

TUNA TOWER NEWS

MAY 2017

www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton

Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan



NEXT GM
Thursday,
May 11, 2017
@ 7:30 pm
The Freeport Yacht Club
533 Guy Lombardo Avenue
Freeport, NY

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

I would like to thank Chris Paparo "The Fish Guy" for coming back once again to speak and for the very informative presentation he gave. May is already here and fishing has begun. I would like to congratulate Joe King for being the first one to make it to the Bragging Rights Board with his 1.9lb Flounder. The regulations for Fluke this year are 19 inches with a limit of 3 fish. If you want to go fishing please speak to Ken Donoski or Dave Pinkis about the many new fishing trips the club is offering this year. Attention all Captains, please see Gene Schettini if you would like to take some of our new members out fishing and about the new program that Gene is offering if you do so. I am very pleased to announce that Captain Anglers is now up and running thanks to the all of the members that showed up last Thursday to help get everything ready for this season. So come down on Thursday nights and bring your appetite so you can enjoy some of the best food that you have ever tasted thanks to our fine group of master chefs. Stay tuned... In addition to great food we will be having great seminars on Thursday nights to help make us better informed fishermen and boaters. So make sure you come to the GM to find out more information.

This month we will be having our First Annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Breakfast thanks to Ray Geiger for the suggestion. To honor those who gave their lives for our country. So we can all enjoy our freedom, families, food and the things

we take for granted. May God bless these brave men and women and all of our Troops. Thank you so very much. The Ceremony begins on Monday May 29, 2017 at 9AM at the flag pole followed by breakfast as we salute our brave Soldiers. Please don't forget to see John Gerity if you would like to add

the name of someone who has served in the military on the new plaque that we would like to add this year. Let us not forget to remember our dear mothers this Mothers' Day for their never-ending love and support and for putting up with us and all our stuff especially my mom. I would like to take this opportunity to wish her a Happy Mother's Day and to thank her for all the love and encouragement she has given me finally on Saturday, June 3, 2017 the club will be having its annual Fishing Flea Market down at the property... there are a few tables left so act fast. The club will be having its own table this year and is looking for donations to help raise money. Please let myself or Bob Pandey know if you need a table or have something to donate. The next GM will be at the Yacht Club on Thursday May 11, 2017 at 8PM.



Sea you there *Kevin Killelea*



Have a Safe, Happy and Healthy Memorial Day Weekend!



Fishing Report

April Action Brings Satisfaction

I just re-read the dismal March fishing report where few fishing opportunities presented themselves around Long Island. I am happy to say that has all changed for the better.

The first indication that life had returned was the early appearance of bunker from Raritan Bay and throughout the south shore of Long Island. The stripers weren't far behind and began with a bang in Raritan Bay. Quality fish up to 30 lbs available to those who trolled, chunked, or live lined bunker.

Pete Cefai and crew were eager to get in on this action and decided to trailer the boat and launch from Jamaica Bay. With a crew consisting of his brother Frankie Cefai, Captain Barbara Solomon, and friend Tony Grima they made the run across to



Capt. Barbara Solomon with a nice Raritan Bay Bass

Raritan and had lines in by 8AM. Trolling Mojoes, they landed 11 bass up to 24 lbs, and lost several others. They were prepared to live line but did not see any bunker that particular day. Great effort, report and nice way to kick off the season.

Flounder fishing started slowly to the west but has now picked up. Nice size fish, many over the 2 pound mark have been reported from Raritan, Romer Shoal, Jamaica Bay and the Coney Island Flats. Combination bass and flounder trip are a real possibility, and many have been able to limit on both species. Large bluefish, showed up early too, and working their way east along with the bunker and bass.

More recently, Chris Bellenzoni sent me a report from his "Four Bells," fishing "locally" with clam bellies, Chris reports:



Chris Bellenzoni with tagged and released first keeper of 2017

"7 tags, 8 bass, my traditional 1st keeper, tagged and released. Tackle buster bluefish mixed in. Water still on the cold side. Fish seem to be holding very tight to the bottom, very aggressive and

some of the smallest I have caught/tagged in 40+ years clamming on these local waters. According to my log, my 1st bass was 10 days later this year than last... the water temp is nearly the same, sunrise and sunset about the same time. Common thread, squeeze the juice out of the bellie by hand! When you think you have chummed enough, chum more! Tag placement critical behind dorsal fin providing room for growth after trimmed." (see picture) **Great report Chris, wearing a hat given to you by the late Captain Larry Fester on his birthday was a fitting touch!**

On the bottom fishing front, some large cod are available well offshore as evidenced by trips run on the Superhawk (Pt Lookout) and Voyageur (NJ). Montauk remains quiet. Locally, a mix of cod, ling, seabass/blackfish (catch and release) are available with the best fishing occurring on structure in 60-100' of water.



