FREEPORT TUNA CLUB. INC.

Tuna Tower News



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

NEXT GM THURSDAY, MAY 11 7PM @ FREEPORT YACHT CLUB

533 GUY LOMBARDO AVENUE FREEPORT, NY 11520

This month we will host an

FTC History in Review

Bob "Old Sam" Sabella & Chris Squeri will be presenting

See inside for more details



President's Message

If you missed the April GM... you missed another Master Angler Series presentation by Mike Sullivan, Dave Pincus and Jim Krug. A very informative presentation as usual.

The marina is full. The floating docks have been power washed and sealed. The property is looking great. Warm weather is finally here, the bass have already arrived and the FTC property is buzzing with activity. Members are going full speed ahead to get their vessels in the water. Just a reminder if you haven't already taken your shrink wrap off, when you do please take it with you and don't leave it at the property. Many thanks to the property committee for keeping the property ship shape.

It's that time of year for the Annual Flea Market on Saturday, May 13 (Raindate, Sunday, May 14) headed up by Gene Schettini. Word is out that it's going to be one of our biggest flea markets in years. There is still time to call Gene for a table to sell tackle or whatever else is sitting in your garage collecting dust.

> Captains and Anglers Thursday Night Barbecues will be starting soon. Jim Rooney is waiting for the word from God. Until next month, stay safe and healthy and remember that participation is key to a great club experience.

> > Paul Cunningham



Thank you,

Remember those who served. All gave some, some gave all.

Derbies, Awards & Contests

Chairman: Ray Geiger | Committee: Bill Morrogh & Harry Sbaschnig

The NYC DEC has *finally* updated their regulations and they are available at: https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/fishlimitsfish.pdf

If you are holding any slips, please remember we must have them in hand no later than 14 days after the derby close in order to be eligible for derby awards. All slips that we receive figure in our annual awards, so if possible, get your fish weighed.

Please be aware there is a minimum weight requirement for all species. These weights and all FTC fishing regulations are available at: https://www.ftcfishing.com/s/AnglingRulesForTheFreeportTunaClub-yh43.pdf.

The following derbies are open and will be awarded at our June GM::

BLACKFISH (3 lb min) April 1st - April 30th

COD (6 lb min) March 4th - April 30th

FLOUNDER (1.5 lb min) April 1st - May 7th

The following derbies are currently open, or will be opening soon:

STRIPED BASS (15 lb min) April 29th - June 4th WEAKFISH (5 lb min) April 29th - June 11th FLUKE (3.5 lb min) May 13th - July 4th SHARK (125 lb min) May 13th - July 4th BLUEFISH (8 lb min) May 13th - July 4th

The 2023 FTC "Fish-At-A-Glance" cards are in and we will have them on hand.

We will be posting updates and info in the Fishing Reports forum section on our website (ftcfishing.com) as the season progresses. Remember, you must be a registered member of our forums in order to view this section.

Good Luck To All !!!

Best Fishes ---Ray Geiger



Property

So spring has sprung and the yard is emptying out nicely. I appreciate everyone that was patient while their fellow club members who had them temporarily blocked in. For the most part things have gone smoothly. Occasionally you may see orange cones blocking off an area in the yard. There is a reason for that, and it doesn't mean drive over them and park your car in that area and go fishing. It means I got a heads up on a boat that will be leaving the yard the next day or sooner. Be considerate and DON'T PARK THERE. IF YOU GO FISHING AND PARK YOUR CAR IN A WAY THAT BLOCKS A BOAT FROM LEAVING THE YARD, SHAME ON YOU. The board will consider charging you a fee for the hauler to come back another day. Bottom line, don't do it. For the next few weeks consider parking outside or somewhere you won't be in the way. USE YOUR HEAD. If you know when you would like to leave the yard please text or call me in advance so I may be able to clear the way for you.

Last, but not least, when your boat is moved from the yard you are responsible for removing the cinder blocks and any wood that was used for blocking your boat. It all needs to be stacked neatly in the designated areas on the property. I have already had to clean up after boats that were removed. It's the boat owners responsibility to clean up the area under your boat. Thanks for your cooperation in advance as always.

Tom Lephine 516-316-7669

There are no longer any slips available for the summer 2023 season. If you'd like to get a dock space at the Freeport Tuna Club, please call me to get on our waiting list (\$100 deposit) - your deposit will be applied if you get a slip or refundable in total at anytime.

All boats should be off the property by June 1. After June 1, they will be a \$175 charge per month. Thank you all members for your support for winter and summer dockage. Have a great, healthy, happy summer.

Thank You, **Bob Dimino**Property Manager
516-765-1555



Our condolences go out to the Capt. Al Family upon the recent passing Capt. Al Lindroth. President Paul Cunningham's wife is home from the hospital and recovering

Congratulations to Jimmy & Toni Rooney, on the recent addition to their family.

