



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	

September 2006 Newsletter No.8

The next meeting of the ACFA will be held Thursday September 7, 2006 at 7pm at the American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Road. Our 'Quick Hits' speakers will be our tag-team cooks Randy 'Bigun' Wiscaver and Kevin 'Doc' Cormier.

President's Message:

IT'S ALMOST SEPTEMBER AND THE TROUT BITE IS STILL GOING ON ALL OVER THE CAUSEWAY AND WHAT ABOUT THE HUGE WHITE TROUT. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANKS TO BILL DUKE & BOB MORGAN (NEW MEMBERS IN 2006) FOR FILLING IN AS WEIGH MASTERS AT THE AUGUST TOURNAMENT.

August Meeting Recap:

Kudos to the 'volunteers' (Bill Midgette, Mike Thompson, Lee Minto and Jimmy Quint) who stepped up to do their impromptu 'Quick Hits' when (due to unforeseen circumstances) neither of our scheduled speakers could make the August meeting. I understand this was quite well received and it shows the level of expertise and dedication present in the club.

August 'Mobile Bay Grand Slam' Tournament ...

was held Saturday August 5th under conditions that varied from thunderstorms and screaming winds (gusting to 35 mph at Dauphin Island) in the south part of the bay in the early hours, to HOT and sunny at the upper end of the bay later in the afternoon. Still over 55 anglers entered more than 60 fish in the 6 categories to claim plaques, points and prestige.

Probably most notable was "Team Master Cylinder" who stayed with their game plan even into the teeth of the wind to pursue blackfish. Move over "4 - 6 foot Henry" and make room for "27 Knot Kyle" in the ACFA annals of what we do to catch fish. Thankfully there were no casualties except the fish ;-)

There was at least one (Les Smith) Grand Slam weighed in (speckled trout, flounder and slot redfish), but no one was able to put all three in the final 5 of these categories (though Tom Duncan came close).

And eyebrows were raised by the half dozen or so HUGE white trout that the team of "Fowl River" Todd Golomb and "Morbid Man" Mike Thompson brought to the scales. Todd's top two white trout were the heaviest weighed in an ACFA tournament in recent years (maybe ever?). The boy is HOT! Two first place finishes in a row and two new club records !!

<u>SPECKLED TROUT (15 entered)</u>	<u>REDFISH (4 entered)</u>	<u>FLOUNDER (16 entered)</u>
1. Mutt Burke 5.45#	1. Tom Duncan 6.00#	1. John Fassbender 3.65#
2. Tommy Pond 4.50#	2. Phillip Guy 4.80#	2. Bryan Hack 3.60#*
3. Bill Midgette 4.20#*	3. Leslie Smith 4.60#	3. Bobby Burgess (N) 3.60#
4. Tim Harwell 4.20#	4. Mike Tew 4.00#	4. Lee Minto 3.20#
5. Tom Duncan 3.95#	5. -----	5. Donnie Fassbender 2.75#
<u>WHITE TROUT (17 entered)</u>	<u>BLACKFISH (3 entered)</u>	<u>Junior Croaker (5 entered)</u>
1. Todd Golomb 2.65#	1. Kyle Mitternacht 20.20#	1. Savannah Calhoun .85#
2. Mike Thompson 2.10#	2. Rick Tourne 9.05#	2. Hayes Cornelius (N) .80#
3. Belinda Smith (L) 1.05#	3. Frank Mitternacht 4.45#	3. Robert Morgan (N) .65#*
		4. Cameron Calhoun .65#
		5. Austin Lee .55#

(N) New member 2006 (L) Lady angler (*) Weighed in first

Though attendance was less than expected at the Membership Shrimp Boil at the weigh-in site the enthusiastic folks who showed up were rewarded with what was called "the best and biggest damn shrimp boil EVER !"

Cooks Randy "Bigun" Wiscaver, Kevin "Doc" Cormier and company had some absolutely HUGE fresh shrimp accompanied by the usual shrimp boil 'stuff' (corn, taters, sausage, lemon) along with some surprises like mushrooms and avocados that kept the crowd going back for more. And still there was such PLENTY that many folks took some home. So if you missed it (like I did) you have nobody else to blame. Thanks to ALL that helped make this happen, I'd list the names but for fear of leaving a deserving one out.

Luck of the Draw...

Congratulations to Captain Jon Morgan "Tidewater" who won the raffle for the Billy Stix custom rod which raised well over \$200 for the club. Thanks again to rod builder Billy McDaniel @ <http://www.billystix.com/>

September 'End of Summer' Tournament:

Saturday September 9th is the date of the last tournament of the summer and the last this year where the weigh-in is scheduled at the American Legion Post 250 on Dauphin Island Parkway near the Greer's store.

