The Acute Angler

Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club

Volume 48, Number 2

March 2015

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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

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WHO'S WHO AT GOFC

PRESIDENT:
LEROY HOLMES

VICE-PRESIDENT:
HAL WILSON

SECRETARY:
JAY PEACOCK

TREASURER:
DEBBY KNOPF

Upcoming GOFC Events

Monthly Meeting March 24th:

The monthly meeting will be held at the vet school as usual. This meeting will be a great one. This is a great opportunity to learn how to catch the various popular fish species in our home waters. The format for this meeting will be short presentations on fishing techniques and likely locations to catch amberjack, cobia, flounder, grouper, Spanish and king mackerel, redfish and trout. After the presentations are complete the presenters will move to a station they have setup to display the tackle they use for their particular species. This will allow the audience to mingle amongst the various stations in order to ask questions and view the rods/reels, tackle and lures up close. This meeting format has been very popular in the past. Rumor has it that GPS coordinates for likely locations to catch some of the species will be distributed at the meeting!

Monthly Meeting April 28th:

The monthly meeting will be held at the vet school as usual. This meeting we will welcome Interstate Batteries. They will give a great presentation. You will not want to miss it.

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

Hi Everyone,

It is Spring time! Are you ready for some fun fishing! I hope you will take a lot of notes at the Back to Basics meeting. There should be a lot of new techniques to learn and maybe some secrete spots! Keep up with all the fun on Facebook and our website.

Thank you!

Leroy Holmes
GOFC-President

Pics from Bob Hudson and friends recent fishing trips.

Big Snook that we found belly up in a creek near Cedar Key when we had the cold snap two weeks ago. She was still barely moving so we took her to some warmer water on a mudflat. Hope she made it! We saw 6-8 dead snook on the bars near there.

A 27" redfish that just barley made the slot.

It's tough to do a selfie with a limit of Redfish!

Bob Hudson and two person limit of redfish. Airboat fishing is pretty special.

IMPORTANT GOFC CONTACTS

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Brittany Rothfolk
Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club
2014 John Ellett/Top Angler Award Winner
Women's Division

109.38 points— 13.80 lb Amberjack, 21.80 lb Cobia, 6.90 lb Grouper, 3.10 lb Redfish, 2.60 lb Spanish Mackerel.

Dale Reed
Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club
2014 John Ellett/Top Angler Award Winner
Men's Division
A-Z Profile

164.64 Points – 2.25 lb Bluefish, 21 lb Cobia, 2.10 lb Flounder, 13.50 lb Grouper, 36 lb King Mackerel, 4.75 lb Redfish, 5 lb Sheepshead, 4.90 lb Spanish Mackerel, 3.80 lb Speckled Trout

A – Angler you most admire: James Simsic, he is a great freediver and an awesome angler.
B – Biggest strength you have in fishing sport: My desire to learn new techniques and ways to catch fish.
C – Chasing the 2014 John Ellett, Top Angler award was …. A goal of mine and very rewarding.
D – Dream Fishing Trip: with Lou Graf in Bimini, in June 2015!
E – EPIRB, cell phone, VHF radio or Guardian Angel for safety and why?: All of the above. I am very safety conscious and have doubles of most everything.
F- Favorite fishing trip of 2014: May. Marathon. Liz and I went out with a friend and caught 14 dolphin, speared 20 lb Black Grouper.
G- Getting the John Ellett, Top Angler award means: I was privileged enough to fish with many old and new friends and catch lots of fish and memories!

H-Hardest species of the Big Ten to catch: Amberjack, not really, they just closed early before I targeted them.
I-Idol: My Dad!
J-Juice, milk, coffee, Dramamine or a banana in the morning before your fishing trip: Wheaties and juice.
K-Kind of shoes you wear on fishing trip: fishing – Nikes // diving booties
L-Last time you laughed out loud: Just a minute ago.
M-Movie you love: Pay it Forward
N-Nickname: Daley Reed, or, critical Dale (by my Italian friend)
O-Off the water hobby you enjoy: golf and hunting
P-Prefishing trip ritual: safety, double check everything, then check again
Q-Quirkey habit: clean, freak
R-Rivalry at GOFC contest: Ken Knopf – he seems to be one of the best every year. I admire his consistency.
S-Song you sing in the shower that could go number 1 on the charts: Can't carry a tune – awful singer!
T-Tarpon, Triple tail and Tuna – what do these, non Big Ten, non John Ellett Top Angler Award species mean to you? Hard fighting, lots of fun to catch.
U-Useless fact about you: I can hold my breath for about 2 ½ minutes.
V-Vocal GOFC fishing club member: Kevin Poe
W-Worst fishing experience of 2014: Marathon, got stung by a lionfish after being brought aboard, picture taken, etc… A spine got stuck in the speargun, stuck me when reloading.
X-Xrays, cuts, human hookup fishing experiences: Craig Geordano at Lake Santa Fe hooked me in the arm.
Y- Your best fishing buddy: my wife, Liz.
Z-Zany thing last years President, John Byatt, this years President, Leroy Holmes, or a GOFC Board Member said to you: (Ken Knopf) "You have to learn to plan your year out better, Dale". In reference to not catching an Amberjack this year due to a quick season closure (was planning on the fall).

Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club

Get to Know Your Club Officers and Board Members
Dale Reed

Years as a member of GOFC: 3 Years

Years on Board: 1 Year

Current Position on Board: Head of Club Promotions

Motivation to serve on Board: To promote inshore and offshore fishing, young or old, and support recreational fishing in our area. To help educate members and share fellowship.

Years lived in Gainesville: 30 Years and

Occupation: Owner of Rub-a-Dub Dub Cleaning Service with my brother Mike.

Family members: I have been married to Liz Reed for 27 years and have 2 boys, DJ and Alex ages 25 & 22.

Favorite fish you like to catch: I really enjoying offshore fishing and diving. I love to catch Grouper. Getting a chance to be underwater teaches a fisherman a lot. Spear fishing is also a huge passion of mine. I have been a certified diver for 26 years. One of my sons DJ and my wife are also divers.

Port you fish from the most often: Crystal River is one of my favorite places to fish because of the diversity. There is freshwater, saltwater, inshore, and offshore fishing in this area. A lot of good sized fish can be caught here due to the rocky region.

Favorite fishing memory: One trip to Crystal River I caught a 21 lb Cobia, a few large groupers, and a 36 lb Kingfish.

Fishing goals for 2015: Teach more members about fishing and promote conservation.

Goals for club in 2015: My goal for the club is to get more involved in the community and get our name out there. Increase membership and knowledge is important for the future of the club and its members.

If you could go fishing with any famous person, who would that be and why?

It would be my dad. He may not be famous to you but he is to me. He passed away last August. For my 50th birthday we had 31 people and 5 boats meed down in the keys. Friends and family from California to Florida made the trip. Great week of Fellowship, fishing and fun. That was the last time I saw my dad. It was AWESOME.

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Online Fisherman Pro Staff Report– Homosassa Redfish– March 19, 2015

The Online Fisherman received a report that angler Travis Roberts is excited that the temperatures and the weights of the fish he's been catching are on the rise! Travis noticed a few of the local charter groups were hitting some big fish in the last week or so, so he figured he needed to get out a little more and find some from shore. Boat or no boat, the fishing is hot right now! He tells TOF that he and a buddy from St Pete fished Homosassa -- and were definitely not disappointed! Check out their 36 inch red!

Ed Ellett, CPCU, CLU, CIC

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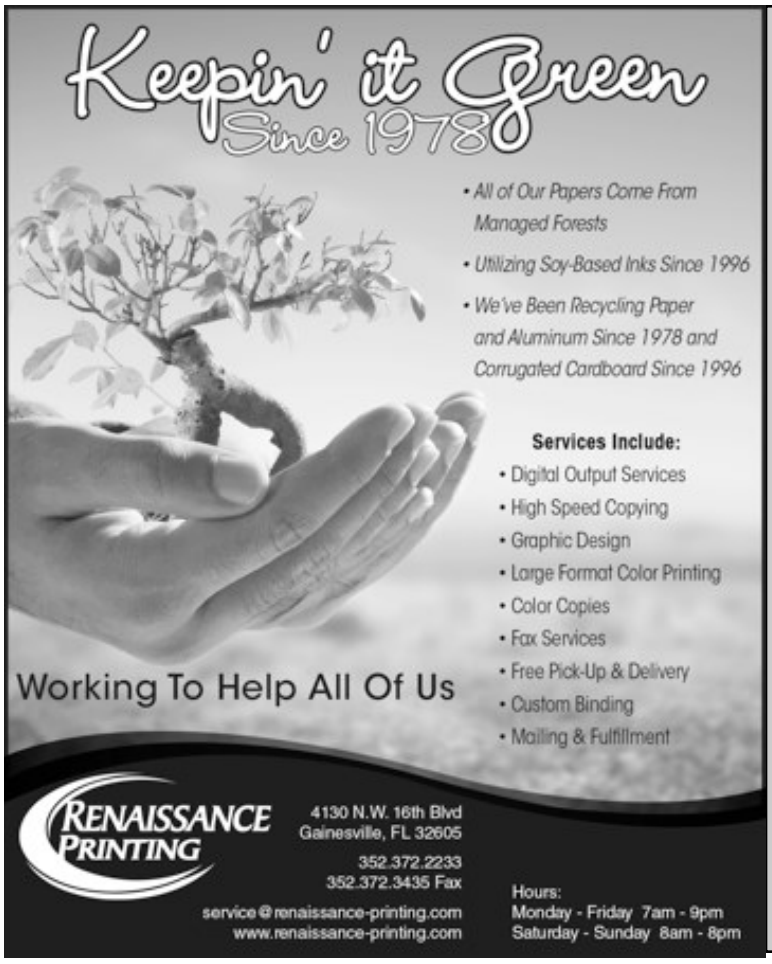
Sea Hag Fishing Report

