



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 60 Issue 7

July 2020



PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Tom Ruggles

After such a long strange spring, June sure was a relief. Things weren't quite back to normal, but they took two steps in the right direction!

First off, we held our Junior Angler tournament and even on the actual scheduled date! The weather wasn't great, but the rain held off for the most part and the overcast skies kept the temperature down for our juniors. There were kings aplenty, with a few really nice ones leading the way. Zeke Rooney landed the biggest fish, a 38.3 pound king along with and a cuda, but my daughter Alyssa edged him out in the aggregate with two kings at 35.9 pounds and 18.5 pounds. With 12 boats participating I'd say it was a success!

Secondly, we were able to hold our first meeting since March 5th and boy did it feel good. It wasn't our biggest, but there were about 50 people in attendance. The weather was great and the temperature wasn't too hot. Steve Thompson both fed us some great sandwiches and educated us on kingfishing and cast netting. Thank you to everybody who came both for coming back out and being respectful of the spacing and outdoor rules.

For our meeting schedule, the next meeting will be on July 2nd. If we are still in phase 2 then the building will remain unavailable for a full meeting - it would be limited to about 25 people with the current rules. If that is the case then, weather permitting, we will try for outside again. It will probably all unfold close to the date of the meeting so please stay tuned.

And, for our tournament schedule, there are only three left. Next up, on July 11th, are the Kingfish Tune Up offshore and the Roulette Tournament inshore. It is smack dab in the middle of our ridiculous red snapper miniseason. In keeping with our promise at the beginning of the year, we will stick to the published schedule (especially given the number of conflicts in July)! So, get to the ramp early, catch your slob snapper and then get your kings.

Tight lines and see you at the clubhouse!

Tom

This is a results of the "Survey" Tom put out. I am going to start putting a "Knots that Work" in the next few issues. I would put a knot of the month, but there are not that many knots that people need to know and use.

Our first knot was the winner of a strongest knot tying contest we had a few years ago. We challenged everyone to bring their strongest knot and tie one to be tested with some ANDE Tournament monofilament 20 Lb test line so all was equal. We used a handheld scale to pull on the line until it broke either at the knot or middle of the line.

The WINNER WAS Continues on page 2

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 liked hearing your responses to the Survey. HOWEVER we always like to hear from you the members, with your ideas on 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



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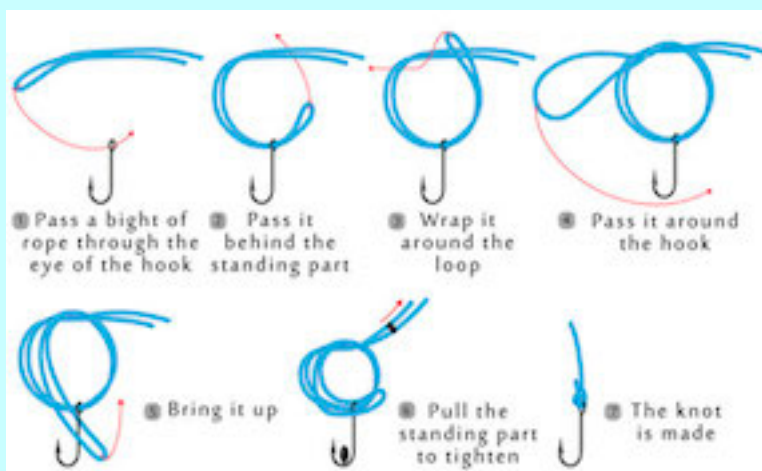
Marine Radio.... Mike Murphy
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Here is a happy Angler! That is a photo of Dustin Girard with his 17 Pound 7 ounce Mangrove Snapper! Just an FYI, that beats a 1999 club record by a good 2 Pounds! Congratulations Dustin on a new All Time Club Record!

Knots Continued

The Palomar Knot



This knot can be used to tie on hooks, weights, lures, swivels, anything that you want on the end of your line that you want to stay there!

In our contest it almost always held and the line broke below the knot. You can use it to attach your leader to a swivel and then the swivel to your line.

