



MARLIN TALES

September 2009

We are officially in the midst of hurricane season. Storms are already rolling off the coast of Africa and we can hope that our area is spared the fury of a hurricane for 2009. Personally, I am looking forward to the changes of fall and better fishing and really looking forward to the arrival of the sailfish.

Now there are a few things I know about the Marlin Club. I know there are very knowledgeable boaters and fishermen and I see a big group of nice people. But you have to know who to ask questions of because some of them, well, some of them just might play a joke on you. Most of you know Jim Curtis as the patriotic veteran, knowledgeable captain and all around nice guy. But I hear a story from many years ago from the Bahamas where a NEFMA member had caught a nice yellowfin grouper. Being that a yellowfin grouper is not the most abundant of groupers, that member asked Jim what it was to which Jim replied, without batting an eye, it is a yellowfin grouper and it is poisonous to eat. So the member threw the fish overboard in the marina.

But Jim does have a lot of sea time and being the knowledgeable captain that he is, is a good resource to discuss trip planning with. The same member previously discussed asked Jim the best way to get to Walkers Cay in the Bahamas because Jim has been there many times. Jim replied, when you get close, just call the Walkers Cay Coast Guard and they will guide you in. You can imagine the fun being had by those on the docks listening to the calls for "Walkers Cay Coast Guard, come in please"... I hope these stories are being presented with some accuracy because interpretation of the story and the length of time since they happened have a way of making the stories better. Mr. Curtis, if these stories are true and accurate, I find them to be outright hilarious and I hope their telling here gave you reason to chuckle.

This is a request for Chip and Woody Yelton to give me the full story but it goes something like this. Those boys were so confident they could win the Bluewater Tournament that they had to get the only thing they didn't have at the time...a boat. So they borrowed one from a friend that was either a Sea Ray or a similar boat. They proceeded to catch a huge wahoo during the tournament and then the winds blew and the seas began to build. By the time they got back to shore, the interior of their borrowed boat was completely destroyed and the boat was returned to the owner.

I am looking for stories from the history of our club. In the future, be on the lookout for more of them and feel free to contact me to tell me yours. Tim Martin 904-674-4552 or Jagsare1@hotmail.com.

REQUEST – Although I enjoy writing the newsletter, I think it is time to pass the reins to another creative individual. Although we miss a month here and there, we would like to see the newsletter monthly. If you want to write the newsletter for the club, please let your president, Bucky Odum, know.

GET WELL – Some have heard that Sandy Odum on the **TREE HOUSE** fell and broke her hip. She underwent successful surgery and is now enjoying daily re-habilitation. Please wish Sandy well as she gets back on her feet, literally.

SPECIAL THANKS – Our scale at the club is, simply, terrible looking and needed to be refurbished or replaced. The following people are making that happen. First, Tom Greenhalgh went to work removing the electrical connections and the scales themselves. Next, Brad Bishop has coordinated with Peter Sabo of Camachee Cove Yacht Yard to physically remove the metal structure and finally, Chris Combs employer, Burcher Gammage of Metal Products (who fishes many NEFMA events) has agreed to completely build us a new structure. A truck will be coming by Camachee from Metal Products where Peter and his crew will load our scale on the truck and ship it to Atlanta. When complete, it will be delivered back to the club for a reverse of my previous description.

Please join me in a sincere thank you to Tom, Brad, Peter, Chris and Burcher. It is going to look great when it gets back to the club.

FISHING – It is summer time and fishing is a little slow but congratulations go to Paul Kassab on the **REEL XCAPE** for winning the Lady/Junior Angler Tournament. His angler Mary Mankamwey caught her first sailfish and was the Top Lady Angler.

The August Open event was won by **SHARK BAIT** with a swordfish followed by **DOUBLE TROUBLE** with a 1st and 5th place wahoo with **TABASCO** rounding out the top 3 with a sailfish release. It is notable that Mike Hinton Jr, a junior angler, reeled in the 1st place wahoo, a whopping 92.75 lb fish on the **DOUBLE TROUBLE**.

Other notable catches during the month were made by the **C FAN** with 2 wahoo, **DOSA MARIA** and **GET SHORTY** with wahoos and **PEZ VELA** with a sailfish. The **SHIRLEY ANN** caught a sailfish as well and although a great catch, didn't count due to be caught on kingfish gear (treble hooks).

