



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



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PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Tom Darga

El-Cheapo 2015 is in the books

Well another year has come and gone. Well done everything from stuffing the bags to working in the boutique and kitchen area. As always this cannot be done without any of the members who volunteer. It was nice to see a lot of new faces in the kitchen area helping out. I have to give a shout out to all of the junior anglers who worked. This started on Friday night when Bill Breen's grandchildren were out in the pre-registration tent helping Jim Anderson and myself by giving out the buckets and bags as we checked off the captains. On Saturday they kept on going by flinging fish to the fillet guys at the fillet table. A big change came with the Ogin girls, over the last several years they have been handing out the drinks. This year they informed Monica and Laura they wanted to be promoted to do the hushpuppies. They are finally tall enough to reach the table! Monica and Laura were demoted to the drink line. You go Ladies. Not only were all of the junior anglers working they were having fun laughing and joking with each other. This, my friends is why this tournament works so well. It starts with the junior anglers and goes right up to the parents and grandparents. You always hear

about work ethic missing from today's youth. Someone forgot to tell that to your children. Thank you all for your support

Okay now what can you say about South in Your Mouth food truck. Not only did they do a great job on Friday and the line was long throughout the night but they stepped up in a big way on Saturday. In case you do not know we actually ran out of fish on Saturday about 4:30 to 5:00 with people and captains still in line. I approached Rachel and asked for a huge favor. They did not even hesitate they agreed to take our food tickets that were purchased for the fish and they honored them at their truck for any item on their menu. WAY TO GO. THANK YOU Rachel and Team. Once again the fishing community shows why it is the best in the world.

Oh yea fishing was going on also. Fishing was tough. No fiddlers, windy, cold and only I say again only 350 + boats. Wow not bad. Frank Joura and Rob Darner did an excellent job and this year it showed more than ever. After a few bumps in the road Alan Hodges had the winning fish with 9.49 followed by Corey Williams 9.29 lbs rouding out the top 3 was Kongphet Saysavanh 9.25. Way to go guys this year top 3 earned it the hard way. Thank you all !

Tom Darga
JOSFC President

VHF Radio- Please leave your radio on in case of an emergency. There is no reason to have it off at any time on the water. If you need, tune the squelch, we pledged to help others in time of need.



Wear these, they don't work in the cabin! At least do it while under way, especially entering and leaving the



inlets, they can get rough in seconds with other boats wakes!

Attention Parents!

THE SECOND ANNUAL JUNIOR EASTER EGG HUNT IS COMING UP, AND WE WOULD WELCOME ANY DONATIONS TO CANDY OR PLASTIC EASTER EGGS FOR THE JUNIOR ANGLERS TO HUNT FOR AND FIND!

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The 2015 El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament is in the books!

Lots of drama for this year's event but in the end, Allen Hodges and crew took home the grand prize of a 2015 Carolina Skiff JVX 18 center console with a 60 horse

Mercury motor on a Magic Tilt trailer and various other prizes by weighing in a 9.49 pound Sheepshead. Second place went to Corey Williams with a 9.29 pound fish. Corey won a Carolina Skiff JV 15 TH with a 25 horse Mercury motor on a Magic Tilt trailer. 3rd place was taken by Kongphet Saysavanh with a 9.25 pound fish. He won a 15' Gheenoe with a 4 horse motor on a galvanized trailer. Alton Robey took 4th place honors and won a week-long vacation in Costa Rica plus \$1,000.00 cash. His fish weighed 9.2 pounds. Rounding up the top finishers, Louis Joseph took 5th place and won \$750 cash with a 9.19 pound fish. Cash prizes were ordered through 15th place. A total of 352 boats were entered in the Tournament with 90 of them weighing fish.

In the Junior Angler Division, Garrett Vilett took top honors with an 8.14 pound fish. Ryan J Miller took second with an 8.11 followed very closely by Dalton Conner in third place with an 8.09 fish. Prizes for the juniors were also awarded through 15th place. A total of a 109 junior anglers fished with 26 of them weighing in.

A potential tournament record-breaking 13.42 pound Sheepshead was weighed but later disqualified for violation of Tournament rules.

The El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament presented by the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club is held annually the last full weekend in February and is one of the most popular fishing tournaments in the Southeast with its family friendly atmosphere, low cost entry fee and amazing price structure. For more information, please check out our Facebook page at 'El Cheapo' or the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club's website at www.jaxfish.com



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

With the El Cheapo Tournament held February 21 and the regular Club Tournaments starting March 21, everyone needs to start thinking about maintaining the proper fuel level to make sure you have sufficient fuel to make it out to your favorite fishing spot and back home.

One of the most often calls to towing services is for fuel when a boat runs out of fuel on the way back from a fishing trip offshore. If you use the "1/3rd rule"; use only 1/3rd on the way out, 1/3rd on the way back and save 1/3rd 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 a 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 are some Tips & Tricks of better boating!

