

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# Tuna Tower News

VOLUME FIVE • MAY 2016

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



EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton

Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan

**NEXT GM**

**Thursday, April 14, 2016**

**at 7:30 pm**

**Cure Of Ars Auditorium**

**Merrick Avenue • Merrick**

**(Between Sunrise Highway  
and Merrick Road)**

*Guest Speaker: Marine Biologist Chris Paparo*

*(see inside for details)*

## President's Message .....

Dear Members,

There are several people I would like to thank for making our March meeting at the yacht club a success. Bill Morrogh, with the help of his wife Theresa, for again doing an outstanding job with our Annual Awards presentation. Many thanks to our membership committee: Bob McVey, Pete Monty, Ken Kapner and Gene Schettini. Their efforts at the three flea Markets resulted in 23 guests attending our GM, 10 of whom became members, with three more expressing great interest in joining. Great job guys! Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't thank Jim Rooney for his efforts in securing the Yacht Club for this meeting (and the possibility of returning for future meetings). Feedback was positive about the venue, but I was a little disappointed at the turnout (64 in attendance) for one of our highlight meetings.

For this month's meeting we will be returning to the Cure of Ars school gymnasium. Tim Sherman has arranged for marine biologist, Chris Paparo, from Stonybrook to speak at this meeting. Let's show him a good turnout at this meeting. Bring your questions and concerns about the health of our waters and the fish stocks within. Every fisherman should be concerned about the problems we are facing. I for one am looking for some concrete scientific answers.

As of this writing there are no new fishing regulations for the upcoming season, however I'm sure that will change. Keep posted to the DEC website for the latest information. While you're getting ready for the new season don't forget to register, it can be done online or by phone.

Now that March is a memory (looking back) our winter was a steal, two snows and mainly mild temperatures would have been great but the winds were relentless which kept most of the boats tied to the dock. Those that did get in a trip didn't fare very well. Even the word from Florida was wind, wind, wind. If Mother Nature gives us a nice spring this year the property should begin to see lots of activity. For those storing their boats at the property please take a look at the property report in this issue.

I leave you with this little gem:  
Fishy fishy in the brook  
won't you please bite my hook.  
(author unknown)

*Old Sam*

# FISHING REPORT

## LET THE SEASON BEGIN

Spring showed up, briefly, but it seems winter has returned. Not unusual for April which is notoriously windy and rainy. Spring will reappear and when it does things will be in full swing. Still very few first hand reports but they are beginning to trickle in. In mid March I joined Nick Nero on his "Dolce Vita" along with Pete Cefai and Captain John Jutt. We started S/E and ended up S/W of the inlet, hitting a large variety of wrecks from 65' to 150' of water. The results were the same nearly everywhere, a small cod here, a small cod there, but no real population of fish in any particular spot or area. At least we got out and bent the rods a bit on a beautiful calm day. We also had a couple of blackfish (released) and a ling or two, along with the usual dogs, pout, etc. Thanks Nick !



I know of some who tried flounder locally with zero results. Captain Jim Krug went bass fishing with some buddies on the western LI Sound and had some school bass (released) on lead heads. Flounder have made an appearance in Raritan and Jamaica Bays for anyone willing to take a long ride. Bass will open on April 15th, fish have appeared in numerous spots, but especially Raritan and Jamaica Bays so combo trips (flounder/bass) are a possibility. Bunker have already made appearances in all the bays so the mother lode of bass and blues will not be far behind.

We asked for reports from vacationing anglers and our FTC members stepped up big time with some impresses catches. Starting with a nice report from Harry Pour, in his own words "Just came back from the keys, and had a productive fishing trip in Islamorada with my lovely wife aboard captain Joey Spaulding's "LegaSea." The day started with 4 kingfish in 20-30 lbs class. Then we had a triple hook up on sailfish, which we ended up with landing 2 of them. 20 minutes later had another sail hook up on site fishing. 15 minutes later was landed and released. After lunch we hit the reef, which produced 2 dozen yellowtail snappers, half a dozen mangrove



*Harry Pour with Islamorada Sailfish*

snapper and a nice grouper. All released to be caught again, except one mangrove snapper that ended up as my dinner that night". Thanks for a great report Harry !

