



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

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 63 Issue 2

February 2023



PRESIDENTS CAST NET CAPTAIN Chris Jones



Greetings JOFSC! 2023 has started off with a bang. We have had many new members join and also come as guests to our meetings to get a feel for the camaraderie and fellowship of our terrific club. I am proud that our fishing seminars have been outstanding, with a ton of engagement and involvement. We had the Coast Guard auxiliary join us to remind us of all the importance of safety in and around our vessels, which is always a good reminder for us. They also provided great handouts, and real life tips that will help us and our families stay safe while fishing. They will be back to conduct coast guard vessel inspections and we will make sure we let the club know well in advance.

Captain Tim Altman of Hoodoo fishing charters joined us and what a great seminar it was on our favorite topic, Wahoo fishing. Tim, many thanks for your time and providing raffle prizes and lots of great information. We would love to have you back! Thank you to all who came

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The EL Cheapo is ALMOST HERE! March 3rd & 4th

The time is coming SOON!!! Only a little more than 30 days till the EL CHEAPO!! The prizes are piling up and our winners will be SUPER HAPPY with this years payout! Along with our longtime faithful presenting sponsors, Atlantic Coast Marine and Hagan Coastal Outfitters, we are happy to welcome Landsouth Construction, Murray Ford Superstore, and A&A Express to our presenting sponsor family. Thanks to our superstar Raffle Director, Karen S. our Friday night Captains meeting raffles and Saturday Tournament raffle will be PACKED!!! We still have more room for raffle prizes if you know of a business in town that wants to get in on the party! (See back page for how to contact us.)

Registration is open at www.elcheapojax.com! Get registered today and get ready to have an awesome time on the grounds on March 3 and 4. In addition to our El Cheapo Bo-Teako, there will be a Hagan Coastal Outfitter pop up store on location during the Captains meeting and Tournament day for all your last minute needs.

We want to thank all our great Volunteers who have already scheduled their time to help out our great tournament. There are many more needs for volunteers in many positions. Please check the sign ups at the clubhouse so we can run this tournament effortlessly!

Tight Lines and lots of Fiddlers,

Bill Pollackov, Tournament Director.

REMEMBER

WE HAVE MEMBERS

LOOKING FOR A RIDE!!!

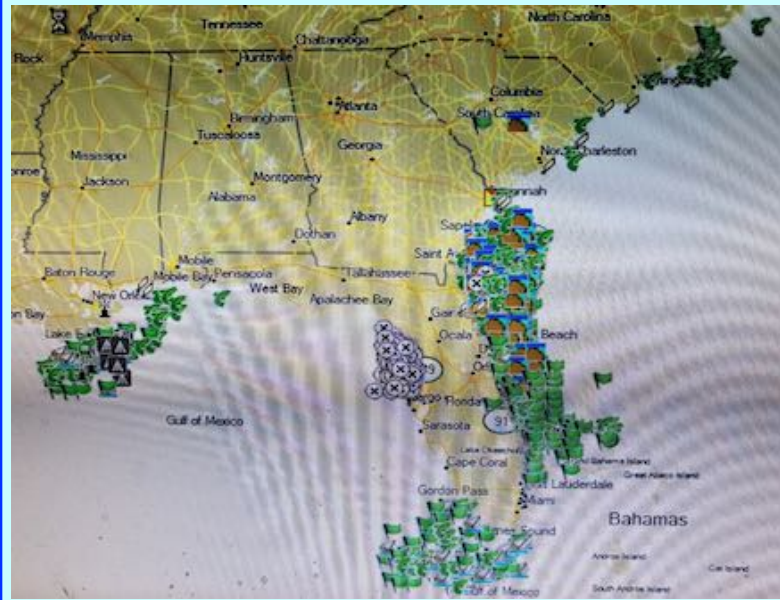
When you are going out and have room for one more, or need crew to help pay for gas, we have several members that do not have boats, and are always looking for someone to take their gas money!

