The Acute Angler

Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club

Volume 47, Number 8

December 2014

It's now easier than ever to re-new. Just go to the "Join now!" tab on the GOFC website (http://www.gofc.us/wp/join-now/), fill out the form online and pay using PayPal. The annual dues are $50 which covers the entire Family!

If you'd prefer to support the US Post Office, complete the NEW MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL form (download from the website) and mail it to the GOFC Treasurer.

Debby Knopf, Treasurer
Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club
3324 W. University Avenue
PMB #337
Gainesville, FL 32607

Please make your check payable to GOFC.

Or just bring cash, a check or a credit card to the next club meeting and pay Debby at the meeting.

Inside this issue:

UPCOMING EVENTS	1
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	2
ANOTHER GVILLE HOSPITAL	3
GET TO KNOW MARK	4
DIXIE COUNTY REEF PROJECT, #1	6
GOFC MOVES INTO 21ST CENTURY	8
LIONFISH APP	10
RECENT CLUB CATCH-ES	11

WHO'S WHO AT GOFC

PRESIDENT:
JOHN BYATT

VICE-PRESIDENT:
LEROY HOLMES

SECRETARY:
JAY PEACOCK

TREASURER:
DEBBY KNOPF

Upcoming GOFC Events

Oyster Roast January 16th:

Come join the fun and roast some oysters, as well as enjoy deep fried oysters, burgers, and hot dogs with fellow GOFC members. This annual, family-oriented (yes, bring the kids) event is a great way to start the year. Once again, Ed and Sheila Crapo have generously allowed us to share their beautiful home, and GOFC Board Members promise an abundance of the shelly critters. Dress appropriately for an evening outdoors – extra clothing if cold, bug spray if warm. Don't forget your favorite adult beverage, shucking gear and a couple of comfy chairs. The event will be from 6-9 PM and is a free members only event.

Monthly Meeting January 27th:

We are still holding the monthly meetings at the vet school at 7 PM. This first meeting will be a treat, we have Bill Lindberg giving a presentation you will not want to miss. Come join us for pizza, soda, raffles, and some fish stories.

Seafood & Awards Banquet February 27th:

Come celebrate GOFC award winners with great eats and good company. The menu includes, spiny lobster tails, crab legs, shrimp, fried fish and an assortment of side dishes. Bring a desert to share and your favorite adult beverage, the club will supply soda and bottled water. The event will be held at Ken & Debby Knopf's boat barn and will start at 6:30 PM. The cost is $20 per person. Directions to the Knopf's house will be emailed to each club member.

Keep up to date with club events and news on our website www.GOFC.us. We are looking forward to a great 2015 and hope to see everyone at the Oyster Roast!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The mission of the Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club is to promote and support recreational saltwater fishing in the Big Bend area; to provide educational and recreational experiences for its members of all ages; and, to promote responsible conservation of saltwater resources.

President's Message

The end of the year is coming up fast along with the end of my term as the club's president. It was fun being the club's head honcho (according to no one but me) for a while, but in reality the president is just has a small cog in the machine. There are a bunch of people, mostly on the GOFC board, who put lots of time and effort into keeping GOFC the fun and interesting club that it is. Hopefully, I won't offend anybody by omission, but there are a number of club members that need to be recognized and thanked. In no particular order, although ladies first;

- Debby Knopf has been the club's treasurer for several years and is always on hand at meetings and events to collect dues and make the club's finances are in impeccable order. She also notifies the board about new members so they can be added to email and newsletter/magazine distribution lists. She's also a writer – check out her article in this month's edition of Coastal Angler Magazine!

- Jay Peacock currently serves as the club secretary and takes note of all of the talk (no small feat) and resolutions at board meetings - to be sent out as minutes to the board so we can actually recall what we said we'd do the next day. As a past president, and long-time board member, Jay has also helped me a great deal during the last year making sure I didn't let too many things drop through the cracks.

- I don't know what the club would do without Richard McDavid along with wife Diane and sons Austin and Elliott. Richard and family buy, prepare and serve most of the food at the seafood and awards banquet as well as at the annual club auction. We're truly spoiled and fortunate that the McDavid family volunteers to do this.

- Having been the newsletter editor for a couple of years, I know first-hand how much work it is to put it together this little publication eight-times per year. Austin Williams has been the newsletter editor for the past year and has done a great job getting everything together, formatted and out to the printers. If it's a little delayed sometimes, blame it on the contributors (such as yours truly).

