

Fishing Post - February 2010

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

www.aswsc.org

West Palm Beach: Sailfish! (and more)

Lenny's Report
West Palm Beach



If you do the math, 1987 - 2010, you'll see we just kicked off our 24th season of the sport we love so well. At the helm as always in WPB was our Captain Bob Michael.....I crewed up with Mike Springer along with Captain Frank Nicoletti, Captain Jeff Bergeron, and Bob Michael (we call him Old Cut-Bait). We arrived early Wednesday and had ample time to prep the boat, tied Biminies, set drags----etcetera, etcetera, etcetera (I love the King and I). With our friends and combatants gathered near the pool, we enjoyed our Italian/Polish sausage sandwiches. We had 25 anglers and a total of 12 captains. Sure, we lied to each other and told our stories, but mostly we enjoyed the company. The weather forecast was fair, seas would be manageable and we were all rearing to go.

First light Thursday we loaded up the pricey baits and weighed anchor. The seas weren't bad and we ran on plane northeast. I assisted Bob, bridling baits and setting lines. Not much chatter on the Radio. When we did hear from *Easy Does It*, they lied !!! Like, what's new ?!!! They gave us stories about being 20 miles south near the Cocktail Glass, and how great our radio was working. Well, that's fishing. Our early action was mostly cut-offs. Too many barracudas!!! They were cleaning our lines of \$8 baits and sometimes they took the hook, too. We moved out to deeper water to correct that. On Mike's boat, the crew rolls the dice to see who gets first hook-up, seconds, etc. Mike rolled and got first, so when the port outrigger had a hook-up, we handed him the rod. I got the camera rolling and taped it until the release (Good Job). We had already heard from *Easy Does It* and they had a release about 11:30; ours was at 12:35. Later we heard from Bo Dunn, who was fishing near Ft. Pierce. They had a release at 11:03, and Scott Rowe was the angler (using dead bait, too.) That put them in first place. Later we got a call from *Fish Dancer* (Jeff and Nancy Dunbar); they also had one release, so at the end of the first day we had a 4 way tie for first

place.

Later that evening we ran into the Banana Bandit, decorating *Easy Does It* with bunches of fruit and undergarments... go figure. What kind of tournament would we have without some good-natured jostling going on?

Friday morning the WPB rollercoaster waves took us to a new level, 6- to 8-footers were common. Our crew, with no hook-ups by noon, called it a short day. We checked out the manatees at the power plant and relaxed in the warming sun. *Easy Does It* toughed it out for the entire day and picked up 2 more releases. Later, Bo Dunn checked in and they also had another release. So ended Day Two.

Saturday morning was a mess again; with stronger winds and even higher seas, our crew laid out. We took an inter-coastal site seeing tour and had a nice lunch along the way.

Easy Does It can't stay home even in the rough conditions we had. They didn't score any releases, but they were out there trying. That evening we celebrated and Bob passed out the awards:

4th Place to *Fish Dancer*,: Jeff & Nancy Dunbar

3rd Place to *Outlaw*: Mike Springer, Bob Michael, Jeff Bergeron, Frank Nicoletti & me

2nd Place to *Bo Kat*: Bo Dunn, Scott Rowe & Paul Pohle

1st Place to *Easy Does It*: Steve Guntner, Steve Fritz, Phil Scarborough & Randy Fetzer

WPB is the start of the Club's season and always a lot of fun for the participants. I hope to do it again next year. Thanks to Bob Michael for heading it up as always, and to all Club members in attendance. We'll have pictures to show at the next meeting too. So come and join in....

Regards, Lenny

News Bites



BoatU.S. Extends Discount to ASWSC Members

BoatU.S. has renewed their half-price discount agreement with the Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club. ASWSC members are eligible to receive BoatU.S. membership for \$15, half off the annual membership rate of \$30. When signing up or renewing your membership, be sure to mention **Group ID Number GA83219B** to receive your discount. You may order online at www.BoatUS.com or call 800-395-2628.

International Travel Safety Resource

One of our members, Dennis Daniel, has made an exclusive resource available to club members. Learn about the risks associated with traveling to other countries before your next business or fishing trip. This very detailed and informative tool can be reached by using the **RISKNET** link on the club website's **Links/Resources** page (under the **Marinas & Destinations** section). In addition to the listed countries, Dennis will also provide information about other countries for members who contact him directly.

email: Dennis.Daniel@Merial.com

Many Thanks to Dennis for making this accessible to our membership.

Scuba Diving Certification

The club is organizing scuba certification classes for members and guests. Tentative date for classes is April 8 - 11 with a check-out dive at Panama City Beach April 23 - 25. More information is available on the flyer included in this newsletter. Contact Norman Bowen if you are interested in participating.

