The Acute Angler

February 2018

Volume 51, Number 1

GOFC News

February Events

Seafood and Awards Banquet 2018

February 23rd

6:30-9:30 pm

The Knopf's Boat Barn

It's that time of year again! Come celebrate GOFC award winners with great eats and good company. The tentative menu includes, lobster tails, crab legs, shrimp, and an assortment of side dishes. For paid 2018 members, this event is free of charge.

Be sure to bring a tasty dessert to enter into the dessert competition! Members are also encouraged to bring their own butter/warmers, crab/lobster utensils, and adult beverages should you want them.

Upcoming Events

Sheepshead Shootout

March 3 out of Cedar Key

Be sure to check the GOFC website for more details and don't forget to sign up before the tournament!

March Monthly Meeting

March 27rd 7:30-9:30 pm

Join us for our March monthly meeting featuring Rick Ryals. Captain Rick Ryals, one of the best known charter captains in Jacksonville who'll be sharing tips on deep water trolling. Rick hosts Florida Sportsman magazine, Live on WFXJ930 radio show on Saturday mornings and is the captain on a big sportfisher based out of Mayport. As always we will have amazing door and raffle prizes!

Happy 50th Birthday GOFC!

This year GOFC is celebrating their 50th anniversary! To commemorate this special year, be on the look out for limited edition GOFC shirts and decals!

Reminders:

Be sure to renew your GOFC membership and pay the club dues! Please see the GOFC website (paying online) or treasurer Debby Knopf!

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.

Fish Caught in 2018

Angler: Ken Knopf
Fish: Greater Amberjack
Weight: 37.5in (length)
Date Caught: 1/19/18
Lure/Bait: Speed Jig
Location: Cedar Key

Angler: Melvina Cutright
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 18 oz
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Jig and Gulp Shrimp
Location: Suwannee

Angler: Tim Pedersen
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 4.41 lbs
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Justin Magnifico
Fish: Flounder
Weight: 1.36 lbs
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Gulp
Location: Steinhatchee

Angler: Marcia Ellet
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 1 lb 6oz
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Artificial
Location: Inshore

Angler: Travis Creamer
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 3.17 lbs
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Keaton Beach

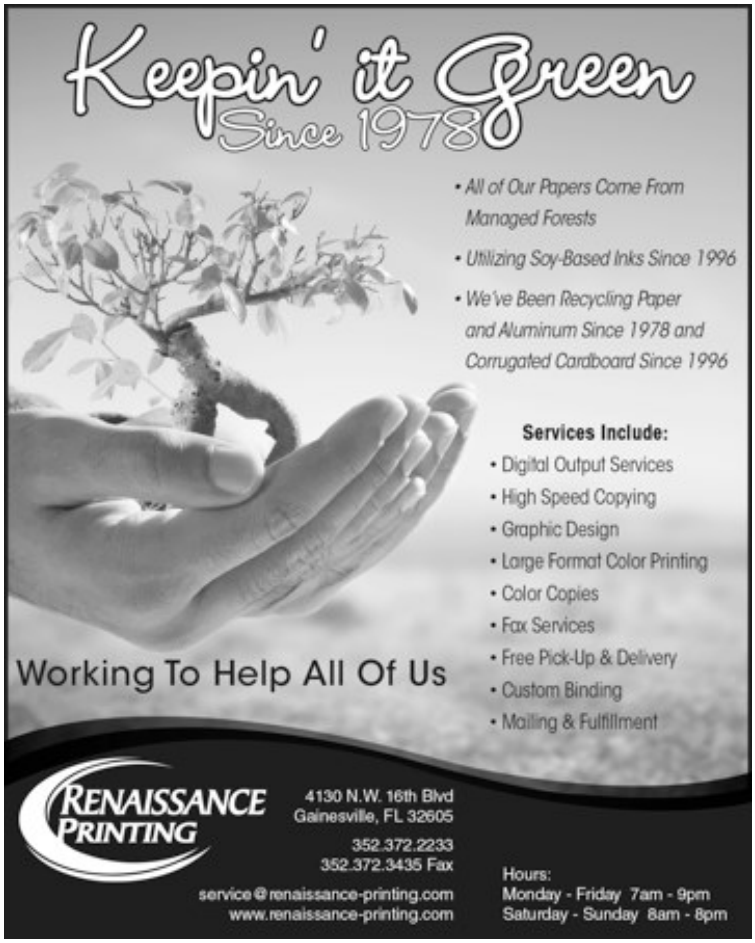
Angler: David Patterson
Fish: Flounder
Weight: 1.25 lbs
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Gulp
Location: Steinhatchee

