



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 46 Issue 11

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News For All

Well, this is the transition month, with Pete St. Laurent going out, and Eddie McGowan coming in as the new club President. Eddie is setting up his board of directors, and we will have new officers and new people filling different jobs. Due to the transition, there will be no Presidents report, or fishing report from our new fishing director. (Still being chosen as I write this issue of The Reel News.

For those of you that didn't catch the Awards Banquet, you missed a great party! Everyone had a great time, and lots of prizes were awarded. Some of the major prizes of note were:

- Captain of the year - Chris Rooney
- Second was Rob Darner
- Third was Frank Grassi
- Sportsman of the year - Jeanne Bernacki
- Volunteer of the year - Mike Murphy
- Men's Angler - Alan Stamm
- Women's Angler - Charlene Parker

Pete had some great gag prizes for some of us. Eddie McGowan ALMOST came in SECOND in the boat wrecking category, but lucked out and tied with Frank Garssi for first place, with Brian Hackbart in second.

There were lots of other winners, taking second, third, and forth places and on down in all the categories, but I don't have room in this issue to list everyone. I will try to have a complete listing in the December issue.

Then there was the raffle..... Almost everyone won something and some people really scored big. Dan Parker reeled in lots of major prizes and was probably the big winner of the night. But that is just my guess, as we had so many great prizes being won. You should have been there! We had literally thousands of dollars worth of prizes that were raffled off.

It is time to renew your club membership! Check page 7 for an renewal form you can fill out and mail in.

Don't put it off, sit down and DO IT NOW!!!

A GREAT time was had by all on the Hubbards Marina trip !

Check out the pictures throughout this issue to see what you missed!

You can see more pictures at www.jaxfish.com

Our trip was so successful due to the hard work of the entire crew, for all 34 hours we were underway!

The Captain put us on the fish, the deck crew helped everyone and taught us how to fish there, and we had really good food, and plenty of it!



Most of the group about to load up!



About half of our total catch!

Hubbards, first morning.



Brian Hackbart with a nice Mangrove Snapper. This was the average fish caught.



Big fish on!

Big fish CAUGHT!!

The Reel News

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- Vice President Chris Rooney
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Rob's Fishing Lore

JUST ANOTHER PERFECT DAY

As I rose at 4 am, the stars shown with particular brilliance. The moon smiled at me as it prepared to round the corner of Earth on its daily journey. No bugs were out when I let Henry dog (our newest member to the Darner clan) outside. NOAA weather reports were cheery and bright with little information that would damp an otherwise perfect day for fishing. Byron got up right on cue and we proceeded to head to Grandpa's house to go fishing. The trip from Grandpa's house to the boat ramp was relaxing. Byron caught a few more moments of sleep on the way. Mike Watts and his son Andy meet us at the Mayport boat ramp and they were early. They brought lots of ice with them knowing subconsciously what type of day we were going to have.

At the boat ramp there was enough space on a Saturday to directly back your boat in the water without having to wait on others. The river was smooth on the way out, pelicans marked the huge school of poggies just north of the jetties. The poggies were flipping on the surface just inviting us to catch them. With four throws of the net we had all the poggies we needed. One of the only non-perfect aspects of this day was the ride out. The seas had just enough chop to keep one hanging on as we went to our destination forty-four miles offshore. We know our mark as Scott's Secret Spot or SSS for short. It is know as this because it was in his boat when we discovered this spot. As if the day knew this was going to be perfect, the seas started to lay off as we cross the rip line about six miles out.

As we approached our spot, a sky rocketing kingfish just added more excitement to what we knew was about to begin. The depth finder lit up signaling: fish here! Fish here! The marker jug was deployed and we took a brief look about when we circled on the mark. To begin, we decided to drift in 125 foot just to test the bottom out before we would anchor. The first pass was stellar. My first bait made its way to the bottom and in true fashion it was snatched by something rather large. Using 80-pound mono, 100-pound flora carbon leaders and tempered steel hooks, this fish pulled drag and straighten out my hook before it escaped. Andy was next to strike. Andy is from Atlanta and his sum total fishing experience is that of catching a 6-pound catfish. Well, his first fish rewrote his record book seeing he boated a fourteen-pound red snapper caused him to become gunnels hugging hung. Afterwards, he needed a brief moment to recoup. A couple of three-pound sea bass were added to the mix on the first drift.

