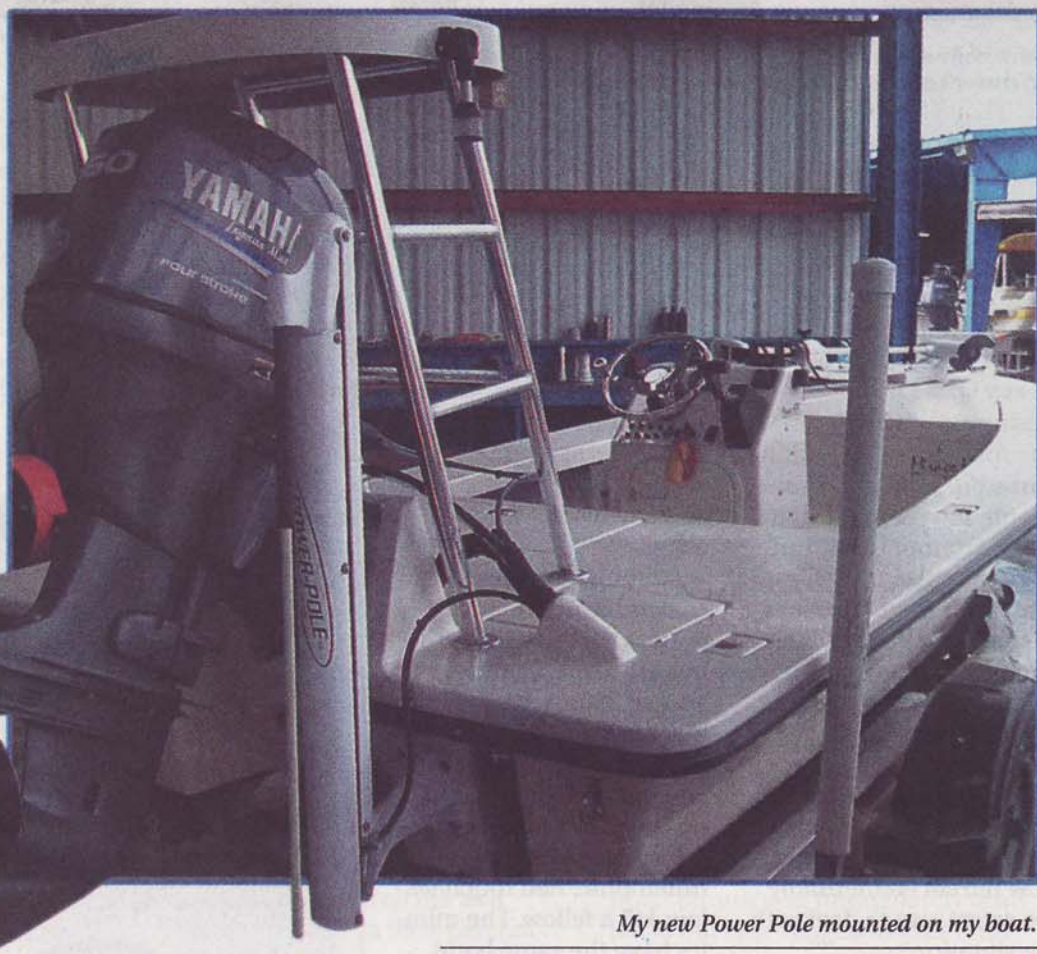


## Setting up to take the shot

**M**aybe it was the two redfish that cruised right by the boat on Tiger Shoals in the Mosquito Lagoon. It didn't help that the wind was blowing 20 knots out of the northwest, but that was just one of many isolated instances when we were not able to get an efficient cast or good shot at a moving fish. I have had similar situations in Pine Island Sound. I am specifically referring to the ability to stop the boat in time to present a bait as technically sound as possible. For example, in the Mosquito Lagoon, the wind was pushing the boat so quickly, that by the time we saw fish, there was no way we were going to be able to stop before we would roll right over top of them. As hard as I tried from the poling platform with my push pole, the strong breeze was just too overwhelming, and there was just no way I could have got down on the deck in time to stake out



*My new Power Pole mounted on my boat.*

with my Cajun anchor. If we could have stopped the boat quickly, we would have gotten more than one good shot. This ability is particularly important when throwing artificial baits.

I consider myself a traditionalist when it comes to setting up my skiff; and if you remember, it took

me a while before I finally broke down and installed a trolling motor. In a perfect world, if I were not running the outboard, then I would completely work my boat from the poling platform with the help of my push pole. However fishing and, most importantly weather,

isn't always that simple, particularly in such a diverse place as Charlotte Harbor, so I have had to adjust in order to make it work. All this trial and error has led me to finally break down and have a power pole installed on my skiff. I have had the good fortune to spend