



ACFA

Club Officers and Chairpersons for 2007

President:	Doug Smith	604-4758
Vice Pres:	D.W. Garrettson	599-8701
Treasurer:	Jep Hill	476-1796
Secretary:	Judy Smith	379-7195
Statistics:	Vince Hawkins	452-3899
Membership:	Erik Nelson	331-3804
Weighmaster:	Pat Hughes	422-6992
Donations:	Jimmy Quint	377-4879
Logo Items:	Alvin Bell	455-5739
Awards:	Bryan Hack	510-4196
Food:	Randy Wiscaver	662-3628
Newsletter:	David Thornton	458-2775
Webmaster:	Chris Massey	422-2518
Advisor:	Mike Thompson	

September 2007 Newsletter No. 8

Summertime is winding down and (soon we hope) the fishing should pick up again with the onset of cooler weather.

Most folks have been having a difficult time finding many sizable speckled trout this month, as is usual for the end of August. Hopefully, we can all get a better idea of what spots and tactics will pay off in the coming weeks at our next meeting.

The "Good Lord willing" our next meeting will be held Thursday September 6th at the American Legion Post beginning at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road (the usual place) a quarter mile north of McVay Drive.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be local guide Captain Dan Kolenich (251) 422-3474 who will discuss inshore and coastal fishing tactics. Captain Dan guides fly and light tackle fishing in the rivers, creeks, and bays of the Mobile-Tensaw Delta or the channels flats of Mobile Bay. Inshore fishing for redfish, speckled trout, flounder, and bass or just sightseeing trips in the Delta by motorboat, canoe, or kayak. He also offers nearshore and even offshore charters salt-water fly-fishing for bull reds, gator trout, bonita, king mackerel, red snapper, bluefish, ladyfish, Amberjack, and jack crevalle. More info is available on his website @ <http://capt Dankolenich.home.att.net/>

And Jerald Bolen will do the 'Quick Hits' segment, sharing some of his vast knowledge and experience. Sounds like a good night for fishtalk!

President's Message

Well with just 2 tournaments left this year is almost gone!!! I know it's hot but you can catch a few fish early in the mornings in Mobile River and around the rigs in the lower bay. Remember keep what you want to eat and release the rest. Doug

ACFA August 'Mobile Bay Grand Slam' Tournament and Membership Shrimp Boil...

was held on Saturday August 4th under typical mid summer conditions: HOT temps under partly cloudy skies with a fresh afternoon seabreeze. A lot of fishers had a hard time even finding a tournament fish to weigh in much less a 'Grand Slam'. Alas only one slot redfish was weighed in. Some good specks were turned in though, with Tom Duncan's 6.5#r leading the way and seven others being 4 pounds or better. WOW! And at least six flounder over 2 1/2 pounds were weighed in. Mike Thompson likes 'em thick like that ;-)

But the conditions were pretty good for those pursuing blackfish, and an unprecedented eight tripletails were weighed in. Some real beauties! Speaking of beauties, Bekki and Don Ludlam brought in a mess of fine Spanish mackerel and they are atop the Big Fish Board once again. And the junior anglers had a whale of a time with the croaker bite going full force. The action was fast & furious and the competition stiff!

<u>Speckled Trout</u> (23 entered)	<u>Flounder</u> (19 entered)	<u>Jr Croaker</u> (6 entered)
1st - Tom Duncan - 6.50	1st - David Hare - 3.55	1st - Cameron Calhoun - .90
2nd - Billy Hurd - 5.60	2nd - Vince Hawkins - 3.50	2nd - Will Parker - .55
3rd - Doug Houston (N) - 4.95*	3rd - Daniel Ford - 3.00	3rd - Frank Parker - .45*
4th - Adam Barker (N) - 4.95	4th - Doug Davis - 2.90	4th - John Parker - .45
5th - Vince Hawkins - 4.40	5th - Larry Watkins - 2.75	5th - Robert Morgan - .40*
		6th - Matthew Morgan - .40
		7th - Austin Lee - .30
<u>White Trout</u> (13 entered)	<u>Blackfish</u> (8 entered)	<u>Redfish</u> (1 entered)
1st - Les Smith - 1.35	1st - Brandon Parker - 16.65	1st - Larry Watkins - 4.35
2nd - Cameron Calhoun (J) - 1.25	2nd - Rick Tourne - 16.45	
3rd - Belinda Smith (L) - 1.15	3rd - Rick Rutland - 16.20	

* First to weigh in (N) New Member (J) Junior Angler (L) Lady Angler ? Problem w/Membership verification

Special thanks to our cooking crew: Brenda Pate, Mike Lee, Marc Kruse, Bruce Howle Sr and Jr, Randy and Brandy Wiscaver and Doug Smith who cooked up what seemed like tons of lip smacking good boiled shrimp and fixins. That boiled cabbage was "the bomb". IF you didn't try it, you missed something really unique! These folks worked (and sweated) hard on that fine meal. Thanks!

