



The Newsletter of the . . .

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 51 Issue 11

November 2011



President

Danny Del Rio

Here it is November and the beginning of a new fishing year! I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your president for the coming year.

I'm looking forward to a great year of fishing and social activities. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your ideas on how we can continue to make this a great club. And please feel free to get involved! We strive to make this a friendly organization and want everyone to feel a part of its activities. Don't be shy!!! We want everyone to have fun, be involved and feel safe on the water.

I would like to introduce you to the new officers, board of directors and special staff:

Officers:

President:	Danny Del Rio
Vice President:	Paul Gallup
Secretary:	Patti Kalaitzis
Treasurer:	Carol Hixenbaugh

Board of Directors:

Fishing Coordinator:	Greg Wallace
Hospitality:	Larry Hixenbaugh
Membership:	Tom Darga
Trophies and Awards:	Alan Shepard

Continued on Page 3

Grits

As everyone in this club knows you have to be accepted as a "Southerner in Good Standing" to be a member (Even if you **were** a Da__ Yankee. Yes, you can still be a fan of the Yankees Baseball team, BUT that is pushing it!)

How do we know that you are a Southerner in good standing? We ask you if you eat **GRITS!** If you answer **yes**, you are accepted into the club!

Well for you transplants, here is.....

ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT GRITS (& POSSIBLY MORE)

What Are Grits?

Some folks believe grits are grown on bushes and are harvested by midgets by shaking the bushes after spreading sheets around them. Many people think grits are made from ground up bits of white corn. These are lies spread by Communists and terrorists. Nothing as good as a Grits can be made from corn. Research suggests that the mysterious Manna that God rained down upon the Israelites during their time in the Sinai Desert was most likely Grits. Critics disagree, stating that there is no record of biscuits, butter, salt, and red eye gravy raining down from the sky, and that God would not punish his people by forcing them to eat Grits without these key ingredients.

How Grits are Formed:

Grits are formed deep underground under intense heat and pressure. It takes over 1000 years to form a single Grit. Most of the world's grit mines are in Georgia , and are guarded day and night by armed guards and attack dogs. Harvesting the Grit is a dangerous occupation, and many Grit miners lose their lives each year so that Grits can continue to be served morning after morning for breakfast--not that having Grits for lunch and dinner is out of the question.

Yankees have attempted to create synthetic Grits. They call them Cream of Wheat. As far as we can

Continued on Page 2

Grits Continued

tell, the key ingredients of Cream of Wheat are Elmer's Glue and shredded Styrofoam. These synthetic grits have also been shown to cause nausea, and can leave you unable to have children.

Historical Grits:

As mentioned earlier, the first known mention of the Grits was by the Ancient Israelites in the Sinai Desert. After that, Grits were not heard from for another 1000 years. Grits were used during this time only during secret religious ceremonies, and were kept from the public. The next mention of Grits was found amidst the ruins of the ancient city of Pompeii in a woman's personal diary discovered in the seat of an old sedan. The woman's name was Herculania Jemimana, who was known as Aunt Jemima to her friends.

The Ten Commandments of Grits:

- I. Thou shalt not put syrup on thy Grits
- II. Thou shalt not eat thy Grits with a spoon or knife
- III. Thou shalt not eat Cream of Wheat and call it Grits, for this is blasphemy
- IV. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's Grits
- V. Thou shalt use only Salt, Butter, and red eye gravy as toppings for thy Grits

- VI. Thou shalt not eat Instant Grits
- VII. Thou shalt not put ketchup on thy Grits
- VIII. Thou shalt not put margarine on thy Grits.
- IX. Thou shalt not eat toast with thy Grits, only biscuits made from scratch.

- X. Thou shalt eat grits on the Sabbath for this is manna from heaven.

XI.

How to Cook Grits:

For one serving of Grits: Boil 1.5 cups of water with salt and a little butter. Add 5 Tbsp of Grits. Reduce to a simmer and allow the Grits to soak up all the water. When a pencil stuck into the grits stands alone, they are done. That's all there is to cooking grits.

