



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 49 Issue 9

September 2008

Presidents Castings



**Club President
Eddie McGowan
"Bite This"**

Exciting News! The "Battle for the Boards" and the "Race for Captain Of The Year" is coming to a close. As I am writing this Tropical Storm "Fay" is finally leaving us here in North East Florida. The last club tournament (Light Tackle) has been delayed to the weather date of August 30th. The results of this event will determine the coveted "Captain Of The Year! The ongoing "Battle for the Boards" will continue until Sept. 18th, the second Club meeting of the month, at which time, final entries must be received by 8:30 PM. The new fishing year for our club begins October 1st. **No fish caught between September 18th and October 1st will qualify for entry to a Fishing Board!**

The next two months are going to be very busy times for the club members. The first meeting on Sept. 4th will be nominations from the floor for Board of Directors, and Officers for the 2008 - 2009 year. We will be losing almost all of the Board of Directors, and 2 Officers positions. We really need some of you members to step up to the plate and help out in running this club. It really is not that hard of a job; only having to attend 3 meetings a month, the Board of Directors meeting on the first Monday of each month, and two Club Meetings a month. The Board meeting is at the Cracker Barrel Resturant at

JTB and Hwy 95, which is as convenient as possible for everyone involved and you can enjoy dinner at the same time.

At the club meeting on Sept. 18th, we have the candidates' speeches night and the close of our fishing boards at 8:30 PM

The first club meeting in October, the 2nd, is Election night for the Board of Directors and Officers. Be sure to make this meeting if at all possible

The second meeting in October, the 16th, is the Junior Anglers Awards Party at the club house. The following Saturday, October 18, 2008 is **THE BIG ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET!**

Now is the time we ask all of our members to please contact your friends, businesses owners, and anyone else you can think of for donations and gifts for our banquet raffle prizes. (While we are **not yet** a tax free organization, they can write it off as advertising, and we can provide a club stationary receipt listing their donation at full retail.)

Any member, brand new or old-timer considering running for the Board or an Office that has any questions, please feel free to ask myself or any other board member.

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

Eddie

This is OUR club, it belongs to you and me, and is by far and away the best fishing club in the area. It is that good because of the work done every month by the Board of Directors.

PLEASE consider running for the Board. Even if you are a new member, we always welcome new thoughts and ideas on how to improve our club.

We need people that are willing to work ONLY 3 days each month. At the Board meeting the first Monday of each month, and at each regular meeting. Editor

Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales

This is the start of the fall fishing season in the party grounds and as the month passes the inshore fish havens should start to hold bigger and better bottom fish. Frozen sardines or live bait (when you can get it) will work great. MG, MF, EF and CH will all be great places to fish. If bottom fishing is not to your liking Kingfish and Sailfish should be around but you may have to go a bit farther south for the Sails. Watch your bottom recorder and when you see bait, slow down and drag a few Ballyhoo and see what you get.

Redfish will be all over the river, creeks, and ICW. Finger Mullet, live shrimp, and mud minnows should all be very effective. If you are fishing around structure you might even find some keeper-sized Mangrove snapper. The shrimp run should peak this month as well. Next month things will get really good!

Talking about Sailfish, the second annual R & H Sailfish Tournament was won by Corey on the Knot Tight. They went one for 5, and were the only ones to score during the tournament! The full moon and cool water temperatures this year probably kept the catch down.

Still talking about Sailfish, 15 year old Zachary Miller got thrown into the river at our last club meeting because during



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

President Eddie McGowan
 Vice President Chris Rooney
 Secretary Tina Proescher
 Treasurer Frank Grassi
 Newsletter Editor Bill Breen
 Newsletter Staff Mike Murphy
 Layout & Design Bill Breen

©Copyright 2004



Welcome New Crew!

Don Cook
Membership Director

We would like to welcome our new members to THEIR new club.
Welcome Aboard !

