



The Newsletter of the . . .

# The Reel News



Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959

Volume 53 Issue 12

December 2013



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Here is wishing you Tight Lines, Smooth Waters and a Joyful  
CHRISTMAS for all of you from your crew at the  
Jacksonville Offshore Sport Fishing Club



## PRESIDENTS CAST NET

Capt. Paul Gallup

Hello every body and welcome to December.

December, really, already, this year has really flown by for sure. I hope everybody enjoyed our Thanksgiving dinner and a big thank you to all of you who brought something.

This month we have a few things going on. The first thing is on December 10th we are going to have our **Fishing Rules Meeting**. If there is something that you'd like to add or even change, please **submit it in writing** to our fishing director, Rob Cripe either at the club house or you can email him at [oscsww@bellsouth.net](mailto:oscsww@bellsouth.net). We also have our first organizational meeting for the El Cheapo Tournament.

Any body and every body is welcome to attend and help is ALWAYS needed. The more help we have the better. This month we also have our annual Christmas pot luck dinner with the club providing the main course and desserts. It is up to all of you to fill in the middle. Also, don't forget the "Lure Tree". For those of you who don't know about it, we decorate our Christmas tree with lures that you provide. Bring one lure, get one raffle ticket, bring two, get two and so on. At the end of the night we will draw one ticket and that person will win everything on the tree. I have one it twice before and I still have stuff that I haven't used.

On the fishing front, I have seen some nice catches of some quality Sheepshead and Trout on the inshore side of it as well as some Wahoo on the offshore side. Also, if you haven't renewed your membership, it is due by the end of the month.

Until next time, fair winds and following seas and I'll see you around the clubhouse.

*Capt. Paul Gallup*

**It is time to renew your membership!!!  
See page '6' for details.**

In February the El Cheapo isn't the only thing we have coming up. At tThe first meeting on February 6, 2014, we have the Annual **CHILI COOK-OFF !!**

This is open to ALL members and any guest that you might bring. ( We will get them to join by hiding an application in the release forms they have to sign to eat some of the Chili! )

You should start practicing on cooking your best Chili ( It does not have to be super hot, just taste great.) and getting your Asbestos Depends ready for the big contest!

We will have a panel of distinguished judges ( Suckers that we con into being a judge from those attending that night.) to carefully taste each entry and they will then confer and rate all the entries. Awarding the first 3 places with some awesome prize. The rest will be ranked in order of best tasting to the one rated as "Paint remover"

All you have to do is cook up a batch and bring it to be entered! I DARE YOU!!!!



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## Rob's Fishing Lore

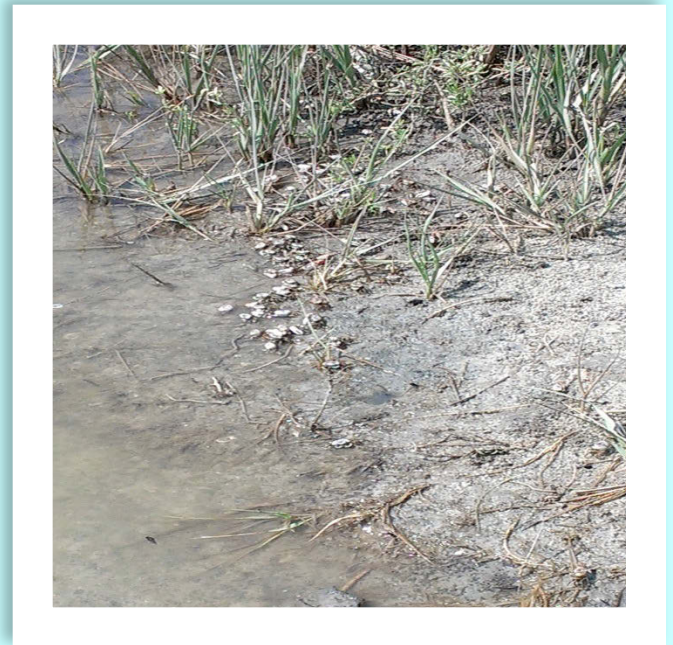
### Great Crab Outage of 2007

Friends, potential friends and those of you who are yet to decide, it has come to this author's attention that some of you may be unaware of the Great Crab Outage of 2007. It's not surprising though with the state of our education system. Just how many of us know about the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 or the Sinking of the Edmond Fitzgerald? Blips in history, I am sure but disasters none the less. Do we really need to know what occurred in the past? In order to learn from the past, we need to understand just what was occurring.

