



The Newsletter of the . . .

# The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

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## PRESIDENTS CAST NET

*Trina Polkey*

Well it is officially spring, and I couldn't be happier. My inner earth child hasn't stopped smiling as the air warms, the flowers bloom, trees get leaves, and the mullet are jumping in the creek. We are so blessed with what we have around us every single day...the next time you get frustrated just take a minute to look around at all that is good. Your bad may not be so bad after all.

I'll say the same thing I said last month, the bite is wide open! Have you seen some of the wahoo coming in?? I know of at least two fish that were within a couple of pounds of 100. Cobia offshore, pompano and whiting in the surf, redfish, sheepshead, trout...and BLACK DRUM in the river. I was lucky enough to catch my first big one this past weekend and MAN...what a fun fight. I had never got to hear them drum, I was like a 5 year old on the boat. In fact I think the 6 year old that was on board kept his cool better than I did.

In just a couple of weeks the spring big black drum run will peak. There are lots of opportunities up and down the coast to chase these aiants as they will hold up around river

mouths and inlets waiting for the perfect time to come inshore. You can actually hear them "drumming" under the water which has got to be incredible, especially since most people target these spots at night. I can't wait to go!

The Safe Harbor Boys Home Redfish Roundup is just around the corner! This is a fun, family friendly, affordable tournament much like the El Cheapo. Registration is only \$75, first three places are cash prizes, and they've added a junior and lady angler division this year. It will be on April 7<sup>th</sup>, great tournament, great cause. They could use a few volunteers if you are interested, just let know please.

Our next tournament is the Unlimited Trolling Tournament on April 21<sup>st</sup>. As the name implies this is a TROLLING tournament, all fish must be hooked while the boat is under power and moving. All general rules apply, members must fly a JOSFC burgee, east boundary will be 100 miles offshore. For complete rules and to register, please visit [www.jaxfish.com](http://www.jaxfish.com), any questions please call Tom at 904-521-5364.

We will meet on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> this month. We will be opening the building up around 6:00 each meeting to allow for more time to visit, and we start at 7:00. Hope to see you there!



Trina proves you don't have to go offshore to catch big fish! Nice Black Drum, Released alive and well.

Remember you can get an approximate weight by Multiplying the Girth Squared, times the length, divided by 800.



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## You finally bought a BOAT!

Now what do you need to be SAFE?

First you need to know the 3 things I say all boaters must have. Don't leave the ramp without these.

1 - A Tow Service, either TowBoat U.S. or Sea Tow. ( Rob Vermillion a club Member is a Towboat U.S. Captain, talk to him. )

2 - Strike Hold - This is a better replacement for WD-40. Strike hold is a complete Di-Electric! It keeps water from getting to your Electronics. ( I used to use Electronics cleaner and a toothbrush to clean the green corrosion from my buss board every 6 months, and spray it with WD. Strike Hold works for over a year! Great stuff developed for our Special forces.

3 - Salt Away - this is also known by Salt X, Salt Terminator and various other names. It is a total salt eater! Flush your engine with it, wash the boat, rinse your trailer. I have a couple of great stories of this saving engines, and hours of work!

Just an FYI, I consider all three of these to be Number # 2 on your must have list!

Number # 1? - **How much is your life or those of the people with you worth? More than \$250 to \$300 dollars? Get a good Epirb or hand held PLB!** I consider that a mandatory item! ( again if your boat sinks your VHF won't do you any good under water! )

Now what else should you have? One heck of a lot of stuff. ( We fishermen and women never have "Junk" , it is all good stuff!

The USCG requires you to have Life Jackets that fit everyone on board. ( See life jackets explained else ware in this issue. ) you must have a "Throwable" life preserver. I also have a rope to attach to the throwable to pull the subject to the boat if in rough seas or

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New Boat Continued

the subject to the boat if in rough seas or strong current.

I never leave the dock without a **GOOD** First Aid kit. Make sure you have wire cutters that will cut the biggest **HOO**K you have on board!

