



The Reel News

The Newsletter of the ...



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 57 Issue 5

May 2017



PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Chris Rooney

Trolling Away the Month of May

Winter has finally gone back to the great white north where it belongs, the lawn has to be mowed every week, gnats will chase you off the mud flats when your throwing a net and the dolphin (Mahi-Mahi, Dorado, Great eating fish!) are here for the taking. There is nothing that will get the adrenaline flowing more, that first crash in the spread when four dolphin over 20 pounds hit at the same time and the pandemonium erupts. The winds of the winter and early spring are gone, the temperature breaks and weed lines are out in the deep blue sea and to quote Captain Ricky, "I wish every month was May".

This month we have the May Trolling tournament on the 20th and its setting up to be a great tournament. I went back to look at my logs and this one is up for grabs; the eligible fish include the inshore and offshore species. The kings are in the party grounds, bait is on the beach and if someone spent some time in sailfish alley, I'd be willing to bet they could raise a sail.

On the offshore side the Blackfin Tuna have been here all season and the dolphin are in, not to mention some of the largest wahoo are caught this time of year on that early morning bite. Come on out and see what's up you can win this tournament with a bay boat if the weather cooperates and the chances are pretty good it will, if you're not fishing come out and see the weigh in.

On the conservation front; keep up your you correspondence with our representatives in the senate and congress. I'll get Bill to post the addresses and include them in the newsletter. We want to stay on target an keep the push on for a recreational reef stamp and lets count the right people. Also talk about the fact we have proven it only takes 10 years to grow a mule, (20# red snapper) and changes to that part of the equation will change the estimated biomass size and in turn the ACL. (Annual Catch Limit) Well its time for me to get this to Bill for the May newsletter and keep in the good graces of our Editor and senior leadership. So get out there and catch some fish there bittin!!

Capt. Chris Rooney, JOSFC President



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the JOSFC and their El Cheapo
Sheepshead Tournament**

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The Sailfish Pot Party

Date: Saturday, May 6, 2017
Time: 6:00 PM to ??
Location: Morocco Shrine Center
3800 St. John's Bluff Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32224
Menu: Steak, Oysters, Wings & Beer
Bring your own Oyster Knife & Towel
Prizes: The best assortment of Raffle prizes
EVER!

THIS IS A STAG EVENT !

\$40 prior to April 28th, \$50 after the 28th.
You may register on line at:

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Patti's Corner *Vice President*

"A great fisherman's confidence to catch fish comes from his passion, not his gear." - Unknown.

Male, female, age doesn't matter; we ALL love to fish! Truly, it does not matter the gear, the size of your water craft. It is all for the love and commitment you have in your old or new founded hobby. As we all know, all hobbies can be and get expensive with up the keep in maintenance and the nice to have fancy equipment on board. A watercraft could be anything that floats: boat, jet ski, kayak, canoe or a fence strapped on two barrels.....safety should be paramount and a priority!

Items that are required on all vessels:

(Checklist)

- ~ Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) approved Type I, II or III for each person on board, one throwable Type IV device (USCG approved,
- ~ Fire Extinguisher USCG approved B-1 type (Ensure you check to ensure the arrow is still in the green area),
- ~ Visual Distress Signal (Mirrors are normally located in the first aid kits) and flare guns (Ensure you check expiration dates),
- ~ Sound-producing Device (horn, bell or whistle) Advised to put whistle on each life vest,
- ~ Vessel Lighting (Recreational vessels are required to display navigational lights between sunset and sunrise and during periods of reduced visibility (fog, rain, haze, etc) Look, If you cannot see them they cannot see you! When in doubt turn your lights on and use your horn every 10, your life may depend on it.

~ Ventilation System is dependent on when the boat was built before or after 8/1/1980 with at least two ventilation ducts for compartment and bilges.

Coast Guard Recommendations:

Suggests that you equip your vessel with an anchor and a sufficient amount of anchor line; a de-watering device, such as a bilge pump in the event of flooding; and an oar, paddle or other alternative means of propulsion in case your engine fails. If the above equipment requirements and suggestions are met, you may be eligible to display an FWC or Coast Guard Auxiliary safety decal.

Our hopes in the future is to have the Coast Guard Auxiliary inspect boats before or after a JOSFC Tournament (not mandatory, strictly volunteer) to ensure all YOUR safety equipment is up to date and in proper working order.

Patti's Corner Cont. Page 4



Wear these, they don't work in the cabin! OK,

I know that some of you won't wear

your Life Jacket while fishing, but PLEASE at least wear one while your Boat is underway!



Patti's Corner Cont.

