



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 46 Issue 9

September 2006

Presidents Castings



**President
Pete
St. Laurent**

Believe it or not, but the tournament season is winding down with only the bottom tournament left and the Boards closing in just a few weeks its hard to believe fall is just around the corner. As I reflect on this past year I realized that personally I have had one of the best fishing seasons I have had in a long time. The freezer is fat with fish and I have the fall and winter to stuff Grouper, Snapper and a host of others into the nooks and crannies that are left. One of the trips that stands out in my mind is the Sailfish tournament that Rick and Charley Hosted at the end of July. You see Rick and Charley have had a running bet for many years that the one to catch and release the most Sails in the year owes the other a steak dinner. The two of them got together to see if anyone would be interested in having a one-day dead bait Sailfish tournament with a hundred dollar entry, captain with the most Sails takes it all. The local fishing community loved the idea and so the first Northeast Florida Sailfish tournament was on. It signed up 15 boats and all the captains agreed that gentlemen rules would suffice (i.e. the captains word would be taken that all Sails were caught and released). The morning started out warm with just a light breeze John and Jan -Bright Star- had invited me to join them in their endeavor to one, win the Sailfish Tournament, but mostly to help out in the catching of Jan's first sail since this was my, and I think John's, true goal in this tourney I was eager to help. You see, John and Jan had made it a point to make sure I caught my first sail this time last year. So I looked at the picture of me holding my first sail and commenced to dig through my closet and suit up in the same clothing. Be it said I am not a superstitious person but, I am a fishermen and it couldn't hurt could it. We left Mayport on our way to AH and

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Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



**Chris Rooney
Fishing
Committee
Chairman**

Special reminder:

To win a Fishing Board, you must have fished at least Three (3) club tournaments.



Guess which Lady won the Powder Puff Tournament!
No, not Mike Coldwater, he is just helping Charlene hold up her catch.

Way to go Charlene Parker!!

This BIG 52+ Lb. Wahoo was caught about 9 miles from the jetties, in the PM, PG area!

Guys, we are in trouble, the Ladies are making us look like beginners. See their total catch on page 6

Presidents Message Cont.

encountered a semi-disturbed sea, but nothing that we all haven't seen before. Once we got within a mile of AH, we set out the spread and started trolling to TW almost instantly I spotted a bill slashing at the long bait I was in amazement! Was it going to be this easy? The bill disappeared and the port bait started singing, but no dancing or acrobatics I didn't understand and as Jan brought the fish to the boat it became clear the fish tugging on the other end was a king. OK, so out go the lines again and so the drill went time after time king, king, king. We did catch a bunch of fish and we even had one king sky rocket over 10 feet in the air not more that 20 feet behind the boat. But no sails. Towards 3, we all were starting to get a little discouraged when the starboard line went klik-klik Jan and I looked back to see a sailfish with his sail open right behind the boat looking at a blue and white. I tried dropping it back to him, but no dice he slowly swam up to every bait in the spread and sniffed them. No mater what I did he was not willing to take them. Jan and I watched him for what seemed like an hour, but couldn't have been more that a few minutes and, as nonchalantly as he showed up, he turned away from the boat and swam away on the surface all the time letting us know where he was as his sail stayed fully open the entire time. I doubt Jan will ever

forget that sight I know I never will. Jan, I know we didn't fulfill the goal of getting you your first Sail but anytime you and John want to try again all you have to do is ask. I'll be there.

I say we fish 5 days and work 2!

Pete St. Laurent

Bust-N-Reds



Over the 4th of July holiday I was vacationing in Destin (in the Florida panhandle), a once small, sleepy fishing village where my wife spent summers growing up. Now booming with shopping malls, restaurants and upscale homes you have to look for the beach between buildings as you are stopped in traffic along the congested highway.

A neighborhood block party in my sister-in-law's subdivision introduced me to a new fishing buddy who invited me out on his 33' Grady White, skippered by a

local old-timer and expert captain named Andy. My friend warned me (to put it nicely) about the very unique character that I was about to meet, so I thought that I was prepared.

