



Fishing Post - November 2010

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

www.aswsc.org

Orange Beach Solo

Fishing Report by Keith Mozena

Well, the ASWSC Orange Beach Alabama Tournament started as a tournament, which turned into an event, which turned into a one boat trip of fish-catching bliss. We hauled down with no issues. We found Cotton Bayou and I pulled in with some trepidation. We met Linda, the complex onsite manager, and she made us feel right at home. It ended up that Cotton Bayou is a nice little complex with plenty of room to maneuver. We got the *Where To Next?* into the water and tied up. Trailer was parked and we hauled all our gear up to the 3rd floor of the building (yeah, we had a penthouse unit :-). At this point, I was sick of 3 flights of stairs. Thursday night we decided to check out a couple of local bars and get to know one another. We had a good friend of Darrin Maietta's with us, Brian Schilling, who drove down from Indiana to join us on this excursion. Kelly and I have a good friend, Kent Sanderson, who lives in Gulf Shores on the Mobile Bay, so we invited him out with us. Unfortunately, Kent had business to attend to and could not fish with us, even though



we begged him to join in. We looked out at the gulf as the wind continued to blow at 20 knots from the north. I was impressed to see 3 large sand sifting machines working up the beach cleaning trash and other stuff out of the sand at night. I've wondered how the beach down there always looked so beautiful. I'm sure this had nothing to do with the BP disaster (<= that is sarcasm).

Friday we got up and checked the marine weather. Yep, 15-20 knot winds with gusts to 25 knots, seas 4-6 feet which means there'll be a 12 footer out there periodically. I made the call to keep us safe and tied to the dock, so we hung out and plotted our attack for Saturday. We did notice the winds began to die in the late afternoon, so we untied stuck our nose into the Gulf. No swell outside the inlet, and we saw a bunch of bait fish on the surface with lots of birds diving for dinner.

Saturday we woke up late due to a missed alarm, but still got away from the dock just after 6:45am. A short idle to the pass and we were on our way to chase some fish and make some history. The winds were from the east around 10 knots but there we could comfortably make 25 knots. We hadn't seen another boat on our run out and after a couple hours of trolling and changing the pattern a bit, I was wondering if the saying, "winds from the east, catch the least", was actually true. Then at 11:55am our port short flat line screamed out and we jumped into action. Kelly, my wife, had won the lottery and was 1st up. She strapped on a fighting belt and made sure the hook-set was solid. Brian kept us straight at the helm while Darrin and I cleared the lines. After a nice fight, Kelly had a real nice 18.7 lb yellowfin tuna. Alright, Sushi! The tuna crashed a blue-white-pink skirted ballyhoo which I had screwed into a plastic, jetted chugger head from Voodoo Offshore.



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We reset the pattern and kept our southerly troll; after a while, we added a bird on the starboard long line to mix things up a bit and shifted our troll to a westerly direction. Another few minutes went by and WHAM! - the port long line took off screaming. I run 4 Penn 30Wides with 120lb braid and a 150 yard top-shot of 80lb mono. I looked at the reel while I handed the rod to Brian and noticed we were into the braid. I pushed the drag up past strike to put more stress on the fish while Kelly handled the helm and Darrin & I cleared the lines. After a nice fight with several runs, Brian got the fish up to the boat and I saw the tell-tale stripes of a WAHOO. He was lit up and still pissed off but I got a good wrap of leader and made a move with the gaff. Dang it I missed the first time but fortunately got him on the second shot. Swinging the fish into the boat, I caught a glimpse of Brian's face, which had a huge smile on it. He's fished many



years on charter boats, but had never caught a wahoo in all those trips, so we set a personal first for him.

After Brian's wahoo, we reset our pattern and I decided to add a Yozuri version of a Briad Speedster lure. Not too long after getting that lure in the water the starboard long starts screaming and Darrin grabs the rod. This was the line which had the bird and the fish is swinging back and forth in the pattern and successfully snagged the shotgun line in the commotion before I could clear it. I'm thinking it's another Yellowfin Tuna but it was a small bonita with a big attitude. Darrin swung him in the boat and I cleaned up the tangle this fish had made of our lines. We decided to try using the bonita as bait and removed the bird from our trolling pattern. After getting ourselves another refreshment, the shotgun screams out. I jumped up, grabbed the shotgun, free spool the reel since it stopped screaming after the initial strike, and count a full 9 seconds. It is my turn in the rotation and I'm thinking this sucker is gonna' be my men's AOY winner. When I pushed the drag back to strike, I feel some weight on the line and yelled to Darrin to grab me a belt, but then, after a handful of seconds the line went soft. So I drop her back again with another 8 sec free spool. When I pushed the

