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**9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FLOTILLA**  
*Zachs Bay • August 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>*  
*Overnight starts Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>*  
 Contact Bob Pandy

**DOOR PRIZE WINNER**

At last month's GM the door prize was won by YUKID FUJII But . . . .**HE WAS NOT PRESENT**, so his prize goes back into the pot! The door prize this month is now \$50, plus the raffle tickets.

**Remember, you have to be present to win!!!**

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**Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.**

# Tuna Tower News

VOLUME SIX • JUNE 2012

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, June 14, 2012 at 7:30pm**

**Cure Of Ars Auditorium**

**Merrick Avenue • Merrick**

**(Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)**

This month's meeting will be our own website committee chairman, Bill Morrogh, who will be giving a live, hands-on demonstration of how to access and use all of the features of our website. [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)

## **President's Message**

Dear Members,

### **SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS**

It's June already; the year is half over and yet it seems like it just started. Time is like that—things that you are looking forward to in the future seem to take a long time to arrive, but when you look back you can't believe how fast the time has gone by. Regardless of how fast time may seem to pass seventy five years is a long stretch, and that's how long our club has been around. That is quite an achievement, and one I don't think we have celebrated enough. I know times are tough, and everyone is concerned about the economy and our future. But that should not stop us from enjoying our club and what we love to do, because we have been here before. In fact, this is where we started!

Just think about where we were seventy five years ago. In 1937 our country had been mired in depression for four years. Our government was printing and spending money wildly in an effort to stimulate the economy, and yet there was no growth and 18% unemployment. And overseas dangerous men and hostile regimes plotted harm while those in power answered provocations and threats with mere talk. Sound familiar?

And yet, despite all that, in that same year of 1937 a group of men got together and founded the Freeport Tuna Club. I guarantee you that they were concerned about the economy and the future, but they didn't let it stop them. They had faith in their country and the future, and acted upon it. So should we.

So let's celebrate where we are and where we are going. Our 75th Anniversary Cruise is June 28; let's pack the boat. Memories of good times spent with friends will long outlive the bad economy, so see Jim Rooney and get some tickets. Have faith and act on it. Our Rodeo this year is July 20 to July 22; get the kids and the family and fish. Yeah, I know—bait is expensive and fuel is a fortune. I guarantee you that if you have kids they will remember for years to come competing in the Rodeo,

especially if they win a prize. They'll remember for years; you will never forget it. Have faith and act on it. If you have a boat, use it; if you don't jump on with somebody else. Things won't get better unless we believe they will get better. Have faith and act on it.

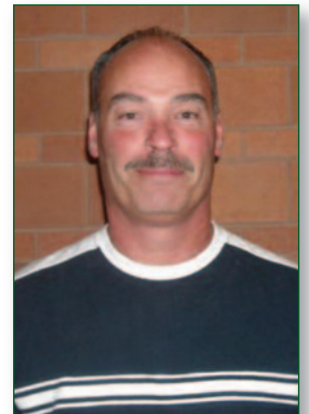
Although the year is half over for fisherman the best is still to come. With June comes the big shark tournaments and the start of the offshore season; fluke are in, bottom fishing is beginning to heat up and the bass and blues are on the bunker. From now till December there will be something, somewhere to fish for. All you need to do is go after them.

Your club membership gives you a big advantage in going after them—the information contained on the club website. The latest reports, how-to info, messages from other members—it's all there if you know how to use it. The speaker at this month's meeting will be our own website committee chairman, Bill Morrogh, who will be giving a live, hands-on demonstration of how to access and use all of the features of our new website. He will be able to answer questions and demonstrate in real time how to get on the site, post items, answer posts and use all of the features. This information is invaluable; don't miss it.

I hope to see you all at the GM. In the meantime, regardless of what else may be going on, grab a rod and go fishing. Have faith and act on it.

Be bold and courageous. When you look back on your life, you'll regret the things you didn't do more than the ones you did. H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

~ President 2012 ~ Bill Toohey



# FTC Fishing Report

We are finally here and the fishing season that we live for is now in full swing. I hope we all have our 2012 NYS DEC Licenses... just a second reminder. If not here is the link: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6091.html>

On the offshore scene we mentioned last month about getting our NMFS Permits. There is some information out there that may be confusing, so I did some research and this is the bottom line;

If you want to recreationally fish shark & tuna you will need the recreational NMFS Permit @ a fee of \$20.00. For Charter head boat you can take two fish, even if you are recreationally fishing. HOWEVER you MUST have the following to be in NY State compliance:

There MUST be a US Coastguard license holder on board. You MUST have the NYS DEC Charter Head boat Permit on board.

