



*Fishing Club!*  
*New Port Richey, FL*

## **March 2015 News Letter**

*(new format)*

**General membership meeting:** 36 established members, 4 new or returning members and 8 guests attended the February meeting. The members and guests gathered at 6:30 pm on February 3, at the Gulf Landings Clubhouse to socialize. President Chet Jasak opened the meeting at 7:00.

### **New Members:**



**Bruce (and Barbara) Manning** – Long time resident in NPR. He has a boat and fishes mainly inshore, would like to fish with other members.



**Ben and Nancy Boomer** – Snowbirds currently in NPR. They are avid fishers and do not currently have a boat but would like to go out with other club members.



**Dick (and Carol) Giese – Returning Member** - Snow birds currently living in Port Richey. He likes to fish inshore, offshore and fresh water. He does not have a boat but would like to fish with other members of the club.

**Charles (Chuck) and Ruby Walters** – Snowbirds currently living in Hudson. They have a boat and are experienced in inshore, offshore and freshwater fishing. They would also like to go out with other members. We will get Chuck's picture at the next meeting.

**[Members Area](#)** ← *click her to go to members only area to see our members. If you have trouble getting to Members area or need the password call Frank Bellizio at 727-597-0741*

**Guests Attending were:** Chuck Eley, Charles Walters, Joe Harrington, Peter Giacalone, Jerry Weiss, David Ritter, Dennis Ritter, and John Haeder.

**The Program at the February meeting** was presented by our resident “knot guru” Jack Hexter who demonstrated various common and not so common fishing knots that many members had heard of but don’t regularly tie. A great website for more knot instruction is <http://www.animatedknots.com> or [http://www.netknots.com/fishing\\_knots/](http://www.netknots.com/fishing_knots/)

### **Upcoming Events and sign-up sheets at March meeting:**

**General Membership Meeting** – 3 March at 6:30pm, Gulf Landings Clubhouse  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be our guest speaker

**Main Street Clean-up** – Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> of March at 0800, sign-up sheet will be available at next meeting. Chairperson Bernard Zanetti

**Breakfast Social:** - Monday 16 March – at the Broken Yolk on Grand, 8:30am  
If you have any questions call Dave Taylor @ 727-484-6767

**Dinner Social** – Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup> at the **Cheyrl Lee’s Restaurant** 7045 Ridge Road at 5:30pm. If you eat there anytime, mention the fishing club and they will donate 10% of the bill to the Wish to Fish program each month. If you have any questions call Ernie @ 727-862-6047

**Member Grouper Fishing Trip on the “Two Georges”**, sometime in April, date TBD, sign up sheet will be available at next meeting. Contact Frank Bellizo with questions.

**Fish On Club Spring Tournament** – Saturday 4 April, weigh in at 4pm, pay Mike Spanhel the \$5 entry fee **“before”** the tournament – Sign- up sheet will be available next meeting.

**Wish to Fish** – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of April – sign-up sheets available next meeting, we need 15 dedicated volunteers

**Anclote Childrens Fishing Tournament** - Saturday 18 April – sign-up sheets available next meeting – need 10 volunteers

**Next Board Meeting:** Monday, 23 March, at 7:00 PM at the Key Vista Clubhouse

**Fishing Regulations:** Jack Hexter discussed the Gulf Reef Fish Survey. This is a FREE registry and will provide better data to the State on just how many people are actually going offshore to fish for reef fish, as opposed to those who just remain on the flats or shore. It includes those over the age of 65 when no license is needed, but you should be included in the registry. Sign up to participate in the Gulf Reef Fish Survey today, [sign up online](#) Want to know more about the [Gulf Reef Fish Survey](#)? Visit [MyFWC.com/Fishing](http://MyFWC.com/Fishing) and click on “Saltwater,” “Recreational Regulations” and “Gulf Reef Fish Survey.”

The following two pictures prove there are fish to be caught in the winter. You just have to be persistent. Check out the Fishing reports on our website. Good going guy’s!



[Fishing Reports](#) ← Click this Link to see fishing reports on our website.





## Ongoing Fishing tournaments:

[Targeted Species Rules](#) ← click this link to see detailed rules

January species was Trout: both Chet Jasak and Mike Brumley tied with each catching a 22" Speckled Trout.

**February species** selected is **Redfish** (Red Drum)

The fish for the Month of March will be: Mackerel (King or Spanish)

The fish for the Month of April will be: to be determined

[Fish of the Month Tournament Rules](#) ← Click this link to see detailed rules

A Blowfish was drawn from the bowl and the winner was Frank Bellizio with a 9 incher

**Year Long Tournament:** Mike Spanhel went over the rules and discussed that it is \$5 per type of fish to enter. You must be signed up and paid before you catch the fish to enter. You should provide date fish was caught, type of fish and length to Mike Spanhel via email or phone within 24-48 hours of the catch. Pictures are not required but we love to have pictures of our members with their prize catches. *Click this link to see detailed tournament rules:* [Year Long Tournament](#)

**Nomination & Election of Officers:** The floor was open for the third month for more nomination of officers. A motion was made by Roger Depauw to close nominations and to have the secretary to cast one ballot for each nominee to elect them for our 2015 executive board. A second was made and accepted, thereby confirming the nominated officers. Chet gave a hardy thank you to Terry our former VP and Jerry our former Secretary for all their hard work on behalf of the club.

