

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# TUNA TOWER NEWS

FEBRUARY 2021  
www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR:  
CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.



# GO FISHING!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is doing well this New Year.

We have once again nominated and sworn in our New Board at the Freeport Tuna Club. Congratulations to all and a heartfelt thank you to Chris for doing the swearing in. We have a lot of projects going on at the club property which we hope to have completed by the warm weather. Something to look forward to help relieve the cabin fever.

We are also in the process of setting up a credit card machine for the clubhouse for Dockage and Membership fees. I will keep you updated when it's up and running.

Unfortunately, there are no shows going on due to the Covid Pandemic. I would like to try and have a meeting at the Club and will keep everyone posted.



Best regards, *Rick*



## CAPTAINS & ANGLERS

The committee is looking forward to seeing all our members at this spring's first Captain and Anglers BBQ. As always the committee is looking for volunteers.

Thank you, *Jim Rooney*

## 1ST VP MESSAGE

I hope everyone is staying safe and keeping warm during this snowy month. Get those fluke rigs together!!! The 2nd Annual Fluke Shootout Tournament will be back up and running this summer. All members and non members are welcome to fish. Information about fees and cuttass are forthcoming. A portion of the proceeds will be going to Hooks for Heroes. Tight lines - see you all really soon... Semper Fi -

*Robert Cincotta*  
F/V The Flounder Flopper

## GOOD & WELFARE

Our thoughts and prayers go to Ken Donowski and family on the death of his Mom. We wish a speedy recovery to Gene Schettini's wife, Adirenne, on her resent illness. Also wishing Anthony Alfieri on a speedy recovery. We would like wish Bob (Panda bear) Pandy a speedy recovery from heart surgery (feel better Bob, flounder fishing is around the corner). Billy Hines is recovering well from his procedure.

Thank you, *Jeff Squeri*

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The property committee would like to thank President Rick Totten who secured a donation of 2 pallets of brick pavers for use in future projects. Rick, Tom Leprine and Bob Sabella stacked all the pavers and cleaned up the north fence line as well as other areas of the property of broken cinder blocks and wooden palletes and other garbage. The property committee wants to remind members utilizing the property to police any debris that may incur in their activities.

Thank you,  
*Your Property Committee*

## ENTERTAINMENT

Many of you have had the opportunity to hear Christopher LaPorta, NYDEC Director of Artificial Reefs, speak at the club and interact with our members. As you should be aware, Chris has been working to secure the necessary permits to expand the existing reefs and add some new locations. In total, the proposed expansion doubles the area currently permitted. Our immediate past President, Adam Bollaci, sent a letter on behalf of the club in support for the proposed expansion. On February 2, 2021, the permits were issued. This should be considered a major success for us anglers and hopefully NYS will continue to fund placing additional structure as allowed by the new permit. It is nice to see our club may have had some small influence in getting this done. Congratulations to Christopher for his fine work on behalf of all NYS citizens, especially those that benefit from access to these reefs."

*Bruce C. Forster*  
F/V Oh Reely, Oh Yeah

## DERBIES, AWARDS & CONTESTS

**Awards Chairman: Ray Geiger | Committee: Bob Benzenberg, Harry Sbaschnig & Bill Morrogh**

You'll find in this issue listing our tentative 2020 Annual Award winners. Please review the list and let us know if you have a question or notice any discrepancies. Contact us directly at: [ftcawardsandcontests@gmail.com](mailto:ftcawardsandcontests@gmail.com) or **917-862-4321**.

I hope that everyone will make an effort to attend our first GM of the year (date to be announced) were we will finally recognize all of you deserving anglers! We miss seeing you all live and in person.

We ask you again to please make a concerted effort to get your weigh slips in on time and fill them out legibly/completely! It's important that you fill out the date/time along with the species and vessel information so we can identify annual award winners based on our rules. On behalf of our committee, we would like to wish everyone a safe and productive 2021 Derby season.