Just either give me a call, text or E-mail breennw@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!



Driftin 'N' Dreamin Fishing

OK everyone here's the

Deal of the YEAR!!

7284 Waypoints nothing held back.

I'll load them on your machine with your own SD Card or micro SD Card. I'll set your boat up for trolling you tell me what you want to do, I'll tell you what you need to buy. Then install it for you.

Call me and we'll talk turkey, I'll answer any questions you have concerning areas for Wahoo, Kingfish, Snapper, Grouper you name it.

Captain Chris Rooney,
christop.rooney@comcast.net

Ph. 904-233-8452



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Bill Pollackov - Speaker & El Cheapo Director
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Presidents Message Continued

out for the president's choice yo-yo tournament. The weather was not the best, but we had a fun time and shared some great fellowship. Also, Captain Branden Prateo and Rebekah held our first kids clinic. The kids had a great time and the parents had a chance to enjoy the seminar. Thanks Branden and Rebekah.

I had the privilege of attending the official celebration and grand opening of the William "Bill" Gulliford Jr. Community Center in Mayport Village. The turnout was large, and many city officials were in attendance noting the community center is the first of many great things to come for the Mayport area. I will be sharing more information at our next meeting February 2nd. As a reminder, don't forget the chili cook off will be at our next meeting and once again we will have special prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

I want to share something I have learned with our recent cold fronts. You may be familiar with the old fishing rule of thumb about waiting three days to fish after a major cold front. Well, that's a tough order when we're getting a new cold front every three days! The origin of that rule of thumb is that fish hate rising barometric pressure. Post-front, the barometer is typically rising for a couple of days and then settles. Usually, by the third day, the pressure is stable (good fishing) or decreasing again in front of the next weather event (excellent fishing).

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting and don't forget El Cheapo is coming up so please make sure it's on your radar and calendar. Captain Bill Pollackov and his team are working hard to ensure it is our best yet. Tight lines and be safe,
Captain Chris Jones



2023 EL CHEAPO

Kids Tee Shirt Design Contest

Calling all kids from 3-12!

Get your markers and pencils out and help us design the 2023 El Cheapo kids teeshirt!

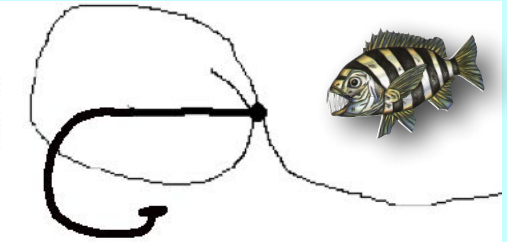
- Must be kids art ONLY
- Please submit in black and white
- Must be in by Feb 2, 2023

email submissions along with phone number to
elcheapo@jaxfish.com

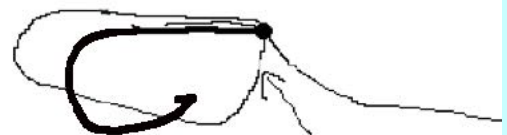
How to Schnell a hook to the end of your leader after a break or cut off.

Quick and easy!

Pass the end of the line through the Eye of the hook, make a big loop and come back up through the eye again with the tag end of the line.



Lay the tag end of the line and the main line along the shank of the hook



Wrap the bottom of the loop, the tag end of the line, around the shank and other line five or six times.



Pull the main line to tighten the knot.



Snug and trim the tag end of the line and you are DONE!



SHEEPSHEAD

Order: Perciformes

Family: Sparidae

Genus: *Archosargus*

Species: *probatocephalus*



Although it reaches a maximum size of about 29.5 inches (76 cm) and 22 pounds (9.6 kg), adult sheepshead are most commonly about 1-8 pounds (.5-3.6 kg) and 14-18 inches (35 cm). Maximum known lifespan of the sheepshead is at least 20 years with maturity typically reached at 2 years of age.

