



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 46 Issue 10

October 2006

Presidents Castings



**President
Pete
St. Laurent**

As you all may have noticed by now I am unable to run for President of the club for 2007. I would like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President this past year. I hope that my efforts as the chief stuart of the club lived up to what is expected of the person holding this office. As everyone knows however this club does not run on any one man. So at this time I would like to thank my board of directors: Eddie McGowan, Marge Hackbart, Emily Murphy, Gary Newman, Aaron Webber, John Moscarillo, Chris Rooney, Chris Bernacki, Bill Breen and Frank Grassi. Thank you all for your tireless efforts all year. I also had a lot of help from members of the club that stepped up to be committee chairs, At this time I would like to recognize them and thank them for all there efforts: Chuck Darner (Reef Committee), Mike Murphy (Reef Committee and News Letter Staff), Jeanne Bernacki (Banquet fund raiser), Greg Molloy (Web Master), Frank Joura (El Cheepo Dir.) and Brien Hackbart (Club meeting raffle coordinator). Thank you to all for your help I don't know how I would have made it through the year without your help. All the members I already named are but a small number of the membership that has contributed to the success of this past year however. The list of volunteers that I have received to be recognized at the banquet is far to long to post here, but be it known to all that contributed of their time this past year, your help has been greatly appreciated.

October is rather a full month for the JOSFC. Elections for the new officers and board will be held on Oct. 5th so we need all the membership to come out and vote on your new board of Directors (Remember if you don't vote you can't complain).

Continued on Page 2

You Don't Want To Miss The JOSFC Annual Awards Banquet!

**October 21, 2006
Saturday
6:00PM - Until?
At the Mill Cove Golf Club**

1700 Monument Rd

Tickets \$30.00 each, available from any JOSFC Board member



Just a small part of the great raffle that we have at the Annual Awards Banquet. Check out the Newsletter on-line at www.Jaxfish.com to see the photos in color!

Presidents Message Cont.

On Oct. 19th we will be having our Junior Anglers Banquet. So put this date on your calendar to attend so that we can all recognize the accomplishments of our junior anglers.

On Oct 21st the JOSFC will be holding our Annual Awards Banquet, this year the Banquet will be held at the Mill Cove Golf Club on Monument Rd. The Banquet is the time that we acknowledge the accomplishments of our outstanding anglers. As well as install our new Board of Directors. But mostly it is a time for everyone to get together and have some good Food, Fun and a Raffle of a lifetime. Tickets can be purchased from any of the board members. I look forward to seeing you all there.

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



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Some really nice jewelry for the Ladies, and more Rod & Reel combos.



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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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Rob's Fishing Lore

YOU MAY GET WHAT YOU WISH FOR

"I could have not done this two years ago," she said. Two years ago, she was about sixty pounds heavier and not in this good of shape. Now, she had done it. For this was a secret wish, a dream Connie has harbored for about two years. Her secret wish was all about fishing if you can image that. Having watched my wife come up the learning curve of fishing has been a fascinating experience. Once she was a true novice, green to anything related to fishing and now she is trusted with any rod and with any fish on the other end of the line.

It was just last weekend during the lady's powder puff fishing tournament that Connie got her chance at a fishing dream. What type of dream you may ask, well that would be the restful REM sleep of cobia. Not just any cobia but rather a larger one of the species. About two years ago, Connie had the pleasure of tangling with one about twenty plus pounds. If you my loyal readers recall, this adventure was retold in the article entitled *Just Make It Run*. Since then, she waited her chance at one of the sea's true bruisers. She had heard of the stories of the long tough fights, the power and strength of these fish. What she did not know then she knows now.

The '06 Powder Puff Tournament was off to a rip-roaring start. Our first stop was nothing to brag about having one swing and a miss on a medium size bluefish. With time a wasting, the *High Roller* boat turned East and ran on out to the Moody culverts. Once there, the fishing action heated up. The fish were turned on to the live Poggies that were being offered. Within the hour, we had boated three kingfish and we were looking for more. The next strike proved to be spectacular. The fish, for whatever it was, was something to behold. I was fortunate enough to keeping a watchful eye on the baits when it took the long line. A four-foot curtain of white water stood in place to mark this fish's attack. With unmatched speed, this fish took off and without warning it doubled back toward the unexpected vessel. The trailing line got caught around one of the two outboards and thus the fish gained its freedom. The fish came back so fast that the line was still trailing away from the boat when the fish tangled our line in the prop. After an hour long fruitless repairs to the prop, this engine was done. The prop's hub was lost and thus the *High Roller* was down to a single engine.

