



The Reel News

The Newsletter of the . . .

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 62 Issue 2

February 2022



PRESIDENTS CAST NET CAPTAIN *Robert Vermillion*



Looking Back to January we had a lot going on at the club. The El Cheepo kicked off so we are live, we will be giving away a Big Green egg to someone who registered early. We have a Cast and Blast 17-foot boat for 1st, place. if you want to help, get with Bill Pollackov he is looking for volunteers.

We have new design on the are club shirts go to our web site, JaxFish or Anchor Apparel company, and check them out. . . . And get one!

We had the 1st Tournament, the President Choice 202 Tournament. Thanks to everyone who showed up to fish. We had **53 Anglers**, and some big fish caught congrats go out to all the winners. We also had Hotdogs and Hamburgers after the Tournament. What a fun time the Zebco 202, are tough little rod and reels.

The Boat Show was the 28th 29th and 30th hope everyone signed up and helped. We also had our Swap Meet at the January 6th meeting there was a lot of good stuff the January 20th meeting Dennis and crew from Hagan ace outfitters EL Cheepo Sponsor, came by to show off their new Kayaks and talk about



some new things that are going on at Hagan Ace Outfitters. So, if you have not been making it out to the meetings you're missing some really good stuff.

The new building is moving along at a good pace we will be moving in soon. So, keep your eye out we will need your help.

On to the Fishing Fronts:

Offshore:

February is a good month if you can get out. Black fin, Wahoo, and Sailfish will be out about 50 miles and further.

Look for clean warm water 72 degrees and up. On the Bottom all Grouper are closed, but you can keep Mutton, Trigger, B-liners, and Porgies. A little closer in 80 to 100 feet Black Seabass will be getting big. So, if you can get out ya better go.

Inshore:

The water is cold so work your Bait slow. Look for Reds working the mud flats to get warm.

Trout, Flounder, Drum, and Sheepshead will be at the rocks. And offshore KBY for sheep head and don't forget the Seabass at KBY.

That's it for now, hope to see you at the Club House. Tight Lines!

CAPT. Robert Vermillion





REMEMBER

WE HAVE MEMBERS

LOOKING FOR A RIDE!!!

When yo are going out and have room for one more, or need crew to **help pay for gas**, we have several members that do not have boats, and are always looking for someone to take their gas money!

Just either give me a call, text or E-mail breew@bellsouth.net.
904-254-2791

Or post it on the club's Dock Talk page. We will get you that extra person to fill out your crew!

Who knows, you just may find a new great friend!



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First Annual Zebco Tournament

It was a brisk January morning in Northeast Florida. 53 brave men, women and children faced the elements armed with nothing but Zebco 202s filled with 10 pound test. Some headed for the creeks. Others ran to the jetties. Some took advantage of the lake-like areas and headed offshore. All were thinking the same thing - what were these crazy rods capable of catching? As it turns out, plenty!

The variety of fish that were brought in for weighing was impressive. There were Croakers, Whiting, Ringtails, and Trout. There were reports of plentiful Red Snapper and short Seabass caught and released. And junior angler Sawyer Carlson was sure that one of the fish that broke off of his line was a Goliath Grouper.

In the end, it was Sheepshead and Black Drums that took the prizes.

Rob Cripe managed to land three nice eating size Black Drum for a total of 15.45 pounds to take first place. Jake and Jack Ogin took 2nd and 3rd with 3 Sheepshead each.

The junior winners were Parker Stein in 1st, Landon Prato in 2nd and Austin Girard in 3rd.

Based on the turnout and the feedback we are sure to run this tournament next year.

Thanks to all who participated.



More Photos on page 3



Above: He caught that Snapper on a ZEBCO 202! That takes some work to land a nice Snapper like that!

Below: Rob Vermillion and Tom Cavin show off their "Great" Zebco 202 catches! Rob, was that really a 2 hour fight to get it to the boat?

Tom said it only took him 45 minutes to land his!