Tentative 2010 Tournament Schedule Finalized

The Tournament Committee has put together a preliminary tournament schedule for 2010 (copy included in this newsletter). Updates and additional information will be available on the website as soon as available. There are some exciting destinations this year, including a week-long tournament to the Abaco Islands in the Bahamas. Of course, many of your favorite traditional destinations are on the schedule as well.



Off The Hook

REDNECK ETIQUETTE

DINING OUT

- When decanting wine, make sure that you tilt the paper cup and pour slowly, so as not to “bruise” the fruit of the vine.
- If drinking directly from the bottle, always hold it with your fingers covering the label.

ENTERTAINING IN YOUR HOME

- A centerpiece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.
- Do not allow the dog to eat at the table...no matter how good his manners are.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- While ears need to be cleaned regularly, this is a job that should be done in private using one’s OWN truck keys.
- Proper use of toiletries can forestall bathing for several days. However, if you live alone, deodorant is a waste of good money.
- Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a social no-no, as they tend to detract from a woman’s jewelry and alter the taste of finger foods.

DATING (Outside the Family)

- Always offer to bait your date’s hook, especially on the first date.
- Be aggressive. Let her know you’re interested: “I’ve been wanting to go out with you ever since I read that stuff on the bathroom wall two years ago.”
- Establish with her parents what time she is expected back. Some will say, “10PM”; others might say, “Monday”. If the latter is the answer, it is the man’s responsibility to get her to school on time.

THEATER ETIQUETTE

- Crying babies should be taken to the lobby and picked up immediately after the movie has ended.
- Refrain from talking to characters on the screen. Tests have proven they can’t hear you.

WEDDINGS

- Livestock, usually, is a poor choice for a wedding gift.
- Kissing the bride for more than 5 seconds may get you shot.
- For the groom, at least, rent a tux. A leisure suit with a cummerbund and a clean bowling shirt can create a tacky appearance.
- Though uncomfortable, say “Yes” to socks and shoes for this special occasion.

DRIVING ETIQUETTE

- Dim your headlights for approaching vehicles, even if the gun is loaded and the deer is in sight.
- When approaching a 4-way stop, the vehicle with the largest tires always has the right of way.
- Never tow another car using panty hose and duct tape.
- When sending your wife down the road with a gas can, it is impolite to ask her to bring back beer.
- Never relieve yourself from a moving vehicle, especially when driving.
- Do not lay rubber while traveling in a funeral procession.

EVERY DAY TIPS

- Never take a beer to a job interview.
- Always identify people in your yard before shooting at them.
- It is considered tacky to take a cooler to church.
- If you have to vacuum the bed, it is time to change the sheets.
- Even if certain that you are included in the will, it is still considered inappropriate to drive a U-Haul to the funeral home.



Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

2010 Tournament Schedule

- JAN 13 - 16** West Palm Beach Sailfish Tournament
- MAY 13 - 15** Apalachicola, FL Tournament
- JUN 5 - 12** Abacos, Bahamas (week long) Tournament
- JUL 14 - 17** Orange Beach, AL Tournament
- AUG 12 - 14** Pensacola, FL Tournament
- SEP 2 - 5** Destin, FL Tournament
- SEP 30 - Oct 2** Carrabelle, FL Tournament

Pub Date: 02-05-2010
(Tournament Schedule subject to revision by Tournament Committee.)

2010 Boat Show Membership Drive Yields Crewmembers

The annual membership drive at the Atlanta Boat Show resulted in 22 new family memberships. However, as one might expect in these tough times, fewer people are able to afford boats; in turn, only a few of these new members own boats. You'll be hearing more on this topic in the coming months, but our membership has not been immune to the economic downturn. In other words, the ratio of Crew to Captains has grown dramatically; this means that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find openings on boats for all of our members who want to fish.

It is critical for the vitality and future of our club to maximize participation in fishing tournaments/events. Many of our long-term members didn't have boats when they first joined the club (many still don't), yet imagine if these members had not been given the opportunity to participate and to become the wonderful friends we treasure today? So please think about inviting one of these new members on board for your next fishing trip. If you've been leaving your boat at home in order to fish on other members' boats, please consider making room for more anglers by bringing your boat to more tournaments this year. And if there's any way at all for you to safely bring aboard one more crewmember, please think about doing so.

Many Thanks to Tom Holt and all of the volunteers who made this year's Boat Show promotion such a huge success.

