



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 49 Issue 4

April 2009



Presidents Castings

Captain Chris Rooney

Spring is here and so are the Dolphin, Snapper, Tuna, ect.....

We are starting my favorite time of the year, with the warming trends in the weather and water temp's, it's getting right offshore. Time to head out and load the boat replace all the fish in the freezer you used up over the Winter. No matter what type of fishing you want to do sometime this month it's going to get HOT!!!!

The first tournament this month on the 5th is the Non-Live bait, which has always been a challenge for our Captains. This tournament has been won by 2 sea bass and a trigger fish or two snapper and a grouper. My bet is on some combination of grouper and snapper because in the three days we sheep head fished for the tournament we caught at least one keeper snapper on the fiddlers. The middle of March brought us 70 deg water into the Elton Bottom area so I'll bet the Cobia might be on the wrecks out in 95 feet of water or a little deeper BR or Casa Blanca. Check the new club chart both area's have the main Wrecks listed and if this is your first time in this area, have a big spinning rod ready with a blue and white lead head jig tipped with a whole squid when you get there, cobia are curious creatures.

Continued on Page 3

**The Sailfish Pot Party, April 18th
See page 5 for all the Details!**



*A word from Frank Joura,
the EL CHEAPO Tournament
Director.*

Sunday, 3/1/2009, 6:30 a.m.

Where do you start?

When I look back at what took place in the past 72 hours with the massive site transformation from clubhouse for 80 or so people to meeting site for four or five hundred, then the transition from meeting site to a world class fishing tournament site for close to a thousand people complete with a short order restaurant and monster "bingo" hall, and then back again to a clubhouse, I find myself trying to figure out where to start the **"Thank You's"**.

Is it the 92 sponsors who put up over \$55,000.00 for this tournament?

Is it the record 357 boats and 91 junior anglers that participated?

Is it the club member from the 60's who hasn't been to a meeting since 1980 who was shuffling around raffle prizes, cutting raffle tickets, and manning the radio all day—from a wheel chair?

Is it the group of guys I sentenced to Hell's Kitchen?

Is it the wife that's had to deal with El Cheapo since Nov. 1 of last year?

Maybe the guys who move mountains of drinks from Point A to Point B then to Point C and back to Point A again?

Is it the club members who had to sit on the porch smiling at idiots all day long asking the same question about where the food line started?

Is it the guys and ladies who turned selling T-shirts into an art form?

Continued on Page 2

A word from Frank Continued

Or is it the club member who took my 12 year old daughter fishing today in her first El Cheapo because I've not been able to since she was 5?

Is it the fish?

Or maybe it's the crew that felt like they would never see the last order of fries, or the last piece of corn pass through their hands.

It could also be the guy yelling fish weights and boat numbers for 2 hours straight.

Is it the guys who showed up unasked to help cook who've never even been to the Mayport ramp before?

It could well have been the fish butchers who slaved under the watchful eyes of several hundred spectators.

Or the guys who took charge of things while I was able to sneak away and get a much needed shower every 24 hours?

How about the office staff that for 7 weeks had to endure phone call after phone call of people asking for "Frank" when in fact "Frank" doesn't even work there?

Is it the guys who documented the entire day on film to remind us this thing really did happen?

Is it the person who risked carpal tunnel syndrome from entering unending hours of spreadsheet data?

It could well be the guys who felt it was better to just stay on site for 36 hours than to go home to a real bed.

Or is it someone I forgot to mention as a result of sleep deprivation?

I don't honestly know.

So, THANK YOU to each and every one of you. It was a tremendous effort that was well done, and I'm proud to have been a part of it with you all.



The El Cheapo Wrap-Up!



First and foremost, from the entire JOSFC a gigantic THANK YOU to Frank Joura for putting on the EL CHEAPO tournament again!

Now some details:

We had 357 Boats fish register to fish the tournament.

There were 176 Returning boats, and 181 new entries.

We have 2 boats that have fished all 9 El Cheapo's.

There were 175 boats that weighed in fish.

They weighed in 984 Lbs of sheepshead, and with the Junior anglers 157 Lbs of fish that puts the total at 1141 pounds of fish WEIGHED in!

The average weight was 5.6 Lbs.

There were 91 Junior anglers, with 30 weighing in fish.

We set a new Tournament record for the largest fish, with the winner being wopping 12.9 Lbs!

The Junior Angler winner was also a new record at 9.2 Lbs!

We had 35 JOSFC members fish the Tournament, and 20 weighed in fish.

You sold and served over 700 dinners, 450 T-Shirts, Sweat shirts, Hats Etc.

There were 92 Sponsors that contributed over \$55,000.00, and finallyThank You to the ...
..... Over 100 Volunteers!



