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Volume 19, Issue 05 - May 2018

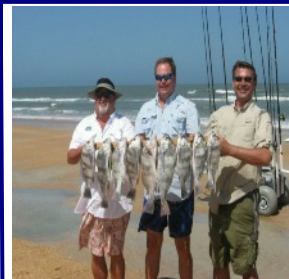
# THE CHUM LINE



## SAVE THE DATES

### MAY FISH OF THE MONTH - BLUEFISH

**May 1<sup>st</sup>:** Flagler County Manatee Speed Zones begin  
**Flagler Sportfishing Club Monthly Meeting, VFW**  
**7:00 p.m. Quick Tips - Ron Gorney on catching Bluefish.**  
**7:30 p.m. Business Meeting**  
**Election of Officers**  
**Smoked Fish Smoke Off. See page 3.**  
**Guest Speaker: Noel Kuhn. See insert at right.**  
**May 5<sup>th</sup>:** Surf Fishing Tournament. See page 4.  
**May 19<sup>th</sup>:** Bottom Trip, Ponce Inlet. See page 5  
**May 21<sup>st</sup>:** Directors Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Realty Exchange  
**May 28<sup>th</sup>:** Memorial Day   
**June 5<sup>th</sup>:** Flagler Sportfishing Club Monthly Meeting.



## Surf Fishing

MAY 1, 2018

### Monthly Flagler Sportfishing Club Meeting



Come learn how to catch fish from the surf and enhance your time on the beach. Noel Kuhn is a founding member of the only Surf Fishing Club in Florida and is a de facto expert on the subject of Surf Fishing.

Tips and Tricks - 7 How to catch Bluefish!!!

by Ron Gorney

### Learn Surf Fishing

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Founding Member Florida  
Surfcasters Club

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Tournament Winner

Jax Native

Guides Groups, Families or  
Individuals

<http://www.thesurfangler.com/>

MEETING PLACE  
(PUBLIC WELCOME)

VFW Club  
47 Old Kings Rd N  
Palm Coast, FL 32137  
(386) 446-6606  
May 1, 2018 @ 7:30 PM



## FROM THE HELM May 2018

There are all kinds of activities going on this month that you can participate in. Check further on in the Chum Line for information on the Smoked Fish Cook Off, Free Club Surf Tournament, and the Bottom Trip. If you are a surf fisherman we have a great speaker lined for the meeting as well. Now if the weather cooperates, we should see some great fishing. So, put some time aside to take advantage of it.

Keep in mind the manatee speed zones go into effect May 1<sup>st</sup>. Based on history, you can expect strict enforcement all month, so don't ruin your day by not paying attention.

Behind the scenes we have had some changes as well; Scheyenne Welch will be taking over as editor of the Chum Line from Ellen Scheurer, as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ellen has done an outstanding job over the last few years by upgrading and professionalizing our monthly publication. Scheyenne is the right person to take it forward from here, so please take a moment to congratulate both of them. We are also getting ready to roll out a new public website that is looking pretty slick and will offer a lot more capabilities to our members. Stay tuned for more on that. On the downside, this was the first time we did membership renewals electronically. We hit some bumps but are working through them. For those of you affected we ask for your patience. Please let any of the board know if you have an issue and we will get it resolved.

Finally, with elections over we are still in need of a Quartermaster, so if you like to shop for fishing stuff with someone else's money, this is the job for you. Again, see any board member for details.

Remember, this is your club so we need your contribution.

See you all on the water.

Chuck

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Captain Chuck Gleichmann  
cggleichmann@earthlink.net  
386-441-8411

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**Dana Svens**

[danas@commercialcoverages.net](mailto:danas@commercialcoverages.net)

386-566-3612

**TREASURER**

Gary Fisher

[gfish108@gmail.com](mailto:gfish108@gmail.com)

386-693-4452

**SECRETARY**

Carol Carter

[user483337@aol.com](mailto:user483337@aol.com)

386-263-2208

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Pat Gleichmann

[pgleichmann@earthlink.net](mailto:pgleichmann@earthlink.net)

386-441-8411

**WEIGH MASTER**

Rita Waddell

[rrdell60@gmail.com](mailto:rrdell60@gmail.com)

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Jeff Rafter

Ellen Scheurer, Photographer

Scheyenne Welch, Publicity

**WEBMASTER**

Jim Booth

[jimbooth97@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbooth97@yahoo.com)

**FACE BOOK ADMINISTRATOR**

Peter Bessette

[hotrod1282@gmail.com](mailto:hotrod1282@gmail.com)

**CHUM LINE EDITOR**

Ellen Scheurer

[emscheurer42@gmail.com](mailto:emscheurer42@gmail.com)

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**May fishing forecast**

Capt. Jim Britton  
[saltytalesfishingcharters.com](http://saltytalesfishingcharters.com)

It seems that our spring is finally here in full effect! The forecast will be much the same as April, plus more. By "more" I mean we should all be catching **more** fish, plus expecting **more** species.