Even though we had lost nearly an hour, the fishing remained hot. Two lines were out, one on top and one on the downrigger. As the third rod was being prepped for live bait, the cobia struck the downrigger bait. Initially,

the fish did not show itself and the crew could only guess to what was at the end of the line. With strong steady runs and the fish staying down, we guest correctly that it was a cobia.

Now the battle began for both anglerett and fish. For about forty-five minutes, the fish refused to show itself. During this time, the Sun showered golden rays down upon her and blessed her with a little heat during the noon hour. Sweat glistened from her forehead telling of the strain to both woman and fish. Soon the cobia rose from the depths only to circle out toward the bow of the boat in a counter-clockwise direction. Even though the fish headed toward the bow, once it saw the boat the fish made a right turn and slowly swam down toward the depths. If redundancy is what you were after, then this was the fight for you. Once the fish swam deep, the boat would circle on it forcing it out of its comfort zone. As the fish became agitated, it would surface and make its counter clockwise circle until it spied the boat. This happened about twenty times during the last hour and fifteen minutes of the fight. The cobia would always make a counter clockwise circle because the 6-by-4x treble was hook in its left gill plate.

As the fight wore on, the two fighters keep up their pace. Soon she was to have her Michael Jackson experience of fishing. The pressure was great and the grip on the rod was tight thus blisters were forming in her hand. In order to provide relief, she wore a single glove on her left hand. With a few right to left leg kicks and a couple of 'ooooohhhhhhs', the moment passed her or so we thought.

As the first hour passed, Connie became more loving and pleasant on the rod. Having not experienced the toughness of a large cobia she had no idea why things were progressing the way they were. What else would one expect with sixteen-pound line and kingfish tackle. Well, she kept barking out pleasantries about running down the fish or running upon the fish. Why were we so slow to the fish? We wondered if it had anything to do with being down to a single engine and a loss of mobility? What she now realizes is these large fish have a will of their own and it is a fight of bull dogged toughness. Having watched Connie on a large stingray once before, I knew she had it in her to whip this cobia. As the second hour of the battle continued, both fighters were giving into wariness. Yet, Connie would strap herself into a shoulder harness as to beckon the cobia to give her its best shot.

The cobia kept coming closer and closer to the boat. On one such occasion, the gaff was stretched out into the water and found its mark only to bounce off its armory hide. This did not seem to bother the fish too much; it only stayed away for another fifteen minute or so. Connie was not too happy about this as we heard. Then, it came close enough for the gaff to find its mark. The fish was drug through the water and tossed over the gunnel in one smooth motion. As the fish was laying out on our deck, Connie leaped up on the transom fish box and proceeded to do a moonwalk, followed by a spinning 360 ending up in a hurdle split on the cool lid in a victory celebration or if you would believe, she staggered to



Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

Many new boaters, and some old ones, do not appear to have a working knowledge of the rules of the road. If you are operating your vessel on inland waters or the high seas, one way to insure a safe voyage is to adhere to the "Navigation Rules". The rules cover all aspects of Navigation including lights, sounds, shapes, distress and privileged vs giveaway vessel, etc. All vessels, from the smallest PWC to the largest supertanker, must obey the navigation rules. It takes a whole book to cover all the rules, so in this article I want to discuss only the privileged and burdened vessel aspect of the rules.

There are important differences in legal liability between Maritime Law and Civil Law. When driving, one automobile often has the legal right-of-way over another.

For instance, at an intersection, if car A has a green light and car B runs through the red light and collides with car A, then car B is usually found to be at fault.

Unlike the highway, at sea no one has the right of way. Depending on the situation, when two vessels are closing one vessel is privileged or the stand on vessel and the other is the burdened or give way vessel. The privileged or stand on vessel must maintain course and speed and the burdened or give way vessel must alter course and/or speed to avoid the privileged vessel. If the burdened vessel does not take action as required by the rules and the two vessels reach "extremis" (that point where a collision will occur without evasive action by either vessel), the privileged vessel must depart from the rules and take evasive action.

