

The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 46 Issue 8

August 2006

Presidents Castings



**President
Pete
St. Laurent**

Well, the Greater Jacksonville King Fish tournament is over. Everyone I've talked to are either celebrating their victory over the big slimmys or licking their wounds and contemplating how they are going to explain the large drop in funds on next months bank statements to their wives. Everyone I've talked to has ended their comments with "But we had a heck of a good time and we'll get 'um next year."

After each of the Greater Jacksonville King Fish tournaments I've fished over the past few years I find myself thinking "Boy how are they going to match this tourney next year." but some how they pull it off. Having been involved in putting together much smaller tournaments I have a small inkling of the work that you all face each year. So from someone that has enjoyed himself for years and who especially looks forward to this particular tourney, my hat is off to you for putting together a world class tournament that even the little guy can experience and enjoy. To the sponsors -- I know the Greater Jaxs could not possibly put together a tourney of this caliber without all your help. So, I would like to thank you all as well. Lastly, but not least, I would like to thank all the club members who volunteered during the tournament. The club and tournament have worked together for years to make the thousands of anglers who descend on our fair city in July feel welcome. It makes my heart proud to be affiliated with an organization that is so deeply committed to helping another organizations in our community in making fellow anglers feel at home.

I have one more thank you to throw out there and that is to Gary Newman and all the Captains that got together prior to the tournament to place buoys on the reefs. I have said this before and I'll say it again -- the buoys are just one of the ways that the JOSFC helps the community. Most of us know

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*Katie Pazder & Caroline Joura
teamed up on 7/1/06 to catch this
large Sailfish !!!!!!*



You have to give Frank extra credit for letting the girls do it themselves, without him even putting a hand on his prized Captain of the Year 12-T! Katie cranked while Caroline helped hold the rod.



More on page 3

Presidents Message Cont.

where all the reefs are and their relationship to each other, however, there is a large portion of our community who do not know where the reefs are offshore and with this service we provide, it not only helps our fellow tournament anglers but it also helps our fellow Jacksonvilleians.

A little in house news now that we are into August, the Captain of the Year race is the closest it has been as long as I can remember with only 3 tourneys left in our season. I think it's going to come down to the wire. So good luck to all in the chase and I don't think you'll have to worry about my 3 points at all.

In August we start to look for members who would like to serve on the board of directors. This is a great way to get to know a large number of the membership and give back to the club that has work so hard to give you so much. If you are interested in being on the board and carrying on the *legacy of the best and most respected fishing club in Florida* please let me or anyone on the board know.

"But we had a heck of a good time and we'll get 'um next year."

I say we fish 5 days and work 2!

Pete St. Laurent

Bust-N-Reds



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- President Pete St.Laurent
- Vice President Eddie McGowan
- Secretary Marge Hackbart
- Treasurer Emily Murphy
- Newsletter Editor Bill Breen
- Newsletter Staff Greg Molloy, Mike Murphy
- Layout & Design Bill Breen

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Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



Chris Rooney
Fishing
Committee
Chairman

Dog Days of Summer

Well the Kingfish season is over, and everyone who is a part of it can relax. It's way to

hot for fishing anyway right, **I don't think so!** The offshore bite on the bottom is great and the heater does go below the horizon. This time of year it is much more comfortable fishing at night, the Mango's, Snapper and B-liners will bite most of the night.

This is the time of the year when the largest b-liners are brought to the boat, not to mention Red Snapper and Mango's. The picture above was 1/4th of a trip last August offshore in the Elton Bottom. I just had to get my Grandson in on the act. These fish came from two spots **57 Heaven** N30 29.333 / W80 25.934 and the same area where all the big Kings have come from this year, **N30 30.918 / W80 28.014**. Those are two very good areas if you can get out there, and when you do get there you'll find plenty more spots just look around.