How to make red eye gravy: Fry salt cured country ham in cast-iron pan. Remove the ham when done and add coffee to the gravy and simmer for several minutes. Great on grits and biscuits.

How to Eat Grits:

Immediately after removing your grits from the stove top, add a generous portion of butter or red eye gravy. Do NOT use low-fat butter. The butter should cause the Grits to turn a wondrous shade of yellow. Hold a banana or a yellow rain slicker next to your Grits; if the colors match, you have the correct amount of butter. In lieu of butter, pour a generous helping of red eye gravy on your grits. Be sure to pour enough to have some left for sopping up with your biscuits. Use biscuits made from scratch. Never, ever substitute canned or store-bought biscuits for the real thing because they can cause cancer, tooth decay and impotence. Next, add salt. The correct ratio of Grit to Salt is 10:1 Therefore for every 10 grits, you should have 1 grain of salt. Now begin eating your grits. Always use a fork, never a spoon, to eat Grits. Your grits should be thick enough so they do not run through the tines of the fork. The correct beverage to serve with Grits is black coffee. DO NOT use cream or, heaven forbid, Skim Milk. Your grits should rarely be eaten in a bowl because Yankees will think it's Cream of Wheat.

Ways to Eat Leftover Grits:

Leftover grits are extremely rare and may only be a rumor. Spread them in the bottom of a casserole dish, Cover and place them in the refrigerator overnight. The Grits will congeal into a gelatinous mass. Next morning, slice the Grits into squares and fry them in 1/2' of cooking oil and butter until they turn a golden brown. Many people are tempted to pour syrup onto Grits served this way. This is, of course, unacceptable but delicious.

BLESSING BEFORE EATING GRITS

May the Lord bless these grits,
May Yankees never get the recipe,
May I eat grits each day while living,
And may I die while eating grits.

AMEN



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

Officers:

President	Danny Del Rio
Vice President	Paul Galhup
Secretary	Patti Kalaitzis
Treasurer	Carol Hixenbaugh

Board of Directors & Special Staff:

Special Events	Will Aitken
Books & Charts	Steve Kalaitzis
Hospitality	Larry Hixenbaugh
Fishing Coordinator	Greg Wallace
Membership	Tom Darga
Trophies & Awards	Alan Shepard
Special Advisor	Don Cook
Newsletter Editor / Website ...	Bill Breen
Newsletter & Marine Radio....	Mike Murphy
©Copyright 2011	

Presidents Message Continued

Special Events: Will Aiken
Books and Charts: Steve Kalaitzis
Special Advisor: Don Cook

Committee Chairpersons:

Website and Newsletter Editor: Bill Breen
Marine Radio and Newsletter: Mike Murphy
JOSFC Photographer: Tina Proescher
El Cheapo Chairman: Frank Jora
Safety Officer: Top Ingram
JOSFC Historian: Charlie Hamaker

These are the volunteers that keep the JOSFC running smoothly. All members are very important and welcome help in any of these positions.

Please remember the next meeting will be November 3, 2011 and the Luck of the Draw Fishing Tournament will be on Saturday, November 5, 2011. This is the kick off tournament to start the year of fun and fishing! There will be a fish fry for everyone, following the weigh-in. We want everyone to show up to Kick off the New Year! See you there!

Tight Lines and Safe Boating!

Danny Del Rio

Correction

Last month I showed you how to do a quick Schnell on a hook. The diagram was perfect (Naturally) except I had the hook turned up, and it should have been turned DOWN. You must start with the line coming in from the hook side so when you finish the schnell, it pulls the hook into the fish's mouth, not away from his mouth.

Thanks to Pete St. Laurent for spotting this goof, you would have been missing fish all day, and wondering why!

We have a new sponsor!



4542 Irving Rd. Jax, Fl. 32226
904 - 751 - 3043

damespointmarina.com

North side of the River, at -30.24.072 N
81.33.055 W

They are a FULL Service Marina Offering:

- Non-Ethanol Gasoline
- ValvTect Diesel
- Fill up on the water or trailer
- Deep water wet slips
- 30/50 Amp service & Concrete floating docks
- Dry Rack Storage
- IGFA Certified Scale
- Boat Rentals
- Bait, Ice, Tackle, Snacks & Drinks
- Packaged Beer
- Beer & Wine & Live Music!

