



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

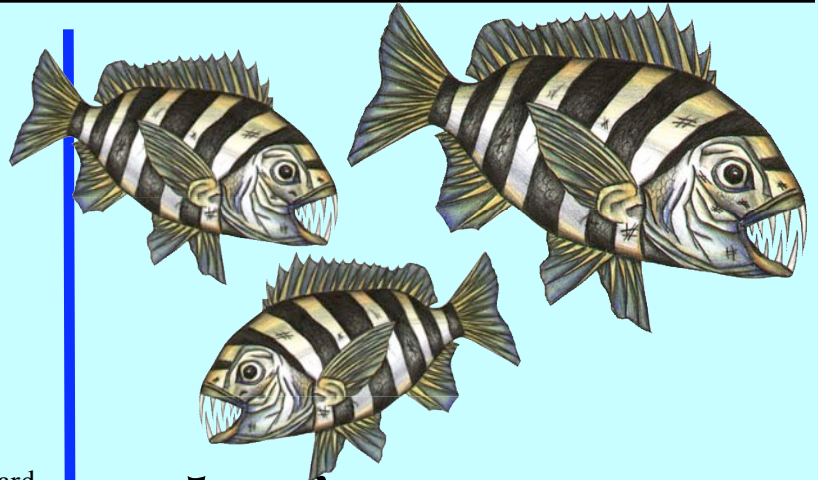
Volume 48 Issue 1

January 2008

Presidents Castings



**Club President
Eddie McGowan
Bite This**



They're Coming!!!

The El Cheapo Tournament is next month! February 23, 2008 to be exact!

As you all know, this is the biggest fund raiser that the club puts on for the year. Last year we had a fantastic 75 Volunteers to run things for the day.

This year we need Volunteers for :

Registration - the evening of the 21st. and the 23rd.

Set-Up - the 22nd Friday starting at about 11:00AM

Cooking - the 23rd all day.

Serving - the 23rd. from about noon on.

Fish Cleaning - the 23rd all afternoon.

Trash - the 23rd all day.

Tear-Down - 23rd evening after the event.

There will be a meeting for all volunteers at the clubhouse on Thursday at 7:30 PM on January 31, 2008

If you can volunteer and can't make the meeting, let me know.

Bill Breen - 254-2791

breenw@bellsouth.net

Happy New Year! I hope everyone is looking forward to the coming year as I am. I'm very excited about many different projects and plans that are in the making - especially the first and most important fund raiser of the year... The 7th EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT. This is our largest event of the year and we desperately need all of the help we can get. I want to personally thank all of the volunteers that helped last year and hope you all will join us again for this year's "LARGEST SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT IN THE WORLD" (As proclaimed for the 3rd year in a row by The Florida Sportsman Magazine.)

Speaking of the Florida Sportsman Magazine, their February 2008 issue will have a feature article on our El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament!

If you haven't yet, but would like to help out, please let Frank Joura, Brien Hackbart, or me know. The next volunteer / planning meeting will be January 31st at the club house at 7:30 PM.

Lets all hope for good weather on Feb. 23rd with lots of hungry fish, plenty of bait, and a sell out of 300 entries!

Our second meeting this month, Jan. 17th is our annual "Swap Meet / Flea Market". This is the time for everyone to clean out their closets and garages and bring all of the things you no longer use or need to the club house. It is a good way to make a little gas money or find something you have been looking for, at a good price.

The fishing rules have been gone over at the fishing rules committee meetings and a few of them have been changed or modified. They have been proof read and should go to the printer soon. Hopefully by the time you get this



*Fishing
Reports & Other
Tall Tales*
John Moscarillo
**Fishing Committee
Director**

This is usually the month that the Wahoo show up in force out at the ledge. Leaving in the dark with an air temperature in the 30's would normally deter all but the hardiest, or the most foolish of fishermen. It's a testament to these great fish that the number of boats going out for them every year does not seem to diminish. If you've never caught one of these speedsters, hook up with someone who has. It's worth the trip.

Near to shore the Red Snapper, Grouper and Sea Bass should still make a trip to the party grounds worthwhile. Remember that on January 1 B-liners have to be 12" and Sea Bass go to 11". Possession limits are still generous, 10 for B-liners and 15 for Sea Bass.

The river should see an increasing population of Sheepshead. Though they're not the easiest fish to catch, they are certainly worth the effort.



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Secretary Jennifer Davis
Treasurer Tina Proescher
Newsletter Editor Bill Breen
Newsletter Staff Greg Molloy, Mike Murphy
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Fishing Report Continued

The Trout season will be closing at the end of this month until the 1st of March but Black Drum should be showing up.

