



Fishing Post *October 2016*

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

www.aswsc.org

Another Fun Fishing Season

Club members have been doing a lot of fishing so far this year; hopefully you've been a part of it. If not, you need to start re-thinking your priorities, because you are missing out.

After the West Palm Beach Sailfish Classic provided a great start to the tournament year, we were afforded the opportunity to hone our angling skills on the club's charter trip to the Middle Grounds in early May. The club has chartered this boat from Hubbard's several times and the response has always been great; members are already looking forward to another trip.



Savannah/Tybee was our next venue in mid-May. Ironically, Savannah is a destination the club has not visited for many years, despite it being the closest salt water to Atlanta. It was an exciting and fun tournament in a largely under-utilized fishery; I suspect the Savannah area will be seeing more of us in the coming years.



Next up was the Bahamas tournament in early June. The Abacos are worth visiting just for the natural beauty and diving, but the fishing opportunities are outstanding as well.

Later that same week, we held the first of our two scheduled Apalachicola tournaments for this year. I think it's fair to say that Apalachicola has emerged over



the last few years as the most popular tournament destination for the club; the unique environment at Bay City Lodge allows members to spend a lot of time together in between fishing excursions. Weather was cooperative and a lot of fish were caught.



Orange Beach was next in mid-July and it's always a fun time. This year's tournament was again scheduled to culminate with a raft-up at the Blue Angels air show, and once again coincided with the exciting local competition at the Blue Marlin Grand Championship big money tournament.



In late August, the second Apalachicola tournament was held, once again with a good turnout. Although fishing regulations limited weigh-in opportunities, we all had a great time and made some lasting memories.

A few boats were able to brave the weather and fish a brand new destination for the club in October, Grand Isle, LA. There were some great catches and new club records set.

If you're not fishing with us, you're not experiencing all the club has to offer. Start making your plans for next season!



— Jace Spencer

TOURNAMENT SCORE CARD

2016 Boat of the Year (Final Standings)

BOAT	WPB	SAVANNAH	BAHAMAS	APALACH- JUN	ORANGE BEACH	APALACH- AUG	GRAND ISLE	TOTAL
<i>Persevere</i>	20	—	—	15	15	20	—	70
<i>Chillin & Reelin</i>	15	15	—	—	—	—	20	50
<i>Bad Buoy</i> s	—	20	—	3	20	5	—	48
<i>Loophole</i>	—	10	—	20	3	15	—	48
<i>Outlaw</i>	—	—	20	—	10	3	—	33
<i>Where to Next?</i>	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	15
<i>Reel Life</i>	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	15
<i>Easy Does It</i>	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
<i>Bo Kat</i>	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	10
<i>JoySea</i>	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	10
<i>Nikki Girl</i>	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10
<i>Playing Hookie</i>	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	10
<i>Latitude Adjustment</i>	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
<i>All In</i>	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	5
<i>Pam's Competition II</i>	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	5
<i>Uncle Pokey</i>	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3

TOURNAMENT SCORE CARD

2016 Angler of the Year - Overall Standings (Final)

Men's Division

	ANGLER	POINTS
1st	John Roché	250
2nd	Thad Stone	150
3rd	Garrett Ross	150
4th	Craig Antonio	150



Ladies' Division

	ANGLER	POINTS
1st	Wendy Coates	175
2nd	Valerie Christopher	175
3rd	Laura Lazar	150
4th	Amanda Phillips	150



Junior Division

	ANGLER	POINTS
1st	Nicky Mleczko	275



TOURNAMENT SCORE CARD

Angler of the Year Individual Category Scores (Final Standings) Pg 1 of 4

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
AMBERJACK-MEN	John Roché	Chillin & Reelin	24.4	100
	John Roché	Chillin & Reelin	24.0	50
	Jim Tatum	Bad Buoys	22.0	25
AMBERJACK-LADIES	Wendy Coates	Chillin & Reelin	25.3	100

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
GROUPER-MEN	Ken Barnhart Jr.	JoySea	15.1	100
	Carl LaBarbera	Loophole	14.2	50
	Carl LaBarbera	Loophole	13.2	25
GROUPER-LADIES	Valerie Christopher	Total Chaos	8.8	100
	Valerie Christopher	Total Chaos	8.3	50
	Valerie Christopher	Total Chaos	7.7	25
GROUPER-JUNIOR	Nicky Mlezcko	Persevere	6.5	100

