

# Alabama Coastal Fisherman's Association



A Family Oriented Fishing Club Since 1997

Volume 2013 Issue November

## November Meeting

**Date:** November 7, 2013 **Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Place:** American Legion Post 88 2663 Halls Mill Rd  
**Main Speaker:** Friends of the Delta

### CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013

President	Patric Garmeson	747-1554
Vice President	Joey Gates	209-1220
Treasurer	John Erwin	442-4592
Secretary	Charlie Dowdle	622-0054
Membership	Gary Tingle	662-0260
Weighmaster	Pat Hughes	422-6992
Donations	Marty Garmeson	610-4780
Logo Items	Bill Graves	443-8017
"	Bob Ward	661-3118
Awards	Jay O'Brien	379-1420
Statistics	David Thornton	458-2775
Newsletter	Mike Vickrey	680-4503
Food Advisor	Kyle Eckhoff	259-2357
Mini Seminars	Rick Tourne'	623-9409
Quick Hits	O.P. Harrison	476-8379
Advisor	Mike Thompson	633-3333

## Important Dates

**November 14, 2013:** Big Fish Contest ends.

**December 6, 2013:** ACFA December Awards Banquet.

Subscribe to the ACFA newsletter and have it emailed to you each month! <http://www.acfafish.com/newsletters/subscribe/>

## President's Message:

The 2013 ACFA tournament season is all over. Trenny Woodham was the tournament point leader going into the final day but he didn't relax a bit. Trenny brought in solid fish in all four categories and only falling short in trout. Congrats to Mike Vickrey on landing his personal best speckled trout, in our final tournament, a real trophy 7.05#. Also, thanks to all that brought chili to the weigh in it was much appreciated by all.

Please take a second to go to the forum and let us know how many people you will be bringing to the December awards banquet. We will also have a signup sheet at our next meeting. The reason for getting an accurate count is so we don't have way too much food.

At our November meeting I would like to hear fishing reports from our members or share an accomplishment this year. Maybe you wanted to catch your first 5#+ trout and how do you feel you were able to accomplish that?

Fall fishing is here so good luck and I hope to see a good crowd at our next meeting!

Capt. Patric Garmeson

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- Make sure to come to the meeting to hear the second half of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta National Park debate. This month we have "**Friends of the Delta**" the group that is for the study of the delta that could lead to it becoming a National Park.
- Don't forget to write down how many people you plan to bring to the December awards banquet. There will be a sign up sheet available at the November meeting.

Jonathan Byrd, 22 years old, was born September 27, 1991 and grew up in Satsuma, AL. His

Dad, Dwight Byrd, introduced him to fishing at an early age when they went White Perch fishing in Three Rivers. Jonathan says; "That is where the fever began! I remember fishing all day and begging him to stay just a little while longer. After a long day of fishing I would lay in bed at night, close my eyes and still see the corks floating and taking off under water. As a kid Jonathan's Grandma would take him to fish at a place called Winter's Marina in Satsuma where she would sit with him for hours and hours at a time. Jonathan shared more on his Grandma with us, "Those memories I'll never forget, she was my best friend and the best Grandma I could have ever asked for. She would go fishing with me and also sit in a ground blind with me while I bow hunted". Jonathan's Grandpa passed away before he was born so his Grandma was happy to take the place of a Grandpa, doing all the things that a boy does with his Grandpa. Unfortunately, Jonathan's Grandma passed away in March of 2012 a few days before her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday but he will never forget the memories she made for him.

