



Fishing Post August 2017

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

www.aswsc.org

2017 Swap Meet

Swap Meets have generally offered fun, festivity and good food. This year kept the tradition going and offered the new venue of Rick and Stephanie Martin's "barn".



This is no ordinary barn - it comes equipped with a full kitchen and, well, you just need to see it. But the barn is secondary to the hospitality of Rick and Stephanie. Rick invited club members



to come a day early and spend the night, some did and were treated to grilled pork loin, followed the next morning by a gourmet breakfast prepared by Rick, which included his summer sausage.

The meal on the day of the meet featured en-



trees of barbeque and Brunswick stew with sides and dessert. As usual, club members voted for their favorite entry and Norm Bowen captured the coveted prize for both Q and stew. No one went away hungry.

For members who chose to stay long enough, live music was provided and the tunes played into the AM hours of Sunday morning.



Chowing Down at O'Shucks

Great food and good times were indeed had by about 13 ASWSC members at O'Shucks seafood Grille in Winder. Alli and Mark Mleczek welcomed us to enjoy some of the delicious offerings and catch up with each other while having a beverage of choice. After about an hour of greeting and chatting in the bar area, we moved to tables, where most ordered one of the seafood entrees. Reputation has it that mighty good ribs can be had too.



Alli and her waitresses graciously took very good care of us, and served a large slice of delicious caramel apple pie to top off the day.



Lake Lanier Spring Fling and Luncheon *by Dan Bullard*



An air temperature of 58 degrees at 7:00 AM made the morning more than a little chilly, especially on the water. That's when the Adventurer, with Dan Bullard, Frank Farrell and Chris Britt set out on Lake Lanier in search of stripers. Four hours later, three nice ones had been landed and it was time to head to Fish Tales and meet up with other ASWSC faithful for the luncheon. Arriving with 4 or 5 other boats we joined a group of 40 plus new and old members. We took up two long tables with a view overlooking the lake and the bonus of



a white sand playbox for the youngsters. Servers quickly took much appreciated drink orders and a few minutes later took our food orders from a menu offering a good selection of fish: grilled, fried or blackened as well as shrimp or oyster dishes. Everyone ate well and then the striper winner was announced.

The 2017 winner was The Adventurer. Three stripers were more than enough as Steve Smith, Bill Lange and Bill van Derhorst were the only other fishermen to land a fish; and that was a single spotted bass.

After the food and awards everyone went to the docking area for the cast net contest between teenagers and pre-teens. But, as we headed out to watch, we saw a boat smoking

over by the gas docks and upon checking it out, learned the fire came from the starter and



the boat belonged to Don Budd. The fire was put out and thankfully, damage was minimal, but the injured starter would not start the engine so a tow was in order. Once towed to the ramp a helpful club member, Scott Rowe, fell into the lake while trying to align the boat with the trailer. Scott was fine, just wet.

Now it was time for cast net throwing by some pretty good, junior net casters. It was a fierce competition, and the winner was 11 year old Hailey Tomlin, granddaughter of Ward Lang.

Once again the Striper Fling offered some fishing, a tasty meal and good-spirited competition. A fine time was had by all.



Savannah Tournament 2017

Gulf Stream Dreaming

Savannah was a challenge for most of us, as it turned out that going to the Gulf Stream or fishing near shore were the most productive choices. Fishing spots from 20 to 40 miles out did not yield fish like they did in 2016. Fishing around R Tower gave plenty of opportunities to pull up sharks, but not much more.

There were other obstacles too, such as breaking all six studs on a trailer wheel as Persevere experienced or your mechanic is late with boat repairs and you scramble to make last minute arrangements, which faced Sore Subject captain



Ryan Howard (eventually fishing on a friend's Yellowfin)

According to Captain Judy of Ms. Judy Charters, our timing could have been better since our first day of fishing coincided with an unusually strong full moon; strong enough to flood the highway leading to Tybee Island and close traffic for a few hours Thursday night. Our catch numbers were low on All In, and I'm attributing it to the machinations of a full moon. It certainly didn't have anything to do with our angling abilities!

FRIDAY

Persevere did not waste any time; departing Friday morning around 4:30 for the Gulf Stream. A few hours to get there and the catch was two dolphin—one of them weighing 24.8 pounds caught by Richard Holden.



