



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 50 Issue 11

November 2010



PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Captain Chris Rooney
We say good-bye and thank Chris for 2 years of great service to the club!!!

November When the Wind Blows

The changes of the season are in progress and the transition of another winter starts this month. Just as the winter fishing starts and the summer seas and hot weather fully subside, we start the late fall runs of big sea bass and grouper bite continues to the end of the month. The cooler weather brings relief, I love having fresh air back in the house cause for the first time in months the windows are open. The first trip of the month brings on the taste of fresh fried sea bass and a nice grouper for the boards.

By the end of the month the Wahoo are in full swing and so are the cold fronts, you pick a day to get out and you have to be careful, the weather will change, and most likely for the worst. When you do get out there the fishing is phenomenal and the memories will last forever.

Speaking of memories I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to spend the last 5 years serving the club as the fishing director, then Vice President and finally the last two years as President. I've met a great group of people who share a common passion for the Ocean where I've spent most of my life in one way or

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PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Capt Don Cook
Meet your new leader!



To all members of JOSFC. I want to thank you all for trusting me with the responsibility of being club president this year. It is a honor and I will do my best to follow the tradition of past presidents in keeping this club the outstanding club it has always been. I look forward to a great year of fishing and fellowship. See you on the water and at the club house.

Don

IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

This is very important. Not only does your membership card give you a discount at several places around town, (We actually have members that have gotten more than \$50.00 off purchases throughout the year, so a membership has more than paid for itself!) but we the fishing community of Florida are still in a fight to keep our fishing open. Every member that we can get gives us that much more clout when we get up to talk to our local, State, and Federal officials. Right now we have about 300 memberships out there, but if you count every member in a family, we surpass 500. That is 500 fishing men, women, children and business that influence probably a lot more than 1000 votes.

Think of it this way, even if you don't plan on attending any of our great meetings, or functions, the

Continued Page 2



Mike Watts holding up another of those pesky, nonexistent, "ThrowBack" fish.

Chuck & Mike had a bad day of fishing, all they could hook were these "ThrowBack" fish. They had to really work hard to catch some keeper Seabass and Grunts.



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Officers:

President	Don Cook
Vice President	Danny Del Rio
Secretary	Allison Thornton
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Membership	Paul Galup
Trophies & Awards	Alan Shepard
Special Advisor	Chris Rooney
Newsletter Editor / Website ...	Bill Breen
Newsletter & Marine Radio....	Mike Murphy

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November wind Continued

another. There stands a passage of tradition in wishing you all "Fair winds and Following Seas" and I'll add one more thing, "A Great Big Grouper Tugging on the end of your line" Thank for the help everyone it takes all of you to make this the Best Fishing Club in Florida!!

Thanks and I'll see you at the Club. Chris

Renew Continued

\$50.00 Family, or \$40.00 individual membership / YEAR is probably the cheapest investment in your right to fish you could make.

You will find a renewal form on page 6, and you may also just go to www.jaxfish.com and under the "About" tab you will find "JOSFC Membership" and you can go over to Member Renewal or New Member sign up. We use the secure Pay-Pal system to let you pay your dues.

While you are renewing, talk your neighbors or fishing friends into joining to help in the fight against the SAMFC and their bad science!

Don't just sit there, Renew your membership NOW!!!

Below are Madison, Bailey and Byron Darner with some nice Kingfish that they caught while out on Grandpa's boat.





ROB'S FISHING LORE

Rob Darner

Smack Down, Pint Size

“Hey, ol man!” blurted out the young lad. He continued, “you see that small fish, that’s yours and I caught the biggest fish!” He said all this while pointing to two sea bass inside a bucket next to the fillet table. A pretty brave boast considering he’s talking to someone with a fillet knife. Yes, inside that bucket was one sea bass larger than the other, in fact one of the larger sea bass of the day’s catch was 2.5 pounds.

The old man could not just let the comment go without a challenge. The old man retorted, “In your dreams. You know that I caught the biggest fish in fact, it was you crying out there on the boat whining about the fish is too big it’s too heavy can you help me?”