- In the same vein; Charley Courtney has been the magazine editor for more years than I've been a member of the club and yet consistently manages to find content, a great picture for the cover and put together a professional looking product that's always a pleasant surprise to find in the mail box.

- If you've ever wondered who takes care of bringing pizza and drinks to every meeting and finding items for the raffle and door-prizes look no further than Hal Wilson. Hal is also always on hand to set-up and clean-up at every special event. He'll also be the tournament chair for 2015 and with fresh ideas from some newer board members I'm looking forward to some great on-the-water events next year.

- The club's website is an indispensable communications tool and I can't thank Carlos Morales enough for selecting a new platform and spending a lot of evenings and weekends populating it with information from the old GOFC website. Carlos also set up the new site so we can more efficiently send out emails to members and can set up a club forum if enough people want to use this function. Amazingly, the publishing and email functions are simple enough that the "technology impaired" (we know who we are) can use it.

- It's always tough to find people to write monthly fishing reports for the newsletter, but Russ Roy has done a sterling job with the inshore reports this year; plenty of sage advice and entertaining too!

- Huge thanks go out to Ed & Sheila Crapo, Ken & Debby Knopf and Ed & Marcia Ellett for opening their homes to host club events and remarkably always arranging perfect weather as well.

- Talking of weather; it didn't always cooperate with club tournaments, but many thanks to Leroy Holmes for organizing this year's fishing tournaments and taking care of duties at the weigh-ins. He of course will also be the club's president for 2016, and I and all of the folks who assisted me and the club, look forward to helping out and working with Leroy in 2015.

Now's the time to check out the latest Ellett standings on the website, we'll update the standings more frequently now that we're in the final few weeks of the contest. Use the website to submit any entries to the contest before January 15th and get out and catch any last species needed or upgrade an existing entry. Less than five points separates the top five anglers in the inshore contest and the rankings in the men's contest could still change. For myself; the goal is a bigger trout – a much bigger trout. I'm hoping I can figure out where they are hiding because they've eluded me the last few inshore trips.

The last order of business at the final board meeting of the year was to modify the criteria for qualifying fish for the Big Ten Award. The sudden and unexpected closures visited by the Gulf Counsel on recreational anglers can make it tough to catch some fish in season. In addition, there are more than a few club members who don't necessarily want to keep and eat all of the ten target species. With these issues in mind, and starting in January 2015, the following rule will apply for the Big Ten Award: *Fish that are caught outside of the season for legal possession can be entered for the Big Ten award. These fish must be of legal size and must be released unharmed.* This does not change the rules for other club contests. Fish caught outside of legal possession seasons cannot be entered into any other club contest and will not count toward Ellett points or species size contests.

Finally, I hope everyone has a great holiday season; that Santa brings you some new tackle and you manage to get out on the water to fish.

- John Byatt

IMPORTANT GOFC CONTACTS

WEBSITE: www.gofc.us

GOFC MAILING ADDRESS:

3324 W. University Avenue
PMB #337
Gainesville, FL 32607

MAGAZINE EDITOR:
Charlie Courtney
courtneych@me.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
Austin Williams
austin@mcgriffwilliams.com

ANOTHER HOSPITAL IN GAINESVILLE?

In or near Gainesville we have Shands, North Central Florida Regional Medical Center, a VA hospital, and, according to the online Yellow Pages, some 40 other listings under "hospital." But it seems there was still a need for some health care. When I got bought my Contender, it came with some good quality electronics: a Furuno GPS and a Furuno Fish Finder. I found that it would be rather hard, if not impossible, to get hundreds of Garmin waypoints into the Furuno. The operation would need special cables, translation software, and some fancy "interfacing" between the GPS and the PC where the waypoints were. The unit also needed local charts. And no Furuno hospital in the area! I pulled the GPS and put my Garmin in its place, planning to work on this "operation" later and go fishing in the meantime.

