



The Newsletter of the . . .

# The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 52 Issue 3

March 2012

## PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Capt. Danny Del Rio



By the time you get this message, the El Cheapo Tournament will be over, and thankfully the greatest and largest tournament ever. Thanks to Frank Joura and all the volunteers that made this a success!

With the wrap up of the El Cheapo tournament, March will also be an exciting month. Hopefully, the weather should be better and we look forward to everyone coming out to the first meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> with guest speaker Captain Tony Bozzella. Tony is a well known local charter captain and will be speaking on catching trout and red bass.

March 6<sup>th</sup> is the RFA Anglers Rally and will be held at Sneakers, 8133 Point Meadows Drive (off Baymeadows). Social at 6:00 pm and meeting starts at 7:00 pm. Please try to attend! This organization is fighting for our rights in the courts and we need to support them. We encourage you to join for \$35.00.

The River Tournament is on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be available online and at the first meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Last year's winner was Tom Cavin who will be in charge of the tournament this year.

At the meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, our guest speaker will be from ROFFS (Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service, Inc.). This should be very informative and hope everyone can come!

Tight Lines and Safe Boating!  
Danny Del Rio



A record 419 boats along with 125 Junior Anglers participated in the 12th annual El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament Saturday. Weather and fishing conditions were challenging to say the least with 20 knot North winds most of the morning. As the skies cleared and the wind subsided, fishing evidently improved as 183 Sheepshead were brought to the scales in both categories. Claiming top honors in the general division was Steven Austin of Jacksonville. Steve brought in a 10.1 lb. fish and took home a beautiful 2012 Carolina Skiff JVX18 center console boat with a 75 hp Mercury motor along with a number of other prizes. Scott Spivey took 2nd place with a 10.0 lb. fish netting him an Arctic Cat 450 ATV. 3rd place though 20th place received cash and merchandise payouts.

1st place Junior Angler winner David Dry hauled in a 8.3 lb. Sheepshead winning him a rod & reel combo, hand held GPS, gift cards from In River or Ocean, Academy Sports, West Marine, a pair of Ocean Waves Sunglasses, an etched glass trophy, and numerous other prizes. Junior Anglers were awarded through 15th place.

The El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament, one of the largest fishing tournaments in the Southeastern United States, and the largest Sheepshead Tournament in the world, is held annually during the last weekend in

Continued on Page 2

**Did You Know.....**

That on our website you can print out a Float plan?

**Fishing Info - Fishing Links - #1**

That we have the Solunar tables ? - **General Info - Solunar Tables**

That you can read past articles? Just look at the bottom of the page for more pages of past articles.

That you can read the Club Meeting Minutes from that meeting you missed? **About - Club Meeting Minutes.**

That you can contact ANY of the Officers and Board or Committee Chair people through their E-mail? **About - Officers & Board**

That the Fishing Boards are all listed and kept up to date? **Fishing Info - Fishing Boards**

That the year's Tournament Schedule is posted? **Fishing Info - JOSFC Tournaments**

That you can read the current or past Reel News ( Club Newsletter ) on line? **General Info - Reel News.**

That you can get the Weather, Top's Safety Articles, and a ton of Information on **OUR Website!**

El Cheapo Continued

February. The event is hosted by the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club. The tournament is made possible by over 100 sponsors in the local fishing and business community. In addition to supporting the J.O.S.F.C. and it's community service efforts, a portion of each year's proceeds goes to a local charity or non-profit organization. For more information, please visit [www.jaxfish.com](http://www.jaxfish.com)

**Ok everyone, the new fishing season is upon us.**


**How about thinking SAFETY FIRST!**

**THIS IS A TEST!!!**

**You probably already failed! That is NOT a good thing.** Can you answer these questions without looking up some of the answers?

- 1 - Did you leave a FLOAT PLAN with someone, or on the dash of your tow vehicle?
- 2 - What date was your single, woefully too small, fire extinguisher last checked? Is it current, or has it been sitting in it's holder for the last 2+ years with all the dry chemical compacted and hard at the bottom? Do you have a big enough Fire Extinguisher? They are cheep, why not have two or three on board?
- 3 - What is the expiration date on your **Flares**?
- 4 - Is your ditch bag sitting out where it will be available and have an EEPER attached to it?
- 6 - Do you even have an EEPER? Why NOT? They are just a couple of hundred now! Isn't your life and your crews life worth that little money? Are it's Batteries good? They should be replaced every 5 years!
- 7 - Does your ditch bag have enough water for everyone for a couple days?
- 8 - What year did you last replace the batteries in your hand held VHF radio? Is it IN your Ditch Bag? The same thing for your hand held GPS?
- 9 - Where is your hand operated bailing device?
- 10 - Does your hand held air horn work? What you don't have one?
- 11 - Where is your distress FLAG?
- 12 - Where is your signal mirror

