



# The Newsletter of the ... **The Reel News**



*Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959*

Volume 59 Issue 3

March 2019



## *The 2019 EL Cheapo* *is Here!*

March 8th is Set-Up and the Captains Meeting day and evening! We ( That means YOU our members. ) spend Friday, March 8th starting about 8:00 AM getting the Club House and Grounds set up for the Captains Meeting Friday evening. We register the majority of our entrants Friday evening, and the handing out of the Captains buckets for the prepaid entrants and new registrants takes a lot of help, as well as the El Cheapo Botiquo does a roaring business. We also need people to run the soft drink and Raffle sales booth!

Continued page 2





## PRESIDENTS CAST NET

*Trina Polkey*

Looks like old man winter isn't going to give us much of a visit this year and we may be on to spring already! Heck, some of these days are already feeling summerish! During the week that is. When I am working. Oh well, it will work out where I can get out there soon. I am seeing a lot of nice fish come in...still a strong wahoo bite going on, the sheepshead are getting fired up, and the bottom fishing is pretty

Continued page 3



*The Reel News is published monthly by the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club (JOSFC). All rights reserved.*

### Officers:

President ..... Trina Polkey  
Vice President..... Tom Ruggles  
Secretary ..... Mayan Skenes  
Treasurer ..... Steve Guthrie

### Board of Directors & Special Staff:

Tom Darga - Tournament Director  
Greg Wallace - Fishing Director  
Cassi Washington - Awards & Events  
Terri Breen - Membership  
Bill Breen - Website & Newsletter  
Hal Hanna - At Large  
Guy Sanders - Media Director  
Jamie Underwood - Hospitality  
Mark Alley - Speaker Director

Marine Radio.... Mike Murphy  
©Copyright 2018

### El Cheapo Continued

We end the Captains meeting with a big Raffle.

The schedule for Friday is show up about 8:00 AM, the Tent Company should be setting up the big tents and we will be working on all kinds of minor details like setting up chairs, tables, moving Captains buckets from the Club House, and working hard to have everything ready by 5:30 PM when we officially open onsite Registration.

The Captains meeting is at 7:00 PM followed by the ending Raffle! Then we clean up the area so it is ready for Tournament Day.

Tournament day we have to move a lot of things and set up Hell's Kitchen ( So we can fillet the fresh Sheepshead, cook it and sell meals to a big crowd of visitors to our site.

This Tournament is only possible with the help of all our members that can make it to the set up Friday, and Saturday the Tournament day! **So plan on being there!**

Tournament day we start before 6:00 AM checking out the boats, ( Officially checkout starts at 6:00 AM, but we have people showing up by 4:00 AM and calling in just as early! )

Fishing begins at 7:00 AM and the Weigh-In line opens at 1:00 PM and the Fish Fry gets fired up!

Weigh-In closes at 4:00 PM SHARP! (Let everyone you know that is fishing the El Cheapo know that they **MUST BE IN LINE** at 4:00 PM SHARP! Not running up to it but standing there when we close the line with an End of Line sign!!! )

The Fish-Fry (Meal ) line will close at 6:00 PM

The Awards will start being presented at approximately 6:00 PM with the Kids up First followed by the Adults.

The Big Raffle will begin immediately following the awards.

As everyone else is clearing out, we clean up and put everything away so that the Boat Ramp is ready to use Sunday when the Tent Company takes down their tents, and WE don't have to come back for a third day for clean up!



**Now for us members, here is what we are doing for the next couple weeks leading up to the Tournament.**

Saturday 2/23/19 is the Club Clean UP day, starting about 8:00 AM.

We do clean up of the club house and grounds and any repairs that are needed on anything around the building.

March 7, 2019 is a meeting day, BUT we show up by about 5:00 PM and set up the tables in the club house like a big winding snake, and put all the Captains Bag ( Bucket ) handouts and free stuff along the tables, then starting at one end we pass the buckets along, with each member putting stuff from their station in the buckets. I believe the record for all 450 Buckets, Adult and Junior Angler, is 19 minutes!

To say it is hectic is an understatement! But it is a lot of fun!

OK, here are your Team leaders for the main sections.

**Hell's Kitchen** = The Head Chef,  
**Joe Esparza**

This is usually long hot work, frying up all the fish and fries and serving them. The more people we have working it the easier it is. PLEASE consider working it! If we have enough people we can set up shifts so people are not stuck there all Saturday.

