

The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 49 Issue 1

January 2009



Presidents Castings

Captain Chris Rooney

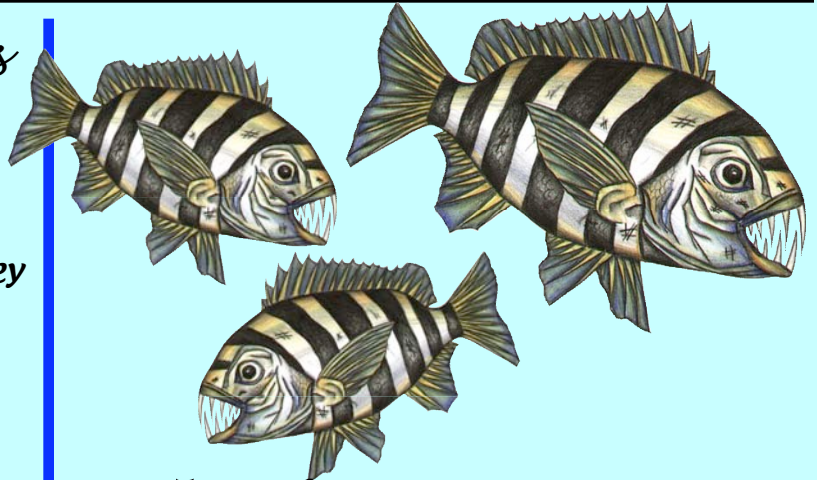
The Start of a New Year

Here begins the year 2009 and man do we have a year coming, the Club is officially 50 this year and it seems to me its only getting better. Membership is up, participation is up, and we are about to start the new year. The first month is January and we start it with the "Swap Meet". If you need it come on out and you'll find it! If you want to sell it come on out and someone else needs it.

The second meeting in January is going to be something special. Our first president is retiring from the charter business. Captain Fred Morrow is going to hang up his captain's hat and join us at the club to do it. The Hospitality Committee Chairman said the only appropriate menu for that occasion is a fish fry. So clean out your freezers, thaw out those snapper and grouper fillets and lets do a little cooking on the porch. You bring them out and Andy will put the special dust to them and that grease will be popping. Both of those meetings were rescheduled to the second and fourth Thursdays of the month due to New Years Day being a Thursday.

The El Cheapo is only two months away and rumor has it the prize structure is set already. WOW!! Frank Joura is excited. I'll let him tell you all about it at

Continued on Page 2



They're Coming!!!

The El Cheapo Tournament is next month! February 28, 2009 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 :**
- Captain's Bag Stuffing** - the evening of the 19th, before the club meeting, about 5:00 pm
 - Registration** - the evening of the 27th. and the 28th.
 - Set-Up** - the 27th Friday starting at about 11:00AM
 - Cooking** - the 28th all day.
 - Serving** - the 28th. from about noon on.
 - Fish Cleaning** - the 28th all afternoon.
 - Trash** - the 28th all day.
 - Tear-Down** - 28th evening after the event.

There will be a meeting for all volunteers at the clubhouse on Thursday at 7:30 PM on January 29, 2009

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

Bill Breen - 254-2791

breenw@bellsouth.net

our next meeting, but I have a feeling its going to be better than last year and that's saying something.

Last but not least were still fishing for Grouper and Snapper. As of the time I'm writing this the interim rules and closures have not been put into place. If any of you see Becky Hogan,(the original and operations manager of the Mayport Princess) give her hug and thank her for leading this fight. She just got back from a week in North Carolina fighting the South Atlantic Marine Fisheries Council. Becky is hard at work continuing to battle the bureaucrats that want to stop us from using the fishing resource we've built.

The fishing is great when we get the weather to get them. So lets hope old man winter takes a couple of breaks this month and lets us go get um! See ya at the Club House!!



The Reel News

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Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



Derek Siegel
Fishing Committee
Director

Hoping all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Here's the latest and greatest on fishing. All of us who fish offshore should be aware the regulations on fishing are changing and check the regulations before you head out fishing. The jury just came in on Red Snapper, and the news is good. The S.A.M.F.C. took no action, so we can still fish for snapper! Keep sending out those letters.