This fish is highly valued for human consumption due to its fine white flesh and mild flavor. However, its heavy scales and strong fin spines make it difficult to clean and fillet. It is marketed fresh and frozen and may be prepared by frying, broiling, microwaving, and baking.

Primarily occurring inshore around rock pilings, jetties, mangrove roots, and piers as well as in tidal creeks, the sheepshead prefers brackish waters. It seeks out warmer spots near spring outlets and river discharges and sometimes enters freshwater during the winter months. This fish moves to offshore areas in later winter and early spring for spawning, which sometimes occurs over artificial reefs and navigation markers.

Sheepshead average about three pounds but can get over ten, and are terrific fighters who like to run anglers' lines around the pilings where they are most often caught. Their bite is very hard to detect and they are a difficult fish to hook if you don't know what you are doing.

Sheepshead are tied to hard structure such as bridges, jetties, docks, and piers. They use their sharp

teeth to scrap barnacles from this structure and gobble up and break the shells of barnacles, mussels, and crabs. They do not travel in schools but orientate themselves around a food source and become very territorial, often staying in an area until the food supply is used up.

Catching sheepshead is not easy. They are not often caught incidentally by bottom fishermen but are hooked and fought by local anglers in many states who target them. A strong rod and heavier than usual line, around 20 lb test, is recommended as when hooked sheepshead quickly try to run the line around those pilings. It is important to put strong pressure on the fish to bring them away from the hang-ups.

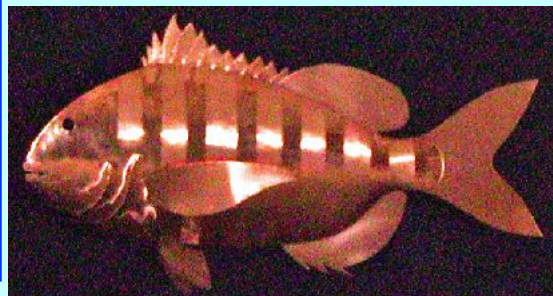
Sheepshead are caught on unusual saltwater baits and rarely take usual ones such as cut shrimp, squid or cut fish. Instead they hit fiddler crabs, pieces of larger crabs such as cut blue crab, sand fleas (also called mole crabs) or even barnacles scrapped from a piling and held together by their own sticky mesh or rubber bands.

• Despite their brute strength Sheepshead have a bite that it is so soft it is often impossible to detect. ***The old saying among sheepshead fishermen is that you must set the hook just before a sheepshead bites!*** It's not that difficult, but almost. One trick is to watch the rod tip, which will have a slight dip from the weight of your sinker. **When a sheepshead bite the dip will disappear as the tip rises. Even if you feel nothing, set the hook.**

Sheepshead anglers don't stay in one place but move from piling to piling. Sometimes they can be seen in clear water rising up and slowly working on the barnacles and mussels of the pilings.

Sheepshead have protruding lips that give the fish its name. They also have a white body and big, black bold stripes. They are sometimes confused with black drum, another inshore structure fish that covers the same areas but is easier to catch.

Sheepshead are a hearty, tasty fish that yield delicious white meat fillets which fit into many seafood recipes. Sheepshead fillets are also very good simply breaded and fried.



Copper
Sheepshead
by
"Copperhead",
he will be at
the El Cheapo
site



FYI, the fish box was full, AND the Cabin was full. Now that I have your attention

This is the results of knowing how the predator fish "Think". The other boats out that day were catching 6 to 8 Albacore / BOAT.

TO ALL predator fish, a disturbance in the water is a FEEDING FRENZY !

They do NOT "Think", their little brain only has room for 3 things, #1 - Eat, #2 - Avoid being eaten, and #3 - Reproduce.

When trolling remember that your boat is a DISTURBANCE in the water!

Your lures or bait should appear to be STRAGGLERS trying to catch up to the "Bait Ball" and it's safety!

