



Fishing Post March 2016

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

www.aswsc.org

A Glance Back at 2016 and on to 2017

2016

It was a good year for AWSC with well-attended and instructive meetings, a bevy of boats participating in tournaments and three new club catch records. Social events were plentiful and enjoyed by many. Lots of members contributed to help make the activities possible and did so in a way to earn the appreciation of all who participated in them.

Most monthly gatherings included detailed how-to demonstrations on topics such as trolling, anchoring or safety (there were others). Our safety discourse was kick-started by a MAYDAY call from a distressed boat, where we learned the captain did not survive. It was a serious dialogue which prompted three members to describe near-misses experienced or observed; two during the 2016 fishing season and one just prior.

Tournaments were generally well attended and enthusiastic. New records were set for Red Grouper by Kenny Barnhart, and, Cobia and Blackfin Tuna respectively by new members Garrett Ross and Thad Stone. The age-old nemesis of engine problems made its appearance again last year with more than a couple of captains missing out on fishing time to address repairs. Apalachicola proved once more to be a reliable venue, aided by the Fed's rescheduling of Red Snapper season and Grande Isle, LA was well received as a new destination by the club members who fished it.

Social functions stayed strong with the addition of O'Shucks and the renewal of a trip on the Tennessee River. In it's second year, The Allatoona Picnic fed an increased number of participants very well as did The Lanier Spring Fling (at Fish Tales Restaurant). Whether it is a fishing or social occasion, or both, the Middlegrounds charter trip was in high demand with a good quantity and variety of fish caught.

The fishing, socializing and general regalement would not have happened without the efforts of many: our 2016 Officers, Tournament Directors, Social Event Organizers and others who pitched in to help. There were many, and we say thank you.

The year was anything but business-as-usual. We set up a display table at Bass Pro's Spring Fling, resurrected a fishing venue (Savannah) which had not hosted a tournament in years, filled all available spots on a chartered club fishing trip, added new events to our social event schedule, engaged in a soiree on the Tennessee River and found a new tournament locale in Louisiana. These new activities added to the Atlanta Boat Show, Cinco de Mayo on Lake Lanier, Mexican food at El Tolerero, eating BBQ and buying gear at the Swap Meet...and the list goes on.

A Glance Back at 2016 and on to 2017

continued

2017

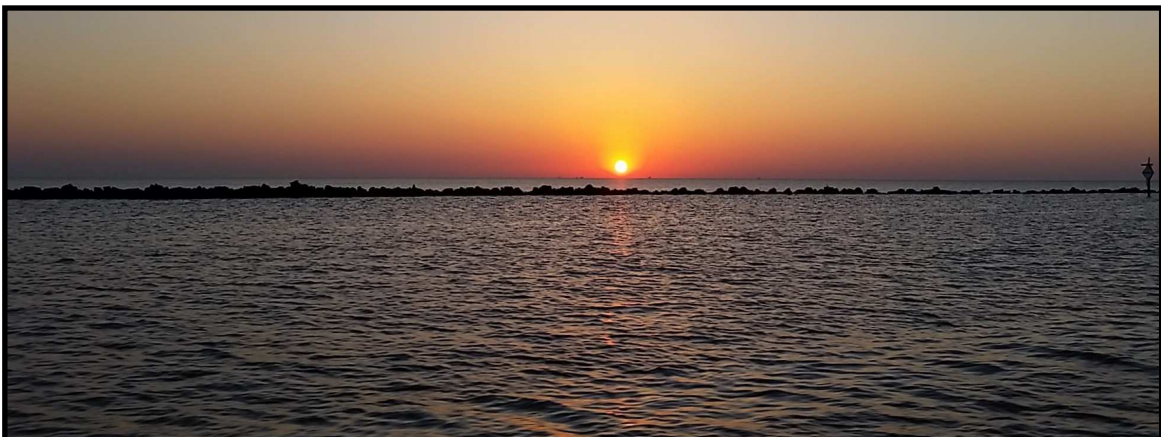
The season is upon us and some members made the trip to WPB to wet a hook and feel the pull of a fish, mostly sailfish. A total of 28 sailfish were caught and 10 members reeled in their first. Then it's on to Savannah (April) and Apalachicola (May/June) where we can hopefully keep a few Red Snapper. Following these, we spend a week in Orange Beach (July) which typically offers good fishing and then back to Apalachicola (August), hoping the feds will let us put Amberjack in our ice boxes. Grand Isle (September) will conclude the schedule with a week long tournament.

The Middle Grounds charter trip is up in the air due to a new, higher cost - but if it happens, it is fun for all who participate and a good opportunity for anyone looking for a chance to fish with other club members. In fact, it's a great time to fish with a few dozen members on the same boat - it takes place in a good fishery on a good boat with a good crew. Last year's trip provided plenty of excitement and filets to bring home.

In addition, the social calendar is chocked full with nine upcoming outings, the boat show having taken place and the final event being the Christmas Party. If you are a new member, I encourage you to attend a few of these. They are not as busy as tournaments and you will find more time to meet and converse with other club members - while enjoying a bit of tasty food.

