



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 51 Issue 3

March 2011



PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Capt Don Cook

Here it is March already, or it will be by the time you are reading this. This month the weather is reminding us of why we live in Florida. With great weather we should be heading out to fish but the closures make it a little tough. The good news is we were able to keep the bottom fishing closure from 98' to 240' from happening. The bad news is you can't keep anything at this time of year. Sea bass is closed until June first, Grouper until May first and B-liners until April first. If you can get out to the ledge there should still be some wahoo to catch as well as mahi if they have arrived. In deep water you can still keep triggers and pinkies, don't tell the marine fisheries people or they might close them too.

This month at the club we have a lot going on. The first meeting on 3/3 we will have a biologist from FWC talk to us about a red snapper tagging program in our area. I am interested to find out what they expect to learn and what they will do with the data. Come to the meeting and bring your questions. The second meeting we will have the Roffers people to speak about their service. Their charts can help a lot with putting you in the right spot to troll the stream. The savings in gas are worth the price. This month also starts our tournaments for the captain of the year contest with the river tournament 3/19. I am looking forward to another great year of fishing. See you on the water or at the club.

Don



Well the El Cheapo is over with by the time you get this newsletter, but at the time I am writing this, we still have a week to go before it happens.

I will predict that it was a great success. Right now the weather looks good, the Sheepshead are biting like mad everywhere you go, and there are some nice ones being caught!

This year we have had more great sponsors than ever before!

If you haven't looked at our Website and checked out the sponsors pages, you really should do so. Those are the businesses that you need to check first when you have to spend some of your money, or get something repaired! You can also just look at the back of this Newsletter where I have updated the list of all our sponsors.

For the results of the El Cheapo, just go to the Website and I will have the top 5 adult and Jr. Angler on the Home page, with the total results listed under the "Fishing Info." tab.

If you want to see any pictures of the El Cheapo, they will be posted on both the Club's Facebook page, and the EL Cheapo Facebook page.



The Florida Saltwater Fishing Panel

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission considers it essential to gather scientific information concerning the behaviors, attitudes, and preferences of licensed saltwater anglers in Florida. The Florida Saltwater Fishing Panel (FSFP) is a new approach being used by the Commission to gather social science information from and about anglers on a continuing basis. This information, along with the results of biological research, will provide important insight into fisheries management and policy decisions.

FSFP members are surveyed once a month concerning the number of days they went saltwater fishing, hours of effort, catch rates, the origins and destinations of their latest fishing trips, and the money spent on those trips. Each month members of the panel will also be asked questions about current and

emerging fisheries management and policy-related issues.

These data will be used to estimate effort and catch rates, develop models for the economic impacts and value of saltwater fishing, and better understand anglers' attitudes on a range of subjects, including proposed regulations and policies. The findings from FSFP surveys will be posted regularly on this website.

Two methods will be used to recruit licensed saltwater anglers to register for the FSFP: 1) Invitation letters sent to a stratified, proportional (e.g., by location of residences, by types of licenses) sample of license holders and 2) recruitment through sport fishing organizations and media, charter boat captains, and word-of-mouth promotion.

The data from the FSFP surveys will be weighted to be representative of the distribution of licensed Florida saltwater anglers.

Here is their Website to check out:

<http://www.fwcsaltwaterfishingpanel.com/index.html>

If you have any questions or technical issues, please contact us at fishing@msu.edu.

The R.F.A. or Recreational Fishing Alliance is THE organization that is fighting the SAMFC in the courts for US! It is only \$35.00 / year and they need every member they can get!

If you are NOT a member,**JOIN!**

It is that simple and important to our fishing

The link is also on our website under Fishing Info - Fishing Links so you can tell your friends how to join!

Here is the link to the Recreational Fishing Alliance <http://www.joinrfa.org/>



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Rob's Fishing Lore

Simpson Creek Reel Life Non Denomination Fellowship
Revival

The word had spread that the event of the season was coming back to town. It only happens maybe twice a year and if we are lucky a grand total of three times. The



fishing flock puts aside their weekend pursuit over a three day weekend just to attend the gathering. All shapes and sizes of boats comes to the revival, no one is turned away. Come one, come all, no matter what type of vessel you have. There is always plenty of room to anchor your boat and many willing beach going parishioners are there to assist you with your landing. Come by singles or by pairs it makes not difference everyone is welcome here.