Reds will be limited to the deeper holes of the river and ICW. Whiting and Black Drum should be in the surf.

Compared to the rest of the country we have a really mild winter, and a great winter fishery.

One final note. If you had a fish, or two on the boards, and it's not there now, you didn't pay your dues. Paying them will not put the fish back on, but you can always try again.

Catch-em up
John Moscarillo
Fishing director



Welcome New Crew!

Don Cook
Membership Director

It is past time to renew you membership! If you haven't renewed by January 1, 2008, your membership has expired! There is a membership form on page 6, sit down NOW and fill it out and send it in TODAY! Come on and join the fun!

We would like to welcome our new members to THEIR new club.

Welcome!

Micheal & Shana Prince - 22' Grady White (Sophie's Choice)
Grant & Samantha Droogsma - 22' Grady White
Troy and Angel Cutshall and Evan 26 Century (Catch 1 For Bethany)
Alan Shepard - 19 Skeeter and his grandson Junior member Zach Hamilton

Newest lifetime family Greg and Pam Wallace

Mayport Party Boat Trip

A fishing trip aboard the King Neptune is being planned for Saturday, March 15th for JOSFC members and guests. The cost will be approximately \$80.00 per person. It will be limited to approximately 50 anglers, so reservations will be accepted on a first paid basis. After the day of fishing, a fish fry and cook out will be held at the Clubhouse. Further details will be announced soon at the meetings. If you are interested, please contact Mike Watts, telephone 374-4002, or Mike.Watts@Thomson.com



Rob's Fishing Lore

HIS FIRST

(The names of the innocent have been change for their protection)

The *Scott Free* boat took off from the Mayport jetties after an eerie hour long trip out the river through the pea soup fog. On board were three season veterans in search of Wahoo glory. There was the captain, Capt Trunk, Complete Pete and Big Granddaddy Johnson. Additionally a forth was taken along for the ride and he was dubbed Angler X, for now. In our quest for glory, we ran out at 115 degrees till we reached the ledge. Once there, a spread of high speed plastic lures was tossed over and we prepared for battle. Our search took us on and off the ledge. Radio chatter informed us that the Wahoo were in. The first Wahoo came and went. It took a souvenir with it, a shiny blue & white cedar plug. The eighty pound mono was no match for the razor teeth. After a short period of time, a strike! It came on a pink & white custom lure being trolled behind a two pound trolling lead. Complete Pete jumped at the chance of the fighting the fish. With some wonderful angling plus a great crew, the forty pound fish came to the boat and it surrender itself to the gaff.

Continuing on, the *Scott Free* trolled North at nine knots in search of other fish. The crew worked hard switching from bait to artificial, artificial to bait and back again. Time was running out and the call was made to point the vessel west and troll in toward 150 foot mark. Don Combs's wisdom proved to be invaluable. Light colored lures on one side while dark colors lure on the other with the American Express trolled down the middle way, way, way back. As time and depth was drawing near it appeared the crew was going to despair; however, fate intervened. With great commotion and lots of white water, the finial Wahoo hit the American Express. The sounds of the reel alarm coupled with 'fish on' caused Complete Pete to wake from his nap. Captain Trunk was at the helm when Angler X beat out Big Granddaddy Johnson for the rod.

The Wahoo was dumping line and dumping it fast according to Angler X. Complete Pete and Big Granddaddy Johnson were on the other rods retrieving them and clearing the deck for action. Angler X had his rod sticking high in the air when a pronouncement was made. He informed everyone that this was his first. A Cheshire grin from ear to ear stretched across his face and thus Angler X became Smiling Bob. Smiling Bob was working hard with his rod with both hands and he was showing signs of strain. Quickly, Captain Trunk came to his rescue and Smiling Bob had his very own strap on harness which made the strain that much more enjoyable. Now with a strap-on device, Smiling Bob's

rod dipped and bobbed. The slack caused the captain great concern and a brief re-education was taking place on how to properly pump & reel. The fish was giving good account of itself and Smiling Bob stated he believed he was cranking in a solid piece of lead on the other end. As the Wahoo came toward the boat, Smiling Bob's rod jumped excitedly back & forth. The fish was fighting to the bitter end when the term 'marlin' was thrown out there on the deck. A flash of silver and a rather large half moon curved tailfin darted through the water just behind the motors. As if by magic, the marlin turned back into a Wahoo and presto a very large and hungry hammerhead shark appeared near the transom. The shark was longer than the transom was wide. Complete Pete gaffed the Wahoo and a twenty-five pounder lay upon the deck. The fish quivered either from the gaff hole in its side or from the marauding shark's teeth marks. Needless to say the fish found the cool confines of the fish box.