Weekly Events:

Wednesdays - Trivia 6:00 PM

Thursdays - Live Music starting at 5:00 PM - Ladies drink FREE 6 to 8:00 PM

Fridays - Live Music starting at 7:00 PM

Saturdays - Live Music starting at 3:00 PM

Sundays - Live Music starting at 4:00 PM

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, or E-mail me your pictures at:

PH# 904-254-2791
beenw@bellsouth.net





Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

Towing Checklist

Now that the Club tournaments are over and Greg Wallace has been named the captain of the year, Club members should take advantage of the down time to review their towing checklist to make sure everything on the list is current. In order to have a safe, successful boating/fishing trip, if you are one of the 95% of recreational boaters who tow their boats, you must first tow your boat to the nearest boat ramp for launching. Towing a boat has its good and bad points, and the potential problems in towing are many.

Before you add a trailer hitch to your vehicle to pull that new, or used, boat you will be fishing from, you should look at it as a package and make sure the vehicle is capable of towing the weight of the boat and trailer. Unless your vehicle is specially equipped, you should not tow a trailer load that weighs more than the vehicle. Manufacturers sell towing packages that include several modifications for your vehicle such as heavy-duty radiators, transmission oil coolers, heavy-duty brakes and proper suspension systems based on tongue weight.

Before connecting your vehicle to a trailer, make sure you are using the correct sized ball for your coupler. Never use a coupler designed for a larger ball even if it seems to fit as it can come loose with disastrous results. Also, it is sometimes possible to put a coupler on a larger ball than it was designed for. Don't do it! It will bind and the trailer will not track correctly. The shanks of balls vary in size with the ball. Never use a smaller ball than required, as the shank will be undersized and could shear.

Balancing the load on your trailer is very important to safe towing. Between 5 & 7% of the tow weight (boat+motor+contents+trailer) should be on the tongue. If you have more than this, the rear squats, the front lifts, and your vehicle is hard to handle. If you have less, the trailer is likely to fishtail, and the wind from a large truck could cause you to lose control. For example, the tongue weight for the average passenger car should be no more than 100 pounds with the towing package weighing no more than 2,000 pounds.

To check your tongue weight, load your boat with the gear you normally carry. Then, stack cinder blocks to the height of your trailer ball and place your bathroom scales on top of the blocks. Now, lower your trailer tongue onto the scales. If the tongue weight needs adjusting, the simplest way is to move the load inside the boat forward or aft. If this is not sufficient, you can move the winch stem and your boat forward or aft.

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/her 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.

Continued on Page 5

- Properly secure all equipment inside the boat.
- Adjust the tow-vehicle mirrors as needed.

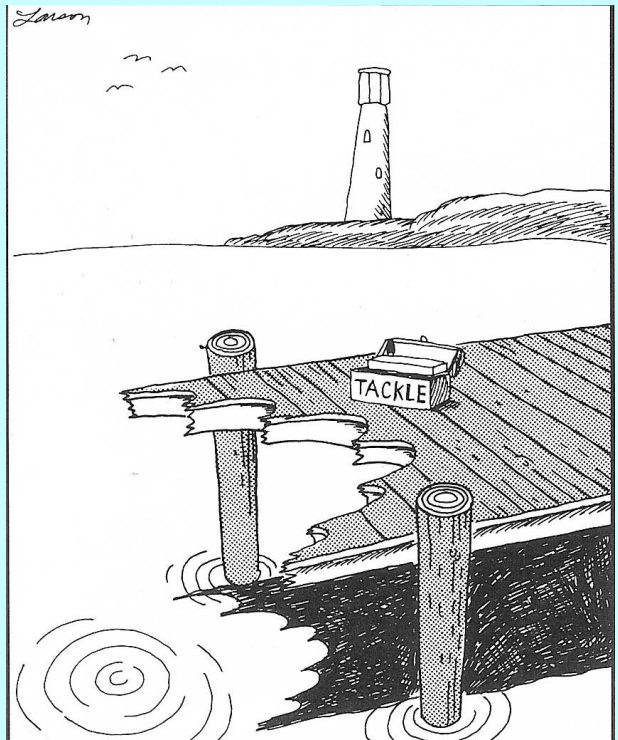
BOAT PRE-LAUNCH (IN PARKING AREA OR READY LANE):