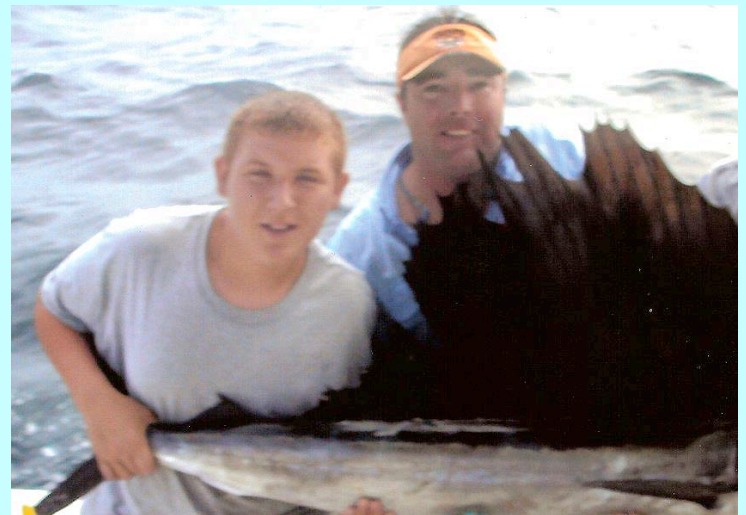
Brian Haire - 491 - 5516
No boat, CREW!

Joe Esparza - 249 - 2655
19' Rabola w/ Yamaha 150

James & Nancy Braun - 434 - 4780
21' Key West w/ Yamaha 225

Fishing Reports Cont.

the Junior angler Tournament on 7-25-08. He was on the boat "Prop Circles" and caught and released his first sailfish!



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



Rob's Fishing Lore

Rob Darner

Anything But Junior!

This year's Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament's Jr Angler contest has come and gone. It got started with much anticipation. A scouting trip the Saturday before revealed plentiful bait upon the Banana Boat at PM/PG and the willingness of fifteen to twenty five pound kingfish to strike. It was that particular Saturday, Mike Murphy, Dad and myself were out to tag the remaining three GJKT fish with their tags. The fish were plentiful and the weather spectacular. The weatherman predicted the status quo through that upcoming Wednesday. Our only concern would be those early afternoon thunderstorms but the afternoon storm patterns indicated a slight chance of those occurring.

The Jr Angler crew consisted of Byron, Madyson,



Bailey, and Caroline Joura. It was the same battle tested crew from last year. This year's time line was the same as last year's time line. We meet Caroline right around 6:30am at the boat ramp. The boat and its crew motored passed the check out boat about twenty minutes past seven. We were able to slip past the jetty and opened up the throttle in order to catch bait. Right away, the day started out different than it did from the Saturday past. Instead of being 1 foot or less, the ocean was a two to two & half-foot chop. I could not make the best possible speed due to being cautious because of Madyson's shunt and how any hard pounding might affect her. Catching cigar minnow took longer than expected because they were not cooperating.

It was a short journey from the bait location to the Banana Boat. During our travel time, it appeared the seas were increasing. White caps started to appear thus the boat rocked and rolled just a little more. With four Jr anglers, four lines were fished. At the onset, each angler was assigned to one rod. If a kingfish was caught, that angler was taken out of the rotation until all four anglers caught a kingfish and thus a catching order was established. Additionally, each angler was branded with a colored zip tie around their wrist to match the color zip tie around their fish's tail.

On the first trip past the Banana Boat, the deep down rigger rod sounded off. Unfortunately, the all too common saber tooth ledge trout had come to play. Caroline made short work of the barracuda and thus we returned to fishing. With a couple of other short strikes off the reef, we soon realized we would waste all of our bait to the common saber tooth ledge trout. From Saturday past, we realized that our kingfish had come off of some hard bottom near the Banana Boat and this is where we would go. We tried there and then to some nearby ledges. It was upon a northern ledge that Caroline caught the first kingfish. The fish would weigh out at eight pounds. Where



there is one snake king then there is another one. We trolled around both ledges waiting for the next magical bite to happen. The next bite came to the rod Madyson was watching. The entire crew jumped into action. Down riggers came up and the other three lines came in. For her, Madyson's fished weighed in at 7.2 pounds.

The brief bite seemed to slack off as the kingfish got lockjaw. We trolled between both ledges and watched the seas relax just a bit. Then we heard the clarion call from the 'Sheppard of the Seas' Capt George Strate. Capt. George forewarned of an approaching storm located on the edge of his radar. I remember George saying the storm looked serious and it was packing heat and wind. Being only twelve miles out and having just two kingfish, we mistakenly thought the storm would pass quickly so we fished and we waited.

The storm was only too happy to make its presence known in a big way. The ominous dark clouds were preceded



Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

Lightning

Recently, I wrote about how to read the weather. This month, 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.