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
MACKEREL-MEN	John Roché	Persevere	25.3	100
	Tony Vazquez	Loophole	24.6	50
	Roger Reyelts	Persevere	22.7	25
MACKEREL-LADIES	Michelle Graham	Latitude Adjustment	5.5	100

TOURNAMENT SCORE CARD

Angler of the Year Individual Category Scores (Final Standings) Pg 2 of 4

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
SNAPPER-MEN	John Phillips	Saltmafia	14.2	100
	Butch Bowen	Just Like Cheatin	13.2	50
	John Phillips	Saltmafia	12.0	25
SNAPPER-LADIES	Amanda Phillips	Saltmafia	12.4	100
	Amanda Phillips	Saltmafia	11.5	50
	Wendy Coates	Chillin & Reelin	2.6	25
SNAPPER-JUNIOR	Nicky Mleczo	Persevere	7.6	100
	Nicky Mleczo	Persevere	7.0	50
	Nicky Mleczo	Persevere	3.2	25

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
COBIA-MEN	Garrett Ross	Chillin & Reelin	56.3	100
	Garrett Ross	Chillin & Reelin	47.9	50

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
WAHOO-MEN	Jonathan Spencer	Bad Buoys	50.6	100
	John Curry	Loophole	46.6	50
	Roger Reyelts	Persevere	13.9	25

TOURNAMENT SCORE CARD

Angler of the Year Individual Category Scores (Final Standings) Pg 3 of 4

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
DOLPHIN-MEN	Sam Hyland	Where to Next?	31.0	100
	Rick Martin	Where to Next?	24.0	50
	Mike Springer	Outlaw	22.0	25
DOLPHIN-LADIES	Laura Lazar	Where to Next?	23.0	100

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
TUNA-MEN	Thad Stone	Chillin & Reelin	104.5	100
	Thad Stone	Chillin & Reelin	29.3	50
	Roger Reyelts	Persevere	16.0	25

	ANGLER	BOAT	WEIGHT	POINTS
SEATROUT-MEN	Tom Tait	Krabby Patty	2.1	100
	Scott Rowe	Uncle Pokey	1.2	50

TOURNAMENT SCORE CARD

Angler of the Year Individual Category Scores (Final Standings) Pg 4 of 4

BILLFISH RELEASES-MEN	BOAT	RELEASES	POINTS
Craig Antonio	Persevere	3	150
Ryan Howard	Chillin & Reelin	1	50
Mark Mleczo	Persevere	1	50
Greg Wilmoth	Easy Does It	1	50
Steve Fritz	Easy Does It	1	50
Norman Bowen	Outlaw	1	50
Kendall Spencer	Bad Buoys	1	50
Bob Slater	Reel Life	1	50

BILLFISH RELEASES-LADIES	BOAT	RELEASES	POINTS
Wendy Coates	Chillin & Reelin	1	50
Laura Lazar	Where to Next?	1	50

Savannah / Tybee Island Tournament Report

By Jace Spencer



The weather forecast was awful and *Bad Buoys* almost didn't make the trip. I was leery about visiting Savannah again anyway, after running into some serious bad luck on my last trip several years ago. But I was determined to ignore the "Savannah Curse" and push ahead; I've never been one to give into superstitious nonsense. So off we went. During most of the tournament, the curse seemed not only absent, but completely exorcised. The weather was much better than expected, the fishing was great, and our group of 7 boats was warmly welcomed into the local fishing community. The captains meeting at Tybee

Island Marina Thursday evening was informal but informative. Capt Judy Helmey of Capt Judy Charters, along with two of her best charter captains (Ryan Howard and Garrett Ross) gave us the latest fishing intel and a bunch of fishing tips/info and promotional goodies.



Day One: The *Bad Buoys* crew checked out several spots without much luck, but finally ended up at the Snapper Banks, following the advice of Capt Judy Helmey and Capt Ryan Howard. We caught a



mixed bag, including amberjack, triggerfish, & black sea bass, (and some really nice red snapper, which we patiently vented and released, with tears in our eyes). *Chillin N Reelin* and *Latitude Adjustment* made the long run out to the Stream, planning to capitalize on the dolphin run and hopefully run across some billfish and wahoo...best laid plans...the dolphin had moved in closer and the trolling bite wasn't up to par that day. They did boat some fish though, including some nice amberjack, and *Chillin N Reelin* took the tournament lead at the end of day one. *Loophole* had some nice fish, including a beautiful cow dolphin and very respectable king mackerel. The inshore boats didn't experience great catches like



the offshore boats, but all reported a good time nonetheless.