You need both once in NYS waters. All DEC Officers are deputized to enforce the law so for armed is for warned & sad stories of you did not know will not get you off the hook and the fines are very heavy. So do not be the "Poster Boy" of embarrassment and be in full compliance. The following links have more information to obtain you correct permit.

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits.htm>

<http://hmspermits.noaa.gov/PermitList.asp>

Still on the offshore scene it is official that Captain Chris Gerhart F/V Wasabi has once again achieved 1st Tuna of the year during a Chicken Canyon Day Trolling trip with club member Jimmy Meehan. Captain Chris pounds the pavement hard for this award, which makes it his 6th victory in 1st Tuna.....well done Captain Chris

The local reefs are stacked with quality Seabass. However you need to wait until June 15th to keep your catch. Local Bottom Fisherman expert Captain Michael Zullo bagged a 7 pounder and may other quality Seabass on the local reefs, all released. So lock & load for what looks like to be a slammer Seabass Season.

Fluke are still in the bay so we will have to wait a little longer until our ocean fluke season starts. Captain Jim Krug on a recent Montauk charter bested a 12 pound fluke... so it does not get any better than that.

Bass fishing is red hot! The bunkers are stacked up on the beach big time! Paul Noto leads the derby with a 40 plus pounder, followed by Joe Masseria and Peter Montello with Bass in the 30 pound class. In addition to the outside action, both Captain Harry Weinblatt & Chris Bellinzoni report great bay bass fishing on clam bellies. All fish are keeper size.

Bottom fishing on our local wrecks and out as far as the 20 mile pieces are still producing nice keeper Codfish & Ling.

Off shore shark fishing will start this month. Currently reports from non club sources report plenty of blue sharks already. 1st Mako is wide opened. I will be doing a shark clinic in mid June at a Thursday Night Captain Angler event to assist all FTC members in catching their dream fish, so stay tuned for more on this clinic.

For all current DEC regulations access the following website:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7894.html>

In closing our 2012 Derby Date's along with our Club's Minimum weights are posted on our website @: <http://www.ftcfishing.com/derbies.html>



## FLASH UPDATE! This just in.

The weather window opened up and allowed club members to go sharking on Sunday. The seas were 2' all day out of the west. The water quality was amazing along with the amount of life. There were a lot of bluefin trollers hooking up. We set up on the north end of the trollers. Within minutes are first of eight bluesharks all tagged and released. Then at 1130 the close rod went off with fury on a VSX16. New club member Artie "Jetmac" was strapped into the mako that made a grayhound leap 30' from the boat. Art angled the fish for about 50 minutes as she pulled 18 pounds of drag with ease. The fish made a boat side appearance, but once close she lit up the reel again. We motored the boat with MakoMat at the wheel, so I could line the fish up for a gaff shot. Once close, Artie did everything right Captain Bill Morrogh wired the mako and the 7 iron was dispatched into the mako. A done deal with a hang weight of a respectable 183 pounds.



It was a great way to start the shark season 1st trip out. The man in the Blue Suit is truly the king! The weigh slip was submitted for 1st Mako of the year.

~ Captain Larry Festa

F/V KRISTEN

## Catch of the Month Cod & Pollack!

Our "Catch of the Month" goes to Bob Benzenberg who joined me recently on the Emily S for a cod trip on some 25-30 mile wrecks. We enjoyed a banner day with a calm ocean and beautiful weather. Here's Bob posing with a nice 12 lb cod and 10 lb. pollack he caught.

For bragging rights, please e-mail 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

## Fluke Calcutta

79 members have joined the 2012 Fluke Calcutta. My 5 lb. fluke is leading! This contest, which is open to club members only, provides a head-to-head competition to determine who the best fluke fisherman is. There are no limits on where to fish, \$10 entry fee, winner take all format. Fish must be caught on hook and line. Contact Mike Sullivan to enter. [ftc1937@verizon.net](mailto:ftc1937@verizon.net).

**Remember you have to be in it, to win it.**

## Good & Welfare

Our prayers go out to Jeff Squeri's mom. Her cancer has re-surfaced. Dr. John Weber's wife is going into the hospital for thyroid surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery. Contact Jeff Squeri - Home (516) 221-6343/ Cell (516) 652-5981.

