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**STRIPED BASS SEMINAR
Thursday May 19, 2011
Location: FTC Property**



Speakers

Peter DiThomas, Chris Bellinzoni,

Michael Sullivan

Three of our club's bass sharpie's
will be speaking and sharing their tactics.

Members looking to volunteer for this event,
contact Jim Rooney at (516) 850-6772

CLASSIFIED:

**To place an ad in our classified. Contact Capt. John Jutt
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- Boat Slip for Rent. Water@electric in Freeport. *Four Miles from the inlet*, Call Sy Karp 516-632-9770.
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PROPERTY

The FTC Marina is 3 miles from the JI. With the price of fuel rising you might be interested in keeping your Vessel at the FTC Marina. Parking behind your boat, Fenced in secure yard with an electric gate with a Shower and bathroom. \$100 deposit you can get on the waiting list. Contact Property@FTCfishing.com.

~ Don Granger

Property Business Manger

GOOD AND WELFARE

Rafy Ortiz has had major heart surgery, our prayers and good wishes go out to him. Gene Schettini is home recovering from ankle replacement surgery, our best wishes and prayers go out to him. **I proudly congratulate my son Chris and his wife Alex on the birth of my grandson Hudson Lawrence.** A job well done guys. Thanks, I am very proud of both of you.

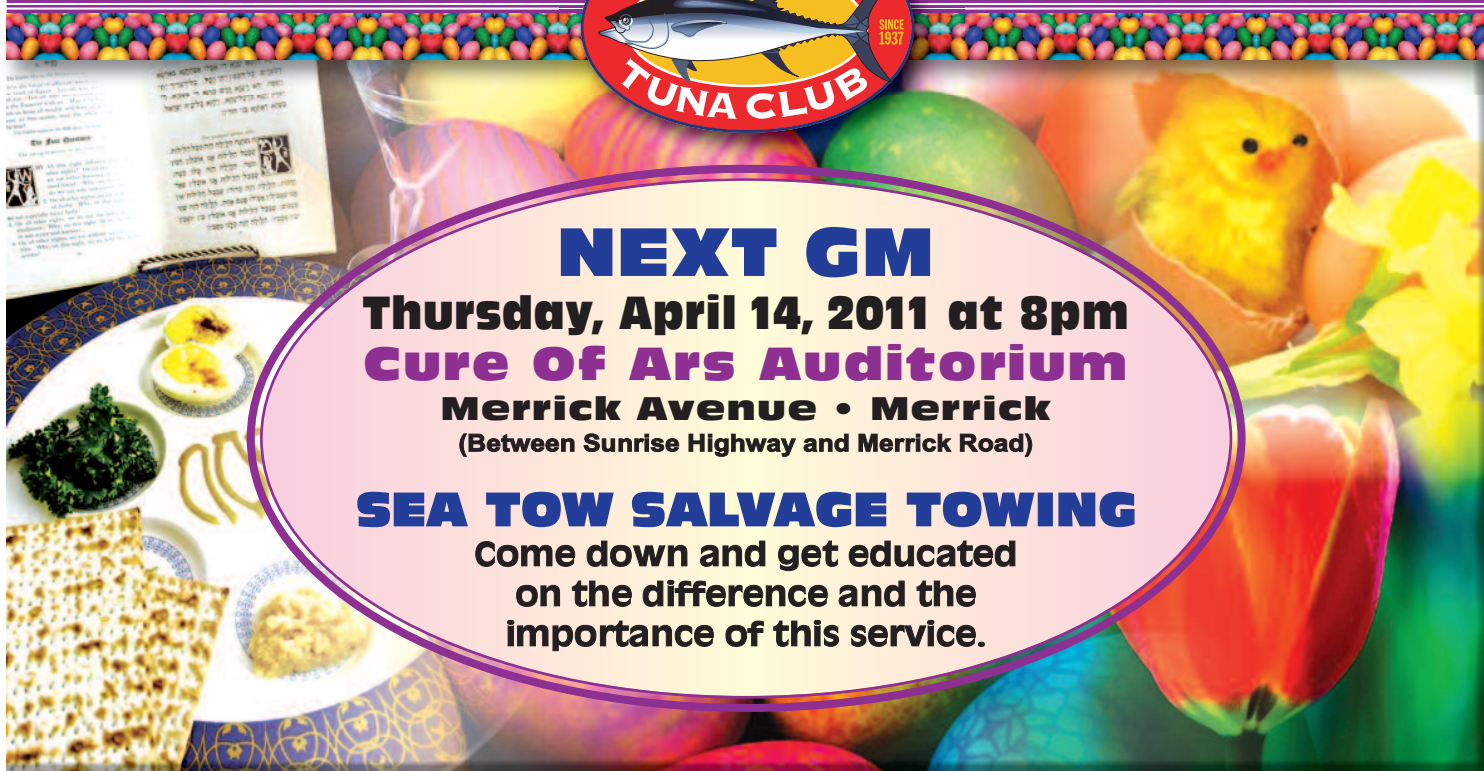
Club member Paul Pezar's wife Martha, fell at home and is now in the hospital recuperating. Our prayers and wishes go out to her.