We left the dock around 7.30 in the morning and caught a bunch of live bait on sabiki rigs right at the famous East Pass; blue-runners (they call them "hardtails") and cigar minnows. We went to some spots that Captain Andy hadn't fished for 4 years. It was a smooth ride and we arrived there (about 35-40 miles offshore) really quickly. Before we arrived at the actual fishing spot Captain Andy turned off his GPS and navigated to the exact spot by memory and a small peek at the Loran. I guess the numbers were really secret!

I realized that we were fishing pretty deep after I dumped almost 3/4 of a Penn 114H to reach the bottom. Turns out that we were fishing in 340 ft of water using 20 oz. weights - thank God for the harness around my waist hooked to the reel. It really saved my reeling hand! On my first drop I caught a red snapper - around 25 lbs. and at a couple of different spots a gag grouper around 30 lbs.; a snowy grouper around 25 lbs. and a 42 lb. amber jack (on live blue-runner). My friend also caught a couple of big groupers and snappers and we both released several bonitas. I was told that Captain Andy controlled his temper that day - maybe he was scared of my European accent!

The knowledge that this captain had about local waters and how to find and catch fish was unbelievable. An old-timer with a temper made all the difference in a days catch! Even after 4 years of not fishing in that area. He knew exactly what we would catch on different spots; what bait to use on a specific spot and literally coached some people on the boat until they hooked up! He foretold how many cranks

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Rob's Fishing Lore

Pair of Jacks Beats All!

Well, it's after the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament and I guess I will not bore you with another 'look what got away story'. I guess I wish I had a 'look what got away story' from the GJKT '06 but I do not. What I do have is a recent adventure that came from the GJKT '06. As you will find out, the GJKT '06 was less than successful when it came to landing the 'big one'. However, what I did learn was that Madyson was ready to embark on catching her own fish. During the Jr. Angler's Tournament, marauding barracuda ate Madyson's kingfish. She was on the rod nearly alone because we had a double strike on kingfish and we had to fight both fish from a dead boat. She handed the rod as any novice seven-year-old might. Upon seeing the mental anguish the cuda caused my daughter, it was decided that she needed to learn how to fight her fish properly by herself and to get the fish to the boat for the GJKT '07. Besides, does anyone believe a three year old is capable of catching a 30-pound plus fish without it being caught by the adult?

Three weeks after the GJKT, the mighty *Let's Go* ventured out beyond the jetties. Her crew consisted of Madyson, Bryon and your fearless author. We were buddy fishing with another boat, *The Can't Wait*. Ron Carr and his daughter Jill were aboard on that vessel. If small cold-water sharks are good for anything then they are good for breaking in novice anglers and anglerettes. We were catching and sometimes it's better than fishing when it comes to little kids. For the sharks, the action was constant. Sprinkled among the sharks were a few barracudas. As Madyson got to fight her fish, she handled the rod pretty much by herself. Yes, every so often, I did help to support the rod pretty much out of fatherly concern for the rod.

The morning wore on and we had all the action that three lines out could generate. After landing a shark or a barracuda, the *Can't Wait* radioed over, that there was a large school of fish crashing bait to the North of us. Since I only had one rod left out, I picked the Pogy out of the water and placed it into the bait well. The crashing fish were just a few hundred feet in front of the *Let's Go*. As we approached, the Pogy was withdrawn from the bait well and placed into the water. Instantly, that rod became the shotgun line. Quickly, two more lines were added to the mix. Madyson was operating the helm while the lines were put out. In this case, we were practicing army maneuvers, right/ left/right/left/right. She now has assumed my childhood nickname of SNAKE WAKE.

The *Let's Go* entered into the area where the crashing fish were seen. From below my transom, I spied what was making all the baitfish nervous and the water foam with

excitement, the mighty Jack Carvelle or yellow submarine to others. Within a few more feet of gliding past this yellow school of bandits, the shotgun line took off on a long steady run. The clicker made that happy noise that we angler long to hear again and again. Knowing what was on the other end of the line provided little comfort at the beginning of the battle. Madyson was not on the rod matter-of-fact she helped out by bringing in one of the other lines. I fought the fish and raised our lone down rigger. The down rigger line was left out to be a prop wash bait. I have always heard to leave another line in the water because you may catch another fish during a prolonged battle. Yes, this was a battle!

