



Fishing Post - October 2010

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

www.aswsc.org

Destin Doesn't Disappoint

Tournament Report by Norman Bowen



Fishing *Easy Does It* style: Thursday we decided to hit it hard and fish offshore. Mike had a hot tip on an amberjack spot. After gassing up the boat, breakfast at Waffle House, stop by Publix for lunch, launch the boat, and we were off the dock before 11:00. We found a nice weed line and caught and released dolphin for hours. We kept a few for dinner. The amberjack bite didn't work out for us, but we did manage a few nice kings.

Fishlips! ASWSC returned to Destin for the annual Duel at Destin over the Labor Day weekend. Weather and sea conditions were perfect and accommodations at Pirates Bay are hard to beat with the low rate and boat slip and trailer storage included. One significant improvement this year was having the daily weigh-in at the new water front restaurant Fishlips under Brooks Bridge. When's the last time you had a band playing at weigh-in? It's also pretty cool seeing the crowds gather as our boats pulled up to the scale.



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Destin Doesn't Disappoint

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The *Where to Next?* team found the hot wahoo bite out near the Ozark and weighed in four really nice ones in the twenty to thirty five pound range. *Lured Away* also went to blue water but decided to fish late rather than make the weigh-in.



On day two the *Easy Does It* team wasn't quite as ambitious and got a late start. We had trouble catching bait, so the mission was aborted; instead, we had lunch at Fishlips and spent the rest of the day on Crab Island. *Instigator* found the amberjack with the big fish of the day at just under thirty pounds. *Lured Away* had the tuna touch, weighing in a nice pair of blackfin. *Nikki Girl* also had a nice blackfin. Nikki's 18.9 pound tuna ended up being the top junior angler catch.

On day three, the *Easy Does It* team decided to

put in a solid half-day effort. Steve even sprung for \$4 worth of cigar minnows as backup. We made the five mile run to our secret spot, caught a couple of nice kings and Spanish, then to Dewy Destin's by lunch. We spent the rest of the day on Crab Island. *Where to Next?* fished the popular area now called Darrin's Daisy and had a pair of slammer dolphin to prove it. Bad Buoys wore out the juniors with a box full of grouper, snapper and trigger fish.

The tournament concluded at Olive Garden for the Awards Banquet. Steve Fritz presented the awards and the big fish rewards generously provided by Lenny Pisarski. Many Thanks to our local supporters, including Pirates Bay, Half Hitch, and Fishlips.

Tournament Results:

1ST	<i>Where To Next?</i>	Keith Mozena	985 pts
2ND	<i>Instigator</i>	Cameron Parkhurst	520 pts
3RD	<i>Easy Does It</i>	Steve Guntner	255 pts
4TH	<i>Lured Away</i>	Frank Nicoletti	230 pts
5TH	<i>Nikki Girl</i>	Pat Thai	155 pts

Big Fish: 34.7# Wahoo, Keith Mozena, *Where to Next?*
Big Fish Junior Angler: 18.9# Blackfin Tuna, Nikki Thai, *Nikki Girl*



Third Time's the Charm Apalachicola Tournament Report

By Jace Spencer

The seas could have been a little more friendly, but at least we were able to get offshore both days. I was invited to fish aboard *Nikki Girl* with Captain Pat Thai and crewmembers Gene Payne & Vladamir Melnik. Pat always finds fish and I always have a good trip on his boat, so of course I jumped at the chance.



Capt Pat's secret spots and caught 4 beautiful red grouper. Unfortunately, they too were all *just* under legal size. We had long and bumpy ride back in,



made a quick stop at an inshore spot to catch our one seatrout for the day, then on to the weigh-in, where we found ourselves in 3rd place out of the three boats that chose to weigh in that day. Ted DuBose on *Glory Days* had a good day and was in first place. Bill Rhodes on *Two Bills* was close behind. Some tired anglers headed for hot showers and a good meal, followed closely by some much-needed sleep.