On the beach, anglers can expect more blue fish, more pompano, and more Spanish mackerel, as well as, the usual whiting and occasional redfish and black drum. From the piers, the bite will be much the same. However, as the month progresses be on the lookout for a shot at a kingfish and tarpon.

Inshore Anglers it is time to dust off your favorite topwater plug. Hit your favorite flat, early in the morning, for some exciting redfishing or target creek mouths and drop-offs for

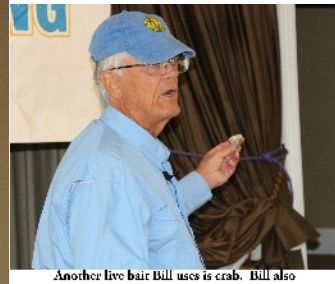
speckled sea trout. After chasing the topwater bite, anglers can target flounder as the day warms up. For the flatties, target deep holes with moving water using a 1/4 ounce jighead and a small mullet or mud minnow.

Offshore Anglers should not have to travel far for some exciting battles. Kingfish and cobia will be found on the beach and on the wrecks and reefs (make sure to have some pitch baits ready on some spinning gear). While fishing these waters, be on the lookout for sailfish as they too move in with the warmer water. Deep water anglers will be greeted by more dolphin. Recent reports have most bites coming on ballyhoo rigs. Small pink and white skirted baits are working also. An occasional wahoo or blackfin tuna may still find its way into the spread also.

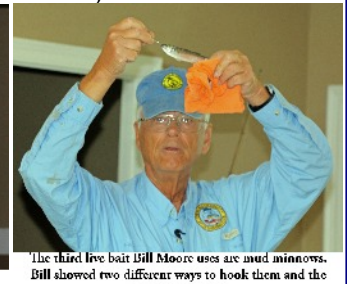
Good luck on the water and remember - fishing is fun, have a blast!

**NEW MEMBERS CLINIC - MARCH 24, 2018**

Bill Moore demonstrated how he hooks a live shrimp when fishing inshore waters.



Another live bait Bill uses is crab. Bill also demonstrated how to hook crab for bait.



The third live bait Bill Moore uses are mud minnows. Bill showed two different ways to hook them and the benefits of each.



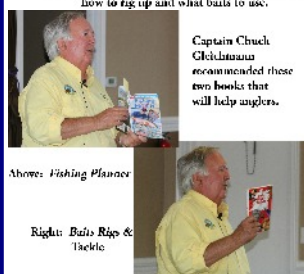
Capt. Andrew Puskas talked about bottom fishing, how to rig up and what baits to use.



Capt. Puskas brought along some of his equipment and said it is important to find structures when bottom fishing because that is where the fish are.



Capt. Chuck Gleichmann explained how the tides change from Mantanzas Inlet and Ponce Inlet to areas in between.



Above: Fishing Planets

Right: Bait Rigs & Tackle



Capt. Jeff Rafter explained the use of different rods and reels.



Capt. Rafter was like poetry in motion demonstrating how to cast a line far - very far!



## 4th ANNUAL SMOKED FISH SMOKE OFF

Get ready to smoke up your finest smoked fish for the club's 4th Annual Smoked Fish Smoke Off. Come on out to the May 1st club meeting and enter your best local smoked fish to win one of three great prizes. 1<sup>st</sup> place – Full length club logo embroidered vinyl clad apron, 2<sup>nd</sup> place- Large club logo embroidered hand towel, 3<sup>rd</sup> place- a bag of hardwood smoking chips.

A plate of your smoked fish needs to be at the VFW between 6:45 p.m. and 7:20 p.m. so we can get the 3 judges working and the club meeting started without interruption. The judges will start their tasting at 7:20, so be sure to have your entry in on time. The winners will be announced at the break and everyone will be able to join in on the sampling.

