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Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.
Chartered to Promote
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Annual Freeport Tuna Club Yard Sale

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB MARINA
275 HUDSON AVENUE, FREEPORT
Saturday, May 14, 2011
(Rain Date Sunday, May 15th)

Table space is available at \$30.00 per 10 ft. spot
"BRING YOUR OWN TABLES PLEASE"

**For more information call
Al Casciano 516-523-1339**

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:

- 26' Stamas 1966 hull, Furuno Color Scope, Radio, 100 Gal. fuel tank, runs but needs work. \$4,900.00 or best offer. Contact: Dan (516) 459-6619.
- Boat Slip for Rent. Water@electric in Freeport. *Four Miles from the inlet.* Call Sy Karp (516) 632-9770.
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- Available for sale: Teak Swim Platform off my 25' Chris Craft Catalina Express. Approx. 72" x 28". \$200.00 or best offer. Willing to trade for good fluke rod/reel combos or other tackle or boat accessories I may have a need for. Dr. John Weber (516) 379-8935.

**To place an ad in our classified
Contact Capt. John Jutt (516) 546-2312
or e-mail to: JJutt@mmpmk.com**

Tuna Tower News

VOLUME FIVE • MAY 2011

Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor Capt. Paul Hilton

Co-Contributors Mike Sullivan & Larry Festa



NEXT GM
Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 8pm
Cure Of Ars Auditorium
Merrick Avenue • Merrick
(Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)
The speaker for our May GM will be
Harvey "Peanut Bunker" Cooper

Harvey has been fishing from Atlantic Beach to Montauk for 50 years and has been custom designing teaser rigs for 12 years. He will share his secrets with the FTC at our May GM! His teasers have caught Fluke, Stripers, Sea Bass, False Albacore, Cod, Tuna and Swordfish, and have been published in fly tying and fishing publications. He will be assisted by Custom Rod builder and restorer Capt. Neil Faulkner. Don't miss it!!

President's Message

Dear Members,

The weather is finally breaking and the FTC's property is buzzing with activity. Members are working feverishly to get their vessels in the water before the fishing breaks loose. 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. I thank our property committee for doing an outstanding job in keeping our property state of the art and if we all help a little with things as small as shrink wrap it all adds up.

I would like to say, thank you to Alan Bregman and Board Member, Chris Squeri on the ins and outs of Sea Tow at our last GM. In addition to their presentation, Sea Tow will be giving FTC members a discount to all new & renewal memberships and in today's economy it could be the best money you ever spend, not to mention safety....leave it to the Pros when you are on the other end of the rope! Sea Tow is just a small example of what our meetings are about, so if you haven't been at a GM lately it's time to get involved and come on down and hear what's going on with your club.

There is a long list of special events going on this month.... I don't know where to start:

Captain Harry Weinblatt and the rest of the members of the FTC had a very successful trip, sailing to the deep waters of the Atlantic. Congratulations to pool winners Christopher Bellinzoni with a 31 pound Tile Fish & Peter Cafai with a 20 plus Pollack. The trip was blessed with great fishing & outstanding weather. A thank you to Captain Harry for all the hard work done in putting the cod trip together once again.

It is also that time of the year for the FTC's annual garage sale on May 14th, headed up by Al Casciano. The word is that it's going to be one of our biggest garage sale in years. There is still time to call Al for a table to sell tackle and what ever else that is just sitting in your garage gathering dust.

So if you want to make some money or spend some money, come on down and look for what is for sale.

The FTC will be holding a Striped Bass Seminar on May 19th at our beautiful property. This event is being spearheaded by Pass President, Jim Rooney, and our own members; Chris Bellinzoni, Mike Sullivan and Peter DiThomas who will be headlining the event on different ways to catch Striped Bass. It has been a few years since FTC held a seminar so come and enjoy your property. All members of the FTC are welcome for free....." IF you are wearing FTC apparel to the event", if not it is ten dollars to cover the event. A thank you goes out to Matt Errert on his outstanding work on promoting this event and also a condolence to Matt on the passing of his mother, Lillian.

The Captain Anglers crew has cleaned and fired up the barbeques this past Thursday, so everyone who had cabin fever, come on down to the property and enjoy the drinks and food while crewing up your boat or jumping on to crew a boat. The awning will be put up when the weather allows and I was also told that the Thursday night seminars are in the works so look for updates in future issues of the Tuna Tower Newsletter.

