



# *Fishing Post*

Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club

January 2008

## Exciting Start to 2008!

article by Lenny Pisarski



Thanks again to Bob Michael for organizing another fantastic West Palm Beach *Annual Sailfish Classic* Tournament. The Banana Bandit struck again this year and his curse was felt by every team: blown tires, dead batteries, failed pumps, failed VHF radios, a lost kite and - worst of all - we had an injury (see page 4 - *New Club Record*.)

Otherwise, it was a great tournament with an exciting finish. I fished on Ted DuBose's boat *Glory Days* along with his brother James and my brother-in-law Bill Woodcock (Woody).

We headed south to the Cocktail Glass on the first day and fished in 120 -150 feet of water. We looked good out there but only managed to feed a few Kings all day. Mike Springer's crew on the *Outlaw* drew first blood with a double Friday morning, but those were to be their only sailfish boated that day. Tom Adrien's crew on the *Sea\$ickne\$\$* also boated two fish later in the day, keeping things close. As we talked to the other crews that night, we learned they were all north of the inlet and deeper, too. The hook-ups were all in 150-plus feet of water.

Friday morning had us running north to keep pace with the lead teams. At 10:30 we had a hook-up. Woody was working the kite, as he had never caught a sail. And wouldn't you know it, as he came to the back of the boat to help bring in a Dolphin, BAMM !!!! - a hook up on the kite. Ted was closest, so he grabbed it and the fight was on. The fish was tail wrapped, which is very stressful to fish, so we wasted little time releasing him unharmed. The rest of the day we fed fish - Kings or Barracuda, all short bites that ate up our expensive baits. The *Outlaw* pulled ahead with two more sails; *Sea\$ickne\$\$* only managed one fish Friday, but remained in Second Place.

Conditions were even worse on Day 3 for sails: calm seas and not much wind. We had great presentation but few knock downs. Like the man said, "That's why they call it *fishing* and not *catching*." Unknown to us, the race for First Place was heating up. *Sea\$ickne\$\$* was still 1 fish behind *Outlaw* until late afternoon, but boated a sailfish in the 3 o'clock hour to match *Outlaw's* 4-fish total (*Outlaw* was still in First Place, as they had boated the first fish of the tournament). Meanwhile, *Outlaw* had added no sailfish to their tournament tally on this last day of fishing. As the clock ticked towards the 5pm deadline, it looked like *Outlaw* captain Mike Springer would add yet another First Place trophy to his growing collection. Then the *unbelievable* happened: *Sea\$ickne\$\$* caught & released a final fish at 4:20pm. They raced back to *Sailfish Marina* to submit the Captain's Report with bare seconds to spare and won the tournament. Talk about some excited anglers! Bob Michael had us gather for the awards before dinner where we enjoyed great stories and lots of laughs.

So went another great year at West Palm Beach. I'm sure there is a WPB in heaven and our fishing partner Bob Lynn is enjoying it too. Final Standings:



**1st Place / 5 sails - *Sea \$ickne\$\$*, Capt. Tom Adrien**  
**2nd Place / 4 sails - *Outlaw*, Capt. Mike Springer**  
**3rd Place / 3 sails - *Easy Does It*, Capt Steve Guntner**  
**4th Place / 1 sail - *Glory Days*, Capt. Ted DuBose**

'Til next time...regards,  
Lenny

## New Awards Program for 2008

A new awards program called “**Angler of the Year**” was formally announced at the West Palm Beach Sailfish Tournament in January. The Executive Committee approved this program at the January 4th meeting. The complete details and rules are enclosed. Overview & Benefits:

- This program is open to all paid members of the Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman’s Club, including spouses and children within members’ immediate family. One important note is that your dues for the current tournament year must be paid in order for you or your family members to participate in the program. Non-member guests are not eligible; however, guests are encouraged to join the club and may participate as long as dues are paid prior to the start of the tournament.
- This program enables all members to compete for recognition awards (not just captains and boat owners). In fact, this program was designed to encourage participation from all sectors of the membership; there are 3 divisions: Male, Female, & Junior (Junior Anglers are defined as age 16 or under). At the close of each tournament season, First, Second, and Third Place winners will be recognized within each division. First, Second, and Third Place Big Fish winners will also be recognized within each of the species categories.
- Current standings will be published periodically in the club newsletter.