Jonathan got his introduction to saltwater fishing while camping at Dauphin Island Campground with his Mom and Step-Dad. He saw a man by the name of David Mashburn showing off a big Speckled Trout and at that moment he knew that he wanted to learn how to catch one. Jonathan started asking Mr. Mashburn questions every day and they ended up becoming good friends but there is a good story leading up to it that Jonathan described for us in detail. "I started talking to him every day trying to figure out his secrets. But he was a older man and didn't want to just tell me all his secrets. He would send me all over the island peddling my bike with some crazy lures and sending me to wrong spots. After a while I started getting aggravated about not catching anything, so I kept coming back talking to him and he saw that I was serious and wanted to catch a speck. By now, he knew my mom and Step-Dad and had become friends with them. So one night he asked me to go fishing the next day and I caught my first big Trout including 13 that day. After that trip he took me fishing all the time. He didn't have any kids and he was like a grandpa I never had. After that I couldn't think about anything else but Trout fishing I was hooked. I would fish anywhere on the island that I could ride a bike from the campground to go wade fishing. Everything I had learned was all from Mr. David, he taught me so much and I owe it all to him. Without him teaching me I probably wouldn't know how to catch a trout today".

After turning 16 Jonathan started driving to the Island and fishing around the Dauphin Island airport, pushing a grocery cart down the runway loaded with a cooler, net and fishing rods. Jonathan said, "At the time I didn't even think of the trouble I could have got into I was just a kid wanting to fish and didn't have a boat". Luckily, Jonathan never got in trouble for fishing at the airport and was able to win a bunch of friendly campground fishing tournaments fishing that spot. Later that same year Jonathan split the cost of a ADSFR Speckled Trout Jackpot ticket and ended up getting in the drawing for a Yamaha 150 4-stroke outboard. Luckily, he won the drawing but ended up selling the motor for "a little bit of nothing" and splitting the cash with his partner. Jonathan admits that the money made from the outboard burned a hole straight through his pocket. But by the time he was 19 Jonathan bought his first boat with the help of his Mom and Step-Dad, Bonita and Bronson Dulabahn. Jonathan says he didn't really know how to work on a boat or even how to get it back on the trailer but was able to learn with the help of some good friends. "Mr. Jimmy and Mrs. Sabrina at Deer River spent many afternoons laughing at me cussing the ramp, boat, wind, trailer and whichever friend I had with me helping guide me onto the trailer. I thought I would never figure it out, but with the help of my best friend Grant Tillman I can finally do it all on my own, he spent a lot of time teaching me that he didn't have to do".

Jonathan and his girlfriend Michealla Cain joined the ACFA in March of this year after hearing about the club through members Kevin Owens and Keith Kenney. Joining the ACFA put Jonathan in contact with many great fishermen who were willing to give him tips and advice on catching big trout; "We met Jim Foster at our second ACFA tournament weigh in and we hit it off, exchanged phone numbers and started talking. He drove all the way to my house one night before an ACFA tournament and

## MEET THE ANGLER



# Jonathan Byrd



*Continued on page 3*

*Continued from page 2: Meet the Angler*

showed me some spots to fish on the Mobile River on a map he printed off for me. The next day I caught a 5.6lb trout, my biggest ever at the time. I just sat there after catching it not knowing what to say. I had finally accomplished my goal. I called Jim and had to thank him a hundred times". Through Jim, Jonathan ended up meeting people like Patric Garmeson, Adam Barker and Rick Tourne' who he says have taught him more than he could ever imagine. He has since broken his 5.6lb record with a 6.4lb trout that he is having mounted, and his girlfriend Michealla who is also his fishing partner most of the time has come close to hitting the 5lb mark several times. Jonathan says his next goal is for either him or Michealla to place in the top 3 of a big tournament and win some money or trophies.

Jonathan is a 2009 Graduate of Satsuma High School where he played baseball all four years. In the future he plans to finish his degree in Criminal Justice and pursue a career as a Game Warden or Marine Police Officer so that he can enjoy the outdoors more often. Starting next year Jonathan will take over Quick Hits which will make him our newest and youngest member to take on a board position!

## October-November ACFA Meetings

By now we've probably all heard about the ongoing debate over the control of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and heard the rumors about what that could mean for people like us who enjoy fishing and hunting in the delta. At our last ACFA meeting we invited the group "Save Our Delta" who is opposed to a Federal takeover of the delta to speak and give us their side of the story. "Save Our Delta" is opposed to Federal management of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and seeks to leave the delta under local control.