In closing I wish all our FTC members and their families a happy Mother's Day. To all our veterans a big thanks you for your service as we remember you on Memorial Day.

~ President John Rooney



RUST NEVER SLEEPS

Did you ever hear the expression; "Rust Never Sleeps"...how true is that! The best we can do is get a little rustolium and we then slow the process down on things like wrought iron furniture and house trimmings. The same is true about the mysteries of galvanic corrosion, "AKA Electrolysis." In layman's terms, electrolysis is the destruction of metals from electrochemical reactions in a saltwater environment. Once this reaction is in motion, like rust, it never sleeps! Here is part II of our hunt for the metal gremlins...

MATERIALS

Anode/Zinc:

Zinc is almost always our sacrificial Anode. It is relatively inexpensive and it is one of the least noble metals which offer protection for the precious metal in our vessels. Let's examine ways of placing zinc anodes on our vessels.

Transom Zinc:

As mentioned, this should be at the end of the bonding run. The transom zinc is not the end all be all of protection. In order for it to be maintained easily, it is placed on the transom below the water line, putting it high in the water for visual inspection. Sacrificial Anodes (zincs) do their best job when they oppose the noble metal that is being protected. This positioning allows a free flow of material from the anode to the noble metals which affords the best protection. The transom is really the only reasonable spot for this anode. Also keep in mind that when underway the transom zinc is completely out of the water.

Rudder Zincs:

Rudder zincs are always a good place for an anode. They rest nice and low in the water column and the rudder can be drilled so the zinc is in a direct line with your most valuable piece of running gear, your bronze or nibral propeller. In addition, rudder zincs do not erode fast because they taper very nicely on the rudder with little drag.

Shaft Zincs:

Every year we put them on for peace of mind and 99% of the time they do not make it through the season. There are two types of Shaft Zincs. The Collar Zinc which is tapered at both ends, like a football to reduce drag; The Donut zinc, which is just that, and used on vessels with minimal shaft clearance, such as keeled New England Boats.

Both offer protection, but once again not enough alone. As stated earlier, the shafts must be tied into your system. In doing so, it will also lighten the load on the shaft zincs to extend its life.

The main reason why these zincs do not last is due to shaft turbulence and cavational erosion as the shaft spins thru the water at a rapid rate. The amount of drag on these zincs is high. Keeping that in mind, it is also a good idea to mount the shaft zinc at a reasonable distance away from your struts to allow good water flow for lubrication to the strut's cutlass bearing.

Hanging Fish Anode:

Commonly referred to as a "Guppy", this is an excellent electrolysis problem indicator and protector for your vessel. The Guppy should be tied directly into your bonding system. When the vessel is on land, the guppy cable lead should be measured so the guppy will be in line with your running gear. The guppy can be checked daily or whenever required. Any spike in its erosion is a sure indicator that something has gone astray! It is quick and easy to install and replace, plus it also lightens the erosion load on the underwater zincs which work solo when not at dockside.

Engine Zincs:

The engines contain a separate body of water that is not protected by the boat's bonding system. Engine zincs must be very carefully inspected and replaced once they are about 50% eroded. Owner's manuals give recommended hourly inspections of the motor zincs. It is only a guide under ideal conditions. Each vessel is different, and conditions can change. For peace of mind, I inspect zincs every 50 to 75 hours at a maximum. They are cheap and they protect the life blood of your motor. The eroding of engine zincs is also due to water flow and cavation across its surface. The newer smaller higher turning motors will erode zincs quicker than the larger slower turning motors. When your boat is underway at full cruise, lean over the transom and look at the water volume exiting your exhaust system - you will be amazed at the volume!

Summing Up and Stray Current Revisited

Even with a perfect bonding system with all the bells and whistles it can only fight electrical currents off for so long. Your guppy which is the Gremlin Scout for a problem should let you know first. Whether your problem is A.C. or D.C. the results are the same - death to healthy metals. If your bonding system is 100% and you are still losing too much zinc then a meter is required to do the testing. This meter is commonly called a galvanic voltage meter or corrosion control meter.

The most common method is to use a "half-silver chloride cell." The resulting cell consists of a piece of pure silver, connected by a copper wire to a sensitive voltmeter and then with another copper wire to a probe that can be used to make electrical contact with various pieces of thru hull underwater metals.

The meter will then be able to pick up any of the following current problems: (in addition should one piece of metal give a higher reading than the other, it would indicate a possible break or poor connection in the bonding system.)