Angler: Ed Ellet
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 2 lbs 5 oz
Date Caught: 1/21/18
Lure/Bait: Gulp
Location: Suwannee

Angler: Tim Pederson
Fish: Redfish
Weight: 4.7 lbs
Date Caught: 1/15/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Keaton Beach

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!



Fish Caught in 2018

Angler: Tim Pederson
Fish: Flounder
Weight: 1.2 lbs
Date Caught: 1/26/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Dale Reed
Fish: Sheepshead
Weight: 5.66 lbs
Date Caught: 2/03/18
Lure/Bait: Shrimp
Location: Cedar Key

Angler: Tim Pedersen
Fish: Redfish
Weight: 5.10 lbs
Date Caught: 2/08/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Spohn Point

Angler: Justin Magnifico
Fish: Redfish
Weight: 4.03 lbs
Date Caught: 1/26/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Phil Horn
Fish: Redfish
Weight: 5 lbs 4 oz
Date Caught: 1/10/18
Lure/Bait: Skitterwalk
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Virgil Cooper
Fish: Redfish
Weight: 6.1 lbs
Date Caught: 2/08/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Sponge Point

Angler: Hayden Englert
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 2 lbs 5oz
Date Caught: 1/26/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Phil Horn
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 3 lbs 12 oz
Date Caught: 2/01/18
Lure/Bait: Mirrodine
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Justin Magnifico
Fish: Redfish
Weight: 5.37 lbs
Date Caught: 2/08/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Sponge Point

Angler: Elaine Turner
Fish: Atlantic Croaker
Weight: 1.32 lbs
Date Caught: 1/27/18
Lure/Bait: Shrimp
Location: Suwannee

Angler: John Patrick
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 3 lbs 4 oz
Date Caught: 1/10/18
Lure/Bait: Zara Spook
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Justin Magnifico
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 4.025 lbs
Date Caught: 2/08/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Sponge Point

Angler: Tim Pedersen
Fish: Sheepshead
Weight: 4.56
Date Caught: 2/01/18
Lure/Bait: Bait
Location: Keaton Beach

Angler: Virgil Cooper
Fish: Bluefish
Weight: 2.34 lbs
Date Caught: 2/05/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Fishman Rest

Angler: David Patterson
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 2.45 lbs
Date Caught: 2/10/18
Lure/Bait: Gulp
Location: Suwannee

Angler: Dale Reed
Fish: Greater Amberjack
Weight: 34.75 in (length)
Date Caught: 2/03/18
Lure/Bait: Butterfly Jig
Location: Cedar Key

Angler: Virgil Cooper
Fish: Seatrout
Weight: 4.01 lbs
Date Caught: 1/27/18
Lure/Bait: Lure
Location: Spohn Point

Angler: Ross McElroy
Fish: Greater Amberjack
Weight: 37.5 in (length)
Date Caught: 1/18/18
Lure/Bait: Jig
Location: Cedar Key

"A Lion(fish) in Winter"

Glenn Acomb

This January, John Byatt and Glenn Acomb headed out of Cedar Key in John's Panga in search of amberjack, encouraged by the weather forecast of calm seas, sunny skies and warm temperatures. Well, so much for weather forecasts! The sun barely shone, temperatures remained cold and seas were not so calm. Nonetheless, we headed to a variety of reliable offshore spots in 50 feet and 80 feet of water. We boated 3 nice - but short - AJs, 2 beautiful Red Snappers out-of-season, a nice Gag Grouper out-of-season, and a short Red Grouper. We were beginning to think that we were jinxed or that the cold shrunk our fish! We did get one keeper to redeem the day - a nice Black Sea Bass that had the ice all to himself.