On Friday we got an early start, heading out of Bay City in the pre-dawn darkness. We made a not-so-quick stop to buy some pinfish at the Cut and, after barely managing to transfer the bait and money without any injuries or collisions inside the rough inlet, we headed out to one of the local towers. We trolled a bit on our approach and caught a large spanish, then we latched on with the rig hook and tried our hand at bottom fishing. We caught a few snappers of various types, including a couple of respectable reds, but the really big ones eluded us. We moved on to another tower and repeated the process. We picked up a few more fish, and were disappointed by a few amberjack that were just under legal size. Afterwards, we made a run south to one of



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Third Time's the Charm

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We decided to avoid stumbling around in the dark Saturday morning and left a little bit later. We invested an hour or so inshore and again only managed one seatrout for our efforts. Then we headed out to Empire Mica. We found *Two Bills* already anchored and finishing up their limit of red snapper. Capt Rhodes also reported catching a nice king (which eventually weighed in at 42.6 lbs and turned out to be the big fish of the tournament). Over the next few hours, we managed to limit out on red snapper as well, but no kings or any other really 'big uns' for us. We had an even bumpier and wetter 35-mile ride back in, having to slow down so much that at first we were concerned about making the weigh-in. Luckily, the seas calmed a bit as the afternoon wore on and we were able to pick up speed, even having time to stop and catch 5 spanish mackerel on the way.



Things had changed when we arrived at the weigh-in Saturday; *Two Bills* had rocketed into first place with his outstanding catch. *Glory Days* had taken a conservative approach with the questionable conditions; after our catch was weighed in, *Nikki Girl* had edged into 2nd Place by 5 points (which made for a humorous round of good-natured jabs and playful bragging). Jason Craig and his crew aboard *Truffle Shuffle* also participated in the tournament and caught some nice fish, but did not make either weigh-in.

Bay City Lodge Restaurant hosted our Awards Dinner and we shared the details of our exploits while enjoying some good food and cold beverages. The Big Fish Reward of \$100, supplied by Lenny Pisarski, was awarded to Bill Rhodes for his monster king mackerel. No junior anglers this trip.



I had a great time and I'm pretty sure most everyone else did, too.

Special Thanks to our local supporters and sponsors, including Half Hitch, Bluewater Outriggers, Bay City Lodge, and Scipio Creek Marina.

Tournament Results:

1st Place	<i>Two Bills</i>	Bill Rhodes	765 pts
2nd Place	<i>Nikki Girl</i>	Pat Thai	330 pts
3rd Place	<i>Glory Days</i>	Ted DuBose	325 pts



Off The Hook

Top 20 Country Song Titles

1. How Can I Miss You If You Won't Go Away?
2. How Can You Believe Me When I Say I Love You When You Know I've Been a Liar All My Life?
3. I Don't Know Whether To Kill Myself Or Go Bowling
4. I Fell In A Pile Of You And Got Love All Over Me
5. I Wouldn't Take Her To A Dawg Fight, Cause I'm Afraid She'd Win
6. I'd Rather Have A Bottle In Front Of Me Than A Frontal Lobotomy
7. If I Can't Be Number One In Your Life, Then Number Two On You
8. If Love Were Oil, I'd Be A Quart Low
9. If My Nose Was Full of Nickels, I'd Blow It All On You
10. If You Don't Leave Me Alone, I'll Go Find Someone Else Who Will
11. If You Leave Me, Can I Come Too?
12. My Head Hurts, My Feet Stink, And I Don't Love Jesus
13. Pardon Me, I've Got Someone To Kill
14. She Got The Gold Mine And I Got The Shaft
15. She Got The Ring And I Got The Finger
16. She Made Toothpicks Out Of The Timber Of My Heart
17. Thank God And Greyhound She's Gone
18. You Done Tore Out My Heart And Stomped That Sucker Flat
19. You Were Only A Splinter As I Slid Down The Bannister Of Life
20. You're The Reason Our Kids Are So Ugly