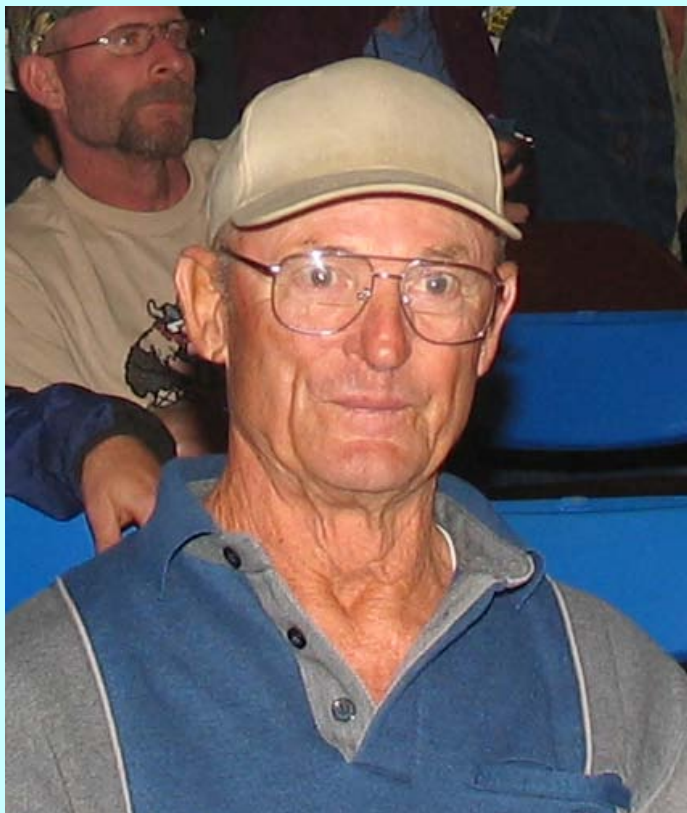
As far as the fishing it's all good. There has been a good report on Wahoo catches further out. Most vary in size from in the teens to a 96 pound one caught at the ledge. As usual this time of year bottom fishing is outstanding. I've gotten reports of a lot of limiting out on Red Snapper before lunchtime and some really good catches of legal size grouper. The Triggerfish, Black Sea Bass and B-liners have also been top catches. But also remember keeping an eye on the weather. Just because the weather report says its going to be 1-2 foot seas with 10-12 second seperation doesn't mean its going to stay that way. Our weather guessers are one of the few people that can get their predictions wrong and still get paid for it. Safety first.

Inshore has been good also with top catches on Black Drum, Red Bass, Croakers and Trout. The Flounder seem to have thinned out. The shallows in the creeks and back waters have produced a lot of Rat Reds. So if the weather isn't good offshore try a few spots inshore to save the day. And more importantly take a kid fishing. Looking forward to the El Cheapo SheepsHead Tournament in February.

Derek USN retired



Retiring, but still Fishing!



Captain Fred Morrow

Captain Fred Morrow, was the first President of the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club, 1959 / 60 & 1960 / 61, now 50 years later he has decided to RETIRE!

Captain Fred is a legend among fishermen and women from Georgia to south of St. Augustine Florida. He has commercial fished these waters for years, and run a successful charter fishing business. Captain Fred has a reputation of always putting his clients on good fish and bringing them back to the dock happy customers.

For years the JOSFC has called on Captain Fred to give fishing seminars on the different species of fish we catch along the North East Coast of Florida, and in the River, intercoastal and estuaries . If anyone wanted to know where the fish were biting, just ask Captain Fred. He can tell you what is biting, where to go what stage of the tide to fish, and probably what time the fish will bite!

In the JOSFC book the "Offshore Reef Guide" on page 47, you will find the history of

what is now known as "AH" or Amberjack Hole. The original name was "Peanut King's Amberjack Hole" This was from Captain Fred Morrows boat, a 20 foot Thunderbird, named "Peanut King"

The single fish that won a tournament for Captain Fred was a 72 Pound Amberjack, caught at "The Hole". That started the name "Peanut Kings Amberjack Hole" or "Peanut Boy's Amberjack Hole".

