



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 47 Issue 1

January 2007

Presidents Castings



**Club President
Eddie McGowan
Bite This**

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and received all the toys they were wishing for.

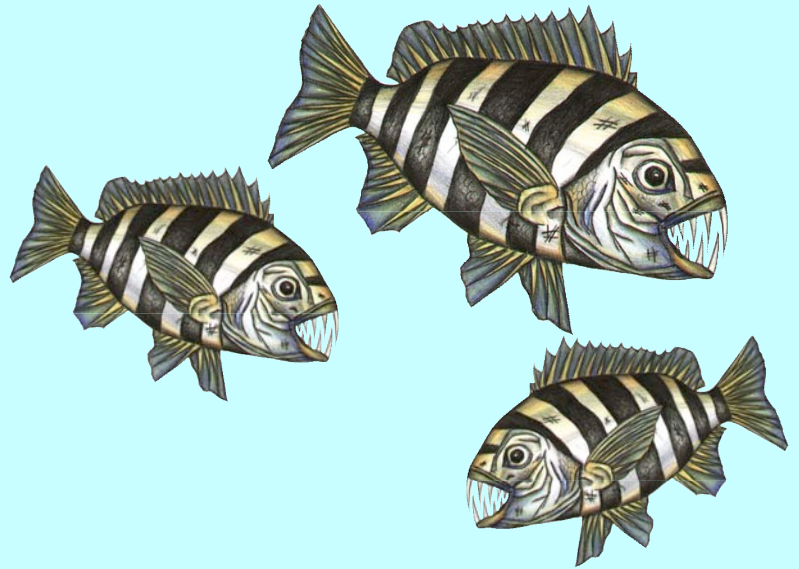
I feel like this year is going to be a great one and we are all going to have fun in the club activities and catch a lot of quality fish.

I keep getting reports of Wahoo, Sailfish, Tuna, and a few dolphin being caught at the ledge, by the fortunate few that can go in the middle of the week on those one day windows. These cold fronts that keep coming and coming and coming are driving me nuts! Maybe I'll just practice catching those "Striped Jetty Snapper" in preparation for the El CHEAPO Tournament.

Speaking of the El CHEAPO, Frank is again working like crazy to make this year's tournament the "BIGGEST & BEST" yet! He needs a lot of help from members / volunteers to make it a success. Please help us out and let Frank or me know that you will. There will be a full volunteers meeting on Feb. 8th at 7:30 pm at the club house. Be a part of the "Largest Sheepshead Tournament in the World" Thanks Frank!

Well it is time to clean out your garage of all those not needed items and bring them to the club house on Jan. 18th for our annual "Flea Market" night. Who knows.... You might make some \$\$\$ or swap some stuff around for something that you really want.

Be Safe & Have Fun,
Eddie McGowan



Their Coming!!!

The "EL CHEAPO" Sheepshead Tournament, Raffle and Fish Fry (Sheepshead is on the Menu) is February 24th!

We are really cooking on next months tournament. We have another Boat Motor and Trailer as the Grand Prize, and second place is two Kingfish Kayaks! This year we have over \$20,000.00 in prizes and raffles. We are going to need plenty of volunteers to help with set-up and to run everything during the day, and where it always gets short on the help is at clean-up. If you remember last year we had 2 BIG tents setup out front of the club house, and it was a little crowded. This year we will have 4 of those big tents set up, and expect a lot more people to be there.

Mark your calendars now, the full volunteers meeting is February 8, 2007 at 7:30 pm at the club house!

Continued on Page 2

El Cheapo Continued

Be sure to get some applications and carry them with you and talk up the tournament to everyone that you can.

The May 2006 issue of The Florida Sportsman Magazine officially declared our El Cheapo Tournament as the largest Sheepshead Tournament in the world!

It has also been described as one of the best run, CHEAPEST entry fee (hence the EL CHEAPO) with more and better prizes than a lot of bigger more expensive tournaments and definitely the most fun tournament in the world!

Every club member should be there if not to help, to at least have a fun day on the water or at the club!



Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



Jeff Rodda
Fishing Committee
Director

Welcome to 2007! This month should bring continued good fishing, especially if the wind will ever stop. All of the inshore fish haven's should be holding Sea Bass, Snapper and Grouper. Places like FA, FB, NM, MG, PG/PM (North Barge Lorán 45173.3 61963.7 GPS Lat 30 20.219 Lon 081 11.028) and RL would be great places to look. If you make it further offshore, to BR or CH, you should find Vermillion Snapper plentiful. My sources tell me that Kingfish can be caught this time of the year if you make it out to the Elton bottom. Out at the ledge there should be Wahoo but not in the numbers that we will see in just a few weeks.

