

NFGFC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2007

Steve brought the March NFGFC meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The BOB meeting room was near capacity.

Steve welcomed all members and guests and named the speakers for the evening:

Jim Singletary from Keaton Beach Marina/SeaTow;
Michelle Clark from the Big Bend Salt Water Classic;
Lee Slesinger from FWC Marine Fishery Division.

Introduction of officers

Mike Scibelli, Treasurer
John Vickers, Tournament Director
Tom Keels, BOD, Technical Manager
Ty Smith, co-Secretary/Raffle Master
David Griffith, co-Secretary

Treasurer Mike Scibelli reported that we have a \$1700 balance after paying web posting fee, Post Office Box fees and the annual incorporation fee to DOS.

Co-secretary David Griffith recapped the February meeting.

Co-secretary Ty Smith introduced the raffle and its sponsors:

Jerry's Bait and Tackle;
Advantage Marine;
Gaff Magazine;
Sea Tow;
Bite-a-Bait;
DOA;
Mirror Lure;
Falcon Rods;
Plano Tackle;
Tickets to the Big Bend Salt Water Classic

Technical Director/Member of the BOD Tom Keels indicated that he had BBF.net hats.

Tournament Director John Vickers announced that there were 47 fishers and 21 boats at the Keaton Beach tournament.

12 boats weighed fish

1st - Junior Dice 5 fish 13.5;
2nd - Reel Slow/BD 5 fish 12.5;
3rd - Mock/JT51 5 fish 12.29.

John reminded everyone that the next tournament is April 14 at Carrabelle. Meet at C-Quarters before 0630. Weigh in is at 1530.

SeaTow

Steve introduced the first speaker: Joel Singletary – Keaton Marina and area SeaTow franchise owner.

Joel said they were like “AAA on the water”

They have one level of service at \$149.00. This covers all boats the primary cardholder may have. There is No Distance or Time limit to 75 miles offshore.

Whatever is needed from a jump, gas, to a tow is covered. His service coverage area is Carrabelle to Panacea to Apalachee Bay to Econfinia River. If you are outside service area you are still covered as long as the service you use is a licensed tow service. Joel offered \$129 for annual service for NFGFC members or referrals.

SeaTow contributed three memberships to the raffle over the remainder of the year!

Big Bend Fishing Classic

Steve next introduced Michelle Clark from the 2007 Big Bend Saltwater Classic.

Michelle was soliciting participation for the 19th annual classic which will be on Father's Day weekend. The classic will be held at the Carrabelle Boat Club and has 13 and under, recreational, and recreational team divisions.

Entry is \$65.00.

On 5/31 there will be an anglers banquet.

6/14 there will be a Captain's meeting at PaPa.

6/13 will be a local Captain's meeting at Hooters.

Michelle emphasized that its fun for all and proceeds go to OAR reefs.

Big Bend Saltwater Classic is going to donate a registration to the raffle!

FWC – Division of Marine Fisheries Management

Steve next introduced Lee Slesinger from Marine Fisheries.

Lee indicated that he was not the enemy!

Lee noted that the work that the division performs is with very limited staff.

They collect data using various methods to support decisions regarding preserving the longevity of fishing for generations to come. Measures have to be taken to insure this.

They know about 25% of the approximate 500 species of fish.

Seven commissioners make the laws for all divisions.

Lee encouraged attendance at the next general commissioner meeting on 4/12 at the North Monroe Street Ramada Inn.

Raffle

The raffle included several "big" items such as:

- Rod and Reel Combo from Advantage Marine;
- Two Falcon rods from JBT;
- 3 annual subscriptions to Gaff Magazine.

Many other assorted items included:

- DOA products;
- MirroLures;
- Bite-a-Baits;
- Plano boxes;
- Falcon hats;
- BigBendFishing.net hats;
- Lures, etc.

Next meeting will be on 4/19 with Capt Gary Goodrich (1-850-Bay-Fish) www.fishingportstjoe.com

Meeting adjourned at 2102