Here is one of our 2022 El Cheapo Sponsors that has 2 businesses and has contributed to the El Cheapo from both!

Struggle to get your knives really sharp? Note he even has "Local pickup & Delivery"



Capt. Dave's Sport Fishing
Jacksonville, Florida
904-642-9546

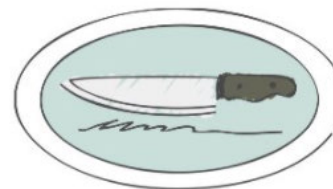
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brian.higgins4@gmail.com

Zach Dubs 561-602-1917.

zdubs02@hotmail.com

If you want to be added to this list, let me know. Bill Breen

breenw@bellsouth.net



NEW Format for our Captains of the Year Tournaments

As of the start of our tournament season for 2022 we are now running our tournaments as a month long tournament for each different tournament. Here is how it works:

This is for both the Inshore and the Offshore Tournaments.

For February 2022 we have the **Sheepshead Tune-Up Tournament**. That runs all month, **BUT** you may only fish (1) ONE day. You choose what day you want to fish, any day from 2/1/22 through 2/28/22. However you **MUST CALL** or **TEXT BOTH** the Tournament Director AND the Fishing Director to declare your fishing day by 8:00 PM the night before that declared day.

There are several rules that cover this and you **MUST** follow those rules!

See the specific rules under the General Tournament Rules found under the "TOURNAMENTS" tab at the top of the page and down to "Tournament Rules". **LOTS OF IMPORTANT DETAILS!**

Here is the Schedule

Month	-	Offshore	-	Inshore
February	-	Sheepshead Tune-up for Both		
March	-	Non-Live	-	River
April	-	Unlimited Trolling - Shrimp Only		
May	-	May Trolling	-	Redfish
June	-	Junior Angler for Both		
July	-	Kingfish Tune-Up - Roulette		
August	-	Lady Angler (18+) for Both		
September	-	Bottom - - Flounder		

Sheepshead

Hopefully it's what's for DINNER!

With Sheepshead being the main target this month, I hope that you all have some of this delicious fish to eat!

Sheepshead eat mostly crustaceans, Crabs, Barnacles, Shrimp Etc. That gives them a great firm tasty white meat!

Here is a **GREAT** way to fix them!!!

**Quick, Easy and Tasty
Sheepshead Filets in a Pan**
This recipe will work for any white flesh fish. (but is **GREAT** for Sheepshead!)

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.

Safety for the Winter Months

Lets review the Basics for keeping YOU and your crew safe on the water.

FIRST - WEAR your life jacket while underway at least!

Before you go, Fill out a **FLOAT PLAN** and leave it with someone and a copy on the dashboard of your tow vehicle facing so it can be read from outside, and make sure your boat is working correctly:

Hose fittings are tight.

Tanks are full.

Running lights working.

First aid kit is current.

Flares are current.

Fresh canister for your **LOUD Air Horn**.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS are easy to get to and good.

Plug is IN.

Batteries are fully charged.

VHF and Fish finder are working.

When your crew arrives and boards, before you leave the dock **GIVE** them a safety tour, making sure that they know how to operate your boat and the radio and where the safety equipment is.

Is your "Ditch Bag" on deck and have you appointed someone to make sure it goes in the water with everyone ... **JUST IN CASE!**

A P.L.B. (Personal Locator Beacon) now cost about the same or less than a full tank of Gas. Isn't your life worth a couple hundred?

Now for some "Should have" but not essential.

Have some fresh Sunscreen for Mr. Forgot it?

Plenty of **WATER** for everyone.

Even a couple towels for after that wet ride out.

Another winter danger, **HYPOTHERMIA**

Hypothermia occurs any time your body looses heat faster than it can produce it.

This can happen even **HERE** in Jacksonville or out in 70 degree water!