At the end of the day we were contemplating our return to port, when in the distance we saw a floating fish surrounded by several vertical "sticks" around it. As we got closer, we could see the orange stipes of a Lionfish and the sticks were its venomous spines. At first thought it was dead and decided to bring on aboard. It was netted and set on the deck only to realize that it was alive! The cold water temps of barely over 50° F had stunned the tropical Lionfish. So, in the box he went, to be invited home for dinner.

That night, John carefully removed the spines and filleted the Lionfish, cooking it together with the Black Sea Bass to compare the two. His conclusion is that they are both quite good and similar in flavor.

So, given all our concerns for the invasive Lionfish, here's to hoping the cold temperatures stun lots of them so we can collect an easy feast in this winter!

President's Message
Dale Reed

The temperatures are starting to warm up and the beginning of the year is starting off well. Dave Ferrell was our January speaker and we had a terrific turnout! He was a very interesting captain with lots of stories from all around the world. Also we had our annual oyster roast and it too was a big success. Thank you to the Crapos and Tommy Thompson for all they do for our club.

We will be having our annual seafood and awards banquet at the Knopf's boat barn February 23 at 6:30. Please bring a side dish and a dessert as there is $100 prize for best dessert.

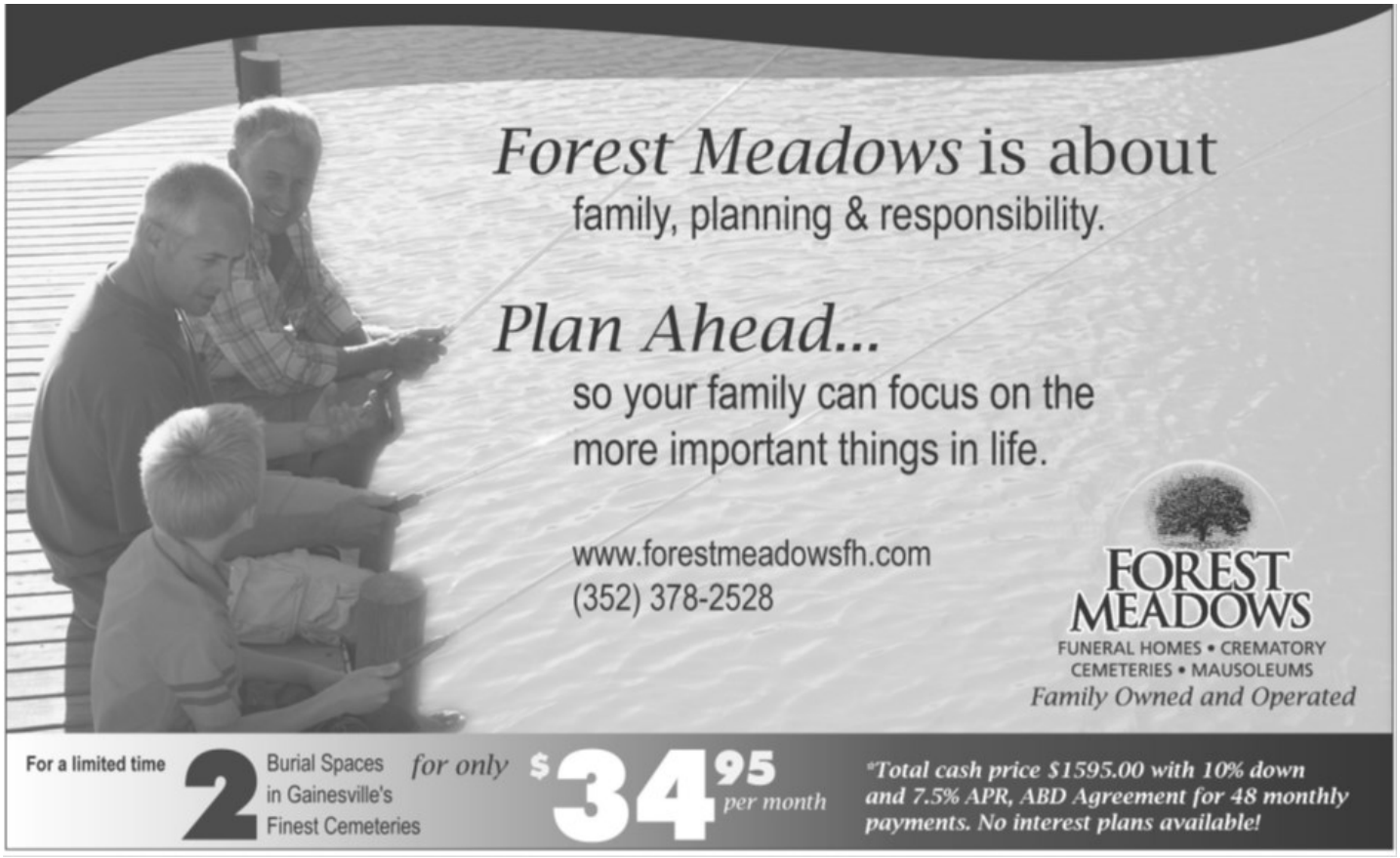
Our next speaker is Rick Ryals from North East Florida. He is set to speak March 27 at 7 PM at the vet school.