Captain Ryan Howard and crew had the largest overall catch quantity of the tournament: limiting out on Amberjack (several were thrown back) along with vermillion and sea bass. Don Budd's Savannah Rose stayed within 15 miles and brought back 7 Spanish Mackerel.



Savannah Tournament 2017 *cont'd*

Gulf Stream Dreaming

SATURDAY

Here is where I take my hat off to Captain Mark Mleczko and crew . Friday evening they showered, got a few hours of sleep and left at 1:30 AM for the Stream again. This time boating nine dolphin with Mike Meador bringing in one at 37 pounds. At the end of the awards dinner, these guys were ready for some serious sleep.

Sore Subject went to the Stream and brought back some nice dolphin. Again, Savannah Rose stayed near shore and landed another seven Spanish Mackerel. Loophole brought back 3 sharks and sold them to the marina restaurant. All In had a couple of matrix fish and sharks for the event.



The awards dinner featured barbeque with a couple of sides. But, very appreciated by our group of hungry fishermen was a bountiful appetizer of

Wahoo dip with jalapeños on the side. I think Ryan Howard's family was instrumental in supplying the food and a hearty thank you goes out to them.





Savannah Tournament Scorecard

	BOAT	CAPTAIN
1st Place	Persevere	Mark Mlecsko
2nd Place	Sore Subject	Ryan Howard
3rd Place	Savannah Rose	Don Budd
4th Place	All In	Andy Durden

NOTABLE SAVANNAH CATCHES

ANGLER	BOAT	CATEGORY	WEIGHT LBS
Mike Mealor	Persevere	Dolphin	37
Richard Holden	Persevere	Dolphin	24.8
John Roché	Sore Subject	Dolphin	22
Ty Young	Persevere	Tuna	22
Ryan Howard	Sore Subject	Amberjack	17.6
John Roché	Sore Subject	Amberjack	16.8
Luke Davis	Sore Subject	Amberjack	13.2





APPALICHICOLA - JUNE by Robert Waters

Apalachicola was much anticipated since it was to be our only chance to catch and keep Red Snapper caught in federal waters in 2017. We did not know this would change and a longer season would be implemented. So, **eleven** boats made the trip with most docking at old faithful, Bay City Lodge, even though weigh-ins were at Apalachicola Marina. And, a good choice the marina was.



The three days of fishing benefited from good weather during days 1 and 2 whereas day 3 had a slight chop, nothing that would prevent a captain from venturing to a desired destination. Bay City Lodge, not being a contemporary accommodation, presented some consternation for captains trying to find a slip for boats which are larger than the slips were designed to accept. Putting two boats in a slip meant careful



parking and tight quarters. John Roché tried to

reserve one for the duration of the tournament, but management communicated to him in a not-so-subtle way that this was not in line with their policy. I guess you pay for the ambiance at BCL.

Included among the participants were two new boats: Pegasus, captained by Chuck Alford and Silver King, captained by John Embleton. Both boats brought in decent catches including King Mackerel and snapper, and onboard Pegasus non-member Kent Alford caught what would have been a club record Mangrove Snapper at 10 lbs.



There were many red snapper weighed in above the 15 pound mark, a Gag Grouper of 20.4 lbs caught by John Roche and a club record Red Grouper at 17.4 lbs caught by Kendall Spencer. Nice job by all of you guys.



As can be seen in the picture above, the crew of Persevere was up to more than fishing. It looks like the adults as much as youngsters were taking target practice,. Beware guys—what goes around comes around!

APPALICHICOLA - JUNE *continued*

Both Bad Buoys and Outlaw ran away with the scoring, catching more nice snapper than could be weighed in. Some of their catches include Kendall's new club record red grouper and 3 Kings from Outlaw: Jim Tatum 21.7 lbs, Norm Bowen 21.1 lbs and Mike Springer 19.7 lbs. Persevere found a spot where they limited out on snapper and threw back at least 20 of keeper-size in the process.



Apparently some of us take tournament competition seriously. Bad Buoys decided to hold over a day's catch and weigh in on the following day. Holding over a day naturally aided in the points total since fish from both days were scored at one weigh-in. During the tournament, Outlaw scored more points each day than did Bad Buoys, but finished second in scoring. There was some disagreement about the interpretation of the holdover rule, and an appeal was made to the Tournament Commit-

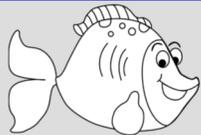


tee for clarification. No rule violations were uncovered, but Bad Buoys voluntarily withdrew from the tournament standings in an effort to avoid controversy. A rule clarification has subsequently been put into place.