The first drift proved to be so successful we decided to do it again. The second drift was better than the first. We found the mother load of all grouper holes. An eight-pound gag was added to the box, Mike boated a very nice scamp. Dad entertained a few nice fish on the bottom with a couple of grunts when he hooked up. As the bottom fishing was just what we imaged, we could only guess what was cruising around on the surface. Besides we did not have to anchor, drifting was the way to go. This only enhanced the fishing experience because there was no 300 foot anchor line to mess with, no anchor ball and no setting the anchor hook. Perfect!

A flat line was added to our arsenal. On the first cast, Dad remarked that the pogy was too close to the marker jug so it had to be redeployed. On the second cast the baitfish was placed a perfect distance away from the marker jug. Within ten minutes, we were not disappointed. I guess the Republicans and the Democrats were holding hands and singing Kum-Ba-Ya on the floor of Capital building because things were heating up. The spinning reel howled as the fish peeled line. Mike, Andy and Dad were continuing to bottom fish as the fish kept speeding off into the distance. With belly laughter, it was noted that I was getting real close to becoming spooled as the reel was becoming threadbare. Right on queue the fish stopped and turned. All three cranked up their bottom rods and we chased the fish. The fish turned out to be a twenty-eight pound kingfish.

Now with the king in the fish box, we returned to bottom fishing. Of course the flat line went back out. My rod was down and I just hooked up when the flat line went off again. Andy was up and he rose to the challenge of the next twenty-eight pound cookie cutter size kingfish. Two for two on kingfish, man what a spot. As we continued to drift the grouper action only heated up. All three of us were boating reds and scamp grouper. Dad had a scamp that weighed fourteen pound while Mike boosted the largest red grouper of the day both in the box and released. The one we kept weighed twelve pounds however; we decided to let the largest red go because we already had so much fish in the box. To add pleasure to our day, small eight to ten pound AJ's were thrown into the mix.

As we were catching our fish, Byron had to break out his Spiderman rod. He had a single hook tied directly onto the line without any leader. Byron wanted a poggy for bait as well. He went to the bow of the boat and was practicing casting out his bait. This keeps him vastly entertained until a small two-foot shark took interest in his poggy. Spidy's drag screeched as the shark ran with his bait. By the end of the day, a small school of dolphin came around the boat and you guess it, one of them decided to eat Byron's bait while Dad and I frantically tried to rig another rod for the dolphin. We only guess this is what happened because Byron came off the bow and back to the stern announcing to all that he need another bait and hook.

My last drop of the day was one that would cap off the entire fishing day. We had wondered off our original mark and found other bottom spot. With locked up drag this fish had a mind of its own. Dad was busy cleaning and stowing the gear



Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram
Safety Officer**

Five crew members saved from a sinking vessel off Jacksonville recently, because they were able to communicate with the Coast Guard, prompted me to write about the radio this month. It has been said that a man's best friend is his dog, and that may be so for a landlubber, but a boater's best friend may be his/her radio. Although not required on recreational boats, unless carrying 6 or more passengers for hire, you should have a radio on your boat as it could save your life in a time of distress. "COAST GUARD RESCUES FIVE FROM SINKING BOAT" was a recent headline in the local paper. A Coast Guard spokesman said, "the good thing is he had a VHF radio and was able to notify us that he was in distress".

Having a radio on board and knowing how to use it properly could be a lifesaver. Also, selecting the appropriate channel and proper use of your radio will prevent interfering with someone else in distress trying to contact the Coast Guard for assistance. You can purchase an all channel radio, which has 73 channels or cheaper models with fewer channels. Your radio should have at least the following 6 channels: Channel 6, intership safety; channel 9, alternate calling for non-commercial vessels and bridge; channel 16, distress, urgency, safety and calling for commercial vessels; channel 22A, Coast Guard Liaison; channel 68, non-commercial working, and a weather channel. In addition to channel 68, channel 69, 71, 72 and 78 are assigned working channels for recreational boats. Channel 23 and 83 are Coast Guard working channels only.