Quit 'SPECKULATING' on Where to Fish in the Bay...

Our Mini-Seminar returns this month with none other than our own Bill "SPECKULATOR" Midgette. Bill will talk about some of the things he has learned over the years fishing rigs, wrecks and reefs around Mobile Bay. He's been busy making up hand drawn maps of 14 popular reefs in the bay and has a spreadsheet with details (such as water depth and other notable obstructions) to give out. In addition he will discuss the all-important issue of "Reef Etiquette". Don't miss this one if you fish the bay, and be sure and be there by 6pm to get a good seat! Send comments or suggestions about future seminars to Joe Sirmon (joesirmon@bellsouth.net).

Last month Joe closed the seminar with a note about how much he has enjoyed tagging many of his fish. He issued an appeal (and an invitation) to all ACFA members to get involved with this important conservation issue. Doug Smith, our club president has recently been tagging fish and echoes those sentiments about it adding to the enjoyment of simply catching, photographing and releasing fish. And it is in accordance to the ACFA Mission Statement: "Promoting friendship, sportsmanship, **and conservation** along coastal Alabama." The data gathered from the tagged fish is entered into a database with the National Marine Fishery Service (NMFS) whose job it is to oversee and protect our sustainable marine resources. For more info see: <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/read/popdy/TagReporting/TagReporting.htm>

You can order a FREE tagging kit and additional tags from CCA (New Orleans Chapter) by calling 1-504-568-0596 or write to: CCA of LA 830 Union St. 3rd Floor New Orleans LA 70112

ACFA Shirt Night

The September meeting will be the last opportunity we will have this year to get the ACFA logo embroidered on your fishing shirt. So be sure and bring your new (or at least in good condition) Columbia or Magellan type shirt with a note or card with your name and \$10 pinned to the pocket and give it to Alvin Bell at the meeting. The shirts will be returned to you at the October meeting. In addition Alvin says he will have the ACFA logo items for sale at the September meeting, and will have a dozen or so of the most recent Top Spot Maps of Mobile Bay (at cost of \$10) courtesy of Barry Keith of Keith Map Service @ 60 Schillinger Road North (ph 633-5588).

ACFA September "End of Summer" Tournament...

will be held on Saturday September 8th from 5am till 5pm, with the weigh-in from 3-5pm at 'the usual place' behind the American Legion Post 250 on Dauphin Island Parkway just two drives south of the Greer's Foodtiger store.

Once again this month we will offer trophies and points for five species: **speckled trout, flounder, redfish (16"- 26")**, **white trout and SPANISH MACKEREL** in 1st through 3rd places for each species. The Junior Angler species will be white trout this month. Go get em kids! Food chairman Randy Wiscaver said he and his dedicated cooking crew will be preparing the fried grouper filets at the weigh in. We're really fortunate to have access to the facilities and obliging volunteers to pull this off again. Thanks to you all in advance!

Fresh Fish Collection...

Also at the weigh in, we will have several ice chests accepting fresh fish donations for Post 88 to use with their fish fries for disabled veterans at the Post and the WF Green State Veterans Home, 300 Faulkner Drive in Bay Minette AL. Longtime ACFA member Charlie Dowdle has spearheaded this worthwhile project for some time and we hope for sometime more! Besides contributing any unneeded fish, would you consider helping out cleaning the fish Sunday morning @ Post 88 on Halls Mill Road at about 11 am (after Sunday Services). Mr Charlie mentioned that previously the Post was SOOO appreciative of the volunteers efforts that they donated bloody marys to them for their efforts ;-)

"Tarpoonapalooza" report...

About a dozen boats with at least 20 ACFA members fished our second annual 'unofficial' tarpon fishing get-together on Sunday August 12th. This year's festivities were blessed with 'ideal' tarpon fishing conditions (IF you can call fishing in +100 degree heat with no wind 'ideal'). The bay was near slick and it was HOT! How, hot? It was so hot the pogeey oil was about to catch fire. Anyway, no tarpon were caught, or even injured (none of us either thank the Lord) but a few tarpon were seen rolling on the surface and I presume laughing at our efforts. However numerous giant gafftop catfish, a few rod bending jack crevalle, several sharks and at least one 23# redfish were landed and gallons of water, soft drinks and assorted cold adult beverages were consumed in an effort to beat the heat and promote patience. For his efforts (and previously catching a tarpon) Rick Gaines "Red October" was officially pronounced 'Grand Poon-ba' of this "unofficial" event, and Vince Hawkins "Hawk" who caught a tarpon the day before was given honorary title 'Prince Poon-ba'. Well, there's always next Year!