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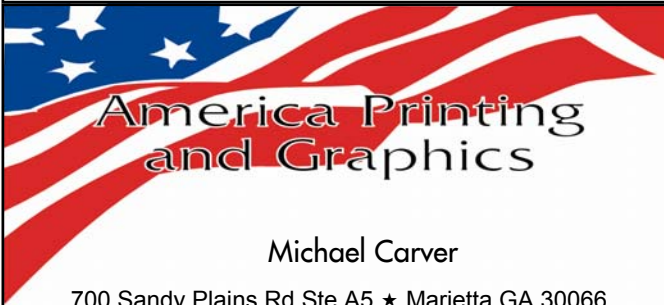
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CONSERVATION NEWS

Recreational and Commercial Fishing Interests to March on Washington - Feb 2010
http://www.joinrfa.org/Press/UnitedWeFish_121609.pdf

South Atlantic Red Snapper Fishing Closed Indefinitely / RFA Files Suit to Overturn
http://www.joinrfa.org/Press/RedSnapper_120409.pdf

RFA Says 'Fatally Flawed' Science is Killing America's #1 Outdoor Pastime
http://www.joinrfa.org/Press/RFA_MRFSS.pdf

Gulf Management Council Contemplates Complete Closure for Gag Grouper in 2010
<http://www.newsherald.com/news/gag-75058-grouper-fishermen.html>

RFA calls for moratorium on recreational closures.
(see news release: http://www.joinrfa.org/Press/Moratorium_060509.pdf)

USA is world's largest importer of billfish for food. Learn more about how to stop the slaughter:
<http://www.takemarlinoffthemenue.org/home>

Visit www.aswsc.org for links to State and Federal Fisheries Management Agencies websites.

CONSERVATION SUPPORTERS



Protecting the interests of saltwater anglers and working to sustain our nation's fisheries.

www.joinrfa.org



Dedicated Solely to Conserving and Enhancing Billfish Populations Around the World.

www.billfish.org

Coastal Conservation Association



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www.ccaga.org



If you're not already a member, you should be! visit www.igfa.org for more information

The International Game Fish Association is a not-for-profit organization committed to the conservation of game fish and the promotion of responsible, ethical angling practices through science, education, rule making and record keeping.

Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation



The Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation funds inspired scientific research and innovative educational programs to encourage conservation and best management practices for sustainable marine environments.

www.guyharveyoceanfoundation.org

Get Involved!

It's up to anglers like us to preserve the future of sportfishing!

SCUBA Diver Certification

ASWSC is organizing a group SCUBA diver certification class for members and guests. Classes are tentatively scheduled for Thursday through Sunday, April 8-11 with a check out dive in Panama City Beach, FL, April 23-25. If we have 6 to 8 participants from the club we will have our own dedicated class.

Course costs are comprised of two components plus the cost of your personal gear.

- \$295.00** Covers the cost of instruction, pool training, and exams. The use of wet suits, BCD, regulator, weights, and tanks are included in the cost.
- \$175.00** Certification fee – covers instructor's fee for checkout dive, certification costs, and use of rental gear for the check out dive. (does not include the cost of the trip and lodging.)

Each student will need to provide their own mask, fins, snorkel, booties, and training pack (training pack includes books, audio CDs, DVD, dive log, dive tables, etc. \$85.00).

There is also a refresher course for certified divers. If you haven't been diving for several years or haven't logged many dives, you can join our class on April 11 for a refresher course. Cost is \$100 and includes the use of wet suit, BCD, regulator, tanks, weights. You will need to provide your personal gear.

Check out Diving World for more information: <http://www.divingworldusa.com/>

If you are interested, please contact Norman Bowen by March 1, 2010 so that we can confirm the number of students and class schedules.

Norman Bowen
321-696-6431
Norman.bowen@sprint.com

Upcoming Events, Reminders and Deadlines

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 9th / 7PM

Winfield Hall 3890 Satellite Blvd, Duluth, GA - 770.495.8088

NEXT CLUB TOURNAMENT:

Apalachicola - May 13 - 15
(application/info to be available soon)

SWAP MEET

Tuesday, March 9th / 6PM (before club meeting)

Do you have a garage/basement filled with fishing/boating gear and tackle that you really don't need? Of course you do! Bring it to the Swap Meet and sell it! While you're there, you can use the cash to buy things from other members to replace the items you sold.

Hot Dogs and Hamburgers Provided By the Club / Cash Bar Opens at 6PM

That Time of Year Again...

Make sure your fishing licenses and boat registrations are up to date. And don't forget to renew HMS/Tuna Permits. Permits purchased now are valid through 12/31/2010 and can be obtained online at:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/initialapp.asp>

Share Your Knowledge

One of the great benefits of our club is the opportunity to become better anglers by pooling our knowledge. We need volunteers to man a 20-minute "How To" table during one of the upcoming club meetings. This can be about any fishing or boating related topic. You don't need props or a fancy presentation - and you don't need to be an expert. Just be willing to spend a few minutes sharing information with your fellow club members.

To volunteer, contact Tom Adrien or Tom Mauldin. Or email to: info@aswsc.org

Something Missing?

We welcome your input, photos, news items, and suggestions about the content of the ASWSC *Fishing Post* Newsletters. Forward your information or digital photos to: info@aswsc.org

For latest club information check out www.aswsc.org