Captain Fred went through several boats during the next 50 years. The "Ronnie J", the "Ronnie J II", the "Lady Yvonne" and the "Little Yvonne" that he used for River and Jetty Charters.

We the fishing community of the greater Jacksonville area wish Captain Fred Morrow a happy, healthy and long retirement!

Gary Newman

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Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

FUELING

After reading, in the local paper, the recent story about a boat exploding in the intracoastal waterway, I thought it was time to remind everyone about the need to be extra careful when fueling your vessel. Four people, from Georgia, in town for the Florida-Georgia football game had to be rescued when their 26-foot Chris Craft exploded in the Intracoastal Waterway about 7 mile North of the Beach Boulevard Bridge. All aboard were blown into the water and 3 were hospitalized with serious injuries.

After further investigation, it seems that the crew pumped about 20 gallons of gasoline into the bilge before it was discovered that the fuel fill pipe was an old one not attached to a fuel tank. The old tank had been removed and replaced with a new metal one but the old fill pipe was left in place near the new fuel fill pipe. The crew thought they had removed all the raw gasoline and got underway. When they reached the Intracoastal the boat exploded. The number one lesson here is never leave an old fuel fill pipe in place unless it is sealed. The number two lesson is when fuel is spilled, make sure all fumes are removed, not just raw gasoline, before starting your engine.

Also, to ensure that your boating/fishing trip is one that begins and ends safely, take the necessary steps in advance to make sure you do not run out of fuel offshore. Always check to make sure your fuel tank is full before starting a trip offshore. It will not only guard against you running out of fuel, but will also help reduce condensation in your fuel tank. When a partially empty fuel tank cools, some of the water vapor in the air condenses. Thus, when you leave your tank partially empty, you will slowly accumulate water which could cause more problems later.

As some of you may already know, it's a horrible feeling to look at an empty fuel gauge after your motor sputters and quits. Keeping a full tank is one way to safeguard against this. Another safeguard is to follow the "one-third rule". This rule says use only one-third of your fuel on your trip out to sea, use one-third on the way back and save one third for reserve.

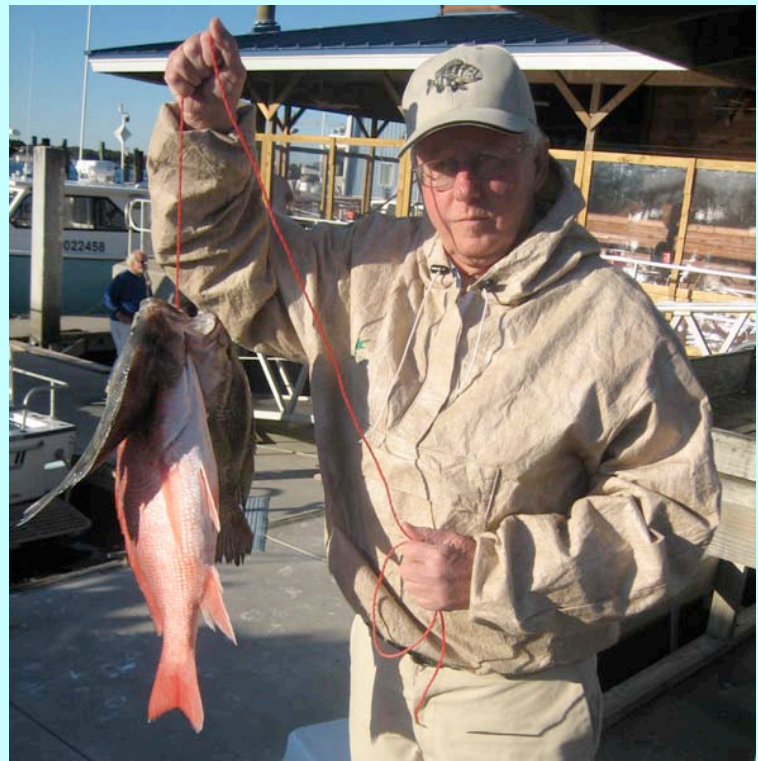
Why this formula? Why not use one-half out and one-half back? The reason being that the trip back may take more fuel than the trip out. When you go out, the wind and seas may be calm or from astern which would cause you to use less fuel than normal. When you turn around and head back home, you may find yourself now heading into a strong head wind and heavy seas which will cause you to use much more fuel than normal. Forward progress can be slow and fuel consumption high, which could cause you to run out of fuel.

