



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

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 62 Issue 4

April 2022



PRESIDENTS CAST NET

*Capt. Robert
Vermillion*

The EL Cheapo has come and gone. I want to thank all of the sponsor's and volunteers, I think it was a big success, we had right at 300 anglers. It was nice to see everyone having a good time. It takes a lot of work to pull it off, so Thank You.

It is time for the big move. We had the club clean out on the 26th. We will be meeting at the temporary club house till June. **The address is 4131 Ferber Rd. next to the Lonnie Warn Boat ramp.**

The new club house will be ready "I HOPE" the second meeting in June.

The Sailfish Pot party will be coming soon, Rick Juenger was the winner and will be putting on the party. It will be at the American Legion, 1127 Atlantic Blvd. Atlantic Beach, Fl. 32233

The cost is \$50 if you pay before April 28th and \$65 after. It will be held on April 30th start at 6pm till???

I want to think Capt. Chip Wingo. For taking the time to stop by and talk about inshore fishing and bring us some fish bites.

April club tournament will be the Unlimited Trolling for Offshore, and the Shrimp only for

the Inshore Fishermen, make sure you check the Rules at Jaxfish.com under the "Tournaments" tab.

Our next meeting will be on the seventh we will be doing some knot tying and cast net throwing, and some rigging.

The Boat Show has been canceled due to the dealers not having any boats to sell.

Spanish Mackerel are on the rocks, just get some wire and a Gotcha plug and troll the rocks it's fun and easy.

That is it for now stay safe and we will see you at the temp club house Tight Lines
CAPT. Rob Vermillion

With the price of GAS Remember

We have members looking for a ride!!!

When you 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
breenw@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!

How to SAVE Gas

I just spoke with my best friend in Eureka, California. Regular Gas is \$6.49 / Gallon. Over \$7.69 / Gal in LA! Glad I moved here!

Here are some tips on how to cut your gas bill for your boat. Remember every little bit adds up, so any one of these may not make a noticeable difference, they can all help!

1 - TUNE your engine NOW if you haven't done it this year!

2 - Make sure that you have the proper prop for your boat and activity. (The same boat will need 2 different props for either towing skiers or fishing. I could fill up the rest of the NL with prop discussions, just do your homework there.)

3 - Check your prop for damage after every trip, a dinged or rough edge will really hurt your gas milage.

4 - Keep your HULL, Outdrive and Prop CLEAN, if you keep your boat in the water, make sure that there is no growth of any kind anywhere below the waterline!

5 - Every individual boat has an optimum cruising speed. Even two seemingly identical boats can have different optimum speeds. (You can determine this with a simple to instal and use Flow Meter.)

6 - Get rid of ALL the extra weight! Have a freshwater tank? Water weighs 8 pounds / gallon! Only take what you anticipate **needing**.

7 - Ditch that extra gear, lines, anchor, box of extra fishing weights, Not going to troll, leave that down rigger at home. **Lighten your load!** (No, you can't throw your in-Law overboard!)

8 - Reduce your Wind Drag while underway. Lower that Bimini Top or vinyl top while running.

9 - Rearrange your load, including passengers to get your boat riding as smoothly and evenly as you can.

IF you have trim Tabs play with them to get your boat running properly. You should have your bow up some, but NOT porpoising (The bow bouncing up and down.)

10 - Get on Plane as soon as you can after leaving a no wake zone. Once on plane adjust your passengers and trim tabs to get your best ride and you can actually hear the engine running smoother and with less strain!

On Plane does NOT mean running at WOT (Wide Open Throttle) while some days you **can** run at 40 MPH , that does not mean you have to!

While I have never checked the difference between 35 MPH from 70 mile out to the jetties and 26 MPH in time I can tell you that it makes a difference of about 7 gallons on my boat.

What ever you do, stay safe and have a good time out on the water!



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BoatUS Spring Commissioning Checklist

How to have a trouble-free boating season

SPRINGFIELD, Va., March 10, 2022 - Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) offers its Spring Commissioning Checklist to help boaters start the season right. The nation's largest advocacy, service and savings group also offers BoatUS.com/Spring, a one-stop-shop for everything you need to know about the yearly ritual of recreational boat commissioning. A PDF copy of the checklist is available to download, print, and take to the boat with you. Be sure to follow all manufacturer recommendations for your specific boat, engine and accessories.

