

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.



# Tuna Tower News

JUNE 2022

JOHN. J. JUTT, SR., EDITOR

**NEXT GM**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8**

**DOORS OPEN @ 7PM**

**FOOD SERVED AT 7:30**

**MEETING STARTS @ 8PM**

**FREEPORT YACHT CLUB**

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**PLEASE NOTE  
JUNE GM DAY  
AND DATE!!**



## President's Message

Here it is June - you should all be out fishing!

All boats are getting off the property and the empty trailers are getting stacked in one area to allow enough parking for everybody and their guests coming down to the property.

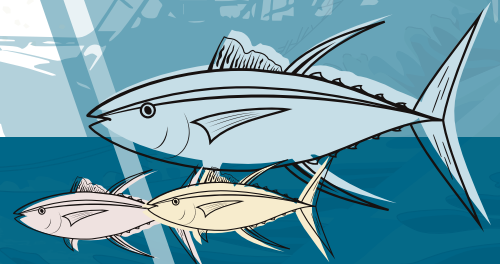
The annual yard sale was well received - especially considering that we haven't had it for several years. Thank you Gene and Anthony for a job well done! We couldn't have asked for better weather. All our vendors and patrons had an enjoyable (and some lucrative) day.

**MAKE A NOTE!** June's GM will be on June 8 (which is a Wednesday night) at 8 o'clock (this month the day had to be changed to accommodate a previously scheduled event at the yacht club.) Looking forward to seeing everybody there!

Thank you, *Rick*



**Happy Father's Day**





## Fishing Committee

The committee continues to focus on Derbies and how to make participation in our club competition easier and more exciting for our members. The Fishing Committee would like to thank Chris Lombardo, our new Membership Chair, for his efforts bringing in new members and engaging them with the club community. Stay tuned for more updates.

Tight lines and calm seas,

*Bruce C. Forster*, F/V Oh Yeah

## Membership

The fishing season is in full swing and members are already sending me their fishing photos for the instagram page which is great! Another reminder for everyone, there will be prizes awarded to FTC members for best photos. The categories are Tuna, Striped Bass and Fluke.

The Flea Market went well, Gene and Anthony did an excellent job getting plenty of vendors and organizing the event. The foot traffic wasn't what we expected but all in all it was a good day.

If you need any further information or would like to volunteer for the membership committee, please contact: Chris Lombardo @ 516.270.0796

We are looking forward to an even more fulfilling membership year for 2022 - remember this is **YOUR** club!

Thank You,

*Chris Lombardo*

## Captains & Anglers

Captains and Anglers' barbecues have started for the season. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook for weather cancellations.

As always, C&A Committee is looking for volunteers, ask a crew member for information.

Thank you,

*Jim Rooney*

Please be aware that the soda, water, etc. that is in the clubhouse is for Thursday Night Captains & Anglers - and it not to be used for any other purpose.

*Thank you in advance for your cooperation!*

## Good & Welfare

Congratulations to Patrick Geiger, son of Ray on his graduation from the FDNY academy as a EMT on May 24 . He will be assigned to Station 17 in the South Bronx. Hope everyone's healthy and happy.

Congratulations to Capt. John Jutt upon the engagement of his daughter, Marissa Maureen, to State Trooper Dominick Rehab on Saturday, May 21- we wish them luck and happiness in their future together!

Please send news of happenings (Weddings, Births, Get Wells, etc.) so I can get them into the newsletter.

Thank you! *Jeff Squeri* 516-652-5981

## Entertainment

Wow! What a great turnout and presentation at our May meeting! Capt. McMurray gave a terrific presentation complete with back stories and the "why" some of the methods he has discovered have been successful. Perseverance seems to be a common thread in his approach to Tuna fishing. For our June meeting, we will hear from renowned Montauk Charter Captain Tom Mikoleski, about fluking and bassing. Tom has over 25 years experience and his business, Grand Slam Charters has been a big part of the Montauk near-shore fishing fleet. Come on out and get some tips from a pro in time for our upcoming Fluke Tournament.

Wishing you all tight lines and calm seas,

*Bruce C. Forster* F/V Oh Yeah

## We have a full yard!

We are full for the summer dockage 2022. Thank you members!

This year we will be adding a new finger to the outside between 28 and 29 slip.

