



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 51 Issue 1

January 2011

PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Capt Don Cook



January, it seems like the last year sped past without pause and it is that time of year we look back and reflect. Naw, lets look forward and plan. This month we will have only a few days the weather lets us fish. Pick your days and head deep for a tuna, wahoo trip. Fortunately we can still drop a rig for triggers, sea bass, pinkies etc. This month grouper, vermillion and of course red snapper are closed. I spend the cold nasty days going over my rods, reels, rigs and safety gear so when the window opens I will be ready. Sheepshead season is here inshore, time to look for that El Cheapo winner and take a few tasty filets home as well.

The fight with marine fisheries is far from over so continue to pay attention. Last year we won some and we lost some. The elections gave us some new legislators to work with and we need to bring them up to speed and enlist their help. The law suit RFA filed bares watching as well.

I wish everyone a happy and fishing (hopefully catching) filled year. See you on the water or at the club house.

Don



It's Coming!!!!

**The El Cheapo Tournament is next month!
February 26, 2011 to be exact!**

As you all know, this is the biggest fund raiser that the club puts on for the year. AND the most fun!

This year we need Volunteers for :

Clubhouse & Grounds Clean-up - Saturday
February 19th 2011

Captain's Bag Stuffing - the evening of Feb. 17th,
before the club meeting, about 5:00 pm

Registration - the evening of Feb. 25th. the
Captain's meeting and the 26th.

Set-Up - Feb. 25th Friday starting at about 11:00AM

Cooking - 2 full crews needed Feb. 26th all day.

Serving - Feb. 26th. from about noon on.

Fish Cleaning - Feb. 26th all afternoon.

Trash - Feb. 26th all day.

Tear-Down - Feb. 26th evening after the event.

**There will be a meeting for all volunteers
at the clubhouse on Thursday, January 27, 2011,
at 7:30 PM**

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

Bill Breen - 254-2791

breenw@bellsouth.net





Mark Aley (Above) and Joe Esparza (Right) had a good day CATCHING the nonexistent Red Snapper, just **5 miles** off the beach! They were trying for Grouper, but were covered up in Red Snapper!



Species	Lower Avoidance	Optimum	Upper Avoidance
Amberjack	60	65 - 75	80+
Bonito	60	65 - 75	80+
Barracuda	55	72 - 80	86
Bigeye Tuna	52	62 - 74	80
Black Marlin	68	72 - 82	87
Blackfin Tuna	65	70 - 75	82
Blue Marlin	70	74 - 82	88
Bluefin Tuna	50	60 - 72	82
Bluefish	50	66 - 72	84
Dolphin (Mahi)	70	72 - 78	82
Flounder	56	62 - 66	72
Jack Crevalle	65	70 - 85	90
Kingfish	65	68 - 76	88
Permit	70	75 - 85	92
Pompano	65	70 - 82	85+
Redfish	52	70 - 90	90+
Red Snapper	50	55 - 65	70+
Sailfish	68	72 - 82	88
Snook	60	70 - 82	90
Spanish Mackerel	60	65 - 75	80
Spotted Seatrout	56	66 - 82	90
Striped Bass	42	50 - 65	75
Striped Marlin	61	68 - 76	80
Swordfish	50	60 - 75	80
Tarpon	70	75 - 90	100+
Wahoo	65	68 - 80	88
White Marlin	65	68 - 78	80+
Seabass	58	64 - 68	74
Yellowfin Tuna	64	72 - 82	80



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ROB'S FISHING LORE

An Ugly Duckling

When it comes to competitive tournament fishing we have all heard of legendary shootouts between Bertrum & Hatteras plus Fountain & Contender but have you ever heard of Emotion vs. Hobie? No, this is not a sailboat tournament but a kayak fishing tournament. The only pastel colors sporting around the bar were that of the kayak themselves. Bright yellows, oranges and greens were in plain view. The tournament format had a 'pro' division and there were teams sponsored by both Hobie & Emotion. According to a few khaki short wearing, flip flop folks, this type of fishing allows one to get closer to nature. Wonderful, the closer I got a winning trout the better I felt about being out in Nature.