drag back to strike this time, I felt nothing. Bummer. I made a couple long pulls on the rod to see if I could induce another strike but whatever was back there had decided they weren't interested anymore. Probably had something to do with the sharp hook buried in the ballyhoo they just munched. When we got the bait back, the hoo-head was still in the rig and the skirt was fine, but the hook was naked. My bad, missed the hook set on a nice fish. After a while, we decide the bite had turned off, it was around 3:30pm, so we hauled in lines and turned North to find an interesting bottom spot to finish the day. On our way in, we come across a large metal barrel. We could see some smaller fish swimming around under the surface so we attack this water with a combination of some surface jigs, and try to drop a baited rig 50 ft down cause we see some bigger fish on the sounder. We worked this barrel for 10min with no hook ups and decided that nobody wants a late afternoon snack. We were all surprised we couldn't entice anyone to join us on our boat at this stop, it was very fishy, and I was positive we'd find a hungry mahi around there.

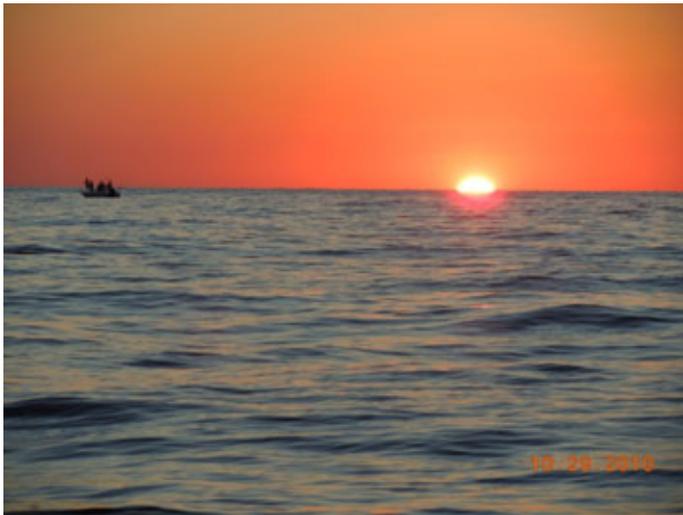


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Orange Beach Solo

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We made the call to push north as the sun kept dropping lower. We stopped at one of the man-made reefs Alabama has set out over the years. We hooked a few small fish but nothing we wanted to keep. After Darrin pulled in a beeliner or two, we decided we'd better get serious about getting back to the dock. We had fish to clean and the boat to clean. To our benefit we watched the sun pass below the horizon for a beautiful Gulf of Mexico sunset. We all hoped to see the "green flash" since the horizon was so clear but nothing happened. I've seen the "green flash" one time in my life, which happened earlier this year at Chubb Cay in the Berry Islands. Truthfully, I can tell you it



does happen, even if it is a rare occurrence. Saturday night we had invited Kent over to our condo for dinner and he brought along steamed blue crabs he caught out back of his house, a bucket load of shrimp, and a couple of good friend's Dave and Cindy. Kelly loves blue crabs being from Maryland. Along with the Yellow Fin Tuna and Wahoo sushi, we had a mighty seafood feast. Kelly made up a salad and bought out some Ital-



ian bread and olive oil for dipping. Cindy brought over some great, homemade dipping sauce for the shrimp. After dinner, Dave, who is a song writer out of Nashville/Tn, entertained us in the condo by singing his songs and covering some others while he interspersed stories that motivated him to the write songs. Anyone jealous they didn't join us on this club "event"? It was a heck of a long day but a great one on the Gulf of Mexico. Wish y'all were there to enjoy it with us. Next time, y'all come down, ya' hear? Oh, and Sunday we went out early (5am)



and spent the morning fishing for Red Snapper to stuff the fish box with "eaters". We got what we needed even though none of them were huge. Monday night, after coming back to ATL,



Kelly whipped up a new Snapper recipe which was great. I'm sure she'll share it with anyone who is interested.