At this months ACFA meeting we will hear the other side of the story. We have invited the group "Friends of the Delta" who support a study that could eventually lead to a transfer of the delta to Federal control as a National Park. We are eager to hear what "Friends of the Delta" have to say about the advantages of a Federally managed Mobile-Tensaw river delta and what that could mean for the future of our hunting and fishing heritage.

We hope to see many of you at the November meeting as this is a very important subject that could very likely have an impact on our future and the things that we love to do. We are interested in hearing both side of this story to help answer questions on a subject that still seems to have a lot of "gray area" and questions that remain unanswered.

### Skeeter Experience at Lap's

Saturday November 2nd 10am until 4pm

The ACFA will have a presence at the Skeeter Experience at Laps on Saturday November 2. This will be similar to the boat show where we will be telling people about the club and trying our best to recruit some new members. We still need some members to volunteer to hang out at the Skeeter Experience for an hour or two and just hand out pamphlets and talk to people. If you are interested contact Gary Tingle (Programmer on the forums), and coordinate it with him. For more on the Legendary Marine Skeeter Experience see the flier on page 4.

### New 2014 ACFA Officer Positions

**Logo Items:** Kevin Owens and Joe Cieutat are out new Logo Items Officers. Thanks to Bill Graves and Bob ward for their outstanding service in this position for the last three years!

**Quick Hits:** Jonathan Byrd, one of our newer members will be taking the Quick Hits position. Thanks to Mr. O.P. Harrison who stepped up to fill this role after the loss of Mr. Bill Midgette last year!

If anyone is interested in the Secretary position please let us know at the meeting. We'd like to give Mr. Charlie Dowdle a well deserved break. If you are a newer member, taking a board position is a great way to get to know some of your fellow ACFA members.

**ACFA "Mutt Burke & Bill Midgette Causeway Classic" tournament October 19, 2013**

**Flounder**

			Pts
1	Trenny Woodham	4.85	5
2	Jay O'Brien	4.30	4
3	Marty Garmeson	3.15	3
4	Rick Tourne'	2.15	2
5	Lee Minto	1.15	1

**NetMan**

1		1
2	Rick Tourne'	2
3	Ronnie Reed	3
4	Rick Tourne'	4
5		5

**Junior Angler Flounder**

1
2
3
4
5

**Redfish**

1	Rick Tourne'	6.20	5
2	Trenny Woodham	6.15	4
3	Richard Hoffman Jr	5.55	3
4	Vicki Foster (L)	4.15	2
5	Brad Roberts (N)	2.95	1

**NetMan**

1	Rick Tourne'	1
2		2
3	Henry Nall	3
4	Mike Foster	4
5		5

**Junior Angler Redfish**

1
2
3
4
5

**Sheepshead**

1	Jay O'Brien	4.20	5
2	Marty Garmeson	2.85	4
3	Richard Hoffman Jr	2.65	3
4	Rick Tourne'	2.35	2
5	Trenny Woodham	2.30	1

**NetMan**

1	Rick Tourne'	1
2	Ronnie Reed	2
3	Henry Nall	3
4	Rick Tourne'	4
5		5

**Junior Angler Sheepshead**

1
2
3
4
5

**Speckled Trout**

1	Mike Vickrey	7.05	5
2	Rick Tourne'	5.30	4
3	O.P. Harrison	5.20	3
4	Brad Roberts (N)	4.75	2
5	Jay O'Brien	4.70	1

**NetMan**

1	Pat Garmeson	1
2	Rick Tourne'	2
3		3
4		4
5	Rick Tourne'	5

**Junior Angler Speckled Trout**

1	Marie Serra	3.90
2	Maresa Serra	3.10
3		
4		
5		

**Artificial Caught Speckled Trout**

1	Rick Tourne'	3.35
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\* TIE 1st to weigh in

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**For Information or to RSVP  
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**Venue**



Lap's Grocery & Grill  
(Causeway in Mobile)