If, however, you are caught out at 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 count tells 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 life jacket. 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

Anything But Junior! Continued.

by a few precursors. The sunshine was crowded out; the temperature dropped while the wind and seas increased. During our discussion on what to do, two rods went off. It was an answer to our immediate prayers. In typical fashion, the deck was being cleared while Bailey and Byron were on the rods. As the fight between angler and fish continued, the pending storm pounced. Winds wretched up significantly and the waves began to tower. The rain was holding off temporarily. Bailey and Byron's fish were fighting it at separate ends of the boat. Dad, our throttle man, maneuvered the boat the best he could during increasing winds. Byron fought his fish alone while Bailey and Mom were having at it with Bailey's fish. It appeared things were going to work out, both fish were coming to the boat. Byron's fish suddenly came in directly to toward the stern. Once the fish image appeared, the fish was gaffed and placed on the deck. Upon inspection of the fish, we realized why the last moments of the fight were easy. Byron's kingfish lost its tail to a mauling barracuda.



Bailey's fish then stayed away. With one fish in and one out, we attempted to run the fish down in heavy seas. In typical kingfish fashion, Bailey's fish made a sudden dash toward the motor. A strong gust caught the boat and turned it 180 degrees toward Bailey's fish. As anglers, Bailey and Mom

Anything But Junior! Continued.

were powerless to stop her fish from freeing itself on the motor. Needless to say, there was no joy at the recent events.

The seas were building and starting to peak out near six feet. The waves were close and with little backs. The *Let's Go* hunkered down at the onset of the storm. If it had not been for a bow dodger added to the boat that week, we would have taken five or six waves over the bow and into the cockpit. The new dodger deflected and redirected the wave water round the canvas and back to the sea. As we were in the grips of the storm, we could only manage six mile per hour into the waves. With two fish safely in the boat and twelve miles from the jetties at 1:30pm, we knew we had to make an effort to get back in by 3:30pm. We did so slowly and cautiously through towering waves, blinding rain and high winds. To go twelve miles took us just over ninety minutes. For such a great tradition as the Jr Angler Tournament has become for us, the weather was anything but Jr weather. Both Bailey and Byron were disappointed in not having a fish to weigh but they understood why we could not stay and fish. There is always next year!

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner

*Associate Member
of the Month*

GRILLS • RANGES

FISH & TURKEY FRYERS • WATER HEATERS

Southern
Propane

Residential
Commercial • Industrial

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED
SERVING YOU OUR #1 PRIORITY

Gas Appliance Repairs
Tanks Filled on Premises

Phone: 764-0065
Fax: 764-7458
2711 Dunn Avenue
Jacksonville, Florida 32218

SERVICE & REPAIR • ACCESSORIES

GRILL PARTS • HEATERS

The Powder Puff Tournament

This was a really good tournament, and it pains me to admit this but the ladies out fished most of the men! I have seen the men's tournaments won with 25 Lbs of fish caught by the #1 boat (I have actually seen 2 - 2 Lb Seabass win a tournament.) The Ladies weighed in some impressive catches!

- 1st Place - Tina Proscher with 43.8 Lbs. on the Debt Finder.
- 2nd Place - Sandy McGowan with 35.5 Lbs. on the Bite This.
- 3rd Place - Brandy Proscher with 30.1 Lbs. on the Debt Finder.

A brief reminder, this was a participation tournament, each boat Captain that fished it got 10 points toward Captain of the Year. I will give the captains some credit for putting the Ladies on the fish, but each Lady caught her own fish, and did a great job bringing some good fish to the boats!

We need a new Board of Directors! Due to our By-Laws we only have 2 Board members eligible to return next year, plus we will have 2 openings for Officers!

Once again, this month it is time for elections to our Board of Directors. The first meeting on the 4th are the nominations, and then on the 20th we have our campaign speeches and finally we vote at the meeting on the 2nd. of October.

This is OUR club, it belongs to you and me, and is by far and away the best fishing club in the area. It is that good because of the work done every month by the Board of Directors.

Our By-Laws only allow a person to hold a Board seat for 2 years, then they must step aside for at least 1 year.

