

Alabama Coastal Fisherman's Association



February 2010

Next meeting: February 4th
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Jason Smith
Quick Hits: David Thornton
Mini-seminar: None this month
Next tournament: March 13th,
Weigh in at American Legion Post
250, 10950 Dauphin Island Pkwy.

Club Officers for 2010

President:	Vince Hawkins	452-3899
Vice Pres:	Patric Garmeson	747-1554
Treasurer:	Chris Conken	209-2726
Secretary:	Vicki Foster	621-9113
Statistics:	Adam Barker	747-1552
Membership:	Keith Kenny	661-6057
Weighmaster:	Pat Hughes	422-6992
Donations:	Charlie Crawford	391-5523
Logo Items	Joe Sirmon	605-5811
	and Jerry Torrans	344-4916
Awards:	George Harrison	367-7658
Newsletter:	Jason Miller	490-3221
Webmaster:	Brandon Milam	680-1302
Advisor:	Mike Thompson	

President's Message

Another tournament season is upon us and I for one cannot wait to see some saltwater move back into the upper end of the bay. We had over 160 people signup for the Christmas Party. If you did not attend, you missed some great food(Thanks again Terry Quint) and a good time. We hope to see an increase in Membership and tournament participation this year and have made a few changes for the tournaments that will be talked about in the coming months. If you have a friend or co-worker that has talked about joining the club, take a few minutes and encourage them to come to a meeting or attend a weigh-in and join the club – ACFA Membership is by far the best deal in town(feeding the family at the Christmas Party pretty much covers the cost). The deer will soon be able to rest a little easier and the fish will soon have everyone's attention- don't forget to wear your PFD's and look forward to seeing you at the first meeting.

Important Newsletter News:

This year we will continue the practice of only mailing the newsletter to members who specifically request it. If you wish to continue to receive the newsletter via mail, you must check the box requesting the newsletter via mail on the Membership Application Form you will fill out when you renew your membership and pay your dues. Otherwise, the monthly newsletter will be available via the website at: www.acfafish.com. Click the newsletter link at the top of the page, and there you will find the most recent newsletter, as well as an archive of previous newsletters. There is also a link on the newsletter page on the website where you can sign up to receive the newsletter via e-mail.



The Edge of the Dog River Ice Pack-Cold enough for you? This photo was taken about 25 yards off the bank of Dog River on January 9, 2010. The Nobel Committee has asked Al Gore to return his award.

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Dues are due!

With the start of a new year, membership renewal dues are now due. Fill out the enclosed Membership Application and mark the appropriate box if you still want the newsletters mailed to you, and send your check to: Keith Kenney 4276 Honey Court, Mobile, AL 36619. It beats waiting in line at the meeting! And if you mail in your dues, your name will be entered into the drawing where TWO members get their dues refunded. Dues must be paid prior to the March tournament in order to participate in the tournaments, and if you have a fish on the 2010 Bigfish board, your dues must be received by the end of February to keep it there. Finally, if you haven't paid your dues by the April mailing of the newsletter, you're no longer a member, so don't delay! With 10 informative monthly meetings with multiple speakers; 8 monthly tournaments with great food provided at each one including several fish fries and the Member Appreciation Shrimp Boil; and the year end Awards Banquet; all for you, your spouse, and children under 16, \$45 is still the best fishing buy you can get anywhere. Your membership also includes exclusive access to the "Members Only" section of the ACFA webforum.

13th Annual Awards Banquet Recap

December 4th was the 2009 ACFA Awards Banquet at The Grand Hall with a great dinner provided by club member and part time caterer Jimmy Quint. A great time was had by all. A pile of plaques was also handed out to the following winners:

2009 Big Fish Champions were:

Blackfish: 1st & 2nd Rick Tourne (23.93 lbs.), 3rd & 4th, Frank Mitternacht, 5th Dane Tomberlin

Sheepshead: 1st Trenny Woodham (8.20 lbs), 2nd Chase Maxwell

Flounder: 1st & 2nd Gerald Markow (6.57 lbs), 3rd David Thornton, 4th Jamie Dixon, 5th Phillip "Doug" Tierce

Spanish Mackerel: 1st Christian Howell (5.10 lbs), 2nd & 4th Dave Thornton, 3rd Danielle Howell, 5th Gary Tingle

Ground Mullet: 1st Dane Tomberlin (1.95 lbs), 2nd & 3rd Kyle Doster, 4th Daniel Ford, 5th Lauren Rhea