Maryellen Zullo with a 10 lb tog (released)

Mike and Maryellen Zullo took their "Magic Too" on a cod run, working wrecks out to 30 miles. They reported a few ling, a couple of small but keeper cod, and some catch and release action with blackfish. Highlight of the trip was a 10 lb blackfish, caught by Maryellen, weighed on the hand scale, and promptly released. In addition, they were able to jig 2 dozen mackerel for the freezer taking advantage of some marks appearing on their fish finder while anchored on a wreck. A spring mackerel hasn't materialized in many years, but would be welcome. Let's see what happens...

Fluke are here. I took a boat ride around the bay and scouted out some of the usual early season fluke spots, Sure enough, the pin hookers were at work and I saw at least two fluke landed.

The new fluke regulations have been set for 2017: 19-inch Minimum, 3 fish bag limit, Open May 17 to September 21

Thanks to all who contributed, get out and fish and please share your reports with fellow FTC members. Email your reports to philton@optonline.net; or text/call me at 516.721.8907 The bulletin committee is working to improve the picture resolution in the printed and online Tuna Tower News. It starts with the quality of your photos. Send at full size when possible.

Sincerely,

Paul Hilton FTV Emily S

Club Fishing Trips

Greetings to all F.T.C. Members!!!

We are offering a chance for all club members to once again fish as a club! We have organized a few fishing trips throughout the 2017 fishing season to get better acquainted with each other. We are looking forward to seeing you on these trips. Our goal is to let new and old members alike experience a fun filled day of fishing, laughing and of course bragging rights!!!!

Each trip is selected for the time of the year that suits each species! If you love to fish I invite you to experience these trips first hand! For club members that own their own boats this is a chance to spread some friendship throughout the club make new friends and perhaps new fishing buddies! Some of these trips are open boat trips some are limited charter boat trips. Please read the select trips that require a deposit and contact F.T.C. Member Ken Donowski as soon as you can to secure your spot on the charter boat trips! The board of directors have laid out the deposits and these trips are a definite go, they are on a first come first basis once filled deposits will no longer be accepted!

We are hoping to see you on some of these trips!!

If you have any questions about each trip feel to contact me:

Ken Donowski

1-917-231-5699 | Kenbase2006@icloud.com

2017 Trip Schedule

Marilyn Jean • Monday, May 15 • 6:30pm-12am

\$50, tip included, open boat. Stripbassing and Bluefish

Miss Montauk • TBD • Either June 11 or June 14

\$105, tip included, open boat, (Full Moon - June 9) Doormat Fluke

Hampton Lady • Wed., August 2 • 6am-3pm

\$100 (\$50 Deposit Required) tip included, limited to 30 (Full Moon - Aug. 7) Mixed Bag: Seabass, Porgy and Fluke.

Miss Montauk • Friday, November 10 • 6am-4pm

\$110 (\$50 Deposit Required) - limited to 35 (Full Moon-Nov 4) This will be a good trip. Mixed Bag: ½ Day Seabass and Porgy and ½ day Blackfishing.

There will be a trip scheduled for mid December... still undecided - will fill you in as winter approaches. This will be cold weather fishing... Not for everyone...Lol

Good and Welfare..

Congratulations to Captain John Jutt's daughter Marissa upon passing her Clinical Boards for her Dental Hygiene Associates Degree in Applied Science.

Jeff Squeri

516-652-5981

Derby, Awards & Contests Report

Awards Chairman: Ray Geiger | Committee Team: Bob Benzenberg, Harry Sbaschnig and Bill Morrogh

The fish are upon us once again! I hope to wet a line myself very soon and join you all in this season of fishing.