Turning to the Fish Finder, after working quite a bit on settings, I found that the unit seemed to work pretty well except for some troublesome moisture condensation on the screen. Figuring this might get worse, the unit was removed from the boat, packed in a Ziploc with a pound of rice and all the air sucked out (since the unit was Japanese, a metric straw was used to suck the air out) and put in a warm oven (170 to 180 degrees) for several hours. No change was observed in the "bubbly texture" on the screen, even after repeating this several times. A heat gun was also tried, very carefully, again with no effect. More sophisticated diagnostic techniques were necessary! The unit was again heated in oven and removed. Before it could cool off, an ice cube was placed on the screen. Condensation immediately formed on the screen where the ice cube touched it, but this condensation looked nothing like the bubbly texture above. In fact it was clear that the water condensation was on the inside of the clear screen and the bubbly texture was behind this on a separate surface. This was a sick fish finder!

A careful, and time consuming, review of the medical literature (on line) concerning sick fish finders resulted in one very interesting finding on the Hull Truth Boating Forum. I had discovered that this forum was a very useful source of information, and even joined it. The exact finding can be found at

http://www.thehulltruth.com/marine-electronics-forum/530160-furuno-fish-finder-lcd-display-how-repair-diy.html

This was posted by svloki in Singapore. SV, I guess I can call him/her that, said

> "I have an old Furuno FCV-582l fish finder that experienced the classic screen
>
> damage noted in other threads. The main characteristic is a "melted" or blistered
>
> look to the screen surface. This problem is seen on many other makes of marine LCD
>
> screens, and I think that this fix will suit most."

SV further notes that the "problem is damage to the polarization filter, which is adhered to the LCD glass panel." A tool and parts list is given, along with a detailed procedure. I decided I would look around Gainesville to see if anyone did this kind of work, and then, if I couldn't find anybody, tackle it myself, as it looked very doable.

Looking over the possible places on the Web, I found one that advertised Computer Repair, including Laptop Screen Replacements. This was the 43rd Street Computer Repair shop in the Land Title Plaza, pretty close to where I lived. The owner, Martin Hurewitz, listened while I described the problem and summarized SV's technique. He took the unit, looked at the screen, pulled out a screw-driver and pulled the screws holding the face on. "If a human being made it, a human being can repair it" he noted. My kind of guy! SV said to pull off the damaged filter by loosening the edge with a razor blade. My guy used his finger nail– must have been a metric nail, 'cause it worked.

He said that he would look for a supplier for the polarization filter and give me a call when it was ready. I left it the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and he called me a week later, job done, $100. SV had gotten quotes of $400 for the repair that he diy'ed, duh. So we have a new hospital in Gainesville for electronics' screens.

I've been pretty busy with some other repairs on the Contender, minor but time consuming, so I was glad to save some time on this one. I wouldn't hesitate to do this kind of repair in the future, but I'm glad to have discovered Martin.

Martin is a boater and angler and gives free estimates. If you run into a problem like the one above I recommend a consult with him. Of course his main business is computer, both PC and Mac, repairs and I certainly would trust him with those as well. Call him at 226-6932 or 872-5667 or stop by his shop.

-Russ Roy

The Healed Fish Finder (Note: some minor editing has been done with the screen for clarity.)

Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club

Get to Know Your Club Officers and Board Members

Mark Robinson

Years as a member of GOFC: ~10

Years on Board: ~6

Current Position on Board: Member, rolling off merchandise & Ellett Stats

Previous Position(s) on Board: President, VP, Treasurer

Motivation to serve on Board: Education, friendship, service

Years lived in Gainesville: 32 years

Occupation: Director of Technology Service College of Law

Family members: Lori, Andrew, Katherine

Favorite fish you like to catch: pinfish… whatever is biting, spanish and grouper

Port you fish from the most often: Crystal River

Favorite fishing memory: pin-fishing with kids… 3 fish: grouper, cobia, king (total ~80 pound) day with a new fisherman

Fishing goals for 2015: get son the big 8

Goals for club in 2015: figure out more family participation

If you could go fishing with any famous person, who would that be and why? John Byatt… President GOFC, I prefer to fish with real people!

