

# Tuna Tower News

**Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.**

Phone (516) 378-9717

Internet Address: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)

Volume two • February 2005

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING

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**Thursday, Feb. 10th at 8:00 pm**

Curé of Ars School Auditorium  
Merrick Ave., Merrick

(South of Sunrise Hwy. between Sunrise Hwy. & Merrick Road)  
For more info call 516-546-2312

## SPLASH

**Stop Pollution Littering and Save Harbors. 15 years 15 tons collected.  
proper disposal of boating waste, storm drain run-off, effects of boat detergents,  
bottom paints, overboard discharge, health effects to all living plants, fish,  
marshlands, come see this presentation and get educated.**

Robert Weltner, President of Splash, Capt. Don Harris, V.P. of Splash

## President's Message

Dear Members.

As February rolls in I'm sure we are starting to have a taste of cabin fever.

To start I would like to thank the fuering team from Sea- Isle sports center for a job well done at our January general meeting . We can look forward to another informative general meeting this month. The president and vice president of SPLASH will be presenting at our meeting. This presentation will "educate" our members on some of the damage we are causing to our precious environment. They will make us aware of what we can do to protect our environment while we enjoy boating, fishing and building memories to talk about for some time to come.

Let's not forget every little bit helps in preserving our waters. Please come on down to listen and learn. All of our committees are running full steam ahead in planning a year full of activities for all of our members to take part in. We have our sport fishing federation show at the Freeport Recreation Center scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday February 16, 17 and 18th. Anyone interested in helping please see Scott Shafer at the next general meeting .

Enclosed in this months bulletin please find an insert of preliminary award recipients. Please review carefully to make sure nothing was overlooked. We can look forward to our annual awards night that Captain Larry Festa and his committee have diligently

been working on. We look forward to these awards. These awards recapture all of our achievements from the past year. It gives us a few moments to acknowledge all our faithful fisherman who have put their time in and are rewarded. I personally look forward to this night.

We have started to work on the calendar of events to distribute to all members. On the note of members My membership committee informs me that renewals have been coming in. For those of you who have been busy, you might have overlooked renewing your membership. There will be a membership table setup at the next general meeting for your convenience.

I once again would like to thank you, the membership for this opportunity to serve you as your club leader. I urge every member to put their best foot forward to help serve on a committee or at one of the club sponsored events. This will help our great club run smoother.

Have a little courage and make that change and make a difference, the change might be forever.

As Robert Louis Stevenson once said:

"Keep your fears to yourself, but share your courage with others".

Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr.

P.S. TO ALL THE LADIES.... HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!" 

# FISHING BULLETIN

Today the ground hog will hop shadow. If he does then our v has six weeks left. Although we been brutally battered by our winter, I am sure we all have l enough of this type of weather. Let's hope that we can put some stock in that report and that spring- time is just around the corner. In retrospect we have generally enjoyed a relatively mild winter. The rest of February and March will tell the tale.



On the fishing front the only decent report was just recently from Montauk. Paul Hilton along with his buddy fished aboard a party boat and was treated with very decent cod action. He reported that the 25 anglers on board caught 130 keeper cod. The pool fish was in the 15lb range and many throwbacks were reported as well. Upon hearing that report former club President, Scott Schafer sailed his vessel to the cod grounds and reported a slow pick with fish up to 12lbs.

Our local action has shut down completely as is typical

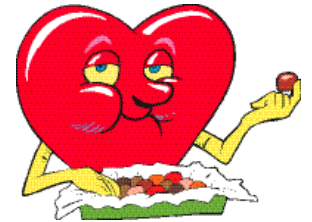
for this time of the year. The local water temperatures are low and the most recent snowfall will not help out, as the run off will further cool down the area waters.

The offshore wrecks continue to yield decent numbers of seabass, pollack & hake. The problem getting to these grounds has been the continued high winds. Our codfishing has not taken hold and I hope that we can expect a few fish to be caught in the springtime, which has been the case the last several seasons.