If you're saying something to yourself like "I didn't get a prize last year or the years before" don't give up or fret. Each year we have at least 2 new judges that have totally different taste buds than prior judges. This could definitely be your year to win.

Entrants are also encouraged to bring along a bowl of their favorite smoked fish dip (not to be judged) to share with everyone while we enjoy the smoked fish. The club will provide plates, napkins and crackers to go along with the fish and dip.

Remember - you don't have to be the one to have caught the fish, as long as it's local (sorry, no salmon or non-local fish).

If you have any questions, call Andy Block at 914-557-6083 or email to [ablock100@gmail.com](mailto:ablock100@gmail.com)

## WEIGH MASTER REPORT

Great news for our southern members...**Granada Pier Bait & Tackle** is now an official weigh station for the Club! Welcome & Thank You! So, stop by and see Ike to weigh in your catch.

Location and Contact information...

**Granada Pier Bait and Tackle**

**1 South Beach St.... Ormond Beach...**at the foot of the SR40 bridge in Ormond Beach.

**386.676.9078**

Early Leaders for the **2018 Yearlong Tournaments** as of March 31, 2018 are....

**Lady Angler - Claire McIntire      Male Angler – Abdollah Moghanaki**

Species Leaders and Full Standings are available on the Website at <http://sportfishbase.com/members/>

Printed copies will also be available at the sign in table at the Monthly Club Meetings.

The **Fish of the Month** for March was Trout. The winner, **Ron Gorney** was recognized at the Club Meeting for his 4.3 Trout. He will receive a \$50 sponsor gift card for his winning catch!

The **Fish of the Month** for April is **King Mackerel** and looking to May the catch is **Bluefish**. Who will win that \$50 gift card? Our list of sponsors is growing & there is something for everyone. Is it your turn to collect? Hoping to find lots of Bluefish weigh slips!

If you have any questions, please let me know...Rita Waddell, Weighmaster...386.585.0148



Capt. Jeff Rafter demonstrated how to hook a sand flea. To help keep the bait on the hook, Jeff wraps the sand flea onto the hook with Ghost Thread (aka bait thread).



Captain Mike Vickers spoke about fishing techniques using artificial baits. He also passed out lines and demonstrated how to tie a uni knot. Mike answered questions outside while showing his equipment up close.



Captain Vickers took his gear outside and answered questions about what to use and how to use it.



Carol Carter won one of the \$25 gift cards. She is one lucky Jersey Girl!

# FLAGLER SPORTFISHING CLUB FREE SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

Saturday, May 5, 2018 - 6:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

With or without fish come to the weigh in at Betty Steflik Pavilion (under the 100 Bridge) to participate in the 50/50, good deal raffles, lunch and socializing!

## PAYOUTS:

### Heaviest Fish - Eligible Species

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100.00    2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50.00    4<sup>th</sup> Place - \$25.00

### Most Fish - Eligible Species

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$75.00

## PLUS:

Heaviest Pompano - \$25.00 Bonus

Show Up Drawing - \$25.00 Bonus

**NOTE:** Only one prize per person except for Bonus money.

**Eligible Species:** Black Drum (under 24"), Blue Fish, Flounder, Pompano, Redfish, Sheepshead, Trout, and Whiting (minimum weight is 1 lb.).

**Rules:** All eligible fish must be caught from the surf while the angler stands in the sand. Fish any beach you like. All fish must conform to FWC regulations. A tie breaker is determined by the time of weigh in - the earliest wins.

**Weigh In:** 1:00 P.M. Until 2:00 P.M. At Betty Steflik Pavilion, Flagler Beach.

All Club members fish FREE. Any accompanying guest may compete with a \$20.00 donation paid in advance by May 4, 2018.

**Sign Up:** At the May 1<sup>st</sup> Monthly Meeting or contact Tournament Chair, Roy Lawson at 561-301-8132 - we need to know how much lunch and bottled water to order. Lunch will be at 1:30 P.M.

*Volunteers are needed for raffle and 50/50 sales. Please contact Roy.*



Chuck Radloff gave instructions on how to throw a cast net and participants got a chance to throw it.



Good Job!



Tim Miller demonstrates his rigging when fishing from a pier or bridge.



Tim Miller shared his expertise on fishing from a pier or bridge and what he uses, including this fish finder.



