

# Tuna Tower News

VOLUME FIVE • MAY 2013  
Internet Address: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)



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

**NEXT GM**  
**Thursday, May 9th, 2013 at 7:30pm**  
**Cure Of Ars Auditorium**  
**Merrick Avenue • Merrick**  
 (Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)

See inside for more details

**Kevin McAllister from the Peconic Baykeeper will speak about the breach caused by Hurricane Sandy at Old Inlet and other environmental issues at the May 9th GM**

## President's Message.....

Dear Members,

### Spring Has Sprung!

Back in January when I became President I remember saying this is going to be a good year. I can't wait for the fishing season to start and all of a sudden "WOW" It's May 1st time does go by fast. The weather has changed and the temperatures have been in the 70's. The Flounder Season has begun and there are a few reports of a great start to the Striped Bass season on the West Bar. The Fluke Season is about to start with a size of 19 inches and 4 Keepers That sounds good to me. OOH! OOH! OOH! FISH ON! The Annual Codfish Trip on the Viking Starship out of Montauk departed on the 3rd of May and is due back on May 5th. I didn't go on the trip this year so I won't be TANGELING any LINES. Hope you guys had a great trip with plenty of fish and lots of camaraderie.

Last month's General Meeting attendance was up. Our entertainment committee head Ray Geiger welcomed Jim Gilmore to speak at our meeting. He is the Director of Marine Fisheries of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. I thought that Mr. Gilmore did an Excellent presentation and was very informative.

This month at our MAY G.M. we will be entertained with another speaker.

Make sure you attend this meeting. Board Member Alan Evelyn along with Ray Geiger are welcoming Kevin McAllister a coastal biologist and bay keeper and Alexandra Millar a development & communications Director and Geoscientist of the Peconic Bay Keepers .Org to speak at our General Meeting on MAY 9th . They will provide us with Valuable information about Environmental issues and an update on the Breach at the "OLD INLET" On the South Shore of Long Island, so it should be very Interesting.

On May 18th we will be hosting our Annual Freeport Tuna Club Yard Sale.

Bob Benzenberg and Al Casciano are heading up this great event. It has been advertised in THE FISHERMAN under calendar of events.

Bob has distributed flyers at all the fishing flea markets around. Al has sent out all the mailings to vendors and members who have had tables in the past. This year we are trying to include hunter's to bring their new or used hunting equipment. I'm hoping that this year will be a much larger turnout. The Captain Anglers crew will be serving up a great menu of food. Please participate I know everyone has stuff for sale so see Bob or Al Get a spot and bring a table and Support the Club. It's a real fun day.



Don't forget about our special raffle for a 9ft Inflatable boat powered with a 5 horsepower Tohatsu outboard motor. Tickets are \$10.00 each see Jim Rooney. We are hoping to have the Boat & motor at the Yard sale. Jimmy is also planning a dinner cruise it's a great night on the water. Let's help support the Club.

As of this Message we have 169 Paid Members. At the last G.M. the members name that was picked was not there. So this month's Prize is \$50.00 and \$25.00 in raffle tickets towards a future G.M. You have to be in it to win it!

Men and Fish are alike...They both get in trouble  
When they open their mouths!!!

~ President 2013 ~ Bob Pandey

# Fishing Report

No word yet on our spring mackerel run, however if history proves correct, they should make their appearance in very late April to early May.

On a conservation note:

Fluke season will be May 1st ~ September 29th Four (4) fish @ 19" Much better that we could have imaged.

Seabass season will open on July 23th. This late opening is a bite disappointing knowing that the commercial season will be opened much earlier.

Reports are coming from our members. So here is the latest:

To the west Captain Steve Rodeos F/V "Legacy" Reports that the Strip Bass have arrived in full force in Ratian Bay. Keeper size fish have been caught on Clam bait & spoons.

Captain Chris on a recent trip to Fire Island reports that there are some quality flounders to be caught in the N/S Fire Island Channel and that strip bass have already moved into our local bays. This report was re-enforced with and fine catch of keeper stripers on a night bite by Captain Peter Cefai & Barbara. Pete and Barbara fished the Western North Shore for the full moon on April 25, 2013 for the "night bite" on the boat the "NeverEnuff". The FTC Team chunked bunker & landed several nice bass up to 17 pounds.

On the offshore wreck scene the 20 mile wrecks are still covered with dog fish and seabass that we cannot keep. The better offshore action is on the 30 & 40 mile wrecks reports a nice size Cod fish.

On the boating front we welcome the following new boats into our club:

Captain Chris Bellinzoni reports the all new "F/V Four Bells" Captain Chris is the new owner of a beautiful 28' AJ Downeaster Boat. She sports Yanmar diesel power and a flag blue hull. The new "Four Bells" will be birthed at his Baldwin home. Best of luck Captain Chris & family.