It seems that Pastor Amos Nassau Ezekiel Beach draws quite a crowd. One can not find Amos Nassau Ezekiel Beach under asphalt shingles nor can you find him confine between doorway entrances of a brick or wooden building. Instead, we find him upon the warm white sand of a natural inlet. It is said that the Pastor hops from beach. Some find him passing through Ft George Inlet then touching upon Bird Island and finally gracing everyone here at Simpson's Creek at Nassau Sound. The flocks gather and spread the fellowship of Man while there. Its one great big picnic and outdoor revival shared with nearly one hundred of your new closest friends.

As we gather round Pastor Amos, he begins the sermon from Genesis 1:1-31. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. And God saw that the light was good." Not only did he create the land but he also created the sea. He led us to believe that we are

all blessed for we are fisherman and we have a higher calling because we are fisherman. And in the sermon, he quoted John 21:3 by saying, "Simon Peter saith unto them, I go fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately, and that night they caught nothing." It was as Pastor Amos said that they used the wrong bait and caught nothing. It was as Pastor Amos knew that they embarked on the wrong tide thus they caught nothing.



With the sermon over, fellowship began in earnest. Hot dogs, fried chicken, potato salad rounded out all the fixings. All sorts of water activities were taken place. Sand castles were raised, shells were collected and the youngsters found adventure on other places of the dunes. Schools of mullet we passing in and out of the inlet and a new adventure were found: cast net practice. The unsuspecting mullet became the likely target and many a novice tried their hand at capturing them some were successful and some were not; however, we now had bait! As with any fishing fleet, were there is bait one can usually find a rod. Not one but two rods were brought forth and a live mullet



was the preferred choice. As by the grace of God, the rod did not sit to long perched in the T-top rigger. The drag made a happy noise and the rod tip bent toward the fish. A poor man's tarpon broke the water not once or twice but at least three times

Continued on Page 5



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

FUELING

After hearing, recently, about a boat that exploded and burned at the dock in Delray Harbor, I thought it was time to remind everyone about the need to be extra careful when fueling your vessel. On January 3, 2011, at about 4:21 pm, a 34 foot Tollycraft had just finished fueling at the Delray Harbor Marina when dock attendants noticed fuel had been spilled into the water. The dock attendants had started a process of a clean up and the dock master had advised the vessel's Captain against starting the engines. Two people were on the bridge and one person was below deck when an explosion occurred. The two people on the bridge received second degree burns and the person below deck died as a result of the explosion. An investigation is under way, but the exact cause of the explosion has not been determined to date. Although it is more dangerous when fueling an inboard versus an outboard, all can be hazardous to your health if proper safety procedures are not followed.

Before fueling, shut off your engines and all electrical appliances that may create a spark. Remember, if you spill fuel in the water when you are fueling your vessel, make sure all the fuel and vapors are cleared before you start your engines. The same applies if you spill fuel in the bilge of your boat. If you are fueling an outboard with portable tanks, always remove the tanks from the boat and fuel them on the dock. If you should smell fuel, do not start your engines until the source of the smell has been determined and eliminated.

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

The Florida Keys! In June!

Anyone interested?

I am looking for other members that might want to share a house or go to upper keys in June. I plan to go down with family and boat, and am looking for other members to fish with and split cost.

If you want to know more of my plans, contact me Steve Shaw at:

steve@shaw-inc.us

Cell = 904 686 4419

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, or E-mail me your pictures at:

PH# 904-254-2791

beenw@bellsouth.net



www.jaxfish.com

This is our website, and I am trying to make it better, useful, and something you all go to on a regular basis. I am open to suggestions on what you want to see on it.

I just added the Solunar Tables that have Sunrise & Sunset, Moonrise & Moonset, as well as it rates the day for fishing and gives the Major and Minor peak feeding times of the day. It is under the "GENERAL" tab.

As most of you know you can always go to the home page and right there on the left side you can see when our next meeting is, who is speaking and what is for dinner. Below that is the Club Calendar, a live link to the Marine Radio (Thanks to Mike Murphy who keeps it up and running!) and the latest Florida Sportsman Forum info. that is also a direct link to the forum, as well as a link to the weather.

Under the "ABOUT" tab, you can renew your membership and new members can join, and the club by laws are there.

