



ACFA

Club Officers & Chairpersons for 2006

President:	Doug Smith	604-4758
Vice Pres:	Bud Barr	602-1982
Treasurer:	Jep Hill	476-1796
Secretary:	Margaret Miller	476-4142
Statistics:	D.W. Garrettson	599-8701
Membership:	Erik Nelson	331-3804
Weigh master:	Pat Hughes	422-6992
Donations:	Jimmy Quint	377-5739
Logo Items:	Alvin Bell	455-5739
Awards:	Bill Midgette	473-4768
Food:	Randy Wiscaver	402-2485
Newsletter:	David Thornton	458-2775
	Advisor: Mike Thompson	

November 2006 Newsletter No.10

Thursday November 2, 2006 will be the final regular meeting of the 2006 season held at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road. Awaiting confirmation, our guest speaker for the evening will be addressing the health of the Mobile Bay system since Hurricane Katrina. There will not be a designated 'quick hits' speaker for this meeting; Doug has something a little different in mind. Don't forget to sign in as this will be your last chance to qualify for the Grand Prize Drawing to be given away at the Awards Banquet.

President's Message:

Well, this fishing season for the club is quickly winding down. I hope it has been as much fun for everyone as it has been for me. I want to thank all those who served on the board of directors and the people who have stepped up to help them out. We hope next year will be even bigger and better for the new members and the "old salts". And thanks again to Randy "Bigun" Wiscaver and his crew of volunteers for cooking the fish and grits at the weigh in for the Causeway Classic. We had a great time fishing together too.

October 'Causeway Classic' Tournament Results

Early Saturday morning October 21, 2006 was pretty typical Mobile fall weather for the start of the 'Causeway Classic'. A 3:30 am check of the weather conditions showed the air temp was 48 degrees at the USS Alabama with NNW winds at 8-12 mph. That's a wind chill of below 45 degrees! The winds were even a bit stronger out over the bay. Middle Bay Lighthouse had 56 degrees and winds were NNE at 15 mph. That made the early morning run down the bay "kind of choppy" for some club members (like Frank and Kyle Mitternacht and Rick Tourne) and may have contributed to folks gathering up in Pinto Pass. The "big bite" seemed to come early there for some members (like Lee Minto and partner Bryan Hack), evade most (like me), and come late for others (like my partner DeWayne Overstreet). Some resourceful members (like Gary Tingle) even caught their fish without aid of a boat. Nice specks and reds were reported caught from Meaher Park Pier! Many members moved around looking for that big bite. For some, like Chris Massey it paid off (all four eligible species in four casts!), for most others though... oh well, maybe next year.

It sure turned out to be a nice day once the wind died and sun warmed things up, even though the fishing seemed to get slower as the tide turned. But some fishers persevered (like Henry Nall) and there was a flurry of nice fish brought in just before 5 pm. And as spotty as the catching was, most members did manage to bring fish to the scales (plus there were numerous oversized redfish caught and released). There were 70 fish officially weighed in by Pat Hughes and Charlie Dowdle.

<u>Sheepshead (12 total):</u>	<u>Speckled Trout (22 total):</u>	<u>Redfish (26 total):</u>	<u>Flounder (10 total):</u>
1. Bryan Hack 5.85	1. Rick Tourne 4.60	1. Henry Nall 6.80	1. DeWayne Overstreet 3.65
2. Lee Minto 4.40	2. Kyle Mitternacht 4.05	2. Leslie Smith 6.75	2. John Fassbender 3.45
3. Donnie Howell 4.10	3. Chris Massey 3.85	3. Belinda Smith (L) 6.65	3. Lee Minto 3.35

As some folks noted, Bryan Hack's 1st place finish and Les Smith's 2nd place finish means there is now a tie for the top position in the Tournament Points. Since the season ended with this tournament it was suggested that they launch in Les' boat (since he had it there) and have a 'fish-off' to decide the champion. But that idea was tabled after it was pointed out that Bryan fishing in someone else's boat would give him a clear advantage. (ha-ha ;-)) That's a joke! Actually, President Doug Smith announced that at the November meeting there would be a "special test" between the two of them to determine the champion. Don't ya just love the drama!

Fish Donations:

At the weighin Charlie Dowdle was collecting fish for Post 88 to have a fish fry for the Disabled Veterans Hospital in Biloxi. At last count he had filled three ice chests with donated fish and had to borrow a fourth. Thank you Mr. Charlie for helping us help others, and it was great to have you back with us again!