On board All In we did not have to worry about scoring. We took the boat back to Bay City Lodge, after which Andy and I were to return the marina for weigh-in. Andy quickly disembarked to gather items for the task and a couple of us proceeded to gas up and secure the boat. He returned to the dock to observe our docking struggles and I suppose anxiety got the best of him as he proceeded to fall off the end of dock. Shortly thereafter, Dan asked him if he wanted our fish to take to weigh-in...I think you can guess what he said. His iphone did not mix well with the brackish water either.





Apalachicola Scorecard

	BOAT	CAPTAIN
1st Place	Outlaw	Mike Springer
2nd Place	Persevere	Mark Mleczo
3rd Place	Nikki Girl	Pat Thai
4th Place	Just Like Cheating	Butch Bowen

A FEW APALACHICOLA CATCHES

Red Snapper - Men

Jamie Duncan	Just Like Cheating	21.4 lb.
Jonathan Spencer	Bad Buoys	20.9 lb.
Kendall Spencer	Bad Buoys	20.6 lb.

Red Snapper - Ladies

Leslie Alford	Pegasus	4.2, 4.1, 3.0 lb.
---------------	---------	-------------------

Red Snapper - Juniors

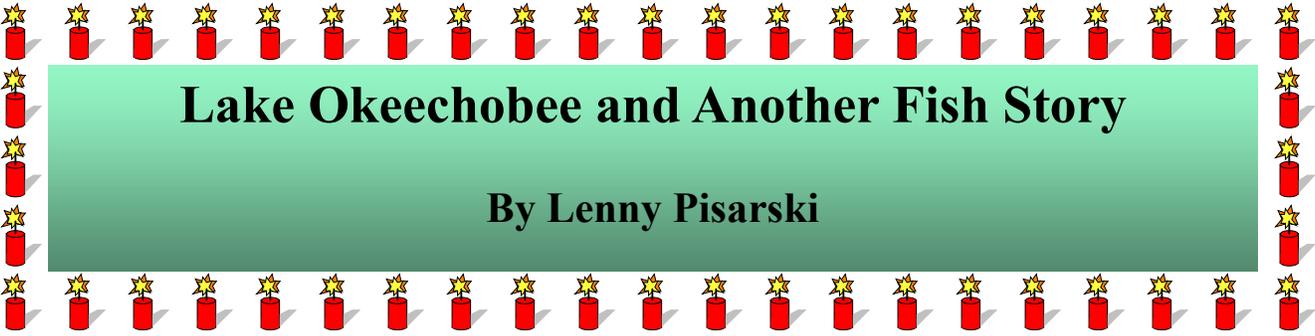
Braxton Holden	Persevere	23.9, 12.3, 11.3 lb.
----------------	-----------	----------------------

King Mackerel

Jim Tatum	Outlaw	21.7 lb.
Norm Bowen	Outlaw	21.1 lb.
Mike Springer	Outlaw	19.7 lb.

Grouper

John Roché (Gag)	Chillin & Reelin	20.4 lb.
Kendall Spencer (Red)	Bad Buoys	17.4 lb.
Jim Tatum (Gag)	Outlaw	16.1 lb.



Lake Okeechobee and Another Fish Story

By Lenny Pisarski

It was mid-April and a cold night in SW Florida means it was in the high 60's.

Before heading back north we decided to take a ride over to the Big Lake, Okeechobee, a little town on the west side, Lakeport. And do some bow-fishing for Tilapia. Along for the ride were 2 former Club members Bill Woodcock and Steve Kundl and our friend Mike Fox. Well Mike has a Jon boat set up with a shooting tower and 16 LED floodlights. If you have ever been on the Big Lake you know it is HUGE and mostly shallow. We spoke with a few locals and they put us on a spot only 2 miles from the launch. We arrived early, well before dark so we just checked out a few islands. Once it got dark and we had found a good location the action got very fast. Steve and Mike have had experience before with archery hunting deer back in the Finger Lakes region of NY. Well it wasn't long before they started taking aim on some nice sized fish. Bill ran the boat with just the trolling motor and I was kept busy taking fish off the arrows. In about 2 and ½ hours we had 2 coolers full and one live well. Damn what a fun time....

