



Tag & Release

A newsletter following the South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series



July 2021 Vol. 26 No. 4



Series Reflections:

A lot has happened since our last newsletter in April. First, the Governor's Cup Advisory Board met prior to the Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament Captain's meeting in May to deliberate on how to move forward with the SC Memorial Reef Project after negotiations for the purchase and deployment of the Highway 21 Bridge were terminated in April due to available material and cost considerations. By happenstance, another more optimal alternative became available shortly thereafter in the form of a 247-foot-long, 71-foot-tall cargo ship named the *Coastal Venture*. At the meeting, the Advisory Board agreed to move forward with this project which is infinitely more desirable than the partial swing bridge superstructure

Reflections continued on pg. 2

33rd Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2021 Tournament Schedule

May 26 - 29



53rd Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: Ed Keelin
P.O. Box 1704
Georgetown SC 29442
(843) 546-1776 Fax (843) 546-7832
ed@georgetownlandingmarina.com

June 23 - 26



Carolina Billfish Classic

Contact: Loyd Weston
20 Patriots Point Road
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 568-5230
td@fishcbc.com

July 21 - 24



Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Brian Bell
3702 Docksite Road
Edisto Beach, SC 29438
(843) 631-5055 Fax (843) 631-5065
bkbell2009@gmail.com

** The Bohicket Marina and the Megadock City Marina are under construction for the summer of 2021 and will be unable to host a tournament, yet will host an event in 2022.**

For more information, contact:

Amy Dukes, SC Governor's Cup Tournament Coordinator
DukesA@dnr.sc.gov • govcup.dnr.sc.gov • (843) 953-9365
PO Box 12559 • Charleston, SC 29422

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on a barge concept. The vessel has a double hull made from heavier gauge steel plate than typically found in a barge, the fuel has already been removed and hull paint is lead free, plus, very little if any asbestos is on board. All these features combined make it easier to prepare for sinking as well as quite durable with a very long life expectancy (100s of years) on the bottom. Finally, the windlass and sufficient anchor chain are present to allow the ship to be anchored and stay in the designated location during the sinking process. In conclusion, the Advisory Board voted to set an all-in fund-raising goal of \$500,000. I am very excited about this project and have already donated \$5,000 myself, because it will be a great addition to the Charleston Deep Reef MPA due to the complexity of the internal structure which will make excellent spawning and juvenile habitat for imperiled deep-water species like Warsaw, Misty and Snowy Grouper. Plus, the vessel's sheer size will create significant upwelling to attract bait communities and pelagic fish. Details and photos of the vessel, as well as information on how you can contribute can be found later in the newsletter.

Now to briefly recap our return to normal and the two tournaments that have been held to date. Georgetown was a huge success with 65 boats participating in the two fish days before getting blown out on Saturday by a small craft advisory. To top it off the fishing was unbelievable with the greatest catch per unit effort for blue marlin than has ever been recorded in SC tournament history, with one blue marlin also being landed. Plus, for the first time in my 14 years with the Series, a yellowfin tuna was weighed. Both statistics are encouraging, and I am taking them as a sign that after years of US scientists' work at ICCAT, things are finally starting to turn around for these and other pelagic species. The landside activities at Georgetown were back to pre-Covid conditions and if anyone went home hungry or thirsty it was their own fault. As usual the appetizers just kept on coming and the marina staff did an amazing job. The tournament concluded on Saturday night with a very emotional ceremony where many of those we lost in the past year were memorialized. There was not a dry eye in the house. The highlight for me was getting to speak to Jim Shannon's wife, Leigh, and his sons, as well as a very

emotional conversation with Mark Daniels' son, Robert, who was on hand to present a new Georgetown tourney award in his father's honor to Captain Mike Glaesner.

In June, the CBC also went off without a hitch, although participation was somewhat lower than hoped for due to uncertainty related to weather. Thursday ended up being a lay day for every boat. This however had a silver lining because the owners, captains, crews and families got to fully enjoy all the amenities the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina has to offer; they also had the chance to catch up after not seeing many of these folks in person for much of last year. The fishing was not comparable to Georgetown, but GLAZED was able to collect 1000 release points and win over the second-place boat BLUE SKY on the narrowest of time margins. The awards ceremony was bittersweet, as I was able to acknowledge the 21 years of participation by Ed Holder on all three advisory committees of the Marine Division including the Marine Advisory Committee, the Saltwater License Advisory Board and 6 years on the Governor's Cup Billfishing Series Advisory Board, with several as Chairman. It is my understanding that Ed is the only person in history to have done this. He also holds the record for the longest tenure. The bad news is we won't have Ed's levelheaded council at these meetings going forward, but I am sure we know how to reach him if we need him. Finally, I learned that this was Deidre Menefee's last year as CBC Tournament Director. It seems like I have known Deidre since we were children, but in reality, she is much younger than me. Over the years, Deidre has always been a big supporter of the Series while at the same time hosting quality events. Just like in Ed's case, I am sorry to be losing her but again we know where she lives. I look forward to seeing you all at Edisto later this month. It will be my last tournament. Ironically, it was my first tournament back in May 2008, so it will be fitting to close out this run at the ancestral home of many generations of Jenkins.

