

The Newsletter of the . . .

# The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 47 Issue 7

July 2007

## Presidents Castings



**Club President  
Eddie McGowan  
Bite This**

A special Thanks to Capt. Don Dingman, a fantastic guy! We had a wonderful seminar at a "Special Meeting" for our club's Junior anglers. Capt. Don came in with a truck load of prizes and gifts for our "Little People". He also gave us some *very* nice gifts to raffle off at the end of the tournament.

It was a little bumpy out there and a few boats went inside to finish out the day. Most of all the kids had fun and will remember that day for a long time. The awards and recognition for our little anglers will happen on the July 12. meeting at the club house. Make sure you bring some stories about your tournament day..... and oh yeah, don't forget the kids!

Dave Workman Jr. will be our guest speaker on July 5th at the regular club meeting, and you can just guess what he will be talking about. Be sure to be there!

Many thanks to Sam, Brien Sidney and Jeff for a really good fish fry at the last meeting - - Lets do more of these!

Kevin Dean of VooDoo Chum gave a great seminar on the techniques of chumming, and gave out a lot of "Secret Tips" on chumming. He also gave us some great raffle prizes. Many Thanks Kevin!

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**The Reel News is proud to announce that our Sponsor and good friend Dave Workman Jr. owner of the Strike Zone was inducted into the S.K.A. Hall of Fame this year!** Dave will be giving a seminar on Kingfishing at the July 5th meeting!

Take note, because of the AT&T Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament this month, we have moved the second meeting of the month to July 12th, and it will be the Junior angler tournament awards presentation and ice cream and cake social. All the kids that participated will get something so be sure to bring them and their parents to the July 12th meeting!

Here are the results of the Junior Angler Tournament.

11 years and under category.

1st Place - Jacob Martseller on Bob Dorough's Playing Hooyey

2nd Place - Kristen Ayres

3rd Place - Nathan Ayres both on Chris & Jeanne Bernacki's Parts-N-Labor

12 to 16 category.

1st Place - Thomas Boney on Tom Myers Reel Faith

2nd Place - Emma Kelly on Frank Joura's Catch of the Day.

3rd Place - Shane Alexander on Eddie McGowan's Bite This.



## Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



**Jeff Rodda**  
**Fishing Committee**

Welcome to summer and tournament time. Offshore the fishing on the bottom should be outstanding from the Elton grounds and into the party grounds. Trolling will be good as long as you can find the fish, with the water being warm everywhere that could be a challenge. Kingfish were showing up on the beach last month and should be here in greater numbers this month. With the Kingfish tournaments going on in earnest this month, you might check the schedule to see if the ramp and local waters will be crowded before you go. You can get the SKA schedule here [www.fishska.com](http://www.fishska.com). The greater Jax is the week of the 16th and unless you are participating, don't plan on getting a spot at the ramp after 6:30am on any of the fishing days.

In the river the fishing should be great. Try for trout and redfish in the morning or evening with a top water

### Fishing Report Continued

plug. You can also try a mud minnow on a jighead when the water is moving for the same species as well as flounder. You will have to figure which tide is better for your spots, incoming or outgoing. Mill cove will be an excellent place to fish if you can get your boat in there. If it is your first time there, go at low tide so you can determine where it is navigable. I was with a friend of mine once in Chicopit bay and we learned that lesson the hard way. At least it was only a 16 ft jon boat that we had to drag through the mud and into deeper water.

On the beach you should be able to catch about anything. If you are looking fun, you could always put out a dead mullet or a slab of something stinky that has been in the bottom of the freezer for a few months and go tangle with a shark.

I would like to have the fishing rules meeting in the 25th of July at 8:00pm in the clubhouse. We will be deciding on inputs to the board of directors for changes to the fishing rules for next year. All members are welcome. Please bring your ideas as well a plan to implement them. This is an important process for the club so please take the time to organize your thoughts before the meeting. If we do not complete our task, there will another meeting on the 1st of August at the same time.

See you on the water,  
Jeff



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### Presidents Message Continued

I will be meeting with Jim Engles from the Greater Jax Kingfish Association about the First Annual "**Hamaker Kingfish Cup**" tournament to take place within the AT&T Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament. It is a "tournament within a tournament" at no extra cost to any club member that participates in the regular tournament. This is for bragging rights only, between the Fernindina fishing club, St. Augustine Club and the JOSFC. The winning captain will get his name engraved on the cup, and the winning club will hold it for that year.

If you plan to fish the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament, Please get in touch with either Pete St. Laurent or me so we can get you registered and the JOSFC can take the cup for the first year!

Have Fun, Be Safe, and Catch Lots of Fish!  
Eddie

Sam McJunkin is making and selling some great trolling lures, and has even donated some to the club raffle. His NEW, just up, web-site, is :

[www.midnightlures.com](http://www.midnightlures.com)

Stop by his site and see what's new!