~ Jeff Squeri 516-221-6343 / 516-652-5981

Tuna Tower News

VOLUME FOUR • APRIL 2011
Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.
Co-Editor Capt. Paul Hilton
Contributor Mike Sullivan



NEXT GM
Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 8pm
Cure Of Ars Auditorium
Merrick Avenue • Merrick
(Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)

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on the difference and the
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President's Message

Dear Members,

Happy Easter and Passover to all of the Freeport Tuna Club Members and their families. The weather has not been cooperative for us this year so far. There are many boats including mine that haven't even been touched. It is only a matter of time, however, before our property will be buzzing with activity. I thank our property committee for doing an outstanding job not only maintaining our property but also for starting our 2011 season with every slip rented for the season. With many marina's out there and slips available, it is a tribute to our club that we are 100% full and our waiting list is growing.

In addition to summer, our winter storage was also a great success and additionally reinforces the twelve month a year benefit in being a member of our Great Club!

I would like to thank Chairman Bill Morrogh and his Award's Committee for all the time and effort that they put into our Awards Night. Special congratulations to Chris Bellinzoni, who waited 21 years to be presented our highly prized "Captain of the Year". Also a congratulations goes to our Master Editor, John Jutt, being recognized for our "Outstanding Board Member of the Year" and additionally to the team of Bob Benzenberg and Dave Massa for there outstanding service as "Members of the Year". Lastly to all the winners, both young & old, congratulations on being the best of the best for 2010. It was a great night for the FTC. Next month's GM will also be great! Come on down and see what your club is doing.

The FTC is starting the season with some great special events that need volunteers. The first is our annual garage sale at the property, Saturday May 14, 2011. Al Casciano will be heading the garage sale so if you are interested kindly contact Al. Our second event will be a Striped Bass Seminar which will also be held at our property, Thursday May 19, 2011.

Three of our club's bass sharpie's will be speaking and sharing their tactics on how to catch your personal best Striped Bass. I thank our host speakers; Peter DiThomas, Chris Bellinzoni and Michael Sullivan for stepping up for this event. Any members looking to pitch in should contact Jim Rooney who will be spearheading the Striped Bass seminar. As I stated in past Presidents messages you will only get from your club what you put into it. The FTC is made from all volunteers so maybe it's time for you to step up and volunteer for one of these two special events.



On a fishing note, Captain Harry's Cod Trip set for April 30th is sold out once again..... image that! See Captain Harry and put your name on a waiting list if someone cancels.

In closing, just remember while you are getting your boat ready for the summer check to all of your safety equipment and makes sure it's in proper working order.

Do you want to know who you are? Don't ask. Act! Action will delineate and define you.

Thomas Do you want to know who you are? Don't ask. Act! Action will delineate and define you.

