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Rotary gives about \$10,000 to fishing tourney participants



The team of fishermen on the boat captained by Jason Kennedy (far right) accept the check for \$540 (for having the second place bag) from Rotary President Skipper Henderson (not wearing the team fishing shirt because he was not on that boat). Joining Kennedy were fishermen Mikey Owens, Clint Watkins and Wes Grant. President Henderson presented all of the checks and cash to winners. In the next Rotary year, which is approaching relatively soon, Kennedy will be that club's president.

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CEDAR KEY -- Plenty of fishermen and gamblers shared in the bounty of the Gulf of Mexico on Saturday (May 22) as the Rotary Club of Chiefland held its 12th Annual Fishing Tournament.



Michael Earnest, who was among the team on Matt Brooks' boat, walks away from the park where the fish in this net were weighed. There was no money from this catch for the Brooks' team, but there was the fun of fishing in competition and there is the meal of fish too.

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Better every year, this Chiefland Rotary Fishing Tournament was the best so far. This is a fundraising event. The Chiefland Rotary Club donates to local charitable causes and to the efforts of the Rotary Club International.

The club moved the weigh-in to Cedar Key City Park this year, which provided more shade than a parking lot where it has happened before for at least a few years.

Also this year, there was a band playing as the scores were being tallied. It takes time to determine the best prize for a boat due to the formula for presenting the best prize to each winner.



Behind the serving table for the low country boil are (from left) Madison Oglesby, Sandy Oglesby and Rotary President Skipper Henderson.

There was a low country boil clam dinner served this year to anglers who wanted to enjoy it.

The total combined payout for winning fishermen and in the Calcutta gambling aspect of the event was \$9,900.

Here are the amounts and the names of the winning fishermen and gamblers. Readers may notice that some of the fish weights might indicate the person should have won a different prize, however there is only one Calcutta or one winning fish award allowed for each boat team.

There were 54 boats in the tournament. Nine boats were money winners. Therefore the odds of winning money were one-in-six.

Rotarian Jeff Beauchamp called off the winning names. Rotarian Dr. David Renaud was the top calculator of prizes. Rotary President Skipper Henderson presented the checks or cash awards.

Rotarian Tony Wasson recorded the weights on a tally board for all to watch as the results

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winners, but not the first names for most of them.

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The first place bag in the tournament was won by the team of Collin English, Kevin English and Steve English. They won \$1,080 with that set of fish. Collin English bet the Calcutta on his boat for the best bag amount and he won \$2,040. So the total win for that boat's take of the day was \$3,120. By "bag" that is the total weight of all of the redfish and trout caught by members of the boat's team.

came in.

Rotarian Mandy Horne was another significant club member in this event, although every man and woman in the entire club worked very hard to make it succeed as well as it did. Some may not have seemed like they worked, but by being a club member they worked at least in the abstract.

Dale Stone measures a fish.

One young man leapt into service on Saturday and he is not even a Chiefland Rotary member. His name is Dale Stone, and he measured the fish on a ruler that was at the site. All of the fish entered were of legal size for keeping.

Beauchamp was able to give the last names of the teams of

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The largest trout is weighed and comes in at 3.81 pounds. It was caught by the team on Rod Hiers' boat.



The first place trout was caught by the team of Justin Hiers, Rod Hiers, Tonya Hiers and Emma Redd. Justin Hiers (above right) accepted the \$540 check for the winning trout.

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Rod Hiers bet the Calcutta on his own boat for the first place trout and accepted the \$2,040 in cash from President Henderson (left).



The first place redfish was caught by the team of Trey Mikell and Tyler Martensen and they won \$540. Berlon Weeks bet the Calcutta on this boat and won \$2,040.

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The second place bag brought in \$540 for the team of Jason Kennedy (who will be the next Chiefland Rotary Club president), Mikey Owens, Clint Watkins and Wes Grant.

The second place redfish was caught by the team of Royce Nelson and Allison Nelson for \$270.

The second place trout was caught by the team of Pricilla Fugate, Trip Fugate and Cody McLeod, which brought them \$270.

The team of Nick Allen and Zach Munson took third place bag and won \$270. The bag weight is the total weight of trout and redfish.

The team of Shani Brinkman and Tom Lloyd had the third place redfish and that scored them a \$135 prize.

The team of Matt Miller, David Germany and Justin Jones brought in the third place trout, going home with a prize of \$135.

The team of Derrick Wise and Kennedy Boyer had the redfish with the Most Spots and they won \$50 as a result. They had 11 spots on the redfish they caught.

All of the fishermen who caught reds and trout also have fish to eat. Please remember, with the one-boat, one-win rule, some of the highest weights in fish may not match with placings for cash or checks.



A United States Coast Guard helicopter is seen as a dot in the sky, framed here by some leaves of a tree in Cedar Key City Park on Saturday. This 'copter probably was part of a search team seeking a man who was lost in the Gulf of Mexico on Friday. The USCG as of Monday morning had nothing to add in regard to the search for the missing man.

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Following are the lists of boats (with one person's name designated for each boat) with the highest to lowest weight in the three categories of fish. The numbers are in pounds.



REDFISH

Collin English 6.85

Trey Mikell 6.72

Royce Nelson 6.54

Nick Allen 6.42

Shani Brinkman 6.18

Lee Wells 6.11

Derrick Wise 5.85

Jason Kennedy 5.74

Rod Hiers 5.44

Jason Perdue 5.10

Lee Wells 4.41

David Rogers 4.27

Chance Hall 3.85

Adam Hayes 3.80

W.C. Richardson 3.70

Robert Kint 3.52

Doug Prallins 3.22

Joe Thomas 2.88

Collin English 2.33

Pricilla Fugate 2.28

Darryl Feagle 2.13

Tom Miller 2.10

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TROUT

Rod Hiers 3.81 (Photo of Fish)
Pricilla Fugate 3.45
Matt Miller 3.24
Jim Keith 2.93
Jason Kennedy 2.82
Matt Brooks 2.82
Joe Thomas 2.51
Jeff Perry 2.35
Billy Stanley 2.15
Shani Brinkman 2.11
Garrett Schultz 1.99
Trey Mikell 1.90
Nick Allen 1.80
Darryl Feagle 1.71
Tom Miller 1.70
Lee Wells 1.70

John Fisher 1.58
W.C. Richardson 1.56
Carl Robinson 1.22

BAG

Collin English 20.65
Trey Mikell 16.66
Jason Kennedy 15.82
Nick Allen 15.20
David Rogers 15.15
Rod Hiers 14.42
W.C. Richardson 13.74
Joe Thomas 12.31
Richard Feagle 11.84
Pricilla Fugate 11.62
Lee Wells 11.31
Jim Keith 10.95
Shani Brinkman 10.80

Matt Miller 10.07
Darryl Feagle 9.19
Royce Nelson 9.19
Tom Miller 9.18
Billy Stanley 8.86
John Fisher 8.53
Doug Prallins 8.46
Garrett Schultz 8.28
Derrick Wise 7.94
Robert Kint 6.26
Carl Robinson 6.04
Jeff Perry 5.75
Jason Perdue 5.10
Matt Brooks 4.34
Chance Hall 3.85
Adam Hayes