Best Fishes, *Ray Geiger*

# STRIPER DIARIES EPISODE 27



MEMORIES. With snowy winter blues setting in, the dog days of summer seem like a distant memory. One thing that brings me joy is reminiscing about fishing. I was fortunate enough that both parents were die-hard fishermen and we traveled the globe in search of the next best fishing spot.

One place in particular with exceptional fishing was a tiny village off the coast of Belize. This Caribbean country is nestled in the northeast coast of Central America and runs parallel with the second largest barrier reef - a quarter mile off the beach. After a direct flight to the mainland, we were ushered to an outside runway to wait for the next "puddle jumper." The flight to our hotel lasted only 20 minutes and the view was incredible. After settling in, we fished from tiny panga boats and the bright blue water was filled with bonefish, permit, tarpon, snook, barracuda, and local reef fish including snapper, grouper and jacks. With temperatures throughout the year averaging 84 degrees and southeasterly trade winds throughout most of the year, this gem is a must visit.

Our next stop was Roatan. Roatan is an island in the Caribbean, about 40 miles off the northern coast of Honduras. It is approximately 48 miles long and only 5 miles across at its widest point and rests on an exposed ancient coral reef which rises to about 270 meters. After settling in, our first trip was at a pristine snorkel spot called Star Fish Alley, where the crystal blue waters were filled with a diverse mixture of breathtaking coral reefs, indigo hamlets and a wide variety of cushion sea stars. Our fishing trips consisted of reef fishing with bait and trolling for wahoo and tuna. This undiscovered village should be on every bucket list.

Finally, my absolute favorite place and one I like to call home is Rancho Leonero at Los Cabos. The towns Los Barriles, Rancho Leonero, and Buena Vista are located 42 miles north of the Los Cabos Airport. The road is a paved highway, about half the way there and then turns into dirt. Do not attempt this road in the rainy season, you will not make - - I know from personal experience. The East Cape of Baja California is a very special place. The fishing is along the Sea of



Cortez and the coastline is spectacular... white sand beaches, majestic mountains and sweeping deserts. I have visited the East Cape in the spring, summer, and early fall. The fishing is phenomenal, from marlin, dorado, tuna, wahoo and the incredible rooster

fish just to name a few. If you ever get a chance Rancho Leonero is a very special place.

Although we may not be traveling anytime soon, reminiscing to simpler times brings me joy.

Stay safe and until my next adventure, Tight Lines.

*Capt. Barbara Solomon*  
F/V Legal Limits

## GOT BAIT + TACKLE?

**WE ARE YOUR OFFSHORE SPECIALIST**

**Splicing/Spooling**  
**Custom Lures**  
**Spreader Bars**  
**CRUSHED ICE**  
**GAS 89**  
**DIESEL DOCK**

**Bay Park Fishing Station**  
480a Reina Road  
(end of Weidner Ave)  
Oceanside NY 11572  
**516.766.3110**  
Longitude: 40.6240 N  
Latitude: 73.6608 W

**bayparkfishing.com**  
**shopbayparkfishing.com**  
**facebook.com/bayparkfishingstation**

# ANNUAL AWARDS 2020 SEASON DRAFT RESULTS

**#1 Stephen L. Vanderveer Trophy Bowl:** Angler catching the largest Tuna over 100lb sailing out of Jones Inlet.  
**Mike Alfieri (108 lb. Bluefin) "Triton Charters"**

**#2 Stephen Radi Sr. Memorial Trophy:** Angler catching the largest Bigeye Tuna sailing from Jones Inlet. **Not Awarded**

**#3 Walter F. O'Malley Trophy:** Member catching the heaviest Tuna from any port except Freeport L.I.  
**Ralph Drewes (734 lb. Bluefin) "No Mercy – Oregon Inlet"**

**#4 Bob Trapani Memorial Trophy:** Member catching the heaviest fish from any port except Shark.  
**Ralph Drewes (734 lb. Bluefin) "No Mercy – Oregon Inlet"**

**#5 Fred W. Hollander Memorial Trophy:** Member catching the heaviest billed fish anywhere.  
**Robert McVey (250 lb. Blue Marlin) "33 GW Express"**

