

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.

Tuna Tower News



MARCH 2024

CAPT. JOHN. J. JUTT, SR., EDITOR

NEXT GM

THURSDAY, MARCH 14
THE BEST OF THE BEST
AWARDS NIGHT
7PM @ FREEPORT YACHT CLUB
533 GUY LOMBARDO AVENUE | FREEPORT, NY 11520

President's Message

Hello March! Hopefully warm weather will soon be coming, which means we will begin to get our boats uncovered in preparation for another summer season of fishing.

Please keep the area around your boat clean and safe, also please no shrink in our dumpster, town dump on Merrick road is open all week where it can be disposed of properly.

Our annual awards March meeting will be hosted by Ray Geiger who will present last year's best catches. Please come down and support Ray and this year's recipients.

Our booth at the Freeport Rec Center was a success, Prospective new members were invited to this month's General Meeting as guests. Thanks to all members who helped at the show.

New shows on tap for this month will start with the Lindenhurst Spring Fishing Flea Market on Sunday March 12, hours 9AM-2 PM (732-381-2165). Long Island Boat Show, March 10-12 at the Nassau Coliseum and also The Fishermans' Flea Market on Sunday, March 24 at 22 Grove Place, Babylon. I hope to see all our members at the GM to support fellow members during this festive meeting. Congratulations to all the award winners.

Thanks, *Anthony J. Alfieri*



Happy Saint Patrick's Day



Derbies, Awards & Contests

Awards Committee: Chairman Ray Geiger, Bill Morrogh & Harry Sbaschnig

We hope to see all hands on deck for our Annual Awards Night on Thursday March 14th at the Freeport Yacht Club!

This year I have organized a remote Zoom meeting to allow those members from far and wide who wish to join in the celebration. If you wish to join, please make note of the following info:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88159682125?pwd=Whs0KUTk3faLfmdc87liHN1BVRRAGF.1>

Meeting ID = 88159682125, Password = tuna1937

A big turnout always helps, so please make the effort to come on down and support the well deserving winners of our 2023 Annual Awards! In addition, this year we will be recognizing a total of three outstanding new club records:

SHARK (SPINNER) – 103.7 lb. Paul Elaides Freeport, NY

SNAPPER (LANE) – 4.63 lb. Bryon King Jupiter, FL

PERMIT – 24.2 lb. Andrew Hepworth Jensen Beach, FL

Our 2024 derby season kicks off with Cod and the ever elusive Winter Flounder. Remember the early worm catches the fish!

The FTC Fish-At-A-Glance cards will soon be available soon. Remember to grab two, one for your wallet and one for your helm or tackle bag. Just like baseball, you need a program to know the players.

The complete Derby Calendar for 2024 season, club Anglers

Rules and official club Weigh Stations are or will be available on our website (ftcfishing.com) soon thanks to the outstanding efforts of Bill and Theresa Morrogh: ftcfishing.com/derbies ftcfishing.com/s/AnglingRulesForTheFreeportTunaClub-yh43.pdf ftcfishing.com/weighstations-1

We ask you again to please make a concerted effort to get all your weigh slips in on time and fill them out legibly/completely! It's extremely important that you fill out all of the fields on the slip. A number of slips were missing the line test, tackle type, captain and/or F/V this past year. A few appeared to have rolled around in a tackle box and required a CSI team, making a very challenging task indeed.

On behalf of our committee, would like to wish everyone a safe and productive 2024 Derby season.

Best Fishes ---- *Ray Geiger*

Captains & Anglers

The Captains and Anglers Committee wishes a Happy St. Patrick's day to all our members!! BBQs coming soon!