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Savannah / Tybee Island Tournament Report

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Day Two: We checked out another couple of spots on the way out. At one of the artificial reefs, we hooked up with triples on bull red drum (twice!). That was loads of fun, but nothing for the fishbox as those are release-only in federal waters. So onward to the Snapper Banks, very near one of the numbers Capt Judy had provided for us at the captains meeting. We had another great day, loading up on various reef species. Then the flat-line went off. Like a rocket. I'm not sure how long we fought and chased that fish (it was actually chasing *us* for much of the time, trying to cross under the boat); it was probably 15 minutes, but it felt like 3 days. My son Jonathan finally won the battle and boated a 50+ lb monster, the largest wahoo ever for Team *Bad Buoy*s. Caught on a flat line with a frozen cigar minnow! (who needs trolling, right?) *Chillin N Reelin* put in another good score that day, but in the end it just wasn't enough to offset the big wahoo, giving *Bad Buoy*s the tournament win.



The Awards Dinner at the marina featured locally-prepared BBQ, which was some of the best I've ever eaten. (Thank you, Mr. Howard!) Tournament Director John Roché did a great job pulling everything together for this trip. We auctioned off a nice handheld VHF radio donated by our good friends at Bay Marine, proceeds going to the club.



Final Standings: 1st Place - *Bad Buoy*s; 2nd Place - *Chillin N Reelin*; 3rd Place - *Loophole*; 4th Place - *Latitude Adjustment*; 5th Place - *Uncle Pokey*

Post Script: There was a reason I mentioned the Savannah Curse at the beginning of this article, and noted that the curse seemed to have been lifted for "most of the tournament." It reared it's ugly head again on Saturday; *Chillin N Reelin* broke a weld on their T-top, and also broke the screen on a Raymarine Dragonfly unit. *Latitude Adjustment* had a motor throw a rod, resulting in catastrophic/permanent failure. Mark Mleczo was planning to drive home with his son Nicky Saturday evening, but his car seized up in the marina parking lot and even the windows wouldn't roll up (yes, of course the rain storm arrived at the worst possible time).



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Savannah / Tybee Island Tournament Report

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Mark had to book a hotel room, and Mark's wife drove down in the middle of the night. After unsuccessfully attempting repairs on Sunday, he later went back to his home in Monroe and used his truck (after discovering both batteries needed replacing) to tow the car back home, after dealing with two flat tires on rental trailers. He had transmission issues before even getting out of Savannah and was hassled by the Madison police in the wee hours on the way home Monday night.

The curse resurfaced for me on Sunday morning; I didn't realize it until later, but apparently my trailer had been damaged (both tail lights broken) during storage. There was a very strong cross current at the boat ramp and I didn't get a chance to watch others flounder before casually motoring my boat up to the trailer with catastrophic results. The outgoing tide and a brisk downstream current were augmented by the strong rains and runoff from the night before. But just as the nose of the boat got within a few feet of the trailer, the backside of the eddy slammed into the bow, pushing it in an up-river direction, breaking one of my trailer guides. We tried using dock lines and spare rope to maneuver the boat, but the current was too strong and the boat was too heavy. Thirty minutes later, we still hadn't managed to get the boat properly positioned onto the trailer; worse, one of the forward bunks had come loose and the starboard hull was wedged in a bad spot. I couldn't tow it home that way, so it took another 10 minutes to get the boat back off the trailer, gouging the hull on the bunk bracket in the process. The trailer went up to the parking lot for emergency repairs, which took another 30 minutes.