White Trout: 1st O.P. Harrison (2.29 lbs), 2nd Jim Foster, 3rd Jacob Guy, 4th Theo Koulianos, 5th Noah Barker

Redfish: 1st Bill Graves (7.35 lbs), 2nd Phillip Guy, 3rd O.P. Harrison, 4th Luke Flenkin, 5th Rick Tourne

Speckled Trout: 1st Alvin Bell (8.00 lbs), 2nd O.P. Harrison, 3rd Bill Midgette, 4th Lee Minto, 5th Joey Gates

Catch, Photo and Release Speckled Trout: 1st Jim Foster 28.25", 2nd George Harrison, 3rd O.P. Harrison, 4th Doug Smith, 5th Patrick Garmeson

The Big Fish Championship winners: 1st O.P. Harrison, 2nd Rick Tourne, 3rd David Thornton, 4th Bill Midgette, 5th Gerald Markow,

The Tournament Point Champions: 1st- Adam Barker, 2nd - George Harrison, 3rd- O.P. Harrison, 4th-Rick Tourne, 5th-Vicki Foster

2009 New Angler: Trenny Woodham

2009 Junior Angler Trophy: Kyle Woodham.

2009 ACFA Lady Angler: Vicki Foster

2009 Master Angler: O.P. Harrison

The "Founder's Award" is awarded to the individual who is considered to have advanced the club by giving time and effort beyond expectations. Brenda Wilson received the **2009 Founder's Award** for her multiple years of service as the club cook. Brenda sacrificed a whole lot of personal time and fishing on club tournament days to make sure we were all well fed at tournament weigh-ins and even at a few club meetings. Thanks, Brenda!

The last award of the evening was the **Grand Attendance Prize** drawing that went to Bill Graves.

Awards for the 2010 Season

The club will again award 1st-3rd place plaques and points for at least 4 species at every tournament (with the exception of the May Speckled Trout Challenge), with four tournaments awarding 1st-3rd for five species. Also an additional plaque will be awarded to the angler in the August "Grand Slam" Tournament weighing in the heaviest "Grand Slam" (combined weight of that angler's Speckled Trout, Redfish, and Flounder) whether or not any or all of their "Grand Slam" fish place in the top 5 of those species. Any angler placing in the top 5 of all 3 of the designated "Grand Slam" species for this tournament will still receive a bonus 5 Tournament Points.

And once again an anonymous donor has graciously made a cash donation to the club earmarking those funds for the junior anglers. Junior anglers will receive plaques for 1st - 3rd place at each tournament for the same categories as the grownups. And should a junior angler's fish place with the big kids, that junior angler's plaque will "pass" to the next placing junior angler. For example, if the top finishing junior angler's sheepshead places 2nd in the adult category in the March tournament, the 2nd place junior sheepshead winner then moves up to 1st place and so on.

The Catch, Photo and Release ("CPR") Speckled Trout Bigfish competition will also return. Mail a photo showing your alive and healthy speckled trout, and its length to the nearest 1/4" to Adam Barker, or post it on the website, and give the angler and date of catch. If reasonably possible, also include a pic of the fish being released.

In summary, the tournament categories and plaques awarded will be the same as 2009. Tournament points will be awarded in each category at each tournament for 1st-5th place. The tournament point system will be as follows: 1st -5 points, 2nd -4 points, 3rd -3 points, 4th -2 points, and 5th 1 point. (Plus one participation point). Plaques will still only be awarded for 1st-3rd. Bigfish points will be awarded for Bigfish categories from 1st-10th place, with yearend plaques going to the 1st-5th place winners in each category.

We have also discontinued the November tournament due to poor participation. The Mutt Burke Causeway Classic will now be held in October. This year the tournament will be held on October 16, 2010.

Have a question? Check the newsletter archive!

The newsletter is the source for club related information. Many of the answers to your questions during the year can be found right here. So, if you continue to receive the newsletter by mail, keep your old newsletters handy and it will answer many of your questions that may come up over the year. The rest of us can go to the club website www.acfafish.com, click the newsletter link, and find previous newsletters from earlier in the year. You can even find newsletters for years past for taking that stroll down memory lane, or comparing “new” newsletters to old newsletters to see just how often your newsletter editor plagiarizes off previous newsletter editor’s hard work. For example, only the 17 words in this sentence changed in this paragraph from last year’s newsletter.