The young lad’s eyebrows came down on his forehead as his eyes narrowed as he squinted from the verbal jousting while the grin on his face expanded from ear to ear. His mind was thinking of what would be the perfect response to the old man. It was as if you could see imaginary smoke bellowing out of his ears as those gears turned over and over inside his head. For him, what came out of his mouth simply elevated the jousting to a whole another level. This verbal combat got the old man thinking about just how the day began.

The day started out watching the sun rise higher in the sky while the silhouette of the Miss Mayport hung in the near distance at SS. One could see the Sheppard of the Seas standing a midship from his lofty perch while surveying the stern fishermen. The morning light filtered through the Santa-like beard. We had arrived; we were now ‘manly’ fishing upon some of the numerous ledges beneath the water. The first few drops proved that at least we anchored near the ledge as a few sea bass came over the gunnel. With the sea bass came more than their fair share of grunts over the gunnel as well. It was just another drop and stop when the young lad’s rod tip bent closer to the water than any of the previous hook ups. He was using green 30 pound test with a medium action Ugly Stick rod when the huffing and puffing could be heard across the boat. It was there that the young lad brought up his 2.5 pound sea bass. It was the first one in the box but not the last. It was nice enough for any of use to argue over.

“Oh yea,” said the lad. “You were crying out there! It was you who was crying over those tiny fish that cut you off on the bottom.”

“Tiny fish, tiny fish?” responded the old man. “Those were manly fish! Those were grouper that you wish you could have had but sadly no you could only catch the bait. All those grunts kept giving you problems just how sad is that?”

His eyes narrowed even more and the imaginary smoke now became thicker. He begins, “but you missed all five groupers, ha!”

Well now, he just went right for the soft spot. Did it matter that the old man went 1 for 6 on big fish? Did it matter that the Mayport Princess went 3 for 11 on grouper as well out there? These fish were enticed by grunts the young lad caught. In fact, the grouper rig was Capt George’s Budweiser rig. Simply, a grunt was attached to the hook and sent to the bottom while I dropped another line down. It was the commotion caused by the bait stealers that attached the larger fish thus the larger fish keyed on the distressed grunt and whamo! The rod tip bent over under the strain of a locked drag with 80 pound test mono. The battle was just about over before it began. The bruiser from the deep found refuge in a ledge and locked itself in place underneath a ledge. It was only a few seconds later that the ledge chaffed through the mono, six foot of fraid section testified to this. This act repeated itself again and again, it did not matter if the rod was in your hands or in the rod holder the results were the same.



As the young lad noticed the action on big fish, he too wanted into the game. After about 3 or 4 times asking for a grunt head, his wish was granted. The head was hooked to his 30 pound test and sent down to the bottom. The first minute passed while the second and third minute passed just as uneventful as the first. It did not take to long after the third minute passed for a big fish to come a calling. A quick snap of his rod upward indicated the fish on the other line. As the rod bent toward the water, the drag screamed. The fish was making for a ledge about 15 feet away. We know because we heard the drag pull out until the fish reached the ledge and pop the line.

“If I recall young’ in,” said the ol man, “you couldn’t stop one either. In fact,” continued the man, “Grandpa and I were tired of the belly aching of help me, help me with this little fish.”

TOP'S TIPS SAFETY FIRST

Top Ingram

TOWING CHECKLIST FOR THE ROAD AND RAMP

Last month I started out with some bad news. This month I want to start out with some good news. Recently 7 persons, including 3 children, were rescued by the Coast Guard about 25 miles East of Charleston, SC, after their 38 foot boat's engine room flooded and they abandoned ship. Fortunately all had time to put on life jackets before the boat sank. The life jackets not only kept them afloat, but the bright color in the moonlight caught the attention of one of the air crew just before they were to turn back and call off the search for the night. Even with life jackets on these people were very lucky since they did not have a VHF radio or any other emergency communications equipment. Please do not leave the dock without a radio or emergency equipment on board. And, again, I urge you to wear your life jacket.