The Fatal Scenario

When your body's core Temperature reaches:

96 Degrees Fahrenheit - Violent shivering begins.

95 Degrees Fahrenheit - Rational thought stops.

93.2 Degrees Fahrenheit - Consciousness becomes clouded.

92 Degrees Fahrenheit - Memory loss, hallucinating begins.

91.4 Degrees Fahrenheit - Shivering stops.

90 Degrees Fahrenheit - You become unconscious.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit - Death results from heart failure.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit is the ambient temperature of a fairly hot summer day. Our water off Jacksonville is rarely that warm!

It doesn't have to be freezing out to kill you!

Fall overboard or your boat sinks, and if the water is 40 degrees or below, you have 12 to 30 minutes for survive!

50 degrees 1 to 3 hours

60degrees 1 to 6 hours

70 degrees 2 to 30 hours!

More people suffer from Hypothermia in moderate climates than in the Arctic North, mainly because they are **NOT** prepared.

OOPS he forgot the required Safety Chain



The CHILI COOK-OFF

Our meeting on the 3rd of February is our Annual Chili Cook-Off!

You the members get to compete for the Honor of being the Chili Kingfish of 2022!

Just cook up you best batch (BIG Batch) of Chili and bring it to the club to be judged! WE award \$30 in fish slips to the winner and pay all the way to 3rd place.

Don't be shy, we don't want to have just 2 pots of chili like we did for the Clam Chowder cook-off.

I know that there are several of you that have that secret ingredient that makes YOUR Chili the best!

SO Cook up a big batch on Tuesday or Wednesday (They tell me that Chili has to "Age" a day or two to reach it's full flavor.) and bring it to the Club on Thursday, February 3rd to be judged against some other "Best" chili!!!

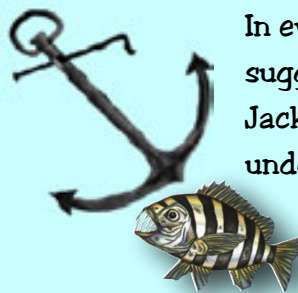
Just in case you have missed my VERY SUBTLE hints throughout this Newsletter

THE EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT IS COMING!

It is Saturday, March 5, 2022

We will need your help all day Friday, March 4th, and Saturday, March 5th.

This club only runs on YOU volunteering for this event!



In every Newsletter I strongly suggest that you wear your Life Jacket at least while your boat is underway.

Here are some other safety things that you should consider.

Are your Flares out of date?

Is your Fire extinguisher current?

Do you have a big enough one, or more than one?

How about a "Ditch Bag" is it properly stocked, and sitting out where it is handy?

First aid kit current, plenty of fresh Hydrogen Peroxide to clean wounds?

Do you have some "Wire Cutters" that are strong enough to cut the BIGGEST hook on your boat? Most fishing pliers are NOT strong enough for even a medium size hook!



YOUR FLOAT PLAN

What you didn't take the time to fill it out?!!!






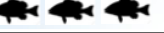













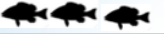












This is an ORDER, or Bananas on your boat!

Go to this URL:

<https://jaxfish.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/JOSFC-Courtsey-Float-Plan.pdf>

Click on it and print it out. THEN, Fill out your permanent information that does not change for every trip, NOW, make several COPIES of it so all you have to do is fill in the new info like crew and destinations and then leave it on the dash of your tow vehicle when you go out! A simple life saving little bit of work!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1 	2 	3 Club Meeting Chili Cook-Off 	4 	5 
6 	7 	8 	9 	10 	11 	12 
13 	14 	15 	16 	17 Club Meeting 	18 	19 
20 	21 	22 	23 	24 	25 	26 
27 	28 	29 	30 	February		

Key - The more little black fish on a day means better fishing



February's Tournaments - For BOTH inshore & Offshore
Sheepshead Tune-Up

**COMING
EVENTS:**

February 3rd - Club Meeting. Chili Cook-Off

February 17th - Club Meeting -



EL CHEAPO 2022 - March 5, 2022



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Listed in alphabetical order.

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