
1	David Hare	33	17	Chris Calloway	6	22	Bryan Hack	1
2	Bill Midgette	22	17	Donnie Fassbender	6	22	Angie Howle	1
2	Kyle Mitternacht	22	17	Donald Garrettson	6	22	Cullen Jacobs	1
3	Trey Pitt	21	17	Kelli Hurn	6	22	Jim Jernigan	1
4	Rick Tourne	19	17	Lee Minto	6	22	Michael Jones (J)	1
5	Phillip Guy	18	17	Henry Nall	6	22	Terry Keifer	1
5	Brenda Mashburn	18	18	Mutt Burke	5	22	Karen Kelly	1
5	Jimbo Miller	18	18	Mike Herring	5	22	Wes Knight	1
6	John Fassbender	17	18	Ben Hurn	5	22	Brandon Lane	1
6	Mike Jones	17	18	Thomas Murray	5	22	Don Ludlam	1
6	Dewayne Overstreet	17	18	Bill Patterson	5	22	Jeffrey Lyons (J)	1
7	Del Delchamps	16	18	Brian Pugh	5	22	Mark Lyons	1
8	Bill Brady	15	18	Leslie Smith	5	22	Larry Markow	1
8	Erik Nelson	15	19	Alvin Bell	4	22	Sharon Markow	1
9	Chris Conken	14	19	Barbara Brady	4	22	Jay McNamee	1
9	Chris Massey	14	19	Pete Burns	4	22	Blake Michalaski	1
9	Bobby McElroy	14	19	Kevin Cormier	4	22	Therese Miller	1
10	Doug Smith	13	19	Jason Day	4	22	Derek Murphy	1
10	Wayne Tubb	13	19	Wayne Garrettson	4	22	Stacy Nelson	1
11	Jep Hill, Jr. (J)	12	19	Jim Glass	4	22	Shaleigh Parker	1
11	Jep Hill, Sr.	12	19	Dustin Moore	4	22	Steve Parks	1
11	Barry Keith	12	19	Keith Vaughn	4	22	Howard Perry	1
11	David Thornton	12	20	Donnie Howell	3	22	Matt Perry	1
12	Tom Duncan	11	20	George Koulianos	3	22	Smith Pickett	1
12	Bubba Williams	11	20	Theo Koulianos (J)	3	22	Tommy Pond	1
13	Belinda Smith	10	20	Glenn McDonald	3	22	Steve Roberts	1
13	Bruce Howle, Jr.	10	20	Mike Thompson	3	22	James Rouhani	1
13	Bruce Howle, Sr.	10	20	Josh Woolums	3	22	Hal Scheurich	1
13	David Mashburn	10	21	John Burke	2	22	Joe Sirmon	1
13	Margaret Miller	10	21	Todd Golomb	2	22	Pat Sirmon	1
13	Jennifer Mitternacht	10	21	Brittany Howle	2	22	Judy Smith	1
13	John Winter	10	21	Billy Hurd	2	22	Sean Sullivan	1
13	Randy Wiscaver	10	21	Austin Lee (J)	2	22	Nancy Thompson	1
14	Bud Barr	9	21	Bekki Ludlam	2	22	John Vereen	1
14	Cameron Calhoun (J)	9	21	John Markow, Jr. (J)	2	22	John Westover	1
14	Mike Lee	9	21	Frank Miller	2	22	Bo Wilder	1
14	Lori Tourne	9	21	Jason Miller	2			
15	David Garrettson	8	22	Barry Bourg	1			
15	Joel Midgette	8	22	Linda Burns	1			
15	Michael McDonald	8	22	Savannah Calhoun (J)	1			
15	Brandon Parker	8	22	Stephanie Cormier	1			
15	Jad Pope	8	22	Chip Cummings	1			
16	Timmy Bradley	7	22	Marc Cummings	1			
16	Karen Brown	7	22	Alisha Folsom (J)	1			
16	Daniel Ford	7	22	Betty Fretz	1			
16	Shane Ford	7	22	Kelly Fulmer	1			
16	Marc Kruse	7	22	Sonny Gause	1			
16	Gerald Markow	7	22	Eugene Gibbons	1			
16	Frank Mitternacht	7	22	Roger Glass	1			
16	Jimmie Quint	7	22	Bob Gray	1			
16	Paul Smith	7						