For cleaning your boat, inside and out, all surfaces use VINEGAR, not Bleach. 2 parts Vinegar to 1 part Water.

Use Anhydrous Lanolin for Zippers, Snaps, and Shackle threads to prevent seizing. Most pharmacies carry it.

ONLY use 'A' rated fuel hoses because of the Ethanol in the gas.

If you are going to do some wiring again only use BC 5 W2 Marine quality wire.

Check your Props to insure they are SMOOTH, use a file and honing stone to remove any nicks.

Change your Impeller every 3 years!
Use Purosol's Sport / Marine Cleaner for your Electronics Screen.

'T' Clamps are the best hose clamp as they apply the pressure evenly and hold better.

When you get your Anchor, use chain that is at least half the length of your boat.

To mix your own 50:1 gas /oil, use 2.5 oz of oil to 1 gal of gas.



Captain of the Year

Will your name
be here?

Only if you
participate!

The
Captain
of the
year race
is on!

What does it take to be the Captain of the Year? I have the answer to that, and it isn't what you think!

The answer? LUCK & Persistence!

The main thing that you have to do is just show up and fish all 10 tournaments! Well at least all the tournaments that are not canceled due to weather.

We have had members that never placed over third place, didn't win a single tournament, and they have won the Captain of the Year!

I have seen bottom tournaments won with 2 - half pound Whiting! Trolling tournaments won with 1 Baracuda!

People, you are not fishing against some mysterious magical "Expert", you are fishing against me or the person sitting next to you at a meeting. Average every day fisher people!

Right now Steve Shaw is in the lead with 10 points. There are still 9 tournaments to go, so show up and FISH!

Are your flares still in date? They have an expiration date, and the Coast Guard checks!

How about your fire extinguisher? Is it good, the right type and big enough? Check them NOW, not when you need them!

Another thing to check are your hoses, fittings and clamps. You don't want them failing while you are miles from shore.



The 2015 Sailfish Pot Party is coming!

This year it will be Saturday, May 30th at the Morocco Shrine Center located at 3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd. The fun begins at 5:00 PM until finished.

Trust me, this stag event is one you don't want to miss! Steak, (Grill your own steak to your liking.) Oysters, (Both steamed and raw.) Wings, Beer, Soft Drinks and one great Raffle!

It is only \$35 if you send in your entry by May 8th, and \$40 after the 8th. Get your entry in early and come to a great guys only party! Please pre-register so that they know how many steaks and how much Beer to buy so they don't run out!

Here is another tip that if you are not using, you are losing! Salt Away, or it's twins Salt X, or Salt Terminator.

I recently had AJ of "Knot Dirty Detailing" do my boat. My boat is 19 years old. AJ said he was surprised at how good it looked and he would not have thought it was that old.

Use it to rinse off your boat, AND to flush your motors. To flush your motor you only run it through for about 30 seconds, just until you have the white foam coming out all the ports, you don't have to run it for a long time like with just water. Salt Away also lubricates and protects your impeller.

It really does get rid of the salt! It should be used every time you come back in to protect and prolong your boat and equipment!

Welcome to all of the new members who have joined over the last 2 months. This is JOSFC way of keeping in touch with all of you and to let you know what has happened and what is coming up.

Okay let's get down to the really important matter. Ms. Emily and her 94th birthday, I cannot express enough to all of you and your support for such a wonderful occasion. In case you were one of the few who did not attend this night JOSFC recognized Ms. Emily for all of her years as Treasurer by honoring her as an Honorary Lifetime President. She was quick to accept the plaque and was just as quick as to give the microphone back to me to continue the duties as President, so much for the night off.

When we finished singing Happy Birthday (by the way JOSFC will not be auditioning for any choir competition or reality shows anytime soon on that area). We did have other things going on such as a Chili cook off which ended with a 4 way tie for first place. Honestly, I even held up the paper from the judges to prove it. Each chili master received a 30 dollar fish slip.

On Saturday Feb 7th we held our clubhouse clean up, I need to give a special thank you to Bill and Frank and Andy who spent the entire day working on the fish cleaning station, Don Cook who crawled under the clubhouse to reattach the far stair case to the deck. We were able to also test the new scale and weight system along with the scoreboard in preparation of the tournament. Of course many others came and cleaned the grounds and prepped the inside for the captains meeting and tournament day. Thank you all

March 21st River Tournament. This is one fun tournament for everyone and families. See Greg Wallace to enter or enter online. Fishing hours 7:00 to 4:00 p.m. Scales open at 2:00, remember you need a cell phone or working vhf radio to fish this tournament.

Tom Darga
President JOSFC

Nautical Terms, and Why.

Have you ever wondered why some people use Nautical terms on their boat, acting like old time sailors? Well I have the answer for you.

Lets start with Port and Starboard. First every boat has a Port side and a Starboard side. If you sit in the boat facing forward the Port side is on your LEFT, and naturally that makes the Starboard side on your RIGHT.