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President's Castings Continued

The second tournament of the Month is Annual Bottom fishing classic, it happens at the end of the month on the 25th. In this one a Snapper over the 20 pound mark is not out of the question and the combination of that and the Cobia will be here could mean some pretty high aggregate weight totals. We have quite a few new members this year lets see if we can get more than 15 boats for each tournament and have some good fish stories to tell at the banquet.

The fishing is warming up and Old Man Winter is gone for this year so if your that fair weather fisherman or the hard core old salt, come on out and see what the start of spring has in store. CatchUmUp!!!!

Fishin' Friends

----Every day that i can get on the water with good friends.....it's ALWAYS a good day! but tuesday was a really special day.....how 'bout this one.....scott darner broke the jetties at 6:15am.....slick calm.....his dad,chuck + i were on the bean bags in the back.....almost asleep already.....about an hour later..scott pulled the sticks back for a pee break.....the sun was just starting to show-----looked like a million dollar gold piece....just to our east.....in another 30 minutes the bottom machine read 139 feet + 72.5 degrees.....we put the hi speeds over the side....+ got ready....course= 110 degrees east.....there was a little 1-2 ft easy chop as we approached the rolldown.....15 minutes went by....the port bent butt rod screamed! in a few more minutes we had a nice 40+ hoo flapping on the deck-----the hook fell out while lifting him over gunwale. we crossed the ledge out to about 800ft cold!!.....temp...70 degrees.....we turned around + followed our plotter arrow back inside.....get in that warm wateragain! at 12:00 scott says "hey guys, we've got enough,let's pick 'em up+ head west-we'll stop on the way home+catch a snapper or two". yes indeed!! we had plenty of blue water fillets.....3 nice hoos + a tuna! after a 40 min nap on the bean bags again.....i listened to the twin 200 yammies rpm decending.....3 min latter... i through the marker jug.....as we were marking up some pretty bottom on the recorder.....we got the anchor set...+dropped our frozen cigars down.....wow! what a bite of big snapper we were in! in a couple of hrs we had our limit (6) of genuines in

the 6-10 lb range---a few seabass +triggers---scott wanted to get even with a 100lb+ black tip who ate a keeper snapper.so....he hooked him up on a short rod +and a torrium spooled with braid.....after 20 min or so.....chuck had the gaff out....damn i'm glad that shark broke off at boat side....gold gaffs are costly!!! we ran the next 37 miles west at 4800 rpm on a slick beautiful atlantic ocean.....chuck + i back on the bean bags again! oh yea....one interruption.....from scott- "hey dad..+..bill -wake up- look a the 2 right wales with a pup!" honestly now,can a day really be better than this one....at 69 yrs old -i just thank GOD everyday, he continues to give me....good health....so i may continue to enjoy them.....tight lines, *Bill Wilderotter*



Chuck Darner with his Whahoo!



Bill Wilderotter with his Whahoo!



Chuck and Scott Darner with their Whahoo!



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram

TOWING YOUR BOAT

It's that time of the year, with improving weather and tournaments on the schedule, where Club members will be towing their boats more to get in on the action. In order to have a safe, successful boating/fishing trip, if you are one of the 95% of recreational boaters who tow their boats, you must first tow your boat to the nearest boat ramp for launching. Towing a boat has its good and bad points, and the potential problems in towing are many. I would like to remind everyone of a few things to consider before towing your boat.

Before you add a trailer hitch to your vehicle to pull that new, or used, boat you just bought; you should look at it as a package and make sure the vehicle is capable of towing the weight of the boat and trailer. Unless your vehicle is specially equipped, you should not tow a trailer load that weighs more than the vehicle. Manufacturers sell towing packages that include several modifications for your vehicle such as heavy-duty radiators, transmission oil coolers, heavy-duty brakes and proper suspension systems based on tongue weight.

Before connecting your vehicle to a trailer, make sure you are using the correct sized ball for your coupler. Never use a coupler designed for a larger ball even if it seems to fit as it can come loose with disastrous results. Also, it is sometimes possible to put a coupler on a larger ball than it was designed for. Don't do it! It will bind and the trailer will not track correctly. The shanks of balls vary in size with the ball. Never use a smaller ball than required, as the shank will be undersized and could shear.

Balancing the load on your trailer is very important to safe towing. Between 5 & 7% of the tow weight (boat+motor+contents+trailer) should be on the tongue. If you have more than this, the rear squats, the front lifts, and your vehicle is hard to handle. If you have less, the trailer is likely to fishtail, and the wind from a large truck could cause you to lose control. For example, the tongue weight for the average passenger car should be no more than 100 pounds with the towing package weighing no more than 2,000 pounds.