**El Cheapo Botiquo** = Mrs. super organized  
**Patti Kalaitzis**

This is our merchandise sales tent and Patti will have her crew trained and ready to go by Friday evening! Unless you are working it please don't go behind the tables as it just adds to the work they are doing!

**Weighmaster** = Mr. No Nonsense  
**John Porcella**

John will need a few people to help keep the line running smoothly and direct people where to go for their photo and weigh slip.



Presidents Cast Net Continued

strong too. I hope we all get out there soon!

We are creeping up on our biggest fundraiser and the world's largest sheepshead tournament, the El Cheapo. We consistently have well over 350 boats for this thing...it is a major event and it takes some doing to pull it off. Thank you to those of you who came to the volunteer meeting and signed up to help, and to those of you who made sure to let us know to put you on a list. **Even if you did not sign up you can still come help. Don't worry, volunteering doesn't disqualify you from fishing!** Here is where we will need bodies:

March 7th, 5:00pm - Captain's buckets  
· March 8th, all day - Site set up · March 8th, 4:30 on - Captains meeting · March 9th, all day on into the night to about 9:30 - Weigh in, fish fry, clean up and many other things. The bulk of our volunteers for this will have been working countless hours for days and weeks on end, a boost of new energy when it's time to clean up would be VERY welcome!

Our next tournament is the Non-Live Tournament...meaning your bait cannot be alive, it doesn't just have to be artificial baits for you folks going for Captain of the Year. If you are fishing for Inshore Captain of the Year it is an artificial only tournament. Be sure to check the rules on this one...boundary is extended on the offshore side. Both tournaments will be on March 30<sup>th</sup> and you will want to be sure to attend our meeting on March 21st when tournament director Tom Darga goes through the rules to make sure you have a good

## Presidents Cast Net Continued

understanding. 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> this month and are working on some great programs for you! We will be opening the building up around 5:00 PM for the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> as we have 400 buckets to put all the Captain's booty in. 6:00 PM for most of our meetings to allow for more time to visit, and we start at 7:00. Hope to see you there and at the El Cheapo!

## THE ENEMY

I am more powerful than the combined armies of the world. I have destroyed more men than all the wars of all nations. I massacre thousands of people every year. I am more deadly than bullets, and have wrecked more homes than the mightiest guns.

In the United States alone I steal over 500 million dollars each year. I spare no one, and find my victims among the rich and poor alike, the young and old, the strong and weak. Widows know me to their everlasting sorrow. I loom up in such proportions that I cast my shadow over every field of labor.

I lurk in unseen places and do most of my work silently. You are warned against me, yet, you heed me not. I am relentless, merciless and cruel. I am everywhere... in the home, on the streets, in the factory, at railroad crossings, on land, in the air and on the sea.

I bring sickness, degradation and death, yet few seek me out to destroy me. I crush, I maim, I will give you nothing and rob you of all you have.

I am your worst enemy... I am . . . . .

**CARELESSNESS.**



Life jackets,  
Yeah, I know you  
don't wear one  
most of the time,  
but maybe you  
should consider  
wearing one at least  
while the boat is underway.  
Did you buy that extra  
5lb Fire Extinguisher yet?



# Gary Newman

## INSURANCE

*Family Owned & Operated*

- Boat
- Auto
- Home

67 E. Sailfish Dr. • Atlantic Beach, FL

**241-0777**





## Fishing First Aid

This is an important Safety article, and one that most people don't give much thought to.

While there are several things that can cause injuries to us out there, like Fish Hooks, Sharp Knives, Fish Spines, Fish Teeth, ( Here off Jacksonville almost everything has lots of sharp teeth! ) Slips & Falls, ( 3 years ago I stepped on some cast net weights, fell and broke my hip! ) Allergic Reactions and even Heart Attacks. Most of us are NOT prepared with anything more than band-aids!

I am 72 years old, and have now learned through personal experience most of these hazards. ( I must put in here that I am a fast learner and have (( So Far. )) never repeated any of my mistakes! )

Now my first suggestion is to get a **BIG pair of wire cutters**, and test them to make sure that you can cut the biggest hook that is on your boat! The "fishing Pliers" that everyone has or that multi-tool are way too light to cut a big hardened hook. When that little 2' shark you are trying to unhook puts one through your thumb and out the middle of your thumb nail ( Not to say that ever happened to me. ) you will really appreciate getting it out!