~ Thomas Jefferson

Happy Easter & Passover

~ President John Rooney

ELECTROLYSIS AND THE HUNT FOR THE METAL GREMLINS PART I

~ By Captain Lawrence J. Festa

Electrolysis - The Causes

Any one or all of the following reasons can cause Electrolysis:



1. Mechanical-Re: Bonding Systems - Bonding is the connecting of all underwater metals, such as thru hulls, rudders, strainer, struts, propellers & shafting to a sacrificial anode, such as zinc. If a break should occur in this bonding system, the noble or precious metals on your boat, such as Stainless Steel, Silicon Bronze, Bronze & Nibral (a combination of Aluminum, bronze & nickel) will be exposed to nature without any protection from electrolysis. All boats should have some form of a bonding system, which we will discuss later.

Stray Currents: In order for electrolysis to occur, an electrical current must be present. Stray currents are, very simply, electricity which is leaking into the water. This can come from many different sources and, even with good bonding and proper zinc protection, once the sacrificial zincs have eroded you are once again naked to the elements. The difference between stray currents and currents created through electro-chemical reactions is that stray current is generated from a source located either outside or within your own vessel. Electricity generated from an electro-chemical reaction has its source in nature as a result of the salt water coming in contact with various types of metal. There are three basic types of stray currents which can attack your vessel:

A. Internal Direct Current -D.C. (12 volts system) Breakdown:

This could be caused by broken insulation on negative feed wires which come in contact with salt water. By connecting a negative feed to a third wire ground, which in turn connects to the bonding system, you chance leaking current into the water if your insulation become compromised (example: grounding 12 volt accessories to the engine block). To avoid this we should all be aware that all positive & negative feeds for all D.C. voltage must come from isolated negative and positive bus bars and terminal blocks in the vessels electrical closet.

B. Internal Alternating Current - A.C. (120 volt system) Breakdown:

Internal A.C. is very similar to the D.C., except it is fed through the shore power cord or generator if so equipped. Like all grounded systems, stray current can occur in a breakdown of the insulation on either the green ground wire or the negative feed wire. Because the system will still work with a voltage leak such as described, it is very hard to trace out because ground & negative feed become one which allows voltage to attack the bonding system. bus bars and terminal blocks in the vessels electrical closet.

C. External A.C. Breakdown: This can occur from many different sources: Neighboring vessels. Improper ground or leaking ground on a shore power cable. Dock side A.C. lines that have come in contact with saltwater and have failing insulation. Checking for these problems can be very time consuming and stressful, but absolutely necessary, especially if you have propellers made of Nibral which are VERY sensitive to electrolysis because they already have three different metals working against each other.

Electrolysis – The Cures

Bonding Systems - The easier of the two to explain and test is the bonding system. A well bonded vessel will have all major components tied into the system: all underwater gear, motors, fuel tanks steering system, the list can go on and on. Most systems consist of a zinc plate at the transom which is connected to a bonding strap. Off the bonding strap are leads which then go to all items which should be protected. Another great piece to add to the bonding system at the far end is a Dynaplate. The Dynaplate will improve performance of electronics, lightning protection and most of all a solid bond, as the Dynaplate is designed to provide an absolute ground to water connection. Dynaplates are available in sizes ranging from 6" X 2" (copper equivalent area 12 sq. ft.) to 18" X 6" (100 sq. ft.).

The bonding wire used should be insulated with a green color to designate its purpose:

- #8 wire is recommended for up to 20 feet
- #4 wire is recommended for up to 40 feet
- #2 wire for any longer lengths



While, these wire sizes may seem large, and therefore expensive in order to insure a low resistance path it is money well spent.

Once the bonding wire run is in place, it is connected to the running gear. For transducers, a stainless steel water hose clamp around the stem with the bonding wire tucked under works well. When doing this, it is a good idea to lightly tin the exposed end so that it gets a good clean ground to the clamp & transducer stem. The rest of the items usually just require a lug eye end and bolt. For the rudder, because the packing insulates the rudder, it should be taped with a flexible bonding wire attached. Last is the shafts and propellers. Many times because of transmission seals and fluids, the propeller shafts and propellers can become insulated from the system.