2007 Chair Nominations:

Officially nominations for ANY chair position are open until the 7pm start of the November meeting. See Doug Smith if you wish to be considered, as a vote will be held during the meeting. So far the nominations are: **President-** Doug Smith, **Vice President-** Donald Wayne Garrettson, **Treasurer-**Jep Hill, **Secretary-** Judy Smith, **Statistics-** Vince Hawkins, **Membership-** Erik Nelson, **Weigh master-** Pat Hughes, **Donations-** Jimmy Quint, **Logo Items-** Alvin Bell, **Awards-** Bryan Hack, **Food-** Randy Wiscaver, and **Newsletter-** David Thornton. Vote early and vote often!

Seminar Series:

Joe Sirmon wanted to say "Hat's off to all the great moderators who helped make the Seminar Series a success." Due to the tremendous response the seminar series will continue next year (prior to the meetings). If you have ANY requests for topics or discussions please email him at joesirmon@bellsouth.net or call 605-5811, or see him at the meeting. Thanks to you too, Joe!

Logo Items:

Alvin Bell reports the logo items will NOT be available at the November or December meetings. But if you'd like anything just give him a call (455-5739) and he will make arrangements to meet up with you. He also asked if anyone has any recommendations for club items to let him know so that it may be available in the future. Alvin has some great ideas about t-shirts for next year!

Yearlong Big Fish Contest:

Entries for the 2006 Big Fish Contest must be weighed prior to midnight Tuesday November 14th, and if mailed must be received by Donnie Garrettson with the Nov 14 postmark no later than Friday November 17th. That's D.W. Garrettson 3811 Del Monte Court Mobile, AL 36605. But better not to chance the mail IF it's close! Call: **599-8701** All fish caught, weighed or processed after 12:01 am Wednesday November 15, 2006 (with the above exception) will be entered in the 2007 Big Fish Contest.

Redfish Events

A number of ACFA members (and former members) have been participating and doing well recently in professional redfish competitions around the region from Texas to Florida. Let's get behind these folks and cheer them on as they plan to fish the IFA Championship in Panama City Florida on Nov. 10th & 11th. Details can be found on the internet at <http://www.redfishtour.com/> or by checking our ACFA website at <http://acfafishing.com/phpBB/index.php>
Team Luney-Dak - Erik Nelson & Donald Garrettson
White Fishing Team - Barnie & Steve White
Team M - Jason & Margaret Miller
Team Moon Master Cylinder Doggie - Kyle Mitternight & Paul Smith
A Team - Bobby Abruscato & Scott Ritter

Awards Banquet:

The 2006 Awards Banquet will start at 7pm Saturday December 2 at the American Legion Post 250 on Dauphin Island Parkway. We had it there last year, inside the building where we have most of the weighins. Well over 50 plaques will be awarded in addition to other prizes. The food this year will brought in from Saucy-Q Bar B Que Restaurants, and members are asked to contribute their favorite deserts to share with everyone. Your \$45 membership fee allows you and your immediate family (anyone eligible to fish in the club tournaments) to enjoy the night's festivities courtesy of YOUR fishing club, the ACFA. Guests are welcome for an additional \$10 per person to cover the cost of the meal. A cash bar for beverages will be in effect. And back by popular demand, musical entertainment will provided by *The Mistifiers*, that's David Hare and Don Ludlam's band (providing their parole is approved ;-)
We request you to RSVP by midnight November 14, 2006 by either signing a sheet that will be passed around at the November meeting or calling 626-2469 and leave a message as to the number in your party. This way we can get an accurate count of how many to expect for dinner at the meeting hall. Hope to see you there!

Red Cross Causeway Classic Trout Tournament Is Back!

All anglers young and the young at heart are encouraged to participate in the Red Cross Causeway Classic Trout Tournament. Entry fee for adult anglers will be \$25 per angler, and youth anglers (18 and under) \$15 per angler.

The Red Cross Causeway Classic Trout Tournament will begin at daybreak **Saturday November 11, 2006**. Anglers may launch from anywhere along Mobile Bay and adjacent state waters, and must weigh in at Battleship Park from 2-4 p.m. Awards, food, fun and prizes will begin at 4:30 p.m. for anglers, families and friends.

Adult and Youth Anglers will be competing in the categories of 3 fish creel on speckled trout, largest speckled trout, and largest flounder.

