



# The Reel News

The Newsletter of the . . .



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 59 Issue 12

December 2019



*Here is Wishing you Tight Lines and Smooth Waters, for all of you,  
from your crew at the Jacksonville Offshore Sport fishing Club*



**PRESIDENTS CAST  
NET**  
**Tom Ruggles**

The theme for 2020 is participation! Not everybody gets a participation trophy, but everybody wins because they have a better year, better experience, meet more people and learn more.

We really want to see more members joining in on the fun! There are a number of members who

*Continued Page 2*



## Presidents Cast net Cont.

are regulars on the boards and in the Captain of the Year tournaments, but there are a whole lot more that aren't. What is stopping you? It has been said before, and I will repeat it. The people who you are competing against are regular people. They have (or had) a regular 9-5. They are not professional captains. They are not as scary or intimidating as you would think. Well, maybe one or two, but mostly. A lot of them will actually tell you where the fish are and what they are eating - even during the tournaments.

There have been some changes to the rules which will encourage more participation. For instance, after many years of being proposed, the use of personal handheld digital scales is finally allowed for weighing fish to qualify for the boards. We have removed rules that required boats to only leave from the St.

## Presidents Cast net Cont.

Johns River for any tournaments. We have also made it official that, if a first place board winner is ineligible to claim the prize, the second place angler will be awarded the prize in order to ensure that we reward those who participate. And, to encourage more people to try light tackle, we have changed the first offshore Captain of the Year tournament to a light tackle tournament.

If you are a new member or a seasoned member, there are always ways for you to plug yourself in more. Captains are very frequently looking for crew members and crew members are often looking to spend gas money. Just post your situation on Dock Talk and / or send an email to Bill to get your request out. We have lots of members who are great to spend the day with and learn from. I have had the opportunity to fish with some really nice people, and Tom, this way.

We plan on running more workshop-style meetings. During these meetings we will have a number of different stations where members will be teaching members different tips and techniques. These will include things like bait rigging, lure rigging, reel maintenance, cast net throwing and other fun topics. If you would like to learn more about, or to teach people about, any of these areas then stay tuned.

If you want to get involved even further, just approach a board member. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved without committing yourself for a whole year and making a job of it. Sell raffle tickets for a meeting. Help prepare or procure a meal (using club budgeted funds). Help decorate the clubhouse for one of our events.

This is all of ours club. Let's enjoy it together and make the most of it!



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**Officers:**

President ..... Tom Ruggles  
Vice President.....Derek Siegel  
Secretary .....Jamie Underwood  
Treasurer ..... Steve Guthrie

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Cassi Washington - Awards & Events  
Bill Breen - Website & Newsletter  
Hal Hanna - Co-fishing Director  
Greg Wallace - Co-Fishing Director  
Terri Breen - Membership  
Trina Polkey - Media Director  
Christine Davis- Hospitality ( Temp. )  
James Carter - Speaker Director  
Steve Shaw- Assist. Speaker Director ,  
El Cheapo Director Trina Polkey,  
Radio.... Mike Murphy



**2020  
El Cheapo  
Sheepshead Tournament  
March 7, 2020**

## Important!

For our Dec.19th meeting we have arranged to have Santa show up for the kids ( Of all ages. )

**PLEASE** E-mail Bill the age and gender of your kids so we are sure that Santa brings appropriate gifts for the kids.

Oh, you may **BRING** your kids or neighbors kids, just let us know how many so we are ready!

This is a Great Pot-Luck for **EVERYONE**, especially the KIDS!

Bill - [breenw@bellsouth.net](mailto:breenw@bellsouth.net)  
**ARE THERE ANY** kids coming?! I still haven't heard from anyone!!

## **Think Safety** and keep

safety the number one priority when undertaking a boating / fishing trip.

- Always start with a full tank of fuel and an adequate oil level. Check your fuel level by knowing your boat's fuel consumption per hour and the time you have run. Never trust your fuel gauge.

- Always remember to shut off your engine while fueling and run the blowers on an inboard prior to restarting the engine.

- Make sure that all fill caps are clearly and properly marked. Ensure that fuel dock



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.



attendants are using the correct port. (no fuel in the rod holder or water tank, please).

- Check your bilge level and bilge pump before leaving the dock.

- Make sure the drain plug is in before launching.

- Maintain your battery (particularly fluid and connections) and buy a new one every five to seven years.

- Always have a working VHF radio onboard and test it before you leave the dock.

- Ensure that your cell phone battery is fully charged. Cell phones are notoriously unreliable on the water. IF you are going to be more than about 5 miles offshore, Put your Phone in "Airplane Mode or turn it off so it does not run the battery down searching for a cell tower.

- Remember to carry your life jackets, flares, first aid kit and fire extinguisher.

- Always carry an anchor and adequate chain and anchor rode.

- Always carry a chart of the area you are boating in and review it before each voyage.

