As the year draws to a close, we can sit back and think about last year and start planning to make next year’s Series even more successful. Several things have happened since you received our last newsletter, including our annual Awards Reception at the SC Governor’s Mansion which was held on Sunday, September 26. Our Sponsors and all boats that fished at least two Series events or won awards were invited. The day started with a major traffic jam on I-26 between Orangeburg and Columbia. If I had not been required to attend the ceremony, I might have turned around. Then we received word from the trophy carver Chris Costello that he was delayed in traffic as well, and was not sure if he would make it to the mansion in time for the ceremony. To make things worse, his GPS unit was unable to tell him how to get to the Governor’s Mansion. It is a good thing my doctor was not there to monitor my blood pressure, because at this point it was probably pretty elevated. Finally, to top things off, Amy had her leg in a brace in anticipation of knee surgery which was scheduled for the following morning. In spite of all these minor inconveniences and drama, at the end of the day both the ceremony and banquet were exceptional and went off without a hitch. It was the sixth year in a row that we have had the good fortune to be invited to hold this event at the Governor’s Mansion. In appreciation for his hospitality, the Series gave Governor Sanford a plaque with a hand-carved blue marlin on it. He was truly surprised and very gracious in his subsequent comments. In addition, we were able to acknowledge the contributions of SCDNR Law Enforcement Officer William Ladue to the Series with the surprise presentation of a carved marlin trophy. Then we handed out the awards to the recipients, most of whom had the honor of having their picture taken with both the Governor and SCDNR Board Chairman Mike McShane. Finally, it was our turn to be surprised after the Series winner’s trophy and the billfish conservation trophy were presented to Bob Faith; Mr. Faith thanked the Governor’s Cup staff and his crew, and then made the unprecedented announcement that,

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http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/
as the Series winner, he felt it was his responsibility to give something back. He then presented a check for $20,000 to the Harry Hampton Fund for use by the Series. We were both surprised and honored that he chose to make such a donation, and happy that he challenged future winners to do likewise. Receipt of this donation officially kicked off our fundraising activities for 2011, and we are busy making contacts with potential Sponsors. You will hear more about this in our next issue, but we have included a pledge form in this issue for those who may wish to make a contribution during this tax year. Finally, at the Advisory Board’s August 2010 meeting, a motion was made and approved to reduce the number of potential tournaments from the previous maximum of eight to five. The 2011 Series schedule was also set at that time, and is printed on the front page of this newsletter. Planning for all five tournaments is well underway.

The CBC may have a change of venue, but will continue with its philosophy of raising money for charity, and I am sure it will be a great success. The other tournaments will have minor changes as well, but overall the quality of the Series events will remain a high priority. If we do not see you before the end of the year, have a great holiday season. We cannot wait to be back on the docks for our 23rd season!

Wallace Jenkins

HOW TO JOIN THE BILLFISHING TEAM
South Carolina Governor’s Cup Billfishing Series

Fill out Donor Form below and forward to:
Amy Dukes
SCDNR
PO Box 12559
Charleston, SC 29422-2559

Name: ____________________________

Business Name: ____________________________

Street Address/PO Box: ____________________________

City: ____________________________

State/ Zip Code: ____________________________

Donor Level $ ____________________________

After receiving your pledge, an invoice will be sent to you for payment. When payment has been received, we will forward the appropriate promotional items for the donor level you have chosen and request an electronic copy of your business logo for use in the Governor’s Cup Newsletter, website Sponsor list, and other publications as appropriate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Bohicket</th>
<th>Georgetown</th>
<th>Carolina Billfish Classic</th>
<th>MEGADOCK</th>
<th>Edisto</th>
<th>Sailfish Slam</th>
<th>Additional Reported Releases</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Marlin</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Marlin</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>Sailfish</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spearfish</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Outstanding Billfish Boat | **Caramba**  
| Owner: Robert Faith  
| Captain: Dale Lackey  
| 3 Blue Marlin and 10 Sailfish Released  
| 3,875 points |

| Outstanding Billfish Conservationist | **Caramba**  
| Owner: Robert Faith  
| Captain: Dale Lackey  
| 3 Blue Marlin and 10 Sailfish Released  
| 3,875 points |