Captain Miguel Pandich brought along everything you could possibly need to fish from a kayak.



Weigh Master Rita Waddell emphasized the importance of filling out weigh slips completely and keeping the yellow copy for your records.



Not only did member Tom McKee win \$120 in the 50/50, he also won a gift card to A1A Fisheries.



Congratulations to Lee Boock, winner of the rod and reel.



## BOTTOM TRIP - MAY 19TH

All day fishing trip for club members aboard the 90' Critter Fleet.

Boat can fish up to 85 and the trip is limited to first 65 members that pay in advance.

Cost is \$70.00 for members and \$100.00 for non-members. Signups start at the April 3, 2018 meeting.

"Open to non-members after May 1, 2018<sup>th</sup> meeting."

Price includes, boat, bait, tackle, bottled water and entry into Big Fish Jackpots.

1<sup>st</sup> place fish \$100.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> place fish \$75.00; 3<sup>rd</sup> place fish \$50.00 Big Fish Jackpot is paid for fish on yearlong tournament list only.

Calcutta: Biggest fish from yearlong tournament list. \$5.00 buy in.

Raffle

Big Fish Jackpot is paid for fish on yearlong tournament list only.

Boat has galley with food and drinks for sale.

You may bring your own beer, food and tackle; but no glass and no braided fishing line is allowed.

Small Coolers Only

Critter Fleet leaves at 8:00 A.M. and returns around 4:30 P.M.

Drawing at 7:30 A.M. for fishing spots at back of the boat.

Directions from Palm Coast:

1. Take Interstate 95 South to the Port Orange Exit #256 (State Road 421).
2. Turn Left (East) on Dunlawton Avenue for approximately 4 miles.
3. Cross over the Intercoastal Waterway and continue to A1A (Atlantic Avenue).
4. Turn Right (South) on A1A (Atlantic Avenue).
5. Go approximately 6 miles South on A1A (Atlantic Avenue). "Watch your speed"
6. Turn Right at stop sign.
7. Next Stop Sign Turn Left on Peninsula Drive.
8. Continue to 4950 S. Peninsula Drive (across the street for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse).

Contact Tim Miller 386-237-7026



Club VP Dana Syens ran the April 3rd Monthly Meeting which was held under the VFW Pavilion.

## APRIL MONTHLY MEETING



Bill May reported on the Election process for Officers of Treasurer and Quartermaster.



Andy Block gave details on rules for the 4th Annual Smoked Fish Smoke Off on May 1st Monthly Meeting.



Due to updates inside the VFW our April Meeting was held outside under the pavilion. It was a great Meeting with great weather and a great turnout!



22nd Annual Spring Classic Chairman Chuck Radloff gave updates on the Tournament, what we have and what we need.



Membership Chair Walt Huresky reported on the success of the 2018 New Members Clinic while modeling the 1st Place prize for the 4th Annual Smoked Fish Smoke Off May 1st.



Tim Miller is again running the Bottom Trip on May 19th. It is a very popular event so contact Tim or sign up at the May 1st Monthly Meeting.



Weigh Master Rita Waddell congratulates Ron Gorney, March Fish of the Month winner with a 4.3 lb. Trout.



Peter Bessette is holding the \$300 surf rod being raffled off at the Surf Tour on May 5th.



Roy Lawson and Diana MacDonald are chairing the Surf Fishing Tour on May 5th. Originally we were having a beach party as well but can't due to Irma.



***In attendance at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Monthly Meeting were a number of our Annual Sponsors. Each of the five sponsors took the time to explain to members and guests what it is they do and how they can help members. Check out their websites and see what benefits Club members receive - and please support all our annual sponsors!***



Nelson and Jim from JM Marine, one of our new annual sponsors, explained what they do and where they are located.



Tommy Block from another new annual sponsor, Rytech, explained they do water damage remediation.



Lisa Moravec sold raffle tickets For the Cooler of Cheer to be Raffled off at the Spring Classic.



Long time major annual sponsor, Thomas & Betts, was represented by Jim McIntire. Jim said his wife Claire is the family fisherwoman and he is the captain of the boat.



Another major annual sponsor attending the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting was Kevin Clymer of Clymer Funeral Home. They are there for families at a very stressful time.



Worldwide Safety Consultants and ECP are major annual sponsors of the Club. Tom and Lisa Moravec explained that their companies are involved in safety management & ecological issues.