Congratulations...

To ACFA member and 'Grand Poon-ba' Rick Gaines who's team placed 3rd in the Weeks Bay Fishing Club's 'Tarpon Tacklin Tourney' held Saturday August 25th. They went 1 for two on tarpon and caught a beautiful specimen well over 100# in the catch and release tournament. Pictures are posted on the club website @ <http://acfafishing.com/phpBB/viewtopic.php?t=10269>

And kudos to Adam Barker (a new ACFA member in 2007) who fishing with Patric Garmeson finished 2nd in sheepshead (7.93#), 3rd in white trout (2.49#), and 6th in flounder in the Conde Cavalier Fishing Rodeo held August 11-12

And to Jay Beck (also a new ACFA member in 2007), who competing with 'Team Fowl Mouth' won 2nd Place in the Alabama Wildlife Federation's Annual Wild Game Cookoff in Millbrook Alabama in early August. They prepared a duck\crawfish dirty rice topped with a blackened catfish and caper hollandaise sauce. Umm, sounds yummy! With a master cook like Jamie Rousous how could they not do well ;-)

Bryan Hack "Q Tip" won the drawing for the rod and reel combo that Donnie Garretson so graciously donated. The raffle raised about \$100 for the club and gave Bryan another rod & reel he can use while fishing on the pier! Ha, just kidding Bryan ;-)

Coming Down the Stretch...

so be sure and continue to sign in to register for our Grand Attendance Prize Package (ice chest full of "goodies" worth in excess of \$200) to be given away at our December awards banquet to a lucky member who has attended at least 8 of the 10 meetings. We would appreciate any appropriate items to add to the prize package or as door prizes for the meetings, or (IF you wish) make a cash donation that we can buy items with. See our membership chairman Erik Nelson 'TIC' at the check in table.

Speaking of the Chair Positions...

Have YOU thought about giving of your time and talents to help the club out? Even in the capacity of a co-chair or volunteer to help lighten the load on our club officials to help things go more smoothly, especially now that our membership is well over 200!

Without a doubt the ACFA is THE premier fishing club in our area, and it got that way with continued support of members who stepped forward to fill these positions and those who help out even in small ways. We must have a slate of names by the October meeting and elections for the 2007 chair positions will be held at the November meeting.

To help everyone out, each of the chairpersons is given a folder and calendar that outlines what their specific duties are. And when you volunteer we guarantee it will be lots of fun and you will have plenty of experienced help until you feel secure at what you are doing in that position (believe me, because I STILL seek help from my predecessor ;-). Thanks Bill!

IF you have ANY questions about specific chair duties, or wish to serve as a chairperson, co-chair, or volunteer please talk to the person on the 2007 chair or see Doug Smith.

Old News is...

ALL of our 2006 and 2007 newsletters can be found on the ACFA website @ <http://acfafishing.com/news.htm>

Kudos to Chris Massey, our Webmaster for posting those for us. **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 (458-2775) or email pierpounder2001@hotmail.com

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 later this year)**
- **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)**
- **NO SMOKING inside the meeting hall please**
- **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**
- **The October Tournament is the Causeway Classic. Weigh-in and fish fry at Scott's Landing**
- **Elections at the November meeting**
- **NO tournament in November or December**
- **December Awards meeting will be Saturday December 1st at Post 250 on Dauphin Island Parkway**
- **A separate Junior Angler category for white trout in the September Tournament (plaques will be awarded for 5 places)**

Your Big Fish entry must be made within 30 days of the catch and please be sure and make a photocopy of your Big Fish Card before entrusting it to the mail service. Better safe than sorry!

Mail to: Vince Hawkins 112 Baratara Drive Chickasaw, AL 36611 (452-3899)