Our Annual Freeport Tuna Club Codfish Trip, sailing from Montauk aboard the Viking Star has a list of anglers already signed up and should be sold out shortly. If you are thinking about signing up you should do so now as the trip will be limited to 35 anglers. The trip is scheduled to leave on Friday evening April 15th and return Sunday evening April 17th. The fare is \$ 210.00 per person and if you were on board for last years trip then you know what it is all about.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt  
F/V Blue Marlin



## PROPERTY

Docking at the Freeport Tuna Club represents one of the best buys in town. Where else can you dock for \$ 48 a foot and be able to drive your car right to your boat, have anyone work on it, keep a dock box behind your boat and a freezer to store your bait close by, all behind an automatic locking gate securing a fully fenced in and lighted yard. . Plus the added knowledge that everyone docking in the marina is a fellow club member. No wonder we are full. This year, five members are docking their boat at the Club's property for the first time. This has caused a decrease in the waiting list. If you would like to take advantage of the opportunity, contact Mike Sullivan for details of how to get on the list.

## MEMBERSHIP

January is past and if you have not paid your dues you are also past; that is past due! For those people who paid timely we appreciate it, and thank you. For those people who have forgotten to send in their payment, please do so. People who have outstanding dues, or dockage charges are not eligible for any awards and or prizes, so send in the money!

## PRESS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Press and Public Relations committee is sending out bi-monthly press releases to various news worthy publications and to members of the trade. If you have anyone you would like added to this list please send their email address, fax number, mailing address, and contact Name to: FTC@thebermans.com and they will be added to the list.

## WEBSITE

Have you visited the club Website ([www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)) lately? It's a great source of club information. We've posted the 2005 Derby dates and are in the process of updating all the other pages too. We also list Derby winners and club records on the site. The "Fishing Reports" page is a great place to share information with other club members. The reports section uses an ID and PASSWORD to insure privacy. Give it a try. Feel free to bring questions or suggestions regarding the Website to my attention at any club function.

Bill Morrogh

# CLUB AWARDS & DERBY DATES

Capt. Lawrence J. Festa F/V Kristen

January 2005 Derby Report Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa F/V "†  
Committee Team:

Captain Chris Bellinzoni F/V "FOUR BELLS,@  
Captain Michael Zullo & Mary Ellen Zullo Fishing Team "MAGIC TOO"  
Anthony Testa F/V "STEPHANIE



The results are official, congratulations to all winners. If there are any discrepancies contact me as soon as possible. The awards will be given out at our March 2005 GM. In addition to our awards and club records we will be honoring our junior anglers with a junior achievement award, I will be excepting names up until February 18th 2005. If your child caught, tagged or released a fish they will receive an award. One plaque per child. Only children who are not receiving annual awards or club records are eligible. So far the following junior angler will be recognized.

Sarah Bollaci 16.9 lb. Striped Bass  
Steven Woodiwiss 7.7 lb. Fluke  
Nicole Hilton 10 lb. Striped Bass  
A.J Coleman 31.25 lb. Striped Bass  
Anthony Testa Jr. 15 lb. Striped Bass  
Troy Gerrity Bluefin Tuna RELEASE

Mitchell Coleman 22.5 lb. Striped Bass  
Paul Michael Hilton Striped Bass RELEASE  
Alfonso Casciano Fluke RELEASE  
James Weinblatt 6 lb. Cod  
Jason Ortiz 10 lb. Striped Bass

In closing these plaques will be given out at the start of our evening. It is not to late to be recognized.

Contact: Captinlarry84@aol.com

Currently there are no derbies in progress or starting this month. The 2005 Derby Dates are officially posted on are web site.

