

# 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 Mitternacht 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

## APRIL Newsletter

Our third meeting of the year will be Thurs. April 3rd at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road.

The featured speaker will be Sgt. Heath Walls from the Marine Resources Division of the Alabama Conservation Dept. Sgt. Heath is a member of the enforcement arm of our Marine Resources and he will provide an overview of the work his department does in order to protect our valuable salt water resources. Additionally, Mr. Ken McRae of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary will be on hand to review the basic items you need aboard your boat for safety while on the water.

Boater's World will have a display table at this meeting to exhibit some of their many boating items available in 2003.

## Message From The President

What a fantastic day it turned out to be for our first tournament. The weather was great and so was the fishing, and it's only going to get better.

It takes a while to get back into certain routines that would normally come without a second thought. Like remembering to bring your leaders that you spent all winter making up. I even forgot how to put on sunscreen, and from the looks of everyone at the weigh-in, so did they. Thanks to everyone that participated and helped out.

Because large Sheepshead are so abundant right now, you might want to keep a couple and try making some of Bekki's now famous Mock West Indies Salad. Be sure and come to the April meeting and have a taste and find out how to create this delicacy for yourself. See you at the meeting.

Don

## March Tournament Results

A very good turn-out of enthusiastic club members greeted weighmaster Pat Hughes at the scales on an absolutely beautiful Sat. Mar, 22. Although early in the fishing year some good fish were caught. The results are as follows:

<u>Speckled Trout</u>		<u>White Trout</u>	
1. Alvin Bell	6.95lb	1. Kyle Mitternacht	1.65lb
2. Kyle Mitternacht	4.75lb	2. John Winter	1.20lb
3. Bill Midgette	3.00lb	3. Wes Knight	.95lb
<u>Sheepshead</u>		<u>Ground Mullet</u>	
1. Don Ludlam	9.55lb	1. Barry Keith	.95lb
2. Angie Howle	9.25lb	2. Charlie Dowdle	.85lb
3. David Hare	9.15lb	3. Ocie Wade	.75lb

### Reminders

1. The 2003 attendance contest is in full swing. Remember to sign-in at the door and wear a name tag.
2. Our 2003 membership drive runs until the close of this (April) meeting. Receive a \$5 rebate on your dues for each new member that you help sign up. All new members are also eligible for this rebate so try to bring another new member to sign-up at this meeting! Rebate checks will be distributed in May.
3. If you know someone who was an ACFA member last year but hasn't made it to a meeting yet why not give them a call and remind them about April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Newsletters for this month were not sent to those who have yet to sign up for the 2003 club year.
4. Remember that redfish can only be turned in for the Big Fish contest during our scheduled tournaments because the weighmaster must verify their length.

### Courtesy Boat Inspections

ACFA has arranged for Coast Guard Auxiliary representatives to provide non-binding safety inspections of our boats during the hours of weigh-in at our April tourney. Last year about a dozen of our rigs were inspected, and we hope to increase that number this year. You don't have to even be fishing the tourney--just pull your rig down to the weigh-in site between 3pm & 5pm on Sat. April 12<sup>th</sup> like several of our members did last year. If your rig passes this inspection you will receive a safety sticker for display on your boat. It should be noted that the presence of an up-to-date sticker on your boat will preclude a whole lot of hassle if you're checked on the water at a later date. Please try to participate!

### ACFA April Tournament

Our next tourney (Breakout) will be held on Sat. April 12<sup>th</sup>. This tourney has been set for a little later in April so that we can take advantage of some of the best fishing time in the spring. Tournament fish will be: Speckled Trout--Flounder--Sheepshead--Ground Mullet. Weigh-in will be from 3 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. Our weighmaster and the boat inspections will be located at the rear of the post in the big, shady parking lot. Note: There will be 12 awards plaques up-for-grabs on this tournament!

### 2003 Accessory Items Go On Sale

6 different types/styles/colors of club fishing caps will be available at the April meeting, and all at one new, lower price which should fit most everyone's budget: \$6.00 ea.

Also, for the first time ever ACFA logo'd fishing towels will be offered. Each towel has a convenient grommet and closeable hook for attaching to handrails, belts, or just about anything on your boat so it won't be lost. Once again we've worked hard to make these attractive to the membership at an affordable price of 2 for \$7.00 or \$3.75 ea. We expect to sell out of these so be sure to get yours early on. We hope that every boat in our club will be outfitted with at least a pair!

Additionally, Bud Barr will be taking orders for the short-sleeve Magellan fishing shirts with the full 7 color embroidered ACFA logo. (A sample shirt w/logo will be on display at this meeting.) As long as our supplier has these shirts we will hold the announced price of \$26.50. (We would curtail this offer rather than raise your cost!) If you'd like one of these you must prepay by cash or check at this April meeting for May delivery.

Club T-shirts will be ordered at a future date if the demand is there. More on this later.

We hope that you the membership can appreciate the time and effort spent in order to make these club items available at the lowest cost possible. As long as you keep up your support by purchasing these things we can order larger quantities and therefore save you money. We think we're doing a better job each year. Do you realize that the average member could buy a club fishing cap, 2 logo'd fishing towels, and a club T-shirt for just \$23 total? We think we're on the right track and we thank you for your continued support of this program.

### New ACFA Recognition Decals

The new ACFA boat decals will be delivered to the membership (2 per family) at the April meeting. These decals are a gift to you from ACFA. We are proud of you as club members and we hope that you are proud of ACFA as an

organization to belong to. We hope that each of you will affix these decals to your boat for several reasons--1. So that we can easily recognize one another on the water and possibly help another club member catch more fish. 2. So that we continue to keep our club in the public view thereby gaining new members and recognition of the higher level of fishermen that we have. 3. Because we're just darn proud of our club--the best at what we do in this area of the world!

**ACFA  
TOURNAMENT STANDINGS**

2003 Tournament Standings

PLACE	MEMBER	POINTS
1	Kyle Mitternacht	13
2	Alvin Bell	8
2	Barry Keith	8
2	Don Ludlam	8
3	Charlie Dowdle	6
3	Angie Howle	6
3	John Winter	6
4	David Hare	4
4	Wes Knight	4
4	Bill Midgette	4
4	Ocie Wade	4
5	Del Delchamps	1
5	Kelly Fulmer	1
5	Brittney Howle	1
5	Bruce Howle Sr.	1
5	Bruce Howle Jr.	1
5	Brooke Jemison	1
5	Peyton Jemison	1
5	Bekki Ludlam	1
5	Bobby McElroy	1
5	Gerald Markow	1
5	John Markow	1
5	Nicholas Markow	1
5	Frank Mitternacht	1
5	Eugene Pierce	1
5	Mike Thompson	1

**Big Fish Contest Standings 2003**

3/24/2003

	Blackfish	Flounder	Ground Mullet	Redfish	WT
1		Bruce Howle, Sr.		Charlie Dowdle	6.80
2				Gerald Markow	6.65
3				Bobby McElroy	6.65
4				Doug Houston	5.40
5				Eal Hopper	2.95
	Sheepshead	Speckled Trout	Spanish Mackerel	White Trout	WT
1	Don Ludlam	Bruce Howle Jr.		Kyle Mitternacht	2.33
2	Angie Howle	Alvin Bell		Del Delchamps	2.25
3	David Hare	Bruce Howle Jr.		Eugene Pierce	1.93
4	Brooke Jemison	Bill Patterson		Eugene Pierce	1.82
5	Britney Howle	Bill Patterson		Bill Patterson	1.78