In old sailing days there was a board or plank that stuck out from the right (Or Starboard) side of the ship where the navigator would go out on to see the stars better so take a fix. Quite often this was a fixed board so when they came in to dock they always docked with the left side against the pier or dock, hence the terms Port and Starboard.

Now why use them? I have seen this happen more that once. A fisherman has a fish on the line and is fighting them. The fish is to the Stern (Or Back) of the boat, so the fisherman is facing the back. Now the Captain or person running the boat is facing forward. The fisherman wants the boat to turn to his right and yells "Turn Right" so the Captain turns to HIS right, the wrong way! Now if everyone uses the nautical terms for the right and left, there will be no confusion, the fisherman says turn to Port and the Captain knows the he wants the boat to go left which is the fisherman's Right!

I have gone so far as to put plastic placards at the helm and on the back corners of the boat so people won't forget which way to tell me to turn.

You can also remember which is right or left with this saying. " You can always be LEFT in Port" Here as in a lot of the English language Port has a second different meaning and that is the place at land where the boats sail from or to. As in Port Jacksonville, or Port Miami..

Moat of the other nautical terms come from sailing ships where they gave the parts of the ship standard names to avoid confusion when telling someone which sail or mast or rope to adjust or where to go to find something or someone.



YETI Coolers



Ok, I know it is only March, but July is creeping up on us fast!

If you haven't been paying attention, **The Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament is BACK!**

They have gone back to the two day tournament, and BIG fish wins! No more second day shoot out for just a lucky few, but back to everyone gets to fish both days, and everyone has a chance to catch that one BIG Kingfish to win the tournament!

The Kingfish tournament really appreciated our help last year, and is hoping that we can get more of our people to come out and help again this year. They will have their dock tournament for the kids and will have a lot of intercity kids fishing like last year, and I can tell you it was really fun watching those kids catch their first fish! I will be back to help them set up and with the dock tournaments! Please give serious consideration to spending a couple days helping the Kingfish tournament this year.

Now for some words of wisdom.

Never approach the dock any faster than you want to RAM the dock.

Of all the liars among mankind, fishermen are the most trustworthy!

Never trust a fishing guide without a tan!

The two best times to fish are when it is raining and when it isn't!

Nothing makes a fish bigger than ALMOST being caught!



Loud Hailings

Bill Breen
Newsletter
Editor

I am looking for PICTURES of club members with local catches, to use in our newsletter. If you have a good photo PLEASE E-mail it or give it to me at a meeting. I will Scan it and return it to you undamaged. Don't forget to include a piece of paper with your name address, and the information on the catch, size or weight, and when. You can even include your numbers where caught, I won't tell anyone else, I promise! ;-) Cross my heart and hope to catch your fish!

Just a reminder, ANYONE and everyone can submit something, a good story, joke, or you can also submit photos to be included in our Newsletter. Just get your article and or pictures to me by the 10th of the month, to be in the next months newsletter. Just hand me a copy at any meeting, or E-mail it to me at : breenw@bellsouth.net



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 🐟🐟	2 Board Meeting 🐟🐟	3 🐟🐟	4 🐟🐟🐟	5 Club Meeting 🐟🐟🐟🐟	6 🐟🐟🐟🐟	7 🐟🐟🐟
8 🐟🐟	9 🐟	10 🐟	11 🐟	12 🐟🐟	13 🐟🐟	14 🐟🐟
15 🐟🐟	16 🐟🐟	17 🐟🐟	18 🐟🐟	19 Club Meeting 🐟🐟🐟	20 🐟🐟🐟🐟	21 The River Tournament 🐟🐟🐟
22 🐟🐟🐟	23 🐟🐟	24 🐟🐟	25 🐟🐟	26 🐟🐟	27 🐟🐟	28 🐟🐟
29 🐟🐟	30 🐟🐟	31 🐟🐟		<h1>March</h1>		



- March 5th - Club Meeting
- March 19th - Club Meeting
- March 21st - The River Tournament
- April 2nd - 6:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt

Coming Events:



Serving Jacksonville One Family At A Time

CALL
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INFORMATION!



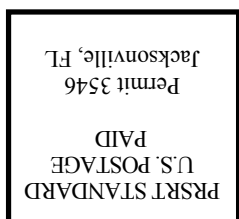
Tournament Schedule for 2015

Tournament	-	-	Month	-	Date /	Alternate
						- All are on Saturday -
The River Tournament -			March		21	28 - Chris Rooney
The Non-Live Tournament -			April		11	18 - Greg Wallace
The Unlimited Trolling Tournament -			May		2	9 - Jack Ogin
The May Trolling Tournament -			May		16	23 - Steve Grant
The Junior Angler Tournament -			June		13	20 - Jack Ogin
The Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament -			June		27	July - 11 - Rob Cripe
The Ladies Tournament -			August		1	8 - Greg Wallace
The Light Tackle Tournament -			August		22	29 - Jack Ogin
The Bottom Tournament -			September		5	12 - Rob Cripe
Triple Challenge Tournament -			October		5	12 - Steve Shaw

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