



The Newsletter of the ...

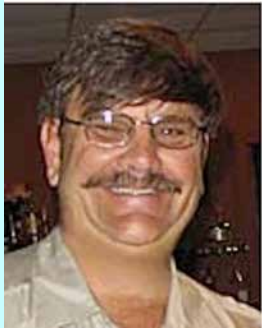
The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 57 Issue 1

January 2017



PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Captain Chris Rooney



January Marks the Start of the Season

The year has flown by and here comes the New Year and new expectations, the tournament season starts in earnest with the sheep-head tune up, this is my favorite time of the year. If the wind is blowing off shore I can go and fish for the bandit of our saltwater habitats. As the nearshore water temperatures drop into the mid 50's, I just can't get that battle wagon of mine to pass up the twins or Jax Wreck or any other wreck and rock pile in 50 to 60 feet. The sheepshead will be there you just have to get the feel for the bandits and don't forget the net. If the offshore seas are less than 3 feet it's the best fishing of the year in the deep water. The Wahoo are here and the temperature breaks show us where to find them, look for that break in 130 to 160 feet where the water goes into the low 70's and troll it east to west. There a roll down out there from 140 to 160 look for bait on that roll down as you troll and you'll find the wahoo.

The Sheepshead Tune Up is always up for grabs with the combination of boats fishing in the river and at the close in wrecks we never know where the winning fish is going to come from. One nice thing is there always seems to be a surprise at the weigh-in, in past years have seen new club records set by 10 pound plus sheepshead. No matter what everyone who has the feel for the bandits will be rewarded with some of the best eating fish out there.

When this is published the El-chepo planning will be in full swing. The tournament Director Rob Darner needs us all to step up, our continued support of this tournament is what makes allows us all to have fun at the meetings and tournaments for the rest of the year. He's the man and it takes months of putting a constant strain on the issues then a mad dash for the finish line as everything comes together, with Rob leading the way. We have the all-Volunteer meeting this month come on out and join the club event which is the largest fishing tournament in N.E. Florida.

Well I'm late with this months issue and Bill is probably ready to shoot me so until next month catch'em up and good fishing.



Capt Chris

The 17th annual El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament will be held on March 4th.

For those of you who have never fished this tournament before, welcome to "The World's Largest Sheepshead Tournament" ! For those of you who have fished it before, welcome back! --- and I'm sure you'll find the 13th edition of this tournament the best one yet!

This year our Grand Prize winner will receive an **18 Foot Center Console Carolina Skiff with a Suzuki 4 stroke motor on a Magic Tilt Trailer.**

We are happy to announce that Mousa's Auto & Marine Interior is stepping up the Lady Angler game. 1st Place Lady Angler will now win \$500 cash from Mousa's!! Thanks to Rick Hale at Rick's Bait & Tackle One lucky kayaker in the El Cheapo is going to be very happy with their brand new Vibe Sea Ghost 130!



Yes, That is Jack Thivierge on Santa's Lap at the JOSFC Annual Christmas Party & Pot Luck!

IF you missed it, you missed a great time! We had a really good Raffle and that lucky Dustin Girard won the LURE TREE! (it was LOADED with good Lures!)

Aaron Thivierge wrote: "I would like to whole heartedly thank JOSFC for an excellent Christmas celebration last night at the clubhouse.

Great food, wonderful companionship, and a special visitor-SANTA!



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Suzuki Marine is now the EL Cheapo Sponsor! 1st & 2nd place Boats will sport Suzuki 4-Stroke

Mayday / Pan-Pan / Securite

Do YOU really know what they mean, and how to use them? Well now you will!

When used, repeat the words 3 times before your message, this gets people's attention, and gives them time to pay attention to what is being transmitted.

Mayday - This means immediate danger. Only use it when you are in grave and imminent danger and require immediate help! Like man overboard and you have lost sight of them!

Pan-Pan - Urgent attention required. This is to be used for any situation that is urgent, but not imminent! Best I can think of here is like a major but not life threatening injury and you don't have a first-aid kit that will handle it on board.

Securite - This is used to warn people of hazards like floating debris, or a hard to control barge coming in an inlet, to let boaters know to stand clear.



Remember to shop at our sponsors and support them as often as you can!

T...Mobile

Official JOSFC Service Provider!



SHEEPSHEAD RECORDS

- **EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT RECORD:**
- 12.9#'s, 2/28/09, Shawn Parnell, Mayport, FL
- **FLORIDA STATE RECORD:**
- 15# 2oz., 1/29/81, Eugene Lechler, Homosassa Springs, FL
- **WORLD RECORD:**
- 21# 4oz., 4/92, Wayne Deselle, Bayou St. John, Louisiana



Wear these, they don't work in the cabin!
At least do it while under way, especially entering

and leaving the inlets, they can get rough in seconds.