Club Records	New 2005 Winners		
Kenneth Kapner:	25 lb. King Salmon	Lake Ontario	Sept. 9, 2004
Dennis Cataldo	11.56 lb. Red Grouper	Marathon Fl.	April 7, 2004
Scott Novick	14.25 lb. Wolfish	Montauk, NY	April 26, 2004
Kenneth Kapner	21 lb. Wolfish	Green Harbor	April 29, 2004
Scott Novick	7.12 lb. Haddock	Rockport Ma.	July 11, 2004
Taylor Krug	34 lb. Striped Bass	Montauk, NY	August 22, 2004
Jillian Edelman	10.5 lb. Fluke	Montauk, NY	August 28, 2004

## CONSERVATION

Who said "You can't tell the players without a score card". This has never been more accurate than it is now regarding our fisheries. It seems as if every year each specie lines up to take it's turn at arbitration before the government. These are the current regulations on the fish who have gone through the process for 2005.

**Flounder 11"**, minimum 15 fish bag limit. Opens 3rd Saturday in March and closes June 30th and remains closed until 2006.

**Blackfish 14"** minimum 10 fish bag limit. Open until May 31st. Closed June 1st to Sept 30th and reopening on October 1.

**Striped Bass 28"** minimum, 1 fish.

The Hudson River limit was increased to 24" from 18". No trebles with bait are allowed in the Hudson and circle hooks are recommended. Albany will decide soon if we will have a second striped bass at 40" or greater. The season opens April 15th and closes December 16th. **Bluefish** are open all year with a limit of 10 and we can go to 15 if anyone believes that is necessary!

**Porgies** to be finalized but the regs. Will be more liberal than last year. There will be no 2 week Summer or Fall closure.

**SeaBass 12"** limit. 25 fish limit open without any 2 week Summer/Fall closure. **Fluke** - The MRAC has recommended 1 17 1/2 size limit with a 5 fish bag limit. The exact dates are not official yet, but it appears the season will open 4/29 or 5/1 and stay open until 10/31.

Dennis Cataldo-Conservation Committee Chairman

**Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.**

Chartered to Promote  
Sport-fishing & Conservation

**2005 Officers**

Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr. ....President

James Rooney.....1st Vice President

Chris Squeri..... 2nd Vice President

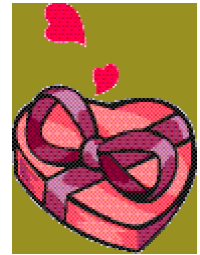
Mike Sullivan ..... Treasurer

Chris Bellinzoni ..... Secretary



**Post Office Box 5  
Freeport, New York 11520**

**Deliver To:**



**NY SPORTFISHING  
FEDERATION SHOW  
FREEPORT REC CENTER**

*FEB. 16,17, & 18  
Fri., sat. & sun.*

*we need your help.  
volunteers needed to man  
the booth. Please contact  
Scott Schafer at  
516-781-4200.*

**ANNUAL  
FTC CODFISH TRIP  
Montauk April 15-17  
Contact  
Harry Weinblatt at  
516-623-9860**

**CLASSIFIED:**

**ANYCLASSIFIED LISTING FOR SALE OR TRADE PLEASE MAIL TO:  
FTC CLASSIFIED/CATCH OF THE MONTH CORNER  
C/O JOHN JUTT  
2848 WHALENECK DRIVE • MERRICK, NY 11566  
LISTINGS ARE FREE • FOR CLUB MEMBERS ONLY**

**For Sale**

- Canon Unitroll Down Riggers \$259 each, never used, Best Offer
- Kaysco 3/4 H.P. De-Icer, used 2 seasons, Best Offer  
Dan Kahn 516-783-0136
- 1984 Tiara Pursuit 27, cabin, stand up head, twin 220 crusaders, GPS, Depth finder, radio, out riggers, \$27,500 Also, 16 ft. heavy fiberglass dingy \$200. Call Michael 516-535-4085, [embroidme@optonline.net](mailto:embroidme@optonline.net)
- 12' Barneget Duck Boat by Aero Marine. Locking hard cover and spray shield, 15 h.p. Mariner w/ Sting Ray Jr., 3 yr. old trailer \$2,250.00 Call Ron 516-593-6560

