



The Newsletter of the . . .

# The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 47 Issue 12

December 2007



## He's coming!

### Twas Two Days Before

Twas the morning of two days before the Night before Christmas and all through the house the people were stirring, scaring the mouse.

From the side of my house what did I hear?

It was the sound of a man and a couple of reindeer.

I jumped out of bed and looked out below

A man dressed in red stood looking up at the window.

A sleigh was backing toward my boat

On with my jeans plus grab my coat.

In a hurry I was out the door

“What gives Santa?” but I should have asked more.

Well the Mrs.'s has the flu and the elves are a pain

I needed out of the work shop before I went insane.

I've come down here, come here to you

I've heard the fishing is good, especially the Wahoo

Well then ol' man unhook the two bucks

We'll tow it with my big blue truck.

Once in the water and way past the jetties

We will be trolling eleven knots, steady.

The big plastics were smoking

As a hundred pounder came exploding

The new Tiagra 30W was a screaming

The drag and 40 pound line was a peeling

Santa was at the rod wouldn't you know

He just belted out a loud “Ho Ho Ho”

The fish came up, the gaff came out

But Santa had no doubt

With his finger at his nose and a nod of his chin

The big ol' fish was free again

Now my boy lets dash on back

I've got tons of toys to put in my sack

Santa's feeling much better and over his blues

This is precisely what he needed to do

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## It is time to renew your membership!

The renewal form is on page #6, just fill it out and mail it TODAY!

First EL CHEAPO planning meeting on Monday December 10, 2007 at 7:30 PM at the Club House. A full Volunteer meeting on February 4, 2008 and the EL CHEAPO Tournament will be Saturday February 23, 2008.

We just might have more than one boat in our prize structure this year, and we will cap the entries at 300 boats. See page #2 for full details.

Correction: For your Board of Directors, Sam McJunkin is the Hospitality Director, and Bill Breen is the Floater and Newsletter editor

## December 20th is our annual Christmas Party!

Sam wants to remind everyone that the club will provide the main dish, but we need to bring the side dishes and dessert. You can touch base with Sam at the Dec. 6th meeting so we all don't bring the same thing.

Now again don't forget the Lure Tree! Bring a good lure to hang on the tree, and you get one raffle ticket for each lure. At the end of the evening, we will draw from those tickets and the winner wins all the lures on the tree!

Don't forget to bring the kids, as rumor has it Santa will show up with his bag of toys!



## Fishing Reports & Other tall Tales



**John Moscarillo**  
Fishing Committee

### Cabo

If there's a Mecca for fishermen it's got to be Cabo san Lucas. The town is known internationally for its marlin, sailfish, tuna, wahoo, and dorado. Several major tournaments are held each year from this port and it's always been a dream of mine to fish this area. This October my wife Jan, myself, and our friends Brien and Marge Hackbart got to do just that.

Day 1 I knew this trip would be exciting, but just not how much. The first rental car came with a lack of air conditioning. Not a good idea in the Mexican Baja. The reissue was much better but on the way into Cabo I found that I had "misplaced" my cash, all of it. We did a quick turn around and actually found the misplaced money in the first car. Enough excitement for day 1. We then proceeded to Minerva's Bait and Tackle in Cabo to make sure all was

ready for Monday's trip. It was. Since the Regina at the Westin was 22 km from Cabo we decided to check in and call it a day.

Day 3 Monday came early, like any of us slept with the anticipation of the trip. We needed to be at the docks early to purchase fishing licenses. The FWC might take a lesson from the Mexican authorities. All of the names on the boat must match the names on the licenses. The authorities are on a long pier, which your charter will pull up to and present its papers. The M-16's on the reviewing officers add a certain weight to the seriousness of the event. On the way out we purchased bait from vendors who pulled along side in their pangas. And then out to the Pacific. After running for about an hour up the coast it was lines in, and fish on. Jan had first strike, and put a peanut dorado in the boat. From leaving our dock to fish on was actually 1 hour and 15 minutes. We then proceeded to add 4 more to the box, missed the next one, and then proceeded to the Golden Gate. Actually Joel, our captain just said let's go catch some marlin and off we went. Since this guy had put us on fish right away I had a modicum of faith in his statement.