As a recreational boater, when your radio is turned on and not scanning, you should stay tuned to channel 9 and use it to call other boaters or shore stations. After initial contact is made on channel 9, you should switch to a working channel to converse. Do not remain on the calling channel to chat. Channel 16 is the calling channel for commercial vessels, and is to be used for distress, urgency, safety and calls to the Coast Guard if needed. Although channel 9 is the designated calling channel for recreational boaters and 16 is the designated channel for commercial vessels, common usage has made 16 the calling channel for all vessels. So, you may want to monitor 16 all the time.

The FCC promulgates rules regarding the use of marine radios. The FCC and the Coast Guard work closely together and have direction finding equipment to locate offenders. The misuse of channel 16 is a class D felony with a \$5,000 fine plus all costs incurred as a result of the misuse. You should guard your set against misuse as you are responsible for it.

Your VHF radio is a "line of sight" system and reaches only a little way beyond the horizon. Therefore, the height of your antenna is more important than the power of your set. A 25-watt VHF set will reach as many stations as it could with

more power. A more powerful radio would only send its signals farther out into space. It is extremely important, however, that you have a good solid connection between your antenna and your transceiver. Some connections are soldered and some are pressure fitted. You should check periodically to make sure the connection is still solid if it is not soldered.

In case of a real emergency, you should be prepared to send out a "Mayday" message without even thinking about it. The first few seconds of your message could provide the critical information that saves your life. A "Mayday" message contains Mayday 3 times, name of boat, latitude and longitude if known or location, nature of distress, number of persons on board and condition of any injured, seaworthiness of boat, description of boat and end with name of boat.

The following is a sample "Mayday" message: "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday. This is Fishtales. About 20 miles, 090, East of Mayport. Crew member symptoms of heart attack, need medivac helicopter. 3 POB. Vessel 23 foot Proline cuddy cabin white outboard. This is Fishtales on channel 16. Listen for an answer. If no answer, make sure your set is on, is on high power, is on 16 and the squelch is not turned up high. After this check of equipment, and no answer, repeat your "Mayday" message.

If you do not receive an answer, continue to transmit in the blind since your set is both a transmitter and receiver you may be transmitting ok but just not receiving. It happens on a routine basis where a vessel may transmit or receive, but not both. May you never have to send one of these messages and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fishtales

Another Perfect Day, Continued

when the flat line went off. His fish ran and ran hard. My fish bucked and it dug for the bottom. With steady pressure, my fish finally surrender. For my efforts, a seventeen-pound red snapper found it way into our fish box while Dad's fish ran and stayed away. We finally chased Dad's fish down and boated another twenty-eight pound cookie cutter size kingfish. What a perfect day of catching and releasing. We caught and kept seven grouper (2 gags, 1 red and 4 scamps), three red snappers, one pink snapper, one kingfish and five sea bass. We released four red grouper, one gag, five scamps, two large kingfish and several sea bass. None of our fish were under legal size save one scamp. The only thing more perfect than this day of fishing would have been if the fish would have cleaned themselves. Well, nothing can be truly perfect.

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner



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.

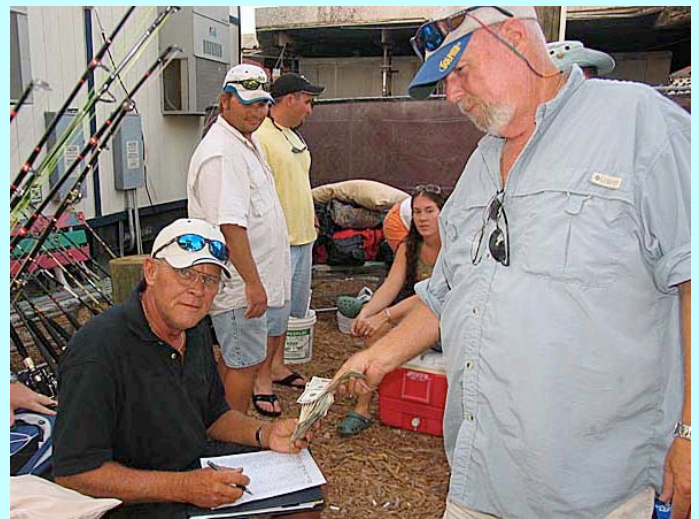
Anyone can submit an article for the Reel News just send or give it to me at any time.



Dan with a nice Jack.



