



Fishing Post

Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club

May 2008

Fantastic Fishing at the Apalachicola Tournament

Despite gloomy forecasts, the weather cooperated and we enjoyed a super tournament at Apalachicola this year. Scipio Creek Marina, Papa Joe's, and Best Western all did their usual great job of hosting our tournament. Half Hitch Tackle and Bluewater Outriggers provided an incredible array of raffle prizes and support as well. Many thanks to Capt Charles Wilson for the fishing tips - and to all of the nice folks in Apalachicola for allowing us the opportunity to enjoy some great fishing and good times.



Best Catches Ever !!!!! By Lenny Pisarski

This is my 12th season with the Club and I have never seen a better catch brought to the weigh-in by all boats. Well, let us start from the beginning. Frank Nicoletti keeps his boat in Destin and I volunteered to join him running it over to Apalachicola. We took off on Wednesday morning and ran the Inter-coastal the 116 miles over. What a great ride, nice calm water and interesting shore line. The next morning we pre-fished the tournament along with Tom Holt, his brother Jimmy, my brother-in-law Bill Woodcock (Woody). We ran out to the Empire Mica and it was covered up with fish. We picked up AJ's, Snapper, Grouper, B-liners, Triggers...etcetera. With Red Snapper being closed in Federal waters till June, we released many large Reds.....So went the pre-fish.

The captains' meeting went well, with speaker Charles

Wilson providing us with his insight and 40 years experience in the area. He said "It's gonna' be rough out there". Well yes NOAA was calling for 4 to 6 foot seas, so many members were considering Bay fishing. Charles pointed out they have a great in-shore fishery, with 200+ lb. Tarpon, Big Redfish and nice Trout.

Friday morning most everyone got an early start heading to the Government Cut. I was fishing with Pat Thai, Dawn Brady and Jack Howland. Now Pat's boat is only a 22 walk around so we stuck our nose out and figured we could go out there but made a course for the Franklin County Reef. It's a 17 mile run and took a little over an hour. When we arrived on site, 3 other Club boats were already bringing in fish. Bill Rhodes, Tony Wilkins and Jim Mason were all anchored up. Later, other members showed, including Ted Dubose and Frank Nicoletti.

We didn't anchor, just motor-drifted against the current. As it turned out, members lost 3 anchors that day on the reef.



Continued on Page 2

Best Catches Ever!!, Continued from Page 1

This reef is inside the 9 miles so Red Snappers were good to keep. We were able to pick up several snapper as well as 2 nice Cobia. Most boats caught Grouper too. All in all it was a good day to fish-----

Saturday morning the wind laid down a bit and let most boats go out to deeper water. We headed out to the Exxon Template, 29 miles out of the cut. On the way we picked up a few dozen live baits. Once out there we ran into Jim Mason and his crew who announced they had been getting many cut-offs on the platform. We joined them and had the same problem, hook ups ran into the



platform and broke off. After a little of that I motored over to the "S" tower a short distance away. We anchored up current and dropped live baits on floaters. Well it wasn't 3 minutes before Pat had a good one on and worked it to the boat. Nice AJ, we did that several more times and had our limit. Shortly after that Jack had a hook-up that turned out to be a rather large Cobia, (39.7 lbs) Good Job, Jack.... We continued to catch fish till we ran out of live bait, then it was back to bottom fishing with cut bait. We managed to pick up some good table fish but not much more for the weigh-in.

With time running out, we headed home with stink in the box. The weigh-in was unbelievable, never have I seen so many fish brought to the scales. Norm Bowen along with Steve Guntner ran the scales and did a great job. Mike helped out with the tallies and we had some great numbers and a couple of Club records..... Bill Zuber on Mike's boat collected the \$200 Big Fish Reward with his Club Record 51.5 Lb. AJ, nice going Bill.

As I said in the beginning, best tournament catches ever, and we all got back safe and tired, very tired....

