



The Reel News

The Newsletter of the . . .



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 48 Issue 2

February 2008

It's



Here !!!

It's here! The 8th Annual El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament and Fish Fry

Grand Prize:

presented by Mercury Marine, Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing and Loadmaster Trailers

Retail Value Over \$8,000.00!



Photos for illustration purposes.
Some details may vary.



**16' Lowe Jon Boat
- #L1648MT**

**25 hp Mercury
4-stroke Motor**

**Loadmaster
Trailer**

PLUS! - Replica Taxidermy Mount of the winning fish presented by Strike Zone Fishing

will be held on February 23. For those of you who have never fished this tournament before, welcome to what's now known as "the World's Largest Sheepshead Tournament". For those of you who have fished it before, Welcome back! --- and I'm sure you'll find the 8th edition of this tournament the best one yet.

This year we have a second Boat & Trailer for Second place, and a Junior Angler division to make it even better. Through a strong commitment from **Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing**

Continued Page 2



Presidents Castings



**Club President
Eddie McGowan
Bite This**

With all of the Holidays over and gone, I can get back to my real passion now... FISHING! If the dreaded "Nor-Easters" would just back off, I could be found at the ledge or at least close by, trolling for wahoo and anything else that frequents the area. But, in the mean time, I'll settle for middle grounds Grouper, Snapper and giant Sea Bass.

I went out with Chris and Jeannie B. On the "P & L" last month for a little bottom bumping and had an awesome day using light tackle (30 Lb.) I tied on a white bucktail jig and sent it to the bottom. The fish wouldn't leave it alone. I caught 2 legal Snapper (Right on the 20" mark) several short Snapper and all of the 2 to 2-1/2Lb Sea Bass I wanted. The last Snapper chewed off the final few hairs left on the jig head, so I retired it until more hairs can be re-tied. Chris

Pres. Message Continued

When I can't get outside of the jetties, it's Sheepshead time. I am constantly looking for the home of the "BIG ONES" to take first place in the EL Cheapo tournament.... Or as usual second place.

Frank Joura has been working diligently on our biggest event / fund raiser of the year, the EL CHEAPO! I cannot express enough our gratitude Frank... Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

People ... Please help our club in it's presentation of the "LARGEST SHEEPSHEAD FISHING TOURNAMENT IN THE WORLD" by giving Frank a call or coming to the volunteer meeting on Jan. 31st at the club at 7:30 pm, and let him know what you can do to help.

We thank all of you that volunteer!

The first meeting in February is our annual "CHILI COOK OFF" contest, so make your best batch and bring it to the club on Feb. 7th for the competition. - YOU could win the prize for first place!

Have Fun, Be Safe, & Catch Lots Of Fish...

Eddie McGowan

EL CHEAPO from Page 1

and the community that supports what the JOSFC is all about, and dedicated efforts of many club volunteers, we've been able to put together an outstanding prize structure and raffle for this year's tournament. Boasting a combined purse and raffle of over \$40,000.00 paying out 15 places, this truly has become one of the best fishing tournaments in all of North Florida.

Again this year will be a "winner take all" optional Tournament within a tournament" for club members only! Entry is \$20.00. See John Moscarillo for details.

At the club meeting on Thursday Feb. 21st we hope once again to have our resident Sheepshead gurus Rusty and James from B & M Bait & Tackle sharing their knowledge of how to catch the prized 7 striped jetty snapper. For the Captain's meeting on the 22nd, we will have Capt. Vic Tyson sharing his local knowledge and expertise on catching the elusive 7 striped jetty snapper. We'll also be offering a sample of Saturday's raffle with several prizes on the table that will be drawn that night.

On the day of the tournament, in addition to the spectacular raffle (and weigh-in of course) we'll also have our world famous fish fry. I invite all of your friends and family to join us as we present the day's winners.

