



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

## **September 2016 News Letter**

**General membership meeting:** 23 established members and 2 guests attended the meeting held on 2 August 2016. Members gathered from 6:30 to 7 pm to set up and socialize in preparation for the meeting. At 7pm the club Vice President Frank Bellizio opened the meeting since Chet was on vacation. We discussed fishing reports and had the drawings at the end.

### **Upcoming Speaker Information –**

Officer Damon Pulaski is a former Air Force Security Policeman who served from 1996 to 2000. He has been with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission since 2005. He will discuss safety and conservation. He mentioned that he would probably have the renowned Biologist Mr Charlie Gardner from the Fisheries Dependent Monitoring Program who will also briefly speak.

<https://www.facebook.com/FWCResearch/>

Officer Damon Pulaski  
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Division of Law Enforcement  
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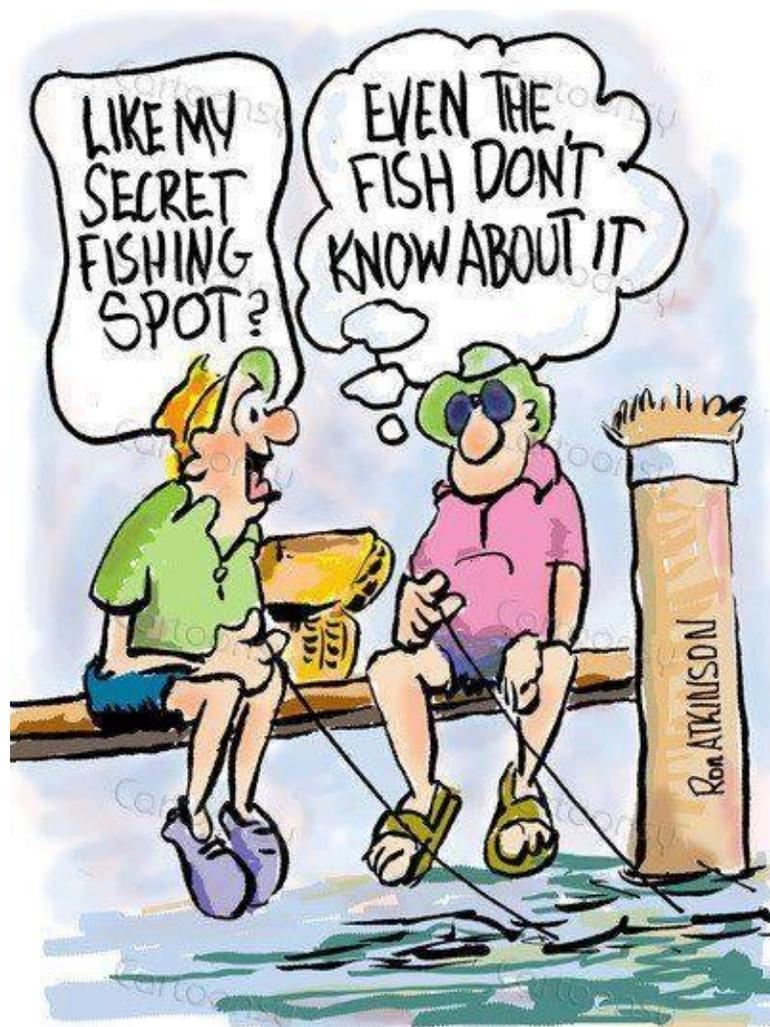


Jean Uffalussy with a beast of a red grouper caught on Mike Kaplan's boat on 22 August 2016

**New Business and Upcoming Events:**

**Board Member Nominations** - We are beginning our search for new board members for 2017. It is essential that we get some new blood so as to keep the club fresh and exciting. Generally, only 10 or 12 members are active in running the Fish-On-Club. We ask that you consider nominating yourself or the person next you for a position on the board. We need help with President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member at Large, and Sergeant at Arms. We will discuss this frequently as we get close to the New Year and hope this is the year you can step up and make our club even better.

**Change to Tournament Date in October** – Our tournaments have historically been on Saturday to make it easier for members that work to attend. Since most of our members are retired and the ones that do work can have flexible schedules it was decided to move the upcoming tournament to the following Monday. This will help with overcrowding at the launch during the beginning and end of the tournament. The date was changed from 8 October 2016 to 10 October 2016. Weigh in is promptly at 1600 at Nick's Park. You must pay Mike S. before the tournament if you wish to compete for prizes.



**Fishing tournament committee needed:**

Our spring and Fall tournaments are well attended but, our current yearly and monthly tournaments and not being supported very well. Mike S. is requesting help in coming up with new & better tournaments starting in the upcoming year. Would you **PLEASE contact Mike to help him come up with new and exciting tournament ideas** to recommend to our executive board.

**General Membership Meetings** - Next meeting 2 Aug 2016 at 6:30pm  
*Meetings are the FIRST Tuesdays of each month*

**Monthly Dinner Socials:** The next Dinner social is scheduled for Oct 19 at the VFW 4412 in Hudson.

**Wish-to-Fish for Veterans:** We have a "FULL" boat with 57 veterans and 9 non-vet club members (total of 66 people) signed for our Two Georges, Tarpon Spring outing on **Wednesday September 21**. If you have NOT signed up it is too late as we cannot take any more people. Our club is only paying to charter the boat. **Drinks and food can be purchased at the ships galley if you do not bring your own.** The boat provides the poles and bait but you can bring your own if you would like.