To ensure that your boat will get you to and from your favorite fishing spot, you should develop a "check list" and review it to make sure that each equipment item necessary to the proper, and safe, operation of your boat is operating properly; and that all needed fuel, water, oil and other supplies are on board before you leave your driveway, dock or marina.

Your checklist should be tailored to your specific boat depending on whether it is an inboard or outboard, etc. In general, your list should include all items essential to the safe operation of your boat. For instance, your checklist should include the following items: fuel (always a full tank before heading offshore), oil (carry a spare quart in case of a leak), cooling system, battery, belts and hoses if applicable, etc. Checking the above items takes only a few minutes and can save you hours on the water and hundreds of dollars if you have to call for a tow. If your boat has two batteries, you should start the engine on number one then shut down and start on number two to make sure both batteries are fully charged. It is also recommended that you go out on one and back on the other. Never run on both because if you have a problem, you will discharge both and not have a spare to start the engine.

Your checklist should also include Coast Guard required safety items such as life jackets (at least one for each person on board), visual distress signals, fire extinguisher, sound producing device such as a whistle or horn, working navigation lights, and proper ventilation and backfire flame control if your boat is powered by an inboard engine. If you have a radio, you should verify that it is in proper working order before you need it in an emergency. Also, recommend you carry a spare hand held radio in case your main radio fails. If you run out to the Gulf Stream, or similar distances offshore, you should include a ditch bag in your check list.

Each boat captain should brief at least one person on the operation of the vessel in case he/she is disabled. This may seem trivial, but there have been cases where this knowledge was a lifesaver in an emergency. The last item on your checklist should

be a float plan completed and left with a responsible party. You can never be too safe when towing your boat. Just as any good pilot goes over his safety checklist before taking off, it's wise to do the same when towing. Here's a list of important items you need to address every time you head to the water.

PRE-TOWING :

- Check cold tire pressure on the tow vehicle and trailer.
- Make sure you are towing the trailer in a level position.
- Verify that lug nuts on the tow vehicle and trailer tightened to the correct torque setting.
- Stow all required U. S. Coast Guard equipment in the boat.
- Secure outboards or stern drives in the full-up position.
- Securely tighten the boat cover if it is used when towing.
- Secure the coupler. Insert a bolt or other locking device into the coupler so it does not pop open.
- Connect the trailer lights and check to make sure they are working properly.
- Secure the safety chains and emergency brake cable.
- Raise the trailer jack and lock it in place.
- Ensure that the boat is snug against the bow stop and secured with a winch strap, plus a safety chain or tie-down.
- Make sure the transom tie-downs are tight.
- Properly secure all equipment inside the boat.
- Adjust the tow-vehicle mirrors as needed.

BOAT PRE-LAUNCH (IN PARKING AREA OR READY LANE):

- Remove tie-downs.
- Remove engine support.
- Disconnect trailer wiring from tow vehicle.
- Load and stow gear to be carried on board.
- Check all boat systems: engine, bilge pump, lights and horn, etc.
- If equipped, turn on the engine compartment blower.
- Make ready all dock lines, fenders and boat hook.
- And, last, **DO NOT FORGET TO INSTALL THE DRAIN PLUG.**

BOAT LAUNCH (ON THE RAMP)

- Back down the ramp far enough to allow engine cooling water to be picked up.
- Set the emergency brake, put the vehicle in park, and block the rear wheels. Do the same when retrieving the boat.
- On stern-drive or outboard boats, lower the drive into the water.
- Start the engine and let it warm up.
- Disconnect the winch hook. From the bow eye.
- Proceed to launch.
- Enjoy your outing and have a safe trip.

Top Ingram
Fishtales

With the cooler (Or as you longtime Florida residents say.) cold weather coming, I am going to try to include some nice Heart & Soul warming recipes, for you to try. Below is the first one, and once you make it, nothing else will ever measure up.

We use to take gallons of it with us on our dive trips off North Western Canada where the water was a chilling 35 to 40 degrees. We kept a big pot going all the time on the stove and would have a bowl when we got out. It was also a favorite after a cold day of Duck hunting!

Best if eaten on a cold windy, rainy day.