There are both inshore and offshore derbies coming up soon. You will find this info on our website and listed below. As a reminder, all slips we receive figure in our annual awards. So, even if you don't win a derby, get your fish weighed throughout the seasons and give me a completed slip. Remember: If I don't have a completed slip in hand, the fish did not exist.

Our Spring Cod derby ended on Sunday May 7th. I have not received any slips as yet, so if you have them please be sure to get them to me no later May 21st to be eligible to win.

Our Spring Flounder derby ends on Sunday May 14th. I have a few slips in hand already, so again, if you holding any please get them to me no later than Sunday May 28th.

Still have not heard back from NYSDEC regarding our upcoming seasons, but I will proceed with the Fish-At-A-Glance cards with what I have so far.

Our Thursday evening Captain and Anglers Meeting/BBQ at our property started. I will have weigh slips for the taking and will be awaiting yours. Come on down and celebrate our club.

Best Fishes to all --- *Ray Geiger*

The Following Derbies Are Open Or Coming Soon:

FISH:

Striped Bass (15 lbs.)

Weakfish (5 lbs.)

Fluke (3.5 lbs.)

Shark (125 lbs.)

Bluefish (8 lbs.)

SPRING DATES:

May 6th – June 11th

May 6th – June 18th

May 20th – July 4th

May 20th – July 4th

May 20th – July 4th

FALL DATES:

October 7th – November 26th

August 13th – September 24th

August 19th – September 17th

September 16th – November 26th

September 16th – November 26th

Property Manager's Report

PREPARATION AND LAUNCH All captains will need to do some advanced planning when prepping and moving their vessels. Chris Squeri will need about a weeks' notice if you are moving your vessel off the property or need other yard adjustments to work on you boat. The best way to reach Chris is to text him at 516-377-7720.

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 or another member of the property committee know if you have questions or concerns.

TRAILER STORAGE (NEW!) The property committee has decided that the club will only offer summer trailer storage to captains with boats that dock at the property. There is limited space at the facility and in order to keep the marina full the storage space needs to be available to the captains with FTC slips. **Only members leasing slips at the FTC marina will able to store their trailers on the property this summer.**

IMPORTANT! Club sheds are not to be used to store personal items. The club's air compressor was extensively damaged when someone carelessly retrieved their item from the shed. Please note that club sheds will now be locked.

NEW CAPTAINS I would like to welcome the new members with boats at the FTC marina: Frank Cefai will have his new center console on the inside-north side and Mike Krol will be on the outside at the southern end. Please welcome these new members and captains.

The 3rd and final payment is due May 31st. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns about your payment.

The FTC yard sale at the marina is on June 3rd. Please plan to have your vessel off the property before the 3rd. There is a \$5 per day charge for any vessel on the property after May 31st.

Capt. Alan Evelyn

Cell: 917-750-8710 | Work: 516-299-2523
Email: capt.al@fishtaxiny.com

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Welcome our New Members

So why do we join clubs? We join clubs to become a part of something, to share common interests with others, to build camaraderie and to expand our social circle of friends. To all of our members, please see the below list of new members. If you're looking for crew, or just company on your boat, reach out and extend an invitation to the persons listed below. Hey, you never know... you just might make a life-long friend.

Joseph Allen c: 917-407-4937 | 25 Carver | Retired | inshore & offshore

Kurt Bush c: 516-523-1235 | 28 Aqua Sport | off weekends | inshore & offshore

Frank Cefi c: 516-852-9684 | 27 Pro Line | off weekends | looking for crew | inshore & offshore

Brent George c: 646-919-5949 | 30 Grady | Retired | looking for crew | inshore & offshore

John Laguerre c: 516-316-5811 | 29 Sailfish | off Thurs. & Sun | looking for crew | inshore & offshore

David Miller c: 516-946-5168 | no boat | off weekends | inshore

Chris Nettuno c: 516-503-7729 | 26 Grady | weekends | inshore & offshore

Peter Repetti c: 516-244-9866 | No boat | Retired | loves to fish | inshore & offshore

Larry Risi c: 917-517-6018 | No boat | Retired | loves to fish | inshore & offshore

Phill Saccio c: 516-524-0279 | 21 Sea hunt | off Wed. & Sun | inshore & offshore

Gene Simone w: 845-621-0909 | own boss | inshore & offshore

Richard Ward c: 516-551-8613 | no boat | Retired | inshore

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