Thank you, *Jim Rooney*

Fluke SHOOTOUT

A call to all members & board members

I would like to request the assistance of all club members and board members with getting sponsorships. Thanks to everybody that came by the booth at the Freeport Rec Center. We had great success with handing out flyers for the tournament. We had a lot of interest from people at the show and hope to see everybody at the Coliseum show (that we will also be at) to get support for the club and show we are successfully moving forward with the tournament. As the tournament gets closer, I'm going to need more people to assist in helping me with raffles and signing up people. Please contact me if you'd like to volunteer to lend a hand

Thanks in advance for your participation!

Rick Totten

Tournament Chair, 516-779-3347



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Striper Diaries

EPISODE 51

Winter Blues. Now that winter is in full swing, it's a good time to take an inventory of all your fishing gear. This is probably one of the most important projects any angler can do. This kind of log book is key and can be extremely helpful when

trying to determine when reels need new line, and which rods may need repair. Its also a great time to change hooks on your favorite plugs, check dates on safety equipment and figure out what gear needs replacement. With wait times longer than usual, I suggest getting a head start.

Another favorite past time, is making the rounds at our local fishing flea markets. There are several local events that are worth mentioning, and for those willing to travel the possibilities are even greater. Next Saturday **March 2, 2024 is the Ward Melville Saltwater Seminar and Fundraiser**; open from 8:30am to 3:00pm. Seminars and a panel of experts covering topics ranging from live bait striped bass fishing to surf fishing, tying teasers and rod building. Free Admission! Don't miss out on this event. **March 16, 2024 is the Annual Long Island Fly Fishing Expo located at the Radisson Hotel**, 110 Vanderbilt Motor Parkway in Hauppauge from 9:00am to 4pm. Admission \$10.00, kids under 18yrs free with paid adult. **March 24, 2024, is the Fisherman Flea Market** located at the American Legion Babylon Post #94 located at 22 Grove Place, Babylon. **Sunday March 24, 2024 is also the fisherman flea market** located at 118 Cassata Court, West Babylon. Everything fishing from 9am to 4pm. Don't miss these great events.

Finally, for those wishing to purchase the Four Wheel Drive Beach access pass, permits went on sale at the end of December 2023, and will continue until March 31, 2024. Remember, that all sales are online only and you must register first for a free fishing license. The cost is \$80 for NY residents and the permit is valid from April 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 at Gilgo and Robert Moses. Valid year round at Hither Hills, Montauk Point and Napeague State Parks. Another option is the Camp Hero Access permit which is \$40 for NY residents and is valid from April 1 to December 31, 2024 at Camp Hero. All applications must include the following: (1) a valid motor vehicle registration; (2) driver's license of the motor vehicle registrant; and (3) a NYSDEC recreational salt water marine fishing registry.

Lets hope 2024 is great a fishing season for all our members.

Until my next adventure, Tight lines.

Capt. Barbara Solomon

F/V Legal Limits



Property

The property committee is going to start doing spring cleanup in the middle of March if the weather permits on the south side, next to the apartments, where there is a lot of debris that's been there for many many years (eyesore) and not ever used. Including broken freezers.

We will be throwing everything out in the dumpster. So if there's any precious material of yours, please let me know so it's mistakenly dumped.

We have one slip available without a finger for a bigger boat anybody's interested or know anybody please contact me . Most members for the summer of 2024 are all paid in full the club appreciates your promptness . If you haven't sent in payment, you have to April 1 to be paid in full to secure your spot.

All boats have to be off the property for winter storage by June 1 or they will be charged an additional 175 per month. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Bob Dimino

Business Property Manager

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Annual Awards 2023 Season Draft Results

#1 Stephen L. Vanderveer Trophy Bowl

Angler catching the largest Tuna over 100lb sailing out of Jones Inlet.

Ralph Drewes (185.5 lb. Bluefin) "No Mercy"

#2 Stephen Radi Sr. Memorial Trophy

Angler catching the largest Bigeye Tuna sailing from Jones Inlet.

Chris Lombardo (167 lb. Bigeye) "Manhattan Transfer"

#3 Walter F. O'Malley Trophy **NOT AWARDED**

Member catching the heaviest Tuna from any port except Freeport L.I.