Big Fish Contest Standings as of August 24, 2007

	Blackfish	WT		Flounder	WT		Ground Mullet	WT		Redfish	WT
1	Kyle Mitternacht	22.00	1	Dane Tomberlin	4.11	1	Brittney Howle (J)	1.50*	1	Vince Hawkins	7.40
2	Rick Tourne	20.50	2	Gerald Markow	3.75	2	Jimmy Quint	1.50	2	Judy Smith (L)	6.65
3	Kyle Mitternacht	18.69	3	Nick Redding	3.63	3	Daniel Ford	1.47	3	Mutt Burke	6.50
4	Brandon Parker	16.65	4	David Hare	3.55	4	Daniel Ford	1.45	4	John Burke	6.25
5	Rick Tourne	16.45	5	Cameron Calhoun (J)	3.53	5	David Hare	1.35	5	Butch Pierce (N)	6.15
	Sheepshead	WT		Spanish Mackerel	WT		Speckled Trout	WT		White Trout	WT
1	Henry Nall	12.20	1	Bekki Ludlam (L)	4.35	1	Chris Massey	7.40	1	Adam Barker (N)	2.49
2	Jason Miller	10.90	2	Don Ludlam	4.10	2	Kelly Fulmer	6.83	2	Belinda Smith (L)	1.96
3	Chris Massey	10.65	3	Dane Tomberlin	4.05	3	Tom Duncan	6.50	3	Les Smith	1.35
4	Ted Kiefer	10.20	4	Terry Quint	3.94	4	Bill Midgette	6.20	4	Randy Wiscaver	1.25*
5	Leslie Smith	10.00	5	Bekki Ludlam (L)	3.00	5	Bill Patterson	6.10	5	Cameron Calhoun (J)	1.25

First to weigh in (N) New Member (J) Junior Angler (L) Lady Angler ? Problem w/Membership verification

ACFA Tournament Point Standings as of August 4, 2007

Pos.	Angler Name	Pts.	
			8 points: Billy Hurd, Brittney Howle (J), Eugene Pierce, Judy Smith (L), Phillip Guy
1	David Hare	25	6 points: Daniel Ford, Ted Kiefer, Trey Pitt, Vickie Foster (L)
2	Henry Nall	22	5 points: Barry Keith, Don Ludlam, Doug Tierce (N), Kim Guy (L)
3	Chris Massey	21	4 points: Adam Barker (N), Bekki Ludlam (L), Bo Winter, Chris Conken, Doug Houston, (N), Kelly Fulmer, Mike Tew, Nick Redding (N), Rick Rutland, Sam Clark III (N), Tim Harwell, Tim Pierce (N)
4	Bill Midgette	20	
4	Rick Tourne	20	
5	Mutt Burke	18	3 points: Alvin Bell, Austin Lee (J), Ben Hurn, Brenda Pate (L), Donnie Howell, Doug Davis, George Koulianos, John Fassbender, Mike Lee, Shane Ford, Tommy Pond
6	Patric Garmeson	17	
7	David Thornton	16	2 points: Bill Patterson, Billy Pierce Jr (N)(J), Bobby McElroy, Brandie May (N)(L), Bruce Howle Jr (J), Frank Parker III (J), Gerald Markow, Jad Pope, Jeff May (N), Joe Sirmon, John Parker (J), Jon Barry (N), Lee Minto, Marc Kruse, Margaret Miller (L), Pete Burns, Scott Godwin, Stephen Laurendine (N)
8	Mike Pierce (N)	15	
8	Steve O'Dell (N)	15	
8	Vince Hawkins	15	
8	Tom Duncan	15	1 point: Allison Pierce (N)(J), Angie Howle (L), Austin Key (N), Barney White, Betty Harwell (L), Bill Duke, Bill Lawler (N), Bob Ward, Bruce Dyess (N)(J) (re: Dana?), Byron Webb (N), Charlotte Houston (L), Chase Laurendine (N)(J), Cody Pierce (N)(J), David Garrettson, David McNew, David Wright (N), Dewayne Johnson, Dewayne Overstreet, Donna Keifer (L), Donnie Fassbender, Evan Fassbender, Frank Mitternacht, Frank Parker (?), Frank Parker Jr, Gary Tingle, Heath Harwell (J), Jep Hill, Jerald Bolen, Jim Foster, John Houston (N), Kirk Hoven (N), Kyle Mitternacht, Matt Morgan (J), Mike Thompson, Norman Stockman (N), Pat Hughes, Pete Keith (N), Richard Rutland (N)(?), Robert Morgan (J), Russell Schmitz (N), Sam Clark IV (N)(J), Savannah Calhoun (J), Sharon Markow (L), Ted Lawson, Teena Pierce (L), Todd Golomb, Trent Dowell (N), Wayne Garrettson,
8	Larry Watkins	15	
9	John Burke	14	
9	Billy Pierce (N)	14	
10	Bubba Williams	13	
10	Mike Foster	13	
10	Belinda Smith (L)	13	
11	Richard Suk (N)	12	
12	Butch Pierce (N)	11	
12	Les Smith	11	
			10 points: Doug Smith, Erik Nelson, Randy Wiscaver
			1 point: Wayne Tubb (Ira?), Will Parker (J), Zack Dyess (N)(J) (re: Dana?)
			9 points: Cameron Calhoun (J), Carson Tierce (N)(J), Dane Tomberlin, Del Delchamps, Jason Miller, Theo Koulianos (J)

First to weigh in (N) New Member (J) Junior Angler (L) Lady Angler ? Problem w/Membership verification