



Volume 18 Issue 1

March 2014

JIM HENDERSON: ON DECK

When the Saints season was put to bed by the Seahawks in Seattle, the immediate emotions are of sadness and disappointment. But as they subside and the sting of defeat lessens, those emotions are replaced by a sense of relief that the weekly grind of preparation and performance is over for another six months or so. And now there is time to enjoy the smaller pleasures of life that are sacrificed during the football season to the regimented demands of the schedule.

And for me that means fishing — wherever, whenever, for whatever.

I've had the opportunity to fish tarpon in Costa Rica, marlin in Cabo San Lucas, muskies in Canada, salmon in British Columbia, and nearly every species that swims in the waters off Louisiana in the Gulf.



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But what I enjoy the most and do the most is fish for bass in the private lakes and ponds of Mississippi.

To me nothing heralds the impending arrival of spring more than a southerly breeze, red-wing blackbirds chirping in the blooming red bud trees, and pre-spawn bass checking out the warming shallows. Each trip is a challenge to solve a bassin' puzzle. Are they where I expect them to be yet? Are they biting what I expect them to bite now under these conditions? If not, why not? And what adjustments do I need to make if they aren't?

There is the anticipation that a bass should be right there. There is the satisfaction of making just the right presentation. And when that is followed by the delicious moment of realization that a bass has just inhaled the meal you've offered is a sequence I can never get enough of.

I don't always win the battle of wits with the largemouth. It would be boring if I always did. Sometimes I win. Sometimes the fish win.

But every day I come off the lake I feel better than when I went on -- win or lose. During the football season the scoreboard defines success or failure. Out of football season I do. And for every day I have spent on the water, I have won.

 **Effective March 3rd** 

**All lobbies will remain
open until 4:00 p.m.
(Monday - Thursday)**



Saluting Veteran

IN RECOGNITION

In observance of the upcoming holidays, all offices will be closed on: ★ ★ ★

Good Friday
Friday, April 18th
Close at Noon

Memorial Day
Monday, May 26th

Independence Day
Friday, July 4th

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**Congratulations to the winners of the
Quarterly Stars and Stripes Drawing!**

**Sharon Styron of Metairie
Robert Babin of Litcher
Farrah Roybiskie of Gramercy**

Each won a \$50 Visa Gift Card by entering last issue's contest drawing.

Thank you for reading this publication of Stars and Stripes!

To register for a Visa Gift Card from First American Bank, please complete the information below and return to any First American Bank office or mail to:

First American Bank
Attn: Stars and Stripes
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Vacherie, LA 70090

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Please return by April 30, 2014 to be eligible for this drawing.
Winners will be announced in the next quarterly publication of Stars and Stripes.