Our first tournament of the year, the sheepshead shoot out, is scheduled for March 3 in Cedar Key. Please sign up ahead of time so we know you are registered. This will be a boat tournament with the three heaviest fish per boat being the winner. Also there's prizes for second and third place as well as heaviest fish. We are planning a Learnament for Spanish mackerel, king fish and cobia in the near future.

We have a new logo for the 50th anniversary shirts and it has been sent off to the printer so be looking for our new shirts in the next month or so.

Lastly, I wanted to thank P and J Marine for any boat sold at their boat show on February 24 and 25th will get a free membership to the GOFC club.

Let's hope the water keeps warming up and the fish start chewing. Tightline



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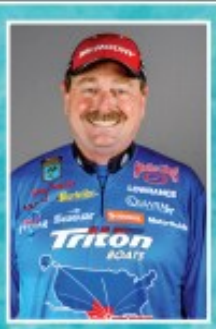
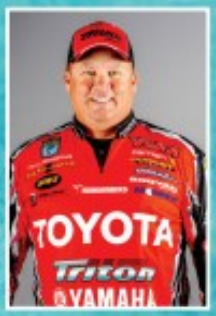
- FACTORY REPS ON HAND
- MEET THE PROS





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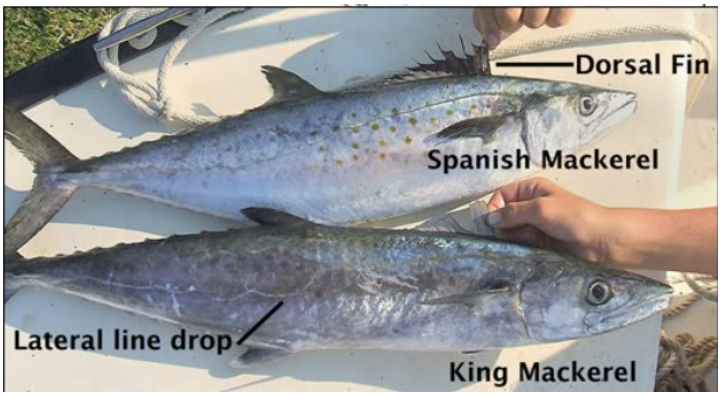
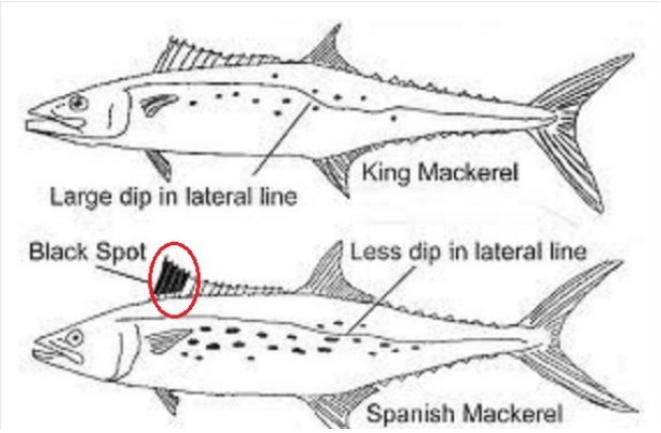
What's the Difference Between a Big Spanish and a Small King?