You should carry extra drain plugs, and something to plug any "Through Hull" holes you might have like a transducer or water pick-up. ( Just in case that big loggerhead surfaces under you as you are 30 miles out going 35 MPH and knock your fitting right off! )

You should have a good **GPS**, and at least 1 good **Compass**. ( Electronics can crash at the worst times. {{ Backup your "Numbers" in a notebook so you don't lose them when your **GPS** dies! }} a Good **VHF Radio**, and a Hand held one is also a good idea. )

I have a "Ditch Bag" with my **PLB**, Hand held **VHF**, and a hand held **GPS** unit.

I also put most of the **USCG** required and suggested items in it, and keep it **ON DECK**, so if we get dunked suddenly it is with us, not down in the cabin.

You should also have **AT LEAST 2** bigger fire extinguishers on board and quickly accessible. The little one that comes with your boat is not worth much unless you use it to put out someones cigarette because the smoke is bothering you.

Some additional nice to have items are a 5' or 6' gaff, boat fenders, Anchor and at least 300' to 500' of anchor rope. Extra sunscreen, sunglasses, and a couple towels. Last but not least a 5 gal bucket! Good for storing stuff, bailing and in a pinch a toilet!

Learn to use all your stuff before you go out, and **ALWAYS** give your crew a "Safety / How To" tour so they can handle things if you are incapacitated.



## Do you know your Life Jacket Laws?

**Type - I** - Offshore, over 20 Lbs of Buoyancy, will turn an unconscious person face up.

**Type - II** - Near Shore Minimum 15.5 Lbs Buoyancy, will turn an unconscious person face up.

**Type - III** - Minimum 15.5 Buoyancy, will **NOT** turn an unconscious person face up.

**Type - IV** - Minimum 16.5 Lbs Buoyancy your **THROWABLE** device.

**Type - V** - Special use device Must be used in accordance with requirements on the label.

A **Type - V** may be substituted for any **Type I, II, or III** **BUT** it **must** be worn while the vessel is underway.

Every person **age 6 and under** **MUST** wear a **Type I, II, or III** while the vessel is underway.

**Personal Watercraft** must wear a **Type I, II, III or V** life jacket, **Inflatable PDF's are PROHIBITED!**

**WaterSkiers** must wear a **Type I, II, or III** Life Jacket, **Inflatable PDF's are PROHIBITED!**

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.



Hay Guys, the **SAILFISH POT PARTY** should be sometime this month, watch your E-mail for the announcement of date and location!

**Gary Newman**  
**INSURANCE**  
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- Auto
- Home

67 E. Sailfish Dr. • Atlantic Beach, FL  
**241-0777**



Look out guys, we have another Lady angler to compete with! Claribel Francis with her FIRST Speckled Trout!

Here are some Maintenance Tips to make life easier!

Got mold or a stinky cabin?

Use WHITE VINEGAR. 2 parts Vinegar to 1 part Water to wash to remove mold and foul order.

Holding tank stink?

Use WHITE VINEGAR. 2 parts Vinegar to 1 part Water. Empty the holding tank, fill with Vinegar solution, let sit for 1 hour, empty again.

Use EASY-OFF oven cleaner to clean paint or tar or other marks form your Gel Coat.

Need to put a screw in a hard to reach place? 2 remedies here.

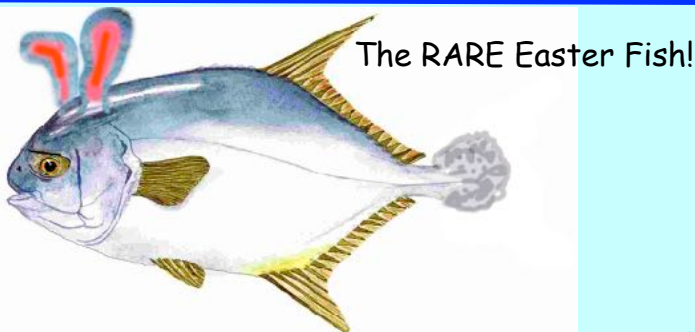
1 - put a dollop of grease on the screwdriver head to hold the screw, bolt, or nut.