1595 Battleship Parkway  
Spanish Fort, AL

**Event Details**

**Date**  
November 2, 2013

**Time**  
10 am - 4 pm  
Lunch 11 am - 2 pm



Bobby Abruscato



Hollywood Shavers



Eric Holstman



Darrell Combs



Richard Rutland

## Mutt Burke and Bill Midgette Causeway Classic and Chili Cook-Off Final ACFA Tournament report for 2013



With morning rain showers and ongoing preparations for hunting season plus a busy college football schedule, the October tournament featured only a modest turnout in numbers. But the competition was fierce and the quality of fish was good, especially in the speckled trout category capped by Mike Vickrey's 7.05 #r (his personal best). Any time you have a tournament when a plus 4# trout doesn't make the top 5 that is pretty good! The weigh in was dominated by five members who racked up 70% of the fish that placed. This flurry of point totaling helped Trenny Woodham again secure his place at the top of the list as Tournament Point Champion.

Rick Tourne' had a great day too, placing in all four species categories and landing the only artificially caught speckled trout to garner the award in that category. He was really busy with the net too, scooping up 25 more Net Man points and pushing his point total to the top of that list as our 2013 Net Man of the Year!

The top 3 redfish weighed in for the October tournament were also large enough to make the Big Fish Contest for that species which is now closed for this year. But the contest continues for the other seven species until midnight on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Jay O'Brien has a commanding lead in that contest but there is still a lot of big fish to be caught over the next few weeks, so get out there after them and get those Big Fish cards to me ASAP.  
Good luck!  
David Thornton

### 2013 ACFA Chili Cook-Off

We would like to give a big thanks to all those who participated in the 2013 ACFA Chili Cook-Off. We had 5 different pots of chili that were all different and all very tasty. After gathering opinions from all those who tasted each chili it was decided that our ACFA Food Advisor Kyle Eckhoff was the winner of the Chili Cook-Off for 2013. This was Kyle's first year as Food Advisor and has done an excellent job in coordinating the meals for each ACFA tournament this year. Without this guy we'd all go hungry after a long day of fishing so we'd like to thank Kyle for volunteering his time to keep all of our ACFA anglers fed!



*Rick Tourne' and Jay O'Brien, "Team Irish Crush" with their impressive stringer of fish from the ACFA Causeway Classic.*



*Mike Vickrey with his 1st place, 7.05lb Speckled Trout*

**Statistics**

as of October 25, 2013

# The BIG Fish Contest 2013

Mail your 2013 Big Fish Contest entries to: David Thornton 31 Hannon Ave. Mobile, AL 36604