To make the fishing and socializing a reality requires a group effort. Whether you have been in the club for years or just since the last boat show, volunteer to help with an activity when your schedule permits. The tournament and social dates can be seen on our website; www.aswsc.org.

As important as the fishing fun we have, is the enjoyment we get from the friendships developed through ASWSC. May this year strengthen the old ones and bring new friends into each of our lives.



Sun-

Port Eads, LA

rise at

2016 Christmas Party

The year-end Christmas Party was a success again thanks to the leadership of Steve Frtz and other club members who stepped up to offer their time and effort, ensuring our year-end gala was a good time for all. The socializing was fun, the food was good, and we all celebrated with winners as plaques were presented to the top anglers in each division and for the Boat of the Year.

A review of 2016 recipients:

Persevere (Capt Mark Mleczo): Boat of the Year
John Roché: Men's Division / Angler of the Year
Wendy Coates: Ladies Division / Angler of the Year
Nicky Mleczo: Junior Division / Angler of the Year

Ken Barnhart received well-deserved recognition for his service as club president for the last two years. Also, club officers for 2017 were announced:

Mark Mlezcko - President
Ward Lang - Vice President
Dan Bullard - Treasurer
Jace Spencer - Secretary
Keith Mozena - Tournament Committee Chair

Raffle and silent auction items found their way into the hands of lucky winners - thank you again to several who contributed prizes, especially Tom Holt, who comes through often to help make sure our raffle is a success. Again this year, two Coach rods, one paired with a conventional and one with a spinning reel, were the Grand raffle prizes, both won by Steve Fritz. And who didn't notice that Cefus adorned his kilt for the occasion, showing a little leg once again.

Attendance might have been a little below 2015, but it was still one of the best opportunities of the year to spend time with fellow ASWSC members. After the eating and presenting, the lights dimmed and the music flowed, more or less, for the rest of the evening. We danced, we sang and some of us tried to play DJ. But then, when a bunch of people who like to fish get together, where there is food, drink and music, what could possibly go wrong?



2017 Atlanta Boat Show Recap

Few events wet an appetite for being on the water as much as a Boat Show. For many of us, it is a time to dream and perhaps, for some, it's time to make it happen. No matter what your show experience has been, just seeing the new models gets the juices flowing to be on a boat with the breeze in your face and the sun shining down; preferably while sitting over structure. Thanks to the efforts of all our volunteers, sixteen new members joined ASWSC during the four day event.

Many thanks to Tom Holt for taking the lead to organize, coordinate, arrange staffing, and set up the booth - and to all who volunteered for shifts during the show.

Volunteer next year - it's a fun time, working to contribute to a club effort and getting to know your fellow members a little better. Besides, you get free admission to the show.





2017 West Palm Beach Report

2017 officially began with the Sailfish Tournament in West Palm Beach in January. By all accounts, the sailfish were willing to cooperate. There were 28 releases and ten members tallied their first Atlantic sailfish, including 13 year-old Parker White. Eight boats made the trek to south Florida and seven had the good fortune to raise at least two flags. A total of thirty nine participants made the trip and another 5 guests attended the awards dinner.



Wendy Coates led the individual count with three and Sore Subject (Captain Ryan Howard) was at the top of the count for boats with eight sailfish. Sore Subject released six on day three, tying a club sailfish-release record.

Making their first catch of an Atlantic sailfish were: Ward Lang, Dan Bullard, Troy White, Parker White, Carl LaBarbera, Rick Pulver, Tony Vasquez, Thad Stone, Dave Duroche and Roger Reyelts. Congratulations to one and all.

West Palm Beach Report

continued

Boat Standings for West Palm Beach

Top 5 Finishes

Boat	Releases	Captain
Sore Subject	8	Ryan Howard
Loophole	5	Ward Lang
Where to Next?	5	Keith Mozena
Persevere	3	Mark Mlezcko
Easy Does It	3	Steve Guntner



West Palm Beach Report

continued

Individual Catches for West Palm Beach

Angler	Sailfish Releases
Wendy Coates	3
John Roché	2
Greg Fischer	2
Norm Bowen	2
Richard Watkins	2
Parker White	2
Ted Dubose	1
Scott Rowe	1
Rick Pulver	1
Sam Hyland	1
Sam Stone	1
Benjamin Smisson	1
Steve Fritz	1
Carl LaBarbera	1
Dan Bullard	1
Tony Vazquez	1
Ward Lang	1
Dan Reese	1
Troy White	1
Dave Duroche	1
Roger Reyelts	1



And the shore-side ladies had fun, too!



Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

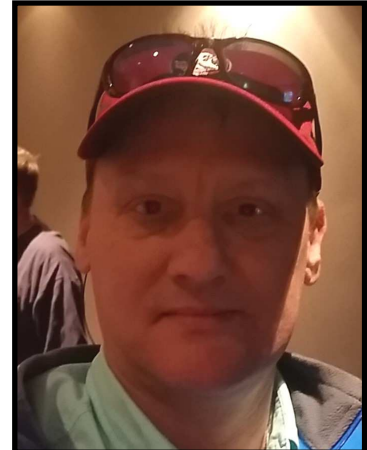
2017 Officers



Mark Mleczek



Ward Lang



Dan Bullard

2017 Officers

Mark Mleczek, President
markm@trade-markinternational.com

Ward Lang, Vice-President
ward.lang3@gmail.com

Dan Bullard, Treasurer
dan.bullard@att.net

Jace Spencer, Secretary
jks@nmsmail.com

Keith Mozena,
Tournament Committee Director
keithmozena@gmail.com



Jace Spencer



Keith Mozena

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

Saturday, March 25th, 2017

At Richard Martin's Shop

3633 Ivey Gulledge Road, Dallas, Ga



Swap Meet & BBQ Cook-Off

Awards Presented For Best BBQ and Best Brunswick Stew



Starts at 12:00pm

BBQ & Stew Judging at 3:00pm

11:00 AM Set Up for Swap Meet Exhibitors and Cook-off Competitors
Exhibitors should bring a table to display their stuff

Come SELL or BUY fishing tackle, boat or boating gear.
Sell any items old, new, hated or held dear; someone's trash is another one's treasure.
Come join in our fun, it would be our pleasure!

Please bring:

Your favorite BBQ and/or Brunswick Stew dish, already prepared (in a crock pot or warming tray). Bring your own beverages. Paper goods will be provided. You are welcome to bring desserts or side dishes.

PLEASE Call Valerie and let us know what dish (es) you will be preparing, and with any questions you have concerning the cook-off.
706-215-3996 *Leave V/M if no answer*

Directions to Richard Martin's Shop: Go I-75 from North or South and take Exit# 278 for Glade Road toward Acworth (.4 mi.) Turn Right onto GA-92 S/ Lake Acworth Dr. (2.3 mi.). Use 2 right lanes to turn right onto US-41 N. (1.5 mi.) Turn left onto Ga-92S (4.0mi.) Continue on State Rte. 381 (2.3 mi.). Turn Right onto Frey Road (.1 mi.) Turn Left onto Ivey Gulledge Road (1.0 mi) **DESTINATION ON RIGHT!** Use second driveway for vehicle parking!

If you get lost, call Richard: 770-367-7737

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

Get Together at O'Shucks Winder
Saturday, April 15 2017 - 1:00

O'SHUCKS

SEAFOOD & GRILL



108 E May St, Winder, GA 30680

Join us for some great food and good times. The O'Shucks Winder location is owned and operated by club members Mark and Allison Mleczko. If you've never eaten there, you've been missing out - this place is awesome! Bring your best fishing pics as well (printed photos); the Mleczkos would like to display them in the restaurant.

If you plan to attend, please email O'Shucks with the number in your party: oshucksalli@gmail.com

470-209-7354

Spring Fling Striper Event & Luncheon

It's time to unwrap the boats and burn some gas. Get ready for the upcoming season by joining us on Lake Lanier!

Saturday April 22, 2017

Striper Fishing - 7:30am to 11:30am. This will be a catch and release event. Sum of the total length of all your legal stripers combined wins!

You can launch from any ramp of your convenience on Lake Lanier. Many will be launching from **Aqualand Marina**, 6800 Lights Ferry Road, Flowery Branch, GA 30542.

Lunch will be at Fish Tales Restaurant at Hideaway Bay Marina, 6334 Mitchell Street, Flowery Branch, GA. Come by car or by boat.

GPS coordinates by boat - Lat: 34°11'147, Lon: 83°56'2036

Lunch will be at 12:00 noon, Rain or Shine

This year we're also planning to have a **Cast Net Competition** at Fish Tales. Those with cast-netting skills will provide instruction to those wanting to learn, to be followed by an informal net-casting contest.

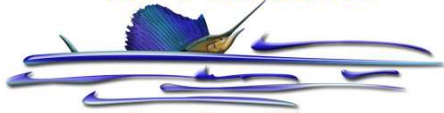
Feel free to join us for fishing or just lunch. If you plan to attend the event, please email to let us know how many will be in your party: info@aswsc.org



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Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

UPCOMING CLUB ACTIVITIES

March 14, 7pm	Monthly Meeting at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast
March 25, Noon	Swap Meet & Cook-off, Dallas GA
April 11, 7pm	Monthly Meeting at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast
April 15, 1pm	Get Together at O'Shucks in Winder
April 22	Spring Fling & Lunch at Lake Lanier
April 27-29	Savannah/Tybee Tournament
May 6	Annual Cinco De Mayo Picnic
May 9, 7pm	Monthly Meeting at the Hilton Atlanta Northeast

NOTE: Club Calendar is subject to change. Keep up to date with club activities, tournaments, and events on the club's official website:

www.aswsc.org