#4 Bob Trapani Memorial Trophy Member catching the heaviest fish from any port except Shark. **Andrew Hepworth**

(300 lb. estimated Blue Marlin) "Hooker" Guatemala

#5 Fred W. Hollander Memorial Trophy:

Member catching the heaviest billed fish anywhere. **Andrew Hepworth**

(300 lb. estimated Blue Marlin) "Hooker" Guatemala

#6 Jack R. Neidorf Trophy: (*24hr.)

First Tuna of the season sailing from and returning to Jones Inlet.

Sean Libby (130.6 lb. Bluefin) "Squid Hunter"

#7 Jack R. Bode Ladies Trophy: **NOT AWARDED**

Awarded to the lady member catching the largest Tuna.

#8 Ada Berlin Memorial Trophy:

Lady angler catching the largest species of any fish from any L.I. Port.

Barbara Solomon (15.3 lb. Striped Bass) "Legal Limits"

#9 Henry Von Elm Inc. Trophy: **Retired in 2023**

Angler catching the largest Tuna during any IGFA Tournament.

#10 John J. Miles Trophy: Captain of the Year **Ralph Drewes**

#11 Mel Elderd: **Retired in 2023**

Member catching the largest Tuna of the season in the Babylon/FTC Shootout.

#12 Philip Ehrhart Memorial Trophy: (*24 hr.)

Largest Bluefin caught sailing from Jones, Debs or Fire Island.

Ralph Drewes (185.5 lb. Bluefin) "No Mercy"

#13 Guy Lombardo Trophy: (*24 hr.)

Angler catching the largest Tuna under 100 lbs. sailing from Jones Inlet.

Anthony Bollaci (85.8 lb. Bluefin) "Hooker"

#14 Freeport Marine Trophy:

Greatest weight fish per pound line sailing from any L.I. Port.

Ralph Drewes (69.4 lb. Yellowfin Tuna / 30lb. test) "No Mercy"

#15 Harry Peters Memorial Trophy:

Angler catching the largest fish out of any L.I. Port.

DJ Toback (308 lb. Thresher Shark) "Corazon"

#16 Harry Peters Memorial Trophy:

Captains Award for the largest Shark caught out of any L.I. Port.

Doug Toback (308 lb. Thresher Shark) "Corazon"

#17 Harry Berns Memorial Trophy:

Captain whose boat tags the most amount of Tuna. **Ralph Drewes 3 tags**

#18 George Beitterick Memorial Trophy: (24 hr.)

Angler catching the largest Bluefish sailing from Jones Inlet.

Adam Bollaci (16.13 lb.) "Hooker"

#19 Fred Miranda: Awarded to the person who tags the most Marlin.

NOT AWARDED

#20 Marsden B. Candler Memorial Trophy:

Angler largest Striped Bass on any boat sailing from any L.I. Port.

Barbara Solomon (15.3) "Legal Limits"

#21 Jack Bode Ladies Memorial Trophy:

Lady Angler for the most outstanding catch north of Cape Hatteras.

Barbara Solomon (15.3) Striped Bass "Legal Limits"

#22 Harry Schwarze: **Retired in 2023**

Captains Award for the most Tuna caught during the Babylon /FTC Shootout.

#23 Marine Center, Inc Trophy: **NOT AWARDED**

Captains Award for the boat catching the heaviest billed fish.

#24 Mako Marine Inc, Trophy: Angler catching the heaviest Shark of the season, Debs-Shinnecock. **DJ Toback (308 Thresher) "Corazon"**

#25 Lawrence Festa Memorial Trophy: (*24 hr.)

Captain catching the first Shark of the season from Jones Inlet.

Doug Toback (308 Thresher) "Corazon"

#26 Norb Schlichtig Memorial Trophy: **Trina Aurilio**

Member outstanding service.