Capt. Don Taylor is a full time guide in the JAX area. His first advice in preparing for a tournament is to check the tides and to keep a fishing log.



Make sure your boat and all equipment are working and that your rods and bait are ready to go.



Start at lowest tide where you can find Redfish. Trout like moving water and around docks and structures. Get on top of Flounder and find deep water for Black Drum.



Capt. Taylor told members which artificial and live baits he uses for each species. All info. is in Carol Carter's minutes from April 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Capt. Taylor was gracious enough to show members his tackle and to answer any questions.



Mike Crofts hands over \$157.00 to Mike and Tonya White, winners of the 50/50 and who had joined the Club that very night!



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### Club Meeting Minutes 04-03-18

7:00 PM Quick Tips – speaker was Cpt. Andrew Puskas, presentation was on catching King Mackerel

**Meeting Called to order** at 7:30 PM by Vice President, Dana Syens

**Pledge of Allegiance:** presented by Dean Roberts

**Passing of March Minutes:** Minutes of March 06, 2018 meeting were passed, motion was made by Dean Roberts and seconded by Ellen Scheurer.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gary Fisher said the bills are paid and we still have money in the bank. If you need a membership card, see Gary or Walt. A discount list from our sponsors is being worked on. Money for the bottom trip is being taken by Tim Miller in the corner of the room with no walls, Diana MacDonald and Roy Lawson are assisting with the membership renewals at the next table over- if you are paying in cash and if you are paying by credit card, Gary will help you. If you paid your membership dues and Gary does not have it listed yet, the payment may have crossed in the mail. He will credit you when he gets the payments.

**Welcome Visitors/New Members:** We had 13 guests/new members at tonight's meeting.

**Announcements:** Dana said we have some new sponsors- JM Marine, Nelson & Jim, they do boat repairs, they come to you and they have 2 trucks running all the time. They are located on Moody Lane, under the 100 bridge, next to Hidden Treasure in Flagler Beach, FL. They said it is time to make sure your boat engine is flushed. They are offering 10% off on engine services that ends the end of April. (386) 264-8978. Another new sponsor is Rytech, Tommy Block told us that they do mold remediation, leaks or floods, he deals with the insurance company in helping you. Dana gave a big thanks out to all of our sponsors.

**Weigh Master Report & member fishing reports:** Rita Waddell's question to all was "How's the fishing?" Seemed like the answer was so/so. She told us that the Yearlong Report was on the front table, if anyone needed a copy. For 2018, so far, 10 species have been caught. Claire McIntire is in the lead for the Lady Angler and Aby Moghanaki is in the lead for the Men. The Fish of the Month for March was Trout, Ron Gorney won with a 4.3 oz. trout. For April the FOM will be King Mackerel. Old Business:

**Elections (Nominations):** Bill May said nominations are being taken in the corner of the room with no walls and to put them in the nomination box available. Bill told us that Gary Fisher, a W. Va. Hillbilly, is our Treasurer right now. The Election Committee consisting of Bill May, Andy Block and Jeff Rafter will be reviewing any nominations and making sure the nominating rules apply to those people nominated. Ellen Schuerer will be sending out an Election blast by email and at the May 1 meeting we will vote on those nominees, the election committee will collect those ballots, tally them and announce the winner and that person will fill their positions beginning in June. Bill told us that if you would like to run for those positions, that your dues are free for a year and it comes out to about 4 cents an hour. He reminded us that in order to participate in running for these positions, you must go through a background check. Please take this opportunity to nominate someone for these offices.

**Spring Tournament:** Chuck Radloff & Mike Crotts are chairing this event. Chuck R. said he has had a good response from our sponsors, the tournament shirts are ordered and we can