Before You Launch

1. Inspect all around the hose clamps for rust and replace as necessary. Double clamp fuel lines and exhaust hoses with marine-rated stainless steel hose clamps. While not technically required, it's wise to double clamp whenever possible on all hoses – especially those below the waterline.
2. Inspect all hoses for stiffness, rot, leaks and cracking, and replace any that are faulty. Make sure they fit snugly.
3. Inspect prop(s) for dings, pitting and distortion. Make sure cotter pins are secure.
4. Grip the prop (on inboard drive systems) and try moving the shaft up and down and side to side. If it's loose and can be wiggled, the cutless bearing may need to be replaced.
5. Check the rudderstock to ensure it hasn't been bent. Operate the wheel or tiller to ensure the steering works correctly. Check the rudder bearing and steering cable for unusual play or movement.
6. Inspect the hull for blisters, distortions and stress cracks.
7. Make sure your engine intake sea strainer (if equipped) is not cracked or bent from ice and is free of corrosion, clean and properly secured.

8. With inboards, check the engine shaft and rudder stuffing boxes for correct adjustment. A stuffing box should leak no more than two or three drops each minute when the prop shaft is turning. Check the shaft log hose for deterioration and rusty hose clamps.
9. Inspect, lubricate and exercise thru-hull valves. It's a good idea to tie a right-sized wooden bung to the valve in case of failure.
10. Use a garden hose to check for deck leaks at ports and hatches. Renew caulk or gaskets as necessary.
11. Inspect and test the bilge pump and float switch to ensure they're both working properly. Also inspect the pump's hose.
12. Check stove and remote LPG tanks for loose fittings, leaking hoses and properly functioning shutoff systems. Use the pressure gauge to conduct a leak down test to check for system leaks.
13. Inspect dock and anchor lines for chafe and wear.
14. If equipped, ensure that the stern drain plug is installed.
15. After the boat is launched, be sure to check all thru-hulls for leaks.

Engines and Fuel Systems

1. Inspect fuel lines, including fuel tank fill and vent hoses, for softness, brittleness or cracking. Check all joints for leaks, and make sure all lines are well supported with noncombustible clips or straps with smooth edges.
2. Inspect fuel tanks, fuel pumps and filters for leaks. Ensure portable tanks and lines are completely drained of stale fuel before filling with fresh fuel. Clean or replace fuel filters and/or fuel-water separators if not done before winterization.
3. Every few years, remove and inspect exhaust manifolds and risers for corrosion (for inboard-powered and inboard/outboard boats).
4. Charge battery.
5. Clean and tighten electrical connections, especially both ends of battery cables. Use a wire brush to clean battery terminals, and top off cells with distilled water (if applicable).



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

Emergency Phone Numbers First for Any Emergency - 911

U.S. Coast Guard, Jacksonville Emergencies
904-564-7500 Press 1

U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center
1-800-424-8802

Jacksonville Sheriff's Marine Unit
904-630-2160

Florida Fish and Wildlife
1-888-404-3922

Sea Tow
1-800-473-2869

Tow Boat U.S.
1-800-391-4869

Now use that thing on top of your shoulders for more than a Hat Rack! Program the above numbers into your Cell Phone so you always have them!

Never trust a fishing guide without a tan.

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!

Hook Removal

The most common accident during fishing season involves hooks. The second most common hazard facing anglers is getting too much sun. Both are easily avoided. Sunscreen and a hat will handle the sun and a first aid kit with a little knowledge of how to use it will take care of the hook problems.

The most important tool any angler should always have with him /her for removing a hook is a sharp pair of wire cutting pliers. ALWAYS have a pair of cutters that will cut the **BIGGEST** hook that you have on your boat! Some of those hooks are TOUGH! Here are a few methods for removing hooks.

When a hook's point and barb are protruding out the skin, it's easier to cut off the barb and back the hook out of the wound.

This is when those sharp wire cutters come in handy.

The snatch method of hook removal is simple and effective, and it's the best method to remove a hook that's deeply imbedded in the skin and when the

Engines & Outdrives & Outboards

6. Inspect the bilge ventilation intake and blower ducting for damage or leaks and run the blower to confirm correct operation.
7. Test engine warnings and alarms.
1. Inspect rubber outdrive bellows for cracked, dried and/or deteriorated spots (look especially in the folds) and replace if suspect.
2. Check power steering and power trim oil levels.
3. Replace anodes/zincs that are more than half wasted.

