



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 47 Issue 11

November 2007

Mike Murphy & Chuck Darner with Capt. Don Dingman at the tip of the Mayport Jetties with a couple of nice big Redfish. All fish released healthy as they are over the slot size.



Here are your new Officers and Board of Directors!

Officers

President - - - - - Eddie McGowan
 Vice President - - - - - Chris Rooney
 Secretary - - - - - Jennifer Davis
 Treasure - - - - - Tina Proescher

Boare of Directors

Don Cook - - - - - Membership
 Leigh Davis - - - - - Special Events
 Danny Del Rio - - - - - Books & Charts
 Mike Murphy - - - - - Floating
 Bill Breen - - - - - Hospitality & Newsletter
 Sam McJunkin - - - - - Floating
 John Moscarillo - - - - - Fishing Director

FREE \$5.00 Fish Slips!

For this entire year, you can earn a \$5.00 Fish Slip for each new member that you sponsor into our club!

The rules are simple. You have to personally sponsor the new member. Make sure membership knows you got them to come to the club. (You can NOT just sign a bunch of membership forms and leave them at a store.)

Officers and Board members are not eligible.

(That is part of their job.)

Lets get those new MEMBERS!!!

Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



Jeff Rodda
Fishing Committee
Director

Ah the bittersweet time of November has arrived. Why bittersweet, bittersweet because this is my last article as fishing committee director. The last year has been enlightening, entertaining, and most of all educational. It takes a lot of work to make the club function. If you have been a director or an officer in the past, thank you for your time and effort.

November means that the bait and the fish are on the move. As I write this (16 Oct) the catches of bull Redfish and Flounder have started. This should carry over into the beginning of the month.

The jetties will have more and more Sheepsheads as temperatures drop and the month passes.

The inshore party grounds are where most of the action will be. 3023.281/ 8110.479 at PG/PM, 3023.550 / 8110.269 at Nine Mile and 3028.959 / 8113.184 at MR are all places worth looking for Grouper and Snapper.

Farther offshore the Wahoo should be starting to show up in limited numbers that will increase as we go into December and beyond.

I would like to thank Willy Powell for all of the GPS numbers that he provided during the year from the collection of numbers that have been verified from the reef book by other club members. He still has several areas that he needs help with so if you see him please offer assistance in verifying them if you can. I wish you all a productive fishing season.

Jeff

Editor: I would really like to thank Jeff, for the past year, he has been great to work with and a real asset to the club..... Thanks

Another Fun Tournament!

November 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, is the

*Ocean Beaches American Legion Post 129
Annual Croaker Tournament*

This is another low entry fee, fun tournament. The Captain's meeting is the 2nd, and you fish on the 3rd and 4th. All you have to do is catch a lot of Croaker to win!

The American Legion post 129 supports us with lots of entries in the El Cheapo, so let's return the favor and have a blast catching Croaker!



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President Eddie McGowan

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Rob's Fishing Lore

Rob Darner

INTO THE STORM

Have you ever sat back in church and reflected what the preacher has just said? Were you willing to testify as to what happen or did not happen to you? Was it good fortune or a near tragic experience? Recently, a near tragic experience tends to make me always reflect on what might have been and why it did not occur.

On July 14th the Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club held its annual Kingfish Tune-Up Tournament. The tournament has in recent years been referred to as "The Great Smack Down" because several of us fishing have done some friendly jaw jacking about who is going to catch what and who couldn't catch a cold. It is all good natured fun and never personal. Well, this year's tournament did not live up to the smack feast of years past but overall the tournament was a very competitive one. The Calcutta reached a high of \$180 to be split three ways. For the JOSFC, we had a lot of boats and a lot of club members out there fishing. The only problem with the event was that the kingfish and the bait did not seem to cooperate fully.

Since kingfish was the name of the game for the tournament and the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament kicking off that Monday, our tournament was perfectly planned to help those who were entered in the GJKT. Our game plan was to fish some of the live Nassau bottom in hopes of finding a big king. First of all we had to find bait and the poggies were not cooperating so we decided to jig live greenies at the North end of the jetty rocks. With the P&L boat showing the way, we were able to capture about three and a half dozen greenies. The Nassau live bottom only yielded two snake kings and a cuda. It was nothing to shout about so a move was made. Our next stop was at the AH barge and that yield nothing but cudas. We quickly left the area and found some live bottom within two miles of the barge. The color scope indicated an abundance of bait milling around the bottom. Yes, the kingfish were in but we had only captured another snake king and once again it was nothing to write home about.