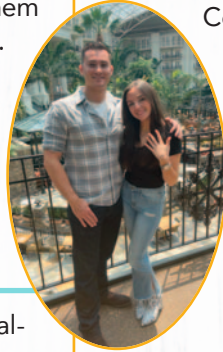
Starting today there will be a waiting list. If you're interested for the summer of 2023 please call me so you can go on the list, it looks like there will be one if not two slips open next year.

If you're planning to keep your trailer on the property please let me know (courtesy to summer dockage rentals only ) additional fee is \$175 for the summer.

After June 1, boats staying on the property grounds there will be an additional \$150 per month fee.

Thank you for your support!

Thanks, *Bob Dimino*





# Derbies, Awards & Contests

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

Please be aware there is a minimum weight requirement for all species. These weights and all FTC fishing regulations are available at: <http://ftcfishing.com/FTCFishingRules.htm>

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 us a fully completed slip. Remember: If we don't have a completed slip in hand, the fish did not exist. The NYC DEC has finally updated their regulations and they are available at: [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish\\_marine\\_pdf/fishlimitsfish.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/fishlimitsfish.pdf)

We have received the 2022 "Fish-at-a-Glance" cards (thanks to the Morroghs and John Jutt) and they will be available at our June GM and our Thursday Captains & Anglers BBQs for your viewing pleasure. These cards list all the derby species, dates and minimum weights for the year. Don't leave the property without two: one for your wallet and one for your fishing vessel.

My contact info and derby updates are available on the Fishing Reports section (members only – so you need to register) of our forum located on the FTC website. Also posted are our club rules.

*The following derby awards will be presented at our June GM on Thursday, June 8.*

*Please come down to this meeting to support the club and congratulate the winners on their well deserved efforts.*

## SPRING COD

1st Place: Mike Zullo 6.0 lbs. F/V Magic Too

2nd and 3rd Place: no winner

## FLOUNDER

No winners = no slips = no fish

## BLACKFISH

1st Place: Peter Groner 5.7 lbs. F/V Endless Summer II

2nd Place: Peter Groner 3.6 lbs. F/V Endless Summer II

3rd Place: Mike Zullo 3.5 lbs. F/V Magic Too

*The following derbies are now open:*

**STRIPED BASS** (15 lb min) April 30th – June 5th

**WEAKFISH** (5 lb min) April 30th – June 12th

**FLUKE** (3.5 lb min) May 14th – July 4th

**SHARK** (125 lb min) May 14th – July 4th

**BLUEFISH** (8 lb min) May 14th – July 4th

We will be posting updates and info in the Fishing Reports forum section on our website ([ftcfishing.com](http://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*



If anyone is interested we are taking orders for embroidered jackets, fleece jackets, shirts. These are custom orders and require a deposit before ordering. Please see me at one of the captain anglers or GM meeting.

Stay Safe, *Jim Azzi*

516-987-4227 or  
email: [blackcloud@yahoo.com](mailto:blackcloud@yahoo.com)

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# Striper Diaries

## EPISODE 38

Never leave fish to find fish. We have all heard the proverbial saying. Guess I simply forgot to follow my own golden rule. With reports of bass starting to show in our backyard in the usual spots i.e. 50ft. of water off the roundhouse and pink hotel, I fueled up the boat (\$700 dollars later) and headed

out of Jones Inlet. There has been a lot of chatter about the "new" channel in Jones Inlet and the safest and best passageway in and out. I approached the inlet cautiously on the start of the outgoing tide. White water was breaking off into the distance in both directions. Oh boy. With my trust in the coast guard and the "new" marked buoys, we safely headed out. Disclaimer - - two (2) nights earlier on a flat calm evening, I made my own tracks and waypoints following the "new" channel. I recommend members do the same, as Navionics and Garmin currently have no new updates. The plan was to head west to Raritan Bay. It was roughly 25.5 miles before we approached Rockaway Inlet and other 5 miles across until we made our way into the bay. Water temps reached a high of 64 degrees.

