



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		

July 2007 – Newsletter No.6

Our sixth meeting of the 2007 season will be held on Thursday July 5 at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, at 2663 Halls Mill Road (the usual place). Dr. Miriam 'Mimi' Fearn of the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of South Alabama will be our guest speaker on the topic of the Dog River Watershed. And the world-renowned David Hare aka "Burl Minnow" will do the 'quick hits' segment. At the end of May our membership reached 221! We have members from other parts of Alabama and even from several other states. Welcome to the largest inshore fishing club in Alabama and one of the largest in the area.

President's Message:

Thanks, to everybody that cooked and the weigh masters at our June tournament and thanks for the rain shower that afternoon. The trout bite has been hit or miss up and down the Mobile River and the lower Bay. Remember, the July meeting is our "Junk Sale" so please bring some "junk" to sell to help the club out. Doug

June 9, 2007 "Summer Starter" Tournament Results

The tournament was held under 'muggy' summer like conditions, with a moderate west wind that caused problems for some anglers. But not those fishing the Theodore Industrial Canal where some rather decent catches were posted by the anglers who persevered through the heat, the humidity and especially the 'trash fish'. And the ONLY Spanish mackerel brought in was actually caught in the bay near there too. The lack of current from the NEAP tide seemed to keep the fish from cooperating for many in other areas.

<u>Redfish: 11 entered</u>	<u>Speckled Trout: 30 entered</u>	<u>Flounder: 20 entered</u>	<u>Ground Mullet: 6 entered</u>
1.) Brittney Howle (L) (J) 5.35#	1.) Richard Suk 5.10#	1.) Bubba Williams 2.80#	1.) Steve Odell 0.95#
2.) Chris Massey 5.00#	2.) Mike Foster 4.15#	2.) David Hare 2.65#	2.) Doug Smith 0.70#
3.) Richard Suk 3.60*#	3.) Vince Hawkins 3.85#	3.) Mike Pierce 2.60#	3.) Don Ludlam 0.55#

Spanish Mackerel: William Pierce 1.65#

Junior Flounder: 1.) Frank Parker III (N)(?) 1.40#

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

Speaking of weighins...

As our club has continued to grow, it is more difficult to track under whose membership the junior and lady anglers and registered under. Of course our memberships include spouses and children under age 16 (including stepchildren). We don't want to leave anyone out of the record keeping, but to avoid any confusion it would be GREATLY appreciated if the junior and lady anglers would ask the record keeper to make a note as to the member's name they are weighing in under (from the membership list), especially for the children with a different last name. Thank you for your cooperation.

Membership Rosters

Traditionally full membership rosters have been made available for our members at the June meeting only. There were some rosters left over that will be made available for pickup only at the July meeting (NO lists are mailed).

The 'Mini Seminar' Series Is On Hold

"Fowl River Joe" Sirmon says that since Bill Midgette needs PLENTY of room for all his junk at the July Junk Sale being held this month, the Mini Seminar Series will take July off and resume just prior to the **August** meeting. (j/k Bill ;-)

You can pass your ideas for seminar topics or speakers you'd like to see to Joe at the meetings or email him at joesirmon.bellsouth.net or phone him at 605-5811. Thanks for your support and hope to see you there!

July Junk Sale

Did you ever come across that 'great deal' that was just so good you HAD to buy it?

Well we've got 'em at the Annual ACFA July Junk Sale, where one angler's trash is another's treasure. All you have to do is get to the meeting a little early (6-6:30 pm) and bring any unused or unwanted items. There will be tables set up near the front of the room where you can spread your wares. We will try to have labels on hand for you to put your name and the amount you're asking. ALL we ask in return is 10% of the proceeds for the club treasury.

So how does that work? Let's say "Some Fisher" has several used lures, several packs of plastic baits he's never opened, and an old anchor. He keeps track of the transactions and sells them all for a total of \$18.50. At the end of meeting he simply takes 10% of what he got for his stuff (\$1.85) and gives that to the club Treasurer (Jep Hill). Even the small amounts add up as this sale usually has several hundreds of dollars changing hands and the club nets \$50 or more.

So please come early (6-6:30) to sell and buy, bring your items, and small bills and change (to speed the transactions).