~~ Wally Jenkins



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AWARD	GEORGETOWN	CBC
Outstanding Billfish Boat 1st Place	Boat: <i>Inappropriate</i> Owner: Frank Holtham Captain: Andy Crews 4 blue marlin released 2400 points	Boat: <i>Glazed</i> Owner: Miles Herring Captain: Miles Herring 1 blue marlin & 2 sailfish released 1000 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Reel Hook Up</i> Owner: Michael Carter Captain: Stuart Lackey 3 blue marlin released 1800 points	Boat: <i>Blue Sky</i> Owner: Greg Smith Captain: Jay Weaver 1 blue marlin & 2 sailfish released 1000 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 3rd Place	Boat: <i>Bench Mark</i> Owner: Stephen Davis Captain: Bobby Garmany 2 blue marlin released 1200 points	Boat: <i>Lucid Interval</i> Owner: Stephen Cannon Captain: Nick Alotta 1 blue marlin released 600 points
Outstanding Billfish Conservationist	Boat: <i>Inappropriate</i> Owner: Frank Holtham Captain: Andy Crews 4 blue marlin released 2400 points	Boat: <i>Glazed</i> Owner: Miles Herring Captain: Miles Herring 1 blue marlin & 2 sailfish released 1000 points





AWARD	GEORGETOWN	CBC
Outstanding Billfish (landed)	Boat: <i>Sportin' Life</i> Owner: Graham Eubank Captain: Mike Glaesner Angler: Graham Eubank 445.3 pounds	N/A
Outstanding Dolphin	Boat: <i>Summer Girl</i> Owner: Mike Jackson Captain: Stevie Leasure Angler: Anne Hatcher White 39.5 pounds	Boat: <i>Legal Holiday</i> Owner: Fred Bergen Captain: Lawrence Bradham Angler: Tres Dausey 30.6 pounds
Outstanding Tuna	Boat: <i>Mingo</i> Owner: Jody Tamsberg Captain: Jody Tamsberg Angler: Joel Tamsberg 22.0-pound blackfin	Boat: <i>Mama Love</i> Owner: Howie Love Captain: Wendell Love Angler: Parker Dempsey 19.3-pound blackfin
Outstanding Wahoo	Boat: <i>Huntress</i> Owner: Huntress Sportfishing Captain: Thomas Morgan Angler: Robert George Morgan 57.4 pounds	Boat: <i>Outlier</i> Owner: Will Dorminy Captain: Ryan Riggs Angler: Will Dorminy 58.2 pounds



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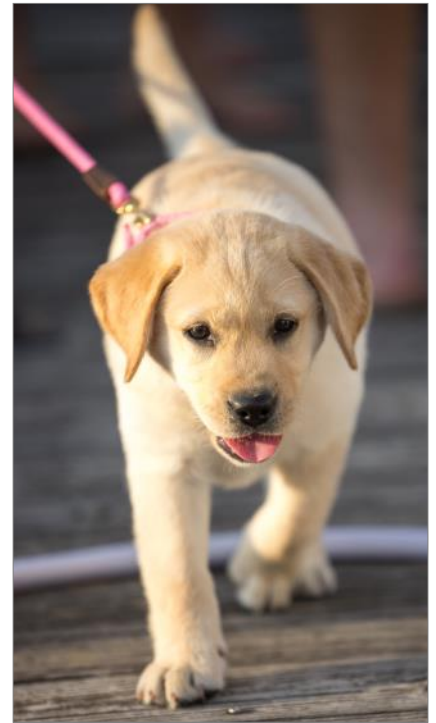
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AWARD	GEORGETOWN	CBC
Outstanding Female Angler 1st Place	Boat: <i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany 1 blue marlin released 600 points	Boat: <i>Home Run</i> Owner: Steve Mungo Captain: Grant Bentley Angler: Hope Bentley 1 blue marlin released 600 points
Outstanding Female Angler 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Aspiration</i> Owner: Quill Turk Captain: Steven Lackey Angler: Betsy Turk 1 blue marlin released 600 points	Boat: <i>Daymaker</i> Owner: Bobby Krivohalvek Captain: Bobby Krivohalvek Angler: Valerie Gorin 1 sailfish released 200 points
Outstanding Female Angler 3rd Place	Boat: <i>Summer Girl</i> Owner: Mike Jackson Captain: Stevie Leasure Angler: Shannon Smoak 1 white marlin released 300 points	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiftlet Angler: Keegan Kennedy 1 sailfish released 200 points