Our Sheppard of the Seas, Captain George Strate was on the radio issuing warnings of the encroaching storm moving from west to east. The storm covered a vast area from Fernandina Beach to St Augustine. Mayport lay directly in its path. Since noon, we monitored the cloud mass to the west of us and knew with the billowing cloud towers that trouble was on its way. What we could have not guessed was how right we were. With only three snake kings in the box, it was decided to call our fishing day early

and try to beat the storm. One of our tricks of the trade is the live bait well. As our last line was brought in, we still had about eighteen or so live baits in the well. In order to get maximum benefit of our fishing time a couple of live baits were hooked and deployed. Madyson, Bailey and Byron were told they could help dump the live well which meant they could throw the live bait overboard. Sure to form, the frantic live bait caught the attention of a marauding kingfish. To be exact, it was a 20.6 pound kingfish that caused us to delay our return to Mayport by twenty to twenty-five minutes. Once in the bag, the *High Roller* put the hammer down for home.

Approximately two miles from the jetties entrance, the *High Roller* came off plane and we broke out the foul weather gear for the pending storm which laid directly in our path. Additionally, all antennas and rods were either laid down or stowed because the lighting was popping with periods of regularity. It was obvious that the journey in was not going to be friendly because we could feel the temperature drop all around us and we knew what this meant. It meant the storm in front of us was powerful! Just ahead of us was a Coast Guard cutter. The vessel was about 120 foot long, white with a rather traditional large distinctive orange stripe on the bow. Within a quarter mile of us, the Coast Guard cutter disappeared behind a white curtain sheet of rain and this was the last we saw her. We ventured on toward the jetties on the course the GPS set forth. At 1.5 miles to go, the *High Roller* slowed to crawl. The winds became fierce within minutes. Wind driven waves began to increase in size and steepness. Whitecaps when you could see them became more numerous. The rain wall was solid and the wind drove it against your skin, stinging you in the process. Dad's Frog Togs were no match for the wind driven rain and neither was the plastic rain coat I was wearing. The rain jacket only served as a collection point for rainwater.

The wind howled and the rain stung. The *High Roller* came to a stand still. The wind would not allow us to go forward at any speed and the rain blinded our vision. We were stuck about 1.5 miles away from the jetties and we could see less than fifty feet beyond our own bow. The few times we could see farther were when the lighting crashed directly above lighting our path home. The lighting was no picnic either and personally it was more frightening than the wind. As we prepared to ride the storm out, it became a problem holding the boat in it's stagnate position. As the wave heights mounted, they turned our bow away from the wind. When this occurred, the wind took over and pushed to boat fifty degrees to the port or starboard. At one point, the guest turned us from 250 degrees to almost due North. Lucky for us, the storm did not linger over Mayport too awful long. As the storm front passed, so did the rough weather. The rain relented and visibility restored, we found the jetties and ran in. It was only later that we had learned the storm flipped a 21 foot Hydra-Sport boat, blew equipment off of a shrimp boat and some beach goers were injured by lighting when the lighting struck the cabana they were sheltering underneath at Huguenot Park. By the grace of God, both parents and their two kids were recovered intact from the capsized boat. Additionally, the storm spawned a tornado which caused damage to Mayport Naval Base. A wind meter from the base had a wind guest reading of 57 mph.

Continued Page 4



Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram

Anchoring

Each boat captain needs to master the art of anchoring for protection, safety and the enjoyment of boating. There are several types of anchors and the type used should depend primarily on the type of bottom in which you plan to anchor. Also, some anchors have greater holding power than others. The most commonly used anchors today are the Danforth, Yachtsman, Mushroom, Grapnel, Northill and the Plow.