As usual the tournament hours run from 5am to 5 pm and the weigh-in from 3pm till 5 pm.

And again we will have 5 species with 3 plaques (and points) for each species.

The categories are: speckled trout, flounder, redfish (16"- 26"), white trout and SPANISH MACKEREL.

Let's hope the weather cooperates and we get a crack at those Spanish this year!

The Mini-Seminars Continue:

One of the most imposing and intriguing sights in Mobile Bay is Gaillard Island. IF you've always wanted to know how, when and where to fish it; this is your big chance. Bill Midgette has agreed to repeat his popular presentation "A Fisherman's Guide to Gaillard Island" as a mini-seminar prior to the meeting beginning at 6pm sharp. The presentation will include those nifty maps that he and Mutt Burke drew up showing the layout of the island and position of the 'good spots'. So be there EARLY!

A Storm Statement:

was added to our by-laws after last year's busy hurricane season. Let's hope bringing this up doesn't 'hex' us, but it seemed timely to republish it with the heart of the season upcoming and attention being given to tropical storm Ernesto.

"IF a named tropical storm or hurricane is predicted to strike the Gulf Coast within approximately 140 miles east or west of Mobile (including the area between New Orleans, LA and Panama City, FL) on or close to a scheduled ACFA Saturday tournament, that tourney will automatically be postponed until the following Saturday (unless that Saturday falls on the weekend of the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo in which case it will be postponed 2 weeks later)."

Additional note: IF a hurricane is immediately threatening our area or a curfew is in effect in the City of Mobile (following a hurricane landfall) at the time of our scheduled monthly meeting, that meeting will be cancelled (and not rescheduled). All business pertinent to that meeting (plaque presentations, etc.) will be done at the next scheduled meeting the following month.

Hopefully, we won't have to implement this but we wanted everyone to be aware of our procedures in the event of a hurricane. You can rest assured there will be a discussion about it on our website IF conditions warrant or you can contact one of our club chairpersons listed in the masthead at the top of this newsletter.

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 chair persons is given a folder and calendar that outlines what their specific duties are. 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 2006 chair or see Doug Smith.

IF you volunteer we guarantee 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!

ACFA 'Shirt Night'

The September meeting will be the ONLY 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) shirt with a note or card with your name and \$10 in the pocket 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 on sale at the September meeting.

ACFA in Other Competitions:

Looking back to the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo, at least 5 ACFA members were on the board near the end of the day on Friday. Alas, when it was all fished and done, none of the club’s anglers remained on the board by Sunday afternoon. However, the 6.26# speckled trout Jim Glass caught on Friday held up to finish 3rd in the Speckled Trout Jackpot worth \$\$\$\$.

Well done Jim!
Our members fared better in the Conde Cavaliers Mardi Gras Rodeo August 12th & 13th when several ACFA anglers finished in the final standings. Bekki Ludlam had a 10.68# bonita in 2nd place, Rick Tourne’s 20.01# blackfish was 2nd place, and Tommy Pond had the 4th and 5th place speckled trout at 4.85# and 4.74#. Well done to you all!
It was almost a better showing but a couple of our anglers were disqualified on a rule technicality in the speckled trout jackpot. That was a tough break guys, but you had some fine fish!

The 4 teams of ACFA anglers participating in the IFA (Inshore Fishing Association) Redfish Tour in Grand Isle, LA on August 19th had some tough breaks of their own between equipment breakdowns, oversized redfish and rough waters. But they managed a good showing in the field of 73 competitors. Congratulations to Donnie Garrettson and Eric Nelson, Bernie and Steve White, Paul Smith and Kyle Mitternacht, and Jason and Margaret Miller. And a hearty hooray for former ACFA members Bobby Abruscato and Scott Ritter who finished 5th.
Let’s wish them all well at the next event IFA event in Venice, LA September 23rd as several of the teams are still in the running to qualify for the IFA Championship in Panama City, FL November 10-11,2006.

Park ‘Smart’

It was relayed to me that a person interested in joining the ACFA came to a recent meeting but was discouraged after driving around the parking lot and finding no where to safely park on the premises and they left. That was a shame. With such a large membership we need to think and park ‘smart’. That is to maximize every available parking spot to allow as many vehicles as possible around the building and especially along the edges of the parking lot so as to consider the safety and convenience of everyone. Another idea would be the old standby of carpooling. Please think about it.