For the next hour or so, we sat at the dock and watch other boats experience similar problems, lots of frustration, cursing, and guys in the back of pickups trying to manually wrench their boats into position with the hulls at 90-degree angles to the trailers. Another poor soul decided speed was the answer and came charging up to his trailer, only to have the current catch his bow and he almost completely runs the boat up and over the left side of the trailer. I'm pretty despondent at that point, and thinking I'll just wait another 2-3 hours for the tide to change (I'm not going into depth in this article about the creepy "stalker" lady that spent so much time hassling us while we were at the ramp...and apparently followed us to Savannah later — except to say that she was very diligent with her task at the ramp that morning, which apparently was to provide "free" safety inspections). But the hope of getting away from her relentless nonsense motivated me, so I finally came up with an idea to use the wooden structure on the upstream ramp as a 'fence'; the idea works, although not without significant effort and a few more scratches, but we could finally hit the road. To the closest auto parts store that is, to replace the two broken tail lights on the trailer. While we're at the auto parts store, we run into Mark Mleczo (still trying to fix his car)...and who else should pull up to talk to us? - the creepy stalker Coast Guard Reserve lady! She wanted to buy us lunch (we declined) and then she drives over to an adjacent parking lot, sits in her car and watches us for a while. Like I said, **creepy**. She finally moves on and we relax a bit. After a quick fast-food lunch (it's now afternoon), my family and I finally start the journey homeward. But wait, the fun isn't over yet. Not far from home, the transmission on the truck started overheating. We had to stop twice to let things cool down and it took almost 2 hours to drive the last 30 miles; the torque converter subsequently had to be replaced. Still not done...for some reason, the grease in 4 of my 6 trailer hubs had liquefied and starting oozing out the inner seals. Even after completely re-building all of the hubs and replacing the seals (twice) since, I continue to have problems and I've been unable to determine what's causing it.

Now I'm *still* not a superstitious guy, and I'm not going to let these events keep me from returning to Tybee/Savannah. It's a great community with a wonderful atmosphere and the fishing was much better than I expected. However, there are now a few more members who do not so lightly dismiss the Savannah Curse. For myself, the next time I fish there, I will take plenty of spare parts and tools, and allow extra time. Oh, and of course I'll be keeping a sharp eye out for the creepy stalker lady.

— Jace Spencer

Bahamas Tournament Report

By Norman Bowen

Six ASWSC boats made the Gulf Stream crossing to Abaco the last week in May. We had near perfect weather and sea conditions making for a fast and comfortable ride. *Outlaw* and *Where to Next?* chose the southern route, clearing Bahamian Customs at West End, Grand Bahama Island, and then cruising down to Great Guana Cay. *French Quarter*, *Maverick*, *BoKat*, and *Easy Does It* took the northern route and spent a few days at Rosie's Place on Grand Cay.



After spending a few nights on Great Guana Cay and Grand Cay, most of us met up on Elbow Cay when the rest of the crew flew into Marsh Harbour. The weather conditions deteriorated mid-week, which slowed the fishing but didn't stop the island hopping and exploring. Trips included No Name Cay to feed the wild pigs, beach time at Treasure Cay, the Gulley Roosters on Green Turtle Cay, Nippers on Great Guana Cay, Grand Cay, Marsh Harbour, Albury's Sail Shop and boat yards at Man O' War Cay, Cracker P's on Lubbers Quarters, Pete's Pub at Little Harbour, conch diving at Johnnie's Cay, exploring Scotland Cay lagoon, and snorkeling at Sandy Cay.

There's always something to do on Elbow Cay including beach combing for shells and sea glass, climbing the lighthouse, shopping in Hope Town and enjoying the local cuisine.

The fishing started out hot, with *Outlaw* going one for four on marlin, fishing north of Great Guana Cay. *Outlaw* released a respectable blue marlin; Norman Bowen angler. *Where to Next?*, aka Little Black Boat, witnessed a double marlin release right off their bow. Day two that same area was dead and nothing to show for the day's work. Day three the boats headed south. *Where to Next?* was fishing south of Lynyard Cay and released a blue marlin and caught several real nice Mahi Mahi. The largest



Mahi was over 30 pounds. Laura Lazar was the angler on the marlin

release. *The Easy Does It* crew joined *Outlaw* and caught some nice Mahi Mahi off Tilloo Cay with their largest around 25 pounds. *BoKat* worked the edge off Elbow Cay and weighed in blackfin tuna, wahoo, groupers, snappers and trigger fish. The tournament concluded with the award presentation and pool party at Cheers.