| Outstanding Dolphin | **Rascal**  
| Owner: Norman Pulliam  
| Captain: Mark Rogers  
| Angler: Anne Brady Moore Carlson  
| 62.4 pounds |

| Outstanding Tuna | **Small Change**  
| Owner/Captain: Mike Albenesius  
| Angler: Frasure Wilson  
| 21.0 pound Blackfin |

| Outstanding Wahoo | **Christy II**  
| Owners: Thomas Pierce, III and Stephen Godfrey  
| Captains: Stephen Godfrey and Trey Pierce  
| Angler: Oran Poe Ratterree  
| 63.0 pounds |

| Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place | **Split Bill**  
| Owners: Charlie Aimar, Paul Aimar, Charlie Rivers  
| Captain: Charlie Aimar  
| Angler: David Aimar, Age 15  
| 1 Sailfish Released |

| Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place | **Middleton 58**  
| Owner: Frank Middleton  
| Captain: Thomas Rivers  
| Angler: Caleb Teske, Age 13  
| 36.2 pound Dolphin |

| Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place | **Due Course**  
| Owner: Richard Gaton  
| Captain: Bucky Copleston  
| Angler: Taylor Gaton, Age 14  
| 18.6 pound Dolphin |
| SCGC Special Recognition Award | William J. Ladue  
SC Department of Natural Resources  
Law Enforcement Officer |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| **Outstanding Lady Angler** | **Game On**  
Owner: Victor “Bubba” Roof  
Captain: Trey McMillan  
Angler: Kelli Ann Roof  
2 Blue Marlin and 4 Sailfish Released |
| 1st Place | |
| **Outstanding Lady Angler** | **5 o’clock Somewhere**  
Owner: LK Bradham  
Captain: Lawrence Bradham  
Angler: Heather Bradham Fanucchi  
1 White Marlin Released |
| 2nd Place | |
| **Outstanding Lady Angler** | **Rock N’ Reel**  
Owner: Allen Bell  
Captain: Chris Bell  
Angler: Kara Slick  
1 Sailfish Released |
| 3rd Place | |
Blue marlin, white marlin, and sailfish are classified, by law, as Gamefish in SC and thus cannot be sold. There is also a national prohibition on selling marlin and sailfish captured in the Atlantic Basin. In the 1990’s, it was also illegal to serve any marlin in SC restaurants, regardless of origin. However, that law was repealed in 2000 due to concerns on restriction of interstate commerce. At present, restaurants and wholesalers in SC and the nation can import and sell billfish from open fisheries in the Pacific. The problem is twofold; first, there is concern that Atlantic Basin marlin are entering the marketplace with paperwork claiming that they were harvested in the Pacific, and second, the USA is the largest importer of billfish, thus cannot be sold. There is also a national restriction of interstate commerce. At present, the SC Governors Cup Billfishing Series Advisory Board authorized Chairman Foster McKissick to send letters to the respective Commerce Committee Chairman in both the House and Senate to make sure this issue is on their radar during the next congressional session.

This newsletter presently goes out to over 1,500 subscribers in 36 different states, including such billfishing meccas as Wyoming and Colorado, and we need ALL of you to contact your congressional representatives. Working together we can make a huge contribution to the conservation of billfish worldwide by lowering market demand and incentive to harvest.

support this concept, we ask that you consider writing a letter to each of your newly elected congressman indicating as such. This bill does not include swordfish, which will still be available in the marketplace. If you want to learn more before forming an opinion, just type “Take Marlin off the Menu” into your browser and you will see a number of websites devoted to this subject. You can also go directly to the website http://www.igfa.org/Conserve/Support-HR-Bill-5804.aspx to get the information you need to make an informed decision. At its October meeting, the SC Governors Cup Billfishing Series Advisory Board authorized Chairman Foster McKissick to send letters to the respective Commerce Committee Chairman in both the House and Senate to make sure this issue is on their radar during the next congressional session.

This newsletter presently goes out to over 1,500 subscribers in 36 different states,
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.

Total cost - $470.00
Total copies - 1,570
Total cost per copy - $0.30

Printed on recycled paper. 10-7328

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