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UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS OFFSHORE

Chairman: Matt Errett
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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**
Saturday, June 25th Rain date Sunday, June 26th
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

INSHORE

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

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Tuna Tower News

VOLUME SIX • JUNE 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, June 9, 2011 at 8pm

Cure Of Ars Auditorium

Merrick Avenue • Merrick

(Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)

Just in time for the spring bunker and bass runs!!

**Charlie Kay from East Coast Nets joins
the FTC for the June GM.**

See
Inside
For
Details!!!

President's Message

Dear Members,

I would like to start my June President's Message by thanking all the men and women who served this great country of ours. Because of their service and sacrifice our families can live in a free society. Thank you all and "God Bless America".

This is a great time to be a member of the FTC. The property is in full swing now with all of the boats in the water. Our members will soon be dropping their lines in the water any day now. Just a reminder that this is your property so please take pride in helping our committee to keep it clean. May had many special events going on. The first was the annual yard sale. This year's yard sale was one of the best in years due to the hard word by Al Casciano and his committee team. Al and his crew put a lot of time and effort and it sure paid off by the great success of yard sale. Venders came up to Al and thank him for a great job that the FTC did. I would also like to thank the cook crew once again and Joe..... The egg sandwich was a "big hit".

The next event was only four days after the yard sale and it was also a big hit. The Striped Bass seminar was headed up by Past President Jim Rooney and his committee, and what a job they did spearheading the event. There were about eighty people that attended to enjoy the Bass Seminar. Our three speakers; Chris Bellinzoni, Mike Sullivan and Pete DiThomas did a wonderful job show our guests what a professional club the FTC is. Each speaker had a different technique on how to catch a Bass. Captain Larry Festa was the MC for this event and what a job he did with bring it all together. All the people involved in this event volunteered their own time to put this great event on. I would first like to Thank Jim Rooney for heading up the event, Chris Bellinzoni, Mike Sullivan and Pete DiThomas for speaking at the event and Captain Larry for MC the event. Al Casciano, John Gerrity, Bob Dimino,

Bob Sabella and the rest of the gang for setting up the stage and tents for the event. Thank to Tim Sherman and membership crew for pressing hands and getting two new members that night, great work. Thank you to the cook crew of Joe Steiner, Don Morin, Jim Azzi, and Sharon Missan. I know I missed a lot of people and I sorry but thank you for all the work you did on this seminar. I would also like to thank all of the sponsors who donated to this event. This seminar showed off how great the FTC is because of you, the members of the FTC "Thank you".



June is the start of local tournaments, so good luck to all the members of the FTC in these tournaments. Just remember the weather while fishing the tournaments. June also brings us the Spring Rodeo on June 3rd, 4th and 5th with a BBQ on the last day of the rodeo at the property. All weight slips have to be in by 4 PM on Sunday. We also have a shootout set up for same weekend by Chris Bellinzoni against Mattinecock. The three heaviest fish combined from each club will determine the winner. There are three categories of fish: Fluke, Bluefish and Striped Bass. Don't forget to weight in any legal fish, it just might determine the winner.

I would like to close the way my Presidents message started, Thank you to all Veterans across the world. God Bless America.

~ President 2011 - John Rooney



DEEP WATER CANYON ANCHORING

By Captain Lawrence J. Festa

PART ONE

Just in time for the Canyon Fishery is this two part article on Canyon Anchoring. When night starts to fall, it is the captain's duty to secure his vessel for the evening. In preparing for the overnight stay, he must adhere not only to the rule of law, but of common sense as well to ensure the safety of his crew, his vessel and of other boats that may be in the area. Finally, he also needs to keep a good fishing spot in mind. Knowing this... here is an overview of "Deep Water Anchoring" in the Canyons.

To start lets review the three overnight options that a night tuna fisherman has available to him: Tying to Commercial Fishing Gear, Drifting, and Anchoring.

TYING TO COMMERCIAL LOBSTER & LONG LINE GEAR:

Commercial lobster gear is very easy to identify as each end of the lobster pot string is marked with a radar reflector high flyer and one or two A-3 Red Poly Balls with the owner's logo affixed. Long Line Commercial gear, which moves with the current, is usually just identified with a free floating radar reflecting high flyer and one poly ball. Also, down the line you may see bullet shaped floats, which aid in holding the long line near the surface.