Here is a list of items you might want to carry:

**Super glue** - Only when you are hours from shore, it can be used to close big wounds to stem the bleeding.

**Antihistamine** - Benadryl For that allergic reaction.

**Heavy Scissors** - To cut clothing or shoes off if necessary,

**Duct Tape** - Lots of uses for it, use it to make a splint to stabilize an arm, ankle, or any limb. Use your boat hook, gaff handle or even a Rod to make the splint. Put it over a fish spine, wait about 30 minutes and it will usually pull it out! To make a pressure dressing with a **Cloth Diaper** ( A new diaper is cleaner than your 'T' shirt and bigger than any gauze pads you might have.

**Aspirin** - I carry the powdered type that dissolves quickly when placed under the tongue, in case of a heart attack. I also carry **Tylenol** for people with just a headache that are on blood thinners, and **Ibuprofen** as it is also good for most pain.

You might want to have some **Hydrogen Peroxide** in a small spray bottle for those small cuts, punctures and scrapes that are not an emergency, rather just an annoyance.

Oh, you will still want to carry that small regular First Aid kit with the usual band aids, tweezers, first aid cream etc. as that is more likely to be used on any trip than the other stuff, BUT . . . . It never hurts to be prepared!



## The Sailfish Pot Party is next month April 13, 2019

The Sailfish Pot Party is definitely a **MUST** attend party!

Each year the **FIRST** person to catch a Sailfish after the party ( Almost always held in April. ) gets to put on the next year's Party. Everyone that attends the party pays to go and is contributing to the "POT" for the next winner.

**This is a Stag party** so that all the men can imbibe all the Adult Beverages they want belch and use their hands to eat, and not have to wordy about their manners.

There is a **GREAT Raffle** each year that is just about the biggest Fishing related Raffle of the year!

Your \$50 ( pre registration ) \$65 at the door gets you in. You get a great Steak, all the Oysters and Chicken wings you can eat, and all the Beer, soft drinks and water you can drink.

**Be sure to bring cash for the Raffle!**

The party is on the 13th of April at the VFW at Mayport Rd, and Atlantic.

For more information contact Steve Shaw at [steve@shaw-inc.us](mailto:steve@shaw-inc.us) or **904-686-4419**

## WHY DO WE FISH?

Here is the perfect answer to that question!

We fish for several reasons, to get away from the hectic hustle and noise of everyday life, to enjoy the beautiful outdoors, and probably to meet and make friends with some of the nicest, most reliable, solid friends that you don't find elsewhere!

In September of 2003 I moved to Orange Park, and joined the JOSFC. One of the great people I met at the club and became friends with is Bill Wilderotter. Bill sent me these photos of a fishing trip with Captain Rick Ryals ( Of Radio and Florida Sportman fame ) on his boat the "Seven" in January. With Bill were Roger Walker, ( A JOSFC Life member, and major Officer of the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament ) and Josh Green.

Bill said that they were bottom fishing near the Dry-Dock, where they caught about 40 Trigger Fish, a limit of B-Liners, some Pinkies ( Red Porgy ) and even had some Mahi-Mahi swim up to the boat while they were bottom fishing and they managed to catch some of them!

Bill said that they actually fished for only about 4 hours, then they had to come in and spend quite a while at the cleaning table cleaning their catch and packaging it.

Below is Bill Wilderotter with a couple Grey Trigger Fish.



Left to Right - Captain Rick Ryals, Roger Walker, Josh Green.

Now the best part . . . January 31st, I met with Bill Wilderotter at the new Orange Park Fish House & Oyster Bar. ( 636 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park FL 32073 )

Bill brought some of his share of that day's fishing, and the Fish House cooked up the fish ( Half of the fish "Blackened" and the other half "Fried" ) for us and we had a GREAT lunch and spent a couple of hours just sitting and talking .

Other than fishing, I really don't think that you can spend a more enjoyable, relaxing time than that.

That is one of the reason's that I FISH, and joined this club



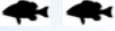





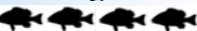








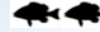




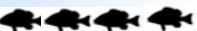
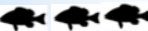










Below is a photo of the fish box full of their catch that day. Lots of good, healthy, tasty eating!



I almost forgot . . . . Yes, they had to keep releasing lots of those "Extinct" Red Snapper we are not allowed to catch. Just can't get away from those pest!