In the river and at the jetties, the Sheepshead should be here in very good numbers. Trout should also be caught in good numbers. Remember that Spotted Sea Trout season will close on the 1st of February and remain closed until the 1st of March. Deep holes in the river and the ICW should yield fish using a sliding bobber rig with live shrimp or a Berkley Gulp on a jig head. Check with our associate member bait stores for colors and sizes. Good luck and have a prosperous New Year.

Jeff



Mike Coldwater holds an 18.5 Lb. Grouper that he caught on 12/2/06. Smiling Mike was with Dan Parker on the Pin Point and Dan reports that it was a Nasty, Nasty day out where they were, but Mike managed to stay in the boat and land the fish!



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Rob's Fishing Lore

Rob Darner

Getting the Hooks In!

Would you consider going one for seven successful? Would a mere forty pound fish satisfy your desire? It was at dinner the other night that I realized how much fishing imitates life. I listened to my wife's friend Dave and her converse about ex-wife's and ex-husbands and then it hit me. Our day of Wahoo fishing so much reflects certain aspects of all of our lives. Does going one for seven sounds better if it was a fish or a relationship? Would you rather have one in the box or would you like to hold out for that one trophy.

Not knowing that much about Wahoo fishing is just like a young lad attempting to start his dating foray. There are several techniques involved in order to capture a Wahoo and obviously there are several techniques in which we attempt to capture our females. (Most of the time, they really capture us.) Initially, all the young guns get real excited about high speed trolling and for us on today's trip this is what we started out doing. For the first hour or so, big gaudy plastics were thrown into the water and the boat was brought up nearly on plane. As we trolled east, the plastics did their thing trying to lure any unsuspecting Wahoo into crashing one of these baits. I guess it just like any teenager getting his 'mac' on and running through the local high school as fast as he can to see what female cast a glance his way. For us, nothing, not a single hit on the plastics. I guess our 'mac' was too retro for any female to take us too seriously. We may have had a glance with a few rolled eyes to boot.

After the high speed trolling was done, heavy lures were deployed using horse ballyhoo behind them. The speed was still turned up because it was reasoned that Wahoo are fast fish and they will strike fast moving bait. As us guys progress through high school, we may change from one lure to another, from plastic to high-speed ballyhoo. As guys and fisherman, we still appreciate a fast moving strike. As we changed our technique, our fortunes did change. Obviously, the fish saw something they like and rewarded us with a couple of short strikes. As with any dating situation, we found what was working for us and decided to stick with it. Now, seeing that our fish missed the hooks it was time to refine our technique to make sound decision in which to target that trophy fish.

Well sometimes, a few strikes are all you may get and then you go cold. It is the same with Wahoo fishing. You need to stick with it and wait it out. Go find your fish. Just like a young man may have to do after college. If the fishing for that one fish wasn't too good or that trophy had eluded

him then you need to keep plugging along. As our day kept plugging along, we decided to do a few different things. For one, we took off in direction away from the pack. We were covering new ground. We varied our speed and we started to zigzag across the ledge. Sure enough, a sign was rendered. A smallish yellow fin tuna skyrocketed near the boat. Within minutes, the long line took off. The fish had the hooks and we were off to the races. Plenty of commotion was going on inside the boat. I guess this is just like that first serious girlfriend. You have one that you have connected to and it just seems right. However, as with relationships and with this fight, sometimes things aren't meant to be. As my father fought this fish, the boat pulled away making a rather large semicircle around it when the fish came right back toward our boat. Just a little slack line and everything is gone. All the thrill of the chase, the fight was for naught. It was all over in a matter of minutes, I guess that's what some foiled relationships stack up to be against those who celebrate fifty or so years of marriage.

Well, where there's one, there are others. Just a shore has the hooks have pulled, its best to get out there and try again because believe it or not there are other fish in the area which have just keyed in on the action that just transpired. If I am lying then I am dyeing because it wasn't more than five minutes later our Wahoo had hit. Yes, sore feeling of angst and anguish are soon replaced with chaotic exuberance. Once again, the fish found the hooks and was running wild. The fight was good and it lasted for ten to fifteen minutes. As the fish arose from the depths, it was all lit up with blue neon stripes. It was making its traditional circles under the boat. The angler was playing it cautious letting the fish come up. As some young men do, he was commanding everyone letting them know whose fish this was. Everything seemed right and then the angler yelled for the gaff. I guess this one is the keeper we were looking for. With the fish so close to the boat, the danger increases because so many fish are lost near the boat. If the hooks didn't pull in the beginning, then the fish are lost at the gaff.