Don't put your lures WAY, WAY back. You want them at the 3rd to 5th wave back. (I have had fish take the bait out of my hand as I was trying to set the down rigger, right at my transom!) Your Way, Way back should only be 75 to 90 yards back, just where the water is clearing up from your wake.

Again unless you are high speed trolling, you don't need weights on your set-up. Wahoo are one of the fastest fish in the ocean. They will come from 100' or more feet down to hit a bait on the surface.

Remember, Kite fishing dangles your bait AT the surface, bouncing it out of the water, and that is very effective! IF your bait is bouncing out of the water, that just makes it more attractive to the predators!

THE ENEMY

I am more powerful than the combined armies of the world. I have destroyed more men than all the wars of all nations. I massacre thousands of people every year. I am more deadly than bullets, and have wrecked more homes than the mightiest guns.

In the United States alone I steal over 500 million dollars each year. I spare no one, and find my victims among the rich and poor alike, the young and old, the strong and weak. Widows know me to their everlasting sorrow. I loom up in such proportions that I cast my shadow over every field of labor.

I lurk in unseen places and do most of my work silently. You are warned against me, yet, you heed me not. I am relentless, merciless and cruel. I am everywhere... in the home, on the streets, in the factory, at railroad crossings, on land, in the air and on the sea.

I bring sickness, degradation and death, yet few seek me out to destroy me. I crush, I maim, I will give you nothing and rob you of all you have.

I am your worst enemy... I am

CARELESSNESS.



Unless you are a very rare individual, I bet that your USCG approved Flares are OUT of DATE, check them and replace them.

Check your hose fittings!

Here are some Tips & Tricks of better boating!

For cleaning your boat, inside and out, all surfaces use VINEGAR, not Bleach. 2 parts Vinegar to 1 part Water.

Use Anhydrous Lanolin for Zippers, Snaps, and Shackle threads to prevent seizing. Most pharmacies carry it.

ONLY use 'A' rated fuel hoses because of the Ethanol in the gas.

IF you are going to do some wiring again only use BC 5 W2 Marine quality wire.

Check your Props to insure they are SMOOTH, use a file and honing stone to remove any nicks.

Change your Impeller every 3 years!

Use Purosol's Sport / Marine Cleaner for your Electronics Screen.

'T' Clamps are the best hose clamp as they apply the pressure evenly and hold better.

When you get your Anchor, use chain that is at least half the length of your boat.

To mix your own 50:1 gas /oil, use 2.5 oz of oil to 1 gal of gas.

Tips & Tricks for better tasting Seafood

Thaw fish and shellfish in milk. The milk draws out the frozen taste and provides a fresh caught flavor.

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

Try soaking fish in 1 cup vinegar / 3 cups water for 15 minutes before cooking for a sweet tender taste.

Add 1 tablespoon of vinegar to the fat in which you are going to deep fry. It will keep the food from absorbing too much fat and eliminate the greasy taste.

To get rid of the "canned taste" in canned shrimp; soak them in a little sherry and 2 tablespoons of vinegar for about 15 minutes.

Nautical Terms, and Why.

Have you ever wondered why some people use Nautical terms on their boat, acting like old time sailors? Well I have the answer for you.

Lets' start with Port and Starboard. First every boat has a Port side and a Starboard side. If you sit in the boat facing forward the Port side is on your LEFT, and naturally that makes the Starboard side on your RIGHT.

In old sailing days there was a board or plank that stuck out from the right (Or Starboard) side of the ship where the navigator would go out on to see the stars better so take a fix. Quite often this was a fixed board so when they came in to dock they always docked with the left side against the pier or dock, hence the terms Port and Starboard.







Now why use them? I have seen this happen more than once. A fisherman has a fish on the line and is fighting them. The fish is to the Stern (Or Back) of the boat, so the fisherman is facing the back. Now the Captain or person running the boat is facing forward. The fisherman wants the boat to turn to his right and yells "Turn Right" so the Captain turns to HIS right, the wrong way! Now if everyone uses the nautical terms for the right and left, there will be no confusion, the fisherman says turn to Port and the Captain knows he wants the boat to go left which is the fisherman's Right!