As we've mentioned before, this tournament above all, is a CLUB event, and we need your support to present a 1st Class Tournament. We'll be needing volunteers to help with getting brochures out, registration, prize procurement, and captain's bag stuffing, as well as tournament site set up and tournament day support including check-out, hospitality, fish cleaning, raffle, weigh-in and of course, clean-up. There will be an "El Cheapo" full volunteer meeting on Thursday, January 31st, 7:30 pm at the club house. If you'd like to be a part of this great event, please plan on attending. For more information, contact Frank Joura at 465-4552 or by e-mail at FJoura@bellsouth.net.



The Reel News is published monthly by the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club (JOSFC). All rights reserved.

President Eddie McGowan
Vice President Chris Rooney
Secretary Jennifer Davis
Treasurer Tina Proescher
Newsletter Editor Bill Breen
Newsletter Staff Greg Molloy, Mike Murphy
Layout & Design Bill Breen

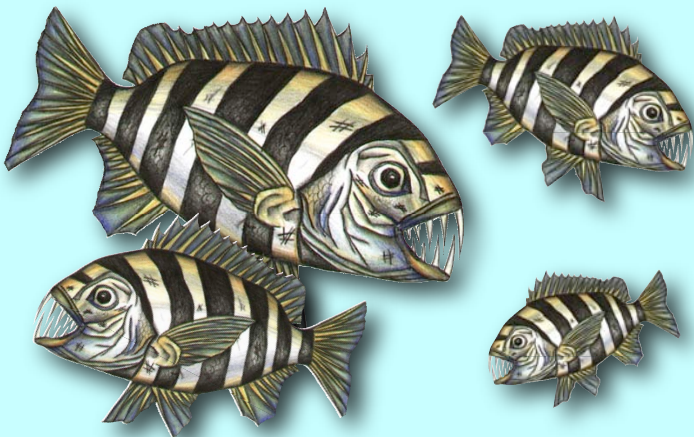
©Copyright 2004



Mike Greenstein with a 17.5 Lb Grouper



Jim Anderson with a nice snapper



Welcome New Crew!

Don Cook
Membership Director

- Stephanie Conrad - 19' Spectrum - "Heavy Metal"
- Jr Member - Kevin Conrad
- Aaron & Marci Cox - 18' Sundance - "Your Mom"
- Gary & Terry Roberts - 22' Shearwater -
- Thomas and Yvonne Shope - 19' Cape Horn - TOPS OFF!
- Robert McCarty - 203 Dusky - The Sea Fox
- Richard and Margie Rasey - 25' 7" Sea Fox - Reel Ax
- Gene and Loretta Gowens - 26' Sailfish - Orange Boat
- Josh Satlow - 24' 5" Proline - Nauti Doc
- Junior Member - Mitchell Gerson
- Jimmy Cantrell - 17' Key Largo - and his grandson • Jr. Member Zach Hamilton

Welcome ! We look forward to seeing you at the meetings. Don't be shy, this is your club help make it even better.

A.J. Proescher with a 40 Lb Kingfish! He caught

this in January, in the party grounds.



I think we should all give him a hard time for catching all the big Kings now, that we need to catch during the AT&T Kingfish Tournament.





Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

Traversing an Inlet



With the onset of cold weather, we are seeing stronger winds, heavier seas and difficult boat handling conditions, especially at the entrance of inlets on the North East Florida coast.

One of the greatest hazards in boating can be traversing an inlet in heavy weather.

The following is an example of a claim resulting from inexperience and improper navigation in an inlet during heavy weather. "The insured's loss occurred in the Boca Raton Inlet. Upon entering the inlet, the insured decided the conditions were excessive and decided to turn his boat around. As he turned, he was caught between two sets of breaking waves and the vessel flipped over and was pulled out to sea by the outgoing tide." Boat US claim #9700200.

Welcome to an inlet, one of the most inhospitable places for small boaters, where the big ocean is squeezed through a tiny opening to a quiet harbor. This relationship between wide open and narrow, and deep and shallow often results in breaking waves, tricky currents, meandering channels, and dangerous rock jetties.

According to the Boat U. S. Marine Insurance claim files, there are four things that a captain and crew should be wary of when entering an inlet: breaking waves, shifting channels, crowds, and darkness. Any one of these conditions alone can make an inlet dangerous; and more than one can make it so treacherous that the inlet should be considered impassable.

