



13TH STURDIVANT ISLAND TUNA TOURNAMENT TO CAST OFF IN AUGUST AS NATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

PRESS RELEASE: July 10, 2010

South Portland - The 13th Annual Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament will once again be held at Spring Point Marina in South Portland. The Captain's Meeting and fundraising auction will be Wednesday evening, August 4th, and the fishing dates are August 5 – 7. And this year, SITT will receive the 2010 Council for Resource Development national Benefactor of the Year Award for their extensive support of Maine's Community Colleges.

The tournament is limited to 40 pre-registered boats and the accumulated entrance fees pay for the \$12,500 prize money. The Captains who land the five largest Blue-fin tuna qualify for the cash prizes of \$6,250 for first prize, \$3,250 for second, \$1,500 for third, \$1,000 for fourth, and \$500 for fifth prize. As an added incentive, the largest Blue-fin tuna landed that officially sets the Maine State Rod and Reel Record (819 lbs), will win a **Grand Prize award of \$50,000!** Last year, Captain Jim Hinkley and the crew of the *Maine Inspiration* took home the first place prize when they brought in the largest tuna weighing 395 pounds.

Over the past 12 years, with the help of tournament participants and generous sponsors, the Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament has made charitable contributions approaching **\$400,000!** Some of this money has been donated to established scholarships at three of Maine's Community Colleges: NMCC, SMCC, and WCCC. In addition, donated funds have been given to the Byron R. Gouzie Foundation, the McAuley Residence at Mercy Hospital, and the Isaac Baker "Baker-Mobile" fund.

In November, members of the Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament organizing committee will travel to Washington DC to receive the national CRD Benefactor award. The CRD Benefactor Award recognizes individuals, foundations, or businesses/corporations for outstanding contributions to community colleges.