Final Tournament Results:

1st Place: *Outlaw*

2nd Place: *Where to Next?*

3rd Place: *BoKat*

Apalachicola's Bay City Bash - Tournament Report

June 8-11, 2016 - Andy Durden

As the tournament was approaching, so was tropical storm Colin. We started receiving weather warnings via the Weather Channel and by 6 June... it's not looking so good, and sure enough, club members were saying " looks like we might get washed out " even though it was clear skies here. I called former club member Tony Phillips who is on the ground in Apalachicola for an update and his eyewitness reporting to me was that the rain has stopped, the bay is calm and Bay City Lodge is not flooded. By the time of the Captains meeting on Wednesday, you could not tell we had any bad weather. So it was game on. We had 10 boats to fish in the tournament, around 40 crew. During the Captains meeting we covered the routine information like VHF radio channels and weigh-in times, etc. Just as the meeting was starting someone received an e-mail that the Red Snapper season in Federal waters had just been extended for two additional days due to tropical storm Colin. Tom Cherry had cooked BBQ for sandwiches and provided the trimmings for the Captains meeting and other than a few bug bites, the Captains meeting went without any issues. John Roche made a grand entrance to Bay City with this vehicle pictured below pulling the Chillin n Reelin vessel, you just had to be there!! Gag grouper season opened early, 1 June rather than 1 July coupled with an additional two days of Red Snapper, and now the seas were reported to be 1 foot or less with a slight wind. Everything that could be considered a negative aspect of an Apalachicola fishing tournament in the second week of June (No Snapper, No Grouper and bad weather)... was gone.

Thursday morning came quickly after fine tuning fishing equipment, a few fishing stories and several cocktails on Wednesday night. The dock was busy with crews loading rods, ice, etc and as always, second guessing the fishing strategy for the day. The weather and seas Thursday could not have been better. At the end of the day, weigh-in was at



5:30 pm and the Bay City docks were crowded with boats trying to unload their catch, clean-up and get fuel for the next day. Even Jimmy, the Bay City owner, was pumping fuel. After weigh-in was completed the top anglers were: Persevere and Bad Buoys II tied for first with 400 points and Loop Hole was only 5 points behind.

Friday, Day 2/ of the tournament started much the same as Thursday except the crews were more organized, getting an earlier start out into the Apalachicola River headed to the St George Island cut. Three boats were headed to the Middle Grounds for an overnigher and would miss the afternoons weigh-in. While in the pass at St George, 3 of the Salt Water club's boats were attacked by one of their own. Persevere led by crew member Nicky Mleczko began bombarding the other boats with water balloons...you sure didn't want to give up your spot in line with the bait man, but you had no means to retaliate so you had to take the shelling. Persevere had no shortage of ammo. Seas and weather were again outstanding. Friday's weigh-in was without Butch Bowen's "Just like Cheatin" due to motor issues. After day 2 the standings were: Joysea-625, All-In – 525 and Loop Hole-490. (Remembering day one leaders did not weigh-in being offshore overnight)

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Apalachicola Tournament Report

Day 3/Saturday. Another perfect day, calm seas and no ugly weather in the forecast. Bait man is in place with your order of Pin fish and we are off for our final day of fishing. Weigh-in is set for 5 pm so the return time had to be adjusted by 30 minutes or so. The seas picked up in the afternoon along with increasing winds so the ride in was a little rougher than the previous two days. Back at the docks at Bay City, crews are trying to get boats out of the water, fish weighed and cleaned, Rods/reels and equipment cleaned, and get ready for the awards banquet. Once we tied up at the dock, the buzz was that Mark Mleczo's Persevere had caught and released a 400 point sailfish, and everyone knew being at the middle grounds overnight he would have plenty to add to his point total. At the weigh-in scales, we had another surprise, JoySea's Kenny Barnhart caught a Red Grouper 15.1 lbs which is a new club record. Then team Loop Hole weighs-in...Wahoo 46.6 lbs-350 points and 24.6 lb king fish help made a 795 point day possible and when added to their previous best day...Ward Lang and his crew are definitely in the hunt.

At the awards banquet the club, as always, had an opportunity to socialize as a group. While the Bay City staff prepared the seafood buffet and serving line we went ahead with the awards ceremony.

Fifth Place: Bad Buoys II, Jace Spencer

Fourth Place: All-In, Andy Durden

Third Place: JoySea, Ken Barnhart

Second Place: Persevere, Mark Mleczo

First Place: Loop Hole, Ward Lang

(Photos of the winning crews are listed on the web site)

We had a great tournament, weather and seas were outstanding, club members caught a lot of fish and best of all we had fun and no accidents or injuries.