As we motored around looking for bait and marks we could not find a thing. The screen was blank. Off into the distance we saw a fleet of boats. That looks promising! Upon arrival, we realized they were all fluke fishing. Oh nooooo. We are a month too late. Could the bite be over??? We trolled and trolled and trolled. Not even a touch. Then we switched to jiggging the rips off Sandy Hook (not even sure that's a thing). Again, not a touch. What a bust. Time to switch gears. Luckily, we brought spearing and squid. A quick rig change and it was fluke time. We drifted for fluke for hours, and did not even land a short. What the heck is going on. By now it was mid-afternoon, and the turn of the tide. Great! Things should start to pickup on the incoming tide. Unfortunately, that was not the case. By late afternoon, and three sandwiches later, we decided to check out and head towards Rockaway inlet. There has to be fish holding in the jetty. Let's cast soft plastics and bucktails into the rips. Even that stunk. Ok, plan C. Let's search the entire ocean for bunker on the way back to Jones and work the live bait. Only problem was we could not find bunker. We were defeated. As the sun began to fade, we approached Jones Inlet. We had done a whopping 70.1 miles!! OUCH. As we turned the Point Lookout corner, I yelled to Pete - stop the boat! I am going to make one last cast!! Well, it was the best cast of the day. BAM - - just like that the line came tight and I was on a fish. GRAB the net, I have a fish!!! What kind he yells back?? Does it matter?? It's a fish, and all of a sudden I see stripes!! We jumped for joy as the fish was in the net. A nice keeper 29 inch bass!! What a way to end the day. I guess it's true that some days, fishing can be "just a boat ride." But not today. Until my next adventure. Tight lines.



*Capt. Barbara Solomon*  
F/V Legal Limits

# Fishing Report

Fluke fishing started slow but the normal inside areas have been producing consistent catches. The new 18½" size has made it a little easier to box a few to bring home. I fished the Hooker in Reynolds and managed 6 nice keepers to 20" with plenty of shorts in the mix.

The stripers have finally made their way East with good catches coming from the bays and finally outside Jones. Chris Lombardo has been catching well in the bay on lures, Barbara Solomon found a nice one just outside the inlet giving us all hope that the run is finally here. Also in the bay Chris Bellonzoni is off to a great start with many fish already tagged. Doug Tobak has

been putting some nice fish in the boat keeping the rods bending for his passengers.

Sea Bass have been biting at the reefs and still quite a few keeper cod being caught in the mix.

Reports of a good weakfish bite in the Merrick Bay area have been coming in.

Farther offshore the tilefish bite has been solid, Ken Donowski wrangled up quite the catch recently.

For anyone fishing the North Shore the striper bite has been the best we have seen in years, fish from 18"-45" are being caught. Lures, trolling, live lining bunker and chunking have all been productive.

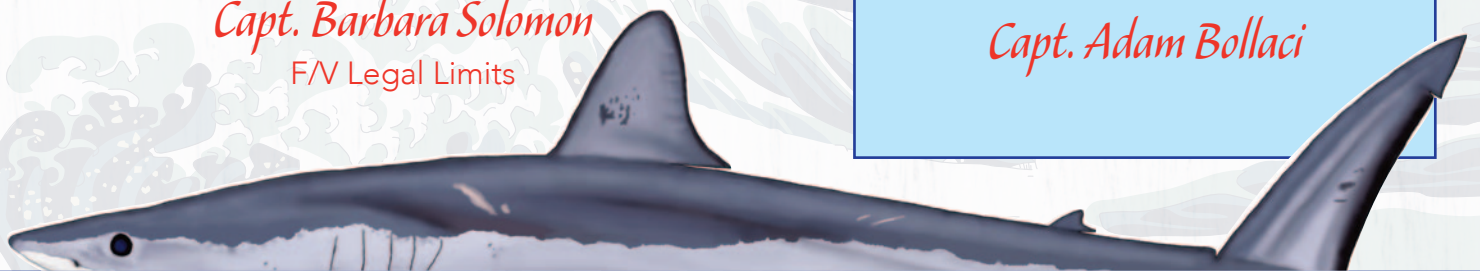
The fluke tournament will be July 16th, weather day will be the 17th. Sign-ups began June 1st. Any questions please let me know.

You can't catch them if you don't have hooks in the water, go out and make your own report.

Please text or email your reports, 516-322-0030 or [adambollaci@gmail.com](mailto:adambollaci@gmail.com)

Catch em up,

*Capt. Adam Bollaci*





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