As a rule, you should enter an unfamiliar inlet that has breaking waves in the channel only as a last resort. If possible, head for a safer inlet. You should also consider dropping the anchor or heave-to and wait until the channel is calmer. The optimum time to enter an inlet is during slack high water when the channel is deepest and waves are least likely to be breaking.

If the decision is made to enter an inlet with breaking waves, all passengers and crew should be on deck and in life jackets. You should contact the Coast Guard and advise them of your intentions and contact them again when you are safely through. Remember, waves generally come in groups of three with the largest being the last one. Note the distance between waves as well as the time between wave sets and adjust your speed to maintain a comparable speed with the waves to avoid broaching or being pitch poled.

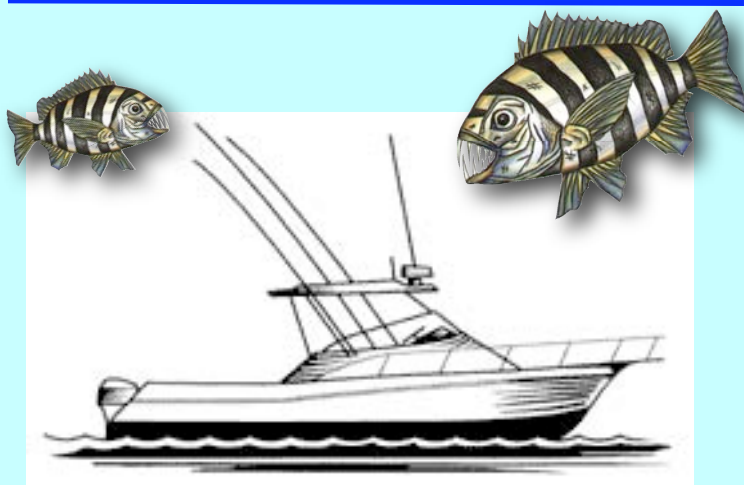
One of my favorite clichés is: "The successful boating/fishing trip is the one that begins and ends safely". Be very alert when entering an inlet with breaking waves and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales



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



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.





Fishing Reports & Other Tall Tales

John Moscarillo
Fishing Committee
Director

Fishing Forecast February

The two things I like best about February are that it's a "short" month, and it's wahoo season. If this month follows its past history, the 'hoos will be stacking up at the ledge.

Look for temperature differences and at 72 F it's lines in. A lot of anglers choose to use the Vilano boat ramp since the ledge is closer. With gas prices being what they are, 20 miles round trip less to travel can amount to a good bit of money. One thing is certain; a wahoo is one of the most exciting fish you can catch.

Near shore, sea bass, some of which are showing up in the extra large size this year, will be the main catch. As my daughter say's, sea bass are the best fish sticks you'll ever eat. Some snapper will still hold to the near shore wrecks, but the bigger ones will be out further. Some grouper may be around, but the public numbers will have been fished pretty hard by now.

Whiting should be in the surf, and off the Red Tops in 35 to 40 feet of water.

Inshore the Black Drum should be here. Remember that trout season is closed until March 1. Speaking of things that pertain to the FWC, it's my bad. Sea bass should now be 12" to be legal. Personally I like to keep a 14" minimum. Once these fish hit the ice they have a nasty habit of shrinking a bit. And as George Costanza found out, you can not explain "shrinkage".

Catch 'em up.

John



Ships Galley.....

Sam McJunkin
Hospitality Director

The Regular club meeting of February 7th is our **Annual Chili Cook-Off!**

If you think you make a great chili, brew up a pot of your best, and bring it to the meeting. There will be prizes for 1st through 3rd place.

Associate Member of the Month !

Workman's is there for the Club! He stepped up and is sponsoring the Grand Prize in this month's El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament!

We would like every club member to think of Workman's KWIK-FIX Plumbing if you need any plumbing work, and to be sure to recommend them to anyone that you hear needs a plumber.

Lets make his generous donation to the club pay off for him.