Smiling Bob was still all grins for he had landed his first Wahoo of some note. He had been close but never that home run like today. Smiling Bob was now a dangerous man with a rod! Be careful out there folks because Bob is looking to go again.

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner



A couple of
the "Innocent"
exposed in the
photos!

Could that be
"Smiling Bob" above,
holding a Hoo with
the big bite marks on
it's side?

We all know
Rob Darner ---->
Nice fish!



Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

Safety First Hypothermia

During the next few months 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. Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it. 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 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. In water at 50 degrees, the predicted time for survival is 1.5 to 3 hours. It can also occur in water as warm as 80 degrees if you are exposed for a long period of time. For instance, in 70 to 80 degree water, a person may become exhausted or unconscious in as little as 2 to 12 hours with an expected time of survival of 3 plus 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, inform 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 and be aware that hypothermia can kill you. Exercise the necessary precautions to prevent hypothermia and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales



Ships Galley.....

**Sam McJunkin
Hospitality Director**

Helpful Hints & Tips

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.

Microwave limes for 40 seconds before squeezing, you'll get twice the amount of juice.

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.

Clams and oysters will be simple to open if washed with cold water, then placed in a plastic bag and put in the freezer for an hour.



President's Message Cont.

newsletter they will be done and ready for you to get your copy. Please read them carefully so we will all be on the same page. The final approved tournament schedule is in this newsletter on page 7.

I would really like to see a lot more members participating in our tournaments. They are a lot of fun, really improve your fishing skills, and learn to target species and techniques.

The first meeting in February is the "Chili Cook-Off" competition, so mix up your favorite batch and BRING IT ON!

I am working on another great fishing trip out of Hubbards Marina in Tampa on their big boat the Florida Fisherman. I have been in contact with Mark Hubbard and we are looking at available dates. If everything works out, the trip will be in the spring and on a weekend. Everyone that went on the first trip had a wonderful time, and most of them are wanting to go again. There were a lot of fish caught, jackpots won, great food eaten, and most of all fantastic camaraderie. So if you didn't make the first trip, make sure to make it on this one. I will announce the date as soon as possible.

Some of you have already heard the rumors that Sandy and I have gotten married..... Well I want to set things straight - - - IT'S TRUE!!!! - We tied a 100% fool proof knot at Huguenot Park on Saturday, November 24th. Sandy has finally made me a very happy man, and I can proclaim her as my "Best catch ever!"

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holidays, and is ready for some fun times with all the club events this coming year. The JOSFC has a lot to offer, and remember..... It is what you choose to make it!

Please be careful out there fishing in these cold times, hypothermia is extremely dangerous and can happen before you know it.

Be Safe, Have Fun, & Catch lots of Fish!
Eddie McGowan



A.J. Proescher
6.8 #'s
SheepsHead
2-17-07

Believe it or not, but for the El Cheapo Tournament you are going to need a sheepshead about 4 to 5 Pounds BIGGER than this. This Sheepshead is something to brag about, and would have placed in the tournament; but, wait until February 23rd and you will see some really amazing fish!

*Associate Member
of the Month*
Consignment Boat Sales

4852 Ocean St.
Mayport, FL 32233
904-249-6225

These fine people are our neighbors, located right behind our clubhouse. First and foremost, they do a great job of selling your boat for you! Our club member George Piper just used their services, and has nothing but praise for how well they handled his sale, getting his asking price, and they sold it to someone in San Diego, CA.!

Second, they really stepped up and supported our club big time with the EI CHEAPO !

If you are looking for a boat, or want to sell your boat contact CONSIGNMENT BOAT SALES first

JACKSONVILLE BOAT SHOW

The Jacksonville Boat Show will be held at the Prime Osborne Convention Center.

Friday, February 8, 12 noon to 9:00pm

Saturday, February 9, 10:00am to 8:00pm

Sunday, February 10, 11:00am to 6:00pm

The Club will have a booth at this event and volunteers are needed. If you would like to participate (free entry to the show), please contact Mike Murphy, telephone 722-9226, or sign up at the meeting.



Remember to shop at our sponsors and support them as often as you can,



Instant Crew, Just Add Water

<u>Name</u>	-	<u>Phone</u>	-	<u>Availability</u>	-	<u>Can call the Night before.</u>
Pete St.Laurent	-	220-9199	-	Most weekends	-	Up to 8:00 pm
Gene Fulgham	-	641-9970	-	Any day	-	Up to 8:00 pm
Dale Karg	-	451-2251	-	Most weekends	-	Up to 10:00 pm
Frank Grassi	-	234-7369	-	Weekends & Some days	-	Up to 8:00 pm
Sara Meier	-	H= 786-5608 C= 812-322-1519	-	Weekends & Some days	-	Up to 10:00 pm
Perry Arnold	-	H = 304-521-5987 C = 904-379-1189	-	Any day	-	Up to 10:00 pm
Richard Fisher	-	H = 221-9629 - Cell 738-1010	-	Nearly every day	-	Up to 8:00 PM the day before.