Regards, Lenny



**Savoring the 'Bull'
By Frank Nicoletti**

During our trip we hit upon a school of Black Snapper . We caught a bunch but we also relinquished lots of sinkers and terminal tackle. Woody Woodcock, club member and Lenny Pisarski's brother-in-law, kept reminding the crew not to bull the fish and to gently maneuver the fish and to savor the moment. Well Woody hooked one of those black snappers and after a few choice words,#!"***, the fish ran to the bottom. Not willing to relinquish, Woody proceeded to "BULL" the fish to the point he snapped the fishing rod. By the way, the rod he busted belonged to none other than Lenny Pisarski. So Woody, remember to enjoy and savor the moment!



Final results for Apalachicola (check out the scores!):

1st	Outlaw, Mike Springer	1465 points
2nd	Two Bills, Bill Rhodes	495 points
3rd	Glory Days, Ted Dubose	480 points
4th	The Last Bastian, Jim Mason	445 points
5th	Lured Away, Frank Nicoletti	420 points

News Bites



Interim Orange Beach Tournament June 26 - 28

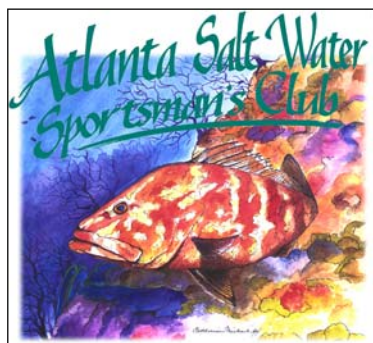
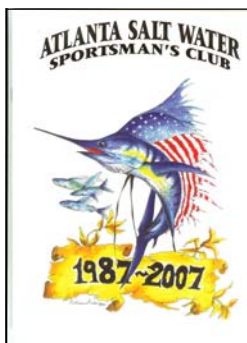
In an effort to rebound from the cancellation of both the Venice and Keys tournaments so far this year, efforts are underway to organize and implement an extra event at Orange Beach during the last week of June. One of the reasons that Orange Beach was selected (aside from the great fishing) is because of the rising costs of fuel; those fishing the second Orange Beach tournament in July can make arrangements to leave your boats there - essentially enabling you to fish two events with only having to tow once.

An application to attend this tournament is included as the last page of this newsletter.

Hope to See You There!

Nancy Michael Named Official Club Artist

The Executive Committee approved a motion at the May committee meeting to name Catherine (Nancy) Michael the official club artist. Nancy is responsible for the great artwork that you've seen over the years, including these images below - all generously donated to our club. Thank you, Nancy!



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 Scott Rowe or Tom Adrien. Or email to: info@aswsc.org

2008 Boat of the Year Standings

Boat	West Palm	Apalachicola	Total
Outlaw	15	20	35
Sea Sickness	20	0	20
Glory Days	5	10	15
Two Bills	0	15	15
Easy Does It	10	0	10
The Last Bastian	0	5	5
Lured Away	0	3	3

Angler of the Year Standings

(after Apalachicola Tournament)

After two tournaments (and the first non-release tournament of the year), the Angler of the Year race is already heating up. (Note that there are no Junior Angler standings because there have been no Junior participants yet.) Also, no dolphin, wahoo, or tuna entries thus far this year. It is interesting to note that the overall points leader is Patty Wilkins - way to show the guys how it's done, Patty!

OVERALL LEADERS				
	Ladies Division	Pts.	Mens Division	Pts.
1st	Wilkins, Patty	350	Rhodes, Bill	175
2nd	Brady, Dawn	100	Brown, Matt	125
3rd			Tie	100

Ladies Division - Individual Species			
Species	Angler	Weight	Points
Grouper			
1st	Wilkins, Patty	11	100
2nd	Wilkins, Patty	7.9	50
3rd	Wilkins, Patty	7.8	25
Snapper			
1st	Wilkins, Patty	7.5	100
2nd	Wilkins, Patty	3.2	50
3rd	Wilkins, Patty	2.9	25
Cobia			
1st	Brady, Dawn	15.7	100

Billfish Release (7-Way Tie)		
Angler	Species	Points
Spencer, Jace	Sailfish	50
Springer, Mike	Sailfish	50
Lynn, Keith	Sailfish	50
Michael, Bob	Sailfish	50
Browning, Kerry	Sailfish	50
Dubose, Ted	Sailfish	50
Fritz, Steve	Sailfish	50