Ahhh, the weather. The fishing has been excellent this month when the weather allowed. In spite of lots of small craft advisories, fronts loaded with rain, and a few days of bitter cold, the fishing has been even better than the average February. Inshore, although there was some inconsistency related to water temperature, trout were in their usual wintering places. When the temperature dropped, they retreated into deeper water in the river, or especially in creek holes. Dallus Creek was described by one person as a parking lot; while occasionally the fish had to be culled carefully with lots of borderline keepers, there were some excellent limits of 19 inch fish taken out of the holes. Other deep holes in creeks held fish throughout the month. Especially earlier in the month, the deep cut at Pepperfish Keys was a hot spot. Because the water temperature stayed low most of the month, there were also some excellent trout taken in the river, including some nice catches upriver of the bridge near the power lines. Redfish action was slow. There were days we saw lots of fish, but they just wouldn't eat…not unusual this time of year. In fact, during the "Lots of Spots" tournament associated with the Fiddler Crab Festival, there was only one redfish caught. One way some anglers used to locate some action involved fishing some of the holes in nearby creeks with shrimp-tipped jigs; there were some nice black drum and sheepshead taken in this way. And speaking of sheepshead, there have been some great catches near the end of the month on the offshore rocks. It appears at this time there have been largely the smaller males taken…but the mamas will be joining them soon. Offshore fishing has been good as well, when available. Some nice red grouper were taken, and amberjack were plentiful and pulling hard. And as usual this time of year, there were some monster bull redfish mixed in among the grouper. Here are some of the catches that came into the Sea Hag this month.