still put \$250.00 sponsors on the buckets and \$100.00 sponsors on the scoreboard. We are raising money this year for the Disabled American Veterans, all monies raised will stay local. He is still looking for silent auction and raffle items. The Dunlawton ramp has been added to the checkouts this year. High Bridge walkways are closed off but you can still launch from there, but just be careful. If you sign up before April 24<sup>th</sup>, the fee is \$55.00 for club members, \$60.00 for non-members. After April 24, there will be a late fee of \$5.00 for members and non members. There will be a Flagler Slam for all but for club members only, there will also be a Count the Spots extra prize. The CCA will be involved in this year's tournament. If you bring your live redfish to the weigh-in and donate it to CCA Florida STAR, you will receive a \$25.00 prize package including a STAR t-shirt, a Realtree Fishing camo hat, plus you will be entered into a drawing for a \$500 rod and reel combo from Bull Bay Tackle. They will be taking any of the donated redfish and they will tag those fish and they will be released at the CCA tournament on 5/26. Mike Crotts has the posters and flyers on the tournament, so please pick some up to distribute to any businesses that would hang them up for us. Lisa Moravec is selling the raffle tickets for the Cooler of Joy, CCI has also donated the Cooler of Joy and the alcohol for it. Sign-up sheets for volunteers for the captain's meeting and the weigh-in are being passed around, please help out at these events. Beach Front Grille on A1A is a new sponsor for us and the captain's meeting will be held there. The weigh-in will be held at Hidden Treasure, so come to these events even if you don't fish the tournament and support the club.

**Count the Spots Tournament:** Peter Bessette chaired this event and his report on it was that he hoped all who attended had a good time. We had great weather that day and a lot of fish got weighed in.

**Introduce some other sponsors:** Dana took a moment to introduce some other sponsors that we have. Jim McIntire represented Thomas & Betts, who is one of our major sponsors, they have two manufacturing plants in Ormond, they produce electrical products that are sold in ABB, Home Depot, etc. Jim mentioned that Claire seems to be the fisherwoman in the family and he is the captain of the boat. He said to enjoy yourself on the water. Tom & Lisa Moravec represented World Wide Safety Consulting, and they deal with safety issues and have worldwide professional supply teams. They are a leader for Health & Safety Management and emphasize on environmental concerns and ecological issues. Kevin Clymer came all the way over from Clymer Funeral, located next door to the VFW, just 200 feet up the road. He said that his business is there to take care of the needs of your family at a very stressful time in your life and to help you in any way they can. He also told us that "This club is awesome!" We certainly want to thank our sponsors and let them know we appreciate them very much.

**New Members Clinic Report:** Walt Huresky said the clinic was very successful and people let him know they learned a lot from it. He said someone left a jacket and a chair at the clinic, so let him know if these items are yours. Walt was modeling the apron tonight that he won at a previous Fish Smoke Off event in 2015. Walt told us that he had 11 speakers at the clinic and 115 people signed up to attend and that he had an actual count that day of 92. The next clinic will be held at the same place, the community center in the Hammock's on 8/11. So, if you missed the March event, plan on coming to the August clinic. We have captains from the club that are the speakers with 30 yrs



experience on the intercoastal and ocean waters. There is a lot of knowledge to be gained from listening to them. The fishing is different here, you don't have to have a boat. Walt thanked all the volunteers for their help and the speakers for their expertise and knowledge. Walt told us that Amanda Reynolds will be taking over the High Bridge Bait Shop. Ellen will send out an email blast with information when it opens.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Gary Fisher wanted to also mention a sponsor of ours, CCI Insurance, our vice president's company. He said he had issues from Hurricane Irma on his house and Dana's company helped get his home repairs done. CCI insures homes, cars, boats to name a few. Ads for our sponsors can be found in the Chum Line.

**Bottom Trip:** Tim Miller said this trip is on May 19<sup>th</sup> on the boat called the Critter Fleet out of Ponce Inlet. It is a 90' boat and we will sign up 65 people for this trip. Cost is \$70.00 for members, \$100.00 for non-members. Details on the trip are included in your April Chum Line. Tim said to sign up in advance and if you are unable to go, you will get a refund of your money. After 5/1 if any spots are left, they will open up to non club members. You will have to tip the crew, the usual amount is 10-15% and the crew helps you on the boat and will clean your fish for tips. Weather-if the seas are less than 4-6 feet the boat will go out, if over 6 feet, they will cancel. Watch your speed getting to the boat the morning of the trip on A1A, speed traps are set up there. Speeds are 25-30 MPH. Tim said they signed up 40 people at tonight's meeting, there are 25 spots left.

