



The Newsletter of the . . .

# The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

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August 2014



## PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Tom Darga

Wow what a July we all had. Started off with the Kingfish shootout and ended with Greater Jacksonville Kingfish. All tournaments were well represented with JOSFC members participating across the board. Throw in the clubs Kingfish tune up tournament won by Rob Cripe who weighed in 3 kings with the winning weight of 28.7 labs and Roger Walker as the guest speaker, the club and volunteers who worked the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish we all had a productive month. Unfortunately this was typed a week before the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish tournament so I have no results at this time. I know many of our members are fishing this tournament and I want to give a big thank you for representing our club on the second biggest fishing tournament in Jacksonville. We all know what the biggest tournament is and I don't want to brag so I won't mention the El Cheapo.

With kingfish being mentioned let's not forget about our wonderful red snapper season that we enjoyed for a whole 8 days spread over 3 weekends. The first weekend snapper were caught starting inside of BR and out. I fished the first Friday with AJ on depth finder and we ran out and had our 5 quickly with every one of the fish being close if not over 20 lbs. We then had the time of our lives fishing for Mangoes in the middle of the water column free lining live bait.

Continued on Page 2

## JOSFC NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

As you are enjoying all of the benefits of being a member of JOSFC this summer you may be wondering if there are other ways that you could lend support to the club. One way is by joining the board of directors. It is one of the most rewarding ways of contributing to the growth and sustainability of the club.

This fall we will need a new treasurer as I will be joining the board of directors of another club that I belong to. You may shutter at the thought of such a daunting task but believe me – it's a lot easier than many of the board positions. The major skills required are maturity, being able to add and subtract, and understanding how to balance a check book. Many of you manage your household finances and if you are solvent you should be able to manage the club's checkbook.

Seriously, this is an important job that I would like you to consider volunteering for. You will learn the inner workings of the club and the El Cheapo Tournament. You will have a say on the governing of the club and be able to make suggestions for improvements on how things are managed. If you enjoy figuring out how to stretch your dollars and balance the check book you can add value to the club without doing physical labor.

Whether you are a new member or one that has been enjoying membership for many years this is a position that we need someone to volunteer for because it is one of the keys to keeping this boat afloat.

Carol Hixenbaugh

Editors PS: There will be other openings on the board, and ANYONE can run to serve that wants to, so toss your hat in the ring, you won't regret it!

Presidents Message Continued

Just to let everyone know butterflyfish work well as live bait. I was lucky and caught my first mutton snapper that weighed just over 9lbs.

August is continuing to be busy for the club with 3 club tournaments on the calendar we have the Powder-puff, light tackle and finishing the season off with the always popular bottom tournament. Also planning for the annual JOSFC Banquet being held on Oct 25<sup>th</sup> is under way. The price for tickets will be \$45.00 dollars per person as it was last year. This includes your dinner and thank you gift which in the past has been either the JOSFC visor or grey t shirt worth 15.00 dollars each. Think about it where else can you go out have all you can eat crab legs hand carved prime rib and shrimp for only 45.00 and receive a thank you gift worth 15.00 dollars. Remember Oct 25<sup>th</sup> mark it on your calendar and start planning now.

Be safe as Aug is hot staying hydrated is a must and remember storms pop up unexpectedly.

Tom Darga  
President JOSFC



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**Here is what you need to know for fishing the Atlantic off Jacksonville!**

- Gag & Black - 24" TL ( Total Length ) - 1 / day
- Red - 20" TL - 1/day - Total of 3 Grouper / day
- Black Seabass - 13" - 5 / day
- Cobia - 33" FL ( Fork Length ) - 1 / day
- Dolphin ( Mahi ) 20" - 10 / day
- Kingfish - 24" FL - 2 / day
- Spanish Mackerel - 12" FL - 15 / day
- Gray Triggerfish - 12" FL - No Limit
- B-Liners, ( Vermilion Snapper ) 12" TL - 5 / day
- Bluefish - 12" FL - 10 / day
- Flounder - 12" TL - 10 / day
- Greater Amberjack - 28" TL - 1 / day
- Tripletail - 15" TL - 2 / day
- African Pompano - 24" FL - 2 / day
- Red Snapper - 20" TL - 2 / Day - FLORIDA WATERS ONLY ( Within 3 Miles of shore! )
- Snappers - 10 / day aggregate
  - Mangrove - 10"
  - Lane - 8"
  - Mutton - 16"
  - Cubera - 12'

May possess no more than 2 Cubera Snapper over 30" per harvester or vessel per day, whichever is less. 30" or larger not included within the Snapper aggregate bag limit.

Check the Regs before each trip to make sure they haven't changed!

Don't forget that we have added TARPON to the Boards! They are a Catch & Release only fish, so catch it take a photo and measurements and send it on it's way!







## Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram  
Safety Officer

### Lightning

About this time each year all individuals who go offshore fishing must be concerned about sudden thunder storms forming and creating a sudden burst of lightning which can be deadly. Lightning kills about 2,000 people worldwide each year. Lightning can strike up to 10 miles away from any rain or storm cloud. Recently 2 teens were killed by a lightning strike with the local sky clear and blue. A witness said that the nearest storm clouds were at least 5 miles away. From news accounts, I think we all know that Florida is the lightning capital of the United States.

When a thunder storm or lightning is forecast, the 3 most dangerous places to be are in the water, under a tall tree or in an open boat on the water. Remember if you are out in your boat fishing, you are the tallest object around and lightning seeks the tallest object. So, it is important that you crouch low and try to stay below some item of your boat. Obviously, the safest place to be is ashore and in a building.

Two fishermen from Saint Johns County are lucky to be alive after being struck by lightning recently. In this case they had spent the day fishing the creeks off the intracoastal waterway. About 1pm the sky turned black and a thunderstorm moved their way. They headed North and tried to outrun the storm. Unfortunately, they had just started to move when the lightning bolt struck the two and the boat. Also, fortunately, the motor was disabled by the lightning and when the two regained consciousness the boat had drifted onto the shore. Needless to say, these two fishermen were extremely lucky.

**Bill Breen recently 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 that 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.**

**Since all modern radios have a weather channel, listen to the VHF weather warnings and head to port if a thunderstorm is predicted.**

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.

## Lightning Continued

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



**Wear these, they don't work in the cabin!**



The Photo on the right is JOSFC Life Member Frank Grassi, also known as the New York Yankee. He has not been fishing for about 3 years, as he works long hours doing Lawns and Sod installations.

Well for those of you who haven't met him yet, in spite of being a Northerner he is still a nice guy. He sent me this photo of him with the 2 snapper that they caught from Don Cook's Boat during the first weekend of our (Sort of ) three weekend Red Snapper season.

OOPS, I keep forgetting that we have renamed that fish to the "Lyn Crabtree Extinctis" of the "Red in the Face Variety". Just an FYI, Frank's fish were not anywhere near as big as the ones I didn't catch!

**Gary Newman**  
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## How about some helpful tips for maintaining your boat?

I will start out with probably the best things you can get and use for your boat.

1 - Get and USE "Salt Away". It is a liquid that dissolves salt! Use it to rinse your entire boat, let it sit for 2 or 3 minutes then rinse with fresh water. No salt residue left to start rust! Use it to flush your motor and it helps lubricate your impeller and keeps the motor's insides rust and corrosion free.

I have a friend that was GIVEN a 4 year old Yamaha 9.9 hp 4 stroke outboard. It would not pump water and two mechanics told the owner it would cost more to replace the water pump and clean out the clogged cooling system than the motor was worth. He poured some Salt Away in the top of the impeller and water pump and went to bed. The next morning it started and pumped water just fine and has served him well for 5 years now with no problems of any type!  
Salt Away, Salt Terminator, Salt X, they are all basically the same thing.

2 - I love the replacement for WD-40 called "STRIKE HOLD". It is a complete Di-Electric! It keeps water from touching the metal! It lubricates and protects your everything better than anything else I have found, Better than Bioshield, Corrosion X or anything.

I used to have to clean my electronics buss board that was under my boats dash, every 6 months. Lay on my back with Electronics cleaner and a tooth brush and clean off the green corrosion, then spary it with an inhibitor of one type or another.

Now I don't do it but once a year or longer, and I don't have to clean off the green corrosion!

I buy mine from "The Rust Store" on line at <http://www.theruststore.com>

You can also get your Salt Away there for the best price I have found.

## Here are some cooking tips you might like.

\* - Always get your pan sizzling HOT before you put any meat in it. If you put your Steak, Pork, Fish, or Chicken in a cool or even just warm pan, it will stick to the pan even if you use a spray oil.

Add garlic immediately to a recipe if you want a light taste of garlic and at the end of the recipe if you want a stronger taste of garlic.

Microwave garlic cloves for 15 seconds and the skins slip right off.

Microwave limes for 40 seconds before squeezing, you'll get twice the amount of juice.

\* - Add 1 tablespoon of Vinegar to the fat in which you are going to deep fry. It will keep the food from absorbing too much fat or oil and eliminate the greasy taste. This is for a Frying Pan amount, for a deep Fryer use 1/4 cup of Vinegar. OH, another lesson I learned the hard way. Add it BEFORE you bring it to heat!

Seafood is very easy to over-cook! Always WATCH your seafood carefully as you cook it and watch your recommended times! Overcooked seafood will be hard, dry, rubbery or chewy, and not very tasty.

Clams and oysters will be simple to open if washed with cold water, then placed in a plastic bag and put in the freezer for an hour.

