



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

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May 2019



PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Trina Polkey

I can't believe May is already knocking at our doors, where has the year gone? And what nice weather we have had! It almost felt like spring there for a couple of days. It seems like we are leading into a banner year of fishing with the way it has started out...there have been some amazing wahoo come in, cobia crawling all over the wrecks, black sea bass open for a whole year, and of course the couple of weekends we are allowed to catch our one red snapper each coming up. I hope we all have a chance to get out there!

We are about half way through our current board year and I would like you all to start thinking toward the fall and next year's board of directors. We have so many new and wonderful members, I am hoping some of you will consider how you might help our club by serving on the board. You may not have noticed, but we see a lot of the same faces serving on the board in one capacity or another. Heck, I remember a time when we had people vying for a position on the board. Please consider where you might be willing to serve, including as president of the club. Though I can serve up to four years, with

me taking a more forward role in the 2020 El Cheapo, it would be a lot to serve as president and run the tournament. If you have served one year on the board at any time, you are eligible to be president. That is the only role on the board with that requirement, the rest are open to all. Please get with me or any of the other board members if you have any questions or would like to start shadowing someone to see how nicely you will fit right in.

Next thing...volunteering. This is your club, don't be afraid to step up and volunteer, it is always fun, and we always talk FISHING while we have that fun. Again, we see a lot of the same faces volunteering all the time. Let's see some new faces get involved! For the boat shows, the hours aren't all that long, you get in to the boat show for free, and it's kind of fun! We only have two boat shows a year! We also have the El Cheapo, (Which is our big fundraiser of the year and helps keep our membership dues low.), and of course the regular stuff that has to be done at each meeting. Please, as these opportunities arise, remember back to when you joined the club at a boat show, or how much fun you had at the El Cheapo, or how much you enjoyed the last meeting. Fairies don't just make those things happen! We need you!

One last thing...if you can't show up for the shifts you volunteered for...we all know

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This is YOUR Club!

As this 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. jaxfish.com Under the "About" tab, down to "Officers & Board"

YES, we really mean this, Let us know what you think!

Now watch those 3 & 4 letter words that might "Offend" some of us retired guys, like "WO_K" or "J_B" but don't be shy about disagreeing with us, we can't fix something we don't know about!



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Marine Radio.... Mike Murphy
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What's in Your Ditch Bag?

You do have a Ditch Bag don't you?



Boating accidents, they happen every week. Usually the difference between a sad ending and a happy ending is preparedness. Since you can't


always count on Lady Luck (In case you haven't noticed, you are in a predicament because she isn't with you today, she's fickle, in case you haven't heard), the best thing to do is be like a Boy Scout. Veteran captains going offshore - no matter what size boat they are in -- carry emergency "ditch bags" because they never know when the catastrophic might happen.


OK, lets get started. . . . Your Ditch Bag should be a container that will FLOAT, is secured closed so that if your boat overturns or goes down, it will be on the surface with you, and all of it's contents inside. When you leave the dock, it should be sitting on deck, NOT in the cabin or a locker.


I have seen everything from Ice-Chest that latched shut as ditch bags to \$300 specially made ditch bags. These soft sided insulated coolers will work quite well, just make sure it will float with a full load of your gear.


Now for what you put inside. This can vary a lot from boat or Captain to Captain.

The little Sailfish signify priority items!

 You should have your required flares. (Make sure they are not out of date.) I also carry several arial flares or rockets.


 First Aid supplies.


 A good waterproof sun block. Neutrogena now makes one (SPF 70) that goes on wet skin, kind of handy if you are already in the water.


 You should have some rope to tie everyone together so you don't drift apart. (A group of people are easier to spot than a single person.)


Continues on page 3


Ditch Bag Continued

 Your bag should have a waterproof strobe light attached to it. (Be sure to test it before every trip, and change the batteries once a year.)

 A signal mirror works well in bright daylight to get attention.

 Drinking Water! This is left out of most ditch bags because most people do not think of it. A single gallon of water will help keep up to 4 people from becoming dehydrated for a couple of days.

 Whistles for everyone! It beats yelling 10 ways to 1. Yelling is exhausting, and uses up a lot of energy, and can not be heard for a very long distance, whistles carry for a mile or more!

 At the least you should have PLB (Personal Locator Beacon) like a Spot. Or an EPIRB

A drift marker is nice. It is a long 20 or so foot long bright red streamer that floats out along the surface to increase your spotability from the air.

A bright die marker also helps increase your spotability from the air, but it does dissipate, so maybe a couple of them.

If you can afford it, a hand held VHF, and a hand held GPS unit.

I also carry several Chem-Lights or Glo Sticks that last for at least 12 hours once you break the glass vial and activate them.

I also have attached one to each Life Vest to increase visibility for each individual and the group.

That covers the basics for your ditch bag. To put all that in your bag cost a lot of money, and if you are like me you couldn't afford to do it all at once. That is OK, but start building your bag with the items that you have or can afford. You can add the hand held VHF or GPS or a big EPIRB later as you can afford to buy them. A life is worth every dollar you spend even if it stretches your budget!

OK, you have assembled your Ditch Bag, now what ?