If the problem is stray current then your search must begin. It is always helpful to see if your neighboring boats are also affected. Both sides could mean you are the cause in the middle or the shore system. One side could mean one of the neighboring boats or dockside. You can then narrow your search by using the meter with neighbors present and away, with and without shore power hook ups and all combinations until the source is located. Also keep in mind that the use of items not designed for marine use, such as automotive battery chargers, large AC pumps and the likes can introduce a lot of stray current to in surrounding water. These units are not grounded for a marine environment and should not be used.

In closing the mysteries of electrolysis can be solved by following basic investigative steps as outline above.....Good Luck to all who Hunt for the "Metal Gremlins."

~ Captain Larry Festa
F/V Kristen

GOOD AND WELFARE

Our prayers and condolences go out to Matt Errett on the passing of his mother.
516-221-6343 / 516-652-5981

~ Jeff Squeri

PROPERTY

For those members that have their boat on the property we would appreciate if you can have your boat off the property before May 14 for the FTC Yard Sale.

~ Property Business Manger

ENTERTAINMENT

Harvey "Peanut Bunker" Cooper has been fishing from Atlantic Beach to Montauk for 50 years and has been custom designing teaser rigs for 12 years. He will share his secrets with the FTC at our May GM! His teasers have caught fluke, stripers, sea bass, false albacore, cod, tuna, and swordfish and have been published in fly tying and fishing publications. He will be assisted by Custom Rod builder and restorer Capt. Neil Faulkner. Don't miss it!!

~ Capt. Bob Bohlert

MEMBERSHIP

There are 188 members with more renewals to come in the coming month. Want to earn \$25? Refer a new member and the club will apply a \$25 credit to your 2012 dues. It's just a small thank you for your thoughtful the referral.

~ Mike Sullivan

FLUKE CALCUTTA

The 2011 fluke season is underway! A colder than normal spring coupled with an earlier start made for difficult conditions on opening day. The Calcutta is a friendly competition to see who catches the largest fluke. 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. In 2010, two lucky winner split \$900. Maybe 2011 will be your year. If you aren't already signed up, see Mike Sullivan. Because you never know.

~ Mike Sullivan

CATCH OF THE MONTH ISLAMORADA ACTION

With local Catch of the Month submittals light, we looked south where FTC anglers have enjoyed some great Florida weather and fishing this winter.

Our "Catches of the Month" go to Mike Wagner (below) with 26 and 29 inch Yellowtail Snapper and Mike Zullo (right) with a 18.5 pound Kingfish. Congrats on some nice catches!

For bragging rights email me at philton@optonline.net to be recognized for "Catch of the Month". Include a picture and catch details. Thanks to all who submitted entries this month, please keep them coming.

~ Paul Hilton / Emily S.



FISHING BULLETIN

Our spring season has transitioned from the month of April to May and the weather has not kept up at the same pace, although I am certain it will catch up this month. Our club property is alive with anticipation of what the upcoming season will have in store for us. One sure bet is that we will face higher fuel prices this season. Vessels locations are changing from land to their in water berths as they prepare for the commencement of the 2011 season. As the month of May wears on we can expect that our weather will continue to moderate and hopefully cooperate enough to allow the rest of our membership to cash in on our traditional springtime fishery.

On the local fishing front striped bass are starting to show in our local area waters; not huge numbers as we had experienced last year at this time, but they have made their presence known on the catching menu. The action is local in our inlet as well as around the local area bridges. These fish will continue to make their way into our local inlets and back bays over the next several weeks and as a result our traditional clam chumming and Back Bay plugging will pick up more steam. I did receive a report from John Campa indicating that lots of bass were caught to the west in the ocean and the action was on diamond jigs. Perhaps these fish will make up as they did last year; wouldn't that be a pleasant surprise.

We have experienced a very slow spring time blackfish season. Our local bottom experts went to work, geared up to target the much respected tautog. After many unsuccessful trips many club members have thrown in the towel. Our local area bottom temperatures are still very cold and as a result the fishing is still not primetime. The cool inshore water has not hampered any effort in the deeper waters. Most recently Nick Nero skipped his vessel, accompanied by crew of Paul Hilton and John Jutt, to a wreck in 25 fathoms of water. They were not disappointed as 30 cod to 17 lbs hit the deck. Nice job guys.