JOSFC member George Pieper broke his right wrist playing tennis, but it hasn't stopped him from fishing for large mouth bass in the lake he lives on. This one weighed about one pound, but he's gotten them up to five pounds.



Joining the big fish pots.

Last but not least, Aaron with the BIG Fish of the trip! Everyone had to take pictures before it was released. John Moscarillo on the left with camera, and Sam, (The deck crew leader. They all worked their tails off the entire trip, making the trip as great as it was!.) on the right. The Goliath had to be brought on board to remove the hook and be vented before release as it was brought up from over 100' deep.



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
George Pieper	-	246-7522	-	Most Days	-	Up to 8:00 pm



Associate Member of the Month



Atlantic Coast Marine Electronics Inc.

Hay folks, this is November, Christmas is just a few short, and I mean short weeks away. Atlantic Coast Marine Electronics Inc. Can sell you that perfect Christmas present, that new GPS, VHF, Radar, or whatever electronics your other half wants for the boat.

If you foolishly pay too much elsewhere, but have one to be installed, they can install it, and it will be done right, and work like it is suppose to!

If you are thinking of electronics for Christmas, check with Atlantic Coast Marine Electronics Inc. first!

They support us, lets support them!



Those teeth are almost big enough to Schrimshaw a scene on!

Some things just can't be messed with!

A husband and wife go to a counselor after 15 years of marriage.

The counselor asks them what the problem is, and the wife goes into a tirade listing every problem they've ever had in their 15 years of marriage.

She goes on and on. Finally, the counselor gets up, walks around the desk, embraces the wife and kisses her passionately. The woman shuts up and sits quietly in a daze.

The counselor turns to the husband and says, "This is what your wife needs at least three times a week. Can you do this?....."

The husband thinks for a moment and replies, "Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesday, but ***on Fridays, I Fish!***"

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

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
November			1	2 Club Meeting	3	4
			5	6 Board Meeting	7	8
12	13	14	15	16 Club Meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (Renewal)

The JOSFC invites the participation of all area fishing enthusiast and is dedicated to conservation, preservation and fellowship with our membership.

NAME _____ HOME PH. _____
 SPOUSE'S NAME _____ WORK PH. _____
 ADDRESS _____ CELL PH. _____
 CITY, STATE _____ ZIP _____
 E-MAIL _____ OCCUPATION _____
 BOAT NAME _____ MAKE _____ LENGTH _____

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$50.00
(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16) | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Associate Member\$100.00
(For Business Concerns) | <input type="checkbox"/> Paid Junior Member \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member Individual \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Application Fee \$25.00
(Applicable to NEW Members or if renewing over 6 months late) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Family Membership \$300.00 | Total Remittance |

Signature _____ Date _____

Associate Members

- ACM Electronics • Adventure Landing • Wild Adventures • Transmission • Anthony & Sandra Spa • Arlington Bait & Angler • B & M Bait & Tackle • Baitmasters of South Boaters World • Boathouse Discount Marine • Bryan Charters • C & H Lures • Cabelas • Cannon's Bait & Chen Art • Custom Marine Components • Deonas Russell Cutlery • Dockside Inn • Donovan Fish Company • G & W Marine • Gear Kingfish Tournament • Guy Harvey Power-Pro • International Crew • Kershaw Knives • Knight Mac's Prop Savers • Company • Maxima Sunglasses • Okuma Roffers Ocean Jacksonville • MacTwist • Strike Zone The Billfish West Marine • Lures*
- American tackle • Avid Florida • McGowan Tackle • Carey Boatworks • Dexter Heating & Air • Fulton 4Fishermen • Greater Jax Publishing • Hydro-Shield • Jacksonville Scuba Center • Electric • Lindgren-Pitman, Inc. • MacMedia Graphics • Mann's Bait America • Ocean Get Away • Ocean Waves Fishing Tackle Corp. • Penn Tackle Mfg. • Forecasting Service • Salty Styles • Sea Tow Seafood Galore • Southern Propane • Speedy SSI Custom Plastics • St. John's Seafood & Steaks • Fishing • Surefire LLC • Team Fish Industries of America • Foundation • The Florida Sportsman Club • Thrifty Outdoors • Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing • Ballyhood Top Gun Trolling*

Now is the time to renew your JOSFC Club Membership.



Jacksonville Offshore Sports Fishing Club

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