The most popular anchor for small recreational boats is the Danforth. It is a lightweight anchor with long, narrow twin flukes that dig into the bottom. The Yachtsman's anchor has a shape that makes it awkward to stow and is carried mainly by long range cruisers for use as a storm anchor. The Mushroom anchor, when embedded, has tremendous holding power. It can hold a boat well in mud or sand in calm, protected waters and is popular with fishermen. The Mushroom anchor does not work well, however, in grassy or rocky bottoms. The Grapnel anchor is used primarily in rocky bottoms. The Northill anchor is an all purpose anchor with sharp bill points that dig into the bottom as soon as there is a pull on the anchor line. The Plow anchor is an efficient anchor but clumsy to handle and stow. It is used most often on large sail boats.

Your boat should carry at least two anchors. One anchor should be small and lightweight for use in good weather when anchoring in protected waters, or for short stops while fishing. The second anchor should be larger and heavier for use such as overnight anchoring or when in a situation where your boat might drag its anchor.

The type of anchoring equipment "ground tackle" you carry should depend on the type, weight and length of your boat. For instance, if you are using a standard working Danforth anchor and your boat length is 15 feet, the recommended anchor is 4S. For a 16 to 25 foot boat the size is 8S, a 26 to 30 foot boat 13S, a 31 to 35 foot boat 22S and a 36 to 40 foot boat the size is 40S. Check with your local marine store to match the rest of your "ground tackle" (shackle, chain, line) with the proper size anchor. Also, the characteristics of the bottom and depth of the water in which you will anchor are important considerations in choosing the proper "ground tackle". To be adequate, your "ground tackle" must hold your boat securely under the most adverse conditions.

The anchor line and chain is called the rode. The best combination consists of about 4 to 6 feet of heavy chain, a shackle, a thimble and a nylon line. The chain helps the rode lie flat on the bottom enabling the anchor to dig in. It also protects the rode against chafing in rocky bottoms. Nylon is the recommended anchor line as its elasticity eases the shock of the

boats movements on the anchor. Your anchor will hold best when the pull of the rode is as nearly horizontal as possible. For this reason, holding power increases as you increase the length of the rode. The "scope" of an anchor rode is the ratio of its length to the depth of the water. The normal scope for holding a boat is 7:1, or 7 feet of rode for each foot of water. A scope of 5:1 is marginal and a scope of 3:1 is poor unless you have excellent weather and a bottom good for anchoring. A 3:1 scope is usually OK for short stops to fish in good weather.

The first step in anchoring is, obviously, to check the depth and nature of the bottom. If the circumstances for anchoring are satisfactory, head your boat into the wind or current, make sure your anchor rode can run free, reverse your engine and lower the anchor carefully as you move astern. Do not drop the anchor or throw it over the side as it can fowl and will not hold. Also, make sure you have tied the "bitter" end of the anchor line securely to the anchor locker, or you will have a very bitter feeling as you watch the end of the line leave your boat.

After you have determined that you have sufficient line out, and the anchor has dug in and is holding, secure the line to a bow cleat and turn off your engine. Never, I repeat, never tie off your anchor to the side or stern of your boat. It may be easy and convenient at times but it is also very dangerous. Large wakes from passing vessels or "rogue waves" can swamp a boat when it is anchored by the side or stern. In a strong current, boats can be pushed under the water by the force of the current if anchored by the stern.

When you are ready to leave an anchorage, always start your engine before taking in "weighing" the anchor. To take in your anchor, move your boat ahead slowly, taking in the rode slack as you go, to a position directly over the anchor. Usually the anchor will break free of the bottom when you are directly over it. If it breaks free, raise it and stow it. If the anchor does not break free, tie the line to the bow cleat and run your boat slowly in a wide circle around the anchor with the line tight to free it.

Follow the above simple suggestions for easy anchoring and continue to enjoy pleasant and safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales

Storm concluded.

As I have reflected about the events of the Tune-Up Tournament, I am most grateful that we pulled through the wrath of the storm. I hate to think what trouble we might have been in if it was not for that last fish. What may have happened to us if we had been able to reach Mayport twenty minutes earlier? Could we have met the tornado/ water spout down near the navy fuel docks? Sometimes it good to give thanks for the things that did not happen to you and to testify to them.

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner

*Associate Member
of the Month*

Gary Newman
INSURANCE
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241-0777

Hay! What are you guys thinking? Oh you forgot! Well remember this, if you don't have your home or vehicle or most important your BOAT insured with Gary Newman, you are probably not getting the best deal for your money. Sure I can probably find some insurance for a few dollars less, but the coverage will be for a lot less.