- Rick Davidson



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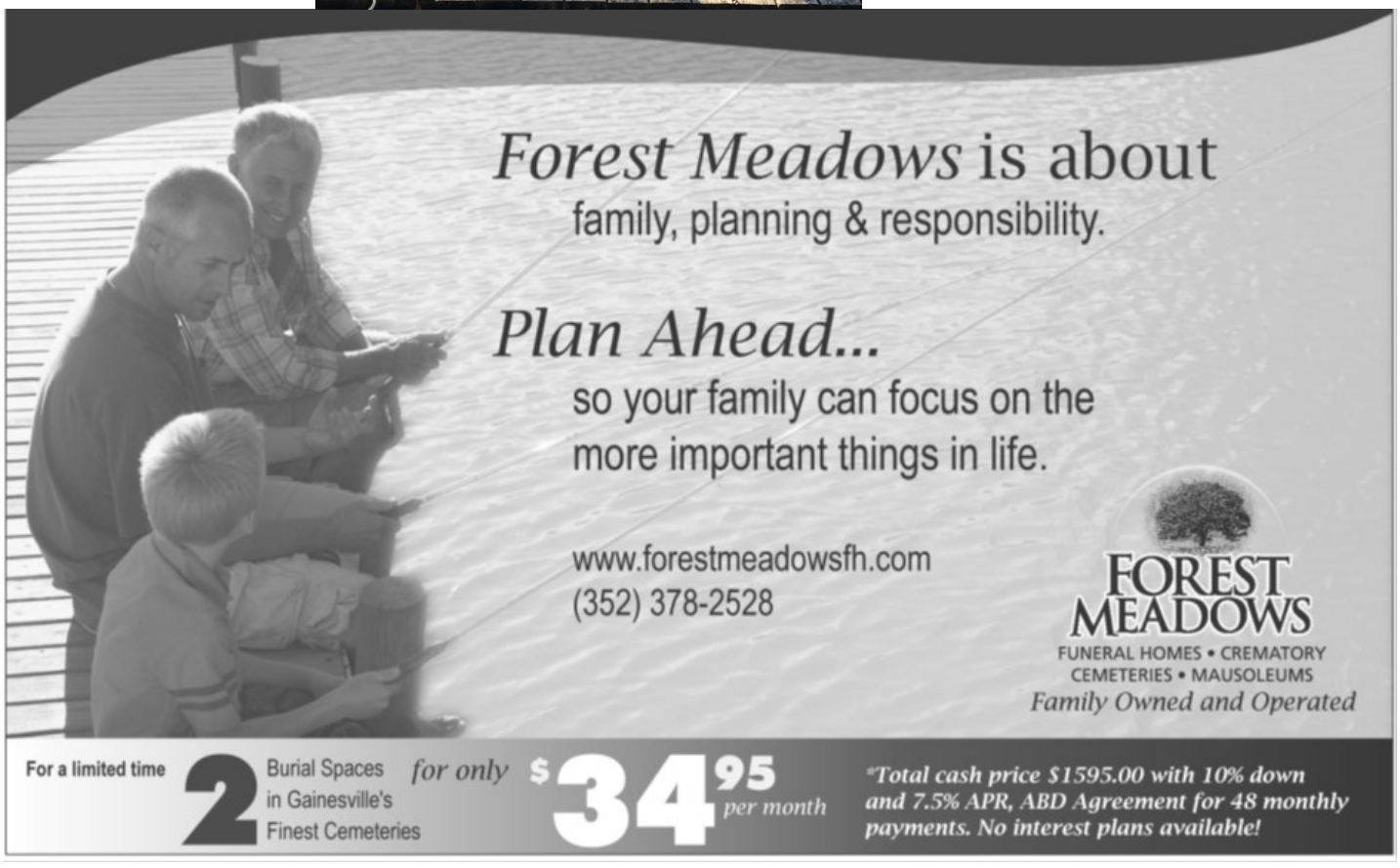
Pictures Submitted by Cliff Clark



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SHEEPSHEAD SHOOTOUT TOURNAMENT RESULTS 2015

LARGEST FISH

HAL WILSON	7.71 LBS.
KLEN KNOPH	5.14
VIRGIL COOPER	4.20
DEBBIE KNOPH	3.35
CLIFF CLARK	1.68

FOR ELLETT AWARD CLIFF CLARK 3.52 LBS.
REDFISH

LARGEST BOAT FOR 3 FISH

KEN &DEBBIE KNOPH	11.83 LBS.
WILSON,MCELROY, GRAF	9.61 LBS.
GROVE, COOPER,BAILLIE	5.35 LBS.

FISHING IN TOURNAMENT

JACK & MELVINA CUTRIGHT

ED & MARSHA ELLETT

DALE REED & JUSTIN MAGNIFICO

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Recent Club Catches

Weighslip Submissions

Ross McElroy
5.8 lb Sheepshead
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Phil Horn
5.04 lb Seatrout
Lure: Mirrolure
Location: Keaton Beach

Hal Wilson
5 lb Sheepshead
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Virgil Cooper
6.91 lb Bluefish
Lure: Lure
Location: Cedar Island

Virgil Cooper
4.62 lb Redfish
Lure: Lure
Location: Cedar Island

Russ Roy
5 lb Sheepshead
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Hal Wilson
1.67 lb. Seatrout
Lure: Paul Brown Original
Location: Horseshoe

John Byatt
2 lb Seatrout
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Dullus Creek

Ken Knopf
4.9 lb Sheepshead
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Ken Knopf
5.03 lb Seatrout
Lure: Catch 2000
Location: Keaton Beach

John Byatt
3.9 lb Seatrout
Lure: DOA Shrimp
Location: Keaton Beach

Nia Haynes
5 lb. Sheepshead
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Dale Reed
2.55 lb Spanish Mackeral
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Homosassa

Ross McElroy
4.8lb Seatrout
Lure: Slick
Location: Keaton Beach

John Byatt
4.4 lb Sheepshead
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Lou Graf
1.25 Seatrout
Lure: Lure
Location: Dallas Creek

Dale Reed
3.24 lb Seatrout
Lure: Shrimp
Location: Crystal River

Left: Jay Peacock after a long day of fishing, and not a lot of catching due to Red Tide.

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