Years back, tying onto commercial lobster gear was a common practice and there was never a strong objection from the Commercial Lobster Fisherman, AKA "The Landlord", because canyon traffic was light and times were different. As progress would have it, the ease of "tying off" is no longer a practical or a legal option, unless the owner of the gear gives you permission. Even with permission, law-enforcement can order you off. Restrictions on tying off to or tampering with any commercial gear are covered under federal, and in most states, local law as well. In a nutshell, these laws clearly state that tampering in any manor with commercially owned gear is strictly prohibited. In addition to the legal aspect, the last thing any captain needs in the middle of a fun event is a problem with the Landlord of the gear. These situations can become very tense and nerve racking to the boat owner and crew. If you are lucky enough to just get kicked off with a warning and no legal or hostile action, you will be still be forced into either an unprepared drift, or a night time anchor drop, which is not an easy task. The bottom line is that this gear is not for our use and it is illegal.

DRIFT FISHING:

Instead of anchoring, some captains may elect drift fish. Drift fishing on either calm nights or windy nights where the current is really ripping can be a very productive way of hooking up. With calm weather, you can easily move to where the fish might be, and then set up to drift with the current. This allows the baits to be set out with little or no weights on the line, giving them a more natural presentation. The action of the baits is similar to that of commercial long line fishing gear, just drifting with the current.

Should the weather turn to the evil side with a ripping current however, while the fishing can be very good, the night drift can become both hazardous and difficult. Hazards can vary from drifting into lobster pots and boats, to running over unseen commercial gear in the dark. So, while the drifting option can work, the conditions must be ideal, or you could truly have a trip to remember drifting in the deep!

ANCHORING:

Anchoring in the deep does require some skill and preparedness. It is truly nice to go out to the edge, find your own spot, claim it for night with your gear, and settle in with what are my number one priorities, safety and peace of mind! The last thing you want is for the anchor to slip in the middle of the night, which can become a real problem, not to mention a safety issue. I have been anchoring in the canyons for more years than I care to remember and have found the following Gear and Deployment Procedures have served me well.

OFFSHORE ANCHORING SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING;

Anchor: The Danforth Anchor is a good start. In selecting your Danforth Anchor I would recommend the Standards over the Hi Tensile or Deep Sets for the following reason. The anchor is the single most likely piece of equipment to suffer being lost in the deep water. The Hi Tensile anchors and Deep Sets, with their superior holding power, are made of much stronger hardware. Should a snag occur in rough bottom during the anchor lift, the Hi Tensile and Deep Set, with their superior strength, will be much less apt to bend and break free. With the Standard, you have a much better shot of bending the hook out and recovering all of your gear. Bent anchors can be straightened, lost ones needs no explanation. In addition the Standard anchor's holding power can be beefed up by adding more chain without decreasing your chances of recovering your gear from a snag.

Anchor line: You will most likely be anchoring your vessel in anywhere from 350 to 650 feet of water. Therefore you should have on board a total line length of 1800 feet of 3/8 or 1/2 inch diameter, depending on the size of your boat. For the line itself I like to shackle three 600 foot length together. Should I only need 1200' I just disconnect one tote of line. When shackling them together, each shackle should be taped. This allows the anchor ball ring to glide over the shackles during the lift without hanging up. Regarding the line size, 3/8" line for boats up to 35' is usually adequate for canyon fishing. The 3/8" diameter grabs less water than the 1/2" line because of its narrower profile. This allows for less drag on the anchor resulting in a smoother drop and anchor set. Also, the 3/8" line makes for easier storage and handling. We must also keep in mind that although 3/8' may seem a little light for some applications, when we anchor in the canyons, we are usually picking our weather with light winds.

That about wraps it up for part I....next month we will pick up where we left off with gear & deployment of ground tactical.

~ Captain Larry Festa
F/V Kristen

ENTERTAINMENT

Charlie Kay from East Coast Nets joins the FTC for the June GM. He will show us, from the Cure of Ars stage, how to throw his custom made nets onto a school of unsuspecting bunker!! Big fresh bait catches the cows!! He will have some of his custom made creations for sale as well – come on down and get ready for the action that is coming our way!!