I spoke with Captain Mike Zullo who told me about his fishing adventures while vacationing in Islamorada. He fished a charter with the "Captain Easy" where they enjoyed fast action catching "three and four red snapper at a time" (released), some kingfish, and a good catch of vermillion and lane snapper. Fishing with club member Mike Wager on his "Islamorada Girl," and joined by Don Granger, they had yellowtail and some grouper. Capt. Mike commented on the amount of wind down there (sounds familiar) and a yellowtail season that was "off." Capt. Mike also mentioned that the Jersey head boat, the "Golden Eagle" has reported mackerel and mixed herring the past two weeks. Something to keep an eye on if those fish head our way.



*Mike Zullo with 4 at a Time Snapper*



*Jim Krug with an 8.5 pound Keywest Porgy*

Last but not least was a very impressive report, this time from Key West from Capt. Jim Krug who fished with Capt. Chip Veach. Jim sent me a stream of pictures that included red snapper, jack crevalle, amberjack, spanish mackerel, kingfish, barracuda, and blackfin tuna all caught in one very productive day of fishing. I left out the one he's most proud of, an

8.5 lb porgy for which a weigh slip was obtained for submission as a club record. I asked him if the porgy ripped his arms off, he replied "no, but I'm going to need new elbows."

There's nothing like first hand reports, please consider sharing your fishing tales and pictures with our membership by sending them in. Thanks in advance!

Please email your reports to [philton@optonline.net](mailto: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 FM Emily S*



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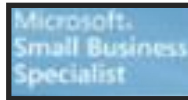


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## APRIL 2016 DERBY AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

*Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh,  
Captain Bill Toohey, and Captain Mike Zullo*

Our 2016 Derby season is underway and our Bragging Rights board down at the property is reset for the new year.

Unfortunately, the wind fan has really turned on and we haven't seen any Cod activity lately. Our Winter Flounder derby has begun. If you're one of the rare folks that knows the location of a productive Flounder hole it's time to ride! Stripers have already been spotted locally so I expect that weigh slips will be coming in right away after our 5/7 derby opening. Keeper size Weakfish were elusive last year. Let's hope for a better run this year.

### THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE OPEN OR COMING SOON:

**Cod (6 lbs.) • March 12th - May 8th**

**Flounder (1.5 lbs.) • April 4th - May 15th**

**Striped Bass (15 lbs.) • May 7th - June 12th**

**Weakfish (5 lbs.) • May 7th - June 19th**

# Open Shark Clinic

FTC will be presenting  
an open Shark clinic

**THURSDAY, JUNE 2**  
at the FTC property.

Presenters  
will be

**Chris Bellinzi**  
and **Harry Weinblatt.**

**LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

if you can help  
please email me at [jp5820@aol.com](mailto:jp5820@aol.com)

Thank you, *Jim Rooney*

## Annual Freeport Tuna Club Yard Sale

**\*FREE ADMISSION\***

Rods to Rowboats, Lures to Lights, Outboards to Outriggers Set-up time 6:00 am  
Open to public 8:00 am. Unreserved spaces will be awarded first come - first served

**FREEPORT TUNA CLUB MARINA**

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The FREEPORT TUNA CLUB would like to extend an invitation for you to participate in our annual garage sale to be held at our marina located at 275 Hudson Ave. Freeport 11520

**Saturday, May 21, 2016**  
(Rain Date Sunday, May 22)

**ATTENTION HUNTERS!!! New This Year - Hunter's Yard Sale**

Set up a table and sell your new or used hunting equipment.

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**Attention  
Hunters!**

# Property Report

## Water is on.

As members begin to prep their boats for launch just a few reminders.

- A. Do not put shrink wrap in the dumpster, there is a recycle spot in the town marina around the corner.
- B. Be courteous to the boats next to you when you are washing, waxing or painting.
- C. If you plan to strip the bottom or when you paint the bottom be sure to lay a tarp on the ground to keep us in good standing with the DEC.
- D. Battery chargers are not to be left on unattended or overnight.
- E. Once boats go into the water only approved marine electrical cords are to be used.
- F. ONCE YOU LAUNCH, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO STACK-UP THE CINDERBLOCKS ON ONE OF THE PALLETS AROUND THE YARD, AS WELL AS PUT AWAY ANY WOOD USED IN BLOCKING YOUR BOAT
- G. In order to attain a full marina there may be slip assignment changes to some boats. All efforts will be made to keep disruptions to a minimum. I would hope that all marina residents realize the critical nature that we have a full marina.