In a crossing situation, you are the privileged vessel if the other vessel is from dead ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft your port beam, and you must maintain course and speed. If the other vessel is from dead ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft your starboard beam, you are the burdened vessel and must alter course to pass astern of the privileged vessel. NEVER speed up to pass in front of a privileged vessel. In a meeting head-on situation, both vessels are burdened and must alter course to starboard. In an overtaking situation, the vessel overtaking the other is the burdened vessel and must avoid the other.

Remember, courtesy and common sense is as important as the navigation rules. If the other captain is rude, don't use it for rudeness on your part. If the other vessel does not treat you in accordance with the rules, sound the danger signal (5 or more short blasts on you horn) and yield. More than likely the other captain may be ignorant of the rules. By engaging in brinksmanship, you could win the argument and ruin your whole day and possibly damage your vessel.

Remember, you are in imminent danger of collision when the bearing of another vessel is constant and the range is decreasing and evasive action will be required regardless of who is privileged or burdened. Follow these simple navigation rules and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish tales



Captain Of The Year Race

The Race is over, and boy are there some big surprises .

The results will be revealed at the Awards Banquet, and announced in the November Newsletter.



More Signed Prints, Gift certificates for Spas, Hotels, Dinners, and Charters!



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.



Alan Stamm with his big Grouper and Snapper



Do you recognize Edwina? After 4 years of being the Brides Maid and coming in second in the Captain of The Year race, Eddie McGowan was good to his word and wore a dress at the Banquet!



As you know by now, Mike Coldwater doesn't always fish from IN the boat.

Gag gifts produce some really great laughs throughout the entire Banquet!

What you wish for Continued

the cooler, got a bottle of water and sat down in wonderment. Upon hitting the scales, the cobia weighted forty-nine and a half pounds, a true bruiser among fish. I could not have been prouder of Connie for both of her accomplishments, boating a hefty fish and getting into shape enough to fight it.

Best wishes for fishing,
Rob Darner

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
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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Fishing Reports & Other



Chris Rooney *tall Tales*
**Fishing Committee
Chairman**

October's Colors

North of the Mason Dixon Line this is the month were our friends up there look for the fall colors in the trees. Well we start to find our own fall colors, only we look to the sea's, if you look in area's like PG/PM, 9 Mile, MG and RL this month you'll probably find the colors we like in the form of Red and Gray!! The Snapper and Grouper will start their yearly feeding frenzy this month and it will start when the water temperatures drop below 75-80 degrees.

Look for the live bait on Maxies or the twin wrecks straight out of the river at 5 miles, load the live well and go to bottom bumpin. The Grouper seem to like the big Sardines but a small grunt will work also and if you get a small legal b-liner, that's candy for the larger fish in both species. That 12 inch b-liner will make the grease stink, but a 25 lb Gray Grouper will make it stink a lot more. The Red Snapper will be on the natural bottom, I include rock pile in this category. A good place to start for any of the red headed bubbas are piles of culverts and rubble, there are at least 15 good numbers in the off shore book for these areas.

This season has brought us some great off shore fishing, but the inshore species are not taking much of a back seat. One of the best in recent years is the Flounder, we have watched as the fall run of flounder has gotten better each year. This year has the potential to be one of the best. My favorite spot is the south bank of the river across from the carrier pier, right at the edge of the rocks there's a 10-15 foot wide area of sandy bottom where on the first part of the incoming tide a backwash eddy forms. The water is only 4 feet deep or so don't spook the fish, set up across from the old rebault club and drift in 10-15 feet of water casting toward the rock slowly bouncing a jig head or slip rig with a live finger mullet. If you don't spook the fish your in for some fun.

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thur</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5 Club Meeting Club Elections	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Club Meeting Junior Angler Awards Banquet	20	21 JOSFC ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31			<i>October</i>	

Coming Events:

Fishing Boards 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

Your Dues are Due!

Now is the time to renew your JOSFC Club Membership.

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