That is 100% line strength!



NEWS From BoatUS

Boat Owners Association of The United States
5323 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22151

While many local community fireworks displays have been canceled this year, some boaters may wish to offer their own fireworks show and take to the water with pyrotechnics. "With gallons of fuel aboard and other flammable materials - your boat - you would be truly risking lives," said BoatUS Foundation Assistant Director of Boating Safety Ted Sensenbrenner. "It's not worth the risk. There is no safe place aboard a boat suitable for using fireworks."

As the captain, you can't head out without remembering that your passengers become your responsibility as soon as you pull away from the dock. Think twice about loading up the boat with a cooler full with beer, wine and other alcoholic drinks as [alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents](#).

"Just because the captain is sober doesn't mean alcohol should be free-flowing aboard your boat," said Sensenbrenner. "The stressors of a hot sun, wind and waves all day when combined with alcohol can intensify the effects of inebriation, increasing the risk of a passenger slip or fall overboard or worse. Save the alcohol for celebrating after you have safely returned home for the night."

Lastly, remember that you won't be out on the water alone. [Operation Dry Water](#) will heighten BUI awareness and enforcement during the three-day weekend of July 3-5, and law enforcement officers will be on alert for those violating boating under the influence laws. Agencies from all 50 states and are expected to participate for increased enforcement.



The Safety Page

With the summer upon us, it is time to remind us of the little things that can make or break a day on the water.

Summer brings (2) Two things to mind right off the bat. Heat & Lightning, both killers!

HEAT - There are two things that that bright yellow thing up in the sky inflict on us. Just plain heat, and Sunburn. To combat the heat, be sure to have PLENTY of cold **WATER** on board for everyone to drink. Be sure to wear light clothing and have a hat with a wide brim to provide shade for your face and neck.

Those cooling towels that you soak in water and then use also help a lot.

SUNBURN - This really can be bad as it can get to 2nd degree level before you know it, Red, blistering and hurts a lot!

I know several people that have actually been hospitalized from extensive 2nd degree sunburns!

SO, before you go out, slather on the highest SPF rating you can find, and don't forget to reapply it 2 or 3 times during the day.

A long sleeve shirt and long pants won't hurt either. I see Duluth Trading Company (www.duluthtrading.com) now had some long sleeve shirts with micro holes in them to allow the breeze to flow through, keeping you cooler and protected from the UV rays.

The Hoo Rag, or neck gator (Whichever you want to call it.) are also a great thing to keep from getting burnt. When I am out at the ledge all day, I now wear one pulled up over my face and nose on the way back in as we are headed directly into the sun, combined with the wind, I used to get quite a face "Wind Burn" .

Look at the bottom of the right hand column of page 4 - LIFE JACKETS. I put the reminder to at least wear them while underway in every issue!

We have had several members go OVERBOARD suddenly and unexpectedly.

Continues on page 4

Safety Continued

One was cleaning up after putting a Wahoo on deck, he leaned over with a 5 gal bucket to get some water to wash down the deck, JUST as the Captain hit the gas. **SPLASH!**

Another was leaning over to net a fish inshore when the wake from a passing boat hit. **SPLASH!**

The unexpected can hit any where, any time, and YOU can end up in the water.

WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET!

IF you don't have a stout pair of wire cutters on board, go get one just for the boat or your bag. Be SURE it can cut ANY hook you have on board. That **dead** fish suddenly flips and someone has a large hook imbedded in their body somewhere. IF the barb is imbedded in you can push it on through, cut off the barb and back it out. OR you can just pack up and head for the beach and a hospital to have it done, cutting a good day on the water way short!

Here is another one, ALWAYS put your bait knife or any blade with the sharp edge against the side so when (Not if but when.) someone slips and falls against it they won't slice their hand open.

CHECK all your hose fittings and clamps on your fuel lines to make sure they are tight, and your hoses are in good condition.

One last reminder, leave a Float Plan, and don't forget to give your crew that Safety Tour / Talk before you leave the dock!