IMPORTANT test continued on page 5



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## Rob's Fishing Lore

Rob Darner

### Doing Your Part?

It was a very interesting comment that was spoken by one of our on-air weekend personalities just a few short weeks ago. The topic seems kinda sad to me because both you and I share the love of the outdoors. If we're not fishing, just what would we be doing? If it were not for fishing, I guess most of us would be work-a-holoics because is there anything else to do? The topic put forth was inspiring kids to fish and get out and enjoy the great outdoors. Just think of this for a minute and let it really sink in like the time needed for a 12 oz. sinker to strike the bottom at the 150 ft. make against a 4 knot current. According to the speaker, kids are not fishing nearly enough as our fathers or grandfathers did and thus there are programs popping up to introduce them to the sport we love. It is a joy to share our experiences with someone who never has had the pleasure of fishing or steering a boat over open water. Back in December, the family had a chance to allow one young lady to have such an experience.



Hopefully you will agree that she is having the time of her young life steering the boat down the intercostal.

As groups are trying to get young people involved in our sport, there are others trying to keep us out. Now think of this, as we all know the red snapper ban is in effect for **35 years**. Figure this out, if you are now 55 years old at

the time of the ban, just how old will you be when the ban is lifted? Answer 90! How many of us will be around at 90 to ever fish for one of these fish? Just think in reverse, that same 11 year old girl steering the boat, just how old will she be in order to catch her first red snapper? Answer, 46! Is there a possibility that this same 11 year old girl may never get involved in our sport because she or her father can legally harvest a red snapper? I think there is this chance and because of it the future looks more pale than bright.

Now there are those who wish to keep us from our sport in the name of 'conservation'; however, this is just the earth-day wrapping paper they give to us at holiday time so

we can feel good about **their** good intentions to help save all those red snapper or now beleaguered sea bass. Now **BIG GREEN** or the Eco-Nazi business is now big/ huge business. In the article "CEOs of big foundations, environmental NGOs rake in the 'green'", please take a look at the salaries below:

Below is the list of the positions, organizations and total compensation from the organizations:

Chief Investment Officer, David and Lucille Packard Foundation: \$1,196,037.00  
 President & CEO, The Pew Charitable Trusts: \$1,071,525.00  
 President/CEO, David and Lucille Packard Foundation: \$696,687.00  
 President, Natural Resources Defense Council: \$432,742.00  
 President, Environmental Defense: \$423,359.00  
 Managing Director, Pew Environment Group: \$400,487.00  
 Executive Director, Environmental Defense: \$347,963.00  
 VP West Coast, VP Land, Water and Wildlife, Environmental Defense: \$304,626.00  
 Executive Director, Natural Resources Defense Council: \$277,846.00  
 Development Director, Natural Resources Defense Council: \$265,001.00  
 President and CEO, Ocean Conservancy: \$261,111.00  
 Finance Director, Natural Resources Defense Council: \$259,460.00  
 Chief Executive Officer, Oceana: \$247,164.00  
 VP Marketing and Communication, Environmental Defense: \$242,947.00  
 Executive Vice President, Oceana: \$237,589.00  
 EVP/COO, Ocean Conservancy: \$217,911.00  
 Communications Director, Natural Resources Defense Council: \$213,737.00  
 Executive Director of Oceana in Europe, Oceana: \$205,868.00  
 Senior Vice President for North America, Chief Scientist, Oceana: \$203,272.00  
 VP Legal Affairs, Ocean Conservancy: \$180,426.00  
 President, Ecotrust: \$178,527.00  
 VP Resource Development, Ocean Conservancy: \$172,381.00

What is more incredible is the top two earners of the enviro-nazi do gooder crowd. The cream of the cream is the Chief Investment Office of the Packard Foundation receiving a \$1,196,037.00 while in a not so distant second is the CEO of the Pew Charitable Trust with a mere \$1,071,52.00. The salary information was found at <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2011/10/22/18694538.php> and written by Dan Bacher on Oct 2, 2011. Just look at the 2001 Pew Prospectus and you may be shocked to find just how big the business truly is. In 2011, Pew total assets were \$2.89 billion while the non-profit corporation extended \$82,849,393.00 in grant money to Pew projects. Did Pew ever sink any reefs here in our state to better fish habit? What was that you say—NO.? You just maybe right. Have you ever wondered why you feel so overwhelmed? Do you think with such high salaries any of these groups tend to fail? Where else do you think these groups send their money? My guess it is on the politicians who make the laws to we suffer under such as the 35 year ban on red snapper.



## Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram  
Safety Officer

### FUELING

A check with local towing services indicates that one of their most often calls is for fuel when a boat runs out of fuel on the way back from a fishing trip offshore. If you use the "1/3<sup>rd</sup> rule"; use only 1/3<sup>rd</sup> on the way out, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> on the way back and save 1/3<sup>rd</sup> for reserve, you should never run out of fuel. When we think of fuel, or fueling, we normally think of the consumption of fuel. However, one thing we should always think about and be prepared for is fire on board when fueling the boat. There have been numerous occasions when boaters have become careless when fueling and wind up with a boat on fire. 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" mentioned above. 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



**Both the Men's & Ladies Sailfish Pot Party  
Party Are Saturday, April 28th, 2012**

**The Men's will be at the [Morocco Shrine](#) on St Johns Bluff ( More to come on that change on the Website & April Reel News.)**

**The Ladies will be at:  
American Legion Post 316  
1127 Atlantic Blvd  
Atlantic Beach, Fl 32233**

**For the Ladies party please contact: Inez Higginbotham - cell is 424-1981 or work 356-7611**

**If anyone would like to help me please call, and could you please mention to the ladies if they could bring a door prize or if they know anyone that I can contact to give me a call.  
Thanks ... Inez**

Do your Part Continued

The quick and simple point is this: November 6, 2012 can and should be a pivotal point for our fishing history. Over the last three years, both Democrats and Republicans and been finger pointing over this issue or that without solving any issues and all the while, our most beloved President continues his march toward a 'Big Green Economy and Culture' with the Executive Orders pouring forth like water over Niagara Falls. What's even worse is that fishing is a back burner issue not even covered by national media and given lip service by a few politicians. For example, what is more prominent the gas prices or catch shares? Both items are marching onward and both gas prices and catch shares promise to decrease the amount of time spent upon the water.

Just what should we do about this? RFA- Recreational Fishing Alliance might be you next choice. I invite you the check them out and join to have an organization that looks after our sport like the NRA does theirs. Next, those huge corporations like Coke or Wal Mart who give your hard earned money to fund such extravagant salaries as viewed above; it's time to find an alternative to your shopping pleasure. Vote economically and support those who support you! Finally, we are being overwhelmed but we need to overcome this feeling and call, email or write a letter to your Congressman for that matter all of them. Your voice needs to be heard and heard quite often or least they will forget you. If you do not vote or not registered to vote then simply take a day or part of your day and register, then on November 6, go vote. I believe our "Right to Pursue Happiness" is threatened and as a Republic, we can change the way our future stands and this can happen on November 6<sup>th</sup>. They have the money no doubt but we have the people. This will likely not be the last time you will hear this theme in an article penned from my fingers.

Best Wishes for Future Fishing,  
Rob Darner

At the very least you should ALWAYS wear your Life Jacket while Underway!



IMPORTANT test continued

13 - Is the "O" ring on your drain plug old and brittle?

14 - First aid kit current? How long ago did your first aid kit perishables expire? Yes Iodine expires! Here is something to think about. A lot of the ( Other guys, not me ) members are getting older. Does your first aid kit have some of the new crystalized Aspirin to dissolve under the tongue in case of a heart attack? (My Son was only 34)

15 - Tested your VHF, or better yet upgraded to a new one with the DCS position sending feature?

16 - Checked all your hose fittings are tight, and no corroded Electrical connections?

17 - Your bilge pump working and have a backup if it goes out?

18 - Are your Life Jackets good and readily handy?

19 - Do you give your crew a safety "Tour" before each trip? Make sure they know where everything is and how to work it in case you are disabled?

20 - Have your throwable life preserver handy?

21 - When was the last time you had your wheel bearings packed?

*If you did not know the answer to any ONE of these questions, you failed this quick test.*

*Lucky for you, your boat isn't taking on water, or someone seriously injured and you aren't trying to answer any one of these questions in a panic to save a life!*

*You now have a chance to correct any of these shortcomings BEFORE your next outing, and avoid the serious consequences of not being prepared.*

*Remember --- Keep your VHF radio on! Don't miss a club members distress call!*

Bill Breen

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

When you go to their business, be sure to THANK them for being a Sponsor and tell them you are a member of the J.O.S.F.C.

Remember to send your friends to them also!

## Instant Crew, Just Add Water

Our own club member Tim Altman has created the web-site AVAILABLE ANGLER where you can go to find a ride or crew. Just go to:

<http://www.availableangler.com/>

## Fish Species & Avoidance Temperatures



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

Here are some temperature preferences for different species of fish that you might find useful. If you do not have a Roffs Sea Surface temperature subscription, you can usually ( Depending on the Cloud Cover ) get a good reading by going to our Website, over to the "General Info" tab, down to NOAA Weather, then look along the left side and you will find "Marine Weather". Click on it to go to their Marine weather page and scroll down to "Other Offshore Marine data" and you will find Sea Surface temperatures. I click On the "South Atlantic" link and from there you will notice as you move your mouse around on the page it displays the temperature AND Lat / Lon.