The rules were pretty simple. It was a catch and release tournament with photographic evidence required to support your catch. The photos had to be digital and the fish had to be placed on the specially made tournament measuring stick. One could launch from any public ramp from Camden, Ga to St. Augustine, Fl. Weigh-in, if you will, was from 2 to 4 pm back at HQ, the bar, a local Irish bar, a real bar not a sissy 'bar & grill' but an honest to goodness hard drinking bar where the tables were few and the 'U' shape bar was long. God bless the Irish! The rules were also very clear in that NO motors or engines were permitted. You could push, paddle or pull your way to where you wanted to fish as long as you got there without the assistance of mechanical power. The tournament application was filled in with almost the necessary information: length, 12 foot; type, Crestliner; color, aluminum. I sure this color scheme failed in some sort of sense to the tournament folks but what the heck, the



tournament's cause was to support our area's own Wolfson Children's Hospital. It is a good cause.

Tournament morning, Madyson & I were launching in Guanna Park precisely at 7 am. With a great and powerful roar of the oars, the Crestliner clanked and banged its way across the lake. Daybreak was beautiful and the noise from the manpowered engines broke the serenity of the moment. As we cruised the nearside bank, our presents startled a 3 or 5 point buck peacefully strolling along the lake shore. Yep, this nature thing was starting to work out. At periodic intervals, the crew of the Crestliner would stop to fish for that trophy gator Trout. Well, the only 'gator' that came close was an honest to goodness GATOR and it was no small critter either. It represented itself in the 6 to 7 foot range and while we slide further in toward the lake so did the gator. It was shadowing us for a while. I guess it had nothing better to do then to unnerve the crew of the tiny aluminum row boat. We hoped this would not turn into an episode of Swamp People. After communing with Nature for nearly 2 hours and no fish to show for the effort, it was decided to relocate to the other side of the dam.

Once the other side of the dam, the boat's engine fired up its tired arms and it headed away from ramp. The destination was a small creek opening which seemed miles down the waterway, surrounded by a few oyster bars. Reasonably, it was assumed that either trout or a red fish would pose for a picture. Instead, Nature once again decided to commune with us once more. The gator was left way behind but a pair of overly playful dolphins decided to make their presence known. They were playing 'tag'. Being this close to nature, you could hear the sounds of heavy blowhole breathing. The tag game lasted a whole lot longer then our crew would have liked. It kinda made one say, "Your kidding?" and "Go get a room!" Thankfully, dolphin's stamina didn't last all morning long but there was something unusual about their departure. One spied a cigarette out of one blowhole while some funky tattoo was being sported on the backside of tail flipper. I guess being in a kayak or a small row boat does allow one to get even closer to nature than in a



motor boat. Man, who would have ever thought? Yep, they were right at the captain's meeting, this is a good way to get much closer to nature but it begs the question: Just how close do you want to get?

At least the fishing wasn't a total waste of time after the pair departed for cooler deeper water. A trout was caught but it would fail to measure up to standards. As time counted down to lines in, the oars roared to life and the Crestliner found its way back to the ramp and from here back to tournament base for Madyson was Wolfson Children's Hospital representative for the Irish Water Dogs Tournament.

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

Hypothermia

Starting this month as the cold weather moves into our area, we normally think more about staying warm when fishing in the cold, windy weather. Also, 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 can pose a problem for boaters anytime of the year, but should be of greater concern to all Captains as we approach colder weather.

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. As a result, you should carry both of these items on your boat. A life jacket is a federal and state requirement, but a blanket is not. However, all boaters should carry a blanket on board.

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. An individual who falls overboard without a life jacket has virtually no chance of conserving heat loss. In fact, many individuals, who fall overboard, seem to lose the ability to climb back on board or to hang onto some craft or object, since there is a progressive decline in muscle strength following immersion in cold water. However, if possible, get out of the water as heat loss is less to cold air than to cold water. Always try to get out of the water.

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

The Fatal Scenario

When your 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 begins.