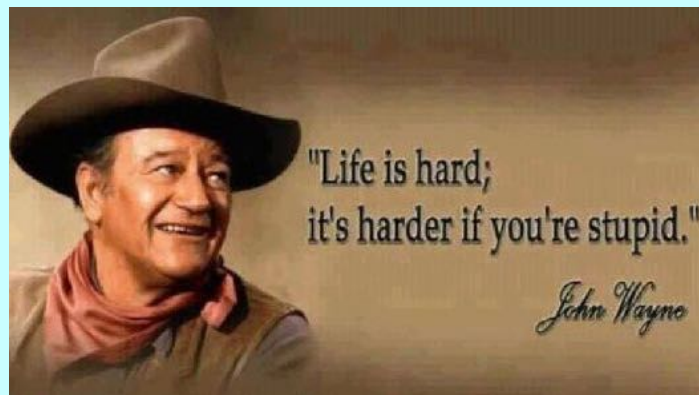
- Always have a working manual Compass, Your GPS can die at any time!

- Remember to check the tides and weather forecast before the day of boating.

- Give your entire boat a quick look-over before leaving the dock. Check for anything that does not look normal.

- Remember to stow all fenders and lines while underway.

**Always file a Float plan and leave it with a responsible party.**





**Gary Newman**  
INSURANCE  
Family Owned & Operated

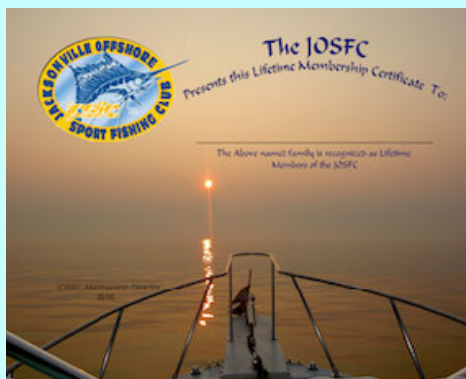
- Boat
- Auto
- Home

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

Christmas is here and some of you may be looking for a Christmas Present for that special Fishing Person in your life!

Well here is an idea for you. . . . . Your Club has a **Beautiful Certificate** that you can put under the tree to say you paid for their Membership in the club. You can get them a year's membership, ( \$40 individual or \$50 family. ) or upgrade to a Lifetime Membership! ( \$250 individual or \$300 Family ) If you upgrade to a Lifetime they never have to worry about remembering to renew every year, and don't accidentally get dropped from our rolls!

All you have to do is contact Terri or Bill Breen and we will get it done for you!



## IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BE OR GET A SPONSOR OF THE EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT!



IF you know someone that you think might be able to either donate to the Raffle, or step up to be a Prize Sponsor, twist their arm a little!

We really need some cool things to put in the Captain's buckets and Junior Angler bags, not just paper advertisements. Like la couple years ago **YETI** really stepped up and gave us **YETI** bottle openers for the bags, **Sea Tow** gave plastic cups, anything that advertises their company will do. It does NOT have to be fishing related. What do they get in return? **LOTS** of advertising.

Here are some stats to help:

- From January 1st to the day after the Tournament the [jaxfish.com](http://jaxfish.com) website had over 7,000 new, unique ( Not the same computer making return visits. ) visits to the El Cheapo information page. ( We have over 50,000 Unique hits per year. )

- The El Cheapo Sponsors page ( Their Logo with a link to their site. ) had 6,809 unique hits.

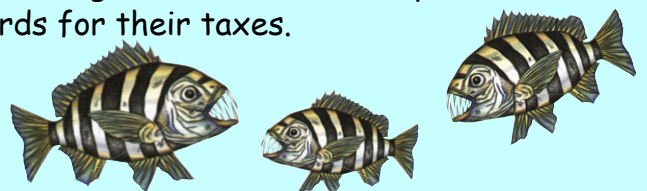
- The El Cheapo Prizes page had 1147 unique hits,

- The El Cheapo Registration page had 1500 hits!

Not to mention the thousands of pamphlets with sponsors names on them distributed all over North Eastern Florida and Radio and news paper AND Magazine adds that lead people to their business.

We also list them on the outside of our Newsletter of which we publish several hundred every month throughout the year, to keep their name out in front of people!

Like I said, if you think you can get someone to donate, we have a letter and form for you to give them so that they can have records for their taxes.





## The Lure Tree

What the heck is the Lure Tree?! It is the JOSFC Christmas tree! We decorate it with new Lures! OK, here is the deal. . . . YOU bring a new lure or 2 or 3 or more and hang them on the Christmas tree. For each Lure you bring, you get a special raffle ticket. At the

end of the night, we draw one ( 1 ) and one only ticket. The lucky holder of that ticket wins ALL the lures on the tree!

That is usually about a 5 gallon bucket FULL of good lures! Several hundred dollars worth of lures!

Don't have any extra lures to hang on the tree? Go to the Strike Zone and buy a couple, you could win Hundreds of dollars worth of lures for your efforts!



## 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)

## Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

Again I want to remind you to check the Rules and Regulations from the SAMFC site every time you go out. They change them often and without any fanfare. You should print out the latest regs and have them with you.