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## The EL CHEAPO is coming!

The J.O.S.F.C. 8th Annual "El Cheapo" Sheepshead Tournament will be held on **Saturday, Feb. 23, 2008**. This year's Tournament Director will again be Frank Joura.

This event is a great way to get involved in the club. It's also an excellent opportunity to show off our club and its members to the community. With nearly 300 boats last year, the tournament has become a tremendous success and all indications are that this coming year's tournament will be even bigger and better than before. It's important to stress however, that this is above all, **a CLUB event**, and we'll need **all** of your support to present another 1st Class Tournament. We'll be needing lot's of volunteers to help with publicity, registration, prize procurement, site set-up, as well as tournament day support including check-out, hospitality, raffle, weigh-in and of course break-down and clean-up.

There will be an "El Cheapo Committee" **planning meeting on Monday, December 10th** followed by a **full volunteer meeting on Monday, February 4**. Both meetings will be at 7:30 at the club house. If you'd like to be a part of this great event, please plan on attending. For more information, contact Frank Joura at 465-4552 or by e-mail at [FJoura@bellsouth.net](mailto:FJoura@bellsouth.net).

### One more thing:

If any of you are interested, or may know of a business that may be interested in being a major sponsor for the tournament, please contact Frank with that information. A major sponsor will be considered to be in excess of a \$500.00 commitment. All of our major sponsors will be in-place and confirmed by December 1st. That gives us about 4 weeks to finalize them, and another 2 weeks beyond that to finalize all of our other sponsors.



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- President ..... Eddie McGowan
- Vice President ..... Chris Rooney
- Secretary ..... Jennifer Davis
- Treasurer ..... Tina Proescher
- Newsletter Editor ..... Bill Breen
- Newsletter Staff ..... Greg Molloy, Mike Murphy
- Layout & Design ..... Bill Breen

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Cabo continued

At the area defined as the Golden Gate we switched to live bait. Two lives were quickly free lined, and within 10 minutes it was fish on. Brien was in the chair with a TLD 20 spooled with 30# and connected to one angry Striped Marlin. One thing that I can attest to is that these crews really know how to use their boats to aid in the catch. With Brien's skills thrown in we had a 150 to 170 # marlin on the stern for some



quick pictures, and a quicker release. The catch and release ethic is firmly entrenched with these boats, and marlin are only kept if there is no chance of a good release. Jan was next up and I was a little worried about her. She had cut her right hand a week before and still had 5 stitches in it. Within minutes she was on a nice Striped Marlin. Not to be forgotten, Marge was hooked up soon afterwards. Now we had a double going. After 15 minutes I asked Jan if her hand was alright. She replied, "It hurts like hell, and I am not giving up this rod". The look in her eyes told me she wasn't kidding. She boated the fish, about a 120# Striped Marlin about 10 minutes later.



Marge was still on and this fish was giving as well as it got. We actually had to disentangle lines from another boat twice. It managed to take enough line to be cut off by another boat. This area is popular to say the least. At this time there were probably 30 boats all fishing the same area, and 1/3 to half were hooked up. Boat handling skills are paramount here. The next fish was mine, and it came the boat quickly. Marge took

the next one since she was the only one of us who hadn't boated a marlin. After a good 20 minute fight she had her fish. Brien boated another Striped Marlin to close out the day. Going 5 for 6 on your first marlin trip is kind of nice. Who am I kidding, it's fantastic.

Day 5 This is about fishing, not shopping so I'm skipping the irrelevant material. Suffice to say that Cabo has enough silver shops to satisfy all. Brien and I had decided to try a panga. We had hopped to try for some Ribbon fish or Pargo, but were told that the water was too warm. So up the coast we went and 3 dorado and 4 hours later we were back. I had really been interested in fishing from a panga, so it was a worthwhile trip. I liked the ride, but not the ability to touch both gunnels at the same time.