## Rob's Fishing Lore

### GOTCHA!

The *High Roller* was anchored in up in approximately one hundred and twenty five feet of water. The previous two drifts turned up a small hint of what might lie ahead. The depth finder showed that a number of fish were hovering in the area. Reds and yellows reached fifteen foot toward the sea surface enticing the anglers. The color scope was teasing us about what we might catch on our drop. While drifting, the crew: Dad, Don Cook, Byron and I managed to catch some small red snapper, sea bass and some very feisty amberjacks. As the drifting boat passed through the area, cold water sharks were patrolling the outskirts.

After anchoring up, our bottom fishing improved over what we caught while drifting. Our spot gave up four legal red snapper: one at 13.5 pound & 11 pounds, two grouper: a gag at 15 pounds and a scamp of 8 pounds. Two other snapper were boated of just legal size. It was hard to keep track of all the sea bass brought over the side and the b-liners were nothing to sneeze at. It felt good to have the old beef stick bent over and a fish give a good account of itself at the other end of the line.

As we were slaying the bottom fish, the surface came alive with marauding schools of Spanish and Bonitas. On a light spinner lined with 12 pound test a 'gotcha' plug was attached. I thought it would be great fun to have Byron catch one of these fish. The plug was tossed off the stern and cranked in at speed. Within a few tosses, the Spanish had crashed the plug and was fighting to get away. Byron was on the rod and having a ball. The fish was his and soon the little schoolie Spanish was boated and released. For Byron, there was nothing better in the world then this.

With a declarative statement, Byron said he was going to the bow of the *High Roller* with his newly acquired rod and gotcha plug. For us, we thought this was a wonderful idea. A five year old throwing a semi-heavy tubular piece of metal with two treble hooks attached could only spell trouble for the rest of us if he attempted this in the stern. Personally, I do not like to remove any type of treble hooks from my skin. Like a king in his castle, Byron welded his rod like it was Excalibur itself. Off the port side, the gotcha plug was thrown. Now, it was tossed off the starboard. He was having the time of his life. Schools of fish were feeding on glass minnows just off the bow. The surface commotion held his fascination and he it just made him try all that much harder.

By the time I had dropped my fifth or sixth bait down toward the bottom, everyone heard a five year old voice cry for help. As we scanned toward the bow there was Byron

with his rod bent over the railing while the drag was wheezing. He had done it. He has a fish on and he hooked it all by himself. I cleared my rod as quick as I could and went to the bow of course I kept yelling toward Byron to keep the rod tip up. Byron was standing on the bow seats while I sat on the gunnel next to the bow rail. Byron was really focused on getting his fish. With twelve pound test line, he had a challenge ahead of him. With some coaching on keeping the tip up plus pumping & reeling the Bonita was soon brought over the side. His eyes light up and burned bright with self pride. "Can we keep it?" was his next question. The fish went into the fish, besides Bonitas can make great bait.

Well, with one fish he caught all by himself, he was out to prove this was no fluke. I returned to manly fishing. After a number of casts, Byron was getting no where fast. Grandpa suggests letting the lure sink and then reel it in. No sooner said then done when Byron's bent over the bow rail again. Once more, a five year voice called for help and yet again, I had to clear my line and go to the bow. (What else are fathers for if not this?) Yes, on my way toward the bow, I was yelling toward Byron to keep his rod tip up. I took usual seat at the bow while Byron fought the fish. Keeping one hand on the rod, while instructing him on the pump & reel technique, I notice this fish had some power to it. The fish was not one for giving up easily and showing itself. Rather, it wanted to stay deep and fight it out down there. Between Byron and me, a throw-back red snapper of about 13 or 14 inches appeared. Byron got high fives from Don and Grandpa while I prepared to release it. "Can we keep it", he asked once again. This time the answer was no with an explanation that the fish was too small to keep. His only requirement then was for him to set the fish free so over the side the fish went by his own hands.

Well, if he could catch Spanish, a Bonita and a red snapper then he could catch another fish all by himself. Once more, Byron stood up in the bow of the boat, master and commander of his section of this vessel. The gotcha jig was in full working mode. He tossed it and cranked it for awhile. He threw it out and let it sink toward the bottom. Near the next to last cast, Byron struck again. As you could guess, a five year voice was begging for help. Yet again, I cleared my line and found my way to the bow. This fish was not that manly and it was not nearly as tough on him as the others. Byron was getting into the swing of pumping & reeling. It was just a fraction of the battle the others were that a sea bass was hauled over the side. Yes, he did ask if we could keep it; however, he did turn it loose.

I know my personal day of fishing was quite rewarding seeing that I had boated an eleven pound snapper and a few hefty sea bass. It was nothing compared to Byron's day with a gotcha plug. Who could image what one would catch on a gotcha plug? If any throw back snapper, undersized sea bass, small Spanish and a small Bonita seem too small then just ask a five year old how big those fish really are.