Trailers

1. Inspect tire treads and sidewalls for cracks or lack of tread and replace as necessary. Check air pressure; don't forget the spare.
2. Inspect wheel bearings and repack as necessary.
3. Test all lights and replace any broken bulbs or lenses.
4. Inspect winch to make sure it's working properly. Inspect hitch chains.
5. Inspect trailer frame and axel(s) for rust. Sand and paint to prevent further deterioration.
6. Inspect brakes and brake fluid reservoir.

A **new law that went into effect in 2021** requires a vessel operator to use either a helm or outboard lanyard or wireless engine cutoff switch on certain vessels less than 26 feet when traveling on plane or above displacement speed, so be sure your switch is working properly and the lanyard is in serviceable condition. If you use a wireless cutoff switch, ensure batteries in the fobs and wrist worn devices are refreshed.



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?



Hook Removal Cont.

barb is buried. This method is quick, simple and relatively painless, as long as you get it on the first try. The secret to a first time success is yanking the loop of line, which is wrapped around the embedded hook, rather hard so the hook comes out on the first try. The reason you should get it out on the first try is obvious, the patient might not stick around for a second try.

To perform the snatch method when the barb is imbedded, all that's needed is a short length of fishing line, at least 10 pound test, approximately 2 feet long.

* Remove hook from lure.

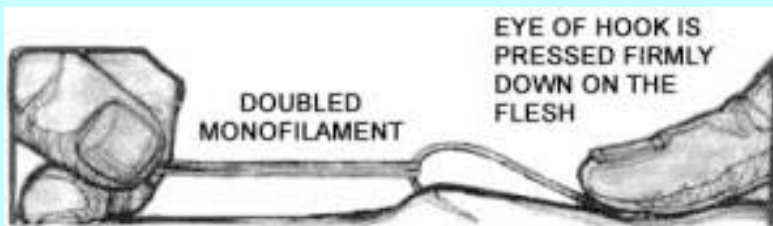
* Double the fishing line and loop it around the hook, as close to the skin's surface as possible.

* Hold onto both ends of the doubled line, wrapping them around your hand for a firm grip and holding the line parallel to the skin's surface in line with the hook.

* With your other hand, press the eye of the hook down onto the surface of the skin and back toward the hook's bend, as if trying to back the hook out of the wound.

* While pressing on the hook eye, yank (**Don't be shy here, give it a very HARD, Quick parallel pull!**) the line **sharply, parallel** to the skin and in line with the hook, to snap the hook back out of the wound.

* Apply antibiotic ointment, bandage wound and check to make sure tetanus shots are current.



Lightning:

5 seconds between Flash and Thunder = 1 Mile.
1 Mile = WAY to close! You want to be 10+ away from any lightning.

Ok everyone, the new fishing season is upon us.

How about thinking SAFETY FIRST!

THIS IS A TEST!!!

You probably already failed! That is NOT a good thing. Can you answer these questions without looking up some of the answers?

1 - Did you leave a FLOAT PLAN with someone, or on the dash of your tow vehicle?

2 - What date was your single, woefully too small, fire extinguisher last checked? Is it current, or has it been sitting in it's holder for the last 2+ years with all the dry chemical compacted and hard at the bottom? Do you have a big enough Fire Extinguisher? They are cheap, why not have two or three on board?

3 - What is the expiration date on your Flares?

4 - Is your ditch bag sitting out where it will be available and have an EEPER attached to it?

6 - Do you even have an EEPER? Why NOT? They are just a couple of hundred now! Isn't your life and your crews life worth that little money? Are it's Batteries good? They should be replaced every 5 years!

7 - Does your ditch bag have enough water for everyone for a couple days?

8 - What year did you last replace the batteries in your hand held VHF radio? Is it IN your Ditch Bag? The same thing for your hand held GPS?

9 - Where is your hand operated bailing device?

10 - Does your hand held air horn work? What you don't have one?

11 - Where is your distress FLAG?

12 - Where is your signal mirror

13 - Is the "O" ring on your drain plug old and brittle?

14 - First aid kit current? How long ago did your first aid kit perishables expire? Yes Iodine expires! Here is something to think

about. A lot of the (Other guys, not me) members are getting older. Does your first aid kit have some of the new crystalized Aspirin to dissolve under the tongue in case of a heart attack? (My Son was only 34)

15 - Tested your VHF, or better yet upgraded to a new one with the DCS position sending feature?