A grandson, named Dominick Joseph D'Orta on 5.2.23, 7.5 lbs. - sounds like a keeper to me!

Jeff Squeri 516-652-5981





Striper Diaries EPISODE 46

OPENING DAY! As winter turned a corner, and the warmer spring air arrived, I could not contain my excitement about fishing for the striped bass opener. We spent all winter taking an inventory of tackle. This included replacing split rings, reel repairs, re-stocking rubber shads and checking

guides. Opening day is akin to Christmas morning and it is something we patiently wait for. This year the forecast called for rain and fog. However, nothing was going to put a damper on our long awaited steam to Raritan Bay. We shoved off at day break in sweatshirts and rain gear, as the morning drizzle began to taper off.

As we approached the inlet on the outgoing tide, the wind was calm and the fog was thick. Visibility was limited. We slowly crawled out with radar, but could not find the channel. All of a sudden, a giant work boat approached and we took a wave over the bow. The boat quickly filled up with water, and our coolers were floating. I yelled out "are we sinking" and at that moment we make a quick decision to turn around and head back in. After a few minutes, and a few Hail Mary's the water drained out. We were startled, but decided to head back out. This time we would follow the beach, as breaking waves were in the distance to the east. It seemed like forever, but we eventually made our way outside the inlet. Raritan Bay here we come!

We headed west in pea soup fog in 25-30 feet of water. It was a quiet ride, as we paid close attention to the radar. I wasn't sure we would make it to Raritan Bay, but we forged ahead. Water temps were in the lower 50s and the fog cover was thick. After about an hour, we finally made it to the Rockaway Inlet! Ok great... now we just have to make it across to Raritan. The plan was to head slightly north towards the Verranzano Bridge. We steamed north and all of a sudden there was a clearing in the distance! I yelled out - I see sun!! This is our chance, and just like that it was full throttle. We reached Raritan and found a very small fleet of boats. Lines in the water, it was time to fish. Chartreuse and white mojos were deployed. Bam, immediately it was game time. The bite was hot and the fish were hungry!! After we had our limit, we switched over to casting shads and bucktails. It was catch and release for the next few hours and was a dream come true. Around noon, we saw some angry clouds in the distance





and the fog began to roll in. We knew the fun was over and it was time to head east. Lines up and foul weather gear back on. We turned on the radar and followed our tracks. It was a long slow ride home. As we saw the "steps" we knew we were close to Deb's Inlet.

share off slots and overs on opening day... fire up the grill Once at the

Bay Park Fishing Station is at

Bay Park Fishing Station. 11m · Oceanside, NY · 3 @bcsnyc1 on LEGAL LIMITS got her fair

Atlantic Beach Bridge, visibility was good, so we stopped at Bay Park fishing station to meet the new owner, Dan, and take a few pictures of our catch.

As we cleaned the fish, I realized an old saying my father once told me. "There are old sailors and bold sailors, but no old, bold sailors,"

Until my next adventure, Tight lines!

Capt. Barbara Solomon F/V Legal Limits



Entertainment

Hopefully our members have begun their spring rituals and shaken off the winter effects. A big thank you to Mike Sullivan, Jimmy Krug and Dave Pincus for sharing their tips at our April meeting. This month we will host a FTC History Review. It's been at least 4 years since we took the time to honor our founding members and reviewed our storied history. Bob "Old Sam" Sabella and Chris Squeri will share our History and some of the important names that are shared around the club. If you want to share a moment or a past member, please contact me to participate. With so many new members in the last years, now (our 87th year!) is a good time to catch up on our heritage as the Largest and Oldest Tuna Club on the East Coast of the U.S.

Bruce C. **Forster** f/v Oh Yeah 516-443-4680

Fishing Report

Bass season started out strong to the west in Raritan Bay with a large body of fish that settled in early. Our local back bays and the western North Shore also had a good start with plenty of quality fish for this who were ready to go.

Local bottom grounds had a good run of cod and spring blackfish for those that put in the time.

Please be aware that the (ASMFC) has passed a new slot for stripers. 28"-31". This was done without any notice and unless overturned will most likely go into effect in July.

The club needs a few people to step in and run the Fluke Tournament, please let me know if you are interested.

Capt. Adam Bollaci

516-322-0030 | adambollaci@gmail.com

Captains & Anglers

The committee would like to thank all the members who participated in the April 13 80° Pizza Party. We had great weather, unfortunately the weather has not cooperated since.

Please keep an eye on the website, Facebook and Tuna Tower for information on upcoming barbecues.

A big thank you to Bob Sabella for building a roof over the cook area!!!!!!! Thanks Bob you're the best!!!!!!

Thank you, Fin Rooney













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Jim Azzi

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