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



Loud Hailings
Newsletter Editor
Bill Breen

We have had several request for a club roster. However we have a few members that are concerned with privacy issues, so.....

If you want your Name, Address, and Phone number listed in a club roster, fill out the below form and get it to me - fax - 904-213-9786, E-mail - breenw@bellsouth.net or snail mail Bill Breen 684 Tropical Parkway, Orange Park, FL 32073 or at the club meetings.

Name : _____

Address : _____

City, Zip : _____

Phones : H - _____

C - _____

E-mail _____

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

**"El Cheapo" Sheepshead Tournament Registration****CAPTAIN'S INFORMATION:**

CAPTAIN'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL or PAGER _____

JOSFC MEMBER? ☐ YES ☐ NO

BOAT REGISTRATION NO. _____ BOAT NAME _____

YR. & MAKE OF BOAT _____ BOAT LENGTH _____

POWER _____ HULL COLOR _____

IS VESSEL A KAYAK? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Entry Fee @ \$60.00 \$60.00

Tournament Within a Tournament Entry @ \$20.00

Late Fee (if after 2/15/08) @ \$20.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED

_____ Date _____

(Captain's Signature - **REQUIRED.**)

Please make checks payable to J.O.S.F.C.

For Office Use Only:

Amount Paid _____ Date Paid _____

Method of Pmt. _____ Boat # _____

Tournament Within a Tournament Entry: ☐ Yes ☐ No JOSFC Member: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	February				1	2
3	4 Board Meeting	5	6	7 Club Meeting The Great Annual Chili Cook-Off	8 Boat Show 12:00 - 9:00 pm	9 Boat Show 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
10 Boat Show 11:00 am - 6:00 pm	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Club Meeting EL Cheapo Captain's Bag Stuffing work party 5:00 PM pm	22 The EL CHEAPO Set-up - 10:00 am 7:30 pm Captains	23 The EL CHEAPO Tournament
24	25	26	27	28	29	

Coming Events:

*Remember, your #1 New Years resolution to
Attend more club meetings and have fun fishing!*

Feb. 21, 2008 - The captains bag stuffing work party at 5:00 PM

Feb. 22, 2008 - EL CHEAPO Set-up 10:00 am, Captains meeting at 7:30 PM.

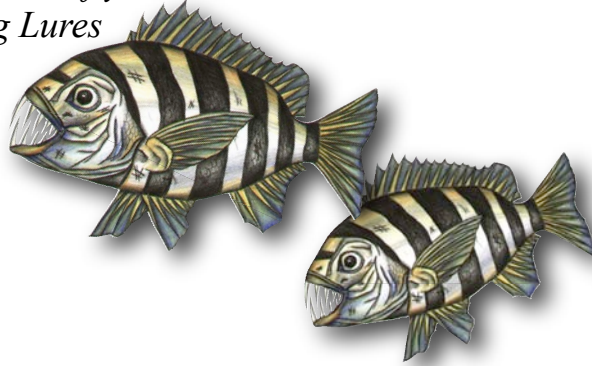
Feb. 23, 2008 The EL CHEAPO!!!

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 • 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 • C & H Lures • Cabelas • Cannon's Bait & Tackle • Carey Chen Art • Custom Marine Components • Deonas Boatworks • Dexter Russell Cutlery • Dockside Inn • Donovan Heating & Air • • G & W Marine • Gear 4Fishermen • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • Guy Harvey Publishing • Hydro-Shield • Power-Pro • International Crew • Jacksonville Scuba Center • Kershaw Knives • Knight Electric • Lindgren-Pitman, Inc. • Mac's Prop Savers • MacMedia Graphics • Mann's Bait Company • Maxima America • Ocean Get Away • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Okuma Fishing Tackle Corp. • Penn Tackle Mfg. • Roffers Ocean Forecasting Service • Salty Styles • Sea Tow Jacksonville • Seafood Galore • 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 • Ballyhood Top Gun Trolling Lures



**Jacksonville Offshore
Sport Fishing Club**

P.O. Box 331185

Atlantic Beach, FL 32233



PRSRT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Permit 3546
Jacksonville, FL