## Points Matrix and Rule Changes

During the first 2008 meeting of the Executive Committee, a few changes were made to tournament rules:

- The weight distribution levels for Wahoo were changed (see enclosed Points Matrix).
- Swordfish was changed to a capture species (formerly a release-only species)
- It was clarified that tournament participants could carry over catches from one weigh-in day to the next (for instance, in the case of overnight offshore fishing) as long as no laws are broken and participants adhere to the weigh-in limits for a single day.

## From the Helm to the Cockpit

*Yesterday we loaded the boat and packed the trucks in 72 degree weather. Today as the final items of gear and tackle were unloaded it was 32 degrees. What’s wrong with this picture? Those 615 miles sure make a big difference. At least we had a great week of tournament fishing in West Palm and can longingly look forward to our next trip.*

*Speaking of weather, it was perfect for the first time in the last several years which made for a playing field that turned out to be both competitive and - if I may say so - the most exciting finish to an Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman’s Club event in many years. With an hour of tournament left, I watched Sea Sickne\$\$ tie for the lead less than a football field off our starboard side. Thirty minutes later they were calling in the winning hook-up and racing to the dock for the closing bell. WOW!*

*In the fall issue of Sailfish Magazine Ed Killer wrote an article about a gentleman I had the opportunity to spend some time with last week, Captain Norm Isaacs. Quoting the words from Norm. “Captains and crews are so good at what they do,” said Isaacs, who believes that perhaps too much praise is showered on the anglers and not enough on the captain and crew. “A lot of people don’t realize it, but these guys have a tough job trying to locate fish-let alone being properly prepared to hook, catch, and release them.” Norm goes on to say “it’s truly a team effort out there, and if the angler isn’t working with the crew right, they won’t make that catch.” For that exact reason, I want to congratulate the captains, crews, and anglers of the 21<sup>st</sup> annual ASWSC Sailfish Classic for a terrific tournament.*

*Great start for “08”, let’s keep up the momentum.*

**Tight Lines,  
Scott Rowe, President  
Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman’s Club**

# **Angler of the Year**

## **Program Details**

- ▶ **Competition is available to paid members in good standing.**
- ▶ **There will be three angler divisions: Junior's, Lady's and Men's (a Junior Angler is defined as 16 yrs or younger).**
- ▶ **This competition begins on the first ASWSC tournament of the year and ends on the last.**
- ▶ **Fish must be caught during an ASWSC tournament and weighed on the club authorized scale.**
- ▶ **Points will be given for the three heaviest fish of each species in each of the angler divisions.**
- ▶ **Each first place fish will receive 100 points, second place 50 points and third place 25 points.**
- ▶ **Species recognized: Amberjack, Cobia, Grouper, Snapper, Mackerel, Wahoo, Tuna, Dolphin.**
- ▶ **Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Sailfish releases as well as Swordfish capture will be awarded 50 points one time per species per year.**
- ▶ **Recognition will be given to the heaviest of each species category and the top place in each angler division.**
- ▶ **During aggregate tournaments only the target species will be eligible.**
- ▶ **Anglers may take multiple place positions in species categories.**
- ▶ **It is the angler's responsibility to ensure that catches and angler information are recorded on the Captain's reports.**
- ▶ **ASWSC Tournament Rules, as well as State and Federal regulations, must be followed.**

# *News Bites*



## **Another Club Record?**

Although accurate records are not available, it is believed that Jace Spencer set a new club record in West Palm Beach for most bones broken during an ASWSC Tournament. Jace broke 3 ribs after he slipped while boarding the \$EASICKNESS\$ at Sailfish Marina on Saturday morning, the last day of the annual Sailfish Tournament. Jace later denied slipping, stating that he was merely using his rib cage to test the hull integrity of the port gunwale; he is pleased to report that the hull is in excellent condition (it did not bend, flex, or yield whatsoever). Jace is on the mend and in good spirits, no permanent damage (other than a terminal case of embarrassment); he also expresses his thanks to fellow members for their support and concern. Let's be careful out there!