***2009 Boat of the Year** current leader is:

1 st Place:	PEZ VELA	1610 pts
2 nd Place:	LIT UP	1300 pts
3 rd Place:	C FAN	750 pts

*** Championship Series** current leader is:

1 st Place:	SHARK BAIT	1175 pts
2 nd Place:	DOUBLE TROUBLE	925 pts
3 rd Place:	LIT UP	850 pts

***2009 Angler of the Year** leader is **Joey Verdine**.

***2009 Lady Angler of the Year** leader is **Joy Korman**.

2009 CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES SCHEDULE – The next event is the Indian Summer Sailfish Mini Event on September 19th. Sailfish Shootout on October 17th and the final tournament of the year is the 2-day Open Mini Event on November 14/15. Lines in at 7AM on Saturday and lines out at 4PM Saturday (lines out at 4PM Sunday for the 2 day event).

RULES NEWS – The annual rules meeting was held on August 19th. Suggestions were made and copious notes were taken for the board to consider at the next board meeting. A show of hands was observed so that the board gets a feel for what the membership wants.

Although not a rules change, there will be a change for the Lady/Junior Angler tournament for 2010. The Lady Angler Tournament is supposed to be a part of the tournament series championship but has been confusing the past 2 years due to the Junior Angler Tournament that ran simultaneous. For 2010, the Lady Angler Tournament will be a stand alone mini-event and the Junior Angler Tournament will also stand alone. This way the fishing teams will be clear on the rules for the Ladies event while the juniors can focus more on having fun and catching fish without worrying about following club fishing rules. In addition, a suggestion was made that the Lady Angler event be moved to a time of year with better fishing. It was duly noted and will be discussed with the 2010 Tournament Director when that person is elected.

The membership was also in favor of having a kingfish mini event. The kingfish is a board fish yet it is the only fish we don't tournament fish for. This could be the answer during the summer when fishing is slow but kingfish are around.

THE BILLFISH FOUNDATION Release Awards – REMINDER - We have a unique opportunity. We have been offered the chance to participate in a pilot program for The Billfish Foundation. This program is a tag and release program offering awards within our club. The available awards are TOP CAPTAIN, TOP ANGLER and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place boats. These awards are over and above any awards from NEFMA. There are 2 stipulations for these awards. First, you must be a member of NEFMA. Second, you must be a member of the Billfish Foundation. TBF membership can be had for as little as \$25 and it allows you to get free release certificates for your catches.

I am a TBF member and personally would enjoy starting this program immediately. I believe it is important that we participate because we have been offered an opportunity that only 1 other fishing club on the east coast has been offered. I would like to hear you feedback. Tim Martin 904-674-4552 or Jagsare1@hotmail.com.

****IMPORTANT** – We are no longer accepting the “catch cards”. You will need to register your fish on-line through the NEFMA website. It is very easy and Tim Martin is available to help you do that. If you need his help, call him at 904-674-4552 or email at Jagsare1@hotmail.com.

****Please use the NEFMA website to log your fish catches instead of using the cards. You will find it to be very easy and it will help us keep the points up to date in a timely manner. Simply go to www.NEFMA.co and click on the left side where it says “SUBMIT CATCH”. Fill in the blanks and click on ENTER and you are done.**

**** If you do not have an email address in your profile on the NEFMA website, I highly recommend you add one.** This will allow you to get fishing reports via email and you can still hide the email address if you want. Call me for passwords and website access.

******Please forward any and all news that affects our club to me for inclusion in future newsletters. I really do need your help in making this newsletter interesting to read.**

Tim Martin

Jagsare1@hotmail.com

904-674-4552



2009 CALENDAR

- ✓ September 17th – Business Meeting
- ✓ September 19th – Indian Summer Sailfish (weather date September 20th and 26th)
- ✓ October 17th – Sailfish Shoot-out (weather date October 18th or 24th)
- ✓ November 12th – General Membership Meeting
- ✓ November 14th/15th – 2 day Open Mini(weather date 21st/22nd)
- ✓ December 9th – Christmas Party
- ✓ TBA – Year End Banquet