All funds raised from the Red Cross Causeway Classic Trout Tournament will stay at the local Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter, (Mobile, Baldwin, Clarke, Monroe, and West Escambia Counties,) to help support the programs and services it provides to the community. These programs and services include: Armed Forces Emergency Services, First Aid, CPR, AED Training, Disaster Services during times of any disaster, whether it is a massive hurricane or a single family house fire, and Community Disaster Education.

To purchase your angler tickets or sponsor the American Red Cross AL Gulf Coast Chapter Causeway Classic Trout Tournament please contact the chapter at (251) 438-2571 or www.redcrossalcoast.org
<http://www.redcrossalcoast.org/Portals/0/Causeway%20Classic%20Sponsor%20Pkg%202006.pdf>

Don't be Sad...

Even though the ACFA Tournament Season has ended there is still a LOT of good inshore fishing to be had. To paraphrase my favorite (star) ship captain: "I like to think there are always, POSSIBILITIES." Though the mackerel and blackfish and pelagics migrate away, and the flounder move offshore during the winter there are still plenty of fish around with even fewer fishermen. In fact, many speckled trout fishers claim that the colder months are THE most productive, especially for BIG specks and using artificial baits as natural bait gets scarcer into the winter. Dress in warm layered clothing, stay safe and fish with or near friends. And don't forget that 'Float Plan'. Besides the speck schools concentrating in the rivers there are often marauding bands of redfish and the ever cooperative white trout. And everyone's favorite 'striped suit' the sheepshead are often available near structure with live shrimp. If you've never spent a mild late fall or winter day on the beach, consider that scrappy whiting prowl near the waters' edge and respond well to pieces of dead shrimp on light tackle. And there's always the chance encounter with a redfish or black drum of any size and even an occasional pompano. Like the good captain said... "POSSIBILITIES."

And there are several trout tournaments scheduled during the cooler months. We try to advertise and discuss them on the ACFA forums, so feel free to check out the action on that front. It's a great way to stay in touch with other club members and hear about upcoming events.

For some years now David Hare and Bruce Howle, Sr. (and last year, Paul Smith) have hosted artificial only tournaments during the 'off season'. In the past they have sent out flyers in the mail to ACFA members about the time and place of the tournaments. Those who participate have a lot of fun and the nominal entry fee is split up among the top placers. Maybe a few bucks help take the edge off on some of those blustery cold winter days!

REMINDERS-

- **Please wear a nametag at the meeting to facilitate getting to know one another**
- **Be sure and sign in (for the Attendance Prize given away at the Awards Banquet)**
- **Donations are needed for the Attendance Prize (see Eric Nelson at the sign in table)**
- **Donations are also needed for the Door Prizes (see Jimmy Quint or call 377-5739)**
- **THANK YOU for not SMOKING inside the meeting hall**
- **NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL at the meeting hall premises (Post 88)**
- **Please be respectful to our speakers and save questions to the end of their presentation**
- **Elections at the November meeting**
- **NO club tournaments scheduled in November, December, January or February**
- **The Awards Banquet will be the evening of Saturday December 2, 2006 at 7pm**

Big Fish Contest Standings as of October 23, 2006

	Blackfish	WT		Flounder	WT		Ground Mullet	WT		Redfish	WT
1	John Fassbender	21.60	1	Gerald Markow	5.42	1	Brandon Parker	1.69	1	Vickie Foster (L)	7.00
2	Rick Tourne	20.70	2	Tommy Murray	4.90	2	Jim Glass	1.66	2	Henry Nall	6.80
3	Kyle Mitternight	20.20	3	John Fassbender	4.67	3	Brandon Parker	1.64	3	Leslie Smith	6.75
4	Rick Tourne	20.02	4	George Koulianos	4.46	4	David Hare	1.47	4	Belinda Smith (L)	6.65
5	Frank Mitternight	17.83	5	Joe Sirmon	4.46	5	Jim Glass	1.41	5	Jason Miller	6.45
	Sheepshead	WT		Spanish Mackerel	WT		Speckled Trout	WT		White Trout	WT
1	Leslie Smith	11.75	1	Bekki Ludlam (L)	4.10	1	Trey Pitt	7.26	1	Todd Golomb	3.15*
2	Kyle Mitternight	10.85	2	David Thornton	3.65	2	Chris Conken	6.40	2	Todd Golomb	2.65
3	Matt Corley (N)(j)	10.05	3	Patric Garmeson(N)	3.35	3	Phillip Guy	6.34	3	Belinda Smith (L)	2.35
4	Kyle Mitternight	9.96	4	Don Ludlam	3.30	4	Jim Glass	6.25	4	Hal Scheurich	2.27
5	Mike Lee	9.90	5	Gary Tingle (N)	3.00	5	Bruce Howell Jr.	6.19	5	Mike Thompson	2.10