I have my insurance with Gary, and last year when my old (Bought before I met Gary) homeowners company went belly up I had to shop for insurance. Gary found coverage that was at least 30% better, for only \$12.00 / year (that is right, TWELVE dollars) more than the other guys.

Gary is one of us, a past president of the JOSFC, and a really nice guy. Go on down and see if he can't get you better coverage than what you have, and probably save you some money!

Yes he insures my BOAT too..... Bill Breen

***Remember, we need to support
the businesses that support our
club!***



Welcome New Crew!

Don Cook
Membership Director

We would like to welcome 5 new members to their new club.

Remember that this is now your club, to make the most of it, join the fun at all our events.

Daniel Knieriemen Lurhs 34 Jo Sea Jo

Richard Fisher Glastron 25 Natasha

Paul Westmoreland Sea Chaser 26 Devil Dog

Howie Lucero Shamrock 22 Rufina

Rob Cripe Sea Pro 21 Reeltight

Congratulations to Don Cook and Danny Del Rio our newest Paid Life Members !



Loud Hailings

**Newsletter Editor
Bill Breen**

Leigh Davis, our Program Director, says that if you have a suggestion for a guest speaker or know anyone he can trick into giving a talk at the club, be sure to give him their name so he can contact them. Lets help Leigh out!

I 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 Phone, Fax, or E-mail me your pictures at: PH# 904-254-2791 Fax#904-213-9786 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.



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.



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 _____

Family Membership \$50.00 Individual Member \$40.00

(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16) Paid Junior Member \$5.00

Annual Associate Member\$100.00 Application Fee \$25.00
 (For Business Concerns) (Applicable to NEW Members or if renewing over 6 months late)

Life Member Individual \$250.00

Life Family Membership \$300.00

Total Remittance

Signature _____ Date _____

Associate Members

• *ACM Electronics* • *Advance Marine* • *Adventure Landing* • *Wild Adventures* • *American Transmission* • *Anthony & Sandra Spa* • *Arlington Bait & tackle* • *Avid Angler* • *B & M Bait & Tackle* • *Baitmasters of South Florida* • *Boaters World* • *Boathouse Discount Marine* • *Bryan McGowan Charters* • *Ballyhood Top Gun Trolling Lures* • *C & H Lures* • *Cabelas* • *Cannon's Bait & Tackle* • *Carey Chen Art* • *Consignment Boat Sales* • *Custom Marine Components* • *D & S Fishing Specialities* • *D.J. Connection* • *Deonas Boatworks* • *Dexter Russell Cutlery* • *Dockside Inn* • *Donovan Heating & Air* • *Florida Sportsman* • *Gary Newman Insurance* • *G & W Marine* • *Gear 4 Fishermen* • *Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament* • *Guy Harvey Publishing* • *Hubbard's Marina* • *Hydro-Shield* • *Power-Pro* • *International Crew* • *Jacksonville Marina* • *Jacksonville Scuba Center* • *Kershaw Knives* • *Knight Electric* • *La Mee Florist* • *Land Roofing* • *Lindgren-Pitman, Inc.* • *Loadmaster Trailers* • *Mercury Outboards* • *Mac's Prop Savers* • *MacMedia Graphics* • *Mann's Bait Company* • *Maxima America* • *Mike's Taxidermy* • *Ocean Get Away* • *Ocean Waves Sunglasses* • *Okuma Fishing Tackle Corp.* • *Penn Tackle Mfg.* • *Production Drywall* • *Pier 17* • *Rick's Bait & tackle* • *River Marine* • *Roffers Ocean Forecasting Service* • *Salty Styles* • *Sea Tow* • *Sea Dance Charters* • *Jacksonville* • *Seafood Galore* • *Captain Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing* • *Solomon's RV & Boat storage* • *Southern Propane* • *Speedy MacTwist* • *SSI Custom Plastics* • *St. John's Seafood & Steaks* • *Surefire LLC* • *Team Fish Industries of America* • *The Billfish Foundation* • *The Florida Sportsman Club* • *Thrifty Outdoors* • *West Marine* • *Workman's Kwik-Fix Plumbing* • *Woody Wax* •



Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club

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