Best Wishes for Fishing,

Rob Darner



## Top's Tips Safety First

### Top Ingram Safety Officer

Many new boaters, and some old ones, do not appear to have a working knowledge of the rules of the road. If you are operating your vessel on inland waters or the high seas, one way to insure a safe voyage is to adhere to the "Navigation Rules". The rules cover all aspects of Navigation including lights, sounds, shapes, distress and privileged vs giveaway vessel, etc. All vessels, from the smallest PWC to the largest supertanker, must obey the navigation rules. It takes a whole book to cover all the rules, so in this article I want to discuss only the privileged and burdened vessel aspect of the rules.

There are important differences in legal liability between Maritime Law and Civil Law. When driving, one automobile often has the legal right-of-way over another. For instance, at an intersection, if car A has a green light and car B runs through the red light and collides with car a, then car B is usually found to be at fault.

Unlike the highway, at sea no one has the right of way. Depending on the situation, when two vessels are closing one vessel is privileged or the stand on vessel and the other is the burdened or give way vessel. The privileged or stand on vessel must maintain course and speed and the burdened or give way vessel must alter course and/or speed to avoid the privileged vessel. If the burdened vessel does not take action as required by the rules and the two vessels reach "extremis" (that point where a collision will occur without evasive action by either vessel), the privileged vessel must depart from the rules and take evasive action.

In a crossing situation, you are the privileged vessel if the other vessel is from dead ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft your port beam, and you must maintain course and speed. If the other vessel is from dead ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft your starboard beam, you are the burdened vessel and must alter course to pass astern of the privileged vessel. NEVER speed up to pass in front of a privileged vessel. In a meeting head-on situation, both vessels are burdened and must alter course to starboard. In an overtaking situation, the vessel overtaking the other is the burdened vessel and must avoid the other.

Remember, courtesy and common sense is as important as the navigation rules. If the other captain is rude, don't use it for rudeness on your part. If the other vessel does not treat you in accordance with the rules, sound the danger signal (5 or more short blasts on you horn) and yield. More than likely the other captain may be ignorant of the rules. By engaging in brinksman ship, you could win the argument and ruin your whole day and possibly damage you vessel.

Remember, you are in imminent danger of collision when the bearing of another vessel is constant and the range

is decreasing and evasive action will be required regardless of who is privileged or burdened. Follow these simple navigation rules and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

### Top Ingram Fish tales



This was sent to me by a friend down south. The fisherman's name is unknown, but he was reeling in this big Wahoo, and had it near the boat when a XXXL Blue Marlin engulfed the entire thing and turned away, leaving him with just a 15 Lb. head!



Here is Shane Alexander with a pair of Kings, 17 and 9 Lbs.



Jeff Rodda got this great picture of the kids in the boat. All having a good time and ready for anything!



Here is Don Waters with his 58.3 Pound Dolphin he caught just 12 miles off Miami last month! Now that is a fish!



Chris Hackbart seems to have a knack for catching good Cobia. Here he is with a nice 30 Lb. Cobia he caught this last month.

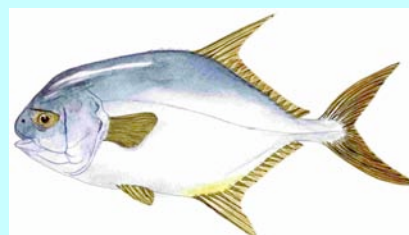
## ***Loud Hailings Newsletter Editor Bill Breen***



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

[breenw@bellsouth.net](mailto:breenw@bellsouth.net)



## 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

### Associate Member of the Month



## Strike Zone Fishing

11702 Beach Boulevard  
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904-641-2433

[www.strike-zonefishing.com](http://www.strike-zonefishing.com)

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Remember to shop at our sponsors and support them as often as you can,

### Did You Know...

.....That Florida is known as the "Sport Fishing Capital Of the World"

.....That one out of twelve houses in Florida have a Boat 16 foot or larger.

.....That Florida has 2,276 Miles of tidal shorelines.

.....That in the State of Florida, ANGLERS outnumber golfers by two to one.

.....That Florida is ranked FIRST in the nation in the number of adult anglers, with California second and Texas third.

..... That Florida has over 700 certified world record catches registered with the International Game Fish Association.

.....That Florida is ranked NUMBER ONE in boat sales with Michigan second and Texas third Minnesota fourth and California fifth.

.....That Florida makes up more than \$ 8 Billion of the total economic impact of recreational fishing in the United States.

..... That Red Drum ( Redfish ) provide 8.3 million days of fishing fun per year.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 Club Meeting Dave Workman Jr. seminar	6	7
8	9 Board Meeting	10	11	12 Club Meeting Junior angler awards party	13	14 Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	July			

## Coming Events:

July 5 - Club Meeting, Guest Speaker - Dave Workman Jr. on Kingfishing!

July 12 - Club Meeting, Junior Angler Awards, + Ice Cream & Cake social!

July 14 - Club Kingfish Tune-up tournament.

July 16 Through 21st - The AT&T Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament & Festival.



### Tournament Schedule for 2007

Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Date	Rain Date
Kingfish Tune-up Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	July 14 th	July 15 th
Powder Puff Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	August 4 th	August 5 th
Light Tackle Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	August 18 th	August 19 th
The Bottom Fishing Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	September 8 th	September 9 th

## Associate Members

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