AFL
ALACHUA FARM & LUMBER
EST. 1984
SOFT BAITS by:
Bass Assassin
ZOOM
Berkley Gulp!
Reaction Innovations
HARD BAITS by:
MirrOlure
Rapala
JOHNSON
& Many More!
COSTA DEL MAR
see what's out there
Over 144 Pair In Stock!
FREE
Glass Cleaner & Sunglass Retainer with Each Costa Purchase
RODS & REELS by:
Lew's
Abu Garcia
SHIMANO
DAIWA
okuma
Carrot Stix
PENN
Sky Rider
ZEBCO
and Many More!
If we do not have it in stock, we can order it!
10% OFF
COUPON
on Boots, Apparel & Sporting Goods
MUST HAVE THIS COUPON
CHECK OUT OUR NEW STORE
T3 Outdoors
off Exit 22 in Valdosta, GA. for ALL Your Sporting Goods Needs!
Come See Wayne, Linda & Staff @ AFL and Jud & Candace @ T3 for All Your Woods & Water Needs!
FULL GUN, ARCHERY, FRESH & SALTWATER FISHING PRO SHOP
GUNS, BOOTS & EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!!
14101 N.W. 145th Ave • Alachua, FL 386-462-3003

Dixie County Reef Project, 1st Installment:

As Promised we are doing a multi-part Dixie county reef series to promote the project and give our club members some new reefs to fish that a good portion of the public does not know about. See below from Cliff Clark:

"Below is the first of nineteen new reefs deployed last year. The reefs were built with natural limestone boulders, concrete rubble and culvert pipes. They hold Goliath Grouper, Gag Grouper, Mangrove snapper, sea bass, Grunts, and many other marine species. The reefs are located approximately 11 miles offshore in federal waters. They are easily reached from Suwannee or Horseshoe. This makes them an ideal location for that " Short Run with the family." Most people don't like the pounding of a 30 mile run. Not to mention the kids getting seasick. Another bonus is if the weather kicks up, it is just a short run back to port. So get out there and enjoy these reefs. I hope to see a new club record caught from one of them. "

-Capt. Cliff Clark
Rig it up Charters

Ellett
Insurance working for you.

- Life Insurance for dying too soon.
- Annuities for preserving what you have.
- Long Term Care Insurance when longevity becomes challenging.
- Home, Auto, Boat, Umbrella, Disability and Business Insurance for the challenges in between.

Ed Ellett, CPCU, CLU, CIC

905 NW 56th Terrace, Suite A, Gainesville 32605

www.EllettInsurance.com

Ellett@bellsouth.net

Auto-Owners Insurance
Life Home Car Business
The "No Problem" People®

MILLERS
BOATING CENTER
HELPING YOU ENJOY THE WATER FOR OVER 35 YEARS

Action Craft · Triton Boats · Carolina Skiff · Tide Water · Lowe Boats · SeaArk Boats · Sylvan · Shearwater · Starcraft Marine · Tahoe · Alumacraft · Yamaha · Sterling · Lund · Mercury

23rd Annual Boat Show & Fishing Expo

February 28 • March 1 • March 2 ••• Fri & Sat 9-5 • Sun 10-3

Sign Up for FREE SEMINARS on New Humminbird Technology

HUMMINBIRD

• SALE PRICING
• SPECIAL FINANCING
• FUN FOR ALL!

The Doors Are Always Open At...

www.MillersBoating.com

Find us on: facebook

2 Miles North of Ocala on Hwy 441 • 1661 NW 57th St.

352-622-7757 • 877-898-1463 • sales@millersboating.com

GOFC Publications Move into the 21st Century with Email Delivery!

Starting with this issue both the GOFC newsletter and magazine will be delivered to members by email as well as by the US post office mail. Each member will receive an email with a link to view the new E-Newsletter. When you click the link it will open a new webpage and show you the PDF newsletter in full color. PDF files can viewed using the free version of Adobe Acrobat Reader which is already installed on most computers. If you do not already have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed you can download and install it for free from the Adobe website at this URL: http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html

We plan to do both print and electronic versions for about six months and then consider going to all electronic delivery with no paper copies printed or mailed out.

If you are not currently receiving email from our club please let our webmaster Carlos Morales know by sending him an email at cmorales@d3f.org Please include your full name along with the email address you would like us to send GOFC communications and publications to.

WHEN YOU'RE ENJOYING THAT FREE PIZZA AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS, REMEMBER IT'S COMPLIMENTS OF FREDDIE WEHBE AND ALL THE LOCAL DOMINO'S STORES.