Day 6 Since this was our final trip we told the captain that we didn't need to catch any dorado. He agreed and brought out the 50 wides and an 80 wide. We were looking for Blue Marlin. Naturally the first lure in immediately hooked up a gaffer dorado. We trolled for about 3 hours, eventually getting out to the Golden Gate area. On the way out we did boat a nice Striped Marlin. Jan and Marge were both amazed at how quickly the 50 wides boated the fish. But with the live bait it was back to TLD 20's and a Penn 16T. The deal is you get to work the fish, and they get to work you. It wasn't long and we were on fish again. This time I was in the chair, and my fish was definitely into spending as much time in the air as in the water. One hugely spectacular jump wound up throwing the hook. We had just started free lining again and the captain yelled for lines in. He'd spotted a huge school of bait, and that meant fish. We flew to the bait pod, along with 15 other boats. Two lines out and immediately 2 fish were on. Jan had one and Marge the other. Jan's came in fast, concluding his run by tail walking from starboard to the port side right at the boat. You could say he was a little green, but we had the leader, and a release. While all of this is going on Brien and I are watching lit up marlin all around and under the boat chasing bait. Marge on the other hand was into a fish with attitude. Whatever line she gained, he'd take back with a vengeance. After 25 minutes he just wore Marge out. She relinquished the rod to me and it was game on again. It took about 20 more minutes to bring him to the side of the boat. I've caught some big fish, but this one was definitely the strongest. We didn't pull him on board, but he was in the 170# class.

We ended the day with 4 for 5 marlin, giving us 9 for 11 on the marlin, and 9 for 11 on the dorado. Not a bad couple of days.

We ended the trip Friday night with a visit to the Giggling Marlin, an establishment I highly recommend for liquid refreshment. That's also a great story, but what happens in Cabo, stays in Cabo.

After being home for a couple of weeks I can look back at it and say it was worth the expense. And I'm pretty sure Jan and will be back in the future. There's still the Blues and the Blacks to dance with.





## Top's Tips Safety First

**Top Ingram  
Safety Officer**

After reading Rob's story "Into the storm", and seeing the news story on TV about the 21 foot Hydra-Sport boat capsizing off Mayport in the recent storm, I thought it would be a good idea to remind everyone of the need to take proper precautions when boating in heavy weather and rough seas.

As cold weather fronts begin moving through our area over the next couple of months, we can expect to encounter more severe weather and rougher seas when we head out to our favorite fishing spot. Also, I would like to remind everyone that the Captain of a vessel is responsible for the safety of his/her vessel and the crew.

Boating and fishing is usually done in fair weather. Over the winter months the seas and weather can be very dangerous. However, if you should consider going out in your boat in rough deteriorating weather, my advice is "don't do it". There are times, however, that you may be out and get caught in bad weather before you can return to port. An understanding of the principles of heavy weather seamanship is helpful if this should happen to you.

Heavy weather, in itself, does not place a small boat in danger. A solid boat, operated by a knowledgeable skipper is usually equal to the task. In fact, your boat can probably take more adverse weather conditions than you can. If the sea state increases and you must run into the wind, the bow of your boat will plow into the waves instead of lifting up over them. This will not only cause your boat to take a tremendous pounding, but your propeller will rise out of the water causing your engine to race wildly one moment and load the next as it falls back into the water.

If you find yourself in this situation, slow your boat so the bow can lift with the waves. Then, instead of running directly into the waves, take them at about a 45 degree angle. Your boat will go up and down on its long axis and up and down sideways (pitch and roll). Pitching and rolling are easier on you and your boat than the pounding caused by going directly into the waves.

In heavy seas, you may have to run a "zig-zag" course taking the seas broad on your bow for awhile then off your quarter in order to reach your destination. If you find it difficult to make headway under these conditions, recommend you lay to. That is, use only enough power to keep your bow headed into the wind. Adjust your speed so that you are making neither headway nor sternway.