16 - Checked all your hose fittings are tight, and no corroded Electrical connections?

17 - Your bilge pump working and have a backup if it goes out?

18 - Are your Life Jackets good and readily handy?

19 - Do you give your crew a safety "Tour" before each trip? Make sure they know where everything is and how to work it in case you are disabled?

20 - Have your throwable life preserver handy?

21 - When was the last time you had your wheel bearings packed?

If you did not know the answer to any ONE of these questions, you failed this quick test.

Lucky for you, your boat isn't taking on water, or someone seriously injured and you aren't trying to answer any one of these questions in a panic to save a life!

You now have a chance to correct any of these shortcomings BEFORE your next outing, and avoid the serious consequences of not being prepared.

Remember --- Keep your VHF radio on! Don't miss a club members distress call!

Your Editor Bill Breen


Weight:

With gas prices being so high, you just might want to figure out how much weight you have in your boat!

1 Gal. of Gasoline = 6.1 Lbs.

1 Gal of Saltwater = 8.55 Lbs.

1 Gal. Of Freshwater = 8.3 Lbs.

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

FYI, the little fish is a Sol-Lunar fishing days key, the more fish the better the fishing day.
Fishing Tournaments this month, **Offshore** = Unlimited Trolling - **Inshore** = Shrimp Only



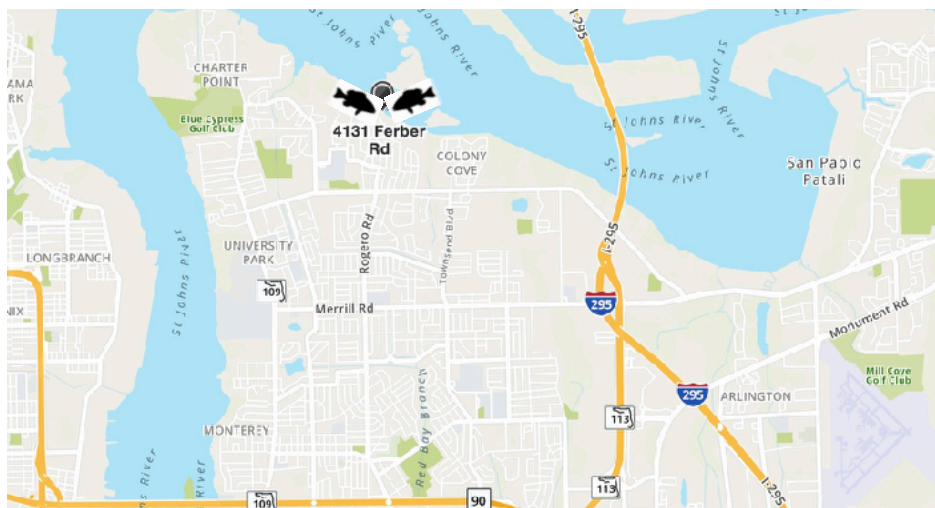
COMING

EVENTS:

April 4th - Board Meeting

April 7th - Club Meeting - @ 4131 Ferber Rd. Jax - 32277

April 21st - Club Meeting - @ 4131 Ferber Rd



Here is a map showing where we will be meeting for the next two months.

JOSFC SPONSORS

Listed in alphabetical order.

Academy Outdoors • Anchor Apparel Company • **Angies Subs** • Apex Training Solutions • Atlantic Coast Marine • B & M Bait and Tackle • **Cast & Blast Boats** • Captain Dave's Sport Fishing Charters • Colonel Jim's Breeding Co. • Consignnet Boat Sales • DanDee Foods • Duval Glass & Mirror • FishingNosara.com • Five Star Painting • Five Star Pressure Washing • **Hagan Coastal Outfitters** • Hagerty Construction & Roofing • Knight Electric • Mark Feagle Relator • Murphy Communication • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Outdoor Show • Paradise Vacation Hotel • Pro Clean Marine Mobile Detailing • Ricks Bait & Tackle • Sailfish Construction • Sherwin Williams Paint • Solomons RV & Boat Storage • Strike Zone • Styles Smith Plumbing • The West Bank Group • Weather Routing Inc. • 904 Website Solutions •

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3948 3rd St. South #232
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

