

The 3rd Annual Bastante Tournament held in Rockport, Texas July 9-12, 2014 is in the books...and this time...THE STATE RECORD BOOKS!! Capt. Kevin Deerman once again found the "honey hole"...and this time...in an extra-large way! Angler Richard B. Richardson, Jr. jumped into action when they got the bite early Friday morning on a live tuna and thought it was a shark at first... but shortly after...when the fish made her first appearance...the crew realized that it was indeed NOT a shark!!! It took Richardson 20 minutes to reel the 972 monster in...and took the crew about 45 minutes to get her in the boat!



This made for an extra special event...as I created this tournament in memory of one of my best friends, Capt. Johnny Uhr who we lost to cancer in 2010...so the Bastante Tournament is **The John Uhr Memorial Billfish Tournament** to celebrate his life every year and raise money for charities.....



...including our local Humane Society, The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Coastal Bend Troop Support, The Boy Scouts of America and several other local charities in Rockport.



Our boat count was low this year...only had 11 billfish boats...after about 30 had called me to say they were coming...but for whatever reason...backed out when it came time to register & made for smaller checks for our charities. But with a new state record blue marlin weighed in, a good turnout in our kingfish & redfish tournaments along with a GREAT outpouring from the community making for sold out concerts Friday & Saturday nights by The Scott Taylor Band & Charlie Robison...we got the bills paid!! WHEW!! The small showing of billfish boats makes for smaller checks to our charities this year...but we'll make up for it next year!!

Team Legacy promptly won **1st Place** with their **972.7** blue marlin. **2nd Place** went to the **Buck-N-Bills** releasing a blue & a sail and **3rd Place** went to **Port A Fino** who also had a blue & a sail release.



1st Place in the **Bastante Dos Kingfish Tournament** went to David Nesloney, Jr.'s **Team Triple C's** with a 2-kingfish-stringer weighing 61.05 lbs



2nd Place went to the Revel's **Team Curvaceous** with a 2-kingfish-stringer weighing 34.15 lbs. **3rd Place** went to Roy "Moose" Johnson's **Team Hit It Again** with a 2-kingfish-stringer weighing 29.65 lbs





Capt. Johnny always wanted to break the 26-year standing Texas State Record set back in 1988 with an 876...and I can't help but think he had something to do with this fish hanging from a scale that has his name on it! **Capt. Kevin Deerman** also received the Top Captain Award...which is now called the **"Cuz" Award** in memory of **Capt. Mike Butler** who called EVERYBODY "Cuz". We lost him to cancer in August of last year. The page in this year's Bastante Program telling Butler's story...which was printed weeks before the tournament...has a big picture of him and Deerman...as they were very close friends for most of their lives...adding to the "special" in an EXTRA special year at Bastante :) Butler's family was in attendance & his son, Kyle presented the "Cuz Award" to his dad's buddy, Kevin ☺ I can't help but picture Capt. Johnny & Capt. Mike up there orchestrating everything that happened this year...because it just couldn't have been any more perfect!!!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LARRY DOONAN
www.DoonanPhotography.com



Many thanks to all who came out & supported our special event again. It's a labor of love for me... and I will do it 'til my dying day...*one way or another!!*

Sincere thanks again,

Tami Noling
 Tournament Director
www.RockportTournament.com