**#6 Jack R. Neidorf Trophy:** (\*24hr.) First Tuna of the season sailing from and returning to Jones Inlet.  
**Ralph Drewes (49.5 lb. Bluefin) "No Mercy"**

**#7 Jack R. Bode Ladies Trophy:** Awarded to the lady member catching the largest Tuna. **Not Awarded**

**#8 Ada Berlin Memorial Trophy:** Lady angler catching the largest species of any fish from any L.I. Port.  
**MaryEllen Zullo (5.38 lb. Blackfish) "Magic Too"**

**#9 Henry Von Elm Inc. Trophy:** Angler catching the largest Tuna during any IGFA Tournament. **not awarded**

**#10 John J. Miles Trophy:** Captain of the Year  
**To Be Announced**

**#11 Mel Elderd:** Member catching the largest Tuna of the season in the Babylon/FTC Shootout. **Not Awarded**

**#12 Philip Ehrhart Memorial Trophy:** (\*24 hr.) Largest Bluefin caught sailing from Jones, Debs or Fire Island.  
**Mike Alfieri (108 lb. Bluefin) "Triton Charters"**

**#13 Guy Lombardo Trophy:** (\*24 hr.) Angler catching the largest Tuna under 100 lbs. sailing from Jones Inlet.  
**Ralph Drewes (79.38 lb. Yellowfin) "No Mercy"**

**#14 Freeport Marine Trophy:** Greatest weight fish per pound line sailing from any L.I. Port.  
**Scott Novick 11.3 lb. Fluke 15 lb. test "Naida"**

**#15 Harry Peters Memorial Trophy:** Angler catching the largest fish out of any L.I. Port.  
**Jim Krug (230 lb. Thresher Shark) "Reel Time"**

**#16 Harry Peters Memorial Trophy:** Captains Award for the largest Shark caught out of any L.I. Port.  
**Bob Bohler (336 lb. Thresher Shark) "Joint Effort"**

**#17 Harry Berns Memorial Trophy:** Captain whose boat tags the most amount of Tuna. **Not Awarded**

**#18 George Beitterick Memorial Trophy:** (24 hr.) Angler catching the largest Bluefish sailing from Jones Inlet.  
**John Gerrity (8.44 lb.) "Moonchild"**

**#19 Fred Miranda:** Awarded to the person who tags the most Marlin. **Ralph Drewes (2 tags) "No Mercy"**

**#20 Marsden B.Candler Memorial Trophy:** Angler largest Striped Bass on any boat sailing from any L.I. Port.  
**Ralph Drewes (17.5 lb.) "No Mercy"**

**#21 Jack Bode Ladies Memorial Trophy:** Lady Angler for the most outstanding catch north of Cape Hatteras.  
**MaryEllen Zullo (5.38 lb. Blackfish) "Magic Too"**

**#22 Harry Schwarze:** Captains Award for the most Tuna caught during the Babylon /FTC Shootout. **Not Awarded**

**#23 Marine Center, Inc Trophy:** Captains Award for the boat catching the heaviest billed fish.  
**Phil Giammarino 250 lb. Blue Marlin**

**#24 Mako Marine Inc, Trophy:** Angler catching the heaviest Mako of the season. **Not Awarded**

**#25 Lawrence Festa Memorial Trophy:** (\*24 hr.) Captain catching the first Mako of the season from Jones Inlet.  
**Not Awarded**

**#26 Norb Schlichtig Memorial Trophy:** Member outstanding service. **To Be Announced**

**#27 Tim Kryscuk Memorial Trophy:** Lady Member catching the largest Bluefish of the season. **Not Awarded**

**#28 Joe King Sr. Memorial Trophy:** (\*24 hr.) Largest Dolphin sailing from Jones, Fire Island or Debs Inlet. **Not Awarded**

**#29 John Shiel Spinning Tackle Trophy:** Most outstanding catch caught on spinning tackle using 2-12 lb line.  
**Not Awarded**