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Smoke Off:** Andy Block is chairing this event. Andy asked for a show of hands of people who smoke fish, 6 people responded. He said at the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting the Smoke Off will be held. You can enter as many times as you wish with different kinds of fish: Blues, redfish, Jack, etc. There will be three prizes, 1<sup>st</sup> place is the apron that Walt modeled for us, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is a club hand towel and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will be a bag of smoking chips. There will be new judges this year and he needs some volunteers to fill those positions. Please see him after he speaks, if you are interested in being a judge. Bring in your smoked fish dip, this will not be judged and show up before 7 PM with your smoked fish. He said they have been catching nice whiting and bluefish by using sand fleas as bait. 2<sup>nd</sup> Item: Gamble Rodgers, for the fifth year, is running their Surf Fishing seminar, it will be for 3 hours, starting from 10 AM – 1 PM. To be held at Gamble Rogers State Park on A1A, there will be a limit of 25 people. Gamble Rodgers has a tight budget. Seminar will include information on what bait, rigs and gear to use. Andy's wife Jodie will also be at the seminar. Date of event is April 21<sup>st</sup>, fee is \$20.00 for the seminar and a \$5.00 for the park entrance fee.

**Surf Fishing Tournament:** Roy Lawson and Diana MacDonald will be chairing this event. The Beach Party part of this event has been cancelled this year, due to Hurricane damages on the beaches. The event will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> from 6 AM – 2 PM. Weigh in will be from 1-2 PM at Betty Stefflick Preserve, under the 100 Bridge in Flagler Beach. Lunch and water will be available, a surf rod valued at \$300.00 will be raffled off. More details will be made available in the May issue of the Chum Line. Question was asked from Ron Gorney if the club had any connections with the county to lodge complaints about the High Bridge repair work. Answer

was that there will be new owners coming in to the bait shop and they will be contacting the county and try to get the repairs done ASAP.

#### **10 Minute Break**

**Guest Speaker:** Captain Don Taylor, who came all the way to us from Jacksonville, gave many tips on how to catch those winning fish to enter into our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Classic Tournament. He was invited to speak to us by Capt. Jim Britton. He began by telling us how he fishes in the back country. Don is a full time guide in Jacksonville and has participated in elite series tournament events. Advice for us on getting ready for a tournament is to check the tides the day of our tournament, we will have a low tide in the morning, he said you should keep logs of your fishing outings and put as much info down as you can such as; temperature that day, the wind speeds, how the water was flowing, where you fished, what bait you used and if and where you found fish and what areas were successful in finding fish. Take pictures on your cell phone of conditions that day and spots that you fished at and go back to the times of your best fishing spots. Make sure to inspect your boat and motors, batteries and equipment on the boat before your tournament day and check your rods and fishing equipment and have your bait ready to go. Make up your rigs ahead, so that if you lose your rig to a fish or oyster bed, you can easily replace it and don't spend time on repairs, instead of trying to get a fish. Fish for the species you are looking for at 7 AM with low tide, try to find the lowest tide. You can get reds on low tide and follow the creeks. He fishes around structures and oyster beds with top water bait and he uses spider wire braid. If using live bait, he uses finger mullet or mud minnows on a small sheepshead jig. Minnows would be his first choice of bait, with crab his second choice. He can target fish in 8 to 15 inches of water, target reds on lowtide. Target trout at around 8:30 AM in moving current water. Use a topwater plastic in the flats, creeks and around the oyster bars. For trout, live bait would be mud minnows or live shrimp. You can also find trout around docks and structures. Popping corks across the grass flats work year round, in 4 ft. water. New Concept Lures makes a popping cork that you can throw into the wind. He uses a 17 lb leader about 16-18 inches long, let the cork sit and the trout will come to it and stay up current from the fish. He will wait for fish if he knows the fish come in that area at a certain time. You have to move around and cover ground to get more fish. When he sees bait busting, then he will pop the cork. He uses a 7 foot medium light rod and will use a J hook or a circle hook, running a trolling motor to move into the skinny flats. He sights the fish from his platform, that way he knows where they are and he marks that area and comes back later to fish it again. Trout look for moving water. He said flounder is tough fishing for him. Use a 4" jighead, you can catch flounder on any tide except if the tide is moving too fast. Flounder are not as aggressive, you have to get on top of them. He drags the bait instead of popping it. For Black Drum, target deeper water, in 20-25' water, he uses blue crab. You can catch Black Drum in ocean beds and off docks. He takes the shell off a blue crab and uses a half of the crab, put it on the bottom and uses a circle hook. **50/50 Winner:** \$157.00 was won by Tonya and Mike White, who joined the club tonight.

#### **Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM**

Minutes by Secretary Carol Carter





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