

Community

Gulf Breeze NEWS



The Pensacola Ladies Billfish Club is hooked on angling

The Pensacola Ladies Billfish Club was organized in 1983 as a part of the Pensacola Big Games Fishing Club. Janet Briggs, the first Ladies Club president, is still an active member and is an accomplished fisherman. Janet, a Registered Nurse, is the Manager of Ambulatory Surgery at the Gulf Breeze Hospital.

This year's president, Dot Davis, works for a software company and is a "telecommunicator" who travels all over the world but still takes time to fish. Most of the other founding members are also still active today.

Other officers include: Lauren Boitnot, Secretary; Sandra Johnson, Tournament Director, and Bobbi Strong, Robin Howard, and Gail Thomas as members of the Board.

The club has continued to thrive through the decades encouraging ladies to fish. The Ladies monthly meetings at the Island Cove on the Bayou Chico offer a variety of programs, swapping fish stories, charity work, and planning tournaments.

The Club dues are approximately \$107.50 initially and then \$80.63 annually. Each year the enthusiasm for fishing by the members is demonstrated by their participation in tournaments and intra-club tournaments year round.

The Club encourages and promotes the sport of big game fishing and is dedicated to the conservation and study of game fishes.

The Pensacola Ladies Billfish Club hosted the 29th Ladies Billfish Tournament this year. They held the Captain's meeting on July 13 at the New World Landing.

The Captain's meeting was a busy place abuzz with action. When they discussed the rules of the competition and prizes the excitement built and the activities began. Their supporters had donated many wonderful door prizes.

Dot says, "Each year the ladies competing find winning one these door prizes almost as thrilling as winning one of the fishing awards; well almost I said."

There were many door prizes such as sailfish earrings, a sterling silver dolphin bracelet, billfish lures, fishing rods, pewter serving dishes. All this plus over \$18,000 in awards, trophies and prizes and the ultimate surprise for Tag & Release being a Rolex watch.

As the captains and anglers finished up the meeting and signed-out, they received their Tag & Release designator. The designator must appear in the video when a billfish is tagged and released.

The video must also include the angler, the reel, the fish, date and time. It is important that the designator be kept secret by the Tournament Director until the meeting so it cannot be copied or



The Ladies Billfish Club members plan their 29th Tournament at the Captain's meeting at New World Landing.

used to catch a fish before the tournament begins.

Following the Captains meeting everyone left and many of the boats were underway that night for the various destinations in the Gulf. The lines went in and the tournament began at 6:00 am on Saturday July 14 and continued on Sunday July 15 with a total of 30 boats and 67 lady anglers participating.

Saturday was a beautiful day but late Saturday afternoon the weather turned bad and it was a rough night. Most of the boats stayed and rode through the storm and continued fishing. These ladies and crews are true to the sport.

Sunday started out as a beautiful day but again late Sunday the weather turned bad and the weigh-in was soggy. Nevertheless, the crowds and the anglers were there and the tournament was a success! After the closing of the scales on Sunday and the final weigh-in the Award ceremony was held at New World Landing.

The winners are: For Tag & Release; First place Angler Lauren Boitnot; second place



Janet Briggs, the first Ladies Billfish Club president, and her husband, Jimmy.

Angler Beth Parker and third Place Angler Cindy Sluder and the Top Tag & Release Boat was "Bit Me Baby."

For the Dolphin category; First place April Mills; Second place Robin Howard and Third place Britt Ann Peet.

For Wahoo category - First Place Anita Williams. For Tuna category - First Place Leander Arnold; second place Lisa Walborn and third place Christine Holmes.

The awards followed the closing of the scales. The club welcomes any ladies that are interested in off shore fishing to contact the club office at (850) 453-4638 or Dot Davis, President, (850) 453-5300.

Attention Publicity Chairmen:

Send emails to *Betty Archer Allen* at betty@gulfbreezenews.com or write to *Talk of the Town* at Gulf Breeze News PO. Box 1414, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562, subject : "Talk of the Town"



Archer Allen

Peoples First Florida's CommunityBank presents...