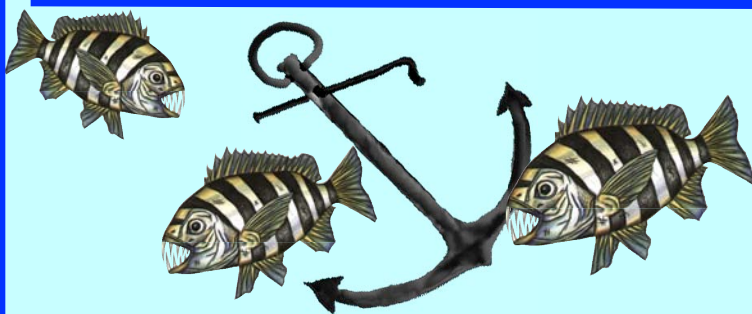
91.4 Degrees Fahrenheit - Shivering stops.

90 Degrees Fahrenheit - You become unconscious.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit - Death results from heart failure.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit is the ambient temperature of a fairly hot summer day. Our water off Jacksonville is rarely that warm!

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



Associate Member of the Month



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THE ICE MAN
384-2013

The Ice Man is a major sponsor of our club, and the upcoming EL Cheapo Tournament.

What you probably didn't even think about is that you can call on them for PARTIES! They can provide Ice, of course, and they can Blow Snow, from as little as a couple of tons (That isn't a very big snow patch.) to 100 tons or more. They have and can provide Snow Slides, and even Block ice if you wanted to have an Ice carving contest.

So support our sponsors and call on or use the ICE MAN for all your ice needs!

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



Now that he isn't the club's President any more, Chris Rooney is back out catching fish. We all know that Chris is a big man, so you can tell that those are really BIG fish! Nice catch Chris!



Loud Hailings

Newsletter Editor

Bill Breen

Anyone can submit an article for the Reel News just send or give it to me at any time. I really like to feature PICTURES of club members with some good catches, like these in this issue. Either give me a hardcopy at a meeting or Phone, Fax, or E-mail me your pictures at: PH# 904-254-2791 Fax#904-213-9786 beenw@bellsouth.net



Instant Crew, Just Add Water

<u>Name</u>	-	<u>Phone</u>	-	<u>Availability</u>	-	<u>Can call the Night before.</u>
Pete St.Laurent -	C =	220-9199		Most weekends		Up to 8:00 pm
Gene Fulgham -	C =	641-9970		Any day		Up to 8:00 pm
Rodney Anderson	-C =	318-4005		Any day		Up to 9:00 pm
Richard Fisher	-	H = 221-9629		Nearly every day		Up to 8:00 PM the day before.
John Porcella -		Cell 738-1010				
		C = 610-3855		Nearly any day		Up to 10:00 PM
Joe Esparza	-	C = 536 - 4114		Any Day		Up to 10:00 pm
Phillip Ferdon -		H = 879-0184		Fri. Sat.		Up to 9:00 pm
		C = 887-6736				
Rod Saffles	-	C = 993-6986		Any Day		Up to Midnight
Ron Hunter	-	C = 733-1197		From Noon Wednesday through Sunday		Up to 8:00 PM
Ronald Cowart -		C = 879-4724		Weekends		Up to 9:00 PM
Greg Cole	-	C = 412 - 5722		Any Day		Up to 9:00 PM
Jason Jones	-	C = 945.6576		Weekends		Up to 9:00 PM

**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.

**It is past time
to renew your
membership
in the JOSFC!**

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 _____

You can use the
form at the left,
(Mail it to the
address on the
back opposite the
stamp), or do it
on-line at
www.jaxfish.com

Just to remind
you, if you have
a fish on the
boards, and have
not renewed by
January 1, 2010,
Off it comes,
and does not get
put back on when
you renew.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		January				1
2	3 Board Meeting	4	5	6 Club Meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Club Meeting Swap Meet	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 El Cheapo Volunteer meeting	28	29
30	31					

Coming Events:

Jan. 6th - Club Meeting.

Jan. 20th - Annual Club Swap Meet.

Jan. 27th - Full El Cheapo volunteer meeting 7:30 PM @ club house.

Feb. 4th - Annual Chili Cook-Off Club Meeting.

Feb. 19th - Club Clean-Up / Fix-Up day for El Cheapo.

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Permit 3546
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It is **PAST** time to renew you membership !