



The Sanibel Island Fishing Club

PO Box 989 ♦ Sanibel, FL 33957

February 2010 Newsletter

Notes from the President

I generally try to remain upbeat in these columns, but it's hard this month. With the extended cold weather, the tragic fish kill, and the unwarranted closing of our grouper season, any sane person would take up gardening. But – I'm a fisherman, and here's what's going on.

A few trout are biting on sunny days on the edge of grass flats, and at the mouth of creeks. Very few bait fish are evident except for pinfish that came out of their deep holes when the water got back up to 65 F. If you can find water just 2 degrees warmer in some spots, you can find snapper and perhaps a "rat" red. I'm hoping to see some pompano out by the lighthouse if the water warms up just a bit. Last week offshore gag grouper were abundant on wrecks and ledges, but the red grouper had gone deep. We had no luck with snapper in 65 degree water and even the grunts and triggerfish refused to bite. Amberjack were biting well around the deeper wrecks.

Your club has gone on record requesting our federal officials to look into the unwarranted tightening of grouper regulations. We have also sent letters to our local officials supporting a causeway fishing pier. We'll talk more about these items at our next meeting. We have good speakers.

See you there –

Rol

NEXT MEETING

WHEN: Tuesday, February 9, 2010

WHERE: Sanibel Island Community Center

**TIME: 6:30pm Pizza
7:00pm Meeting**

SPEAKER: Our speakers this month are two renowned Lee County fishing guides out of Fish Tale Marina at Ft. Myers Beach, **Captain Phil Pica**, who specializes in offshore angling and **Captain Sean Davis**, who runs a back bay charter.

Captain Pica focuses on near shore gag grouper during the winter months and pursues tarpon, cobia and permit during the spring, summer and fall months. He fishes near beach ledges and Lee and Collier County's artificial reefs.

Captain Davis specializes in inshore angling. He targets redfish, snook and trout in his flats boat. He has been living in Southwest Florida since he was five years old and has extensive experience in the backwaters of both Estero and San Carlos Bay.



Captain Sean Davis



Capt Phil Pica (right)

Next Club Outing

Sunday, February 21

Dart Board Challenge I

(We are currently boat limited. Please consider putting your boat in the outing so all can participate.)

Angler of the Year 2008-2009 Top Five

Kevin Vertesch	98
Mary DeMik	95
Wade Robert	95
Bob Smith	94
Rol Campbell	88
Tom Butcher	86

2010 Outing Schedule

Sunday	February 21
Sunday	March 14
Sunday	April 18
Sunday	May 16

2010 Meeting Schedule

Tuesday	February 9
Tuesday	March 9
Tuesday	April 13
Tuesday	May 11



Now that grouper is closed and inshore is bleak, Capt. Charlie is focusing on the species shown above – the Tomtate. See if he will share the location of his secret Tomtate hole. Regarding technique he says: "I like a minimum of 80 lb line with 4 lb. leader. The smaller leader always fools them."