- 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



We now take you to Peter Kovacic at the Jax Beach Pier for a live report. At last report Peter said they were really biting! Over to you Peter Peter are you there? Peter?

As the mailing page says, it is TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE JOSFC!

Why Renew?

Even if you have not been an active member, if you fish, and want to continue fishing, you need to join at least one organization that is fighting for your right to fish! The JOSFC is doing just that. Every member we have adds weight to our words at the meetings we attend. (Plus **WE** don't keep hitting you up for more money with "Donation Letters" every other month.)

Seriously, Why not Renew?

It is the best value for your money you will get around here.

First it is dirt cheep to belong to our club. Individual membership is only \$40.00 / Year, and a family membership is only \$50.00 / Year.

That is for a full YEAR!

Here are some of the benefits, for your \$40.00 or \$50.00 per YEAR, you get:

- 1 - 24 FREE meals for you and your family and any friends you bring to a club meeting.
- 2 - Your Membership card is good for 10% to 15% off your purchases at several of our local bait, tackle and boating shops around Jacksonville. (Just pull it out and ask!) Plus membership rights in the Jax Navy Federal Credit Union.
- 3 - You can always find someone that will help pay for gas & bait and go fishing with you.
- 4 - You will benefit from the security of having fellow members to call on in case of an emergency.
- 5 - You can find free or discounted help working on your boat from several members.
- 6 - You will benefit from programs and seminars that bring fishing knowledge from area experts, revealing secrets they share only with JOSFC members.

7 - When you post a fish to the boards you get a \$5.00 fish slip to spend at local bait & tackle shops or for club merchandise. Post 10 fish, and you have paid for your family membership!

8 - You will be able to participate in a challenging and rewarding slate of tournaments open only to club members.

9 - You get a chance to win a board at the end of the year and get plaques and certificates to show off your fishing skills.

10 - You will be able to help maintain and enhance the most prolific artificial reef program in the U.S. (Over 270 drops in the Club's 52 years)

11 - Last but not least, the CLUB is constantly fighting for your right to fish, and the more members we can say we represent when we get up to testify the louder our voice is to the SAMFC.

(Last year we actually got a club member elected to the SAMFC Council! We are also beginning to win our fight against the SAFMC. They recently voted 8 to 2 **AGAINST** "Catch Shares" Our combined voice is beginning to be heard. **WE NEED YOU!**)

You can renew by going to our Web-Site www.jaxfish.com Click on the "About" tab, scroll down to "JOSFC Membership" and click on the "Existing Members Renew" OR fill out and mail the below form to the address on the back of the Newsletter OR come to one of our fun meetings and renew with Tom Darga our membership Director in person.

Oh Go ahead, just do it!



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

(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16)

Individual Member \$40.00

Paid Junior Member \$5.00

Annual Associate Member\$100.00

(For Business Concerns)

Application Fee \$25.00

(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 _____

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Club Meeting Speaker Tom Murray Schaeffer Oil	4	5 The luck of the Draw Tournament Naval Air Station Air Show
6 Naval Air Station Air Show	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Club Meeting Club Thanksgiving Pot-Luck	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	November		

Coming Events:

November 3rd - Club Meeting

November 5th - The Luck of the Draw Tournament & Fish Fry

November 5th & 6th - Naval Air Station Air Show

November 17th - Club Meeting, Thanksgiving Pot Luck




Southern Propane

CALL
904-764-0065
FOR MORE
INFORMATION!



Serving Jacksonville One Family At A Time

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* • *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

PRSRT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Permit 3546
Jacksonville, FL

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