Tight lines, smooth waters, and ice cold drinks,
Keith Mozena
Captain of *Where To Next?*



Off The Hook

The Gentleman's Field Guide

1. Any man who brings a camera to a bachelor party may be legally killed and eaten by his fellow partygoers.
2. Under no circumstances may two men share an umbrella.
3. Unless he murdered someone in your family, you must bail a friend out of jail within 12 hours.
4. Acceptable excuse for not helping a friend move: Your legs have been severed in a freak threshing accident.
5. Acceptable excuse for not helping a friend *of a friend* move: You'd rather stay home and watch speed buggy reruns.
6. If you've known a guy for more than 24 hours, his sister is off-limits forever, unless you actually marry her.
7. The minimum amount of time you have to wait for a guy who's running late is 5 minutes. Maximum waiting time: 6 minutes. For a girl, you have to wait 10 minutes for every point of hotness she scores on the classic 1-10 scale.
8. Complaining about the brand of free beer in a buddy's fridge is forbidden. Gripe at will if the temperature is unsuitable.
9. No man shall ever be required to buy a birthday present for another man. (In fact, even remembering your buddy's birthday is strictly optional.)
10. On a road trip, the strongest bladder determines pit stops, not the weakest.
11. When stumbling upon other guys watching a sporting event, you may always ask the score of the game in progress, but you may never ask who's playing.
12. It is permissible to partake of a fruity chick drink only when you're sunning on a tropical beach...and it's delivered by a topless supermodel...and it's free.
13. Unless you're in prison, never fight naked.
14. Friends don't let friends wear Speedos. Ever. Issue closed.
15. If a man's zipper is down, that's his problem- you didn't see nothin'.
16. Women who claim they "love to watch sports" must be treated as spies until they demonstrate knowledge of the game and the ability to pick a buffalo wing clean.
17. You must offer heartfelt and public condolences over the death of a girlfriend's cat, even if it was you who secretly set it on fire and threw it into a ceiling fan.
18. Never hesitate to reach for the last beer or the last slice of pizza, but not both. That's just plain mean.
19. If you compliment a guy on his six-pack, you'd better be talking about his choice of beer.
20. Never talk to a man in a bathroom unless you are on equal footing: both at the urinal, both waiting in line, etc. For all other situations, an almost imperceptible nod is all the conversation you need.

Score Card

2010 Boat of the Year Standings - Final

Boat	WPB	Apalach #1	Abacos	Apalach #2	Destin	Apalach #3	Total
Outlaw	10	20	10	20			60
Where to Next			20		20		40
Two Bills		15				20	35
Glory Days		10	15			10	35
Easy Does It	20				10		30
Last Bastian		3		15			18
Nikki Girl					3	15	18
Bo Kat	15						15
Instigator					15		15
Bad Buoys		5		5			10
Fish Tale Too				10			10
Fish Dancer	5						5
Lured Away					5		5

2010 Angler of the Year Overall Standings - Final

(see website for individual & category standings: <http://www.aswsc.org/scoreboard/>)

Men's Division

1st Place:	Mike Springer	275 pts
2nd Place:	Jim Currin	200 pts
3rd Place:	Bill Rhodes	150 pts

Ladies Division

1st Place:	Margaret Taylor	525 pts
2nd Place:	Dawn Brady	100 pts
3rd Place:	Kelly Mozena	100 pts

Junior Angler Division

1st Place:	Kendall Spencer	200 pts
2nd Place:	Nikki Thai	150 pts
3rd Place:	Jonathan Spencer	100 pts

Florida Boating Insight

I learned some interesting tidbits regarding FL boating laws recently (online, thankfully, not at the instruction of a ticket-wielding FWC officer). I was surprised by some of what I learned.

- There is no minimum age to drive a boat in FL. Anyone born after 1988 must pass a boating safety course and carry a state-issued card to prove they have done so. This can be an online course and many are free (BoatUS, for instance). So, if a 5 year old child can successfully complete an online boating safety course (without any help from parents, *I'm sure*), that child can legally operate a boat in FL waters (this may explain some of the boating behavior I've witnessed). However, there *is* a minimum age to operate a personal watercraft (PWC); that age is 14. Boating safety course requirements apply for PWC operation as well.
- Children are required to wear a Coast Guard approved PFD on boats under 26 ft in length whenever underway, up through the ripe old age of (are you ready?) five years old. When children reach the mature and responsible age of 6, they may legally shed their PFDs in FL waters. Of course, you are still required to have an approved PFD on board for each person. Operators of personal watercraft must wear an approved PFD at all times.
- Speaking of approved PFDs, inflatable PFDs do not meet the legal requirement for children under 16. But let's think about this: children over 5 are not *required* to wear a PFD on a boat. So the bottom line is that children 6 - 15 years old may wear inflatable PFDs, as long as you have another *approved* PFD on board for them. Go figure.

