



# The Newsletter of the **Reel News**

*Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959*



Volume 50 Issue 12

December 2010



## MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

### **PRESIDENTS CASTINGS**

**Capt Don Cook**



It's December and the year is winding down. The fishing last month has been great when you could get out. I am writing this on one of those days when you can't go. My first month as president of the club has been good. A lot of people have been asking me, how did YOU become president of this club? Well I was as surprised as anyone, so I will tell you how it happened.

It all started, as most of the good things in life do, with a fishing trip. Little did I know I was fishing with the club's nominating committee. We started early to see the sunrise over the bow, one of my favorite sights. Off to a bait number and blackened the live well in no time. Soon we are anchored on a good spot and it is on. We are all putting fish in the box when I get schooled by a big one. Oh well that happens. I re-rig and drop it down again. Same result, schooled again. I decided enough is enough and got out the ROD. Now this rod is a special piece of equipment. It is not for everyday use only to be pulled out when the need arises. Let me describe it to you. The ROD is a Penn 9-0 spooled with 150 lb. mono mounted on a pool cue (to give extra leverage). I add a 300 lb. test leader, a 8-0

Continued Page 2



President Continued

circle, pin on the biggest grunt in the well and drop it down. As soon as it hits the bottom I give it two cranks and wait. It doesn't take long, bump, bump slam. I am just holding on cheeks puffed out eyes bulging a few grunts here and there. It's a stalemate. I'm pulling, everyone is saying I'm rocked up and I'm saying no it's a fish. After a few I decide now or never. I put both feet up on the rail crank down and heave. Wouldn't you know about that time the line snaps. The rod whips up and wham smacks me right in the head. Now I am sure that some of the club members know what it feels like to get smacked by a pool cue but for those of you with a gentler past let me tell you. First your eyes sort of cross and go to watering. Then your ears start to ring in a throbbing pattern. Next your knees go weak and wobbly. While all this is happening I feel a hand on my shoulder and sense someone asking me a question. I figure as I was just pole axed they were asking me if I was OK. So I said yes, yes OK and that's how I found myself accepting the nomination.

See you on the water or at the club house.

Don



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Special Advisor .....	Chris Rooney
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Newsletter & Marine Radio....	Mike Murphy

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## To all members of the JOSFC

I am writing this letter to apologize for the poor choice of caterer at our end of year banquet. We contracted for 110 people and we had 97 attendees. The caterer ran out of prime rib after about 45 people and food before everyone got served. This was a great disappointment to all the volunteers who worked so hard to put together an otherwise great event. The board of directors put together an outstanding raffle, with tons of high quality fishing gear, art, jewelery and assorted other stuff. The D.J. did his part and the bartenders kept the beer cold and the drinks reasonable. Once again I apologize for the lack of food. It did not come even close to the quality or quantity we have had over the last few years. If anyone has a specific problem or complaint about this event our past president, Chris Rooney, has graciously agreed to hear them. You can contact him at any club meeting, or by his E-mail.

Thank you for your support of our club.

Don Cook

## 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, Fax, or E-mail me your pictures at:

PH# 904-254-2791 Fax#904-213-9786

[beenw@bellsouth.net](mailto:beenw@bellsouth.net)

Rough Seas Continued

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 (pitchpoled). Follow these simple suggestions and may you continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram  
Fish Tales



# ROB'S FISHING LORE



## Fishy Wonderland



The reel screams are you listening?  
Sun on waves, the lures glistening.

It's a wonderful sight

We'll leave tonight

Catchin in a Fishy Wonderland.

Gone away is slow trolling,  
Here to stay is wahoo pulling.

Drags singing my song

As we pull along

Catchin in a Fishy Wonderland.

In the ocean, you catch a small fish  
Then pretend at the dock it's a huge fish

We'll say, what ya reeling?

You'll say, I've got a feeling,

Its a hundred pounds, it's trying to sound  
Before we head back to town.

Later on around the kitchen sink  
A ledge trip its what we'll think

To face seas & weather so cold

Our plans need to be bold

Catchin in a Fishy Wonderland.



In the ocean you can be an expert,  
Think of yourself on TV  
You'll have lots of fun with the camera  
Until you come back to reality!

When it runs it's thrilling

Eating fish it's filling

We'll troll and pray the fisherman's way  
Catchin in a Fishy Wonderland



You might recognize this young fisherman kissing his first big Redfish. Yup, he is Jim Anderson's Grandson, the same young ( Age 5) fisherman on our Web-Site's home page! Way to Go Jackson !

Chris Rooney, Alden Thornton, Chuck Darner, and Will Aitken went out November 10th on Chris's new ride and it looks like they caught a fish or two. Those are some nice Grouper and a real mess of Triggers!



We are Fishermen and Fisherwomen, and.... Christmas is coming. Hint, Hint. If you are having trouble finding just the right present, see Steve at C&H Lures. Steve has all kinds and price ranges of FISHING presents that will make any Fisher-person, Man, Woman, Young or Old happy.



Remember to support the businesses that support us!





## Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram  
Safety Officer

### Boat Handling In Rough Seas

Sad news again this month for the Florida boating and fishing community with 3 individuals perishing in boating accidents. A man fishing alone in a Jon boat was found floating face down in the water near the Rickenbacker Causeway in Miami. He was not wearing a life jacket. A 62 year old man died when his PWC collided with another PWC on Crosley Lake. Another man drowned when he and the operator fell off their PWC when it made a very sharp turn. None of the PWC riders were wearing life jackets. To date in 2010 some 57 persons have died in boating accidents. Most deaths were from drowning when the individuals were not wearing life jackets. Please wear your life jacket when you boat.