ACFA CLUB RECORDS

SPECIES	WEIGHT	CAUGHT BY	YEAR
BLACKFISH	24.40LB	DEL DELCHAMPS	1999
FLOUNDER	7.80LB	DARIN GRIZZLE	1997
GROUND MULLET	2.32LB	BRUCE HOWLE JR	2004
REDFISH	16"-26") 7.75LB	JOHN FASSBENDER	1999
SHEEPSHEAD	12.80LB	DOUG SMITH	2004
SPECKLED TROUT	9.65LB	BOBBY MCELROY	2005
SPANISH MACKEREL	7.88LB	BEKKI LUDLAM	2000
WHITE TROUT	3.15LB	TODD GOLOMB	2006

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**

- The Awards Banquet will be the evening of Saturday December 2, 2006

Big Fish Contest Standings as of August 25, 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	Kyle Mitternacht	20.20	2	Tommy Murray	4.90	2	Jim Glass	1.66	2	Doug Davis (N)	6.20
3	Rick Tourne	17.83	3	George Koulianos	4.46	3	Brandon Parker	1.64	3	Jim Foster (N)	6.15
4	Frank Mitternacht	17.83	4	Joe Sirmon	4.46	4	David Hare	1.47	4	Tom Duncan	6.00
5	Bill Duke	16.75	5	Kyle Mitternacht	4.05	5	Jim Glass	1.41	5	Austin Lee (j)	5.90
	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 Mitternacht	10.85	2	Don Ludlam	3.30	2	Chris Conken	6.40	2	Todd Golomb	2.65
3	Matt Corley (N)(j)	10.05	3	Gary Tingle (N)	3.00	3	Phillip Guy	6.34	3	Belinda Smith (L)	2.35
4	Kyle Mitternacht	9.96	4			4	Jim Glass	6.25	4	Hal Scheurich	2.27
5	Mike Lee	9.90	5			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 August 5, 2006

Pos.	Angler Name	Pts.
1	Bryan Hack	28
2	Kyle Mitternacht	25
3	Henry Nall	24
4	Todd Golomb	22
5	Leslie Smith	21
6	Chris Conken	20
7	Mutt Burke	18
8	Tom Duncan	17
9	David Hare	16
9	Belinda Smith (L)	16
10	Matt Corley (N)(j)	15
11	Walter Corley (N)	14
11	Phillip Guy	14
11	Barry Keith	14
12	John Fassbender	13
12	Hal Scheurich	13
13	Bud Barr	12

11 points: Vince Hawkins, Trey Pitt, Scott Godwin (N), Donnie Fassbender, Blake Michaleski, Bill Midgette
10 points: Vickie Foster (N)(L), Jimbo Miller, James Foster(N), David Mashburn
9 points: Tommy Pond, Rick Tourne, Cameron Calhoun (j), Alvin Bell
8 points: Mike Lee, Joel Midgette, Jad Pope, Del Delchamps, Bubba Williams, Bobby McElroy
7 points: Mike Thompson, Evan Fassbender (N), Chris Massey
6 points: Pete Burns, Doug Smith **5 points:** Jason Day
4 points: Patric Garmeson (N), Mike Herring, Michael Tew (N), Margaret Miller (L), Marc Kruse, Larry Watkins (N), Judy Smith (L), Jim Glass, Frank Mitternacht, David Thornton, Bruce Howle Jr., Bobby Burgess (N), Billy Hurd, Austin Lee Jr (j)
3 points: Tim Harwell, Thomas Murray, Ted Kiefer, Roger Glass, Mike Jones, Mike Foster (N), Lori Tourne (L), Lee Minto, Kelly Fulmer, Jason Miller, Erik Nelson, Doug Davis, Dewayne Overstreet, Denny Lyons (N), David Garrettson, 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, Savannah Calhoun (j), Robert Schmitz (N), Robert Morgan (j)(N), Michael Jones (j), Matt Perry, Judson Taylor (N), John Burke, Howard Perry, Donna Kiefer (L), Donald Garrettson, Don Ludlam, Daniel Ford, Dane Tomberline (N) Chip Cummings, 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 Grizzle, Savannah Lee (j), Robbie Bosarge (N), Rick Rutland (N), Rick Gaines, Randy Wiscaver, Phillip Russell (N), Paul Smith, Pat Hughes, Ocie Wade, Michael Taylor (N), Michael McDonald, Lee Ward (?), Lain Cameron (N), Kenny Nelson (N), Jonathan Payton (?), John Westover, Joseph Hughes (j), Joe Sirmon, Jimmy Quint, Jerry Donahughie (N), Jerold Bolen, Jep Hill, Jackson Hughes (j), Gerald Markow, George Koulianos, Christine Gaines (L), Charlie Dowdle, Bruce Howle Sr, Bob Morgan (N), Bob Gray, Blake Grizzle (j)(N)

Check Us Out Online @ <http://acfishing.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