We ended up with 39 fish all in the 3 to 5 pound range, and know they eat really good too.

Cinco de Mayo *by Valerie Christopher*



The weather had everyone on edge. It was not going to be as warm as days prior. It was also going to be pretty windy. We had tried to re-schedule but too many people had commitments already on other dates. So we moved forward and I am sure glad we didn't cancel the event because it turned out to be a beautiful day with great weather.

The beach where the event was held was recessed back a little so it held off the briskly moving waves from the cove. So at the waters edge everything was pretty smooth for tying up our boats and loading and unloading the cook-out items.



Brent and I took a grill, a table and chairs, and grilled under the edge of the trees which worked out perfectly. I believe we had 8 boats and shoot, nearly 50 people in attendance. It was a great turn out. We had people from all walks of life. There were pets, children, new member families to lifetime members and their families too.

We had PLENTY to eat as well. Members brought all kinds of foods from a variety of salads to brownies and cookies. So we were well fed and a big thank you goes out to Brent for keeping hamburgers and hot dogs sizzling on the grill. A few showed up after the cooking had been completed but he was right on top of his



chef duties and served those members some fresh and warm burgers and hot dogs!

We all sat, socialized and got to know one another better through talks of old fishing tales to upcoming summer plans. I had a great time and think all those who attended had a wonderful time as well. We really didn't want to leave but it was edging up on 4:00 pm and there were storms coming soon so we wanted to get everyone and everything loaded up and back to the vehicles.



Orange Beach Shootout 2017

Some of The Largest Tuna Catches in Club History

By Mike Springer

This year's Orange Beach Shootout was another week-long vacation spent with family and friends spending time fishing, boating, and a little beach time. Nine boats made it down for the annual club tournament. The seas were calm, the weather was hot, and the water was dirty.



Months of rainfall had turned our pretty vacation spot into something that looked like Apalachicola bay water.

The day before the tournament began, several club boats motored down together to see the Blue Angels air show in Pensacola. The seas cooperated and the show did not disappoint. After the show, the boats met down at the sugar bowl with a raft up party with plenty of adult beverages.

The tournament began with a Captain's party that was held at the pool at Cotton Bayou. Outlaw crew cooked hamburgers and hot dogs for all the members.



Several boats ventured offshore in the pursuit of blue water. The word around the docks was, the blue water was just short of the Petronius oil rig. Unfortunately, the water moved offshore several miles past the rig. As for the Outlaw crew, we didn't find blue water until we were 80 miles out. I wouldn't call it blue put it looked a lot better than the coffee we had been in all morning. The real blue water was another twenty miles out at Horn Mountain. The boats that did go to Horn Mountain made out like bandits. "Playin Hookie" managed to land an 80.5 lb. Yellowfin caught by Richard Voss. Other catches included some Blackfin Tuna and a nice Blue Marlin caught by Laura Lazar.

The boys on "Reel Life" were very successful catching big Yellowfin Tuna. Other nice Blackfin Tuna were caught on "Persevere"