I have gone so far as to put plastic placards at the helm and on the back corners of the boat so people won't forget which way to tell me to turn.

You can also remember which is right or left with this saying. " You can always be LEFT in Port" Here as in a lot of the English language Port has a second different meaning and that is the place at land where the boats sail from or too. As in Port Jacksonville, or Port Miami..

Most of the other nautical terms come from sailing ships where they gave the parts of the ship standard names to avoid confusion when telling someone which sail or mast or rope to adjust or where to go to find something or someone.

**Nothing makes a fish bigger than
ALMOST being caught!**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
 <h1>February</h1> 			1	2 Club Meeting Chili Cook-Off	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Club Meeting	17	18
19	20 EL Cheapo Volunteer meeting	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Board Meeting	28			 	



The more little fish, the better the fishing - from Sol-Lunar


COMING
EVENTS:

February 2nd - Club Meeting Chili Cook-Off

February 16th - Club Meeting

February 20th - El Cheapo Volunteer meeting, Cracker Barrel

February 27th - Board Meeting

March 2nd - JOSFC Meeting El Cheapo Bucket Stuffing All Hands needed!

March 3rd - El Cheapo Set-Up Day - for Captains meeting in the evening!

March 4th - The EL CHEAPO Sheepshead Tournament!

March 5th - Clean-up from the El Cheapo.



Here is a useless fact about this months Calendar. This February calendar sequence will not come again in our lifetime. In Fact not for another **823 years!**

This month only has 4 Sunday's, 4 Monday's, 4 Tuesday's, 4 Wednesday's, 4 Thursday's, 4 Friday's and 4 Saturdays!

For the next 823 years there will not be a single month with ONLY 4 of each day of the year. There will be some that come close, but they will have at least one day that will have 5 of that day during the month!

JOSFC & El Cheapo Sponsors in alphabetical order

A&A Express * Academy Sports * Angie's Subs * Ann Kemp Art * Apex Training * Atlantic Coast Marine * Atlantic Seafood * B & M Bait & Tackle * Beamish Custom Tackle * Beck DeWitt * Boat U.S. * CCA Florida * Cedar River Seafood * Colonel Jim's Breeding * Community Igloo * Consignment Boat Sales * Costal Cottage Amelia * Costal Fine Photo * Dandee Foods * Down Under * Engle Coolers * Fish Bites * Fishing Nosara * Ft. George Surf Shop * GemLux * Hagan Coastal Outfitters * Hagerty Construction * Hobie Fishing * Icon Golf Carts * Kelly's Foods * Knight Electric * Kona USA Skateparks * Land South Construction * Lisa Williams Art * Logan Pearson * Longhorn Restaurant * Luxe Picnic Baskets * Millers Ale House * Morning Star Marina * Mousa's Auto & Marine * Murphy Communications * Murray Ford Super Store * North Florida Inshore Slayers * Ocean Waves Sunglasses * Outdoor Show * PDQ * Pedego Electric Bikes * Resellers Reef * Roadshark Power Sports * Safe Harbor * Sailfish Construction * Salt Life Restaurant * Seahorse Stables * Sheepher Sweepers * Sherwin Williams Paint * Shurhold * Singleton's Restaurant * Skate Station * Solomons RV Storage * Southern Coast Seafoods * Strike Zone * Styles Smith Plumbing * Team Buck Rogers * The West Bank * Top Coat * Violet Studios * Website Solutions * Will's Fine Printing * Woods & Water Magazine * WRI Weather Routing *

More being added daily! Want to be an El Cheapo sponsor? There is still time, contact us at elcheapo@jaxfish.com, or call Bill Pollackov at 904-923-9153 or Karen Saltmarsh at 904-254-2897

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS! THEY SUPPORT US AND FISHING!



Jacksonville Offshore
Sport Fishing Club
3948 3rd St. South #232
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