UPCOMING JULY ENTERTAINMENT

July, 2011 will be retired New York Air National Guard Master Sergeant and Pararescueman John Spillane. M/Sgt. Spillane (now FDNY Battalion Chief) will present to us the training and responsibilities of the Pararescueman, or "PJ" as they are more commonly known, with attention to his experiences as a PJ with the NYANG, and with special attention to his involvement in what has become to be known as the "Perfect Storm" in October of 1991. Respectfully submitted,

~ Dr. John J. Weber

JUNE DERBY, AWARDS & CONTESTS REPORT

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

There are just a few days left in the spring Striped Bass derby. Get out there and bring in a derby fish!

Our Cod and Flounder derby winners will be recognized at the June GM. There were no Blackfish winners. Meghan Libby showed her dad how to catch the big Flounder, taking 1st place with her dad as runner up.

We have lots of derbies open so let's see those weigh slips! Note that we will have 6 derbies running on the 4th of July holiday weekend!!! Inshore/offshore, we have it all covered.

OUR JUNE DERBY WINNERS ARE:

COD

- 1st Place:** John Jutt 16.81 lbs F/V Dolce Vita
2nd Place: Bob Hindenlang 11.88 lbs F/V Bingo
3rd Place: Nick Nero 9.25 lbs F/V Dolce Vita

FLOUNDER

- 1st Place:** Meghan Libby 2.10 lbs F/V Aurora
2nd Place: Sean Libby 1.54 lbs F/V Aurora

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

Striped Bass (15 lbs)	May 7th ~ June 12th
Weakfish (5 lbs)	May 14th ~ June 26th
Fluke (3.5 lbs)	May 28th ~ July 4th
Shark (125 lbs)	May 28th ~ July 4th
Bluefish (8 lbs)	May 28th ~ July 4th
Sea Bass (2.5 lbs)	June 18th ~ July 24th
Tuna (20 lbs)	July 2nd ~ August 7th
Mahi (4 lbs)	July 2nd ~ August 7th

GOOD AND WELFARE

Good & Welfare Jeff Squeri at 516-221-6343 / 516-652-5981. Gerard Amitrano's wife Jeannie is recovering well after major back surgery. Gene Shettini is recovering well after ankle surgery. Young Alfonse Cassiano has been accepted to Kellenberg High School in the fall. Congratulations to Joanna (Joey) Bellinzoni on her graduation from Uuniversity of Albany. Joey has been accepted to Molloy College where she will pursue her MBA. Congratulations to Christopher Bellinzoni who along with girl friend Kristen have closed on their new home in White Plains, NY. Best wishes and good health to all.

~ Jeff Squeri

PROPERTY

Hats off to all members who wintered at FTC this winter. The Property committee say's THANK YOU for your cooperation with getting your boats ready, and having the property cleared and clean in time for the FTC Garage sale.

Don Granger

~ Property Business Manger

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is now 197 strong and counting. This month we will swear in new members Ron and Krystal Pescatore and Robert McVey. The Pescatores live in Baldwin and are interested in fishing, boating and good friends. Bob lives in Massapequa. He likes to fish and to work with tools. Please join in welcoming our latest new members to the club.

~ Mike Sullivan

BULLETIN

Want to receive the monthly bulletin even faster? Did you know that you can sign up to receive electronic delivery? And you don't have to be a computer genius to take advantage of this. All you need is a valid e-mail address. If you would like to give it a try, send your request to ftc1937@verizon.net. And don't worry. You will still receive a paper bulletin by mail.

FLUKE CALCUTTA

The 2011 Fluke Calcutta is in full swing. Charlie Sporing reports he has captured a 9 lb fish and is the current leader. There are already 64 members signed up, and there is room for plenty more. Have a little fun. If you haven't already signed up, why not invest 10 bucks. Because you never know.

~ Mike Sullivan

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.

CATCH OF THE MONTH WRECKFISH

Our "Catch of the Month" goes to Paul Cunningham.

Paul winched this impressive Wreckfish out of the deep while fishing the annual FTC Cod Trip on the Viking Starship. Congrats on a nice catch!

For bragging rights, please email me at philton@optonline.net to be recognized for "Catch of the Month". Include a picture and some catch details.

Thanks to all who submitted entries this month, please keep them coming.

~ Paul Hilton / Emily S



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