Justin Magnifico

Kingfish and Spanish mackerel are both encountered on sea horse reef in the spring. They both will take trolled flurio jigs ,spoons and diving plugs. So how do you determine whether you bagged a little king or a big Spanish?

I found this diagram on The Hull Truth and it shows the two differences in the species.





First being that the Spanish mackerel has a black spot on its dorsal fin. The second difference is that juvenile kings have a more distinct drop in there lateral line. That's all I got about that.

Trolling around seahorse reef is an effective way to locate these fish once located you can drift and cast to them. The lures I use most trolling are Drone spoons, Lurh-Jensen crippled herring 1 1/2 ounce and flurio jigs tipped with some meat. These are drone spoons they come in a variety of sizes and colors some days they want a certain color or size. See what bait is in the water and match the hatch according to your observations. The Lurh-Jensen is my favorite lure when some one else is driving and I can actively fish he lure while trolling. Speeding it up or dropping it back with a 5000 class spinning reel. This lure also works well for casting and jigging. (continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

The next lure is the red head flurio jig put a little meat on it keep the rod in hand and troll it around.

Current regulations for Spanish mackerel and kingfish for the 2018 season in Florida gulf state waters are kingfish 3 per harvester, 24 inch minimum fork length Spanish mackerel 12 inch minimum fork length, and 15 per harvester. Fish these lures with a wire leader these fish have teeth and will cut you off.

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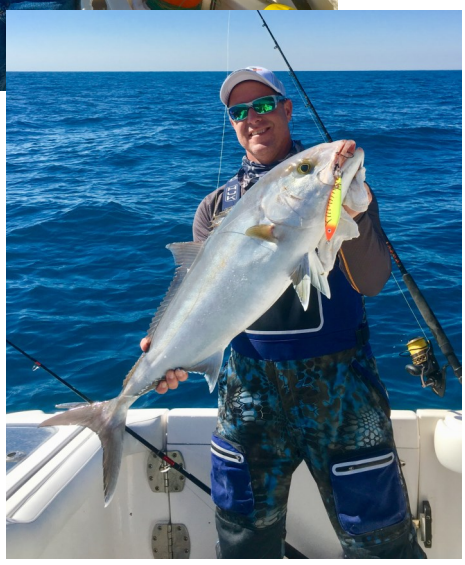
In the Pursuit of AJs

Dale Reed

We decided to go out in mid January and try to check off the amberjack on our Ellett list. Ken, Mike, Ross and I went out of Cedar Key early in search of some live bait. We were looking for small grunts, Seabass, lizard fish or anything else that might provoke a strike.

The four of us went to waters in about 25 to 35 feet and had no luck at all. The water temperatures were in the low 50s and there were no signs of life. There was frozen bait on the boat, squid and threadfin herrings but we had an arsenal of artificial baits, bucktail jig's and butterfly jigs. We decided to venture out to our first spot in about 75 feet of water trying to find some keeper AJ's.