# Property Manager's Report

We may have a FULL MARINA! Yes - if all the stars align and checks clear we will have 31 slips filled this year. Thanks to all the members of the Property Committee and others who help get the word out about our great club and marina. Reducing the rates for 2016 seems to have worked.

The second payment for a summer slip was due April 1st. There are a few outstanding invoices due so please send in your payment as soon as possible. The 3rd and final payment is due May 31st.

## REMEMBER

**NO USED SHRINK WRAP IN THE DUMPSTER!**

Please be considerate of your fellow member when getting your boat ready for the new season. Let me know if you have questions or concerns. 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](mailto:capt.al@fishtaxiny.com).



# Good & Welfare

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Hank Jenet and his family on the passing of his dad. A get well soon to Rick Totten after having surgery on his shoulder. Hope to see you soon

*Rick. Jeff.*



## This Month's Speaker

Born and raised on Long Island (NY), **CHRIS PAPARO** has been exploring the wilds of the island for over 30 years. As a wildlife photographer, writer and lecturer, he enjoys bringing public awareness to the diverse wildlife that calls the island home. His passion for coastal ecology, fishing and the outdoors led him to obtain a BS in Marine Science from LIU/Southampton and currently manages the new Marine Sciences Center at the Southampton campus of Stony Brook University.

In addition to freelance writing for several fishing and wildlife related publications, Paparo currently writes the monthly Naturalist's Logbook column for the NY/NJ edition of On The Water Magazine. Although his work tends to focus on marine life, everything in the natural world is fair game.

Keep up!

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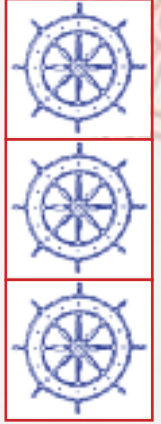
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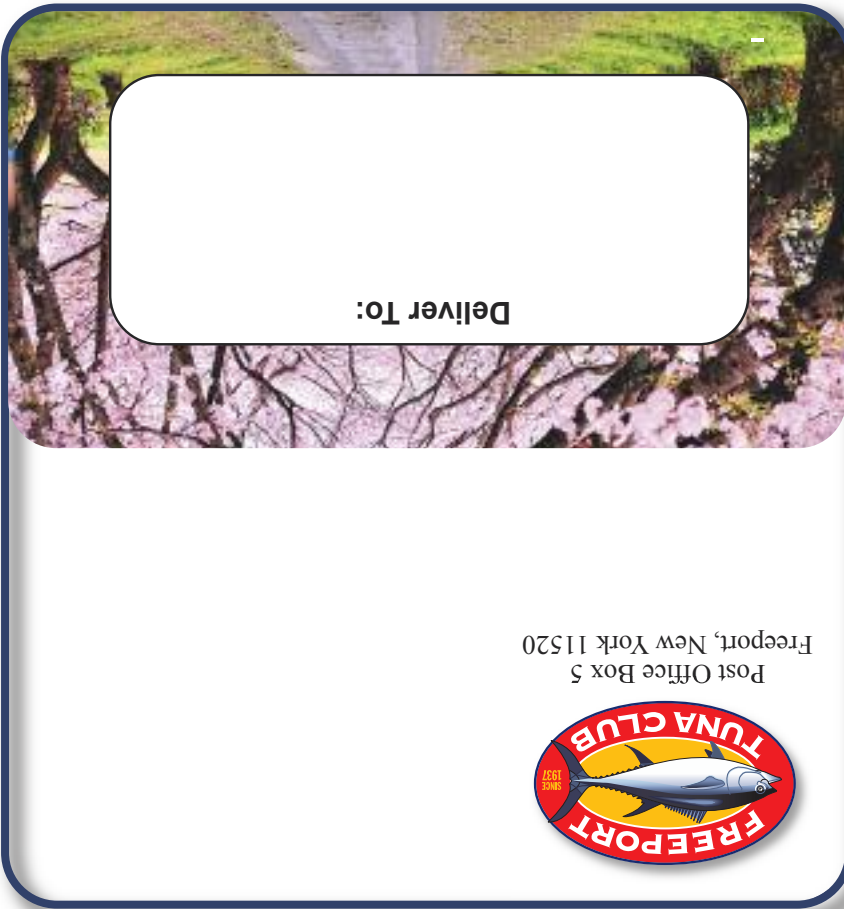
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