I wanted to say thanks to some of the people that assisted me with the tournament: Tony Phillips for his coordination with the bait man and sharing his local knowledge of the Apalachicola waters; John Roche for his assistance with the awards (plaques and mugs), Jace Spencer for his time and effort with the Captain packets, etc etc etc, Jim Tatum for assisting with weigh-in all 3 days and helping with the awards banquet and Tom Cherry for putting together the Captains meeting and being the assistant director for the tournament.



	Boat	Captain
1ST PLACE	<i>Loophole</i>	Ward Lang
2ND PLACE	<i>Persevere</i>	Mark Mleczo
3RD PLACE	<i>JoySea</i>	Ken Barnhart
4TH PLACE	<i>All In</i>	Andy Durden
5TH PLACE	<i>Bad Buoys</i>	Jace Spencer

Orange Beach Tournament Report

July 12 - 16

As most of you already know, Orange Beach is a favorite destination for the club, and with good reason. It's a great area with plenty of great restaurants and lots to do. As in previous years, this year the club planned the tournament to coincide with the Blue Angels show at nearby Pensacola.

Cotton Bayou Condominiums made us welcome and we enjoyed getting to know the new property management. Tom Holt was Tournament Director, but had engine troubles on the first day of weigh-in, putting Pam's Competition "out of the competition" early on. Tom & crew almost made it back, but Boat U.S. had to finish the job.



We had a good crowd and the fish were very cooperative. Before his engine troubles, Tom Holt and crew managed to bring in some nice African pompanos, a fish not seen at these docks in recent history. Kendall Spencer of the Bad Buoys crew caught & released his first billfish, a nice white marlin (also the first billfish for the boat) and celebrated in the traditional manner by being tossed into the pool.



Orange Beach Tournament Report

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There were some impressive catches aboard the Persevere, but not quite enough to overcome the points scored by Bad Buoy's white marlin catch, so Bad Buoy's took home the First Place plaque this time.

	Boat	Captain
1ST PLACE	<i>Bad Buoy's</i>	Jace Spencer
2ND PLACE	<i>Persevere</i>	Mark Mleczko
3RD PLACE	<i>Outlaw</i>	Mike Springer
4TH PLACE	<i>Pam's Competition II</i>	Tom Holt
5TH PLACE	<i>Loophole</i>	Ward Lang



First Place: Bad Buoy's



Second Place: Persevere



Third Place: Outlaw

Tennessee River Voyage

In September a group of club members and guests (4 would join our club) took a 60 mile trip up the beautiful Tennessee River, enjoyed perfect weather and had too much fun in Ten Mile Tennessee at the Euchee Marina and Resort. The lodging staff, GM Tim and Chef Zach did a wonderful job welcoming ASWSC members and making sure we had fun .

Thursday we enjoyed pre launch BBQ dinner/social at the home of Dan And Hattie. Everyone contributed an appetizer or a side dish and it was truly a feast. Shady Grove Harbor, owned by members Randy and Terry Bass, was gracious and offered free dockage for club boats that launched the day before.



Late Friday morning, after meeting for breakfast, we headed upstream. Stopping along the way for snacks and a swim, the voyage upstream was in perfect weather and everyone's boat ran flawlessly. This was the maiden trip for the Maverick-3, Phil And Galen's beautiful 29' SeaRay Amberjack! And the first club run for the Martins' VERY IMPRESSIVE NEW PURSUIT!! Friday night's group dinner was loads of fun, and it turned out there was a microphone for a sing along....it got ugly! There was a "dance off" between Rick Martin and new member Buffy Loveday. Rick had great moves, how-



ever Buffy was much easier on the eyes! Then back to the docks to Howl at the cloudless, starlit night. This went into the wee hours, much to the dismay of anyone who thought it was bed time.

Saturday began with a breakfast of fruits and omelets—made to your specification! It was another great group effort. Thanks to every one who contributed. Then, almost everyone piled onto 2 boats and headed to a local party sand bar where the water was waist deep and adult beverages flowed. Meanwhile, Capt Steve Guntner piloted Libby and guests, Donna and Gary Rhines upstream for a 30 mile cruise, while BoKat, owned by Bo and Kathy Dunn, stayed in port and caught up on college football games. It was a wonderful day at leisure -- and another evening of music and fun at the dock...more subdued...
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Tennessee River Voyage

Sunday dawned crystal clear and after a breakfast hosted by Libby and Steve "grits" Guntner, boats that were pulling back south headed out to clear the lock and get on the road for the trip home. The rest of us returned to scenic Soddy Daisy for a pizza party and more laughs and fun.....