Blackfish		WT	Flounder		WT	Ground Mullet		WT	Redfish		WT
1	Jay O'Brien	23.62	1	Jerry Markow	5.46	1	Kyle Mitternacht	2.39	1	Lee Minto **	8.40
2	Frank Mitternacht	22.02	2	Marty Garmeson	4.94	2	Henry Nall	2.26	2	Rick Tourne'	6.20
3	Jay O'Brien	21.82	3	Trenny Woodham	4.85	3	Summer Williams (L)	2.22	3	Trenny Woodham	6.15
4	Eddie Greer	21.70	4	Lee Minto	4.46	4	Brian Mygrant (N)	2.14	4	Bill Perry	5.95
5	Rachel O'Brien	20.82	5	Lee Minto*	4.43	5	Brian Mygrant (N)	1.90	5	Trenny Woodham	5.75
6	Eddie Greer	18.17	6	Jerry Markow	4.43	6	MartyGarmeson	1.80	6	Lee Minto	5.70
7	Victoria Tourne' (J)	17.95	7	Adam Barker *	4.40	7	David Thornton *	1.75	7	Jay O'Brien *	5.55
8	Frank Mitternacht	12.70	8	Bob Ward	4.40	8	David Thornton *	1.75	8	Richard Hoffman Jr	5.55
9	Katie Mitternacht (J)	12.65	9	Richard Beech	4.35	9	MartyGarmeson	1.75	9	Patric Garmeson	5.45
10			10	Patric Garmeson	4.34	10	John Fassbender *	1.73	10	Doug Tierce	5.40
Sheepshead		WT	Spanish Mackerel		WT	Speckled Trout		WT	White Trout		WT
1	Vicki Foster (L)	9.30	1	Bekki Ludlam (L)	5.89	1	Jay O'Brien	7.70	1	Jay O'Brien **	3.58
2	Jay O'Brien	8.84	2	Mark McPherson	5.67	2	Trenny Woodham	7.60	2	O.P. Harrison	2.95
3	Eddie Greer	8.70	3	Bekki Ludlam (L)	4.89	3	Trenny Woodham	7.52	3	Marty Garmeson	2.63
4	Richard Hoffman Jr	8.50	4	Norman Lewellen	4.87	4	Kevin Owens	7.22	4	O.P. Harrison	2.61
5	Mike Foster	8.30	5	Jeff Silcox	4.09	5	Mike Vickrey	7.05	5	Marty Garmeson	2.52
6	Doug Smith	8.10	6	Don Ludlam	4.05	6	O.P. Harrison	7.03	6	Ronnie Reed	2.43
7	Leslie Smith	7.85	7	Don Ludlam	4.01	7	Kyle Mitternacht	6.90	7	John Howard	2.22
8	Henry Nall	7.55	8	Mark McPherson	3.65	8	O.P. Harrison	6.81	8	John Howard	2.15
9	Jay O'Brien	6.98	9	David Thornton	3.50	9	Bill Graves	6.80	9	Trenny Woodham	2.00
10	Richard Hoffman Jr *	6.65	10	Vicki Foster (L)	3.44	10	Lee Minto	6.60	10	Ronnie Reed	1.93

\*\* NEW CLUB RECORD \* First to weigh in. (N) New Member (J) Junior Angler (L) Lady Angler

\*\*\*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

2013 Final Tournament Points Totals			2013 Final Net Man Points Totals			Big Fish Contest Top 10 (ends November 14, 2013)		
PI	NAME	TOTAL	PI	NAME	TOTAL	PI	Pts	Current Leaders
1	Trenny Woodham	50	1	Rick Tourne'	50	1	53	Jay O'Brien
2	Richard Hoffman Jr	41	2	Trenny Woodham	40	2	33	Trenny Woodham
3	O.P. Harrison	40	3	Mike Foster	26	3	31	Lee Minto
4	Jay O'Brien	31	4	Henry Nall	25	4	30	Marty Garmeson
5	Mike Foster	28	5	Lee Minto	23	5	24	O.P. Harrison
5	Vicki Foster (L)	28	6	Brian Mygrant (N)	22	6	20	Eddie Greer
6	Lee Minto	26	6	Vicki Foster (L)	22	7	18	Bekki Ludlam (L)
6	Marty Garmeson	26	7	Eddie Greer	16	8	16	Jerry Markow
6	Rick Tourne'	26	8	Patric Garmeson	15	9	14	Brian Mygrant (N)
7	Richard Beech	18	8	Rhonda Beech (L)	15	9	14	Kyle Mitternacht
8	Doug Tierce	17	9	Jacob Guy	10	10	12	Frank Mitternacht
8	Pat Garmeson	17	9	Mark McPherson	10	10	12	Henry Nall
9	Mike Vickrey	15	9	Marty Garmeson	10	10	12	Mark McPherson
10	Jacob Guy	13	9	Phillip Guy	10	PL	CPR Speckled Trout (in)	
10	Norman Lewellen	13	9	Ronnie Reed	10	1	Joe Cieutat	28.13
			10	Doug Tierce	9	2	Patric Garmeson	26.88
			10	Mike Vickrey	9	3	Doug Tierce	26.75
			10	O.P. Harrison	9	4	Jay O'Brien	26.50
						5	Doug Tierce	26.25
						6	Patric Garmeson *	26.00
						6	Adam Barker	26.00
						7	Mike Vickrey	25.13
						8	Donald Garrettson *	25.00
						9	Jeb Mann	25.00

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