Now, to the subject of boat handling in rough seas. With the advent of cooler weather and fronts moving through our area, everyone should be aware of the need to take proper precautions when boating in heavy weather and rough seas. You may recall the incident, offshore May port, where a 21 foot Hydra Sport capsized in 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 role). 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 "zigzag" 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 (broached) 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



This is the season for fishing for Wahoo, so I thought this would be a good time to give you this information.

Kingdom – Animalia

Phylum – Chordata

Class – Osteichthyes

Order – Perciformes

Family – Scombridae

Genus – Acanthocybium

Species – Solandri

## Common Name – Wahoo

I will attempt to tell you everything that science and expert fishermen know about Wahoo except how to actually catch one, something that I have yet to do.

Here are some facts to start with. The Wahoo is a member of the Family - Scombridae, which includes both the Mackerel and Tuna. World wide there is only one "Species" of Wahoo, they are the same fish no matter where you go. Fish tagged in the Gulf have been caught off the Carolina's.

They mature between 1 and 2 years of age, and live an average of 5 to 6 years. They grow quickly from fry 1" long to about 30" in the first year, then they grow at about 1.2" to 1.5" per month. Their max length is about 98" long with the average being 39" to 66".

They are one of the fastest fish in the ocean, with an estimated speed of 60 plus MPH!. (Remember this for later.)

The world rod & reel record, Caught off the Pacific coast of Mexico is 158 pounds 8 oz. The Florida record caught off Marathon in 1960 is 139 pounds.

Wahoo like warm water, with a lower avoidance temperature of 65 degrees F. And a preferred range of 68 to 80 degrees and an upper avoidance temperature of 88 degrees F.

Unlike that of most mackerels, wahoo flesh is white and delightfully flavored. It's still a good idea to remove the dark lateral line from the steaks.

Wahoo are far more structure-oriented than you may think, especially with regard to big fish. The rocky perimeter of the continental shelf off northeast Florida is a prime example. You will catch more fish staying on the ledge than on a good temperature break just a mile further out.

Here is a new finding, depth of presentation is not necessarily the key to catching Wahoo. Far more important, it seems, is speed. About 18 knots to be more specific. Use weights to keep the lures in the water, the fish will sense and see the lure coming and come up to it.

The best bite is at first light, right at daybreak when you can just barely see your lures in the water, until around 9 o'clock. Then it gets good again late in the day, around sunset. It's also good on an afternoon tide change.

Wahoo are rarely alone. They travel in packs along color changes and dropoffs, no matter where you're fishing. If you catch a wahoo on a color change or weedline in 200 to 500 feet of water, circle back around and there's a good chance you'll catch another one.

Finally another great tactic is to shut off your engines and let the fish come to you. Use weights or downriggers to put live baits at 100 to 200 feet, and chum as you drift.

### *Try this Wahoo, Bananas & Dark Rum*

Prep Time:: Less than 15 minutes

Cook Time: Less than 15 minutes

Cooking Method: Sauted

Meal Type: Entree

Main Fish: Wahoo

Ingredients

- \* 6 wahoo fillets (about 6 oz. each)
- \* 1 tsp. salt
- \* 1/2 tsp. pepper
- \* 4 tbsp. flour
- \* 4 tbsp. unsalted butter (1/4 cup)
- \* 1/4 cup Black rum
- \* 3 large or 6 small bananas - sliced lengthwise
- \* 2 tbsp. minced parsely
- \* orange slices - halved

Directions

Mix the salt and pepper with the flour and dredge the fillets in the mixutre. Shake off excess. Melt the butter in a saute pan and just as it starts to foam, add the fish, cooking both sides until just cooked.

Removed from pan and keep warm. Add the remaining butter to the pan, then the bananas and saute for 2 minutes.

Add the dark rum and ignite. Flambe for 2 minutes or until the flames die down. Pour over the fish. Garnish with banana slices, parsley and halved orange slices.

Serve with boiled rice and steamed vegetables.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Family Membership ..... \$50.00

(Husband, Wife, & Children under 16)

☐ Annual Associate Member .....\$100.00

(For Business Concerns)

☐ Life Member Individual ..... \$250.00

☐ Life Family Membership ..... \$300.00

☐ Individual Member ..... \$40.00

☐ Paid Junior Member ..... \$5.00

☐ Application Fee ..... \$25.00

(Applicable to NEW Members or if renewing over 6 months late)

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](http://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
December			1	2 Club Meeting	3	4
5	6 Board Meeting	7  El Cheapo Committee Head Meeting 7:30 PM	8	9 Fishing Rules Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Club Meeting Club Christmas Party	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

December 7th - El Cheapo Committee head Meeting 7:30 PM at club house.

December 9th - Fishing Rules Meeting at club house.

December 16th - Club Christmas Party

December 25th - Merry Christmas Everyone!

January 20th - Club's Annual Swap meet.

February 26th - El Cheapo Tournament!

## Coming Events:



**Southern Propane**



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## Associate Members



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### **Jacksonville Offshore Sports Fishing Club**

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