#27 Tim Kryscuk Memorial Trophy:

Lady Member catching the largest Bluefish of the season.

Barbara Solomon (13.35 lb.) "Legal Limits"

#28 Joe King Sr. Memorial Trophy: (*24 hr.) **NOT AWARDED**

Largest Dolphin sailing from Jones, Fire Island or Debs Inlet.

#29 John Shiel Spinning Tackle Trophy:

Most outstanding catch caught on spinning tackle using 2-12 lb line.

Steve Valenti (14.24 lb. Striped Bass) "Four Bells" 12 lb. test

Paul Grippo Memorial Equalizer Trophy Fluke:

Children's Award for largest Fluke (12 and under). **NOT AWARDED**

#30 Global: **NOT AWARDED**

#31 West: **NOT AWARDED**

Paul Grippo Memorial Equalizer Trophy Bluefish:

Children's Award for largest Bluefish (12 and under). **NOT AWARDED**

#32 Global: **NOT AWARDED**

#33 West: **NOT AWARDED**

#34 Ed Keneske Jr. Memorial Trophy: **Cassidy Cunningham**

Awarded for outstanding service by a board member.

#35 Benjamin Mikoleski Memorial:

Awarded to the member catching the largest Winter Flounder of the year.

Steve Bassford (2.56 lb.) "Manhattan Transfer"

#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 (185.5 lb. Bluefin) "No Mercy"

#38 Jack Kennedy Memorial Captains Award: (*24 hr.)

Largest Striped Bass. **Barbara Solomon (15.3 lb.) "Legal Limits"**

#39 Jack Kennedy Memorial Captains Award: (*24 hr.)

Largest Bluefish. **Adam Bollaci (16.13 lb.) "Hooker"**

Ed Schuh Memorial Angler Awards

Jones, Debs, Fire Island: Cod, Weakfish, Blackfish, Seabass & Fluke.

#40 Cod: Sean Libby (7.32 lb.) "Sea Goose"

#41 Weakfish: Greg Magnifico (6.5 lb.) "Everything Zen"

#42 Blackfish: Gabe Gomez (13.13 lb.) "Cora Marie"

#43 Seabass: Mary Ellen Zullo (3.75 lb.) "Magic Too"

#44 Fluke: Bob Pandey (10.93 lb.) "Pandaman"

Jiggy Silber Memorial Global Anglers Award:

Cod, Weakfish, Blackfish, Seabass & Fluke.

#45 Cod: Sean Libby (7.32 lb.) "Sea Goose"

#46 Weakfish: Greg Magnifico (6.5 lb.) "Everything Zen"

#47 Blackfish: Gabe Gomez (13.13 lb.) "Cora Marie"

#48 Seabass: Mary Ellen Zullo (3.75 lb.) "Magic Too"

#49 Fluke: Bob Pandey (10.93 lb.) "Pandaman"

#50 Ed Swanson Memorial Angler of the Year:

Member obtaining the most points for twelve different species.

Barbara Solomon 11 points

#51 John V. Festa Memorial Tagging Award:

Member who tags the most game fish of the season.

Chris Bellinzoni 128 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 15 points**

#53 Anthony Testa Sr. Memorial Award: Angler, largest Fluke

Jones Inlet. **Bob Pandey (10.93 lb.) "Pandaman"**

There are also 3 new club records recorded this year.

SHARK (SPINNER) 103.7 lb. Paul Elaides Freeport, NY

SNAPPER (LANE) 4.63 lb. Bryon King Jupiter, FL

PERMIT 24.2 lb. Andrew Hepworth Jensen Beach, FL

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The board voted for red tee shirts because no other club has red colors and **if everyone bought at least a hat or shirt or both when they are out fishing every body would see red and they would automatically know that they were from the FTC** it would be a great way to advertise the club

*Any questions please contact:
Gene Schettini @516-434-1423 or
email: capt.gene121@aol.com*

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.

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