2 - Carry a small magnet in your tool kit and place the magnet on the shaft of your screwdriver to make it magnetic to hold the parts. Good stainless steel is NOT magnetic so use remedy 1

Can't get your Strap Wrench to grip your oil filter to remove it?

Put a strip of Sand Paper in the strap wrench to remove the filter.

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### 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the Junior Anglers

Come one come all! April 5th is our 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. All kids are welcome. Easter Eggs will be hidden around 6:15, so please have kids in the club house before then. We have all the filled Eggs we need, but if you can help or have nay questions, please write me at [fishingqueen79@gmail.com](mailto:fishingqueen79@gmail.com) with questions or donations ( For "Golden Eggs prizes ). Can't wait to see all our bright eyed junior anglers!



Jacob Clark ( The one in a blue life jacket ) went fishing with Club President Trina Polkey his dad Jonathan Clark and their Captain Joe Tooker. They told Jacob that they would catch a fish as big as he was, and I kinda think he will say they did!

**Don't forget the On the Water Tax Boat Show! April 13th, 14th and 15th !**

**We need YOU members to step up and man our booth for a couple hours. Just by doing so you get into the show and festivities for FREE! just go to the link below to sign up, or catch Cassi at the meeting!**

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0844ACA92DABF85-inwater](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B0844ACA92DABF85-inwater)

Here are the **OPTIMUM** water temperatures for the different fish species. Yes, you will occasionally stumble on some of these outside the indicated temperature range, but your best luck will be in the optimum range.

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



TIPS Continued

Checked your FUEL lines lately? Seeing some cracking?

ONLY use U.S.C.G. approved Type A1-15 SAE fuel line.

Use 'T'-Clamps for all your hose fittings. They are stronger and apply EVEN pressure.

Going to rewire or install some electronics?

Again Only use type BC-5W2 Electric wire.

Have some "Through the Hull fittings?

Carry tapered wood or rubber plugs for each one you have, just in case.

Have to cut or drill a hole in your Fiberglass?

Cover the area to be drilled or cut with Masking Tape to prevent chipping or slipping while working.

Have window zippers or any zippers or snaps on your boat or tackle bag?

Use ANHYDROUS LANOLIN to coat them to prevent them from seizing.

Keep your PROP smooth for best gas milage. If you can drag a cotton ball along the edge and it catches, it is time to have it reconditioned.

You should replace your Water Pump's IMPELLER every 3 years.

Put a TWIST in your Tie-Down straps to prevent the wind from rattling them and chafing your boat.

Planning on having your boat for a long time, or trailering it for any distance over 100 yards?

USE a Transom Saver, to support your engine, NOT the engine's Flip Lock.

Finally use Bearing Buddies on your trailer wheels, and check them often. The best time to check them is when you ARRIVE at a location. If they are HOT, time to replace!



## 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](mailto: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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5 Club Meeting Easter egg Hunt	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	1	2	<h1>April</h1>		



**Coming Events:**

- April 2nd - Board Meeting
- April 5th - Club Meeting / Kids Easter Egg hunt 6:30 PM
- April 13th, 14th and 15th - our Booth at the Jax Boat Show
- April 14th - The Unlimited Trolling Tournament
- April 19th - Club Meeting

**2018 Captain of the Year Tournament Schedule**

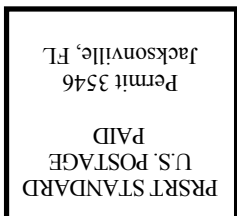
Tournament	-	Date	-	Rain Date
The Unlimited Trolling	-	April 14th	-	21st
The May Trolling	-	May 5th	-	12th
The Junior Angler	-	June 23rd	-	30th
The Kingfish Tune-Up	-	July 7th	-	14th
The Ladies Tournament	-	August 4th	-	11th
The Bottom Tournament	-	September 8th	-	15th



## Associate Members

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