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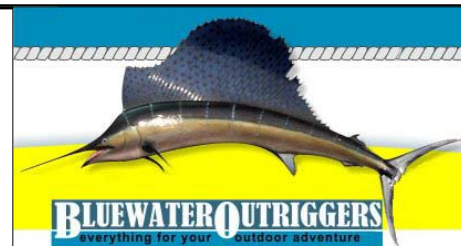
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# Upcoming Events, Reminders and Deadlines

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 12th / 7PM**  
Winfield Hall - 3890 Satellite Blvd., Duluth, GA - 770.495.8088

## 2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Prompt renewal of your annual membership saves the club time and money. Paid membership is also required to participate in the new *Angler of the Year* program. So please send in your Membership Application and payment to:

**ASWSC, P.O. Box 29551, Atlanta, GA 30359-0551**

## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

In an effort to save time, postage and resources, ASWSC is currently transitioning to an electronic (on-line) newsletter. If you haven't already done so, please let us know that you have internet access and can view the newsletter via the web. We will notify you via email when the latest newsletter is available, so please make sure we have your current email address. Send to: [info@aswsc.org](mailto:info@aswsc.org) (when e-mailing, please include your name so we can match a name with the address).

## HELP NEEDED TO FIND SPONSORS & SPEAKERS

We are feverishly looking for sponsor & speakers for 2008. Its all in who you know sometimes; thus I pose this to all of our members and associates: If you have a relationship with a boating or fishing industry supplier, please introduce the concept of sponsorship to them. We will be soon putting a sponsorship form on our website. Likewise, if you know someone with specific knowledge, skills, or a product of service of interest to the club, please let me know and we'll consider working them into our meeting speaker slots. If you are anxious about making a contact directly, please let me or Scott Rowe know, and we'll take it from there. And if they still don't see the light, well...just ask Jace how we handle troublemakers on board the \$EASICKNESS! Tight lines, Tom Adrien

PHONE: 478-972-9188

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## BOAT U.S. DISCOUNT TO ASWSC MEMBERS

ASWSC Members are entitled to a 50% discount when signing up for a Boat U S Membership. Make sure to specify our group # when enrolling: **GA83219B**

## SWAP MEET – March 22, 2008

See Enclosed Flyer for Details

## NEXT TOURNAMENT: Venice, LA - April 9th - 12th, 2008

Details Forthcoming

**ARE YOU IN THE LOOP?** *If you are not getting emails from the club, please be sure to send your current email address to [info@aswsc.org](mailto:info@aswsc.org). We'll add you to the mailing list so you can receive the latest information as quickly as possible.*

For latest club information check out [www.aswsc.org](http://www.aswsc.org)

# SWAP MEET

**March 22, 2008 - 10:00am until 1:00pm**

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**BYOB and Chair**

The Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club Swap Meet will be coming up in March. It's an event you don't want to miss. Bring your wives, bring your husbands (not to swap) and plan to spend a few hours searching for some great bargains on new/used fishing equipment, rods, reels, tackle, lures boat parts, electronics, & nautical items. Food will be provided by ASWSC.

It's a great time so come on out and support the club. We'd like to make this the best Swap Meet ever. Start cleaning out your garage, boat, truck, tackle box for any fishing or marine items. This Swap Meet will give you a chance to earn a few dollars that can go toward your next fishing trip. Hope to see you there!

