

The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 50 Issue 8

August 2010



PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Captain Chris Rooney

THE MONTH OF THE DOLDRUMS

This is the month of the Summer Doldrums, August, but for us the quest for greatness continues. Our tournaments this month include the "Powder Puff" which always proves to be a thriller, the ladies just put the hurt on our fishing offshore and the winning catch for 3 fish aggregate is usually above the 100 pound mark. The second tournament is the real challenge for the anglers, it's our light tackle and even the King Fish guys don't use stuff this light. Check the rules for this one, there are some changes. Don't forget the meeting before the tournament, have your line tested to make sure it breaks at the required strength.

That will leave only the Bottom Tournament to decide who wins Captain of Year for 2010. The Boards are also coming to a close and there have been some really nice fish this year. The competition is pretty close. So this last month or two should see the heat building in the contests to name the angler of the year for all the boards.

August is also the time for all of the membership to look at their own worlds and see if they have the time and desire to bump up their participation in the Club. We have quite a few Officers and Board member openings that need to be filled. The JOSFC needs you to help



It is with great sadness that I note the passing of the Very First, First Lady of the JOSFC.

Yvonne L. Morrow passed away on June 19, 2010

Her husband Fred Morrow was the very first President of the Club, 51 years ago.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years Fred J. Morrow, 3 daughters, Norraine Edwards, Mary Newman, and Terri Booth, 1 sister, Deanna Matthews, 6 Grandchildren, and 8 Great Grandchildren.

For those that wish, you may make a memorial contribution to the American Cancer Society, 1430 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, Fl. 32207

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Fred and his family.

Presidents Message Continued

insure a 50 plus year tradition of Sportsmanship, Conservation and the Tradition of sport fishing continues. Our club has come a long way in the last 5 years, our members are leading the fight to save our bottom fishing and to reopen the Red Snapper fishing. We have asserted our voice in this fight and at the same time played a very active roll in re-establishing a viable reef building program in North Florida. Help all you fellow members in the club and choose to serve on the Board of Directors.

Well I'm longer winded than usual in this issue and late with the article as usual so have a great month and "It's summer - take the kids fishing!"

Capt. Chris



Jim Anderson found the big Red Fish in the river during July, and had a good day of Catch & Release fishing.



Junior Angler Tournament Winner Magnus Ponson with his Tournament winning African Pompano. Magnus won with an incredible total weight of 85.5 Pounds in just 3 fish that he weighed in!



The Reel News

The Reel News is published monthly by the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club (JOSFC). All rights reserved.

Officers:

- President Chris Rooney
- Vice President Don Cook
- Secretary Allison Thornton
- Treasurer Tina Proescher

**Board of Directors:
& Special Staff:**

- Special Events Butch Ogin
- Books & Charts Greg Wallace
- Hospitality Larry Hixenbaugh
- Fishing Coordinator Derek Siegel
- Membership Tony Thompson
- Trophies & Awards Alan Shepard
- Newsletter Editor Bill Breen
- Newsletter & Marine Radio Mike Murphy

©Copyright 2010



This is why I love this club. Here are three, (3) generations of the Darner family, Rob on your Left, Byron and GrandPa Chuck holding the Gaff, all as proud as can be with the catch of Byron's Cuda! That day Byron also caught a really nice Kingfish, and a Shark. It sure beats sitting in the house playing the X-Box all day.



Rob's Fishing Lore

School's In

Over several fishing years, I have collected stories about the one that got away. In fact, I believe I just might have many stories about the 'one' that has eluded me during tournament time than any other time. As such, I have often hearken back to my competitive racing days from Jr College, to College and after to keep myself in check so I just don't go crazy about all those near misses or that brass ring slipping from my grasp. What my Jr College coach taught me that during my racing efforts was what did I learn from my race experience that would make me a better racer next time. It is just this attitude I take into my tournament experience as well.

So, if you might have expected this is another story about the 'one' that got away once again. What even makes this story just a little grander is the one that got away was more special than the one stuck in the fish cooler. The one in the fish cooler turned out to weigh a mere 31.90 pounds. That fish was caught relatively early in the day making our remaining fishing time easier to bare without the time pressure of having to search or wait out the next fish.

To begin with, this little tournament found the crew fishing SS early in the morning. Why we started out at SS was simple. SS is where Bailey caught her 7th place fish for the Kingbuster Jr Angler division. It was here were we spied a leaping kingfish at the end of the day. I took it as an omen. It was a simple omen. Simply stating: fish here so this is where we began. Without getting our initial spread in place, our kingfish took a blue runner placed in the shot gun position. Dad fought the fish to the gaff and our very own Lucky Murphy (please find your own because he is our team member and he is lucky) handled the boat while I cleared the deck and gaffed the fish.

