**Tournament Reflections**

As the season draws to a close, I have been barraged by reporters asking me to sum up the season, especially in light of the loss of two tournaments. The common thought from a layman’s perspective is that it must have been a disaster to lose 40% of the scheduled events. In reality, what happened during the year was anything but disappointing and in my estimation, the season was a great success!! We had incredible contributions from Sponsors, were able to have a successful Series, and cover our expenses. We also had three excellent tournaments with good participation at all three. At the Megadock Tournament, a record of 151 billfish were caught and released. It was not until 2006 that the total catch of the entire Series was equal to what was caught in this single event. In addition, during the Friday evening of the Megadock, over $60,000 was raised to help support and establish the SC Memorial Reef. Finally, NO billfish were landed. I know some of you are not as excited about that last fact as Amy and me but during these days of gloomy economic forecasts this suite of facts points to the impact of the SC Governor’s Cup Billfishing Series on billfish conservation.

What the Series will forever have in its favor, no matter how many events are held each year, is that the SC Governor’s Cup is one of the longest running billfish conservation events around today. These events are in sharp contrast to 25 years ago when almost everything that was caught was landed. The Series has been and continues to be a leader in this evolution towards the current focus on catch and release. In addition, the conservation message of the Series and other similar events reaches far beyond the shores of South Carolina. Perhaps I was not as cognizant of this as I should have been, but a recent vacation in the Bahamas gave me a better perspective on...
Around the world with you and thank you for carrying our message the Governor’s Mansion in September each of you at the Awards Reception at individual events.

The final chapter of the 21st SC Governor’s Cup Billfishing Series went into the record books as the most productive three days of fishing in Series history. The final stop in this year’s Series was held at the Charleston City Marina on July 9-11 and yielded more billfish releases during the course of the three-day tournament than have ever been witnessed in SC. With 74 boats participating in the HMY/Viking MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament, 151 billfish were released, eclipsing the old record for a SC Governor’s Cup Series event by 20 fish. The majority of the catch was comprised of sailfish with 138 released, but blue marlin (5) and white marlin (8) were also caught and released during the tournament. “To put the catch in perspective, more billfish were caught and released during this one tournament than the total annual Series catch for all but 3 of the last 21 years,” said SCDNR biologist and Program Coordinator Wallace Jenkins.

One notable catch during the tournament was the recapture of a tagged white marlin aboard the “Cowboy” owned and captained by Wilbert Roller of Bluffton, SC. The fish was originally tagged for the Billfish Foundation by the vessel “So What” off the coast of Delaware near a fishing hole known to the locals as Poor Man’s Canyon on September 14, 2008. The vessel is captained by Peter Fisher, and Charleston native Allen Davis was the mate. One could speculate that after the fish was tagged, it swam back south to winter again during the tournament. Recaptures of tagged marlin are very rare and provide important information on billfish life history and migratory patterns.

The crew of “Micabe” won top honors in the tournament by earning 1,800 points to win the Outstanding Billfish Boat award, with the release of nine sailfish.

Attention SC Billfishing Anglers, please report released billfish caught in SC waters throughout the 2009 fishing season. Anglers who release a billfish will receive a SCDNR Billfish Release Certificate. Who will be named this year’s “TOP CONSERVATIONIST BOAT OF THE YEAR” by reporting the most billfish releases...will it be you! To report billfish releases or to request billfish release cards, please contact Amy Dukes at 843-953-9365, or email dukesa@dnr.sc.gov. The winning boat will receive a special award to be presented at the end of the 2009 fishing season. Good Fishing!
Mike Larrow of Ridgeland, SC, owns the “Micabe” which is captained by Chris Jennings. The boat was also recognized and awarded the Outstanding Billfish Conservationist for the nine billfish releases.

Second place honors for Outstanding Billfish Boat went to “Miss Annie,” owned by Barry Weshnak of Palm Beach, FL, and captained by Matt Rabanstine, which finished with 1,600 points for eight sailfish releases. “Rameseas” owned by Terry Wells of Wilmington, NC, and captained by Rock Wells finished third with 1,500 points for releasing six sailfish and one white marlin.

Angler Willy Bell aboard “Blue Sky,” owned by Gregg Smith and captained by Steve Cramer, won the Outstanding Dolphin award for his 42-pound catch.

The Outstanding Tuna was awarded to angler Billy Ingram for his catch of a 21.1-pound blackfin.
2009 South Carolina Governor’s Cup Billfishing Series
Final Standings

Outstanding Billfish Conservationist
Micabe
Owner: Michael Larrow
Captain: Chris Jennings
1 blue marlin and 9 sailfish released
Points: 2,475

Outstanding Billfish Boat
Micabe
Owner: Michael Larrow
Captain: Chris Jennings
1 blue marlin and 9 sailfish released
Points: 2,475

Blue Water Conservation
Blacksheep
Owners: John Murdaugh and Lee Arnett
Captain: Lee Arnett
11 dolphin (tagged and released)
Points: 550 points

Outstanding Dolphin
Rapid Pace
Owners: Sam Schirmer and Trey Banks
Captain: Sam Schirmer
Angler: Trey Sires
52.6 pounds

Outstanding Tuna
Christy II
Owner: Thomas Pierce, III
Captain: Hank Higgins
Angler: Trey Pierce
27.9 pound yellowfin

Outstanding Wahoo
Brainstorm
Owner/Captain: Daniel Davis
Angler: John Jameson
69.9 pounds

Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place
KIKI
Owner/Captain: John Walpole
Angler: Will Gould
29.4 pound dolphin

Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place
Blacksheep
Owners: John Murdaugh and Lee Arnett
Captain: Lee Arnett
Angler: Buster Murdaugh
26.8 pound dolphin

Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place
Bench Mark
Owner: Steven Davis
Captain: Bobby Garmeny
Angler: Boyce Campsen
23.6 pound dolphin

Outstanding Billfish
None landed

Outstanding Female Angler 1st Place
El Tejano & Flybuoy
Owners: John Hill & Gary Davis
Captain: David Reed & Todd Baxley
Angler: Kathy Baxley
2 white marlin, 1 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released

Outstanding Female Angler 2nd Place
Fin-Addict
Owner: Danny Massalon
Captain: Jim Bost
Angler: Tara Asbill
2 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released

Outstanding Female Angler 3rd Place
Rameseas
Owner: Terry Wells
Captain: Rock Wells
Angler: Rebecca Wells
3 sailfish released

2009 Series Billfish Release Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Boats</th>
<th>152</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Billfish Released</td>
<td>187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Marlin</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Marlin</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailfish</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Series Boats/Point Standing
1. MICABE 2475
2. ROOKIE IV 1750
3. OL’ FISH N’ GRITS 1650
4. DAYMAKER 1650
5. MISS ANNIE 1625
6. BARRIER ISLAND 1575
7. EL TEJANO 1550
8. RAMESEAS 1525
9. NOFA 1475
10. FIN-ADDICT 1475

21.1-pound black fin tuna aboard “Reel Passion” owned by Gary Richardson and William Ingram. The Outstanding Wahoo award was won with a catch of a 59-pound fish by owner and captain of the “Reel Hooker,” Bobby Krivolarek.

First place for Outstanding Lady Angler went to Kathy Baxley aboard “Flybuoy” owned by Gary Davis and captained by her husband Todd Baxley. Over the course of two days of fishing Kathy released one billfish from each species in the tournament, earning 1,100 points and achieving a billfish Grand Slam which is outstanding in its own right.

Second place Outstanding Lady Angler was Tara Asbill who released one blue marlin and one sailfish to earn 800 points aboard Danny Massalon’s “Fin Addict” which is captained by Jim Bost.

Rebecca Wells won the third place Outstanding Lady Angler award. Wells released three sailfish aboard “Rameseas.”

The first place Outstanding Youth Angler was Drew Nettles who caught a 20.9-pound dolphin aboard his grandfather Aaron Nettles’ boat “Short People” captained by his father, Andy Nettles.
Greystar Daniel Island Village

Luxury brand new 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom apartment homes

455 Seven Farms Drive
Daniel Island

Luxurious apartment homes overlooking lush courtyards graced by tranquil ponds and moss-draped oaks. Greystar Daniel Island Village beckons you home to a simpler, more carefree time. Discover the joys of living in an island town surrounded by natural beauty. Come home and enjoy a relaxing walk along the trails that crisscross the island’s marshes and wetlands. Or perhaps, visit our clubhouse for a game of Wii, workout in our state-of-the-art fitness room then relax by our resort-style pool. Your retreat from the world awaits you!

Choose from a variety of 1, 2 & 3 bedroom floor plans. Floor plans have dramatic nine and ten-foot ceilings with crown molding, built in computer niches, private balconies, washer and dryer provided, 2-inch faux wood blinds, black GE appliances, built in microwaves, upgraded 42-inch custom cabinets, walk-in closets, oversized garden tubs and many more features! The townhome style floor plans are over 1600 sq. ft. and very private with 2 levels!

Community Features include:
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- Conveniently located right next to the Daniel Island walking trail with over 30 miles of trails, public parks and work out stations!

Call or stop by today for your personal tour 843-849-1849, or visit our website at www.greystardanielislandvillage.com.

Jarrett Bay Boatworks

Jarrett Bay 43’ Custom Express
A unique opportunity - a 43’ Jarrett Bay Express under construction can complete within one year. The owner has elected to build a larger Jarrett Bay, which enables you to cut six months off the process. The in-progress 43’ Express hull is designed for the individual who knows exactly what they want in an Express. The vessel can be built with the pod systems providing more interior accommodations, or the conventional drive train system. There are a variety of interior arrangements that have been planned out for the various propulsion systems. They can be modified to fit your individual wishes as interior construction has yet to begin.

With nearly 60 custom builds to date, Jarrett Bay designs their hulls, first and foremost, with performance in mind. Their proven modified-vee hull design uses steadfastly seaworthy, lightweight materials allowing the vessel to be faster than other similarly sized boats with equal or more horsepower, and significantly superior fuel economy than custom and production boats in her class. The vessel carries a 14-foot beam, and dependent upon her engine selection and/or prop pockets, draft could vary between 3’ and 3’ 7”.

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Boat Specifications:
Length Overall (LOA): 43’0”
Beam: 14’
Draft: 3’
Weight: 32,000 lbs (estimated)
Fuel Capacity: TBD gallons
Water Capacity: TBD gallons
Construction: Cold-molded marine plywood with fiberglass skin

Sister ship of boat under construction.

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The S.C. Department of Natural Resources’ Law Enforcement Division reminds the public of Coast Watch, which was developed to better help citizens report violations of saltwater recreational and commercial fishing laws, as well as marine environmental laws. The Coast Watch hotline number (1-800-922-5431) is toll-free and available 24 hours a day.

The Charleston Crab House will host the “Hit a Lick for Nick” Golf Tournament on September 11th to support the SC Memorial Reef. The cost is $100 per player, Captains Choice, with many ways to win prizes including long ball, putting, and Hole in One. For Tournament info, please call Kim Jackson @ The Charleston Crab House, 843-795-1963 or kim@charlestoncrabhouse.com.