Orange Beach Shootout 2017

Some of The Largest Tuna Catches in Club History

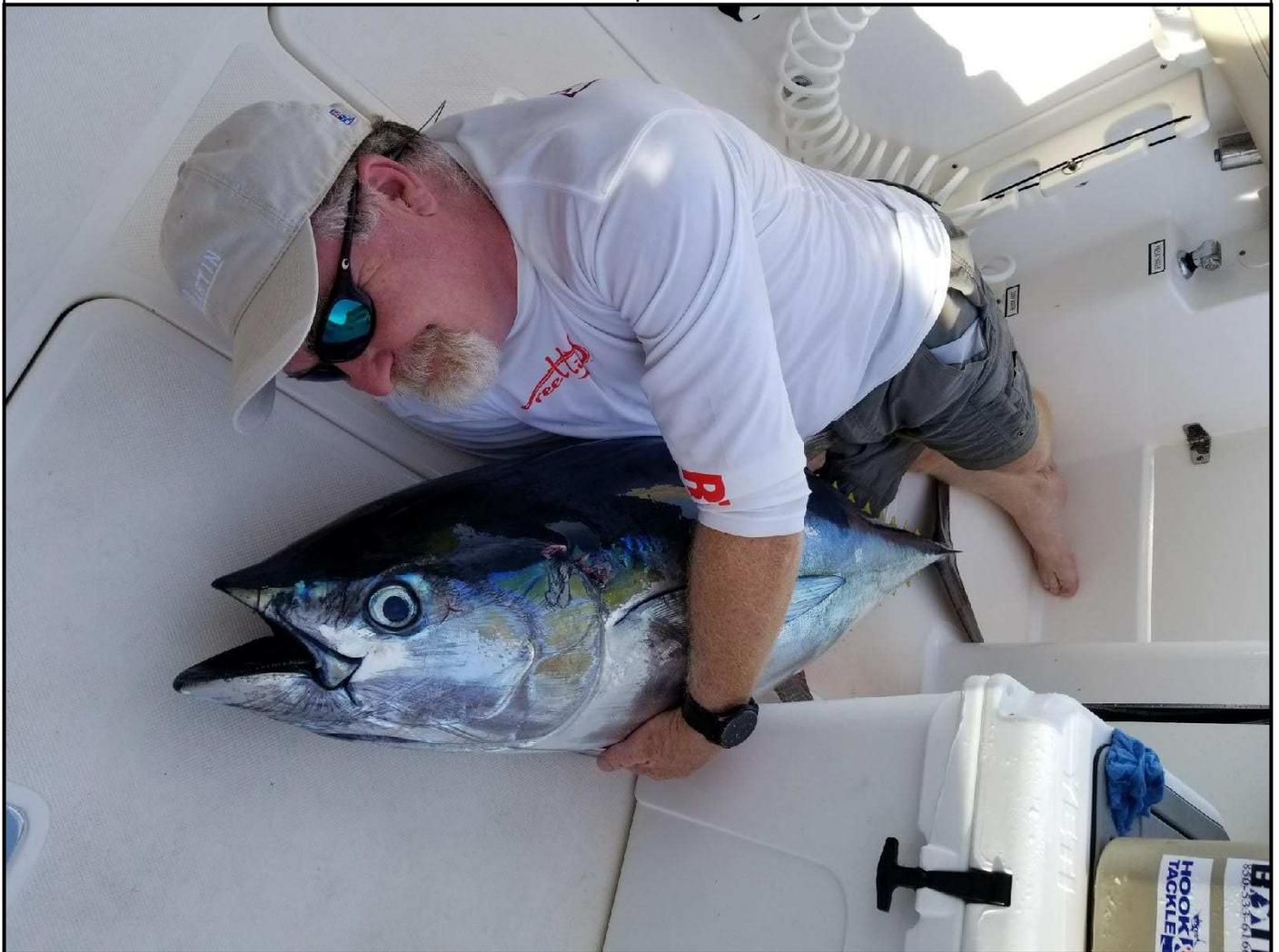
continued



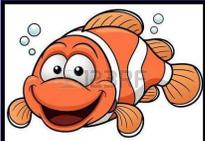
We were glad to welcome new member George Burkhart and family on board "Reel Serious" George fished the bay and some off the beach and had a nice mixed bag of Sea Trout and Mackerel.

The tournament ended with an awards dinner

that was held at Cotton Bayou's pool catered by Chef Norman Bowen. He provided our members with an array of Pulled Pork and BBQ chicken with all the fixins. Hats off to our club chef for another fine meal for everyone. Orange Beach continues to be one of the favorite venues that our club has gone to since 1990.



Rick loves his tuna!



Orange Beach Scorecard

	BOAT	CAPTAIN
1st Place	Playing Hookie	Richard Voss
2nd Place	Reel Life	Rick Martin
3rd Place	Persevere	Mark Mleccko
4th Place	Outlaw	Mike Springer
5th Place	Bad Buoy	Jace Spencer

A FEW ORANGE BEACH CATCHES

ANGLER	CATCH	BOAT
Laura Lazar	Blue Marlin Release	Playing Hookie
Rick Marin	91.2 lb Yellowfin Tuna	Reel Life
Richard Voss	80.5 lb YellowFin Tuna	Playing Hookie
Richard Watkins	77.3 lb Yellowfin Tuna	Reel Life