THE WORLDS BEST NEW ENGLAND CLAM CHOWDER

3 - 7 or 7 1/2 ounces cans (about 2 1/2 to 3 Cups) minced clams (Grind fresh clams up with grinder)

- 1/4 pound salt pork diced (optional)
- 2 cups water
- 5 medium potatoes cubed (approximately)
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 cups milk
- 1 cup light cream (canned milk)
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt (approximately)
- Dash pepper
- 12 oz frozen corn
- Cooked pearl barley (maybe 1/4 cup uncooked=1/2-3/4 cup cooked)

Drain clams, reserving liquid (if you are using canned clams). Fry salt pork till crisp in large saucepan; remove. Add water, potatoes, onion, and reserved clam liquid to fat in saucepan. Cook covered till potatoes are tender, 10-15 minutes.

Add milk, cream, clams, and salt pork. Heat slowly just to boiling. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Float butter atop each serving.
Makes 6 servings.

Thicken with cornstarch as desired (Add a small amount of cold water to 1 TBLS. cornstarch in a cup. Then add that liquid to the soup and stir. Continue adding a little cornstarch/water mixture until desired thickness is reached.)

Smack Down Continued

Now, the young lad was completely embroiled in the verbal joust. He bounced around commenting on this and that about the days fishing. He was desperately trying to rebound from the latest commentary but his words only seemed to satisfy an 8 year imagination. What satisfied the old man was the memory of the young lad stepping up his game out there on the water. After the lad failed to stop the big fish; he up his game by asking for grandpa's big stick with 80 pound and a locked drag. The rod was given to him readily and he went back down with another grunt head determined to claim a trophy fish as a prize. Now that's my boy!

Best Wishes for Fishing,
Rob Darner



With the holidays fast approaching, don't forget Southern Propane. Does your Grill Master need a new Grill? Southern Propane! Even if they don't NEED one, surprise them with an upgrade to a nice new one. They also carry a really nice assortment of spices and rubs for grilling, as well as all kinds of grilling gadgets. Or Southern Propane just to fill your Propane tanks to fry that Turkey.

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Remember, they support us, we need to support them!

LOUD HAILINGS

Newsletter Editor / Web-Master
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. 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
beenw@bellsouth.net



Instant Crew, Just Add Water

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Availability</u>	<u>Can call the Night before.</u>
Pete St.Laurent	- C = 220-9199	Most weekends	Up to 8:00 pm
Gene Fulgham	- C = 641-9970	Any day	Up to 8:00 pm
Frank Grassi	-C = 234-7369	Sunday	Up to 8:00 pm
Richard Fisher	- H = 221-9629 - Cell 738-1010	Nearly every day	Up to 8:00 PM the day before.
John Porcella	- C = 610-3855	Nearly any day	Up to 10:00 PM
Joe Esparza	- C = 536 - 4114	Any Day	Up to 10:00 pm
Phillip Ferdon	- H = 879-0184 C = 887-6736	Fri. Sat.	Up to 9:00 pm
Rod Saffles	- C =993-6986	Any Day	Up to Midnight
Ron Hunter	- C = 733-1197	From Noon Wednesday through Sunday	Up to 8:00 PM
Ronald Cowart	- C = 879-4724	Weekends	Up to 9:00 PM
Greg Cole	- C = 412 - 5722	Any Day	Up to 9:00 PM
Jason Jones	- C = 945.6576	Weekends	Up to 9:00 PM



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 _____

It is time to renew your membership in the JOSFC!

You can use the form at the left, (Mail it to the address on the back opposite the stamp), or do it on-line at www.jaxfish.com

Just to remind you, if you have a fish on the boards, and have not renewed by January 1, 2010, Off it comes, and does not get put back on when you renew.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1 Board Meeting	2	3	4 Club Meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Club Meeting & Thanksgiving Pot Luck	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30			November	

Coming Events: November 18th - Annual club Thanksgiving Pot-Luck



He is coming.....



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**Jacksonville Offshore
Sports Fishing Club**

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Jacksonville, FL

It is time to renew your membership and join the fun!