Thaw fish and shellfish in milk. The milk draws out the frozen taste and provides a fresh caught flavor.

Take the Fish out of the Refrigerator 30 minutes before cooking to allow to warm to room temperature.

\* - Try soaking fish in 1 cup vinegar / 3 cups water for 15 minutes before cooking for a sweet tender taste.



Le Chef Antonio,  
Executive Chef of:  
*The JOSFC Grill*  
has a request for all of you.

This is a FISHING CLUB, so he would like to serve us a nice Fish Fry for dinner, at least a couple of times a year.

When you catch one or two more fish than you want, clean it, take it home and freeze it, then at the next club meeting, bring it to the club house and put it in the freezer at the club! When he gets enough fish in there, he will schedule a fish fry for dinner at a club meeting for us!

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### How about this Menu for the Annual Awards Banquet!

Garden Tossed Salad  
Italian Pasta Salad  
Chicken Marsala  
Almond Crusted Pork Loin  
Steamed Broccoli  
Rice Pilaf  
Au Gratin Potatoes  
Steamed Vegetable Medley  
Chef Carved Prime Rib  
Hot Steamed Crab Legs  
Peel & Eat Shrimp  
Assorted Dessert Table - including Sugar Free Desserts  
Assorted pies, cakes and mouse  
Rolls, butter, Coffee and Tea

This is a buffet, so you can go back for seconds, or more! PLUS we have a D.J. for music, and the biggest Raffle just for club members of the year!

The Banquet will be at the Ramada Inn located at San Jose Blvd and Hwy 295 on October 25th. Tickets are the same as last year at \$45.00 / Person. Start saving your pennies and plan on attending!

This month we have three, ( 3 ) count them, three club tournaments! We have first the **Powder Puff Tournament** on August 9th. This one is for the Ladies, they are the ones that have to catch and weigh the fish. Every Captain that fishes this tournament gets an automatic 10 points toward Captain of the year.

Next we have the **Light Tackle Tournament**. This one is a lot of fun, as you **MUST** fish with line that breaks at 8.25 pounds or **LESS!** Some troll for Kingfish for this tournament and some try to gently lift their big fish off the bottom. Either way it is a lot of fun to use such light tackle.

Finally we end our tournament season with the **Bottom Tournament**. This one is just what it says, you go out and fish the bottom for the biggest fish you can catch on the bottom! Live or dead bait is allowed, as is everything except dynamite or drag nets!

These are fun tournaments to fish, and I will remind you that there is no entry fee if you are a club member, all you have to do is register before the tournament starts and go fish!

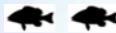





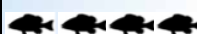








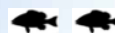

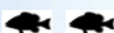


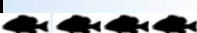
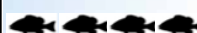

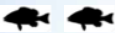




Catch those fish and post them to the fishing boards! It is fun! You should have seen my grandson Antwuan beam as he got his first fish slip at the July 17th meeting!

You can check the fishing boards on our website to see what is empty, or if your fish is bigger, turn in a fish report slip and get your \$5.00 fish slip.

Remember, if you finish the end of September with the most fish on a board, and have fished or participated as captain or crew in 3 tournaments, you can be crowned the 2014 board winner at our annual awards banquet on October 25th!

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**Remember, NEVER  
approach the dock  
any faster than you  
want to RAM the  
dock!**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
August					1	2
						
3 Club Board Meeting 	4	5	6	7 Club Meeting 	8	9 Powder Puff Tournament 
10 	11 	12 	13 	14 	15 	16 
17 	18 	19 	20 	21 Club Meeting 	22 	23 Light Tackle Tournament 
24 	25 	26 	27 	28 	29 	30 Bottom fishing Tournament 
31 	 <p><b>COMING EVENTS:</b></p> <p>August 7th - Club Meeting                  August 4th - Club Board of Directors Meeting                  August 9th - Club Powder Puff Tournament                  August 21st - Club Meeting                  August 23rd - Club Light Tackle Torunament                  October 25th - Annual Awards Banquet</p>					



**Tournament Schedule for 2014**

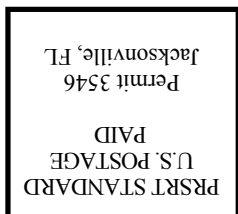
Tournament - - - - - Month - - - - - Date / - - - - - Alternate  
 - All are on Saturday -

- The Powder Puff Tournament - August - - - - - 9 - - - - - 16 - - Fishing Director
- The Light Tackle Tournament - August - - - - - 23 - - - - - 24 - Fishing Director
- The Bottom Tournament - August - - - - - 30 - - - - - September - 6 - - Chris Rooney
- Triple Challenge Tournament - November - - - - - 8 - - - - - 22 - Fishing Director

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