At the "FISHING INFO" button there is the Tournament Schedule and who is putting it on this year, The rules, the Fishing Boards, you can Register for the club tournaments. You can see all about the El Cheapo Tournament, as well as we have all the Fishing Boards (So you can see if you need to weigh in that fish,) and some important Fishing Links listed there.

Under the "GENERAL" tab I just added the SAFMC Battle Ground, where you will get the latest news on our ongoing battle against closing down our fishing. (It replaced the "For Sale" page that no one was using.) You can also get Safety information, at Tops Safety tips, find HELP with the Members Helping Members and the contact information for our Sponsors!

Finally still under the "GENERAL" tab we have a couple of different weather tabs, and you will find the Club Calendar, the Solunar Tables, and you can find all the back issues and the current issue of The Reel News, this newsletter!

Oh, Check the Poll on the Home page, and you can suggest polls for me to put there for both information and fun.

Simpson Creek Continued

putting on a show for the beachside gawkers. The fish freed itself with the last of its jump sending the hook back toward the fisherman in an act of defiance.

Another bait was selected and set out. It did not take to long before the rod bent over and the adult return to a kid-like state with the rod in hand. The fish feeling the sting of the hook sought refuge in deeper water. Deeper water meant boat traffic thus leading to the very real possibility of some propeller severing the line. The give and take took a few minutes for the fisherman to wrangle the fish toward the shore. A distinctive black dot on the tail with a copper color back displayed proudly that this fish was the bulldog of the marsh grass, our very own redfish.

It was just like the pastor preached, use the right bait and you will catch them. Fish on the right tide and you will find them. Summer is right around the corner and I hear Pastor Amos Nassau Ezekiel Beach will be making his rounds once again. You all ought to come on out and see what all the fun's about!

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner

SAFMC Battle Ground Recent closures and actions

- All grouper are closed Jan – April - Spawning Season Closure
- Vermillion Snapper are closed Nov – March
- Sea Bass is now closed till June 1st, 2011
- Red Snapper is closed indefinitely
- Speckled hind and warsaw grouper are now closed indefinitely
- Closed snowy grouper, blueline tilefish, yellowedge grouper, misty grouper, queen snapper, and silk snapper, beyond 240 feet (73 m) in federal waters of the South Atlantic.
- We came close to having an area closure from 98 feet out to 240 for all bottom fishing.

What has been the cost of these closures?

- \$9.6 Billion -Recreational saltwater fishery economic impact (2008)
- 89,600 - jobs are supported by the same industry (2008)
- \$5.6 Billion - Commercial in-state sales

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
Rodney Anderson	-C = 318-4005	Any day	Up to 9:00 pm
Richard Fisher	- H = 221-9629 - Cell 738-1010	Nearly every day	Up to 8:00 PM the day before.
John Porcella -	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 C = 887-6736	Fri. Sat.	Up to 9:00 pm
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

- 108,695 - jobs supported by commercial fishing
- 1 Million - Individuals bought saltwater fishing licenses
- \$29 Million - collected in saltwater license fees
- \$16.8 Billion - Boating Industry's economic impact
- 202,743 - jobs are supported by this sector
- \$3.2 Billion - in saltwater related retails sales
- \$334 Million is State & local taxes from those sales
- \$1 Billion- Non-Resident anglers spent over \$1

What can you do?

- March 9th and 10th – SAFMC Q and A / Public Comments - St. Simons Island, GA
 - o Informal Question / Answer Session - Wednesday, March 9th - 5:30 p.m. - Led by NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator Dr. Roy Crabtree and Council Chairman David Cupka.

Public Comment Session - Thursday, March 10th - 10:45 a.m. - Interested persons will be provided the opportunity to present oral or written statements relative to the meeting agenda.

Help support organizations and clubs that represent recreational anglers interest.

RFA/FRA has and will continue to file federal lawsuits to challenge actions by the NMFS

- 17A - NMFS has just answered the amended complaint.
- 17B just filed and served - no answer yet

Call you congressman and tell them that NMFS/ SAFMC has not followed congressional instructions to fix its science and data before enacting accelerated fishery management plans. Demand that no new rules, closures, or management plans such as catch shares be implemented without the benefit of sound science and data.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Club Meeting FWC on Red Snapper Tagging	4	5
	6	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17 Club Meeting Roffers Sea Tempature forecasting	18	19 The River Tournament
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	March	

Coming Events:

March 17th - Roffers Seminar at the meeting, a don't miss seminar!