Welcome NEW MEMBERS : Sherwin & Cyndy Smith and Joel & Buffy Loveday.

List of boats and folks that made the voyage:

Chaos: Sherwin & Cyndy ,
BoKat: Bo & Kathy, Kevin & Buffy
Reel Life: Rick & Stephanie
Maverick: Phil & Galen, Rick & Bridgette, Keith
Easy Does It : Steve & Libby, Gary & Donna
French Quarter : Dan & Hattie

Thanks to one and all who helped make this one of the best attended and fun events in recent memory. If you did not make it this year, 2017 includes plans to go south to the Goosepond Colony in Scottsboro AL - a 100 mile run with one lock. BE THERE!!!

Check the club calendar for Christmas Party details; also make plans AND reservations. ASWSC SAILFISH CLASSIC in West Palm - if you've never caught and released Sailfish, it is probably best opportunity you will ever have!! Make plans as soon as they are posted.

Tight lines, Dan French

Apalachicola August Tournament Summary

- Mike Springer

Pre Hurricane Fishing In Apalachicola

Timing wasn't the best for our Apalachicola tournament that was held a week before Hurricane Hermine, however that didn't stop a few boats from catching some nice fish. Our tournament was held August 25 – 27th. The captains' meeting was held at the Bay City Lodge restaurant on Thursday night. We had the whole place to ourselves.

Friday morning our warriors made their way through the bay for a pit stop to pick up live bait from the bait guy. Leaving the pass, the radio was full of famous quotes like "It's rough as S_ _ _ out here"...followed by another captain saying one of their crew was throwing up in the bucket. 15 to 20 knot winds and seas running 3-5 feet were the order of the day. Hurricane Hermine was coming to town along with a high pressure ridge that made things interesting. We had a great turnout with eleven boats entering the tournament. Only four boats ventured offshore, while the rest tried to figure out how to turn their boats from offshore fishing boats to inshore bay boats. Day one weigh-in had *Nikki Girl* in the lead with a nice mix of Grouper and Kings. They also released an estimated 70 to 80 lb Amberjack that they couldn't keep because of it not being in season. *Persevere* also released an estimated 65-lb AJ caught by John Roche. The highlight of the day was on *Loophole* - they managed to release the club's second ever Tarpon, caught by Carl LaBarbera.



Day two weather was no better than Friday. *Persevere* climbed to the top of the leaderboard with some nice Kings and Vermillion Snapper. One King was bitten in half by a Barracuda and still weighed in at 25.3 pounds, followed by a 19- and a 13-pound King.

As with all of the club tournaments, no matter what the weather our members always seem to have a great time. The awards banquet was held Saturday night back at the Bay City Lodge restaurant where we were greeted with a full buffet of seafood items that was great. We want to thank Bay City Lodge for the hospitality they show us every time we come.

Tournament results: 1st Place: *Persevere* ; 2nd Place: *Loophole* ; 3rd Place: *Nikki Girl* ; 4th Place: *Bad Buoys* ; 5th Place: *Outlaw*



1st Place Team Persevere



2nd Place Team Loophole

Grand Isle Tournament Summary - October

- Keith Mozena

It looks like Grand Isle might be a viable alternative for club members interested in a fishing trip to Louisiana. Driving time is about the same as it is to Venice, but once there, the 20 mile boat ride from marina to the Gulf is not a factor. Accommodations at Bridgeside Marina are a notch or two below Cotton Bayou, but there is an easy-to-use boat ramp, tackle shop and good parking for truck/trailer - and the island offers a grocery store and a few restaurants. Houses are available on the island, ranging from 2 bedroom to 5 bedroom.

And then there is the fishing!

Some of the catches from Grand Isle:

Bob Slater - sailfish

Thad Stone - yellowfin tuna 104.5 lbs
blackfin tuna - 29.3 lbs (new club record)

Rick Pulver - king mackerel 21.5 lbs

Garrett Ross - 2 cobia: 56.3 lbs (new club record) and 47.9 lbs
2 red snapper: 7.1 lbs and 10.4 lbs
2 mangrove snapper: 6.8 lbs and 7.2 lbs



	Boat	Captain
1ST PLACE	<i>Chillin & Reelin</i>	John Roché
2ND PLACE	<i>Reel Life</i>	Rick Martin
3RD PLACE	<i>Playing Hookie</i>	Ricky Kolman



Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

2016 Christmas Party & Awards Banquet

Saturday, Dec. 3rd at 7:00 PM



5993 Peachtree Industrial
Blvd. Peachtree Corners,
GA 30092 770-447-4747

Member Tickets: \$50.00 (\$25 Children)
Non Member Tickets: \$110

Includes Buffet Dinner, Dessert, and
3-Hour Open Bar (7:00PM - 10:00PM)

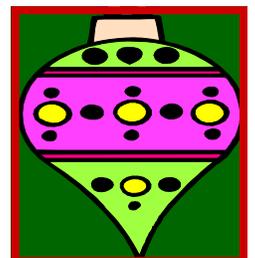
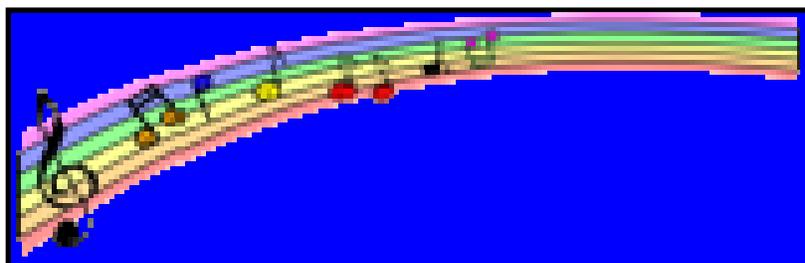
Tickets on Sale at Club Meetings **or**
Make check payable to ASWSC and
mail to: Steve Fritz,
6023 Hwy 20 South
Covington, GA 30016

Overnight Room Reservations: Room Rate
\$79.00 - PLEASE RESERVE YOUR ROOM
ASAP! Deadline is November 12th. We are
trying to fill the entire 10th floor. Use the
link on the club website (www.aswsc.org)
to reserve your room.
Contact Steve Fritz with any questions or
problems: 404-702-5558

Big Christmas Raffle
2 Rod & Reel Combos
(2 Winners Will Be Chosen)
Tickets \$10.00 each
On sale at meetings and at party



Loads of \$1.00 RAFFLE Items
and SILENT AUCTION Items to
choose from. All items donated
to help offset costs of admissions.
Donations Items NEEDED,
Please bring to Club Meeting



For Sale

2002 Caravelle 230



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- T-top with Top Gun outriggers and rod holders
- Leaning post with rod holders
- Huge fish box, 30 gallon live well, sink and shower
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- Large step in console with porta pottie
- Continental aluminum tandem axle trailer (new tires, bunks, strap and LED lights)
- Price: \$18,500

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

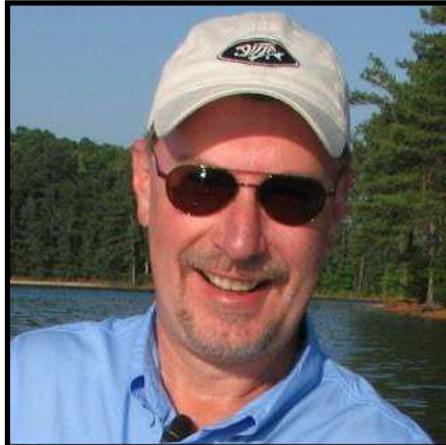


Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

2016 Officers



Ken Barnhart



Cefus McRae



Steve Guntner

2015 Officers

Ken Barnhart, President
dareme007@msn.com

Cefus McRae, Vice-President
cefus@nutsandboltsfishing.com

Steve Guntner, Treasurer
guntner@mindspring.com

Jace Spencer, Secretary
jks@nmsmail.com

Norman Bowen,
Tournament Committee Director
norman.bowen@sprint.com



Jace Spencer

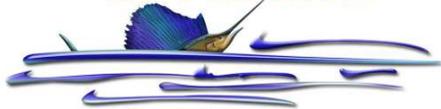


Norman Bowen

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Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

November 8, 2016	Monthly Club Meeting at Hilton Atlanta Northeast
December 3, 2016	Christmas Party - Hilton Atlanta Northeast
January 12-15, 2017	Atlanta Boat Show
January 25-28, 2017	Annual Sailfish Classic Tournament - WPB, FL
March (Date TBD)	Annual Swap Meet and Cook Off
April (Date TBD)	Spring Fling & Lunch at Lake Lanier
May (Date TBD)	Annual Cinco De Mayo Picnic

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