It was a wicked cold winter! Temperatures dove and dove deep. North winds howled and howled creating low, low wind chill. It was not fit for man or beast outside and it has been claimed that the family law practice calls increased tenfold this day plus family law for men was founded or for fishermen was founded. All too many of us, were engaged in the happy pursuit of crustaceans. Many unsuspecting wives were caught off guard when their loving fisherman brought crabs home. Not being too understanding, these poor fishermen were kicked out of the happy home for no just cause. What was the cause of all this turmoil? The occasion was the forth coming EL Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament. Men spent countless hours calling and shopping for 3 or even 2 pints of fiddler crabs with some not finding any at all. Those who were lucky, went to extremes and set up a crab shack in the house or garage to keep these critters safe from the extreme temperatures brought about by global cooling: no, no- I meant global warming. Dang, I am always getting it confused with so much up and down temperatures! Crab basics were employed to keep the bait alive for a week or longer till THE EVENT arrived.

Now, there is plenty of time before the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual El Cheapo at the end of February. Those early years of crab care basics have now given way to El

El Cheapo technology on rigs, bait and techniques. Preorder your fiddler crabs are a must! Or if you know where they hide you can capture a few. A few things one must know before embarking on a crab capture safari would be crab diet and the container. Let's first examine their diet. Day in and day out, these tiny fragile creatures see a diet high in Omega 3 fatty acid, a diet of constant fish. Truly to get them into a feeding frenzy, try a piece of tender sea veal. Sea veal is a real treat and something they rarely dine upon. Who would not want a good ol' fashion piece of meat? Secondly, the container you choose makes a difference. Size, shape and material may matter. With sea veal, the large the container is better. With fish, small containers can be used. Plastic is the preferred material so the crabs do not climb their way out. Next, bury the container in the sand just up to the lid and monitor. Soon, the container will overflow with crabs. After the crabs are safely home, do not use Genitrix Natural Shampoo to clean your crabs. In this case, you want the crabs to stay just as they are.



Fiddler crabs are the 101 of El Cheapo Sheepshead technology. With fiddler crabs a simple wire jig head and your choice of fishing line is all one needs. Remember, braid cuts easier over oysters but it is more sensitive to the bite than mono. Mono still cuts but has more stretch. Next, are the mollusks: oysters and clams. Oysters and clams are good for chum. Just





## Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram  
Safety Officer

### America's Waterway Watch And Boat Handling In Rough Seas

The US Coast Guard has a relatively new program called America's Waterway Watch, which is a public outreach program encouraging participants to simply report suspicious activity on the water to the Coast Guard and/or other law enforcement agencies.

As a recreational boater, the US Coast Guard wants your help in keeping the waterways safe and secure. You can do this by participating in its waterway watch program. The program is a nationwide initiative similar to the well-known and successful Neighborhood Watch program that asks community members to report suspicious activities to local law enforcement agencies. However, unlike some neighborhood watch programs, you do not join the organization, there are no meetings, or membership requirements, and you do not need to be a member of the Coast Guard or other law enforcement agency.

As a person who spends time on or near the water, you already know what is normal and what is not. You are well suited to notice suspicious activities, which may indicate a threat to our nation's homeland security. As a participant in America's Waterway Watch, all you have to do is adopt a heightened sense of awareness toward unusual events or individuals you may encounter in or around ports, docks, marinas, riversides, beaches, or waterfront communities. To report any activity you think is suspicious call 1-877-249-2824. If you think the activity requires immediate action, call 911.

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. A boat can capsize quickly and you will not have time to put on your life jacket. So, wear it at all times in rough seas.

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 "zigzag" course taking the seas broad on your bow for a while 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 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



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.)