We all have reasons to fish; for food, meditation, social, sport, boating or just love the mysteries of fishing because it's like the Lotto. You never know what you are reeling up often times it's a surprise. But for me fishing provides a time to think and ponder over what my past week entailed. What did I do that I could have done better or what I forgot to do that I need to door just waiting for the BIG jerk, pull and the line ripping while listening to the crew joke and laugh with music playing in the background. When I was young my mom drilled it in my head that "Patience is a virtue", so if you have patience an hour or more of alone time is plenty of time to review all you've learned about the grand schemes of life or even waiting for that particular FISH to reel. It's time enough to realize that every generation stands opposed by a mosaic of exceptions, and that the biggest truths are few and far between. Meanwhile, while waiting and sitting overlooking the horizon you feel the wind shift, boat swaying and the temperature change, drifting clouds above or a fisherman to close passes by in a rush throws off your game and concentration. Fishing in your secret spot, that may not be so secret is place where you can meditate on the rhythm of a tide, the height or roll of a wave, the time of a year, and the season of life. I fish to scratch the surface of those mysteries, for the beauty, and to reassure myself that I am so small in this big world we live in. I fish to wash off my worries, cares and grief. It's also a great way to spend quality time with family, friends and pray to the Almighty Father during this peaceful time by reflecting what I need to do and how to be a better individual by putting my mind at ease with a peace of mind during those hours, while waiting for the BIG guy to come by to take my BIG bait. A great friend and awesome fisherman once said to me: "Patti, the only way to catch Big fish is use BIG bait." Charlie Hamaker. There are so many reasons why we all fish, find your happy place within yourself, be safe and just have FUN!



Patti Kalatizis with one of those nuisance fish we have to throw back.



Now that is a nice Trigger! John Scotes with his big 8 Pound Gray Trigger Fish!

READING THE WEATHER

With the advent of warmer weather, we will be spending more and more time on the water with our boating and fishing activities. After reviewing club member Ron Carr's information about the two fishermen who drowned, after being caught in a mid-day storm while fishing on a large fresh water lake in Alabama, I thought I should remind all members of the need to be constantly aware of the current weather situation when out on the water.

The two fishermen, mentioned above, were seasoned boaters and were aware that a storm was imminent. No one knows exactly what happened, but the two fishermen were found dead the next day attached to their capsized boat, but without their life jackets on. Life jackets were still on the boat. There are many unanswered questions from this tragedy, but one thing is certain. Your life jacket will work only if it is worn. Even if you do not wear it at all times, keep it near by so you can put it on in case bad weather approaches, or other situations arise that would require you to don it quickly.

As we move into the warmer months with more daylight hours, and increasing temperatures, we must be alert to the ever increasing afternoon thunderstorms. In order to have a safe outing, boaters have a special need to know and understand the weather. On land, the effects of storms can be devastating. At sea, they can be even worse. High winds, lightning, rough seas and poor visibility are some of the side effects of storms at sea. The first step in avoiding weather related problems is "know before you go." This means you need reliable weather information before you go out on the water.

Even if good weather is predicted, it can change while you are out. At least as important as knowing what weather to expect on your trip, is knowing how to tell when the weather is changing for the worse, or how to read the obvious signs. Therefore, we must understand how high and low pressure air masses impact our weather. Air masses with high pressure contain cool, dry air and low pressure contains warm, moist air. In the US, these air masses move mainly from west to east.

In the Northern Hemisphere, air flows clockwise around a high and counterclockwise around a low. Therefore, since a high moving toward a low may have high winds, the area between the high and low may have stormy weather. Thus, it is important to know where the highs and lows are in relation to your location on the water.

To locate the highs and lows in our area, stand with your back to the surface wind. Then, turn 45 degrees to your right which will align you with the winds aloft. After you have turned 45 degrees to the right, the low-pressure area will normally be to your left. The high area will be to your right with the resulting pressure area to the west the one that will reach you and the one to the east has already passed you. Therefore, if the pressure system to the west is low, weather conditions may deteriorate and you should make plans accordingly.

orate and you should make plans accordingly.

Clouds also tell us when bad weather is approaching. The one you want to pay close attention to is the cumulonimbus thunderhead or anvil shaped cloud. It usually signals a cold front moving at 10 to 30 knots with winds as high as 30-60 knots in a squall line. Gusts of wind may exceed 80-100 knots, which could present dangerous boating conditions with high seas and heavy rain followed by clearing. If caught in this condition, head into the waves and maintain position as the rough weather should pass shortly. If you must head back to port, try and cross the waves at a 45 degree angle and run a zigzag course back to port to prevent pounding into the waves and possible capsizing or pitch poling.