To check your tongue weight, load your boat with the gear you normally carry. Then, stack cinder blocks to the height of your trailer ball and place your bathroom scales on top of the blocks. Now, lower your trailer tongue onto the scales. If the tongue weight needs adjusting, the simplest way is to move the load inside the boat forward or aft. If this is not sufficient, you can move the winch stem and your boat forward or aft.

You should develop a pre-departure check list to make sure you check the following items before you go: Air in tires and spare, tools, items in boat secured, electrical connections made and brake, lights and turn signals working, motor or

outdrive up and secured, tie down straps secured, coupler locked and safety chains secured. Finally, don't forget the obvious; make sure your drain plug is installed so you can continue to enjoy safe boating.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales



Now that is what I call a great catch!
Captain Chris Rooney took Terry Lee and Mark Lefebvre out for a day of fishing, and as usual, Captain Chris put them on the fish!

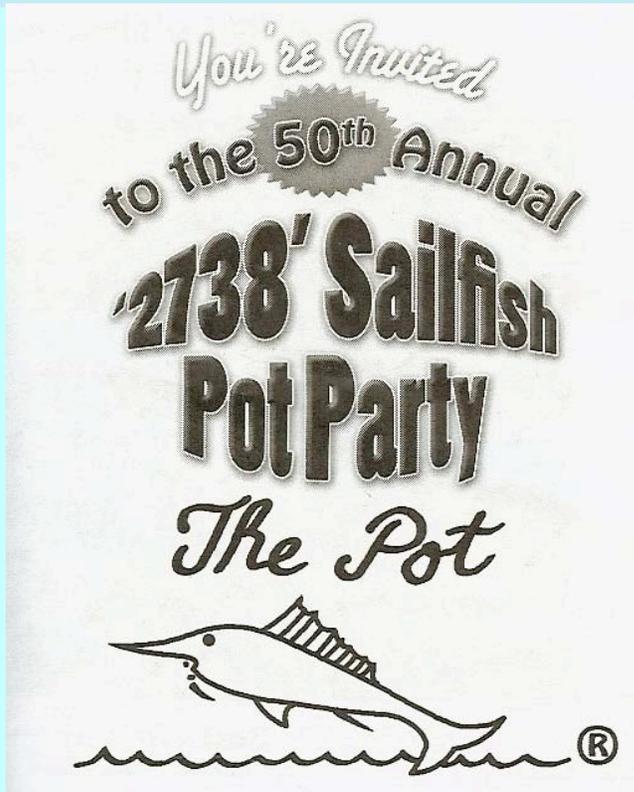
Loud Hailings Newsletter Editor Bill Breen



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





Mens Party
 Date: Saturday April 18, 2009
 Time: 6:00 PM Till ??
 Location: Ramallah American Club
 3130 Parental Home Rd.
 Jacksonville, FL
 Menu: Steak, Oysters, Chicken Wings & Beer (Bring your own Oyster Knife & Towel)
 Cost: \$30 Prior to April 11, \$40 After April 11, 2009
 Prizes: The Best Assortment of Raffle Prizes Ever!

This is a Stag Event!

Ladies Party
 Date: Saturday April 18, 2009
 Time: 6:00 PM Till ??
 Location: American Legion Hall
 1127 Atlantic Blvd.
 Atlantic Beach, FL
 Menu: Chicken, Pasta, & Salad
 Cost: \$30.00
 Make Check Payable to: Charlene Parker
 Mail to: 12344 Del Rio Dr.
 Jacksonville, FL 32258
 Prizes: The Best Assortment of Raffle Prizes Ever!

This is a Ladies only Event!

The 50th Annual "2738" Sailfish Pot Party is going to be the best event in recent history!

Men's Entry form ONLY

OFFICIAL ENTRY - 50TH ANNUAL "2738" SAILFISH POT PARTY

Saturday, April 18, 2009 • 6:00 pm till ??
 Ramallah American Club • 3130 Parental Home Road • Jacksonville, FL
 Menu: Steak, Oysters, Chicken Wings & Beer (Bring your own oyster knife.)
 Cost: \$30 prior to April 11, 2009 • \$40 after April 11, 2009

NAME _____
 BOAT NAME (if applicable) _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please make check payable and mail to:
 Gary Newman
 67 Sailfish Dr.
 Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____
 (\$30 if received by April 11,
 \$40 if received after April 11)

Men's Grand Raffle Prize:



Mercury 9.9 hp 4-stroke Outboard Motor!

If you have attended this party before, you know what an enjoyable evening of fellowship and fun it can be, and if you've never been before you'll be glad you came!