Mini-seminars are back

Joey Gates has volunteered to keep the popular mini-seminars going. The mini-seminar series will return with the March meeting. If you have a topic you would like to hear about from one of our resident club experts, please let Joey know. Let him know at a meeting, on the ACFA message board at “noslacktackle”, or via e-mail: joey@noslacktackle.com

Logo items

Joe Sirmon and Jerry Torrans will be the new Logo Items Co-Chairmen this year and will be selling the usual assortment of ACFA shirts, hats, fish towels, huggers etc. at every meeting.

Sign-In and win stuff

Those that attend and check in to at least 8 of our 10 regular club meetings will be eligible for our 2010 Grand Attendance Prize Package. Be sure to see Keith Kenney at the sign-in table and please wear a name tag. It’s a great help to new members in associating names and faces and for all club members to get to know one another quicker.

Donations are needed

Donations are needed for our monthly door prizes and for the 2010 Grand Attendance Prize Package. Charlie Crawford has graciously volunteered to be in charge of donations this year. See Charlie, or call him at 391-5523 to make or arrange for donations.

New Member Sponsors

The more the merrier! Be sure to suggest ACFA to your fishing friends and acquaintances. As mentioned earlier, you can’t find a better fishing deal. Remember to have any new members you get to sign up to put your name down as their sponsor in order to get credit for signing up those new members. The member who sponsors the most new members will get his dues refunded. Plus, any member that signs up at least one new member is qualified to have his name entered into a drawing to have his annual dues refunded. Membership was down slightly last year, so be sure to remember to invite anyone you know who loves coastal fishing to join. You can find a membership forms for any new members you have in mind at: http://www.acfafish.com/cms/ACFA_Membership_Form.pdf

This is your club, and your newsletter

If there is anything you feel that is newsworthy and related to the club, or fishing in general, please don’t be shy about suggesting it be included in the newsletter. I can be reached at 251-490-3221, or jasonmiller1974@yahoo.com, or on the website as “Jason M”. In particular, if you have any tournament winnings to brag about be sure and let me know. I try to keep up, but it’s difficult to do so considering the number of great anglers we have in the club, and especially during the busy summer tournament season.

ACFA’ers in other tournaments

Every year ACFA’ers can be found on the leader boards of just about every local tournament, and even some tournaments that aren’t so local. We will continue to recognize those anglers every month in the newsletter.

Club members Bruce Howle, Sr. and David Hare have continued the tradition of conducting informal, wintertime, all artificial bait, speckled trout tournaments known as “Battle of the Grubs.” There have been two since the last newsletter:

BOG I

This winter's first installment of the BOG was held in a cold, stormy rain on December 12, 2009. The "lucky" and soggy winners were:

1 st : George and O.P. Harrison	20.30 lbs. (5 fish creels)
2 nd : David Hare and partner(?)	20.00 lbs.
3 rd : Bobby Abruscato and Ricky Carlisle	17.40 lbs.
Lunker speck: O.P. Harrison	5.20 lbs.
Redfish: Jason Cornelius	5.65 lbs.

BOG II

The second installment was held on January 16, 2010, also in a cold, stormy rain. The winning mental patients...erh...anglers were:

1 st : Bobby Abruscato and Ricky Carlisle	14.40 lbs. (5 fish creels)
2 nd : Bruce Howle, Sr. and Jr.	13.30 lbs.
3 rd : Al Mead and Jimmy Quint	10.90 lbs.
Lunker speck: Bobby Abruscato and Ricky Carlisle	3.85 lbs.
Redfish: Craig Prescott:	4.15lbs.(Lunker slot)

2010 Bigfish Standings

	Blackfish	Wt	Flounder	Wt	Ground Mullet	Wt	Redfish	Wt
1 st					Marty Garmeson	2.50		
2 nd					David Thornton	2.30		
3 rd					David Thornton	2.15		
4 th					Marty Garmeson	2.15		
5 th								
	Sheephead	Wt	Spanish Mackerel	Wt	White Trout	Wt	Speckled Trout	Wt
1 st					George Harrison	1.22		
2 nd								
3 rd								
4 th								
5 th								

CPR Speckled Trout: George Harrison 23.75", Doug Tierce 23.50"

Reminders

2010 dues are due now, pay by mail to avoid crowds and qualify for prizes.

NO ACFA tournament in February.

2010 Big Fish Contest is now running until Nov 14, 2010. Our Statistician MUST receive cards within 30 days of catch.

Fill out and send Bigfish cards to: Adam Barker 1682 Heartland Circle Robertsdale, AL 36567(947-2579)

Dues MUST be paid by the end of February to retain a fish on the Big Fish Board.