This can be a real problem as shaft zincs rarely are capable of protecting that much nobler metal for any extended period of time. A simple way to test the shafting and propeller is with a continuity meter. Just place one lead on the transom zinc and the other on the shaft or propeller. If you get tone then your precious shaft & propeller are protected. If not, you should then purchase a high quality motor brush to ride on the shaft and attach to your bonding system.

Every season during "haul out" it is good to check to entire bonding system for breaks with a continuity meter. It is quick, simple and can save you a fortune should you find a break.

Moving down the line and as an option the Dynaplate should be given careful consideration as it provides absolute water to ground connection.

See all next month for our conclusion of "The Hunt For The Meat Gremlins"

~ Captain Larry Festa
F/V Kristen

UPCOMING SHOOTOUTS

We will be facing-off in our first shoot-out of the year against Matinecock Fishing Club in a "Triple Play" to coincide with our Rodeo Weekend June 3 - 4 & 5.

Targeted species for the Triple Play Shoot-out will be Fluke, Striped Bass and Bluefish. Bragging rights will go to the anglers with the biggest of each species and to the club with the heaviest combined weight of all three (3). For shoot-out purposes, (Not to be confused with our rodeo rules) fishing for these three (3) targeted species will begin at 12:01 AM Friday June 3rd and end at 12:00 PM Sunday, June 5th.

The following weekend we will again complete straight-up against our friends in the Matinecock Club. This time for bragging rights of the three (3) largest total weight Striped Bass brought to scale in each club. As the prior shoot-out, fishing may begin Friday at 12:01 AM on June 10th and will end at 12:00 mid-night in Sunday, June 12th.

MEMBERSHIP

Want to earn \$25? Refer a new member and you can. Starting April 1, for each new member you introduce the club will apply a \$25 credit to your 2012 dues. It's just a small thank you from the Club for the referral.

Fluke Calcutta

It is Fluke Calcutta time again. This is a friendly competition to see who catches the largest fluke. For you new guys, here is how it works. Entry fee is \$10. You may catch the winning fish from any port. Only fish caught on rod and reel are eligible. The winning fish will take home all of the money in the pool. The fish must be caught during the regular New York recreational fluke season. If you aren't already signed up, see Mike Sullivan. Because you never know.

~ Mike Sullivan

FISHING BULLETIN

The month of April started out almost as if it were an April fool's joke, several inches of snow predicted. Well the weatherman got it wrong and we were spared additional insult to injury, I think we have all had enough of this winter which does not want to quit. Typical for early April are windy days of which we were not disappointed this past weekend. As the month of April wears on, the weather should begin to moderate to allow the rest of us to finish up our spring boat projects and get them in the water for the start of our 2011 fishing season. Our local waters are still on the very cool side with water temps in the low forty degree range. Bright sunny days and winds from a more southerly direction should start the process which jump starts the springtime fishery and hopefully the reports that are needed for this column.

On the local fishing front our flounder season has started and a few fish have come out of the mud to greet the anglers which have made the attempt to fish for them. The areas in Baldwin Bay are the ones which usually get the attention of our club members; however the action to the western part of Long Island from Raritan Bay to the Cedars to Romer Shoals is where the best fishery usually develops. With current fuel prices and a much reduced bag limit, I am not sure how many anglers will make the investment for such little return. It is a shame that we now have to view our fisheries from an economic standpoint.

On the offshore scene, I had an opportunity recently to sail the Blue Marlin to several wrecks south east of our inlet in twenty five fathoms of water in search of the mighty golden guppy. The action was instantaneous on the first wreck and by day's end our catch totaled 45 cod keeping 30 up to 12 lbs. Nick Nero and Peter Cefai sailed on the Dolce Vita two weeks ago and hit a few wrecks in twenty fathoms for a little cod action, they reported decent fishing keeping their legal limit as well.

The local cod action from Montauk to our inlet has been on fire this past season, with more action spilling towards the Western Long Island waters than in previous years so hopefully we are on an uptick in this fishery going forward

Recently Chris Gerhart and Jimmy Meehan teamed up for some southern tuna fishing, after a ten hour car ride to North Carolina, they were treated to some nice Bluefin with Chris landing a giant in the 300lb. range. Nice job guys and thanks for the report.