Captain Harry Weinblatt reports the all new arrival of his new 25' Contender. After selling his 35 Duffy, Captain Harry is back in the game! The all New F/V "Blue Marlin" sporting twin 150 HP Yamaha power. Harry's plan will be to docked back at the FTC Marina with: "Have trailer will travel".... to give the East End Boys a run for their money when the bite is on.

WELCOME TO OUR CLUB & MARINA:

- All of our members welcome the following new boat to our FTC Marina:
- Captain Paul Giurco with his canyon ready 35" Cabo "F/V Laura Line"
- Lisa Cunningham & Debbie Gray, 19" Chaparral "F/V Pipe & Law"
- William Montebello with his 24" Chaparral "F/V Hyper Active"
- Jeff Romanek Offshore rig "F/V Tigar Barb" a 28' Rampage
- Chris Macropoulos "F/V OverBite" 23 Regulator

That about wraps it up for this report. If you had a good catch drop the Awards & Contest Committee a line we would love to hear about your catch and share it with our membership: E -Mail captainlarry84@aol.com

Sincerely

Captain Larry Festa

S/A

~ Sincerely,

Captain Larry Festa - S/A



## April 2013 Derby Awards & Contests Report

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

The Cod Derby ended on 5/5/13. You have until Sunday, 5/19/13, to get weigh slips in. DON'T FORGET: Cod slips also figure in some annual awards so send them in even if you don't win the derby!

The Winter Flounder Derby ends this Sunday, 5/12. You have until 5/26 to get slips in to the committee.

The Striped Bass Derby is on right now and ends on 6/09. The Weakfish Derby starts this Saturday, 5/11. We will have Sea Bass dates shortly.

### THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS:

<b>Cod (6 lbs.)</b>	<b>March 16th – May 5th</b>
<b>Flounder (1.5 lbs.)</b>	<b>April 6th – May 12th</b>
<b>Striped Bass (15 lbs.)</b>	<b>May 4th – June 9th</b>
<b>Weakfish (5 lbs.)</b>	<b>May 11th – June 23rd</b>
<b>Fluke (3.5 lbs.)</b>	<b>May 25th-July 7th</b>
<b>Shark (125 lbs.)</b>	<b>May 25th - July 7th</b>
<b>Bluefish (8lbs.)</b>	<b>May 25th - July 7th</b>

*The complete Derby calendar for 2013 is available on our website.*

### ANNUAL AWARD CHANGES.

We've made some changes to the annual awards in the interests of competition and participation.

**Woodcleft Marine Base, Inc., Trophy** — Awarded to the member catching the greatest weight fish per pound line test, on a boat sailing from any Long Island Port using a maximum of 30 lb. test line and conventional tackle. No Blue Sharks will be eligible for this award.

The change makes this award for "conventional tackle only".

### Ed Swanson Memorial Angler of the Year Award ---

Awarded to the angler sailing from any Long Island port who achieves the highest number of total points in a calendar year. Points are accumulated for the following species: Pelagic Sharks, Tuna, Bill Fish, Dolphin, False Albacore, Weakfish, Striped Bass, Fluke, Sea Bass, Blackfish, Bluefish, Cod and Flounder. Points are awarded for the 1st (5 pts.), 2nd (4 pts.), 3rd (3 pts.), 4th (2 pts.) and 5th (1 pt.) largest fish caught for each species.

The change adds False Albacore, counts the first 5 fish and changes the points awarded for each place.

**The Barry Simon Memorial Captain's Award** — Awarded to the captain who achieves the highest number of points for Cod, Blackfish and Sea Bass caught aboard his vessel. Points are awarded for the 1st (5 pts.), 2nd (4 pts.), 3rd (3 pts.), 4th (2pts.) and 5th (1pt.) largest fish caught for each species. A member captain may submit two weight slips for each species and must be aboard his vessel when the fish is caught. The boat must leave and return from Jones, Fire Island or Debs Inlet. The angler need not be a member.

The change allows 2 fish of each species per captain, counts the first 5 fish and changes the points awarded for each place.



## Catch of the Month Mutton Snapper

Our "Catch of the Month" goes to Jonathan Wade who caught some huge Mutton Snappers while vacationing in Belize recently. This beauty was landed along with a variety of other snapper species and reef dwellers. Style points were awarded for the clearly visible FTC hat as well.



No weight was obtained for this fish but it looks like it might have challenged the "current" FTC record 16 lb 12 oz Mutton Snapper caught by John Shiel in Boyton Beach, Fla back in 1961. The IGFA All Tackle Record stands at 30 lb 4 oz caught at the Dry Tortugas in 1998.

Send in those pictures !

For bragging rights, please email me at [philton@optonline.net](mailto:philton@optonline.net) or text me at 516 721 8907 to be considered for "Catch of the Month" by the bulletin committee.

Include a picture and some catch details. Thanks to all who submitted entries this Month and please keep them coming.