ACFA July Tournament "Rodeo Warm-Up" Saturday July 7th

Five species (Speckled trout, Flounder, Redfish, White trout and Blackfish) are on the slate this month with a couple of twists. The Speckled trout category will be a 5 fish creel for two angler teams (though a single angler may fish and enter 5 specks by them self if they wish). This should be interesting as the specks are spread all over from the Gulf beaches to the delta areas and from Perdido Bay to the Mississippi Sound and the water is getting HOT! Let's hope the catching will be too. The previous club record for this event (16.20#) was broken by the top three teams in last year's event. The new record set by Todd Golomb/Hal Scheurich is 18.45#. Could that record again be in jeopardy? (see below)

The other twist in this month's tourney is we will again be offering three separate plaques to be awarded to the junior anglers but in white trout this time around. Hopefully the weather and the fish will cooperate for the kids too.

The weighin will be from 3 till 5 pm behind the American Legion Post 250 (the usual place and time) on Dauphin Island Parkway (AL Hwy 163) one block south of the blinking light near the Greer's Foodstore.

Tournament Weighin Help

Everyone should agree that Bill Duke has done a fine job along with our weigh master Pat Hughes 'Kneedeep'. And thanks to Brenda Pate and others who have helped in ways too many to mention to 'lighten the load' for those who make EVERY weigh in a special gathering! The food has been excellent at EVERY weighin and there's no telling what Randy Wiscaver, our Food Chairman is 'cooking up' for this coming one. There should be an official announcement forthcoming at the July meeting.

Congratulations!

To all current and former ACFA members who have successfully competed in other tournaments, especially those on the professional level. At risk of leaving someone out, we defer listing and wish you all an admirable "Well done!" But it should be well noted that our 2006 Lady Angler of the Year, Belinda Smith led "Team Live Bait" to an unprecedented second year-in-a-row 1st place win in the Speckled trout creel in the WNSP Inshore Fishing Classic. Their 24.86# creel of 5 specks brought in (another) \$2500 check! So how much will their donation to the club be? ;-)

All kidding aside, ACFA members have been prominent, and even dominant in the upper placings in most of the inshore fishing tournaments held so far this spring and summer. Besides ACFA members winning 1st place in the speck creel, Active members won 2nd and 3rd place in the lunker speck and sheepshead categories. I was present at the weighin for the 10th Annual Yellow Jacket Open Fishing Tournament and the ACFA was dominant there too, especially in the Speckled trout and Flounder categories. Again congratulations to you all!

Last Chance for Redfish...

A raffle will be held during the July meeting for a full day inshore (marsh) redfish sight fishing charter trip for two anglers with Captain Paul "Moondoggie" Smith. Paul says "IF you've never sight fished redfish in the marsh, this is a great opportunity for some very fun-filled fishing." Thanks Paul for your generous contribution to help the club and introducing more anglers to the art of sight fishing redfish. See Erik Nelson for tickets (\$5) and details.

Gillnet ban and other News update...

In case you didn't hear (and to spare you all from another 'soap box' production from me –oops) the literally last hour attempt to pass some legislation curtailing the use of gillnets in Alabama waters failed.

The Legislature did however find time to pass several bills that will raise the cost of fishing, boating and hunting in Alabama. The resident Saltwater fishing licenses will increase from \$16 to \$21 (with a Consumer Price Index provision to go into effect in 2010). The cost of Freshwater licenses was raised from \$9.50 to \$12 and a basic hunting license that was \$16 will now be \$24. Corresponding non-resident license fees will also increase similarly.

In addition Boat Registration fees were increased. For boats less than 16 feet the increase is from \$12 to \$20. For boats from 16 feet to less than 26 feet the increase is from \$16 to \$25. For boats 26 feet to less than 40 feet the fee goes from \$31 to \$75, while boats 40 feet or longer will be charged \$100 instead of \$51. A temporary license issued to dealers or manufacturers will cost \$25 each. Also, an inspection fee of \$25 will be charged for all homemade boats that require a hull identification number, which is required to register the boat. Let's hope the extra revenues are put to GOOD use!

It's about "Tarpoonapalooza" time...

More than a few members on the ACFA website have expressed interest in getting together again this summer for a day (or two) of fun and tarpon fishing in July and August. Last year's get together was marked by some 'spiffy' winds, giant gafftop catfish, a few rod bending jack crevelle, and at least one near sinking. Alas no tarpon (nor anyone else thank goodness) were injured or killed in the making of this great fishing story. The dates agreed upon for this year are Saturday July 14th (DIYAT) and maybe another day in August. See Jason Miller or Rick Gaines "Red October" at the meetings for details pertaining to this "unofficial" event or logon to our website in the 'Fishing General' forum @ <http://acfafishing.com/phpBB/viewtopic.php?t=9459>

We're Halfway Through The Season ...

so be sure and continue to sign in to register for our Grand Attendance Prize Package (ice chest) to be given away at our December awards banquet to someone 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 Erik Nelson 'TIC' at the check in table.