Lastly, Our Annual FTC Off-Shore Fishing Extravaganza is almost sold out. If you interested in signing up for this event, please see me at the upcoming GM details as follows:

ANNUAL OFFSHORE COD TRIP APRIL 29, 30 & MAY 1, 2011

This is the eleventh year that the Freeport Tuna Club will be running this spring time fishing extravaganza. We will be sailing aboard the Viking Starship departing from Montauk once again. In past years we have traditionally fished off the coast of Massachusetts at the Stellwagon National Marine Sanctuary for Cod, Pollack, Haddock, Wolfish and other mixed species. Once again weather permitting and only if the right conditions exist for day one we will be heading to Hydrographers Canyon in search of the biggest kind of tilefish which own the bottom in those depths. If you have ever seen pictures of giant tilefish, this is where they live. We will also look to target wreckfish, which are grouper like in taste and ferocious fighters when hooked. On day two we will look to target Cod, Pollack, and Hake on the offshore wrecks, returning to Montauk late Sunday evening. If the weather is not conducive for the offshore trip we will head back up to Stellwagon Bank and enjoy the traditional fishery which has not disappointed us in the past. The fare for this year's trip is \$ 300.00 and was strictly limited to 35 anglers. Fortunately this years trip is completely **SOLD OUT**, however there is a waiting list for any last minute cancellations. To get on that list, please see me at the next upcoming general meeting.

Sincerely,

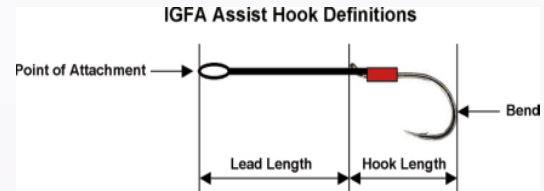
~ Captain Harry Weinblatt

F/V Blue Marlin

IGFA MAKES NEW RULING ON ASSIST HOOKS



With the increased popularity of "jigging" the IGFA has made some new rules regarding the use of assist hooks. To help clarify these rules, the following diagram will be helpful:



- The lead length may not be longer than 1.5x the hook length AND.
- The total length measured from the Bend to the closest Point of Attachment on the artificial lure (other than skirted lures) must be less than 4 inches total length.
- Double and Treble Hooks are not permitted as assist hooks.
- Multiple Assist hooks are allowed.

The new rule has been added to IGFA Rules and Regulation and is listed as numeral 3 within Section H (Hooks and Lures).

~ Paul Hilton / Emily



APRIL 2011 DERBY AWARDS & CONTESTS REPORT

*Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh
Committee Team: Captain Larry Festa,
Captain Michael Zullo*

OUR 2011 DERBY SEASON HAS BEGUN!

Good luck to everyone for the season. Let's get the year rolling with 3 derbies looking for winners and don't forget those annual awards. Send in your weigh slips!

COD (6 lbs.)	March 19th – May 1st
BLACKFISH (3 lbs)	March 26th – April 30th
FLOUNDER (3 lbs) (1.5 lbs.)	April 2nd – May 8th

Our local weigh stations should have ample supplies of FTC weigh slips. See Bill Morrogh @ the GM if you'd like a few to carry with you.

We're all waiting on NYS to tell us what our Fluke season will be this year. As soon as we get the word we'll post the derby dates and produce our AT-A-GLANCE cards! See you on the water...

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Committee members: *Chris Bellinzi*

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June 17th & 18th
- Star Island 19th Annual Mako
& Thresher Tournament**
August 5th & 6th
- Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament**
June 18th
- 31st Annual Cape May Shark Tournament**
June 9th through 12th
- Woodcleft Shark Tournament**
to be announced
- Bayshore Tuna Club Mako Tournament**
to be announced
- South Jersey Mid-Atlantic Tuna Tournament**
July 13th - 16th
- Oak Bluffs 25th Annual Monster Shark Tournament**
July 21st - 23rd
- White Marlin Open**
August 8th - 12th
- Mid-Atlantic \$500,000**
August 21st - 26th

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