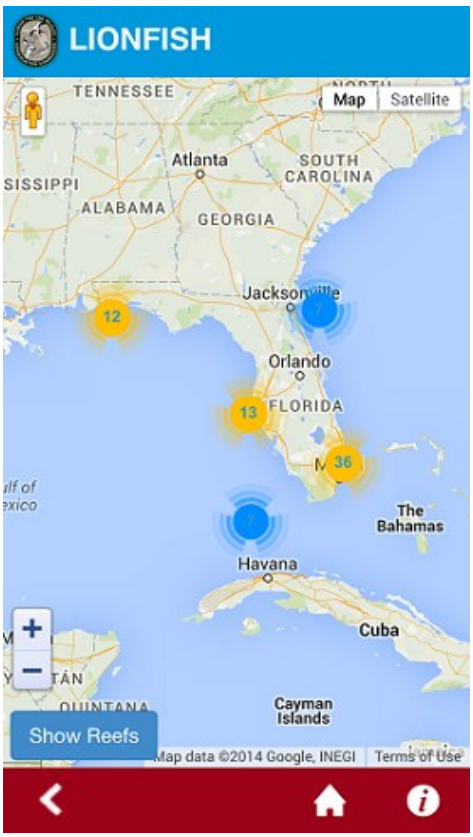
THANK YOU, FREDDIE!

Almond Oil company

Non-Ethanol Gasoline
Available in Gainesville
Call 352.376.5131
For More Information

FWC News Release: Report Florida Lionfish app updated with new interactive map

Tuesday, December 16, 2014



The Report Florida Lionfish app is now more interactive than ever. Not only can you continue reporting your lionfish sightings and catches, your reports and photographs are documented on an interactive map. The map includes your important data such as where you found your catch, the date caught, how many you saw or removed and what type of gear you used. You can use this map to help determine where lionfish are being spotted and what reefs have recently been cleaned. There is even a "show reef" option that maps all of Florida's artificial reefs and provides the location and depth at which each reef can be found. You can also share your submission on Face book or Twitter. Use #FWCLionfish to make sure we see it as well.
Download the app today at the Apple Store or Google Play.
Don't forget the most important information, the latitude and longitude where you caught your lionfish and the date caught. We can't add your data to this new map without it.
Lionfish are a nonnative species that have a negative impact on Florida's native wildlife and habitat. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) encourages you to remove lionfish from Florida waters whenever you can.
The FWC shares all data with the U.S. Geological Survey, which has been collecting similar data for years.

Recent Club Catches

Weighslip Submissions

Jack Cutright
6.4 lb Gag Grouper
Lure: Spanish Sardine
Location: Cedar Key

Reid Wagner
12 lb Gag Grouper
Lure: Live Pinfish
Location: Hudson

Phil Wagner
16.8 lb Gag Grouper
Lure: Frozen Sardine
Location: Hudson

Jack Cutright
3.4 lb Flounder
Lure: Spanish Sardine
Location: Cedar Key

Hal Wilson
1.7 lb Bluefish
Lure: Gulp
Location: Steinhatchee

Hal Wilson
1.7 lb Seatrout
Lure: Corky
Location: Steinhatchee

Ross McElroy
3 lb Bluefish
Lure: Topwater
Location: Steinhatchee

Hal Wilson
4.1 lb Redfish
Lure: Shrimp on jig
Location: Crystal River

Virgil Cooper
1.32 lb Spanish Mackeral
Lure: Mirrorlure
Location: Keaton Beach

Virgil Cooper
5.54 lb Redfish
Lure: Mirrorlure
Location: Keaton Beach

Virgil Cooper
12.12 lb Gag Grouper
Lure: Pinfish
Location: Horseshoe

Phil Horn
19.24 lb Cobia
Lure: Pinfish
Location: Keaton Beach

Virgil Cooper
1.16 lb Flounder
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Virgil Cooper
5.51 lb Seatrout
Lure: Mirrorlure
Location: Keaton Beach

GAINESVILLE OFFSHORE FISHING CLUB
SINCE 1968

4300 NW 23rd Avenue
Suite 123
Gainesville, FL 32606
www.gofc.us

L&S Auto Trim

"The Finest Interiors & Custom Boat Canvas"

(352) 372-8661 (352) 374-4862 Fax

5721 NW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32653

www.landsautotrim.com

Star Rods
The Rods That Break The Records.
Abu Garcia
SHIMANO
ST.CROIX
LEW'S

Gary's Tackle Box

"The Folks You Fish With"

352-372-1791

5721 N.W. 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32653

Full-Line Tackle Store

www.garystacklebox.com

Products
Expert Tips
Rod & Reel Repair