Now, once the gaff has found it marks, what is an angler suppose to do? Some may throw what they have caught back and up-size if you will. Now, take for example, John Kerry. Could one take and throw away one millionaires for another one? Is upsizing tens of millions to hundreds of millions a good thing? As it was pointed out, would you be happy with a simple forty pounder in the box or do you need to go back for something bigger? A forty pounder may just give you the fight of your lifetime and something you will remember as long as you fish. If you go back, then it's back to getting your 'mac' on and finding that school of fish. There is no guarantee that the next fish that hits will be better than the one in the box. No, quite the opposite, there are plenty of undersize fish swimming out there waiting to take a whack at your bait spread. Just think of all the time heading out there to the ledge, the fuel you spent getting there and the various techniques you tried to land this one fish and you could let it all go for not if you don't take care of what's in the box.

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

As the weather turns colder, and since the Captain of a vessel is responsible for the safety of his/her vessel and the crew, all Captains should be giving some thought to the prevention of hypothermia. As a Captain, have you ever thought about what a life jacket has in common with a blanket relative to hypothermia and safety in boating? Both can save your life when you are facing a major killer in aquatic mishaps such as hypothermia. Hypothermia can pose a problem for members of the crew anytime of the year, but should be of greater concern to all Captains as we approach colder weather.

A life jacket, obviously, will keep you afloat, but can also help ward off hypothermia by trapping warmed water between it and your body. A blanket can help prevent hypothermia by reducing body heat loss. Most boaters do not have a full understanding of hypothermia and how it can impact them. Most people think of hypothermia as "freezing to death" or frost bite. Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can be replaced and can kill a person at temperatures well above freezing.

Hypothermia occurs most rapidly when your body is immersed in cold water but may occur at anytime especially in windy situations if your clothing is wet. It can also occur in water as warm as 80 degrees if you are exposed for a long period of time. In water at 50 degrees, the predicted time for survival is 1.5 to 3 hours. If you should fall overboard with a lifejacket on, do not exert yourself. Keep your arms at your side and your legs together to conserve heat. If you find yourself in the water without a lifejacket conserving heat is even more important since you will have to keep yourself afloat. Do not try to swim, but exert as little effort as possible to float until rescued.

A person's body burns food to give it energy and maintain its temperature. When your body cools, blood moves from the surface area to the vital organs and you burn stored food to generate heat. Shivering is the first sign that your body is telling you that its temperature is below normal and action is required to correct the situation. If nothing is done, your body will begin a systematic shutdown. It is at this point; a blanket can be a lifesaver. A shivering person should be attended to immediately and dried if wet, removed from the wind and covered with a blanket and kept as warm as possible to conserve body heat.

If confronted with a hypothermic person, always remember that hypothermia is a serious medical problem. Make the person as comfortable as possible and seek medical help as soon as possible. If some distance from the shore, advise the Coast Guard by radio and they may send a medivac copter to remove the victim.

The best solution for hypothermia, however, is to prevent it by wearing protective gear, staying dry and out of the wind. Never go into a potentially hypothermic situation without having eaten a good meal.

May you continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fih Tales

Hypothermia - *When the body loses heat faster than it can produce it.*

The Fatal Scenario.

When the 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.
- 91.4 degrees Fahrenheit, shivering stops.
- 90 degrees Fahrenheit, the person becomes unconscious.
- 86 degrees Fahrenheit, death results from heart failure.

86 degrees Fahrenheit is the ambient temperature of a fairly hot summer day.

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





Ships Galley.....

Sidney Duncan
Hospitality Director

For the January 4th meeting we should be having:
Spaghetti and Garlic bread.

For the January 18th meeting we are having:
Hamburgers and Hotdogs.

Dirty Rice or Cajun Rice

2 Cups of white long grain rice
 ½ Cup of chopped seasoning (onions peppers garlic celery)
 1 Cup of Boiled & Chopped Chicken Livers or Ground Turkey
 if you don't like liver
 1 Cup of Chopped Shrimp
 ¼ Stick of butter
 1 Tbs of olive oil
 ¾ cup water
 Tony Chachere's Original Creole Seasoning

Cook rice is separate pot.
 Place butter, olive oil and chopped seasoning in a large
 saucepan. Cook until brown then add chicken live or turkey,
 let it brown then add water. It should look like mud. Then add
 Tony Chachere's to your liking Cook about 5 min. on medium
 then add shrimp. Cook of about another 5 min then mix in
 with the rice really well. Let it simmer for
 about another 3-5 min. then it's ready to eat.



Loud Hailings

Newsletter Editor
Bill Breen

Leigh Davis, our Hospitality Director,
 says that if you have a suggestion for a
 guest speaker or know anyone he can trick into giving a talk at
 the club, be sure to give him their name so he can contact
 them. Lets help Leigh out!

I really like to feature PICTURES of club members
 with some good catches. Either give me a hardcopy at a
 meeting (I will return it to you) or Phone, Fax, or E-mail me
 your pictures at: PH# 904-254-2791 Fax#904-213-9786
breenw@bellsouth.net

Don't forget to include your name spelled correctly and the
 fish weight.