Know before you go, pay attention to changing weather conditions and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram

Species	Lower Avoidance	Optimum	Upper Avoidance
Amberjack	60	65 - 75	80+
Bonito	60	65 - 75	80+
Barracuda	55	72 - 80	86
Bigeye Tuna	52	62 - 74	80
Black Marlin	68	72 - 82	87
Blackfin Tuna	65	70 - 75	82
Blue Marlin	70	74 - 82	88
Bluefin Tuna	50	60 - 72	82
Bluefish	50	66 - 72	84
Dolphin (Mahi)	70	72 - 78	82
Flounder	56	62 - 66	72
Jack Crevalle	65	70 - 85	90
Kingfish	65	68 - 76	88
Permit	70	75 - 85	92
Pompano	65	70 - 82	85+
Redfish	52	70 - 90	90+
Red Snapper	50	55 - 65	70+
Sailfish	68	72 - 82	88
Snook	60	70 - 82	90
Spanish Mackerel	60	65 - 75	80
Spotted Seatrout	56	66 - 82	90
Striped Bass	42	50 - 65	75
Striped Marlin	61	68 - 76	80
Swordfish	50	60 - 75	80
Tarpon	70	75 - 90	100+
Wahoo	65	68 - 80	88
White Marlin	65	68 - 78	80+
Seabass	58	64 - 68	74
Yellowfin Tuna	64	72 - 82	80



Bob Houghton with a nice Cobia (37 inches to fork of tail) he caught it in the Gulf of Mexico April 1st, while grouper fishing. We only caught 1 legal Gag, with about a dozen shorts, and some nice Sea Bass.

Welcome to the JOSFC Family! Huge welcomes go out to **Jamie Underwood, Kevin Brennon, and Peter Hannigen**. We continue to grow every meeting. Fishing folks are coming to a meal, talking and sharing fish stories and questions! What a wonderful thing to happen. If I have forgotten to welcome a new member, PLEASE let me know. If I mentioned you in more than one newsletter, remember you really stood out in my rapidly aging mind! LOL!

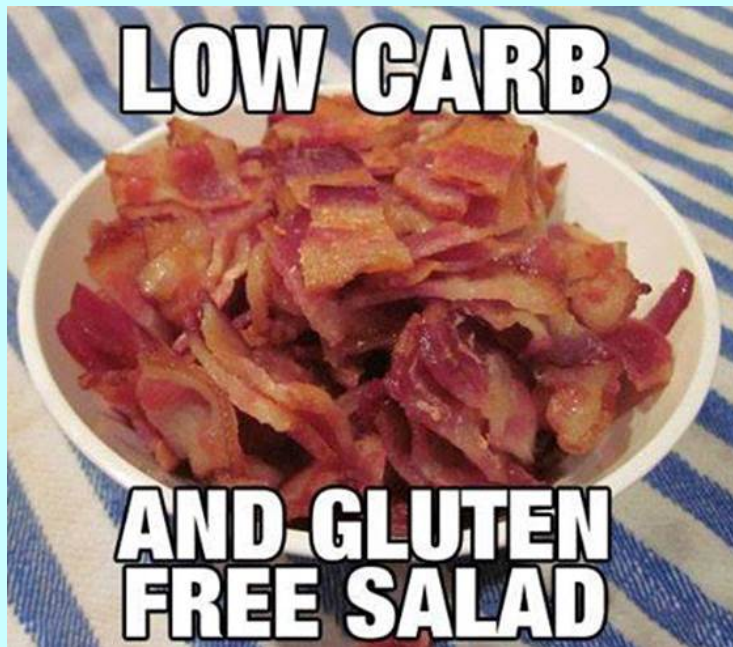
Remember all members and guests are treated to a dinner and social moment or two at 7:00P.M. at our meetings. Tasha Mincey is really spoiling us this year! The meals have been outstanding.

Our speakers at the meetings have been extremely helpful and interesting this year. At the Easter Egg Hunt meeting, while the kids consumed huge amounts of candy, our very own President Chris Rooney was modeling how he ties his lures. There's more to it than I thought.

In April, we had our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The kids had a blast and were each given a fishing rod and reel. Of course, I think the real winner was all the candy we offered. Yep, we sugared those younger members to the hilt before dinner and sent them home with their 'grateful' parents. A big thank you to all the helpers who stuffed that candy into the plastic eggs and then 'hid' them.

**I JUST DISCOVERED A
GREAT DIET FOOD!**

LOW CARB



**AND GLUTEN
FREE SALAD**

ALMOST AS GOOD AS GROUPE!

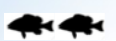


Loud Hailings

**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

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



Coming Events

May 1st - Board Meeting
 May 4th - Club Meeting
 May 18th - Club Meeting
 May 20th - May Trolling Tournament
 June 1st - Club Birthday / Past Presidents Party
 June 10th - Junior Angler Tournament
 July 17th through 22nd - Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament
 October - Annual Awards Banquet - Date TBA



Tournament Schedule for 2017

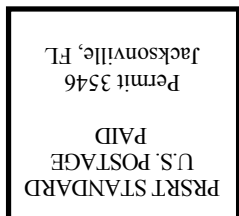
Tournament - - Month - - Date / Alternate
 - All are on Saturday -

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
<u>Triple Challenge Tournament -</u>	<u>October - - - - - 15 - - - - - 22 - Alan Shepard</u>

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