If you don't want to go that far the inshore reefs, mostly outside of CH will also have a lot of action going on at night. That big rock pile at **EEF N30 22.636 W80 57.320** is a great spot to anchor up and spend the night. It always has Mango's and the size of the mark make it impossible to miss. There are a lot of areas that get overlooked at this time of the year, and night time bottom fishing is one way to cash in.

Well we started this with the fact the Kingfish tournament season is over for N.E. Florida, but that doesn't mean the Kings are gone!! You want to have a fun, short day especially with the kids. Just net some pogies and troll the inshore reefs the reels will start screaming and watch their eyes light up. Speaking of the kids, Old Man Weather was not with us this year for the kid's tournament, and we were blown out. I have an idea!

How about a Kids Tournament and cookout on the 23rd of September, the rules don't allow for any Captains points to be won, so having it after the boards close on the 21st is not a problem. What I would like to propose is a wide open format any fish on the junior anglers boards count, inshore or offshore. This would allow the tournament to happen pretty much regardless of the wind and sea conditions. If you would like to weigh in on this idea send me an E-mail christop.rooney@comcast.net or come out to the next meeting and get up with me. We will need volunteers to make this happen, but it's for the kids and that's one of the things the club is all about.

August is an off month for a lot of the local fisheries but the fish don't know it, So go out and get them!



Here is the proof that Chuck Darner can catch big Snappers!

Pinfish

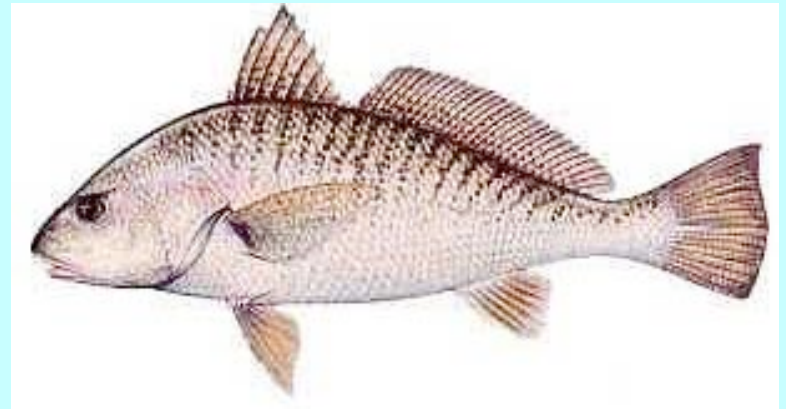
Lagodon rhomboides



Commonly found on vegetated bottoms, occasionally over rocky bottoms and in mangrove areas. Enters brackish water and even freshwaters. Often forms large aggregations. Feeds mainly on small animals, especially crustaceans, but also takes mollusks, worms and occasionally small fishes that are associated with the grassy habitat.

Atlantic Croaker

Micropogonias undulatus



Occurs usually over mud and sandy mud bottoms in coastal waters and in estuaries where the nursery and feeding grounds are located. Feeds mainly on worms, crustaceans and fishes. An excellent foodfish. Sold fresh and frozen; eaten fried, broiled, microwaved and baked

Caroline Joura Got to go swimming after catching her first Sailfish! As our club tradition mandates, Caroline got thrown off the dock during our first club meeting after she and her friend Katie caught a big sailfish!





Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

Last month, I wrote about how to read the weather. Now, we need to be alert to lightning, one of the weather hazards we face here in Florida. It is that time of year now when those hot, humid and muggy days sometimes come to an end with menacing, dark clouds gathering on the horizon. In order to make sure that our boating/fishing trip is one that begins and ends safely, we should keep a wary eye on those clouds gathering on the horizon. Boaters should keep an eye on afternoon cumulus clouds in warm weather because they are capable of turning into thunderheads if there is enough moisture in them. If you recognize the changing situation, you may be able to run for safety before there is any danger.

In hazy weather, you may not be able to see the thunderhead forming since haze limits visibility and is ideal weather for a thunderstorm. On such hot, hazy days, you should be alert for static on your am radio, the sound of thunder or the flicker of lightning. On such hot, muggy, hazy days, you should plan on staying close to port so you can run in if necessary.