Our Annual Spring Offshore Trip went off without a hitch. This year's plan to fish for tilefish was waiting for us with open arms. After a weeklong monsoon of wind and rain, the weather subsided long enough to give us the necessary window to make the 150 mile trip offshore. We departed Montauk Harbor at 6:00PM and sailed all night long with a subsiding southwest swell. Thirteen hours later, at the tip of Hydrographers Canyon the throttles were pulled back and the search was on. Our first drop was in 450 feet of water. After two slow drifts and a few fish caught, Capt. Steven made a slight change in depth to deeper water and that was all that was needed for the action to really start. As I looked down the rail from the bow, I noticed many club members engaged with a bend in their rod and 550 feet of line off their reels to contend with. Slow and steady reeling was all that was required to get the fish out of their mud boroughs, and their heads turned in the right direction. By the end of the day the boat had its best tilefish catch ever. The largest Tilefish of the day was caught by Christopher Bellinzoni; a new FTC club record at 31.5 lbs and to boot gave him the opportunity to collect the pool money for the largest tilefish. Peter Cefai claimed the other pool with his monster Pollack of 25 lbs.

Exhausted from the day, most of us rested in the cabin or took a short nap as we steamed back west into a shallower water depth of 240 feet. We claimed our real estate for the evening after dropping the anchor, not far from where we would start day two of our trip. We were then all treated to a wonderful prime rib dinner from the boats galley and chef Kobi. Many of us retired early for the evening without issue. We were all up again bright and early ready for more action on Sunday morning. A short steam to a secret wreck and we were back on the drift. We picked away all morning long catching cod, cod and more cod until Capt. Steven gave us the signal that the time had come. We had a 125 mile ride back to Montauk and it was time to head in.

As we continued to transit toward Montauk, our yearly tradition was about to start in earnest. An assortment of the finest red wine and other culinary delicacies was shared amongst all members and crew. Once again the trip was a huge success due to all of the right ingredients present, camaraderie among fellow club members, weather and lastly excellent fishing. I would like to thank everyone who was present this year and made the 2011 trip another one for the record books.

Sincerely,

~ Captain Harry Weinblatt

F/V Blue Marlin

MAY 2011 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTESTS REPORT

Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh

Committee Team: Captain Larry Festa,

Captain Michael Zullo

It's time to send in those weigh slips. Blackfish ended on 4/30, Spring Cod ended on 5/1 and Flounder ends on 5/8.

We've got Striped Bass on tap for 5/7 – 6/12 so get out there and fish. If you want some tips on winning this derby make sure that you attend our Striped Bass seminar at the property on May 19th!

Weakfish runs from 5/14 through 6/26. We'll have the Fluke derby dates for you at the May GM. Don't miss this meeting and a great presentation on custom teaser rigs that are deadly on Fluke.

SPRING RODEO

June 3, 4 & BBQ

June 5th at

The Tuna Club

**BBQ ,DJ, Bouncy,
Bake Off Prizes**

Fishing starts at 12 am Friday June 3rd

All slips must be in the box before

PM Sunday June 5th. species are

**Striped Bass, Sea Bass,
Fluke, Blue fish and Shark.**

Captain & Anglers

Would like to thank John Kampa & Don Morin
for their refrigerator donations.

And also thank all the members who
participated in the spring clean up.

Volunteers Needed

for Striped bass seminar May 19th.

Volunteers also needed for the spring rodeo

June 5th, Please contact Jim Rooney

(516) 850-6772 or JP5820@aol.com

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS OFFSHORE

Chairman: Matt Errett

Committee members: Chris Bellinzoni

- 1. Noreast Big Dog Shootout**
June 1st through July 31st
- 2. Star Island 25th Annual Shark Tournament**
June 17th & 18th
- 3. Star Island 19th Annual Mako
& Thresher Tournament**
August 5th & 6th
- 4. Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament**
June 18th Raindate June 19th
- 5. 31st Annual Cape May Shark Tournament**
June 9th through 12th
- 6. Woodcleft Shark Tournament**
Saturday, June 25th Rain date Sunday, June 26th
- 7. Bayshore Tuna Club Mako Tournament**
to be announced
- 8. South Jersey Mid-Atlantic Tuna Tournament**
July 13th – 16th
- 9. Oak Bluffs 25th Annual Monster Shark Tournament**
July 21st – 23rd
- 10. White Marlin Open**
August 8th -12th
- 11. Mid-Atlantic \$500,000**
August 21st – 26th

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Mike Sullivan's "Duke of Fluke"
see Mike for details

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