After the hoopla finished, we settled down for the remaining day. We continued to work the area in hopes of something better. Yea right, we knew we had a fish to be proud of and does one really ask for lighting to strike more than once. It was unlikely but stranger things happen. As the cudas came and went while time started to crawl along, it was decided a move was in order but the question came just where to relocate to? Chris & Jeannie on the Parts & Labor boat was having too much fun catching fish at PV so we entertained the idea on moving there for the fun of it. However, that idea was nixed in favor of going to a different place to experiment.

I call this place "The Wall" due to its 30 foot drop in a short span. The Let's Go boat and crew arrived here near 11 am. The water was blue and clear. Sargassum grass

floated by holding bait fish. I have always wanted to drag larger baits through the area just to see if larger fish may hang around. Our last remaining blue runner was attacked and eaten by a highly motivated shark so now we were left without any large bait.

Time and tide kept moving bring with it life upon the water. The first to show were the bonitos. The bonitos were attacking the minnows hiding underneath the sargassum grass. The fish were oblivious to our presence thus allowing our boat to come within casting range. A trout tout jig was tossed near the braking fish and success was had as a 3 pound bonito ate the jig. It was a very interesting fight from the bow of the boat due to the fact that we did not give up on our slow trolling our Poggies. The real battle was keeping this fish out of our bait spread, away from the down rigger cables while trying to land the fish on 10 pound test line. It was amazing because it worked. Needless-to-say, it was a challenge to do but it was something we did three more times except with 5 pound blue runners.

Our bonito took the blue runners place of honor among the bait spread and it was deployed way back so it would not foul our prop with either mono or fishing wire. The ocean was coming to life. Larger bait fish were gathering to feed upon the minnows hiding underneath the sargassum grass. It was the school of blue runners that captured our attention. Dad wanted to have his turn on angling a larger bait fish on 10 pound test. True to form, the little jig did its thing and Dad had his hands full managing a 5 pound blue runner. As Dad fought his fish, Mike took the boat closer to the crashing bait pod.

The next scene was something painted by Guy Harvey. A rather large kingfish came from underneath the blue runner bait pod and sky rocketed out from the middle of the pod. The kingfish broached the water with one of those 5 pound runners in its mouth. As the great fish hung in mid-air, it chopped its jaws allowing its victim's head to fall back into the ocean. If a scene like this does not get one's motor cranked then I don't know what would? Needless to say, both Mike & I turned our attention to the stern to watch the expected out come meanwhile Dad was still having at it with the 5 pound blue runner. Our boat trolled past the school of crashing blue runners and our bonito was dragged near it. NASA's launch countdown was appropriate: 5, 4,3,2,1 and wham the bonito was crushed by a rather large fish swimming away from our boat at 90 mph. The high speed scream of the drag alarm was something I have rarely heard. Something special was on the other end of the line. It took this fish only 15 seconds to free itself. The lead wire before the hooks was #4 wire. The initial run was so devastating that it pulled the wire apart. It thinned out the wire and broke it. So much for that fish!

Dad got his runner in the boat and it had a slash near the tail where some toothy critter tried to make this lunch. Quickly, the next rod was retooled with heavier wire leader and this fish went out into the spread. It was not long before this bait meant its demise and yet we failed to land this fish as well as this fish crushed #6 wire. With the ocean still alive, we continued on following the school of blue runners. We were able to capture two more putting them out. Fishing with two large runners had its challenges. First, we trolled these fish at 900 rpm's just to



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

Lightning

I learned long ago from an old successful salesman that the first thing one had to do in a prospective sales presentation was to get the customers undivided attention. So, in an effort to get your undivided attention, I will cite some of the very grim boating fatality statistics from the Florida Marine Police.

For instance, the current 2010 statistics show that most boating fatalities to date are from drowning. The cause of those drowning ... nearly 90% were not wearing life jackets when they entered the water. Following are just two examples:

1. On May 22 a boater fell overboard from a 32 foot contender and drowned.
2. On May 23 a 14 foot Jon boat was swamped on Eagle Lake with 4 on board. A 23 year old drowned while attempting to swim to shore.

Many have advised me that they carry life jackets on board their vessel with the idea of putting them on when an emergency arises. Detailed case studies show that boat accidents and capsizing happen so fast that there is usually no time to don a life jacket. Remember the Scout motto: Be prepared. So, wear your life jacket. If not for you, think of your family with you out of the picture.

Now, back to the main subject of this month: Lightning. In last month's newsletter, Bill Breen wrote under the heading: "Some nice to know information" that with lightning "5 seconds between Flash and Thunder = 1 Mile". As Bill indicated, 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. If your count shows that the storm is less than 10 miles, you should head for safety since data shows that lightning can strike out 10 miles in front of a storm where the sky may even be clear. The comment that if you can hear the thunder, head inside or for shelter is so true.