You can renew by using the below form and mailing it to the club ( JOSFC, Po.Box. 331185, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233 ) OR On-Line at [www.jaxfish.com](http://www.jaxfish.com) under the "About" tab, or at any meeting and **then you can use the below form to get a friend or neighbor to join! get a new member and we will waive the \$25 Application fee!**

The JOSFC's year actually runs from October 1st to Sept. 30th, and we run our renewal time up to January 1st which if you have not renewed by then any fish you had on the boards come off, and you loose your club voting rights, and your membership card is no longer valid for discounts at the local stores. ( Don't worry, we will still try to get you to renew after that. )

Please Renew and come on out to the meetings and have some fun! If you have NOT been getting the Up-date and reminder of the meetings E-mails, let me know. Also make sure you have this E-mail address in your address book. **JOSFC <breenw@bellsouth.net>**

**This club is 54 years old and a legacy we must preserve for our children and grandchildren and sometimes we have to work /volunteer overtime to ensure just that.**



## 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	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 Board Meeting	2 Club Meeting	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Fishing Rules Meeting 7:00 pm	11	12 El Cheapo planning Meeting 7:30 pm	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Club Meeting Christmas Party	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve				

# Coming Events:



- Dec 1 - Board Meeting
- Dec 5 - Club Meeting
- Dec 10 - Fishing Rules Meeting
- Dec 12 - Organizational Meeting El Cheapo
- Dec 19 - Club Christmas Party

**December 25, 2013 Merry Christmas Everyone!**

February 6 - The Annual Chili Cook-Off! Cook up YOUR best batch to be judged!



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904-764-0065  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION!

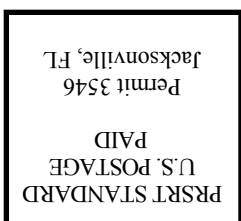


## Associate Members

*Academy Sports • Advantage Signs • All Aluminum Concepts • Amelia Island Bait & Tackle • Angie's Sub Shop • Atlantic Coast Marine • Atlantic Engraving & Graphics • Available Angler • Avid Angler • B & M Bait & Tackle • Beach Plaza Auto Care • Best Western Mayport • Boat U. S./Angler • Boathouse Discount Marine • Boatronics • BOCA Bearings • Bonefish Grill • Bowen Upholstery • C & H Lures • Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing • Carolina Skiff • Catchin' A Buzz Fishing • Consignment Boat Sales • Copperhead Metal Arts • Coastal Angler Magazine • Custom Marine Components • DOA Lures • Dames Point Marina • Dandee Foods • Dell Marine • Doherty Brothers Marine Construction • Donovan Heating & Air • Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy • Fish Florida • Fish On • Fishing Connection • Fishing Nosara.com • Five Star Pizza • Florida Sportsman Live • FOOTCUSH • Gary Newman Insurance • Gone Fishin' • Great Atlantic Outfitters • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • Hagerty Construction & Roofing • Hardees • Holzman's Keys cottages & Bayside • Hoo Rag • Hook The Future • Hope Fishing Adventures • Hulihan Territory Irrigation Systems • In River or Ocean • International Ropes • Island Electric of the First Coast • Julington Creek Carpet Care • KC Crave \* Knight Electric • Kona Skate Park • Magic Tilt Trailers • Mandarin Ale House • Mercury Outboards • Mike's Taxidermy • Mousa's Auto Interiors & More • Murphy Communications • Nosara Paradise Rentals • Ocean Waves Sunglasses • Paradise Resort • Pepsi Bottling Co. • Proctor Ace Hardware • Progressive Insurance • Pure Fishing • Reel Fish Deals • Rick's Bait & Tackle • River Marine • Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service • Safe Harbor Seafood • Salt Life • Salty Charters of Jacksonville • Sea Angler Gear • Sea Dancer Charters • Sea Tow • Singelton's Seafood Shack • Skate Station Funworks • SOC 7 Productions • Southern Propane • Still Just fishing Show • Strike Zone Fishing • Styles Smith Plumbing • Sumo Design Studio • Sun Deli • Sure Set Jigs • SweetWater Brewing • Taylor Concrete Services • T.B.S. Jigs & Charter • The Ice Man • The Outdoors Show • The Spot Tournament • The Waters' Edge Boat Detailing • Towboat US of Jacksonville • Trout River Fish Co. • Vic2Fish & Adventures • West Marine • Wild Adventures • Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc. • Windsor Park Golf Club • Woody Wax • Zaxby's*

**SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS! THEY SUPPORT US AND FISHING!**

**It is almost PAST time to renew your MEMBERSHIP!**



Jacksonville Offshore  
Sports Fishing Club  
P.O. Box 331185  
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