If, however, you are caught out to sea and a storm forms, you will see the lightning before you hear the thunder because sound travels much slower than light. You can determine the distance of the storm by counting one thousand one to five after you see the lightning. Each five counts tell you that the lightning is about one mile away.

Lightning is a serious boating hazard. It takes place not only between clouds and the water, but also between clouds and within clouds and usually strikes the highest item around the area. When you are out on the water, you may be the highest thing around for miles. Also, the more frequent the lightning, the more severe the storm.

The best way to escape the dangers of lightning is to avoid it. The more weather-wise you become, the less likely you are to be caught out on the water in a thunderstorm. If you should be caught out in a thunderstorm, each person on board should don a PFD. Next, pinpoint your exact location before the storm arrives because heavy rain will reduce your visibility. Reduce your boat speed and secure all loose gear on or below deck.

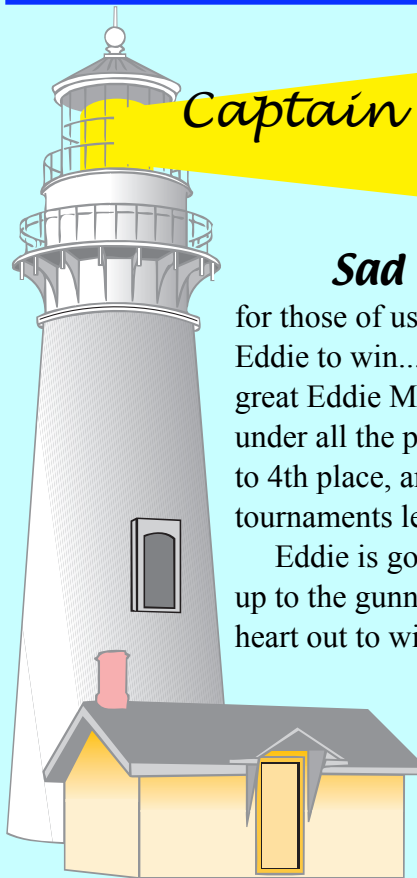
Once the storm hits take the first, and usually the strongest, gusts of wind on your bow, not abeam. Try to keep a heading into the wind and approach the increasing waves at a 45% angle that will keep your propeller under water and reduce pounding. Stay low in the boat and keep away from metal objects since a nearby strike could send strong electrical charges into the boat.

You can lessen the danger of lightning damage to your boat by having a grounding system installed if your

boat does not have one. A good grounding system neutralizes the difference in electrical potential between water and air and prevents static buildup. This is the same reason farmers put lightning rods on their barns. There are no guaranteed safeguards against lightning. It is very unpredictable and powerful. Therefore, avoid it if at all possible.

Know before you go, pay attention to changing weather conditions and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales



Captain Of The Year Race

Sad News.....

for those of us who were rooting for Eddie to win..... It appears that the great Eddie McGowen had cracked under all the pressure. He has dropped to 4th place, and with only 3 tournaments left, it looks pretty grim.

Eddie is going to have to really step up to the gunnel and fish his cold, cold heart out to win!

1st - Chris Rooney	37 Pts.
2nd - Frank Grassi	32 Pts.
3rd - Rob Darner	26 Pts.
4th - Eddie McGowen	25 Pts.
5th - Danny DelRio	23 Pts.
6th - Vernon Summersiel	20 Pts.
7th - Tony Benevento	12 Pts.
8th - Mike Coldwater	10 Pts.
9th - Mike Snyder	9 Pts.
10th - Mike Murphy	6 Pts.
10th - Bob Dorough	6 Pts.
11th - Andy Proescher	5 Pts.
12th - James Teter	4 Pts.
12th - Pete St. Laurent	4 Pts.
13th - Bob Hughton	2 Pts.
14th - Gary Newman	1 Pt.