## **Old Business and Past Events**

### **Regulations –**

Snook season reopens 1 Sep. Bag limit is one per harvester. Not less than 28" total length (TL) or more than 33" TL

<http://myfwc.com/license/recreational/do-i-need-a-license/>

My future fishing buddy with a Snook! Yeah right.....



### **Tip of the Month –**

**Scott Moore's Snook Fishing Secrets** by G. B. Knowles  
Chapter 12, **Light Tackle Tactics for Big Fish**, Pg. 125

Today everybody uses light tackle for snook. Yet there are still many misconceptions about snook gear.

The most important piece of equipment for catching big snook on light tackle is the rod. Scott uses long stiff rods for several reasons.

First of all the whitebait that is so important to a successful snook trip between March and October can be easily thrown off when casting. Also catching snook over the clear shallow grass flats means keeping the boat as far from the fish as possible. Tuna towers spook flats snook. Boat hulls spook flats snook. Anglers wearing the wrong color of shirt or hat really spook snook.

Yet if you fish a tower boat, or have customers who show up at the dock wearing a pink shirt, there aren't a lot of things you can do about those problems, except stay as far from the fish as possible.

That's where the long, stiff rods come in handy. Such poles will cast a bait or lure a country mile with little effort. And that means throwing off fewer baits. Scott has experimented with several rods, and many will work. But his personal favorites are made by Daiwa, Penn and G. Loomis.

The long stiff rod is also a valuable tool when fighting the fish. Snook are famous for their fighting abilities. Hooked snook make strong runs. Their aerial displays would embarrass a sailfish. They use every part of their marine home to help dislodge a hook. And they usually succeed.

Snook have tough mouths compared with a trout, flounder or members of the mackerel family. Yet a snook's mouth isn't anywhere near as tough as the mouth of a permit, redfish or tarpon. The cartilage in a snook's mouth tears easily. Snook are lost to pulled hooks more than just about any other fish.

Consequently, Scott likes his anglers to take it easy on hooked snook and wear them out away from the boat. If you bring a green snook close to the boat the sudden burst of power that it puts on when it spots the vessel will often result in the hook pulling free.

The long rod also helps in fighting the snook gently. By keeping the rod between the ten and two o'clock positions the angler can put steady, easy pressure on the fish without a lot of effort. Shorter rods mean more work for the angler and, therefore, the greater chance for a mistake.

The long rod also helps when the fish jump. Due to the ease that a snook's mouth tears Scott has developed a system for fighting these gamefish that parts company with techniques used for fighting most fish.

Tarpon, marlin and other aerial speedster present specific problems for the angler. When these gamefish jump their speed doubles as they soar out of water. Without the burden of water friction to slow it down a leaping tarpon's speed dramatically increases. And that can result in the line breaking, the hook being thrown, or the fish landing on a tight line - which also results in a lost fish.

To combat this problem veteran tarpon anglers bow and point the rod straight at the jumping silver king. But Scott says that's the wrong thing to do with snook.

"First of all, a lot of snook are hooked in very shallow water on light line. And that means you often can not tell the fish is going to jump until it's too late," Moore explains.

"But, even if you know he's going to jump, pointing the rod at the fish creates slack line. And if the fish is hooked in certain parts of the mouth the hook will most likely have begun to tear in the softer cartilage. If you give him slack line he will easily throw the hook.

Instead Moore insists that the proper way to address jumping linesiders is to pull back gently on the rod when the fish takes to the air. This technique helps keep slack out the line and frustrates the snook's efforts to throw the hook. It's a very good technique for fly fishermen to master because the belly in the fly line also helps take up slack as the rod is pulled back.

### **ATTENTION all fishermen! Members LIKE FISHING REPORTS!**

PLEASE submit a report EVERY time you return from fishing, even if nothing was caught. The more fishing information shared with your fellow members helps us all become better fishermen. Information like time of day, tide movement, weather conditions, general fishing locations, species & size caught.

Picture(s) would be great. Even if nothing spectacular was caught this information would let other members know what is or isn't going on.

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

### **Ongoing Fishing tournaments:**

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

July – Snook  
Aug – Trout  
Sep – Flounder  
Oct – Redfish  
Nov – Gag Grouper  
Dec – Any Mackerel

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

**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 details in your Fishing Report with date fish was caught, type of fish and length within 24-48 hours of the catch. You can access fishing reports on the website. *Click this link to see detailed tournament rules:* [Year Long Tournament](#)

**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*

Website Update: Frank Bellizio has worked hard on the website [www.fishonclub.us](http://www.fishonclub.us) and has been adding recipes, merchandise and fishing videos. Check it out.

**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.

**50/50 Raffle:** Congratulations Ernie in winning the \$48.00 50/50 drawing. It's fun and it earns money for the club. Be sure to buy your tickets. You can't win if you don't play!

**Membership Attendance Raffle:** Mark Morningstar was the lucky winner.

**Club Officers:**

**President:** Chet Jasak

**Vice President:** Frank Bellizio

**Treasurer:** Mike Spanhel

**Advisory Council & Fishing Reg.** Jack H

**Secretary:** Mike Brumley

**Sergeant at Arms:** Jim Soper

**Member at Large:** Bill Herr

**2016 Committee Chairpersons:**

**Wish-to-Fish** – Mike Spanhel

**YMCA Fishing Festival** – Chet Jasak

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

**After Holiday Party** – Russ Thompson

**Club Picnics/Bfst social** – Dave Taylor

**Dinner Socials** – Ernie Philippi

**Club Tournaments** - Mike Spanhel

*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!!*