I will write down the Lat / Lon for where I think I would like to fish according to the Temps so I can enter them in my GPS for the day's fishing.

Like I said, with a lot of cloud cover there will be blank areas, and as the information is usually 8 to 10 hours old, by the time I get to a Lat / Lon, I use it for a reference only, and depend on my temperature gauge to find the warm water eddie or boundary I want to fish.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
 <div style="background-color: #4F81BD; color: white; padding: 20px; text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">March</div>				1 Club Meeting Speaker Tony Bozilla on Redfish & trout	2	3
				4	5 Board Meeting	6 RFA at Sneakers 6:00 pm
11	12	13	14	15 Club Meeting Speaker Roffs forecasting	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**Coming Events:**

- March 6th - RFA meeting at Sneakers Sports Grill at 6:00 PM
- March 10th - The first of the club tournaments for COY, the River Tournament
- April 28th - The Sailfish Pot Parties Stag Only for both Men's & Women's Parties.

**Tournament Schedule for 2010**

Tournament	Month	-Date / Alternate	Speaker
		Saturday	Sunday
The River Fishing Tournament -	March	-----10	----- 17- - Tom Cavin
The Non-Live Tournament -	April	-----14/ 21	----- Greg Wallace
The Unlimited Trolling Tournament -	May	----- 12/ 19	----- Tom Meyer
The May Trolling Tournament -	May	----- 19/ 27-	----- AJ Proescher
The Junior Angler Tournament -	June	----- 17 / 24-	----- Jack Ogin
The Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament -	July	----- 8 / 15	----- Greg Wallace
The Powder Puff Tournament -	August	-----12 / 19 -	----- Tina Proescher
The Light Tackle Tournament -	August	----- 26/ September -1	----- Tournament Director
The Bottom Tournament -	September	----- 8	----- 9 - - AJ Proescher

## Associate Members

• Academy Sports • *Adam Nichols Artworks* • Advantage signs • *All Aluminum Concepts* • Amelia Island Bait & tackle • *Angie's Sub Shop* • Atlantic Coast Marine • *Atlantic Engraving & Graphics* • Available Angler • *Avid Angler* • B & M Bait & Tackle • *Beach Plaza Auto Care* • Best Western Mayport • *Boat U. S./Angler* • Boathouse Discount Marine • *Boattronics* • BOCA Bearings • *Bonefish Grill* • Bowen Upholstery • *Brown's Creek Fish Camp* • C & H Lures • *Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing* • Catchin' A Buzz Fishing • *Coastal Angler Magazine* • Common Ground Lawn & Landscaping • *Consignment Boat Sales* • Copperhead • *Dell Marine* • Custom Marine Components • *Dandee Foods* • DOA Lures • *Doherty Brothers Marine Construction* • Donovan Heating & Air • *First Coast Powersports* • Fish On • *Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy* • Fishing Connection • *Fishing Nosara.com* • Florida Sportsman Live • *Ft. George Island Marina* • Freedom Boat Club • *Gary Newman Insurance* • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • *Great Atlantic Outfitters* • Hardees • *Home - Zone Cleaning* • Hook The Future • *Hulihan Territory Irrigation Systems* • In River or Ocean • *International Ropes* • Island Electric of the first Coast • *JaxFlats Fishing Apparel* • Julington Creek Carpet Care • *Knight Electric* • Kona Skate Park • *Magic Tilt Trailers* • MarineMax • *Mercury Outboards* • Mike's Taxidermy • *Morningstar Marinas at Mayport* • Murphy Communications • *Nosara Paradise Rentals* • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • *Paradise Resort* • Pepsi Bottling Co. • *Pier 17* • Proctor Ace Hardware • *Progressive Insurance* • Pure Fishing • *Reel Fish Deals* • Rick's Bait & Tackle • *River Marine* • Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service • *Safe Harbor Seafood* • Salty Charters of Jacksonville • *Seadance Charters* • Sea Tow • Sea Angler Gear • *Schaeffer Manufacturing Co.* • Skate Station Funworks • *SOC 7 Productions* • Solomon's RV & Boat Storage • *Southern Propane* • Still Just fishing Show • *Strike Zone Fishing* • Styles Smith Plumbing • *Sumo Design Studio* • Sun Deli • *SweetWater Brewing* • Tait's Bait & Charter • *Taylor Concrete Services* • T.B.S. Jigs & Charter • *The Haggerty Company* • The Ice Man • *The Outdoors Show* • The Spot Tournament • *The Water's Edge* • Towboat US of Jacksonville • *Trout River Fish Co.* • Vic2Fish • *West Marine* • Wild Adventures • *Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc.* • Windsor Park Golf Club • *WLS Contracting* • Woody Wax • *Zaxby's*



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