Score Card

2010 Boat of the Year Standings

Boat	WPB	Apalach #1	Abacos	Apalach #2	Destin	Apalach #3	Orange Beach	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

(After Apalachicola #3 Tournament)

(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
(Tie)	Keith Mozena	150 pts
(Tie)	Ken Barnhart	150 pts
(Tie)	Bill Rhodes	150 pts

Ladies Division

1st Place:	Margaret Taylor	525 pts
(Tie)	Dawn Brady	100 pts
(Tie)	Patty Wilkins	100 pts

Junior Angler Division

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

Another Year Winds Down

Hard to believe, but we're almost to the end of another fishing season. I guess this one seemed much shorter than usual because of the oil spill and related problems, but we've got another chance to fish together at the upcoming Orange Beach tournament, and I hope we'll have a good turnout. As an added bonus, we have an extended snapper season and fishing should be great due to the lighter-than-normal pressure this summer.

If this year has taught me anything, it's an even deeper appreciation for the sport of saltwater fishing. Never in my wildest nightmares would I have envisioned that my right to fish would be taken away from me by something like a massive oil spill. I've seen a lot of science fiction and disaster movies, but I never saw that one coming. Having much of the Gulf closed for the summer was an eye-opening experience; it made me realize just how miserable I'd be if I couldn't go fishing any more. It also made me realize that things are much more fragile than they seem.

So as I fished the most recent tournament at Apalachicola, I took time to really appreciate the experience. My friends and I joked about the effort and expense involved in putting a fishing trip together, noting that we must really love fishing to put ourselves through it all. And that's pretty much the point - I really DO enjoy fishing. Aside from the obvious fun of finding, hooking, and landing elusive ocean-dwellers, it's exhilarating, beautiful, and environmentally educational; it relieves my stress, provides opportunities for me to spend time with my friends and kids, and teaches important life skills. And not insignificantly, it gives me something to look forward to, a reason to feel good about all of those long hours at work. It even makes the cold winters just a little bit more bearable. I don't think I'll be taking my right to fish for granted again anytime soon. I hope to see you on the water!

– JS, Editor

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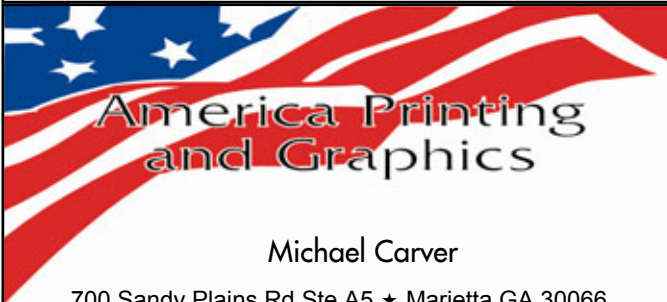
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CONSERVATION NEWS

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

RFA Says 'Fatally Flawed' Science is Killing America's #1 Outdoor Pastime

http://www.joinrfa.org/Press/RFA_MRFSS.pdf

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



Committed to the preservation of marine resources.

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!



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.
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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



Upcoming Events, Reminders and Deadlines

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, October 12th / 7PM

Winfield Hall 3890 Satellite Blvd, Duluth, GA 770.495.8088

See website for directions: www.aswsc.org

NEXT CLUB TOURNAMENT:

Orange Beach, AL: October 28 - 30

NEXT SOCIAL EVENT:

Chili Cook Off

October 23rd / Sugar Hill, GA

More info for club tournaments/events available on website:

<http://www.aswsc.org>

Extended Red Snapper Season

Due to the oil spill and the light recreational pressure on red snapper this year, NOAA has authorized an extended season. Red snapper may be legally harvested for eight consecutive 3-day weekends (Fri/Sat/Sun) from October 1 until November 21. More info:

http://www.gulfcouncil.org/news_resources/Press%20Releases/2010RedSnapperReopening.pdf

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