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>March</b>					1 	2 
3 	4 Board Meeting 	5 	6 	7 Club Meeting & Bucket Stuffing 5:00 	8 El Cheapo Set-Up 8:00 AM Club 	9 El Cheapo All Day 
10 	11 	12 	13 	14 	15 	16 
17 	18 	19 	20 	21 Club Meeting 	22 	23 
24 	25 	26 	27 	28 	29 	30 The Unlimited Trolling Tournament 
31 	 <p><b>COMING EVENTS:</b></p> <p>March 4th - Board Meeting  March 7th - Club Meeting &amp; Bucket stuffing 5:00 PM  March 8th - El Cheapo set-Up 8:00 AM  March 9th - El Cheapo  March 21st - Club Meeting  March 30th - Tournaments - Off Shore Unlimited Trolling / Inshore Artificial Lures Only</p>					

### 2019 Offshore Tournament Schedule

	Date	Make-up Date
Offshore Non-live	March 30th	April 6th
Unlimited Trolling	April 27th	May 4th
May Trolling	May 25th	June 1st
Junior Angler	June 22nd	
Kingfish Tune-Up	July 6th	July 13th
Ladies Tourn.	August 3rd	
Bottom Tourn.	Sept.7th	Sept. 14th

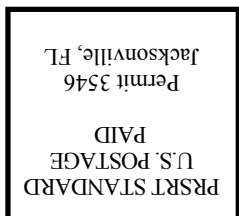
### 2019 Inshore Tournament Schedule

	Date	Make-up Date
Artificial Lures	March 30th	April 6th
Trout only	April 27th	May 4th
Roulette	May 25th	June 1st
Junior Angler	June 22nd	
Redfish	July 6th	July 13th
Ladies Tourn.	August 3rd	
Flounder	Sept. 7th	Sept. 14th

## Associate Members

*Academy Sports • Advantage Signs • All Aluminum Concepts • Amelia Island Bait & Tackle • Angie's Sub Shop • Atlantic Coast Marine • Atlantic Engraving & Graphics • Available Angler • Avid Angler • B & M Bait & Tackle • Best Western Mayport • Boat U. S./Angler • Boattronics • BOCA Bearings • Bonefish Grill • Bowen Upholstery • Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing • Carolina Skiff • Catchin' A Buzz Fishing • Consignment Boat Sales • Copperhead Metal Arts • Coastal Angler Magazine • Custom Marine Components • DOA Lures • Dandee Foods • Dell Marine • Doherty Brothers Marine Construction • Donovan Heating & Air • Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy • Fish Florida • Fish On • Fishing Connection • Fishing Nosara.com • Five Star Pizza • Florida Sportsman Live • Gary Newman Insurance • Gone Fishin' • Great Atlantic Outfitters • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • Hagerty Construction & Roofing • Hook The Future • Hope Fishing Adventures • Hulihan Territory Irrigation Systems • In River or Ocean • International Ropes • Island Electric of the First Coast • Julington Creek Carpet Care • KC Crave • Knight Electric • Kona Skate Park • Magic Tilt Trailers • Mandarin Ale House • Mike's Taxidermy • Mousa's Auto Interiors & More • Murphy Communications • Nosara Paradise Rentals • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Paradise Resort • Pepsi Bottling Co. • Proctor Ace Hardware • Progressive Insurance • Pure Fishing • Reel Fish Deals • Rick's Bait & Tackle • River Marine • Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service • Safe Harbor Seafood • Salt Life • Salty Charters of Jacksonville • Sea Angler Gear • Sea Dancer Charters • Sea Tow • Singleton's Seafood Shack • Skate Station Funworks • SOC 7 Productions • Southern Propane • Still Just fishing Show • Strike Zone Fishing • Styles Smith Plumbing • Sun Deli • Sure Set Jigs • SweetWater Brewing • Suzuki Marine • Taylor Concrete Services • The Ice Man • The Outdoors Show • The Spot Tournament • The Waters' Edge Boat Detailing • Towboat US of Jacksonville • Trout River Fish Co. • Vic2Fish & Adventures • West Marine • Wild Adventures • Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc. • Windsor Park Golf Club • Woody Wax • Zaxby's*

**SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS! THEY SUPPORT US AND FISHING!**



**Jacksonville Offshore  
Sports Fishing Club**  
P.O. Box 331185  
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