Men's Division - Individual Species			
Species	Angler	Weight	Points
Amberjack			
1st	Zuber, Bill	51.5	100
2nd	Springer, Mike	36.3	50
3rd	Brown, Matt	26.3	25
Grouper			
1st	Brown, Matt	12.5	100
2nd	Bohlayer, Dan	11.8	50
3rd	Gibbons, Denny	11.7	25
Snapper			
1st	Rhodes, Bill	11.3	100
2nd	Woodcock, Woody	8	50
3rd	Rhodes, Bill	7.3	25
Cobia			
1st	Howland, Jack	39.5	100
2nd	(no entry)	--	50
3rd	(no entry)	--	25
Mackerel			
1st	Mason, Jim	10	100
2nd	Rhodes, Bill	9.9	50
3rd	Rowe, Scott	9.6	25

Help Out the Dolphin Tagging Program



The Dolphinfish Research Program continues to need your help in 2008. The Cooperative Science Services, LLC, a private fisheries research consulting company was founded by Don Hammond to continue the dolphin research project originally pioneered by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, or SCDNR. When commercial fishermen began targeting dolphin, major concerns arose among fishermen along the entire Gulf and Atlantic coasts. Anglers voiced fears that without a management plan governing harvest, dolphin stocks could be overfished to the point of major decline.

The SCDNR initiated the original research studies that allowed anglers to participate in efforts to understand many important unknown facets of the dolphin's life history. For example, little is known about the movements and migrations of the fish along the US's Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Defining the geographic range of the fish found in US waters is also very important in developing an effective management plan. Managers must know if the stocks fished in US waters are shared with other countries. In order to facilitate this research, a tagging study was initiated in 2006.

Last year the ASWSC distributed free tagging kits to membership, and the first fish known fish to be tagged in the Gulf of Mexico was achieved by our own ASWSC Outlaw crew. The club encourages continued tag & release efforts during this season. If you need more tags, want to learn more about, or contribute to the program, please visit their website: www.dolphintagging.com

From the Helm to the Cockpit

The days of the 500 dollar weekend of fishing are gone for us inland saltwater aficionados. What seems like only a short time ago, four people could load up the boat, pull it to saltwater, fish for three days, stay in a condo or hotel, eat, buy bait and get home for around 5 to 6 hundred bucks. Not Today! I need someone a whole lot smarter than me to come up with viable options. My earnings didn't go up with the fuel prices.

I love SportFishing! In fact, I spend most of my spare time in the pursuit of getting better at it and have for a great number of years. Now all of us who share this passion need to look for ways to be more efficient and effective in order to continue the quest(s). One such idea is coming to fruition this month for The Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club. For the first time we are attempting to have a "Pre-Tournament" event where we can gather most of the boats in the general vicinity of the July, Orange Beach Tournament, in late June, fish for a few days, and store them there eliminating the travel of one round trip trailering to this great fishery.

Our events make an economic impact in every area we go. The trickle down effect reaches far into these local communities. Along with everything else we have to think of to perpetuate our club and the sport, now we have to find a way to be more affordable for all of us. Where is that really smart guy/girl when you need them?

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

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Upcoming Events, Reminders and Deadlines

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 10th / 7PM

Winfield Hall - 3890 Satellite Blvd., Duluth, GA - 770.495.8088

Scheduled Speaker: Jim Shriver of Spot Inc. (www.findmespot.com)

SPOT is a new communication product being introduced to outdoor enthusiasts the world over. With the SPOT Satellite Messenger, you and your loved ones have peace of mind knowing help is always within reach. SPOT is the only device of its kind, using the GPS satellite network to acquire its coordinates, and then sending its location – with a link to Google Maps™ – and a pre-programmed message via a commercial satellite network. And unlike Personal Locator Beacons, SPOT does more than just call for help. Tracking your progress, checking in with loved ones, and non-emergency assistance are also available, all at the push of a button. And because it uses 100% satellite technology, SPOT works around the world – even where cell phones don't. To contact Jim or learn more about SPOT, you can e-mail him at Jim.Shriver@findmespot.com, or visit the website at www.findmespot.com

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR THE NEW FORUM

If you haven't already done so, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/atlantasaltwater/> and follow the instructions to sign up for the atlantasaltwater forum. This is a useful and powerful FREE communication tool that enables members to find fishing partners and share ideas, photos, documents, information, create polls, and much more. You must be approved to enter the forum upon your first visit, but ASWSC members will be automatically approved.