Go to www.jaxfish.com, then to the "FISHING INFO." tab, down to the "LINKS" tab and the first link is to a "JOSFC Courtesy Float Plan Generator" Print one out, then fill out your info that does not change, and make several copies so all you have to do is grab one, fill out the new info for that trip and put it on your dashboard!



**GREATER JACKSONVILLE
KINGFISH TOURNAMENT**

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40th Anniversary Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament

Schedule of Events

WEDNESDAY, July 8

Media Day

Down at the Dock Derby. **POSTPONED**

MONDAY, JULY 13

6:30 AM-3:30 PM

12:00 Noon

12:00 PM — 6:00 PM

10:00 AM—6:00 PM

TOURNAMENT WEEK OPENS

Champions Bash Tournament

Weigh In Opens

Site Open: Boatique, Food, Exhibitors, Liar's Tent.

GT, Final Jr. Angler Registration & Bag Pick-up

TUESDAY, JULY 14

7:30 AM

9:30 AM-11:30 AM

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

12:00 PM

3:30 PM

JR. ANGLER OFFSHORE TOURNAMENT

Check-Out & Fishing Begins

Jr Angler Dock Tournament **POSTPONED**

GT Registration continues

Site Open: Boatique, Exhibitors, Food, Liars' Tent

Jr. Angler Offshore weigh-in opens

Jr. Angler Offshore fishing ends

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

10:00 AM—8:00 PM

GT Final Registration & Bag Pick-up,

THURSDAY, JULY 16

6:30 AM

1:00 PM

1:00 AM—7:00 PM

5:30 PM

GENERAL TOURNAMENT Day 1 FISHING

Check out & fishing begins

Weigh in opens

Site Open: Boatique, Exhibitors, Food, Liar's Tent

Fishing ends. Be clear of Check-in boat to weigh fish.

Friday and Saturday schedule is on page 5.



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!



GJKF Schedule continued.

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, JULY 17

6:30 AM
1:00 PM—7:00 PM
1:00 PM
5:30 PM
6:00 PM— To End of weigh-in

GENERAL TOURNAMENT Day 2 FISHING

Check-Out & Fishing continues
Site Open: Boatique, Exhibitors, Food, Liars' Tent
Weigh-In Opens
Fishing Ends. Be clear of Check-in boat to weigh fish.

SATURDAY, July 18

Safe Light
9:00 AM
2:00 PM

Redfish Tournament

Redfish fishing starts at safe light
Redfish Weigh-in opens
Redfish ends. Close of weigh-in

SATURDAY, JULY 18

9:00 AM- Until

Awards Ceremonies

Site Open: Boatique, Exhibitors, Food, Liar's Tent

4:00 PM

Awards Ceremonies Begin:

Jr. Angler Awards
Redfish Awards
Champion Awards
General Tournament Awards

During Awards
During Awards

Nosara Costa Rico Trip Drawing
Shimano Rods/Reels Drawing

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic The Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament will follow all social distancing mandated by Federal, State and local governments.

6/12/20 *Schedule subject to change

OK, July is Kingfish Season, so making the rash assumption that you are going out to catch a Kingfish or two, here are some tips that just might help you hook-up!

First and foremost, remember that **Kingfish are PREDATORS!** To all predators any disturbance in the water is a feeding frenzy! So what do you want to do? (I know catch a king.) You want to make as big of a disturbance while trolling as you can.

Trim your motor up so it splashes some as you are S l o o o w trolling. Drag a bucket at the surface, put out a bird (You know, one of those wooden trolling things with wings set so it splashes on the surface.) anything to make a disturbance in the water!

I also recommend dragging a chum bag, hang it off the stern, with just a bout $\frac{1}{4}$ of the bag touching the water.

You want the chum to disperse slowly along your wake.