Please remember, NO SMOKING in the meeting room. Thanks for helping to make a healthier family environment.

And PLEASE be respectful of our speakers (and members who want to hear them) by refraining from any unnecessary talking or moving about during the presentations. And we ask that you save your questions until the end of their talk.

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

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

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.

OFFICIAL ACFA 2010 Calendar

Meeting Date
 Tournament Date
 Newsletter Due Date
 Newsletter Mail Date

January 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

ACFA 2010 Schedule

Month	"Drop Dead" date everything MUST be to newsletter editor by:...	Mail newsletter 1 week prior to meeting	Monthly Meeting Date - 1st Thursday	Tournament date Saturday	Tournament name	Tournament fish	Participants #	REMARKS
Jan.	XXXX	XXXX	NO regular MEETING		Board meeting in Jan BEFORE 1st Newsletter			
Feb.	Jan. 22	Jan. 25	Feb. 4	NONE	-----	-----	--	NO Tournament in Feb. Too Cold!
Mar.	Feb. 19	Feb. 22	Mar. 4	Mar. 13	March Madness	Speckled Trout, White Trout, Sheephead, Ground Mullet, Speckled Trout, Flounder, Sheephead, Ground Mullet	12	Set week later for better bite
Apr.	Mar. 19	Mar. 22	Apr. 1	Apr. 3	Spring Breakout	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, Speckled Trout & Jr Speckled Trout	12	USCG Aux. FREE Boat Safety inspections
May	Apr. 23	Apr. 26	May. 6	May. 8	Speckled Trout Challenge	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, Speckled Trout (5/Team), Redfish, Ground Mullet, Spanish Mackerel	10	STC Eastside vs Westside Weigh In at Scott's Landing / Fish Fry -- 5 Species --
Jun.	May 21	May. 24	Jun. 3	Jun. 5	Summer Starter	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, Speckled Trout (5/Team), Redfish, 3 Flounder Creel, White Trout, Blackfish	15	Tourney moved from July 4th / 2 anglers per team for specks -- 5 Species --
Jul.	Jun. 18	Jun. 21	Jul. 1	Jul. 10	Rodeo Warm-up	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, White Trout, Blackfish	18	-- 5 Species -- 1st thru 5th Place Plaques in Siam Categories Biggest Slam Award
Aug.	Jul. 23	Jul. 26	Aug. 5	Aug. 7	Mobile Bay Grand Slam	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, White Trout, Blackfish	22	-- 5 Species -- / Fish Fry
Sep.	Aug. 20	Aug. 23	Sep. 2	Sep. 4	End of Summer	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, White Trout, Spanish Mackerel	15	Launch from Causeway/ Chill Cook-off @ Scott's Landing NO Tournament in Nov.
Oct.	Sep. 17	Sep. 20	Oct. 7	Oct. 16	Mutt Burke Causeway Classic	Speckled Trout, Redfish, Flounder, Sheephead	12	2010 Big Fish Contest ends Nov 14 and '11 begins Nov 15 NO Mail on Thanksgiving! RSVP (by phone) for Banquet by nite of Nov 30
Nov.	Oct. 22	Oct. 25	Nov. 4	NONE	-----	-----	12	plus Junior Angler Plaques for ALL Tournament Species
Dec.	Nov. 19	Nov. 22	Dec. 3	NONE	-----	-----	--	



Alabama Coastal Fisherman's Association Membership Application Form

mail to: Keith Kenney 4276 Honey Ct. Mobile Alabama 36619

Date _____

First Name/Middle Initial _____ M.I. _____
 Last Name _____

(Please use your common name (nickname, Sr, Jr, III, etc) that you will use in the Tournaments and wish to have printed on memberlist and in the newsletter to help avoid confusion.)

Street Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Zip/Postal Code _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

First Time Member Yes No

Newsletter by postal mail? Yes No

(Note: If you select No, your newsletter will be emailed to you, or you can pick it up on the web site)

Online Screen Name _____
 (if registered on the online forum)

Boat Type/Make _____
 Boat Name _____

% Time Fishing With Artificial Bait _____ Live Bait _____

Topics you would like to hear discussed at meetings

% Of Time Targeting	Speckled Trout	_____	Redfish	_____
	Flounder	_____	Sheepshead	_____
	White Trout	_____	Spanish Mackerel	_____

Referred to Membership or Sponsored by _____

Other family members who qualify to fish tournaments on your membership:
 Spouse (First Name): _____
 Children under age 16 before February 1st (including step-children)
 First Name(s): _____