

## SAHD Fishing Trip 2004

Six SAHDs from around the country gathered in Nokomis, Florida for the second SAHD Fishing Trip the weekend of March 13, 2004. Organized by Jim LoCascio of Cape Coral, FL and Capt. Mark Gauthier of Nokomis, FL, the event drew a total of eleven SAHDs, family members, and friends from Illinois, Ohio, Georgia, Wisconsin, and Florida.

(Gauthier is a work-at-home dad – he runs a charter business while caring for his 1-year-old son.)

The weekend started with LoCascio and Bruce Cantrall of Green Bay, WI catching Spanish Mackerel from the beach on Friday morning. Later that day, Roland La Scala (Columbus, OH) and Bob Noonan (Chicago, IL) joined LoCascio and Cantrall at Ed Smith Stadium in Sarasota for a Spring Training baseball game between the Cincinnati Reds and Toronto Blue Jays.

Ray Alzamora (Valrico, FL) and Bob Boisvert (Largo, FL) met up with the others at their resort after the game. After watching a Florida sunset over the Gulf of Mexico, they walked over to a fine seafood dinner at Pelican Alley in Nokomis.

Cantrall's brothers Dave and Mark, his cousin Derek, and two family friends joined the group for a light breakfast before their day of fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. The group filled two thirty-foot boats, the Mojo, with Captain Donnie, and the Gulf Cart, with Captain Jay ([www.Gulfcart.com](http://www.Gulfcart.com)).

The group enjoyed perfect weather. A light breeze kept things cool and raised the sea to a light chop. After catching bait, they headed out to try for grouper, snapper, and amberjacks. Fish were slow to bite, but Captain Jay's group managed one amberjack (by LoCascio), another amberjack lost after a long fight (by Boisvert), a large keeper sized grouper (by La Scala, which won the Calcutta pool), and enough mangrove snapper for a hearty dinner that night. Boisvert caught the most fish by far, but they were mostly grouper too small to be kept.

Captain Donnie's group did not manage any grouper or amberjacks, but they filled 2 buckets with yellowtail and mangrove snapper, and B. Cantrall tangled with a Goliath grouper of several hundred pounds until the fish got tired of playing and swam to the bottom not to be moved again. They also witnessed several types of fish feeding on the surface, but none would touch their baits.

Back at the resort, LoCascio and La Scala cooked up a dinner of fresh fish and mixed vegetables. After a hearty meal, and a night of socializing, the trip was deemed a success. LoCascio plans to make this an annual event.

Any SAHD with interest in going on the trip next year (tentatively scheduled for the weekend of March 12, 2005) should join the Yahoo! group 'SAHDs Fish' by either visiting Yahoo! Or sending an e-mail to [sahds\\_fish\\_subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:sahds_fish_subscribe@yahoo.com). There will also be information at the annual At-Home-Dads Convention in Chicago this November. Photos from the trip can be seen at [www.sahdsfish.4t.com](http://www.sahdsfish.4t.com).

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