– JS, Editor

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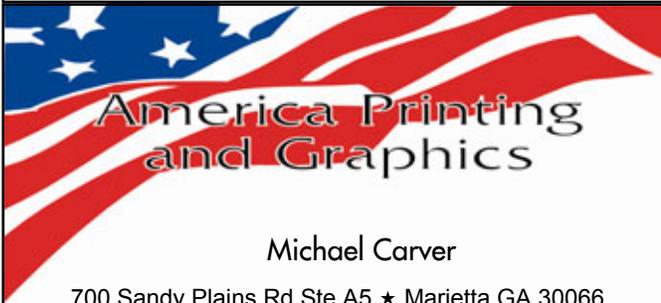
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CONSERVATION NEWS

Sportfishing Industry Applauds EPA's Decision to Reject Lead Ban Petition
http://www.keepamericafishing.org/news_epa_rejects_ban.html

Extended Red Snapper Season Opens for Eight 3-Day Weekends
http://www.gulfcouncil.org/news_resources/Press%20Releases/2010RedSnapperReopening.pdf

Current federal fisheries closure area due to oil spill:
http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/deepwater_horizon_oil_spill.htm

Should we be worried about misguided agencies and environmental groups closing fishing down?
<http://www.saltwatersportsman.com/article/Species/Creeping-Protectionism>

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

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

CONSERVATION SUPPORT



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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

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Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club



PARTY

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
7:00 PM**

**WINFIELD HALL
3890 Satellite Blvd
Duluth, GA 30096**



TICKETS:

**\$10.00 for members,
\$15.00 for non-members.
Please mail ticket
money to: Galen Forbes
2639 Hwy 52 E.,
Ellijay, GA 30536-4505
Phone: 706-276-3366**

There will be: Silent Auctions and Many Wonderful Raffle Items. The Year End Angler's and Boat Awards Announced and New Officers Announced. Our Favorite DJ, Scott Mc Elmoyl will be returning, for our Dancing Music! The Buffet has Excellent Food, Prepared By Executive Chef Greg Kuekes and his Staff. **PLEASE COME JOIN THE FESTIVITIES!**

FOR THOSE WISHING TO NOT DRIVE AFTER THE FESTIVITIES

The Country Inn and Suites, 3530 Breckenridge Blvd., Duluth, GA. Phone: 678-405-2900, has a block of discount rooms, for those wanting to stay the night. Please mention the ASWSC to get the discounted rates of \$69., plus taxes. It is best to reserve a week in advance, but last minute reservation will be also be acceptable. Please call **Judy Kump** for details: 404-824-6307



Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

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TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE

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The bargain of the year is back again for the Christmas Party Raffle, for just \$10.00 a ticket as the Grand Prize. This is a terrific combo for jigging, as Mike Springer and his crews can attest to it's catching power.

Tickets go on sale at the Nov. 9 th Club meeting and can also be purchased by mailing a check payable to: ASWSC to Norman Bowen** before Nov. 27th. You do not have to be present to win at the Club Christmas party on Dec. 11th., but we still hope you be there! A maximum of 150 tickets are available for this rod and reel combo, so please hurry, while supply lasts!

****Norman Bowen,** 7256 Anglers Rest Rd., Dawsonville, GA 30534-4708

Upcoming Events, Reminders and Deadlines

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 11, 2010 / 7PM

Winfield Hall 3890 Satellite Blvd, Duluth, GA 770.495.8088

See website for directions: www.aswsc.org

Christmas Party!

Silent Auctions, Raffle/Prizes, Great Food/Drink,
Music, Dancing, Good Friends, & Lots of Fun.

Awards will be presented, including Boat of the Year,
Angler of the Year, and the Robert Lynn Award.

2011 Officers and Committee Members will also be
officially presented during the Christmas Party.

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE CHRISTMAS PARTY, PLEASE
CONTACT GALEN FORBES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (page 10).**

**We need to know how many will be attending so
we can order the proper amount of food.**

(See Pages 10 and 11 for additional details on Christmas Party and Rod/Reel Raffle)

NEXT CLUB TOURNAMENT:

Annual Sailfish Classic

West Palm Beach, FL: Jan 12 - 15, 2011

Application and Tip Sheet Available online: <http://www.aswsc.org/tournaments>

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