Anyone can submit an article for the Reel News just
 send or give it to me at any time.

Associate Member of the Month

Gary Newman Insurance

Gary is a past President of our club, and one
 of our biggest supporters. Call the number to talk to
 "Frank" about the EL CHEAPO, and guess where
 you are calling. That's right Newman Insurance.
 Gary provides HOURS of free phone service for the
 club!

Do you need insurance for your boat, car,
 truck, or any vehicle? How about your house? See
 Gary, he is an independent agent, and can get you
 good insurance to fit your budget. Progressive for
 your boat with full REPLACEMENT, customized
 "Drive" for your car or Mercury Ins. for your car,
 Gary has it.

Hay! Don't be just OK with what you have,
 check with Gary to see if he can save you some
 MONEY! That could be more gas money for your
 boating!

***Remember, we need to support our
fellow club members and Sponsors!***

Gary Newman
INSURANCE
Family Owned & Operated

- Boat
- Auto
- Home

67 E. Sailfish Dr. • Atlantic Beach, FL

241-0777

Is This Your Last Newsletter?

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!!!

A subtle reminder, our By Laws mandate that; If you do not renew by January 1. You lose all club rights and privileges until you renew. If membership has lapsed for 6 months or more the **Application Fee** is applicable.

Here it is, Cut out this page, fill it out completely (Please include your full 9 digit Zip code) and then write your Check and drop them in an envelope and mail them to:

Jacksonville Offshore Sports Fishing Club
 PO Box 331185
 Atlantic Beach, Fl 32233



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 _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$50.00
(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16) | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Associate Member\$100.00
(For Business Concerns) | <input type="checkbox"/> Paid Junior Member \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member Individual \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Application Fee \$25.00
(Applicable to NEW Members or if renewing over 6 months late) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Family Membership \$300.00 | Total Remittance |

Signature _____ Date _____

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board Meeting at St. Johns Seafood Merrill Rd.	3	4 Club Meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Club Meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			<h1>January</h1>

Coming Events: January 1, 2007 **Happy New Year!**
 Make your #1 New Years resolution to
Attend more club meetings and have fun fishing!

Jan. 4, 2007 - Our guest speaker will be Jeff Todd on boat maintenance.

Jan. 18, 2007 - is the club's **Annual Swap Meet**. If you got something you don't use, bring it to the club and trade or sell it!

Feb. 1, 2007 - Our guest speaker will be Mike Brandon from West Marine speaking on Safety!

Feb. 8, 2007 - A full volunteer meeting for the EL CHEAPO, 7:30 pm at the Club House.

Feb 15, 2007 - We are looking forward to a lesson on Sheepshead Fishing from Rusty and James from B & M Bait & Tackle

Associate Members

• *ACM Electronics* • *Adventure Landing* • *Wild Adventures* •
Transmission • *Anthony & Sandra Spa* • *Arlington Bait & tackle* •
Angler • *B & M Bait & Tackle* • *Baitmasters of South Florida*
World • *Boathouse Discount Marine* • *Bryan McGowan*
C & H Lures • *Cabelas* • *Cannon's Bait & Tackle* •
Art • *Custom Marine Components* • *Deonas*
Dexter Russell Cutlery • *Dockside Inn* • *Donovan*
& W Marine • *Gear 4Fishermen* • *Greater Jax*
Guy Harvey Publishing • *Hydro-Shield* •
Crew • *Jacksonville Scuba Center* •
Electric • *Lindgren-Pitman, Inc.* •
Graphics • *Mann's Bait*
Get Away • *Ocean Waves*
Corp. • *Penn Tackle Mfg.* •
Styles • *Sea Tow*
Propane • *Speedy*
Seafood & Steaks
Industries of
Sportsman Club •
Plumbing • *Ballyhood*

Top Gun Trolling Lures

American
Avid
• *Boaters*
Charters •
Carey Chen
Boatworks •
Heating & Air • • *G*
Kingfish Tournament •
Power-Pro • *International*
Kershaw Knives • *Knight*
Mac's Prop Savers • *MacMedia*
Company • *Maxima America* • *Ocean*
Sunglasses • *Okuma Fishing Tackle*
Roffers Ocean Forecasting Service • *Salty*
Jacksonville • *Seafood Galore* • *Southern*
MacTwist • *SSI Custom Plastics* • *St. John's*
• *Strike Zone Fishing* • *Surefire LLC* • *Team Fish*
America • *The Billfish Foundation* • *The Florida*
Thrifty Outdoors • *West Marine* • *Workman's Kwik-Fix*

Now is the time to renew your JOSEC Club Membership.



Jacksonville Offshore Sports Fishing Club

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