I could not have this much fun alone so I called *The Can't Wait* over to share in the joy and the pain. Ron and Jill came right on over and you could see it happen as plain as day. One of their lines took off just minutes of arriving. Both hooked fish had a single objective and that was to rejoin the school of jacks. It was unique in the fact, that I was fighting a fish, steering the boat and trying to keep the *Let's Go* and the *Can't Wait* from meeting by accident.

Ron being the kindly father that he is, allowed his favorite twenty something daughter to catch this fish. The fight wore on for both anglers. Every so often, Ron and I exchanged some friendly radio banter about which fish was winning. Winning what is what we were wondering. I guess those two fish were exchanging their own banter. Do you ever think the fish ever comment on the anglers at the end of their line?

As the fight continued, I was very careful in maneuvering the mighty Key West boat as to not tangle the prop wash bait. Every now and then, my hooked jack would rejoin his buddies and his buddies would come up to the boat and investigate the Pogy hidden out in the prop wash. This only brought up the idea of what would I do if there were two of these beast on the two separate poles? How could I manage or would I manage? Needless to say, I am a glutton for punishment. The prop wash bait stayed out during the fight.

Yes, during a prolonged fight other fish will rise to the occasion and take a look at what is going on. This is exactly what happen to us. About 30 minutes into my battle, the prop wash rod starts to sing. The line was peeling off the reel. I looked out to sea and saw a cuda leap out the water attempting to throw its hooks but it was fruitless and the fish stayed hooked. With nothing else to do, the boat quite maneuvering around the jack and I maneuvered around the console and obtained the prop wash rod. The only thing I could do was to call Madyson over to fight the fish. As I explained, this was her fish and it would be just her. At first this was a good idea. Then the good idea soured. After about ten minutes into the fight, Madyson started to wear out. Next came the whinnying and then the crying. As a sympathetic father, I tried my best college pep talk. 'Who is going to win? You or the fish?' 'Now, suck it and be tough'. Then there is our favorite, 'there's no crying in fishing!'. All this mattered not to Madyson, she just wanted to get rid of the rod and the fish. Oh, what a mess I created! Nearing the breaking point,

Continued on Page 6



Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

One of my favorite clichés is: "The successful boating/fishing trip is the one that begins and ends safely".

One of the greatest hazards in boating can be traversing an inlet in heavy weather. The following is an example of a claim resulting from inexperience and improper navigation in an inlet during heavy weather. "The insured's loss occurred in the Boca Raton Inlet. Upon entering the inlet, the insured decided the conditions were excessive and decided to turn his boat around. As he turned, he was caught between two sets of breaking waves and the vessel flipped over and was pulled out to sea by the outgoing tide." Boat US claim #9700200.

Welcome to an inlet, one of the most inhospitable places for small boaters, where the big ocean is squeezed through a tiny opening to a quiet harbor. This relationship between wide open or narrow, and deep or shallow often results in breaking waves, tricky currents, meandering channels, and dangerous rock jetties.

According to the Boat U. S. Marine Insurance claim files, there are four things that a captain and crew should be wary of when entering an inlet: breaking waves, shifting channels, crowds, and darkness. Any one of these conditions alone can make an inlet dangerous; and more than one can make it so treacherous that the inlet should be considered impassable.

As a rule, you should enter an unfamiliar inlet that has breaking waves in the channel only as a last resort. If possible, head for a safer inlet. You should also consider dropping the anchor or heave-to and wait until the channel is calmer.

The optimum time to enter an inlet is during slack high water when the channel is deepest and waves are least likely to be breaking.