If you start with a full tank, and if you use the one-third rule, you should never have to worry about running out of fuel. Before filling your fuel tank, make sure the engine is shut down

and all electrical devices such as fans, navigational devices, radios, motors, generators and lights have been turned off.

To be on the safe side, if an inboard, operate your engine compartment blower for at least five minutes after fueling, and anytime you start the engine. In order to make sure your blower is venting the compartment properly, do not rely on the noise of the motor running, but instead put your hand over the vent to make sure air is exiting the vent. Many times insects will build nest in, and block the vent, so that the only way to know if the vent is working is to put your hand over it to test for air movement. Then, before starting your engine, use the best instrument you have for checking for gas fumes, your mark eight nose to check all compartments for gas fumes by sniffing for odors. Follow these rules and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales



Here is a RARE picture of our own Mike Murphy. Mike is proving to us that he actually can catch fish! At least Mike caught something, that is more than I have done for a while.





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)

Annual Associate Member\$100.00
 (For Business Concerns)

Life Member Individual \$250.00

Life Family Membership \$300.00

Individual Member \$40.00

Paid Junior Member \$5.00

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

Total Remittance

Signature _____ Date _____

Associate Member of the Month



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Remember, we need to support the businesses that support our club!



Loud Hailings

**Newsletter Editor
 Bill Breen**



Randy Raulston, our Program 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 Randy 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.



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.
John Porcella	610-3855	Nearly any day	Up to 10:00 PM
Bob Calfee	C = 472-9957	Weekends & Some days	Up to 8:00 pm
Matt Ennes	536 - 7450	Friday through Monday	Up to 9:00 pm
David Brown	962 - 3787	Saturdays & Some week days	Up to 11:00 pm
Ken Roach	221 - 7212	Any Day	Up to 8:00 pm the day before.
Joe Esparza	C = 536 - 4114	Any Day	Up to 10:00 pm

Our Website

Our website is now back up, running, and in the process of being fully updated and improved. Shortly we will have LIVE MARINE RADIO streaming on our website. We are waiting for Comcast to install a high bandwidth connection to our clubhouse, (They say 4 or 5 weeks for the permits to run the cable under the road. But we ((actually Mike Murphy is mostly "WE")) are working on rushing all that to get it done ASAP.)

As soon as it is up, you will be able to log onto our website and listen to the boats out there fishing, find out where they are biting, and what the seas are really like. Capt. George and the other charter boat captains are more informative when talking to each other during the week than on weekends.

You can also find the best weather links at our website, and shortly check the fishing boards to see if your big fish will qualify to knock someone off, and how the Captain Of The Year Race is going. You can read the "Reel News", get the latest club information and important notices that came in after the newsletter went to press, and see pictures from the latest events.

We would like YOU, our club members, to start talking up our website to everyone you can, just tell them to:

Check out www.jaxfish.com

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
 <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 20px; text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">January</div>				1	2	3
4	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8 Club Meeting Swap meet	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Club Meeting Fred Morrow retirement party!	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 El Cheapo Volunteers meeting 7:30 PM	30	

Coming Events:

*The JANUARY meeting dates have been MOVED to the 2nd and 4th Thursday's
January 8th and January 22nd*



January 8, 2009 - The Annual Swap Meet

January 22, 2009 - **SPECIAL** Captain Fred Morrow's Retirement Party. Fred was the very FIRST President of the JOSFC, 50 years ago, and a legend of Jacksonville Fishing!

January 29, 2009 - El Cheapo Volunteers meeting at the Club House at 7:30 pm

February 5, 2009 - The Club's Chili Cook-off Contest. Set aside some venison or whatever special ingredients you use to make the world's best Chili!

Finally - but not least. February 28th is THE EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT!

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