NEXT TOURNAMENT: Orange Beach, AL (#1)

June 26th - 28th, 2008

(see application next page)

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

Orange Beach, AL (#2) July 17th - 19th, 2008

Destin, FL Aug 28th - 31st, 2008

Pensacola, FL Oct 2nd - 4th, 2008

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. 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

Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club

Tournament Cutoff Date:

June 10, 2008

Orange Beach Tournament # 1

June 26 - 28, 2008

Captain's Name: _____ Boat Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Home: _____ Work/Cell: _____

In Case of Emergency, Contact: _____

Boat Manufacturer/size: _____ Registration #: _____

Where will you be staying during the tournament? _____

Is this your first ASWSC tournament? YES...NO

ANGLERS (Please designate jr. anglers)

Shirt Size

Captain: _____	Phone: _____	X \$110.00	[]
1 st Angler: _____	Phone: _____	(included)	[]
Additional Angler: _____	Phone: _____	X \$55.00	[]
Additional Angler:: _____	Phone: _____	X \$55.00	[]
Additional Angler: _____	Phone: _____	X \$55.00	[]
Additional Angler:: _____	Phone: _____	X \$55.00	[]

Shirts Order **Summary:** include anglers + extras below

T- Shirts? XXL ___ XL ___ L ___ M ___ S ___ Golf shirts? XXL ___ XL ___ L ___ M ___ S ___

Entry Fees; Tournament fee includes Captains' Party, Awards Dinner and T-shirts.

Club members Boat: (Includes Captain and 1 angler) \$110.00

Non-club Member Boat: (add \$50.00 to include ASWSC membership)

Additional Angles: [] X \$ 55.00 \$ _____

Up-Grade T-Shirt TO Golf Shirt [] X \$10.00 \$ _____

Extra Shirts: T-Shirts: [] X \$12.00 Golf Shirts: [] X \$20.00 \$ _____

Guest Meals for Captain's Party and Award Dinner [] X \$25.00 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Make check payable and send to ASWSC to P.O. Box 29551, Atlanta, GA, 30359-0551

FAX Application to Mike Springer @ 770.982.6868; Tour. Director

FOOD ORDER, How many will attend? Captains' Meeting: [] Awards Dinner []

Guests not fishing are invited to the Captain's Meeting & Award Dinner at a cost of \$25.00 each

ASWSC Release and Indemnification Agreement

(Attention: Please Read Carefully—Your Signature Indicates Agreement with These Terms)

In signing this document, I do hereby agree and understand that the Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club, (hereinafter referred to as "The Club", is acting as a sponsor of various club activities (including, but not limited to fishing tournaments, picnics, meetings, etc.) and I do fully release, indemnify and hold The Club harmless from any negligence, contractual and intentional tort liability caused by or the fault of any person or entity. The Club is hereby released from any responsibility whatsoever for any decision, action or inaction of entrant, boats of other participants in any Club activities.

To the fullest extent provided by law, my team, my crew, my guest, and I hereby agree to indemnify and hold The club harmless from any and all claims, suits, obligations, liabilities, losses, damages, cost or expense suffered by, arising out of, resulting from, any act of mine or any member of my crew during my and their participation in Club sponsored activity, including any and all claims, suits, obligations, liabilities, losses, damages, cost or expense caused in whole or in part by any negligent act or negligent omission of The Club, regardless of my vessel, it's passengers crew participants and equipment, in conjunction with any activity sponsored by The Club. Said photographs may be used by The Club in promotional and/or advertising material or in any other way otherwise not unlawful, and consent of the vessel, it's owner and persons photographed is hereby acknowledged.

This agreement shall take effect as an instrument under seal, and be binding upon and inure to the benefit of my and my team's and crew's heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

Signature _____ Date _____