Like I said at the start of this article your bag should be ON-Deck when you leave the dock. You should then assign a primary person and a secondary backup person to be responsible, to make sure in an emergency, it goes over with them and does not get stuck in the boat!

From the February 2017 issue of Saltwater Sportsman

Strength in Numbers

It is a fact that most people that engage in Saltwater Fishing also engage in at least one other outdoor sport. Hunting, Hiking, Snowmobile riding, Hiking and even Photography to name just a few.

The American Sportfishing Association has joined with the other outdoor Recreational industry, and we got a new law passed in 2016.

The Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act.

The **Morris-Deal** study started things and was answered by NOAA Fisheries when they created the **National Saltwater Recreational Fishing Policy**, and then the **Center for Sportfishing Policy** with their "A Vision for Marine Fisheries Management in the 21st Century" documents **CHANGED** the way Recreational Fishing is perceived by the Regulatory Agencies, the **Department of Commerce** in particular!

They established that the economic benefits of recreational fishing FAR outweigh those of the commercial-fishing sector!

In a study issued by the Boulder Colorado based Outdoor Industry Association they found that Outdoor Recreation drives \$646 BILLION in spending each year and supports 6.1 Million direct Jobs and \$80 BILLION in Federal, State and local Tax Revenue! Saltwater Sport Fishing is a major part of those figures.

Outdoor Spending FAR exceeds consumer spending in each of the other categories, including Pharmaceuticals, Motor vehicles, Gasoline, fuel, and Household Utilities!

Use this when you write your letters to the Local, State, and Federal Representatives demanding they overturn the Marine Fisheries commissions, and parts of the Maginon-Stevenson Act that NOAA is using to shut down Sport Fishing!

Quick, Easy and Tasty Fish Filets in a Pan

This recipe is for any white flesh fish. With the Pompano running, it is perfect, and I always use it for B-Liners & Black seaBass. (It will even make Tilapia ((BTW, Tilapia is **NOT** a Seafood, it is a freshwater farmed fish.)) taste great!)

Ingredients:

4 - 1/4 Lb or bigger Filets, skin and bones removed.
1/4 -Cup Butter
1/4 -Cup White Wine a Chardoney (Probably spelled wrong) is perfect for this.

1/2 -Teaspoon Rosemary
1/2 -Teaspoon Thyme
1/2 -Teaspoon Basil

How To:

Take the Fish out of the Refrigerator 30 minutes before cooking to allow to warm to room temperature.

Melt the butter in a large frying pan, at a medium heat. Then pour in the Wine. Add the spices, crushing them between your fingers as you add them, or grinding them finely just before adding.

Stir everything briefly, then add the filets. Cook for about 5 minutes per side, or until white and easily flaked with a fork.

Serve while still piping hot, with your favorite side dishes! Yummm!

Yea ! Grouper Season opens back up!

Yes, as of May 1st, Grouper Season opens up again. Here is what you need to know for fishing the Atlantic off Jacksonville!

Gag & Black - 24" TL (Total Length) - 1 / day
Red - 20" TL - 1/day - Total of 3 Grouper / day
Black Seabass - 13" - 7 / day
Cobia - 33" FL (Fork Length) - 2 / day
Dolphin (Mahi) 20" - 10 / day
Kingfish - 24" FL - 2 / day
Spanish Mackerel - 12" FL - 15 / day
Gray Triggerfish - 14" FL - In your 20 / Day Bag limit
B-Liners, (Vermilion Snapper) - 12" TL - 5 / day
Bluefish - 12" FL - 10 / day
Red Porgey - 14" - 3 / Day
Flounder - 12" TL - 10 / day
Greater Amberjack - 28" TL - 1 / day
Spade Fish - No size - in 20 / Day Bag Limit
Tripletail - 18" TL - 2 / day
Wahoo - No size - 2 / Day
Hogfish - 16" - 1 / Day - May 1 - Oct 31
African Pompano - 24" FL - 2 / day
Red Snapper - 20" TL - 2 / Day - FLORIDA WATERS ONLY (Within 3 Miles of shore!)
Snappers - 10 / day aggregate
Mangrove - 10" 5 / Day
Lane - 8"
Mutton - 18" 5 / Day
Cubera - 12'

May possess no more than 2 Cubera Snapper over 30' per harvester or vessel per day, whichever is less. 30" or larger not included within the Snapper aggregate bag limit.

Check the Regs before each trip to make sure they haven't changed!



First thing I want you to do is put me as the beneficiary on your boat insurance, then DO

NOT wear these, especially when underway!



E15 gasoline is illegal for use in boats, many other vehicles, and power equipment.

NEWS From BoatUS



Boat Owners Association of The United States
5323 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22151
Read this press release online at: <https://bit.ly/2GdrXQa>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact: D. Scott Croft,
703-461-2864, SCroft@BoatUS.com

BoatUS Media Alert: Recreational Boaters Urged to Send Message to EPA to Stop the Summertime Sale of E15 Fuel

BoatUS: "E15 is the wrong fuel for boaters, consumers and the environment"

SPRINGFIELD, Va., April 16, 2019 – In an action that many are seeing as anti-environment, anti-consumer and a big nod to the ethanol lobby, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving toward permitting the sale of E15 (15% ethanol) fuels during the summer ozone season (June 1 to September 15). Currently available only in the colder months, E15's summertime ban was implemented years ago to address concerns over its contribution to ground level ozone (smog) on hot days.