We will need five (5) new board members, a Secretary, and a Vice President. The By-Laws only require that to run for PRESIDENT you must have served on the Board for 1 year. ALL of the other seats are up for grabs, so if you would like to run for Secretary, Vice President or Treasurer you can. I will tell you that Tina Proescher has graciously agreed to continue on as our Treasurer.

PLEASE take a good look at the members that you know and plead, beg, beseech, implore, demand, browbeat, intimidate, or just plain threaten, to get them to accept a nomination to the Board.

If there is anyone who would like to serve but needs someone to nominate them just let me (Bill Breen) know and I will nominate you.

Just a note, the positions on the board are actually appointed by the President, but he or she usually tries to place Board members in the position they would like, if possible.

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
Richard Fisher	H = 221-9629 Cell 738-1010	Nearly every day	Up to 8:00 PM the day before.
John Porcella	610-3855	Nearly any day	Up to 10:00 PM
Bob Calfee	C = 472-9957	Weekends & Some days	Up to 8:00 pm
Matt Ennes	536 - 7450	Friday through Monday	Up to 9:00 pm
David Brown	962 - 3787	Saturdays & Some week days	Up to 11:00 pm



Captain of the Year Race

I am writing this on August 23rd. and we should have had the final results. By the time you read this the winner will be known! But as you read this the suspense is killing Eddie! This isn't the first time that he has been leading with one tournament to go!

However, Gary, Tom, or Andy all still have a chance to win the last tournament and beat Eddie!

Eddie McGowan	-	-	57
Gary Newman	-	-	56
Tom Meyer	-	-	53
Andy Proescher	-	-	49
Don Cook	-	-	26
Rob Darner	-	-	20
Chris Rooney	-	-	24
Greg Wallace	-	-	21
Vernon Summersill	-	-	18
Rob Cripe	-	-	14
Anthony Thompson	-	-	12
Lyle Rose	-	-	10
Chris Bernacki	-	-	10
Randy Ralston	-	-	10
Sam McJunkin	-	-	10
Bob Hovey	-	-	9
Dan Lom	-	-	10
Pete St.Laurent	-	-	10
Paul Gallup	-	-	8
Jim Cantrell	-	-	2
Ron Carr	-	-	1

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2 Board Meeting	3	4 Club Meeting Jax Kingfish Tourny Q & A Board Nominations	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Club Meeting Board candidates speeches	19	20 Luck of the Draw Tournament & Fish Fry
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30			September	

Coming Events:

Saturday, September 20th - The NEW fun "Luck of the Draw" Social Tournament & Fish Fry!

Thursday, October 2nd - Vote for new Board of Directors & Officers

Thursday, October 16th - Junior Angler Annual Awards Party at Club.

Saturday, October 18th - The Club's Annual Awards Banquet!



Associate Members

• Advance Marine • All Aluminum Concepts • Angie's Sub Shop • Atlantic Coast Marine • Avid Angler • B & M Bait & Tackle • Beaches Florist • Boaters World • Boathouse Discount Marine • C & H Lures • Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing • Consignment Boat Sales • Dell Marine • Donovan Heating & Air • Florida Sportsman Live • First Coast Offshore Rodeo • Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy • Fishing Connection • Float Tech • F.W.C. • G & W Marine • Gary Newman Insurance • Gear 4 Fishermen • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • Gene's Seafood • Great Atlantic Outfitters • Hardees • Hubbard's Marina • High Roller Fishing Team • Home - Zone Cleaning • International Ropes • Jacksonville Marina • JaxKayakFishing.com • Just-Right Auto Sales • Knight Electric • Land Roofing • Loadmaster Trailers • Lockwood Marine • Mercury Outboards • MacMedia Graphics • Mike's Taxidermy • Mayport Princess • Murphy Communications • Ocean Get Away • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Pepsi Bottling Co. • Penn Tackle Mfg. • Production Drywall • Progressive Insurance • Pier 17 • PGA Tour • Readyforyoutravel.com • Rick's Bait & Tackle • River Marine • Riggers Plus • Safe Harbor Seafood • Salty Dawg Marine • Salty Styles • Sea Tow • Sea Dance Charters • Skinner Nurseries • Smith & Sons Tree Service • SOC 7 Productions • Seafood Galore • Solomon's RV & Boat Storage • Southern Propane • 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 • Three brothers Marine • Vic2Fish • W.L.S. Contracting • WebCode Fusion • 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

PRSR STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Permit 3546
Jacksonville, FL