**Paul Grippo Memorial Equalizer Trophy Fluke:** Children's Award for largest Fluke (12 and under).

**#30 Global: Not Awarded**

**#31 West: Not Awarded**

**Paul Grippo Memorial Equalizer Trophy Bluefish:** Children's Award for largest Bluefish (12 and under).

**#32 Global: Not Awarded**

**#33 West: Not Awarded**

**#34 Ed Keneske Jr. Memorial Trophy:** Awarded for outstanding service by a board member. **To Be Announced**

**#35 Benjamin Mikoleski Memorial:** Awarded to the member catching the largest Winter Flounder of the year. **Not Awarded**

**#36 Bob Neuman Aventura II" Memorial Trophy :** Largest Winter Flounder caught by a child or grandchild.  
**Not Awarded**

**#37 Jack Kennedy Memorial Captains Award:** Largest Tuna. **Ralph Drewes (226 lb. Yellowfin) "No Mercy"**

**#38 Jack Kennedy Memorial Captains Award:** (\*24 hr.) Largest Striped Bass. **Ralph Drewes (17.5 lb.) "No Mercy"**

**#39 Jack Kennedy Memorial Captains Award:** (\*24 hr.) Largest Bluefish.  
**John Gerrity (8.44 lb.) "Moonchild"**

**Ed Schuh Memorial Angler Awards Jones, Debs, Fire Island:** Cod, Weakfish, Blackfish, Seabass & Fluke.

**#40 Cod: Mike Zullo (7.25 lb.) "Magic Too"**

**#41 Weakfish: Greg Magnifico (5.25 lb.) "Everything Zen"**

**#42 Blackfish: Mike Zullo (6.5 lb.) "Magic Too"**

**#43 Seabass: Mike Zullo (4.5 lb.) "Magic Too"**

**#44 Fluke: Joseph Mazza (7.5 lb.) "Little Bear II"**

**Jiggy Silber Memorial Global Anglers Award:** Cod, Weakfish, Blackfish, Seabass & Fluke.

**#45 Cod: Mike Zullo (7.25 lb.) "Magic Too"**

**#46 Weakfish: Greg Magnifico (5.25 lbs.) "Everything Zen"**

**#47 Blackfish: Jayson Smith (14.8 lb.) "Boyhound Charters"**

**#48 Seabass: Mike Zullo (4.5 lb.) "Magic Too"**

**#49 Fluke: Scott Novick (11.3 lb.) "Naida"**

**#50 Ed Swanson Memorial Angler of the Year:** Member obtaining the most points for twelve different species.  
**To Be Announced**

**#51 John V. Festa Memorial Tagging Award:** Member who tags the most game fish of the season.  
**Mike Sullivan (100 tags)**

**#52 Barry Simon Captains Award:** Awarded to the member captain, most points achieved for Seabass, Codfish & Blackfish sailing from Debs to Fire Island Inlet. **Mike Zullo**

**#53 Anthony Testa Sr. Memorial Award:** Angler largest Fluke Jones Inlet  
**Joseph Mazza (7.5 lb.) "Little Bear II"**

*Congratulations to all our members*

# SOUTH SHORE MARINE SUPPLY

## Bait & Tackle

"Your One Stop Source"

4108 Merrick Rd.

Massapequa, NY 11758

516-557-2510

516-557-2512 Fax

Best Prices, Premium Products,

Knowledgeable Staff

We have all your boating & fishing needs

VISIT OUR ONLINE STORE:

[SouthShoreMarineSupply.com](http://SouthShoreMarineSupply.com)



WE DESIGN, PRINT & PROMOTE...YOU!