Gary Newman
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Ok everyone, It is 2017, and the new fishing season is upon us. How about thinking SAFETY FIRST!

THIS IS YOUR ANNUAL SAFETY TEST!!!

You probably already failed!

That is NOT a good thing.

Can you answer these questions without looking up some of the answers?

- 1 - Did you leave a FLOAT PLAN with someone, or on the dash of your tow vehicle?
- 2 - What date was your single, woefully too small, fire extinguisher last checked? Is it current, or has it been sitting in it's holder for the last 2+ years with all the dry chemical compacted and hard at the bottom? Do you have a big enough Fire Extinguisher? They are cheep, why not have two or three on board?
- 3-Another thing to check are your hoses, fittings and clamps. You don't want them failing while you are miles from shore.
- 4 - What is the expiration date on your Flares?
- 5 - Does your ditch bag have enough water for everyone for a couple days?
- 6 - Is your ditch bag sitting out where it will be available and have an EEPER attached to it?

7 - Do you even have an EEPER? Why NOT? They are just a couple of hundred now! Isn't your life and your crews life worth that little money? Are it's Batteries good? They should be replaced every 5 years!

8 - What year did you last replace the batteries in your hand held VHF radio? Is it IN your Ditch Bag? The same thing for your hand held GPS?

9 - Where is your hand operated bailing device?

10 - Does your hand held air horn work? What you don't have one?

11 - Where is your distress FLAG?

12 - Where is your signal mirror

13 - Is the "O" ring on your drain plug old and brittle?

14 - First aid kit current? How long ago did your first aid kit perishables expire? Yes Iodine expires! Here is something to think about. A lot of the (Other guys, not me) members are getting older. Does your first aid kit have some of the new crystalized Aspirin to dissolve under the tongue in case of a heart attack?

15 - Tested your VHF, or better yet upgraded to a new one with the DCS position sending feature?

16 - Checked all your hose fittings are tight, and no corroded Electrical connections?

17 - Your bilge pump working and have a backup if it goes out?

18 - Are your Life Jackets good and readily handy?

19 - Do you give your crew a safety "Tour" before each trip? Make sure they know where everything is and how to work it in case you are disabled?

20 - Have your throwable life preserver handy?

21 - When was the last time you had your wheel bearings packed?

If you did not know the answer to any ONE of these questions, you failed this quick test.

Lucky for you, your boat isn't taking on water, or someone seriously injured and you aren't trying to answer any one of these questions in a panic to save a life!

Now is the "Off Season" and you now have a chance to correct any of these shortcomings BEFORE your next outing, and avoid the serious consequences of not being prepared.

Remember --- Keep your VHF radio on! Don't miss a club members distress call!

Bill Breen

Top's Tips
Safety First

Hypothermia

As we move into January and the colder months, we normally think more about staying warm when fishing in the cold, windy weather. Also, since the Captain of a vessel is responsible for the safety of his/her vessel and the crew, all Captains should be giving some thought to the prevention of hypothermia. Hypothermia can pose a problem for boaters anytime of the year, but should be of greater concern to all Captains as we approach colder weather.

Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it. As a Captain, have you ever thought about what a life jacket has in common with a blanket relative to hypothermia and safety in boating? Both can save your life when you are facing a major killer in aquatic mishaps such as hypothermia. As a result, you should carry both of these items on your boat. A life jacket is a federal and state requirement, but a blanket is not. However, all boaters should carry a blanket on board.

A life jacket, obviously, will keep you afloat, but can also help ward off hypothermia by trapping warmed water between it and your body. A blanket can help prevent hypothermia by reducing body heat loss. Most boaters do not have a full understanding of hypothermia and how it can impact them. Most people think of hypothermia as "freezing to death" or frost bite. Hypothermia can kill a person at temperatures well above freezing.

Hypothermia occurs most rapidly when your body is immersed in cold water but may occur at anytime especially in windy situations if your clothing is wet. In water at 50 degrees, the predicted time for survival is 1.5 to 3 hours. It can also occur in water as warm as 80 degrees if you are exposed for a long period of time. For instance, in 70 to 80 degree water, a person may become exhausted or unconscious in as little as 2 to 12 hours with an expected time

of survival of 3 plus hours. If you should fall overboard with a lifejacket on, do not exert yourself. Keep your arms at your side and your legs together to conserve heat.