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
Bob Calfee	C = 472-9957	Weekends & Some days	Up to 8:00 pm
Matt Ennes	536 - 7450	Friday through Monday	Up to 9:00 pm
David Brown	962 - 3787	Saturdays & Some week days	Up to 11:00 pm
Ken Roach	221 - 7212	Any Day	Up to 8:00 pm the day before.
Joe Esparza	C = 536 - 4114	Any Day	Up to 10:00 pm



Our Website

Our website is now back up, running, and in the process of being fully updated and improved. We have LIVE MARINE RADIO streaming on our website. You can log onto our website and listen to the boats out there fishing, find out where they are biting, and what the seas are really like. Capt. George and the other charter boat captains are more informative when talking to each other during the week than on weekends.

You can also find the best weather links at our website, and check the fishing boards to see if your big fish will qualify to knock someone off, as well as how the Captain Of The Year Race is going. You can read the "Reel News", get the latest club information and important notices that came in after the newsletter went to press, and see pictures from the latest events.

We would like YOU, our club members, to start talking up our website to everyone you can, just tell them to:

Check out www.jaxfish.com

**If you know anyone who would like to advertise on the site, Have them contact:
Greg Molloy, at MacMedia Graphics 904-725-8871**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
April			1	2 Club Meeting	3	4 Times Union Redfish Spot Tournament
			5 Non-Live Tournament	6 Board Meeting	7	8
12	13	14	15	16 Club Meeting	17 Boat Show	18 THE SAILFISH POT PARTY ! Boat Show
19 Boat Show	20	21	22	23	24	25 Bottom Fishing Tournament
26	27	28	29	30		

Coming Events:



- April 4, Saturday - The Times Union Redfish Spot Tournament.
- April 5, - Sunday - The Non-Live Tournament.
- April 17, 18, 19, We have a Booth at the International Boat Show.
- April 18, - Saturday - The Sailfish Pot Party at the Ramallah Club.**
- April 18, - Saturday - The Ladies Sailfish Pot Party at The American Leigon Hall on Atlantic Blvd.
- April 25, - Saturday - The Bottom Fishing Tournament.

October 17, 2009 - JOSFC Annual Awards Banquet

Tournament Schedule for 2009

Tournament	Month	-Date / Alternate	Saturday	Sunday
The Non-Live Tournament -	April	-----	-----	5 / 11
The Bottom Fishing Tournament -	April	-----	25 / May 2	-----
The Unlimited Trolling Tournament -	May	-----	- 16 / 23	-----
The May Trolling Tournament -	May	-----	31 / June 7	-----
The Junior Angler Tournament -	June	-----	-----	21 / 27
The Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament -	July	-----	18 / 19	-----
The Powder Puff Tournament -	August	-----	-----	16 / 23
The Light Tackle Tournament -	August	-----	29 / Sept. 5	-----

Associate Members

• *Advance Marine* • *All Aluminum Concepts* • *Angie's Sub Shop* • *Atlantic Coast Marine* • *Avid Angler* • *B & M Bait & Tackle* • *Beaches Florist* • *Boaters World* • *Boathouse Discount Marine* • *C & H Lures* • *Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing* • *Consignment Boat Sales* • *Dell Marine* • *Donovan Heating & Air* • *Florida Sportsman Live* • *First Coast Offshore Rodeo* • *Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy* • *Fishing Connection* • *Float Tech* • *F.W.C.* • *G & W Marine* • *Gary Newman Insurance* • *Gear 4 Fishermen* • *Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament* • *Gene's Seafood* • *Great Atlantic Outfitters* • *Hardees* • *High Roller Fishing Team* • *Home - Zone Cleaning* • *International Ropes* • *Jacksonville Marina* • *Just-Right Auto Sales* • *Knight Electric* • *Land Roofing* • *Loadmaster Trailers* • *Lockwood Marine* • *Mercury Outboards* • *MacMedia Graphics* • *Mike's Taxidermy* • *Mayport Princess* • *Murphy Communications* • *Ocean Get Away* • *Ocean Waves Sunglasses* • *Pepsi Bottling Co.* • *Penn Tackle Mfg.* • *Production Drywall* • *Progressive Insurance* • *Pier 17* • *PGA Tour* • *Readyforyoutravel.com* • *Rick's Bait & Tackle* • *River Marine* • *Riggers Plus* • *Safe Harbor Seafood* • *Salty Dawg Marine* • *Salty Styles* • *Sea Tow* • *Sea Dance Charters* • *Skinner Nurseries* • *Smith & Sons Tree Service* • *SOC 7 Productions* • *Solomon's RV & Boat Storage* • *Southern Propane* • *Super Chum Slick* • *St. John's Seafood & Steaks* • *Strike Zone Fishing* • *T.B.S. Jigs & Charter* • *The Canvas Shop of North Florida* • *The Haggerty Company* • *The Outdoors Show* • *Three brothers Marine* • *Vic2Fish* • *W.L.S. Contracting* • *WebCode Fusion* • *Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc.* • *West Marine* • *Woody Wax* • *Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing* •



**Jacksonville Offshore
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