Official Printer for

The Freeport Tuna Club

DISCOUNTS FOR ALL MEMBERS

255 Sunrise Highway, Merrick, NY 11566

Tel 516.546.2312 • Fax 516.623.0870

web: [www.mmpmk.com](http://www.mmpmk.com) • e-mail: [Info@mmpmk.com](mailto:Info@mmpmk.com)



# BLUE MARLIN BOATS

Used Boats Bought, Sold & Brokered  
for current listings log on to

[WWW.BLUEMARLINBOATS.NET](http://WWW.BLUEMARLINBOATS.NET)

4076 Merrick Road, Seaford, NY 11783

Tel: (516) 679-2121 • Fax: (516) 679-2739



An Extensive Inventory of Parts & Supplies Makes us Your One Stop Marine Supply Store

- Complete Line of OEM Parts and Lubricants for:
  - Mercuriser
  - Mercury Outboards
  - Yamaha Outboards
  - Johnson / Evinrude Outboards
  - Volvo Penta
- Watersports: Inflatables, Waterskis, Wakeboards
- Full Selection of Interlux and Pettit Paints
- Fishing Accessories
- Expert Advice
- Expanded Electronics Department
- Trailer Accessories
- Anchors and Lewmar Windlasses
- Complete Safety Department

401 South Main St., Freeport, NY 11520  
(516)868-0177

# Advertisers Needed!

to help fund this publication

If you or anyone you know  
who would like to advertise  
please contact John Jutt

at [jjutt@mmpmk.com](mailto:jjutt@mmpmk.com)

or call 516-546-2312



Long Island's Most Complete Selection of Inshore, Freshwater  
and Surf Fishing Equipment • Custom Built Rods

MIKE NICOLETTI & BOB TURTURELLO

3031 Merrick Road, Wantagh, NY 11793

516.785.3223 • Fax: 516.679.6815

[www.causewaybaitandtackle.com](http://www.causewaybaitandtackle.com)

Main Office  
(516) 546- 8880



# Al Grovers

## HIGH & DRY MARINA

Boat Sales  
(516) 771-7020

[www.AIGroversMarine.com](http://www.AIGroversMarine.com)

Al Grover's High & Dry Marina, Inc.  
500 South Main Street, Freeport, New York 11520



HAROLD A. BOLLACI, PC.

AN ELDER LAW ESTATE PLANNING FIRM

HAROLD A. BOLLACI

393 OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 203  
CARLE PLACE, NEW YORK 11514  
TEL (516) 538-9700 | FAX (646) 867-0560  
HAROLD@BOLLACILAW.COM

**SEA TOW**

FREEPORT BASED

FREE TOWING FOR MEMBERS

CALL ABOUT DISCOUNTED

FTC MEMBER RATES

**516-623-4183**

CONDON  
O'MEARA  
MCGINTY &  
DONNELLY LLP



An entire firm dedicated to serving Private Clubs.

Currently serving over 325 Private Club clients throughout the United States.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS | ONE BATTERY PARK PLAZA | NEW YORK, NY 10004 | 212-661-7777

389 South Main St.  
Freeport, NY 11520

Tel. 516-377-7720  
Fax. 516-377-7723



Summer Dockage • Winter Storage • Short Hauls



SEA SAFETY  
INTERNATIONAL

Manufacturer and  
USCG approved

Liferaft  
Sales and  
Inspections



Liferaft pick-up and delivery (CT, DEL, NJ, NY, PA)

**201-330-3225**

email: sales@seasafety.com

[www.seasafety.com](http://www.seasafety.com)

EPIRB Sales & Service

- Battery Replacement
- Reprogramming

Personal Flotation Gear  
Ditch Bags • Flares

*Advertisers Needed!*

to help fund this publication

If you or anyone you know  
who would like to advertise  
please contact John Jutt  
at [jjutt@mmpmk.com](mailto:jjutt@mmpmk.com)  
or call 516-546-2312

Pine Street Metals, Inc.  
We have you covered!

*David Massa*

352 Pine Street  
Brooklyn, Ny 11208

718-277-2404

[dmassa7333@aol.com](mailto:dmassa7333@aol.com)

[www.pinestreetmetals.com](http://www.pinestreetmetals.com)



PICTURE IT...



YOUR AD HERE!

# FISHING REPORT

Locally fishing has been quiet with very scarce reports of cod and herring. For anyone down south, Florida has been producing solid catches of wahoo and swordfish. In North Carolina Bluefin and Bigeye are being caught when the weather allows the boats to get offshore.