If you find yourself in the water without a lifejacket conserving heat is even more important since you will have to keep yourself afloat. Do not try to swim, but exert as little effort as possible to float until rescued. An individual who falls overboard without a life jacket has virtually no chance of conserving heat loss. In fact, many individuals, who fall overboard, seem to lose the ability to climb back on board or to hang onto some craft or object, since there is a progressive decline in muscle strength following immersion in cold water. However, if possible, get out of the water as heat loss is less to cold air than to cold water. Always try to get out of the water.

A person's body burns food to give it energy and maintain its temperature. When your body cools, blood moves from the surface area to the vital organs and you burn stored food to generate heat. Shivering is the first sign that your body is telling you that its temperature is below normal and action is required to correct the situation. If nothing is done, your body will begin a systematic shutdown. It is at this point; a blanket can be a lifesaver. A shivering person should be attended to immediately and dried if wet, removed from the wind and covered with a blanket and kept as warm as possible to conserve body heat.

If confronted with a hypothermic person, always remember that hypothermia is a serious medical problem. Make the person as comfortable as possible and seek medical help as soon as possible. If some distance from the shore, inform the Coast Guard by radio and they may send a medivac copter to remove the victim.

The best solution for hypothermia, however, is to prevent it by wearing protective gear, staying dry and out of the wind. Never go into a potentially hypothermic situation without having eaten a good meal and be aware that hypothermia can kill you.

Continued from Page 5

Exercise the necessary precautions to prevent hypothermia and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales

The Fatal Scenario

When your body's core Temperature reaches:

96 Degrees Fahrenheit - Violent shivering begins.

95 Degrees Fahrenheit - Rational thought stops.

93.2 Degrees Fahrenheit - Consciousness becomes clouded.

92 Degrees Fahrenheit - Memory loss, hallucinating begins.

91.4 Degrees Fahrenheit - Shivering stops.

90 Degrees Fahrenheit - You become unconscious.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit - Death results from heart failure.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit is the ambient temperature of a fairly hot summer day. Our water off Jacksonville is rarely that warm!

It doesn't have to be freezing out to kill you!

THE EL CHEAP IS COMING!



THE EL CHEAP IS COMING!



THE EL CHEAP IS COMING!



Loud Hailings

Bill Breen
Newsletter
Editor

I am looking for PICTURES of club members with local catches, to use in our newsletter. If you have a good photo PLEASE E-mail it or give it to me at a meeting. I will Scan it and return it to you undamaged. Don't forget to include a piece of paper with your name address, and the information on the catch, size or weight, and when. You can even include your numbers where caught, I won't tell anyone else, I promise! ;-) Cross my heart and hope to catch your fish!

Just a reminder, ANYONE and everyone can submit something, a good story, joke, or you can also submit photos to be included in our Newsletter. Just get your article and or pictures to me by the 18th of the month, to be in the next months newsletter. Just hand me a copy at any meeting, or E-mail it to me at : breenw@bellsouth.net

This is YOUR Club!

As my title says, the JOSFC is YOUR club, not only mine, or the Boards, it is YOURS!

With that in mind, we really would like to hear from you the members, just what we can do to make it better, to encourage more participation at the meetings, and or other activities that you would like to see us participate in or do.

The Board might not decide to go along with all your ideas, but they definitely would like to hear from you.

You will find all your Officers and Board members E-mail at our Website



I don't exaggerate...I just remember BIG !!!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Board Meeting 	3 	4 	5 Club Meeting 	6 	7
8 	9 	10 	11 	12 	13 	14
15 	16 	17 	18 	19 Club Meeting 	20 	21
22 	23 	24 	25 	26 	27 	28
29 	30 	31 	<h1>January</h1>			



Jan. 5th - Club Meeting.
 Jan. 19th - Annual Club Swap Meet. @ club house.
 Feb. 2nd - Annual Chili Cook-Off Club Meeting.

Coming Events:

MARCH 4TH - THE EL CHEAPO!

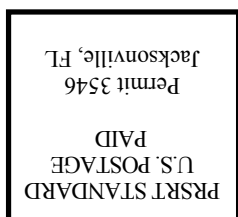
Tournament Schedule for 2017

Tournament	Month	Date	Alternate
The Sheepshead Tuneup Tournament	February	4	11- Dustin Girard
The River Tournament	February	11	Jack Ogin
The Non-Live Tournament	March	18	25 - Robert Vermillion
The Unlimited Trolling Tournament -	April	15	22- Chris Rooney
The May Trolling Tournament -	May	20	27 - Alan Shepard
The Junior Angler Tournament -	June	10	17 - Alan Shepard
The Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament -	July	8	15 - Steve Kalaitzis
The Ladies Tournament -	July	29	August 5 - Chuck Darner
The Light Tackle Tournament -	August	12	19 - Steve Kalaitzis
The Bottom Tournament -	September	2	9 - Steve Kalatizs

Associate Members

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