– Paul Hilton / Emily S

## FTC FLEA MARKET

May 18 is the FTC Flea Market, If it's possible we would like to have the boats off the property to accommodate the Flea Market. Contract requires boats to be off by June 1. Thank you for your cooperation in advance.

## PROPERTY

When you on cover your boat do not put the shrink wrap in the dumpster, take it to the dump in Merrick or a ride home. Police your area after your boat leaves the property and return your block to the storage area

While getting your boat ready for the season if you have any problems on the property with water or electric let the property committee know.

Don't block the gate open. Use the power switch to disable the gate. Remember to turn the power back on when you leave.

We still have 5 open slips in the marine that we need to fill. Find a non member to take a slip and you get \$500.

Property Committee

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF

At the end of the month is Memorial Day which officially kicks off the summer season.

We wish all a happy and safe Boating Season

## Fluke Calcutta

The 2013 Fluke Calcutta underway. My thanks Charlie Goldstein for signing everyone up last month. Entry fee remains \$10-- winner take all. Same rules, you may catch the fish from any port during the regular fluke season. All fish must be alive at the time it is caught with hook and line. See me at the GM. Because you never know!

## Membership

One hundred and seventy five and counting have renewed their membership so far. Just 27 have yet to renew. If you are one of the 27, please take out your checkbook now and send your renewal in. The membership Committee appreciates your payment.

~ Mike Sullivan

## Good & Welfare

Martha Pezar wife of Paul is in N Y Hospital . We send out our prayers and thoughts. Don Granger had Knee replacement surgery, we wish him speedy recovery.

## Conservation

The regulations are now final! Fluke and porgies have opened on May 1st. The fluke bag limit is four fish at 18 inches. The season will end on September 29th. The porgies season will run through December 31st. There is a 30 fish limit with a 10 inch minimum size. In September and October, the limit goes to 45 fish on party and charter boats.

The Sea bass season opens on July 10th and runs through December 31st. The new bag limit is 8 fish with a 13 inch minimum size. Remember to register to fish.

Call 1-866-933-2257.

Dennis Cataldo-Committee Chairman

## Mark your calendar for this Summers great FTC events!

1. **May 18<sup>th</sup> FTC Yard sale**
2. **July 11<sup>th</sup> FTC Dinner cruise (tentative Date)**
3. **July 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> - FTC Rodeo week ends with BBQ on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> July**
4. **July 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> - Salmon Trip**
5. **August 8<sup>th</sup> FTC Luau**
6. **FTC Flotilla (date to be announced)**

Anyone interested in helping the above committees please contact Jim Rooney at (516) 850-6772 or [jp5820@aol.com](mailto:jp5820@aol.com)

Please support the FTC. Boat Raffle (9 FT Advanced Inflatable with a 5 hp. Tohatsu Motor) Tickets \$10 ea.

Thank you,  
Jim Rooney

## TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Matt Errett

1. **Cape May - South Jersey Shark Tournament** - June 6th. - 9th.
2. **Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament** – June 15th., rain date June 16th.
3. **Woodcleft Shark Tournament** – June 22nd., rain date June 23rd.
4. **Star island 27th Annual Shark Tournament** - June 14th - 15th – rain date June 30th.
5. **Star Island 21st Annual Mako/Thresher Mania Tournament** - August 2nd. - 3rd.
6. **Noreast Big Dog Shootout** - June 1st. – July 31st. Visit [www.noreast.com](http://www.noreast.com) for details
7. **Bayshore Tuna Club Shark Tournament** - June 29th.,
8. **Oak Bluffs 27th. Annual Monster Shark Tournament** - July 18th. -20th.
9. **Cape May** – South Jersey 22nd. Annual Mid Atlantic \$500,000 August 18th. – 23rd
10. **40th Anniversary White Marlin Open, Ocean City, Maryland** – August 5th. -9th. (410) 289-9229  
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# MAY ENTERTAINMENT



**Kevin McAllister** from the Peconic Baykeeper will speak about the breach caused by Hurricane Sandy at Old Inlet and other environmental issues at the May 9th GM. The Peconic Baykeeper is the only independent, not-for-profit advocate solely dedicated to the protection and improvement of the aquatic ecosystems of the Peconic and South Shore estuaries of Long Island. Its clean water mission is advanced through conservation and management initiatives, public education, research, monitoring and participation in the public environmental review of projects and activities that may adversely impact the ecological health of the region's estuarine waters. For more information about the Peconic Baykeeper is available at [www.peconicbaykeeper.org](http://www.peconicbaykeeper.org).

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**Annual  
Freeport Tuna Club  
Yard Sale**

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275 HUDSON AVE. FREEPORT  
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

**Saturday, May 18, 2013  
(Rain Date Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>)**

**ATTENTION HUNTERS!!!**

**New This Year  
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