

Tuna Tower News

VOLUME ONE • JANUARY 2016

Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com



EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton
Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan

NEXT GM
Thursday, January 14, 2016
at 7:30 pm
Cure Of Ars Auditorium
Merrick Avenue • Merrick
(Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)
Come on down for some club history and find out what makes this club what it is today.

At the January GM we will be swearing in our newly elected Officers and Board for 2016. Chris Squeri and Bob Sabella will start off the festivities by highlighting some FTC Milestones and Anniversaries!

President's Message.....

Dear Members,

So as not to scare away any members (and since tin types don't reproduce well...) there will be no picture with the President's Message.

While fishing season is all but over (only cod left for the hearty), I will be doing lots of trolling of a different kind. What am I after? That extremely rare and elusive species, known as the volunteer. These are able to make things happen as committee heads and members. Remember..."what you put in is what you get out."

This year's executive board is an excellent group with 1st V.P. Kevin Killelea, 2nd V.P. Matt Cardone, Treasurer John Daum and Secretary Bill Morrogh. I look forward to working with them.

I have not had to tax (what little might be left of) my grey matter in the 20 years since retirement. What I did can be answered by my former students: Tim Sherman, Chris Bellinzoni, Charlie Sporing or Danny Pollera.

I would like to thank Ray Geiger for his shift at the helm. He steered us through some heavy seas. While we haven't crossed into calm waters just yet, I look forward to getting us there. We need to look back at our history, of which I have 40 years worth and learn from it. History! What a segueway into January's meeting of club history with Chris Squeri and me doing the honors. It would be great to see as many lifetime members in attendance as possible.

I feel it is important to lay out goals and objectives right from the start. I believe we still face many challenges, none of which cannot be overcome if we ALL work together. Our biggest challenge is financial. With that in mind we need to increase membership. My other major goal is to keep our marina full. If we can achieve these two tasks the club can continue its long heritage. Just a note so that all understand, while we are a club, but must run as a business which means when you receive an invoice, please pay it in a timely fashion. Those to whom we owe money aren't interested in that classic quote "I'll gladly pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today." I have several other ideas that we will be exploring as the year progresses. To offer your input and ideas and get feedback your attendance at General Meetings and other club functions is important. I have many fishing secrets but you won't get any if you stay at home and don't get involved in our meetings and functions.

Some of you know me as OLD SAM, that was my dad who sadly passed away much too young. Why the OLD SAM? When I was a kid working with my father we had a mason who did the cement work on the jobs. He would say to my dad, "Old Sam, what are you going to do? Go home and make babies?" It stuck! My father loved fishing, and as far back as I can remember. He took my brother and me fishing whenever he could. He had great patience until the Rheingold ran out (which wasn't too often). Right now the Rheingold is running out for this message.

I look forward to the challenges that 2016 may bring. Wishing all a safe, healthy and happy new year.

FISHING REPORT

Happy New Year!

NOW WHAT?



In my mind, the current fishing season doesn't end until the water temperatures plummet into the thirties, the fish shutdown, and angler participation ceases. We should be a long way from that occurring, but New York's current regulations have left us with seabass, blackfish, porgy, and striped bass seasonal closures, although all are readily available. That leaves herring, mackerel, cod, and ling and yes, bluefish. Also, I also heard reports of medium Bluefin appearing in the Mud Hole, not unusual for this time of year.

Herring were readily available before the holidays in the usual spots and the mackerel were reported in the mix along the Sloop Channel. From the Woodcleft crew I heard of a cod taken by a bass fisherman while clam bellying in Jones Inlet and another caught at the second Wantagh bridge. That may be an indication of the amount of herring around as cod love to follow and feast on herring.

First hand reports were hard to come by but the bottom fishing was good and some took advantage. Nick Nero ran his Dolce Vita to the 30 fathom wrecks for a nice catch of large seabass to 5 lbs, jumbo porgies, and a sprinkling of cod to 15 lbs. On board were Pete Cefai and two other friends.



Nick Nero and Pete Cefai on the Dolce Vita

I did a trip on my Emily S with regular crew of Captain John Jutt, Chuckie and Steve. I elected to stay "inshore, off the offshore fleet", hoping to find more "unpicked" cod. We bounced around working our way deeper until the fish got larger and put together a nice catch of large seabass, 4 cod, and unlimited large porgies fishing out to 20 fathoms plus. When we fished a little shallower, the wrecks were absolutely paved with small seabass, marking fish for literally hundreds of feet in all directions around the structure. I would say the seabass population is healthy but not all agree and cuts are likely next season. Dogfish have been an issue almost everywhere let's hope the cooling water sends them packing. The party boat fleet was fishing offshore structure from 25 to 40 fathoms taking advantage of the abundant seabass and porgies right until the end, with a mix of cod and bluefish.

Most would agree that the blackfish season was top notch, with an amazing amount of large tog' pulled from various areas, particularly to the west. I did not get in on the action in December, but right before Christmas the Hempstead Reef lit up with large fish. With the shortage of green crabs, white crabs really came into their own especially on the large fish. Many may never switch back!

So now what? Cod have been available in the inshore wrecks with little pressure on them. There has been a lot of bait in the area, I'm hoping an inshore run of cod develops and we get some good shots at fish before the winter really sets in.

I'd like to wish everyone a Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year!

Many FTC members take fishing vacations to warmer climates, please consider sharing your fishing tales and pictures with our membership by sending them in.