March 19th - The first of the club tournaments for COY, the River Tournament

March 9th and 10th – SAFMC Q and A / Public Comments - St. Simons Island, GA



Tournament Schedule for 2010

Tournament	Month	Date / Alternate	Saturday	Sunday
The River Fishing Tournament -	March	-----19-----	-----	20--- S. Kalaitzis
The Non-Live Tournament -	April	-----16/ 23-----	-----	Fishing Dir.
The Unlimited Trolling Tournament -	May	----- 7/ 14-----	-----	Paul Gallup
The May Trolling Tournament -	May	-----22/ 29-----	-----	Eddie McGowan
The Junior Angler Tournament -	June	-----19 / 26-----	-----	S. Kalaitzis
The Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament -	July	----- 2 / 16-----	-----	M. Summersill
The Powder Puff Tournament -	August	----- 7 / 14-----	-----	Judy Altman
The Light Tackle Tournament -	August	-----20/ 27-----	-----	Greg Wallace
The Bottom Tournament -	September	-----10/-----	-----	11 -- AJ Proescher

Associate Members

•Academy Sports • Advantage Signs •All Aluminum Concepts • Amelia Island Bait & Tackle • Angie's Sub Shop • Atlantic Coast Marine • Atlantic Engraving & Graphics • Avid Angler • B & M Bait & Tackle • Beach Plaza Auto Care • Best Western Mayport Inn & Suites • Bluewater Canvas • Boat U.S. / Angler • Boathouse Discount Marine • Boatronics • Bonefish Grill • Bowen Uphoistrey • Brown's Creek Fish Camp • C & H Lures • Captain Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing • Carolina Skiff • Catchin' A Buzz Fishing Co. • Coastal Angler Magazine • Common Ground Law & Landscaping • Consignment Boat Sales • Custom Marine Components • D.O.A. Lures • Dammit Man fishing • Dandee Foods • Doherty Brothers Marine Construction • Donovan Heat & Air • Duval Paint & Decorating • Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy • Fish Florida • Fish On • Fishing Connection • FishingNosara.com • Florida Sportsman Live • Freedom Boat Club • Ft. George Island Marina • Gary Newman Insurance • Gene's Seafood • Great Atlantic Outfitters • Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament • Green Frog Pest Prevention • Hagerty Construction & Roofing • Hardees • Home-Zone Cleaning • Hook the Future • In River or Ocean • International Ropes • Island Electric of the First Coast,LLC. • Julington Creek Carpet Care • Just Fishing Show • Knight Electric • Knot 2 Worry Fishing Team • Kona Skatepark • MarineMax • Mercury Marine • Mike's Taxidermy • Morningstar Marinas at Mayport 8 Murphy Communications • Nosara Paradise Rentals • Ocean Getaway • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Pepsi Bottling Group • Pier 17 Marine • PinPoint Mobile Yacht Repair • Proctor Ace Hardware • Progressive Ins. • Pure Fishing • Rick's Bait & Tackle • River Marine • RiverLife • Roffers Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service • Safe Harbor Seafood • Salty Charters of Jacksonville • Salty Styles • Sea Dancer Charters • Sea Tow • Skate Station Funworks • Smith & Son's Tree & Lawn service • SOC 7 Productions • Solomon's RV & Boat Storage • Southern Propane • www.southernpropane.net • Strike Zone Fishing • SUMO Design Studio • Sun Deli • Sunrise Outdoor Company • T.B.S. Jigs & Charter • Tait's Bait & Charter • Taylor Concrete Services • The Ice Man • The Outdoor Show • The Spot Tournament for Charity • The Waters Edge • Trout River • Vic2Fish & Adventures, Inc. • W.L.S. Contracting • Waddell & Reed Financial Advisors • West Marine • White Shell Fish Camp • Wile Adventures • Wilson trailer & Repair • Windsor Park Golf Club • Woody Wax • Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing • Zaxby's •



Jacksonville Offshore Sports Fishing Club

P.O. Box 331185
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

PRSRT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit 3546
Jacksonville, FL

It is **PAST** time to renew you membership and join the fun!