We all dropped down artificials and on my first drop I used my butterfly jig. I popped it a couple times and BAM it got nailed. Quite a struggle getting it up, wasn't sure what was on the other end. Finally got it up to the surface and it turned out to be a beautiful 19 pound gag grouper. Unfortunately, grouper season is closed until June, so reluctantly I sent him back down on his way to the bottom. I turned around and Ken and Mike were doubled up on a couple very nice amberjack'. I grabbed the net and help them get their fish into the boat. Ross then hooked up as well with another very nice amberjack. We were on a good spot that day for some keepers. (continued on page 11)



(continued from page 10) We continued fishing for another hour or so with great success landing more nice keeper groupers, amberjacks and American red snappers. After lunch, we went out a little deeper to a spot in about 100 feet of water as the weather was still nice.

As we were approaching our final destination we looked up and saw a boat in the distance. We had only seen one other boat all day but typically he looked to be on the spot we were approaching. As we got closer it appeared he had a dive flag up. We were all a little surprised as the water temperature was very frigid in the low 50s. Once we got a bit closer, sure enough there were divers in the water. We talked to the other boat and they were commercial spearfishing out of Hudson Florida looking for grouper and amberjack. We waited our turn as the other captain said they wouldn't be much longer.

The four of us then dropped on to our deeper spot with some of the same success. Using only artificial baits, mostly some butterfly jigs that we were testing for Gary's Tackle Box, we continued to hammer the amberjack. All four of us were able to catch keeper amberjack which was our goal. The wind started to pick up a bit, so we decided to go ahead and head back in. What a fantastic day with some great people and some keeper reef donkeys. Our arms were sore and tired, time for some rest!!

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Featured Seafood Recipes:

Lemon Pepper Parmesan Roast Sea Trout
From Kevin Lynch (Closet Cooking)

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs trout fillets
- 1t olive oil
- Zest of 1 lemon
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 2t black pepper
- Salt (to taste)
- 1T dill (fresh) OR 1t (dried)
- 1 lb asparagus
- 1t olive oil
- Salt and pepper (to taste)
- 1/2 lb cherry tomatoes
- 1/2 C parmesan cheese

Directions:

1. Preheat the over to 400°F
2. Brush trout with 1t olive oil
3. Combine lemon zest, pepper, salt, and dill and spread over a baking sheet
4. Add fish to the seasoned baking sheet
5. Toss asparagus in 1t olive oil, salt, and pepper
6. Add asparagus and cherry tomatoes to the baking dish
7. Sprinkle parmesan cheese over the whole sheet
8. Roast for 10-15 minutes
9. Sprinkle lemon juice over the baking sheet, serve, and enjoy!

http://www.closetcooking.com/2017/06/lemon-pepper-parmesan-roast-trout.html

Crab Stuffed Flounder
From: Healthy World Cuisine Magazine

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs flounder
- 1T olive oil
- 1/2 c chopped onions
- 2 gloves of garlic
- 1 c crab meat
- 2T cream cheese
- 1t old bay seasoning
- Salt and pepper (to taste)
- 2T chives

Lemon butter sauce

- 2T butter
- Juice of 1 lemon

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 375°F
2. Heat 1T olive oil in a sauce pan over medium heat
3. Add onions and allow to caramelize
4. Add garlic and stir
5. Add crab meat, cream cheese, Old Bay seasoning, salt, pepper, and chives to the pan
6. Stir until combined
7. Remove saucepan from heat and allow to cool
8. Lie the flounder fillet on a cutting board
9. Place a thick layer of crab meat mixture onto each fillet evenly over the flounder
10. Carefully roll up each fillet and place seam side down on a greased baking pan
11. Melt 2T butter, and add the juice of 1 lemon, and salt and pepper
12. Drizzle butter sauce over stuffed flounder
13. Bake for 10 minutes and baste with drippings
14. Bake for an additional 10-15 minutes
15. Serve and enjoy!

https://www.hwcmagazine.com/recipe/crab-stuffed-flounder/#recipe

Time to renew your club membership

It's now easier than ever to renew. 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, only $50 gets you a full membership through 2016 if you have not joined yet or are renewing.

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
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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.

IMPORTANT GOFC CONTACTS

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Gainesville, FL 32607

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