If the decision is made to enter an inlet with breaking waves, all hands should be on deck and in life jackets. You should contact the Coast Guard and advise them of your intentions and contact them again when you are safely through. Remember, waves generally come in groups of three with the largest being the last one. Note the distance between waves as well as the time between wave sets and adjust your speed to maintain a comparable speed with the waves to avoid broaching or being pitch poled.

Be very alert when entering an inlet with breaking waves and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales

Continued from Page 2

you would need to get a hit, where in the crank you would be hit, and even stating that "you are about to get a hit" how he knew this is anyone's guess.

We were back around noon with a load of fish and I realized that old saying - "10% of fishermen catch 90% of all the fish" may really be TRUE, because a local old-timer with a temper made all the difference in a day's catch

Peter Kovacic

You don't want to miss the.....

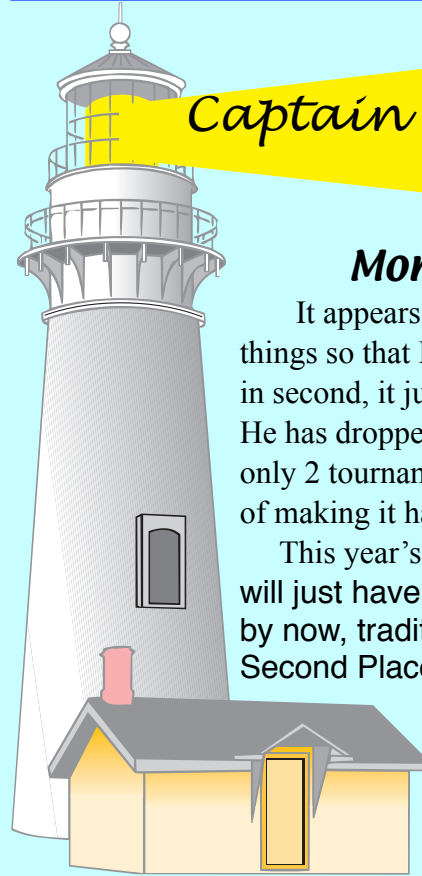
JOSFC ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET!!!

Fun, Food, and a Fantastic Raffle for club members and their invited friends.

This event will be held October 21, 2006 at the Mill Cove Golf Club starting at 6:00 PM.

See any Board member for your tickets, they are just \$30.00 per person.

The Menu consist of Sautéed Grouper, Lemon Chicken, Caesar Salad, Vegetables, Rice Pilaf, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Coffee, Rolls, and Dessert!



Captain Of The Year Race

More Sad News.....

It appears that even if we try to rig things so that Eddie McGowen comes in second, it just isn't going to happen. He has dropped to 4th place, and with only 2 tournaments left there is no way of making it happen.

This year's AWARDS BANQUET will just have to go on without our by now, traditional Eddie McGowan Second Place award!

1st - Chris Rooney	47 Pts.
2nd - Frank Grassi	42 Pts.
3rd - Rob Darner	36 Pts.
4th - Eddie McGowen	25 Pts.
5th - Danny DelRio	23 Pts.
6th - Vernon Summersiel	20 Pts.
7th - Tony Benevento	12 Pts.
8th - Mike Coldwater	30 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.

From Frank Joura comes this very handy bit of information

Hook Removal

The most common accident during fishing season involves hooks. The second most common hazard facing anglers is getting too much sun. Both are easily avoided. Sunscreen and a hat will handle the sun and a first aid kit with a little knowledge of how to use it will take care of the hook problems.

The most important tool any angler should always have with him/her for removing a hook is a sharp pair of wire cutting pliers.

Here are a few methods for removing hooks.

When a hook's point and barb are protruding out the skin, it's easier to cut off the barb and back the hook out of the wound. This is when those sharp wire cutters come in handy.

The snatch method of hook removal is simple and effective, and it's the best method to remove a hook that's deeply imbedded in the skin and when the barb is buried.