NOTES: (N) NEW member for 2006 (j) Junior angler (L) Lady Angler (*) NEW CLUB RECORD

Send Big Fish Contest cards to D.W. Garrettson 3811 Del Monte Court Mobile, AL 36605 (599-8701)

ACFA Tournament Point Standings as of October 21, 2006

Pos.	Angler Name	Pts.
1	Leslie Smith	40
1	Bryan Hack	40
2	Henry Nall	32
3	Kyle Mitternight	31
4	Donnie Fassbender	25
5	Todd Golomb	24
6	Tom Duncan	22
7	Belinda Smith (L)	21
8	Mutt Burke	20
8	John Fassbender	20
8	Chris Conken	20
9	Barry Keith	19
10	Rick Tourne	18
11	David Hare	16
12	Matt Corley (N)(j)	15
12	Billy Hurd	15
13	Walter Corley (N)	14
13	Tommy Pond	14
13	Phillip Guy	14

13 points: Vince Hawkins, Hal Scheurich, David Thornton, Bill Midgette

12 points: Trey Pitt, Patric Garmeson (N), Michael Tew (N), Lee Minto, James Foster(N), Dewayne Overstreet, Bud Barr, Blake Michaleski

11 points: Vickie Foster (N)(L), Scott Godwin (N), Chris Massey, Alvin Bell

10 points: Jimbo Miller, David Mashburn, Cameron Calhoun (j)

9 points: Mike Lee, Jerold Bolen, Bubba Williams, Bobby McElroy

8 points: Mike Thompson, Joel Midgette, Jad Pope, Doug Smith, Del Delchamps

7 points: Evan Fassbender (N)

6 points: Pete Burns, Larry Watkins (N), Judy Smith (L), Donald Garrettson

5 points: Margaret Miller (L), Marc Kruse, Jason Day, Frank Mitternight, Austin Lee Jr (j)

4 points: Tim Harwell, Mike Herring, Mike Foster (N), Jim Glass, Jason Miller, Donnie Howell, Denny Lyons (N), Bruce Howle Jr., Bobby Burgess (N)

3 points: Thomas Murray, Ted Kiefer, Savannah Calhoun (j), Roger Glass, Mike Jones, Lori Tourne (L), Kelly Fulmer, Judson Taylor (N), Erik Nelson, Doug Davis, David Garrettson, Chip Cummings, Charles Hobden (N), Carl Emmons (N), Brandon Parker, Bo Winter, Ben Hurn

2 points: Vicky Garmeson(L)(N), Theo Koulianos(j), Shane Ford, Shaleigh Parker(L), Scott Lewis, Robert Schmitz (N), Robert Morgan (j)(N), Randy Wiscaver, Michael Taylor (N), Michael Jones (j), Matt Perry, John Burke, Howard Perry, Donna Kiefer (L), Don Ludlam, Daniel Ford, Dane Tomberline (N), Bruce Howle Sr, Brenda Mashburn (L), Bekki Ludlam (L)

1 point: Wes Hughes (N), Tyler Haas (N), Tim Bradley Jr (j), Tim Bradley, Stephanie Cormier (L), Stacy Nelson (L), Skip Hinton (N), Skip Grizzle (N), Savannah Lee (j), Robbie Bosarge (N), Rick Rutland (N), Rick Gaines, Phillip Russell (N), Paul Smith, Pat Hughes, Ocie Wade, Michael McDonald, Lee Ward (?), Lain Cameron (N), Kenny Nelson (N), Kelly Bolen (j), Jonathan Payton (?), John Westover, Joseph Hughes (j), Joel Jordan (N), Joe Sirmon, Jimmy Quint, Jerry Donahughie (N), Jep Hill, Jackson Hughes (j), Hayes Cornelius (j) (N), Gerald Markow, George Koulianos, Gary Tingle (N), Ethan Jordan (j) (N), Christine Gaines (L), Charlie Dowdle, Bob Morgan (N), Bob Matthews (N), Bob Gray, Blake Grizzle (j)(N), Barbara Brady (L)

Check Us Out Online @ <http://acfafishing.com/>

This is YOUR newsletter. Please address comments, suggestions or corrections to the Newsletter Editor: David Thornton
1711 Jasper Road Mobile, AL 36618 (251-458-2775) or email pierpounder2001@hotmail.com