Logo Items

Alvin Bell says he still has plenty of ACFA logo items to sell, and will have them at the July meeting. We ask that you **please bring the correct change**, or pay by check to facilitate the sales.

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**
- **A separate Junior Angler category for white trout in the July Tournament (plaques will be awarded for 3 places)**

Big Fish Contest Standings as of June 20, 2007

	Blackfish	WT		Flounder	WT		Ground Mullet	WT		Redfish	WT
1			1	Dane Tomberlin	4.11	1	Daniel Ford	1.45	1	Vince Hawkins	7.40
2			2	Heath Harwell(J)	3.19	2	David Hare	1.20	2	Mutt Burke	6.50
3			3	Sharon Markow(L)	3.05	3	Ted Kiefer	1.05	3	Phillip Guy	6.00
4			4	Bubba Williams	2.80	4			4	Brittney Howle(J)	5.35
5			5	David Hare	2.65	5			5	Chris Massey	5.00
	Sheepshead	WT		Spanish Mackerel	WT		Speckled Trout	WT		White Trout	WT
1	Henry Nall	12.20	1	Terry Quint	3.94	1	Chris Massey	7.40	1	John Burke	1.10*
2	Jason Miller	10.90	2	Sharon Markow(L)	2.29	2	Kelly Fulmer	6.83	2	Sam Clark IV (N)	1.10
3	Chris Massey	10.65	3			3	Bill Midgette	6.20	3		
4	Ted Kiefer	10.20	4			4	Bill Patterson	6.10	4		
5	Leslie Smith	10.00	5			5	Kelly Fulmer	5.93	5		

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

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)

ACFA Tournament Point Standings as of June 7, 2007

Pos.	Angler Name	Pts.
1	Henry Nall	20
2	Chris Massey	19
3	David Hare	16
4	Mike Pierce (N)	14
4	Steve O'Dell	14
5	Bill Midgette	13
6	Richard Suk (N)	12
7	Bubba Williams	11
7	Mutt Burke	11
8	Erik Nelson	9
8	Jason Miller	9
9	Brittney Howle (J)	8
9	Doug Smith	8
9	Eugene Pierce	8
9	John Burke	8
9	Mike Foster	8
9	Patric Garmeson	8
9	Theo Koulianos (J)	8
9	William Pierce (N)	8

7 points: David Thornton, Del Delchamps, Tom Duncan, Vince Hawkins

6 points: Butch Pierce (N)(?), Phillip Guy, Rick Tourne, Ted Kiefer

5 points: Billy Pierce (N), Don Ludlam, Larry Watkins

4 points: Barry Keith, Bo Winter, Kelly Fulmer, Mike Tew, Trey Pitt, Vickie Foster(L)

3 points: Alvin Bell, Belinda Smith (L), Ben Hurn, Brenda Pate (L), Donnie Howell, Kim Guy (L), Nick Redding, Sam Clark III (N), Tim Harwell, Tim Pierce (N)

2 points: Austin Lee (J), Bekki Ludlam (L), Bill Patterson, Billy Hurd, Billy Pierce Jr, (N)(J), Bobby McElroy, Cameron Calhoun (J), Dane Tomberlin,

Frank Parker III (J)(?), George Koulianos, Jad Pope, Joe Sirmon, Les Smith, Marc Kruse, Margaret Miller (L), Pete Burns, Randy Wiscaver, Scott Godwin, Shane Ford, Tommy Pond

1 point: Adam Barker (N), Allison Pierce (N)(J), Austin Key, Barney White, Betty Harwell (L), Bill Lawler, Brandie May(L), Brandon Parker,

Bruce Dyess (N)(J) (re:Dana?), Bruce Howle Jr (J), Byron Webb (N),

Chase Laurendine(J), Daniel Ford, David Garrettson, David Wright, Dewayne Johnson, Dewayne Overstreet, Donna Keifer (L), Donnie Fassbender,

Evan Fassbender, Frank Mitternight, Frank Parker (?), Frank Parker Jr (?),

Gary Tingle, Gerald Markow, Heath Harwell (J), Jep Hill, Jeff May,

Jerald Bolen, Jim Foster, John Fassbender, John Parker (J),

Kirk Hoven (N), Lee Minto, Mike Lee, Mike Thompson, Norman Stockman (N),

Pat Hughes, Pete Keith (N), Russell Schmitz (N), Sam Clark IV (N),

Stephen Laurendine(N), Ted Lawson, Todd Golomb, Trent Dowell (N),

Wayne Garrettson, Wayne Tubb (Ira?), Will Parker (J), Zack Dyess (N)(J) (re:Dana?)

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