~ Jeff



## Membership

New members to be sworn in at the June meeting include: 1) Kevin Killelea a landscaper from Bellerose who lists his favorite hobbies as boating, photography, boat mechanics, boat racing and cooking. 2) Jonathan Wade a respiratory therapist from Hempstead who enjoys fishing aboard his 25 foot Pro-line Defiant, and 3) Arthur (AJ) Miller a locomotive engineer who lives in Lindenhurst and can't wait to get his 26 Dusky Hot Tuna offshore in search of Tuna.

## Captain & Anglers

Captain Anglers at the Freeport Tuna Club Marina has been very busy with over 60 People attending. The new Ovens are working great and the new Stainless Steel Tables are a big Improvement for the Captain Anglers. PAUL CUNNINGHAM won the 50/50 and donated his winnings back to the Captain Anglers Thanks Paul. So come on down and Join us every Thursday at 6:30 and Enjoy.

~ Bob Pandey

## June 2012 Derby, Awards & Contest Report

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

Come on down to a Thursday night BBQ and check out our "Bragging Rights" board. It lists the largest catches of the year. Send in your weigh slips and get on the board!

The Spring Striped Bass derby ends on Sunday, 6/10/12. You must get your weigh slips to me by 6/24/12 at the latest!

**Our Cod and Flounder derby winners will be recognized at the June GM**

**The Derby Winners are:**

### Cod

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Bob Benzenberg 11.81 lbs. F/V Emily S  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Bob Benzenberg 11.13 lbs. F/V Emily S  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Peter Cefai 8.06 lbs. F/V Dolce Vita

### Flounder

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Sean Libby 2.78 lbs. F/V Aurora  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Sean Libby 2.58 lbs. F/V Aurora  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Joe King 2.50 lbs. F/V Fishfinder

**The Following Derbies Are In Progress Or Starting This Month**

<b>Sea Bass</b> (2.5 lbs.)	June 16th ~ July 22nd
<b>Striped Bass</b> (15 lbs.)	May 5th ~ June 10th
<b>Weakfish</b> (5 lbs.)	May 12th ~ June 24th
<b>Fluke</b> (3.5 lbs.)	May 26th ~ July 4th
<b>Shark</b> (125 lbs.)	May 26th ~ July 4th
<b>Bluefish</b> (8 lbs.)	May 26th ~ July 4th
<b>Tuna</b> (20 lbs.)	June 30th ~ August 12th
<b>Mahi</b> (4 lbs.)	June 30th ~ August 12th

## Tournament Committee

Chairman: Matt Errett  
Members: Chris Bellinzoni

- Northeast BIG DOG SHOOTOUT**  
No entry fee, optional \$100 Calcutta only.  
Compete for "BIG DOG" logo.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Star Island Shark Tournament**  
June 14th Captains meeting, fish dates: June 15th - 16th
- 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Bayshore Mako Tournament**  
June 23rd
- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Star Island Mako Thresher Tournament**  
August 2nd - 4th
- Woodcleft Shark Tournament**  
June 23rd, Rain date June 24th - 516-378-8748
- Freeport Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament**  
June 16th, Rain date: June 17th
- Great Gun Anglers Club**  
June 23rd, Rain Date: June 24th - 631-698-1742
- Montauk Marine Basin 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shark Tag Tournament**  
June 29th - 30th, 631-668-5900
- Mid Atlantic \$500,000**  
August 19th - 24th, 609-884-2400
- Cape May Shark Tournament**  
June 7th - 10th, 609-884-2400
- South Jersey "on the meat" Over-nighter**  
(new tournament, multiple specis offshore) July 20th - 22nd
- 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Oak Bluffs Monster Shark Tournament**  
July 19th - 21st, for more information visit: [www.bbgfc.com](http://www.bbgfc.com)

Please check the ftc website for additional information on tournaments as it becomes available.

**Good Luck & Be Safe!!!!**

## Mark Your Calendar For Upcoming FTC Events

**June 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**FTC 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Cruise**

**July 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>th</sup>**  
**FTC Rodeo (July GM will be held at the Rodeo)**

**July 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**FTC Salmon Trip (sold out)**



**August 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**FTC Luau**



## SHIP STORE SALE

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