Here is MY favorite trolling bait setup. I prefer to slow troll Pogies and a Ribbonfish. I like to have 1 Ribbonfish on my Down rigger, (Make sure it swims well like it was alive. I put it down about 15 feet, and about 30 feet behind the boat. Next I put out 2 rods with Pogies, one on either side of the stern, so they are swimming just in the edge or the bubbles and clear water from your wake. You want them to be seen, so don't get them hidden in the bubbles. Put one back about 15 feet and the other about 20 feet.

you want them above and in front of the Ribbon fish! They will sense or see the Ribbon fish this will make them very nervous and they will swim erratically, and be in distress, something the Kingfish will sense and think of they as easy prey.

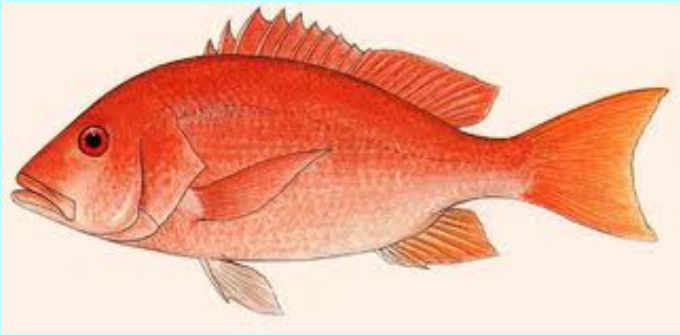
Once you hook a Kingfish, just keep the line tight, and when you get it close to the boat, **LOOSEN YOUR DRAG!** Not all the way, but enough so that when you "Gaff Man" flubs the gaff and the fish makes another screaming run, it does not snap the line! Then bring your drag back up to where you want, and bring it back to the boat.

Now remind your gaff man to gaff it from **BEHIND** the line, (Again so if he flubs it he does not hit the line breaking it.)

These fish can't swim backwards, so they will surge forward to try to escape and that gaff should always be behind the line!

OH, that Ribbon fish is also known as Kingfish Candy, so don't be surprised when you hook up on your Ribbon fish!

Don't over stuff your live well with Pogies, as this will kill them to quickly. You are better off going back into the beach to get more if you run out than jsut having a live well full of dead Pogies. When you catch your pogies, put the excess in a bucket and use them as chum, cutting them up and tossing a few chunks out as you troll so you have a steady trail of chunks!



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 10th, 11th, 12th, (Friday Saturday, Sunday) and July 17th (Friday)

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.

Who are going to be our Captains of the Year?

HAY everyone, listen up, the Captain of the Year for both inshore and offshore are still up for grabs!

There are 3 Tournaments left to fish, 30 points up for grab, and the most anyone has on either board are 29 points!

Seriously anyone can win. Remember you are fishing against regular bait killers like me and that guy you sit next to at the meetings, not some super professional tournament expert that has unlimited resources and big backing, just plain ole fishermen & Women like you! I have seen someone that was sure they were going to get it get skunked and drop to 3rd place, and some one come from out of the blue and win in the last 4 tournaments.

Even if you are not going for the COY, the Tournaments are fun to fish. Different fish, different methods, all for you to fish for FREE, just sign up and GO!

We have the Kingfish Tune-up for Offshore and the Roulette for Inshore coming up 7/11/20, August 15 is the Ladies for both, and finishing up the year on September 9th with the Bottom Tournament for Offshore and Flounder for the Inshore!

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
July			1	2 Club Meeting	3	4
			 	 	  	  
5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9	10	11 The Kingfish Tune-Up & Roulette Tournaments
   	  	  	 			 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 	 	 	 	 	 	 
19	20	21	22	23 Club Meeting	24	25
  	  	   	  	 	 	 
26	27	28	 			
 	 	 				

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



July 2nd - Club Meeting AT THE CLUB HOUSE!!!




July 11th - Offshore - Kingfish Tune-Up

Inshore - Roulette

July 16th - Club Meeting

July 13th through the 18th Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament

October 17, 2020 - The Annual Awards Banquet

Month -	Offshore -		Inshore -	Date -	Weather	Date
July	-		Roulette	7/11/20 - 7/25/20		
Aug.	-		Ladies	8/15/20 - 8/22/20		
Sept.-	-		Flounder	9/12/20 - 9/19/20		



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