I recently spoke with a fisherman that was stopped by the FWC Officers. They were nice to him and let him off with a warning as he had a 'Sharp Nose Shark' on board but was totally unaware that to keep it he had to have that **Atlantic Highly Migratory Species PERMIT!**

Did you know that you had to have that permit to keep or have on board any of the following species.:

Tunas, Billfishes, Swordfish, Sharks, Bluefin Tuna, Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Roundscale Spearfish, Sailfish, and Swordfish.

Also there are reporting requirements for most of these.

You can get your permit by going to the following website:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/>

They are very inexpensive for the sport fishermen, but you definitely want to have yours while out there fishing!!!

## Don't Read This!

We are making some changes to the Hospitality Directors job. The first change is that they don't have to actually cook all the dinners for every meeting. We are asking YOU to sign up to provide ( 1 ) ONE meal or at least the main course. Anyone can sign up by contacting **Christina at:** [havinfunllc@gmail.com](mailto:havinfunllc@gmail.com)

She will work with you to get your meal done for everyone.

The latest change is we are NOT having 3 Pot-Lucks in a row. Thanksgiving, Clam Chowder and Christmas. We have moved the Clam Chowder Cook-Off to January when it is usually cooler!

If anyone wants to team up, I can cook some Boston Butts and you take care of the rest!

As the mailing page says, it is **TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE JOSFC!**  
 You can renew on-line or at a meeting or by mail with the below form!

### Why Renew?

Even if you have not been an active member, if you fish, and want to continue fishing, you need to join at least one organization that is fighting for your right to fish! The JOSFC is doing just that. Every member we have adds weight to our words at the meetings we attend. ( Plus **WE** don't keep hitting you up for more money with "Donation Letters" every other month.)

The JOSFC's year actually runs from October 1st to Sept. 30th, and we run our renewal time up to January 1st which if you have not renewed by then any fish you had on the boards come off, and you loose your club voting rights, and your membership card is no longer valid for discounts at the local stores. ( Don't worry, we will still try to get you to renew after that. )

Please Renew and come on out to the meetings and have some fun! If you have NOT been getting the Up-date and reminder of the meetings E-mails, let me know. Also make sure you have this E-mail address in your address book, or Contacts. JOSFC Breen <[breenw@bellsouth.net](mailto:breenw@bellsouth.net)>

**This club is a legacy we must preserve for our children and grandchildren and sometimes we have to work /volunteer overtime to ensure just that.**



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (Renewal)

The JOSFC invites the participation of all area fishing enthusiast and is dedicated to conservation, preservation and fellowship with our membership.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PH. \_\_\_\_\_  
 SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PH. \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PH. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY, STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 BOAT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ LENGTH \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Family Membership ..... \$50.00

(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16)

☐ Individual Member ..... \$40.00

☐ Paid Junior Member ..... \$5.00

☐ Annual Associate Member .....\$100.00  
 (For Business Concerns)

☐ Application Fee ..... \$25.00  
 (Applicable to NEW Members or if renewing over 6 months late)

☐ Life Member Individual ..... \$250.00

☐ Life Family Membership ..... \$300.00

Total Remittance

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 	2 	3 Board Meeting 7:00 PM 	4 	5 Club Meeting 	6 	7 
8 	9 	10 	11 	12 	13 	14 
15 	16 	17 	18 	19 Club Christmas Party 	20 	21 
22 	23 	24 	25 	26 	27 	28 
29 	30 	31 		December		



Dec. 3rd - Board Meeting  
Dec. 5th - Club Meeting  
Dec. 19th - Club Meeting &

Coming Events:

## POT-LUCK & CHRISTMAS PARTY & SANTA FOR THE KIDS!



Month	Offshore	Inshore	Date	Weather	Date
Jan.	Light Tackle	Redfish	1/11/20		1/18/20
Feb.	Sheepshead	Sheepshead	2/22/20		2/18/20
Mar.	Non-Live	River	3/21/20		3/28/20
April	Unlimited Trolling	Shrimp Only	4/11/20		4/18/20
May	May Trolling	Trout	5/9/20		5/16/20
June	Junior Ang.	Junior Ang.	6/6/20		6/13/20
July	Kingfish Tune-up	Roulette	7/11/20		7/25/20
Aug.	Ladies	Ladies	8/15/20		8/22/20
Sept.	Bottom	Flounder	9/12/20		9/19/20

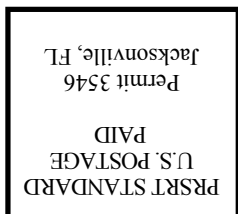


## Associate Members

*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 • Beach Plaza Auto Care • Best Western Mayport • Boat U. S./Angler • Boathouse Discount Marine • Boattronics • BOCA Bearings • Bonefish Grill • Bowen Upholstery • C & H Lures • 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 • Dames Point Marina • 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 • Footcush • Gary Newman Insurance • Gone Fishin' • Great Atlantic Outfitters • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • Hagerty Construction & Roofing • Hoo Rag • 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 • Mercury Outboards • 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 • Sumo Design Studio • Sun Deli • Sure Set Jigs • SweetWater Brewing • T-Mobile • Taylor Concrete Services • T.B.S. Jigs & Charter • 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!**

**It is time to renew your MEMBERSHIP!**



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