The nation's largest boating advocacy, services, and safety group, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), wants EPA to immediately halt any expansion of the fuel's availability and is asking recreational boaters to speak up now to [stop the summertime sale of E15](#) and offers an easy way contact the EPA by going to <http://bit.ly/2UyyMFV>.

Boaters have no love for ethanol in their gas because its **proven** to damage boat engines and fuel systems. If they had their choice of fuel, [more than four out of five boat owners \(83%\) would choose E0 \(ethanol-free\) fuel](#) – if it was available. Because of the harm it causes, E15 is prohibited by federal law for use in recreational boat engines and voids many marine engine warranties.

BoatUS has long had concerns over potential consumer misfueling with E15.

Most recreational boaters refuel their vessels at roadside gas stations where pump-labeling requirements are minimal. Just one small E15 orange warning label is the only protection currently in place for marine and other off-road engines. Without additional consumer education to raise awareness that there may be more E15 fuel on market, BoatUS believes the risk of misfueling will increase and, with it, instances of expensive repairs to boat engines and fuel systems.

"E15 is the wrong fuel for the boaters, consumers and the environment," said BoatUS manager of Government Affairs David Kennedy. "As recently as 2011, EPA determined it did not have authority to waive [Reid Vapor Pressure](#) rules for E15 fuel. We believe this was the correct decision and that any changes should be made by Congress, not the EPA."

The push for the summertime sale of E15 and adding more ethanol into the nation's fuel supply is a result of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). When it was passed in 2005, RFS assumed that America's use of gasoline would continue to grow. Since then, however, **gasoline usage has not increased as forecast, which now forces more ethanol into each gallon of gas.**

To keep up with the RFS mandate and avoid hitting a "blend wall" in which the volume of ethanol production exceeds consumption and infrastructure constraints, in 2010 EPA granted a waiver to allow E15 into the marketplace but limited its sales to colder months to protect air quality.

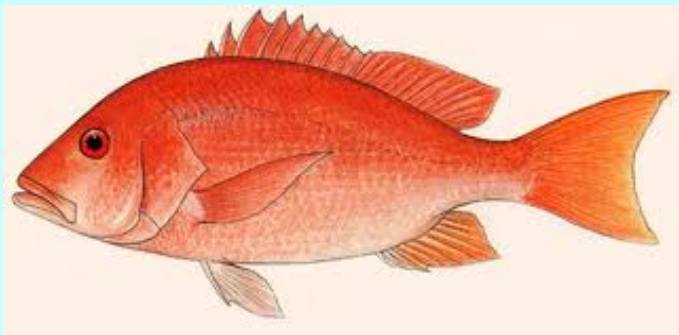
BoatUS is a member of [Smarter Fuel Future](#), a coalition that aims to reform RFS.

Presidents message Cont.

things happen; we just ask that you communicate so we can try to fill your spot. But if you volunteer for a spot, please try very hard to make sure you are there. It is tough to fill in spots last minute like that.

Our next tournament is the May Trolling Tournament on May 25th. As the name implies this is a TROLLING tournament. All fish must be hooked while the boat is under power and moving. For our inshore captains it will be the Trout Tournament. All general rules apply, and members must fly a JOSFC burgee. For complete rules and to register, please visit www.jaxfish.com, any questions please call Tom at 904-521-5364.

This month's meetings will be on May 2nd and 16th. 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!



Once again the SAMFC has deigned to bestow upon us a generous Red Snapper Season!
(&*!"@!*~`!!)

((You don't want to know the translation.))

We ONLY get July 12th, 13th, 14th, (Friday Saturday, Sunday) and July 19th & 20th. (Friday, Saturday)

Once the "Generous" allotment of 29,000 fish are caught they will close it!

Write your Congressman and Senators as the SAMFC does NOT listen. CC them anyway.

Be sure to reference the above article on page 3, "Strength in Numbers"!

Gary Newman
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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
<h1>May</h1>			1	2 Club Meeting	3	4
5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Club Meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 The May Trolling & the Trout Only Tournaments
26	27	28				

FYI, the little fish is a Sol-Lunar fishing days key, the more fish the better the fishing day.



- May 2nd - Club Meeting
- May 6th - Board Meeting
- May 25th - Offshore - May Trolling Tournament
- Inshore - Trout Only Tournament
- October 19th - The Annual Awards Banquet

2019 Offshore Tournament Schedule

	Date	Make-up Date
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

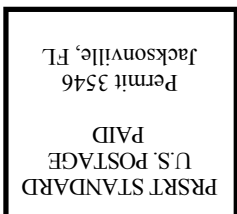
	Date	Make-up Date
Trout only	May 25th	June 1st
Junior Angler	June 22nd	
Redfish	July 6th	July 13th
Ladies Tourn.	August 3rd	
Flounder	Sept. 7th	Sept. 14th



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