I want to remind everyone to be alert, and on the lookout for lightning, one of the weather hazards we face, especially on hot humid days, 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 hot 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.

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 life jacket, if not wearing one already. 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, get off the water as soon as you can when lightning is approaching, and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales

School's In Continued

keep them behind the boat. Anything slower and the fish were headed toward the prop. Still, these strong fish managed to swim along side our boat.

We were just off the 30 foot drop chasing the school of crashing fish when both blue runners were hit. I would have never have thought of this: a double hitter on these big baits. Each fish took off in a different direction so the Let's Go came to a stop while the anglers had at the fish. My fish made that classic hard lighting fast run when the hooks pulled. It wasn't too soon after that is when Dad's fish leaped out of the water showing off its cuda stripes. We did manage to boat a rather larger cuda of 25 plus pounds. After this, the blue runners disappeared and we were out of all live bait. We stayed and trolled some dead bait for a while but with no action. So at

Continued Page 5



Kaitlyn Kiel fishing on Eddie McGowan's boat the Bite This, caught this nice Kingfish during the Junior Angler Tournament. Below is Kaitlyn with her Dorado she caught during the Tournament!



School's In Continued

1:30 pm we headed in for weigh-in line. It took us less than 50 minutes to get in.



Our 30 plus pound fish was thrown up on the dock and everyone there told us we had a nice fish. We figured this was something the dock crew was being pleasant about. The fish was weighed and it came out to 31.90 pounds. The weigh master explained that this fish now took over the leader board. In all my short years of tournament fishing, I have never had a fish go to the leader fish box. Dad, Mike & Byron all came off the boat to see our fish in the leader box. We thought a near 32 pounder would never hold that position but never-the-less it was a unique experience to see your fish in the box. In fact, that particular fish held the leader position until 10 minutes before weigh-in closed. Frank Joura sent me a text message tell me that my fish fell to second place with 8 minutes left. In a million years, I would have never thought that fish would have held for as long as it did. Our fish was good enough for 5th. The reason we were 5th instead of 6th was because we ran out of live bait and came in early. A second 31.90 pounder was weighed in 20 minutes after us causing them to be 6th instead of 5th. It is funny how some things work out.

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner

Loud Hailings

From the Editor:

I 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 Phone, Fax, or E-mail me your pictures at: PH# 904-254-2791 Fax#904-213-9786 breenw@bellsouth.net

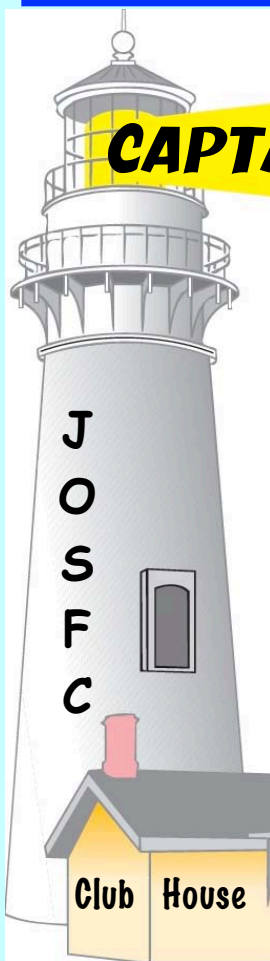
Don't forget to include your name spelled correctly and the fish weight.

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



Instant Crew, Just Add Water

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Availability</u>	<u>Can call the Night before.</u>
Pete St.Laurent	- C = 220-9199	Most weekends	Up to 8:00 pm
Gene Fulgham	- C = 641-9970	Any day	Up to 8:00 pm
Frank Grassi	-C = 234-7369	Sunday	Up to 8:00 pm
Richard Fisher	- H = 221-9629 - Cell 738-1010	Nearly every day	Up to 8:00 PM the day before.
John Porcella	- C = 610-3855	Nearly any day	Up to 10:00 PM
Joe Esparza	- C = 536 - 4114	Any Day	Up to 10:00 pm
Phillip Ferdon	- H = 879-0184 C = 887-6736	Fri. Sat.	Up to 9:00 pm
Rod Saffles	- C =993-6986	Any Day	Up to Midnight
Ron Hunter	- C = 733-1197	From Noon Wednesday through Sunday	Up to 8:00 PM
Ronald Cowart	- C = 879-4724	Weekends	Up to 9:00 PM
Greg Cole	- C = 412 - 5722	Any Day	Up to 9:00 PM