Loud Hailings

**Newsletter Editor
Bill Breen**

I would really like to feature PICTURES of club members with some good catches. Either give me a hardcopy at a meeting (I will return it to you) or E-mail me your pictures at:

breenw@bellsouth.net

Don't forget to include your name spelled correctly and the fish weight.

Anyone can submit an article for the Reel News just send or give it to me at any time.

Spanish Sardine

Sardinella aurita



Flanks silvery with a faint golden mid-lateral line; a faint golden spot behind gill opening; black spot at hind border of gill cover. Back bluish gray, sometimes greenish. Sides silvery to brassy, without spots or streaks. Body very slender. Scales deciduous. Biology: Schools in coastal waters from inshore to edge of shelf. Prefers clear saline water with a minimum temperature below 24°C. Juveniles tend to stay in nursery areas, but on maturity rejoin adult stocks offshore. Strongly migratory, often rising to surface at night and dispersing. Feeds mainly on zooplankton, especially copepods. Juveniles take phytoplankton. Breeds perhaps throughout the year, but with distinct peaks. In some areas there are two main spawning periods.



Bob Houghton's, West Florida Grouper Trip.

Club member Bob Houghton and his son Bobby took a trip to the west coast of Florida to fish the waters off Carrabelle FL.

Bob caught his first tagged Cobia at the mouth of the Ochlockonee river on June 19th. He reported that the Cobia was tagged 119 days (almost 4 months) before off Sarasota, FL. Bob measured and released the Cobia in good condition, hoping to hear the next time it is caught. The Cobia had not grown in length at all between being tagged and recaptured by Bob.

Editors note:

Notice that Bob's son caught the larger grouper. That shows what a great guy Bob is, letting his son catch the bigger fish so he wouldn't feel bad.

Way to go Bob!





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
Bill Breen	-	254-2791	-	Any day	-	Up to 10:00 pm

Associate Member of the Month



C & H Lures

We all know and love this sponsor, Don Combs and his store has been a big supporter of our club. You can go in and not just get whatever gear you need, (At competitive prices.) but the friendly staff and Don will give you a lesson on how to best use it, and the latest on what is biting on what and where. This is one store to visit at least once a week just to keep up on the latest!

C & H lures are located at:
13051 Beach Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32246
1-800-458-5873
www.candhlures.com

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

The Presidents Message continued from last Month:

OK, I am not admitting to making a mistake, but somehow my proofreader (Me) missed that the end of Pete's article was accidentally misplaced. OR can I claim that it was a test to see if you actually read the newsletter?

If you remember, Pete was talking about a trip to the ledge on the Infamous "FULL COVERAGE", and that they were having a great day. Here is the last paragraph of Pete's article.

While we congratulated them Greg said, "fish on" as the reel screamed the starboard outrigger popped and started singing. Outstanding! We had a double going. We worked both fish to the boat and in short order a nice gaffer bull and cow were cooling off with some of their sisters in the fish box. The Darner's and Full Coverage crew trolled that rip the rest of the day informing each other -- in a friendly but needling way -- just who was up on who every time a fish was boated. Around 5 P.M. we decided to head for the hills with a box full of fish. On the ride home Greg and I talked about the day and agreed that there's hardly any better thing than a day on the water with good friends and fish in the box.

I say we fish 5 days and work 2!
Pete St. Laurent
Bust-N-Reds



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
August		1	2	3 Club Meeting	4	5
		6	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17 Club Meeting	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Light Tackle Tourny	27	28	29	30	31	

Coming Events:

The Powder Puff Tournament on Saturday, August 12.
 The Light Tackle Tournament on Saturday, August 26.
 The Bottom Fishing Tournament on Saturday, September 9.

A Kids Tournament and cook out on Saturday, September 23.

Tournament Schedule for 2006

Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Date	Rain Date
Powder Puff Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	August 12 th	August 19 th
Light Tackle Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	August 26 th	September 2 nd
The Bottom Fishing Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	September 9 th	September 16 th

Associate Members

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**Jacksonville Offshore
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P.O. Box 331185
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

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