**New Business:** Chet asked the member for suggestions for meeting topics & speaker. Some of the suggestions were: Annual boat maintenance or putting your boat away for the summer, how to read solar/moon charts and tide tables, fish cooking recipes or have a Chef speak, Boat Safety/Coast Guard Auxiliary, Boat Captains/Fishing Guides, GPS/Electronics reading, Marine insurance, how to make jigs or wrap rods, fishing reel maintenance, essential boating/safety equipment (EPIRBS/PLB), Some member volunteered to do short 10 minute presentations such as Knife sharpening, fish recipes, etc. If you have a talent that you would like to share with members in a short presentation please let us know and we may use yours as a fill-in at one of our meetings.

**Fish Recipe of the Month – Blackened Fish.** First I put white rice in the rice cooker and turn it on – takes 40 minutes. I like to use a commercial blacked seasoning (brand is called Zatarains). I melt some butter and coat the fillets with the butter and a lot of the seasoning. I pre-heat a dry cast iron skillet on MED/HI. I always open the windows, turning on the vent fan and usually bringing in another fan to push the smoke out the window. As the rice is almost done I place the fillets in the hot, dry cast iron skillet. I cook about 2 full minutes each side, more or less depending on thickness, the fillet begins to curl up on the ends away from the skillet when it is done on that side. Then I place the fillets on a bed of buttered and seasoned rice. Next month Mango or Pineapple Salsa!

The following two pictures are from our February Breakfast Social at the Oaks Café. It was well attended, food was good, and the socializing with fellow fishing friends was GREAT!







### **Tip of the Month –**

Sheepshead are a favorite winter time fish that are an in and off shore species and are commonly found around oyster bars, seawalls and in tidal creeks. They move near shore during late winter and early spring for spawning. To keep them they must be at least 12” long and you are allowed to keep up to 15 per person. Sheepshead feed primarily on crustaceans, mollusks, barnacles and small fish. Anglers typically use light to medium weight spinning tackle with shrimp, sand fleas or small crabs as bait. Using their specially adapted (human like) incisors and crushing molars, sheepshead can be difficult to hook and have an uncanny ability to clean a hook without you knowing anything happened. When targeting sheepshead, it is very important to keep your line tight and be ready for the bite because you often get one, and only one, chance to set the hook. The food quality of sheepshead is very good, and they are one of the only fish that can smile back at you during the picture! Jack’s tip is to add a cloth/crafting pom pom from a fabric store (like Joann’s or Walmart) that is day-glo orange or hot pink. Thread the pom pom onto the hook, super glue it in place and then place the bait next to it, the pom will absorb some of the shrimp or bait smell. The Sheepshead will bite onto the pom pom and will get his teeth stuck on it and will help him not spit the hook or steal your bait. We are not joking. Check out this link ! <http://www.bigbendsportsman.com/tactics/sheepshead.htm>

[fishonclub.us](http://fishonclub.us) Is a great place to direct people interested in knowing more about our club. Lots of information is available for anyone to see BUT if you go to the **Members Area** and put in your password there is much more information available. If you forgot the password you can call Chet @ 727- 816-8991 or Frank @ 727-597-0741.

**Member Profile Forms:** To make it easier for members to contact one another for fishing events, we have developed a member profile form showing interest and experience among other things. This profile is posted on the club website for member access only. We encourage every member to complete the form on the website under the Members area and Frank or Chet will put them up on the website for all members to see.

Members with and without boats desiring to fish with other members with boats should attempt to make contact by phone or email and ask to be included on the next fishing trip. The majority of boat owners enjoy taking new and existing members out with them that’s why they joined the club!

**50/50 Raffle:** Was won **AGAIN** by Mike Kaplan, Congratulations Mike!

### **Club Officers:**

**President:** Chet Jasak

**Vice President:** Frank Bellizio

**Treasurer:** Mike Spanhel

**Advisory Council –** Jim McCarthy

**Secretary:** Mike Brumley

**Sergeant at Arms:** Mike Kaplan

**Member at Large:** Russ Thompson

### **2015 Committee Chairpersons:**

**Wish-to-Fish –** Mike Spanhel

**YMCA Fishing Festival –** Chet Jasak

**Main Street Clean-Up –** Bernard Zanetti

**Club Picnics –** Dave Taylor

**Dinner Socials –** Ernie Philippi

**Club Tournaments –** Jack Hexter

**After Holiday Party** – Russ Thompson

**Fund Raising** – Fred Morin

*If you want to help on any of these committees, see or call the chairperson.  
They can use the help. Get involved in the Club Activities!!*