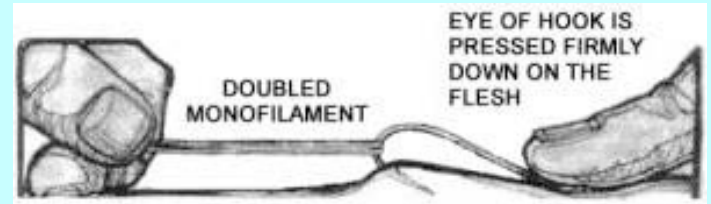
This method is quick, simple and relatively painless, as long as you get it on the first try. The secret to a first time success is yanking the loop of line, which is wrapped around the embedded hook, rather hard so the hook comes out on the first try. The reason you should get it out on the first try is obvious, the patient might not stick around for a second try.

To perform the snatch method when the barb is imbedded, all that's needed is a short length of fishing line, at least 10 pound test, approximately 2 feet long.

- * Remove hook from lure.
- * Double the fishing line and loop it around the hook, as close to the skin's surface as possible.
- * Hold onto both ends of the doubled line, wrapping them around your hand for a firm grip and holding the line parallel to the skin's surface in line with

the hook.

- * With your other hand, press the eye of the hook down onto the surface of the skin and back toward the hook's bend, as if trying to back the hook out of the wound.



- * While pressing on the hook eye, yank the line sharply, parallel to the skin and in line with the hook, to snap the hook back out of the wound.

- * Apply antibiotic ointment, bandage wound and check to make sure tetanus shots are current.

First Aid Kit

A basic onboard first aid kit for anglers should contain sunscreen, small bottle of hydrogen peroxide, alcohol wipes, bandages, gauze, tape, antibiotic ointment and aspirin. Another essential should be a brand new pair of needle-nosed and wire cutting pliers, sealed in a seal-lock plastic baggy. All Anglers, especially those using worms, should always have their tetanus shot up to date.



Chris Rooney's Driftin 'n' Dreami'n



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Bill Breen	-	254-2791	-	Any day	-	Up to 10:00 pm
Gene Fulgham	-	641-9970	-	Any day	-	Up to 8:00 pm
Dale Karg	-	451-2251	-	Most weekends	-	Up to 10:00 pm



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You can also ask questions about trolling at their web-site.

Pair of Jacks Continued From Page 3

the jack faded and started coming to the boat. As the jack tired more pressure was applied to get it in faster. When the jack was tailed, I noticed that it had tail wrapped itself in Madyson's line. Not only did Madyson fight her cuda but also she had a hand in whipping my jack. I guess the jack wore itself out fighting two anglers and one 8 pound cuda. After Madyson's line was cleared from the jack, she was able to gain control of her cuda and bring it to the boat. This was truly Madyson's first fish she fought from start to finish. Within minutes of Madyson's cuda coming on board, Jill on the *Can't Wait* boated their jack. Two fish for the price of one. When the cuda was boated, Madyson quite all the crying and piped up that it was not worth all the crying and whinnying. She now took pride in capturing her own fish and Daddy's heart beat a little stronger for that.

Best Wishes for Fishing,



Charlene Parker and Donna Coldwater with their catch from the Powder Puff Tournament

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

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
		September				1	2
3	4 Board Meeting WAS Aug 28	5	6	7 Club Meeting Slate of Officers	8	9 Bottom fishing Tournament	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21 Club Meeting	22	23 Kids Tournament & Cookout	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

Coming Events:

The Bottom Fishing Tournament on Saturday, September 9.
 A Kids Tournament and cook out on Saturday, September 23.
 Slate of Officers presented at Club Meeting September 7.
 Speech night for perspective officers at Club Meeting September 21.
 Fishing Boards Close September 21. Open for the 06/07 year October 1
 Club Elections are October 5 th. 06
 Junior Angler Awards banquet at the Club House October 19 th.

Annual JOSFC Awards Banquet October 21, 2006 at the Mill Cove Golf Club
 See any board member for tickets, \$30.00 each

Tournament Schedule for 2006

Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Date	Rain Date
The Bottom Fishing Tournament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	September 9 th	September 16 th
Kids Tournament and Cookout	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	September 23 rd	

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