2017 ASWSC SCOREBOARD

after Orange Beach

Boat of the Year

BOAT	WPB	TYBEE	APALACH JUNE	ORANGE BEACH	APALACH AUGUST	GRAND ISLE	TOTAL
Persevere	5	20	15	10			50
Sore Subject	20	15	-	-			35
Outlaw	-	-	20	5			25
Playing Hookie	-	-	-	20			20
Loophole	15	-	-	-			15
Reel Life	-	-	-	15			15
Where to Next	10	-	-	-			10
Savannah Rose	-	10	-	-			10
Nikki Girl	-	-	10	-			10
All In	-	5	-	-			5
Just Like Cheating	-	-	5	-			5
Easy Does It	3	-	-	-			3
Silver King	-	-	3	-			3
Bad Buoys	-	-	-	3			3

Men's Angler of the Year

	Angler	Points
First	John Roché	275
Second	Norm Bowen	150
Third	George Burkhart	150

2017 ASWSC SCOREBOARD

after Orange Beach

Ladies Angler of the Year

	Angler	Points
First	Wendy Coates	350
Second	Laura Lazaar	350
Third	Leslie Alford	25

Junior Angler of the Year

	Angler	Points
First	Braxton Holden	175
Second	Parker White	100





Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

2017 Officers



Mark Mleczo



Ward Lang



Dan Bullard

2017 Officers

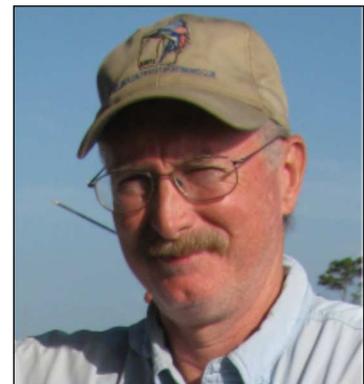
Mark Mleczo, President
markm@trade-markinternational.com

Ward Lang, Vice-President
ward.lang3@gmail.com

Dan Bullard, Treasurer
dan.bullard@att.net

Jace Spencer, Secretary
jks@nmsmail.com

Keith Mozena,
Tournament Committee Director
keithmozena@gmail.com



Jace Spencer

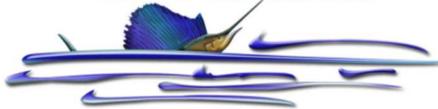


Keith Mozena

Supporters and Sponsors

(Support Our Vendors - They Support Us!)

NUTS & BOLTS OF FISHING



JUST ADD WATER

SATURDAYS 9:30AM  >>SPORTSOUTH

www.nutsandboltsfishing.com



**Trophies
Plaques
Awards of All Types**

2100 Canton Hwy, Ste 100
Marietta GA 30066

(770) 218-8287

www.topdogawards.com



Panama City Beach
Destin
Navarre
Port St. Joe
Mon - Sat: 6am - 6pm
Sun: 6am - 4pm

*Mention You're an
ASWSC Member to
Receive a V.I.P.
Discount for Phone
& Retail Store Orders*

www.halfhitch.com



**Groceries • Bait • Tackle • Sportswear
Orange Beach's Most Unique Store!**

27122 Canal Rd, Orange Beach AL 36561
251-981-4245

www.samsbaitandtackle.com

BAY MARINE

A Family Tradition Since 1972

SALES • SERVICE • PARTS • ACCESSORIES

2394 Cobb Pkwy NW, Kennesaw, GA 30152
770-427-3578

GALATI YACHT SALES

NEW YACHTS • BROKERAGE SALES
FINANCING • SERVICE

(251) 974-5471

4851 Wharf Parkway Suite D-108 • Orange Beach, AL 36561

www.galatiyachts.com



J&M Tackle, Inc.

25125 Canal Road
Orange Beach, AL 36561

(800) 483-7069

www.jmtackle.com

**Bay City
Lodge**
Florida's Last Fishing Frontier
Apalachicola, FL

www.baycitylodge.com

Supporters and Sponsors

(Support Our Vendors - They Support Us!)



ANCHOR SAVER

THE WORLD'S MOST EFFECTIVE ANCHOR RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Release your stuck anchor with Anchor Saver!

www.anchorsaver.com



Professional Marine Electronics Specialists

5% Discount to All ASWSC Members

770-906-7331

www.avcmarine.com



Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

September 18 - 23	Grand Isle Tournament
October 5 - 8	Tennessee River Trip
December 9	Christmas Party, Hilton Atlanta Northeast

NOTE: Club Calendar is subject to change. Keep up to date with club activities, tournaments, and events on the club's official website:

www.aswsc.org