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 _____

Family Membership \$50.00

(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16)

Individual Member \$40.00

Paid Junior Member \$5.00

Annual Associate Member\$100.00
(For Business Concerns)

Application Fee \$25.00
(Applicable to NEW Members or if renewing over 6 months late)

Life Member Individual \$250.00

Life Family Membership \$300.00

Total Remittance

Signature _____ Date _____

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Club Meeting Meeting Speaker Dennis Young	4	5
6	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Club Meeting Annual Swap Meet	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 El Cheapo Volunteer meeting 7:30 pm at clubhouse.	<h1>January</h1>	

Coming Events:



- January 17, 2008 - The Club Annual Swap Meet @ the Clubhouse during the Regular club meeting!
- January 31, 2008 - El Cheapo Volunteer meeting @ 7:30 PM @ Clubhouse
- February 4, 2008 - Final El Cheapo planning meeting @ 7:30 PM @ Clubhouse.
- February 7, 2008 - The club's Annual CHILI COOK-OFF, get yours ready!
- February 8 / 9 / 10, 2008 Jacksonville Boat Show
- Location: Prime Osborne Convention Center
- February 23, 2008 - THE EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT!

Tournament Schedule for 2008

Tournament	Month	-Date / Alternate
	Saturday	Sunday
The River Fishing Tournament -	March	----- 9 / 16
The Non-Live Tournament -	March	----- 29 -----
	April	----- 5 -----
The Bottom Fishing Tournament -	April	----- 13 / 27
The Unlimited Trolling Tournament -	May	----- 3 / 10 -----
The May Trolling Tournament -	May	----- 18 / 25
The Junior Angler Tournament -	June	----- 14 / 28 -----
The Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament -	July	----- 5 / 19 -----
The Powder Puff Tournament -	August	----- 10 / 17
The Light Tackle Tournament -	August	----- 23 / 30 -----



Associate Members

• *ACM Electronics* • *Advance Marine* • *Adventure Landing* • *Wild Adventures* • *American Transmission* • *Anthony & Sandra Spa* • *Arlington Bait & tackle* • *Avid Angler* • *B & M Bait & Tackle* • *Baitmasters of South Florida* • *Boaters World* • *Boathouse Discount Marine* • *Bryan McGowan Charters* • *Ballyhood Top Gun Trolling Lures* • *C & H Lures* • *Cabelas* • *Cannon's Bait & Tackle* • *Carey Chen Art* • *Consignment Boat Sales* • *Custom Marine Components* • *D & S Fishing Specialities* • *D.J. Connection* • *Deonas Boatworks* • *Dexter Russell Cutlery* • *Dockside Inn* • *Donovan Heating & Air* • *Florida Sportsman* • *Gary Newman Insurance* • *G & W Marine* • *Gear 4 Fishermen* • *Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament* • *Guy Harvey Publishing* • *Hubbard's Marina* • *Hydro-Shield* • *Power-Pro* • *International Crew* • *Jacksonville Marina* • *Jacksonville Scuba Center* • *Kershaw Knives* • *Knight Electric* • *La Mee Florist* • *Land Roofing* • *Lindgren-Pitman, Inc.* • *Loadmaster Trailers* • *Mercury Outboards* • *Mac's Prop Savers* • *MacMedia Graphics* • *Mann's Bait Company* • *Maxima America* • *Mike's Taxidermy* • *Ocean Get Away* • *Ocean Waves Sunglasses* • *Okuma Fishing Tackle Corp.* • *Penn Tackle Mfg.* • *Production Drywall* • *Pier 17* • *Rick's Bait & tackle* • *River Marine* • *Roffers Ocean Forecasting Service* • *Salty Styles* • *Sea Tow* • *Sea Dance Charters* • *Jacksonville* • *Seafood Galore* • *Captain Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing* • *Solomon's RV & Boat storage* • *Southern Propane* • *Speedy MacTwist* • *SSI Custom Plastics* • *St. John's Seafood & Steaks* • *Strike Zone Fishing* • *Surefire LLC* • *Team Fish Industries of America* • *The Billfish Foundation* • *The Florida Sportsman Club* • *Thrifty Outdoors* • *West Marine* • *Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing* • *Woody Wax* •



**Jacksonville Offshore
Sports Fishing Club**

P.O. Box 331185
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

PRSRST STANDARD
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Permit 3546
Jacksonville, FL

It is time to renew your membership and join the fun!