Talk of the Town
By Betty Archer Allen

Makenna Faircloth is 'kid of the week'

Makenna Faircloth, the Kid of the Week, is the daughter of Les and Sherri Faircloth of Gulf Breeze. She was born in Texas and moved to Gulf Breeze at the age of 5 1/2 years. She will be entering 3rd grade in August at Gulf Breeze Elementary School and her brother, Austin, will be entering the 6th grade at Gulf Breeze Middle School. Her Mom, Sherri, says, "Makenna is very bright, upbeat and loves girlie things." Mom must be right because she likes to dance, twirl, flip, socialize and enjoys being with her family. She also loves the beach, jet and snow skiing, fishing and shopping. She enjoys all kinds of foods especially Mexican, Italian, Seafood and Chinese.

Makenna seems to be a natural born athlete. She is a member of the Gulf Breeze Gymnastics Girls Competition Team and successfully completed Level 4 in March meeting and exceeding all meets with 34.00 scores and higher. She will be competing Level 5 this year; is a very good academic student.

Makenna is very excited to begin piano lessons and to explore other areas of interest. She has variety of pets: Myah, a golden retriever dog; Angel, a pet guinea pig; and Tori, a gerbil. She would like to be a veterinarian or a doctor or a



Makenna Faircloth is practicing her gymnastics.

pet shop owner when she grows up.

Kid of the Week is a feature of the Gulf Breeze News Talk of the Town column.

To nominate someone for this please email betty@gulfbreezenews.com with a short bio and a picture. You may leave the bio and a picture that will not be returned in my mail box at the Gulf Breeze News.

Betty Archer Allen
Gulf breeze News

Heron Oak Artists

Heron Oak Artists have found a home to display their art. Their new abode is the Gulf Winds Center at 1300 Shoreline Drive at the corner of Shoreline and Daniel Drive.

The Gulf Winds Center has graciously agreed to allow their public areas to be used as gallery space for Heron Oak Artists. The Heron Oak artists started in 2000 when Autry Dye opened her Copper Heron Studio for classes at 989 Great Oaks Drive. This group has painted together every Wednesday at the Copper Heron Studio for several years.

The nucleus of artists has remained basically the same: Autry Dye, John Hagenbucher, Lois Overbaugh, Royanne Pace and Bill Triemer and now a new member Jane Nowlin.

The Heron Oaks Artists offer an unusual selection of original art for purchase. Now that they show their work at the Gulf Winds Center art lovers of Gulf Breeze and Navarre will no longer have to drive to Pensacola to see a variety of art work.

The Gulf Winds Center Office

Building is open during regular business hours. For more information please contact Lois Overbaugh at 932-8397 or loiso@bellsouth.net.

USO Picnic for the Families of deployed Service Men and Women

The City of Gulf Breeze is going to provide a picnic for the families of deployed service men and women on September 29 at Shoreline South from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

They are looking for ideas, volunteers, etc. to help with the picnic. The first committee meeting to plan this "Picnic for families of those deployed" was held Tuesday, July 31 at 11:30 am at city Hall Council Chambers.

Members were asked to invite any others to this 'kick-off' meeting that may be interested in participating such as local civic groups. USO Center Director Heidi Blair and USO volunteer Hank Martin will be invited to attend and participate.

The plan was to identify the different areas of participation and get input for additional ideas. They are

looking for someone to head the different features necessary for the success of the picnic; remembering that the rest of the committee will be there to support and consider additional suggestions.

The various areas of need seem to be:

- Food, purchasing it and volunteers to cook and serve
- Invitations, work with USO in "getting the word out" to the local families of deployed military
- Transportation, identify what type of transportation that may be needed to provide to families so they can participate and to locate ways to fill that need
- Games, organize picnic type games for adults and children such as volleyball, horseshoes, basketball, face painting and water bounce house
- Lifeguards, contact and schedule qualified volunteer life guards for the 4 hours; Children's parks,
- Volunteers to monitor the Children's Kids Park and skate park; and Prizes, collect 'door prizes' for adults and children from local businesses and organize the drawings.

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Wednesday Nights at 7 p.m.
Friday & Saturday Nights at 6:30 p.m. & 8 p.m.

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