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AWARD	GEORGETOWN	CBC	
Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place	Boat: <i>Tighten Up</i> Owners: Kevin Overstreet Captain: Kevin Overstreet Angler: Riley Overstreet, age 15 1 blue marlin released 600 points	Boat: <i>Glazed</i> Owner: Miles Herring Captain: Miles Herring Angler: Woods Herring, age 12 2 sailfish released 400 points	 
Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Kings Blue</i> Owner: Kings Blue Charters Captain: Travis Waits Angler: Will Gredick, age 14 1 sailfish released 200 points	Boat: <i>Tighten Up</i> Owners: Kevin Overstreet Captain: Kevin Overstreet Angler: Riley Overstreet, age 15 1 white marlin released 300 points	
Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place	Boat: <i>Summer Girl</i> Owners: Mike Jackson Captain: Stevie Leasure Angler: Anne Hatcher White, age 13 39.5-pound dolphin	Boat: <i>Kings Blue</i> Owner: Kings Blue LLC Captain: Travis Waits Angler: Jackson Naylor, age 14 25.6-pound dolphin	



TOTALS			
	G'TOWN	CBC	TOTALS
BOATS	65	40	
BLUES	47	9	56
WHITES	2	1	3
SPEARS	1	0	1
SAILS	7	19	26

TOP BOATS			
1. Inappropriate	2650	6. Sportin' Life	1496
2. Reel Hook Up	1850	7. Mister Pete	1250
3. Home Run	1850	8. Mama Love	1250
4. Blue Sky	1850	9. Callisto	1250
5. Glazed	1650	10. Reel Legacy	1250

THE SC MEMORIAL REEF



Current Project: M/V *Coastal Venture*



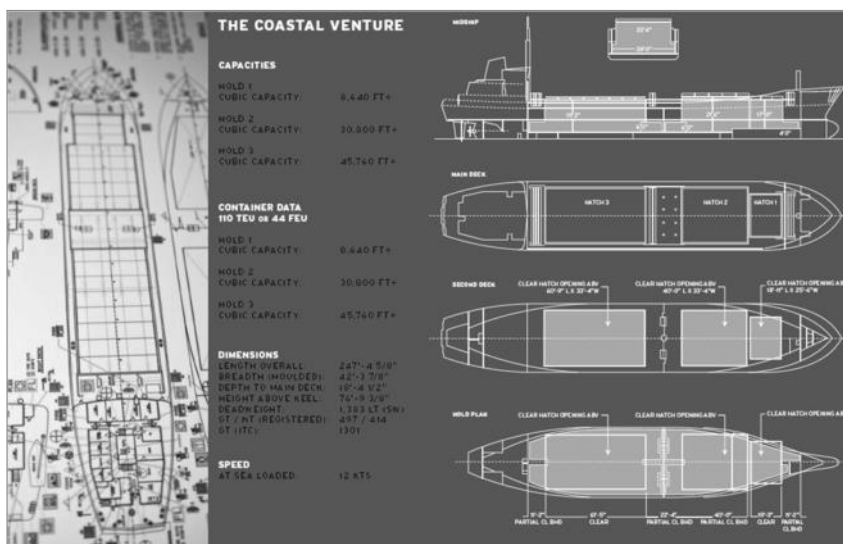
The newest SC Memorial Reef project includes plans to sink the 247-ft M/V *Coastal Venture* in the Charleston Deep Reef MPA. The vessel (70-ft keel to top of the mast) will provide habitat for a diversity of species. Its complex structure will offer refuge for finfish and other marine organisms, as well as provide areas on which invertebrates can settle and grow. Additionally, the upwelling that will result from such a large structure will release nutrients into the water column and increase the overall productivity of the area.

Fundraising goal: \$500,000

If we can raise the funds by Summer 2022, we will transport and sink the M/V *Coastal Venture*. We plan to deploy the vessel in 350 feet of water about a mile south of the sunken Highway 41 bridge.

Please consider making a donation. We truly appreciate the support.

Funds raised: \$200,000



Donate now:

- * Make checks payable to: Harry Hampton Fund - The SC Memorial Reef, c/o Amy Dukes, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422
- * Donate online:
 - <https://scmemorialreef.com/> (See for additional information about the M/V *Coastal Venture* project)
 - <http://www.hamptonwildlifefund.org/> (Write "SC Memorial Reef" in the instructions box to ensure it's accredited to the appropriate project and include the name of the person being recognized and remembered, if applicable)



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