THE RACE FOR CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>CAPTAIN</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
1 -	Eddie McGowan	46
2 -	Chris Rooney	31
3 -	Steve Kalaitzis	30
4 -	Greg Wallace	28
5 -	Steve Shaw	17
6 -	Paul Gallup	15
7 -	Vern Summersill	14
8 -	Paul Camia	12
9 -	Jack Ogin	10
8 -	Chuck Darner	8
8 -	Dale Shelton	8
9 -	Tim Altman	7
9 -	AJ Proescher	7
9 -	Ray Chancey	7
10 -	Laddie Birge	6
10 -	Mike Watts	6
11 -	Don Cook	5
11 -	Chris Bernacki	5
13 -	Tony Thompson	3
13 -	Tom meyer	3

The kingfish Tune-Up Tournament was a tough one. The weather was good, but the fishing was hard. There were lots of sharks and Cuda's caught, but the Kingfish were hard to find. With 15 boats entered, only 6 weighed in any fish!

First place went to Vern Summersill with a 35 Lb. Kingfish! Then in second, Eddie McGowan with a 30.2 Lb. Kingfish took a big lead in the Captain of the Year race. There are only 3 tournaments left in the race!. Third was Greg Wallace with a 20.4 Lb. Kingfish. 4th was Ray Chancey with a 10.8 Lb. King, then Mike Watts with a 9.2 lb. King and finally Paul Gallup with an 8.9 Lb Fish.

The R & H Sailfish Masters

August 28th

This tournament is open to the Public and is fast becoming a popular tournament. There is a \$100 entry fee and you can find registration forms at local bait shops or register at the Captains Meeting at 7:00 PM on Aug. 27th, at the JOSFC club house. It is a Catch & Release Honor tournament.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5 Club Meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Powder Puff Tournament
15	16	17	18	19 Club Meeting	20	21
22 Light Tackle Tournament	23	24	25	26	27	28 The R & H Sailfish Masters Tournament
29	30	31	August			

Coming Events:



August 14th - The Powder Puff Tournament.

August 22nd - The Light Tackle Tournament.

August 28th - The R & H Sailfish Masters Tournament.

October 16th - The Club Annual Awards Banquet.

Time You Can Use

Sound travels at a known speed, so you can tell how far off an object is by timing the echo. Every second of delay equals 200 yards.

For every 5 seconds between you seeing the flash of lightning and hearing the thunder you are approx. 1 mile from that lightning.

The average time for a fire extinguisher to completely discharge is 12 seconds. Get as close as you can before discharging yours and carry two or three if you can.

Tournament Schedule for 2010

Tournament	Month	-Date / Alternate
		Saturday - Sunday
The Powder Puff Tournament -	August	----- 7 / 14 -----
The Light Tackle Tournament -	August	----- 22/29 -----
The Bottom Tournament -	September	----- 11 ----- 12

Associate Members

• *All Aluminum Concepts* • *Angie's Sub Shop* • *Anchor Saver* • *Atlantic Coast Marine* • *Avid Angler* • *B & M Bait & Tackle* • *Boathouse Discount Marine* • *Bait Masters of S Fl* • *Catchin' A Buzz Fishing Co.* • *C & H Lures* • *Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing* • *Costal Angler Magazine* • *Consignment Boat Sales* • *Dell Marine* • *Donovan Heating & Air* • *Florida Sportsman Live* • *First Coast Offshore Rodeo* • *Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy* • *Fishing Connection* • *Fishing Nosara* • *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 Jaguars* • *Jacksonville Marina* • *Jax River City Café* • *Just-Right Auto Sales* • *Knot-2-Worry Fishing Team* • *Knight Electric* • *Lockwood Marine* • *Mercury Outboards* • *Miami Dolphins* • *Mike's Taxidermy* • *Miss Candace Nicole Shrimp* • *Mayport Princess* • *Murphy Communications* • *Coastal Angler* • *Ocean Get Away* • *Ocean Waves Sunglasses* • *Pepsi Bottling Co.* • *Penn Tackle Mfg.* • *Plano Molding Co.* • *Production Drywall* • *Progressive Insurance* • *Pier 17* • *PGA Tour* • *Rick's Bait & Tackle* • *River Marine* • *Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting* • *Safe Harbor Seafood* • *Salty Styles* • *Sea Tow* • *Sea Dance Charters* • *Skinner Nurseries* • *Smith & Sons Tree Service* • *SOC 7 Productions* • *Solomon's RV & Boat Storage* • *Southern Propane* • www.southernpropane.net • *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* • *Vic2Fish* • *W.L.S. Contracting* • *WebCode Fusion* • *Wild Adventures Theme Park* • *Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc.* • *West Marine* • *Woody Wax* • *Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing* •



**Jacksonville Offshore
Sports Fishing Club**

P.O. Box 331185
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

PRSRT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Permit 3546
Jacksonville, FL