If you find yourself in a situation with a following sea in heavy weather, you have to be concerned about broaching or pitchpoling. In deep water a following sea is usually not as much of a problem as in shallow water. In a following sea, the force of the water can cause your boat to yaw wildly from side to side. The greatest danger occurs when your boat rises on an overtaking wave, its propeller comes out of the water and you no

longer have control. At this point it may be thrown broadside into the trough and rolled over (broach) by the next wave. To avoid a broach, you must keep your motor or outdrive in the water by adjusting your speed to stay just behind the crest of the wave in front of you and ahead of the wave behind you. Once a broach has started it is almost impossible to stop.

Should you lose power and find yourself in danger of broaching, throw out a sea anchor to keep your bow into the wind. If you do not have a sea anchor, a bucket or other object can be used. As a last resort, if depth permits, drop your regular anchor. Never, I repeat, never anchor by the stern of your boat.

If you don't stay behind a wave's crest, you may find yourself racing down the forward face of the wave at a greatly increased speed. Your boat can then plow into the trough burying its bow in water. The next wave may pick up your stern and flip your boat end over end (pitchpole). Follow these simple suggestions and may you continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram  
Fish Tales

**Fishin' friends** ---- What a wonderful adventure!!!! this past weekend in Venice, La. A super trip that Chuck Darner arranged for his sons-Scott & Rob & Me. We had beautiful weather on our 1st day to the blue water oil- rigs about 65 miles offshore of the Miss. river delta.

We had 5 tuna bite, & caught 3, one about a pound (not pictured of course) & these, the capt says the weights are around 80 & 100 lbs. Things pretty much shut down about



2pm, so we went to an inshore rig approx 250 ft deep & caught a few small red snapper before heading to Venice Marina where our charter started.





## The Dry Dock

### For Sale:

Boat Slip and Lift

A locked, gated Boat Slip and Lift on the south side of the St. Johns River \$45,000 (\$43,000 to JOSFC member) - call Alan Stamm 904-642-1655

## Associate Member of the Month

# Southern Propane

2711 Dunn Ave.  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
904-764-0065

Once again here is a business that has very generously helped our club out when we have gone to them for our big events.

They have everything you need for cooking with propane both indoors and out, as well as the propane at a good price.

Remember them when you need a refill or anything for your grill or stove. Be sure to let them know that you are a JOSFC member and thank them for their support during the year.

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



## Welcome New Crew!

**Don Cook**  
**Membership Director**

We would like to welcome the new members to **their** new club.

Remember that this is now your club, to make the most of it, please join the fun at all our events. Remember the entire family is always welcome at all our events and meetings.

Continued from page 1

“On Dasher, on Donner”, he called them by name  
Both reindeer leaped together, the same  
As he flew in the sky, I heard him proclaim, I’ve had  
so much fun Its high speed lures for everyone  
When he was nearly out of sight, I could still heard  
him call  
“Christmas is coming and God bless you all.”

Best Wishes for Christmas and a Blessed New Year,

The Darner’s  
Rob, Connie, Madyson, Bailey & Byron



## 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](mailto: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  
(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	
		<b>December</b>					1
2	3 Board Meeting	4	5	6 Club Meeting	7	8	
9	10 El Cheapo planning meeting 7:30 PM at club	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20 Club Meeting Christmas Party!	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31	<b>Merry Christmas!</b>					

## Coming Events:

Dec. 6th - Regular Club meeting 8:00 PM

Dec. 20th - The Club Annual Christmas Party / Potluck 7:30 PM at the Clubhouse.

### The approx. Tournament Schedule for 2008

Tournament	-	-	-	Date
The River Fishing Tournament	-	-	-	March
Non-Live Tournament	-	-	-	April
The Bottom Fishing Tournament	-	-	--	April
Unlimited Trolling Tournament	-	-	-	May
May Trolling Tournament	-	-	-	May
Junior Angler Tournament	-	-	-	June
Kingfish Tune-up Tournament	-	-	-	July
Powder Puff Tournament	-	-	-	August
Light Tackle Tournament	-	-	-	August

## 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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