Please email your reports to philton@optonline.net; or text/call me at 516.721.8907 Don't forget to send pictures and catch details for consideration by the Bulletin Committee for "Catch of the Month".

*~ Sincerely,
Paul Hilton F/V Emily S*

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FTC MEMBER**



January 2016 Derby, Awards & Contest Report

Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh • Committee Team: Captain Michael Zullo

The 2015 season is in the books!

Congratulations to the anglers who sent in weigh slips throughout the year. We also have some leftover 2015 Derby awards to present. Joe Mangiapanello (Bluefish) and John Funicello (Shark). Come to the January GM and collect your swag!

*** NOTE ON ANNUAL AWARDS ***

If you're holding weigh slips that you feel are eligible for consideration for Annual Awards you must get them in to the Committee by THURSDAY, JANUARY 14th!!!!!! No weigh slips will be considered after this due date.

The following Derby winners will be recognized at the January GM:

Blackfish - 9/17-11/29

1st Place:	Peter Groner	11.38 FV Endless Summer II
2nd Place:	Maryellen Zullo	7.31 FV Magic Too
3rd Place:	Mike Zullo	7.06 FV Magic Too

Bluefish - 9/19-11/29

1st Place:	John Gerrity	15.88 FV Betty III
2nd Place:	Tim Sherman	14.13 FV Betty III
3rd Place:	Rick Totten	14.06 FV Hooker

Shark - 9/19-11/29

No Winner

Striped Bass - 10/10-11/29

1st Place:	John Kampa	23.0 FV Molly Brown
2nd Place:	Adam Bollaci	22.94 FV Hooker
3rd Place:	Joe King	22.6 FV Kingfisher

Cod - 10/3-12/13

1st Place:	Nick Nero	15.44 FV Dolce Vita
2nd Place:	No Winner	



*The Freeport Tuna Club
wishes to thank the following Members and Business
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If I left anyone out I apologize.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Just a reminder for all those who have boats at the property for storage, in water or on land. Do not leave heaters and or battery chargers plugged in without being attended to. No overnight electrical devices are to be left on. Unattended electrical devices cause most marina fires during the winter months. On other note, only approved marine electrical cords are allowed. Hardware store extension cords are not allowed and will be unplugged if found. Your cooperation is appreciated.

PROPERTY BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Happy New Year! There are a few outstanding payments due for winter storage so please send in your payment as soon as possible. The summer lease agreements for 2016 will be mailed shortly. The rate for 2016 has been reduced to **\$78 a foot with no minimum. All owners leasing a slip will be charged an additional \$175 if storing a trailer on the property.** Freezers are \$175. A deposit of \$300 is due upon signing the lease which will secure you slip for the 2016 season. You will receive two invoices for the balance owed, one due on **April 1st** and the second payable on **May 31st**. Before your Vessel can be in the Marina you will need to supply an updated insurance policy to the Property Business Manager. Please let me know if you are not renewing your lease so I can quickly determine which slips will be available. Any member interested in a slip should contact me as soon as possible. Our goal is to fill the marina!

My cell number, email address, and work phone number are below: Capt. Alan Evelyn, Cell: 917-750-8710 Work: 516-299-2523, Email: capt.al@fishtaxiny.com.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Brian Doherty on the passing of his father. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brian and his family.

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Winter Storage

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**LEASES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO PUTTING YOUR VESSEL ON THE PROPERTY!
PLEASE CONTACT THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE BEFORE PLACING YOUR BOAT ON THE PROPERTY
SO YOU CAN BE ASSIGNED A STORAGE LOCATION.**

For more information or to sign a lease agreement, contact Alan Evelyn, FTC Property Manager by phone (cell 917-750-8710) (work 646-312-2208) or by email (alan.evelyn@baruch.cuny.edu).

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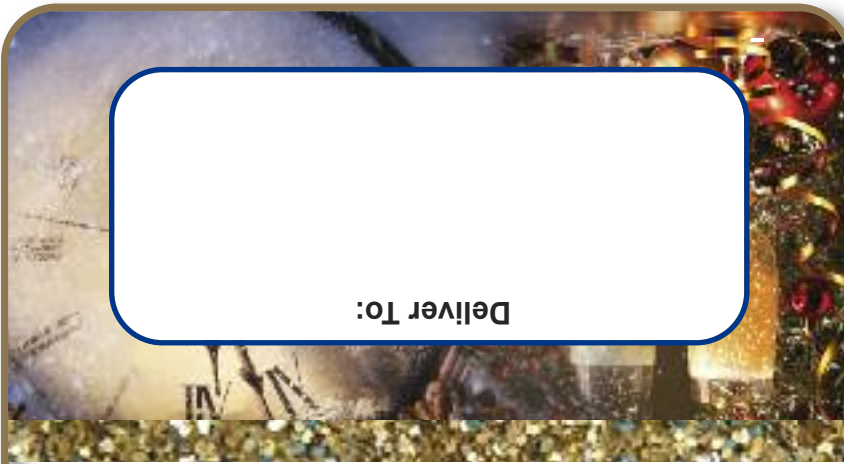
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Happy New Year

The editorial staff of the
Tuna Tower News wishes
the entire FTC membership
A Happy New Year

We thank all who have
contributed your time,
expertise and input.
This Year we look forward
to more participation by you,
the members, in continuing
to make this publication
the best in the fishing
club community.

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