Now is the time to get all your gear ready for the new season that is quickly approaching. Clean, lube and always fresh mono on the reels.

Stay warm and safe. *Capt. Adam*

## PANDAMAN

PAINTING - PAPER HANGING  
SPECIALIST

Paper Removal/Sheetrock Work • Tape/Spackle

Decorative Moldings Installed

Neat, Clean, Professional Service

Powerwashing • 30 Years Experience

WE DO IT ALL & MORE!

**516.781.4011**

**BOB PANDY**



www.stuartberger.com e-mail: sales@stuartberger.com

**BUILDING SOLUTION SPECIALISTS**  
**BRUCE FORSTER**

We have over 50 years experience with General Construction and are Authorized Butler Builders

We can help you with your next project in the NY area

**EXPERIENCE • SERVICE • VALUE**

**516.887.8953 • 212.925.7405**



## The Complete Tackle Shop

Complete Selection of Tackle  
Complete Line of Custom Rods  
Complete Line of Rod Building Supplies  
Complete Inhouse Repairs  
Complete Selection of Live, Fresh & Frozen Baits  
Completely Helpful and Friendly Staff

Factory Authorized  
Pena, Shimano & Ambassador  
Warranty Repair Center



Sealsle-Tackle.com

(516) 868-8855  
Fax : (516) 546-2983  
Sales@Sealsle-Tackle.com



434 Rutgers Road  
West Babylon, NY 11704

**(631) 274-7042**

- Custom Hand Tied Rigs
- Onsite Reel Repair
  - All Baits
- Inshore/Offshore

*Rachel's*  
WATERSIDE GRILL

*you hook it,  
we'll cook it!*

**\$12 YOUR CHOICE**

*Pan Seared | Blackened  
Oven Roasted | Fried | Scampi*

**FOR TUNA ONLY**  
*Seared with Togarashi Rub*

Offer available daily until 6pm at the bar only. Maximum of 10 oz. filleted fish per person.  
Cannot be combined with any other promotions or discounts

281 Woodcleft Avenue | Freeport, New York  
516.546.0050 | RacheIsWatersideGrill.com

# CLASSIFIEDS



• **Scopnich fighting chair with tackle center \$500** (see photo left) All cushions excellent condition well maintained. Call Sil @ 347-242-0171

• **2003 purchase New in 2006 with 9 hrs on engine's twin 350 mpi merc cruisers gas engines.** Boat has been yard maintained only and stored indoors for first 8 yrs on Hudson River in Ossining

NY. Holds 275 gal boat loaded very low hours 64 hrs on Koehler generator dual Raymarine C-80s dual radios stand up head and shower sleeps 4 to many extras to List. Boat in water at Atlantic Yacht Haven. \$68,500 firm listed at \$72,500.

Serious inquiries only  
Bob O'Brien FTC  
member 917-417-7756  
flame9545@gmail.com



# SHIP STORE

We FTC logo sweats, tees and more available. If you don't have yours yet - get them before they're gone!

For those of you out of town or state members we have shipping options for delivery... we are as close to you as your neighborhood UPS truck.



*Jim Azzi*

516-987-4227 or email:  
blackcloud@yahoo.com

# MEMBERSHIP

**Renewals have been mailed out...**

**Support Your Club!**

*Please remit upon receipt*

# FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.

*Chartered to Promote  
Sport-fishing & Conservation*

## FTC 2021 DIRECTORS

President	Rick Totten
Vice President	Rob Cincotta
2nd Vice President	Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr.
Treasurer	John Daum
Secretary	Sharon Missan

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anthony Alfieri	Bruce Forster
Jim Azzi	Ray Geiger
Maryanne Bessler	Rich Olejnik
Paul Cunningham	Bob Pandey
Ken Donowski	Jim Rooney
Ed Faza	Gene Schettini

## SPECIAL ADVISORS

Capt. Adam Bollaci



Post Office Box 5  
Freeport, New York 11520

**Deliver To:**

