

# Tuna Tower News

VOLUME SIX • JUNE 2013

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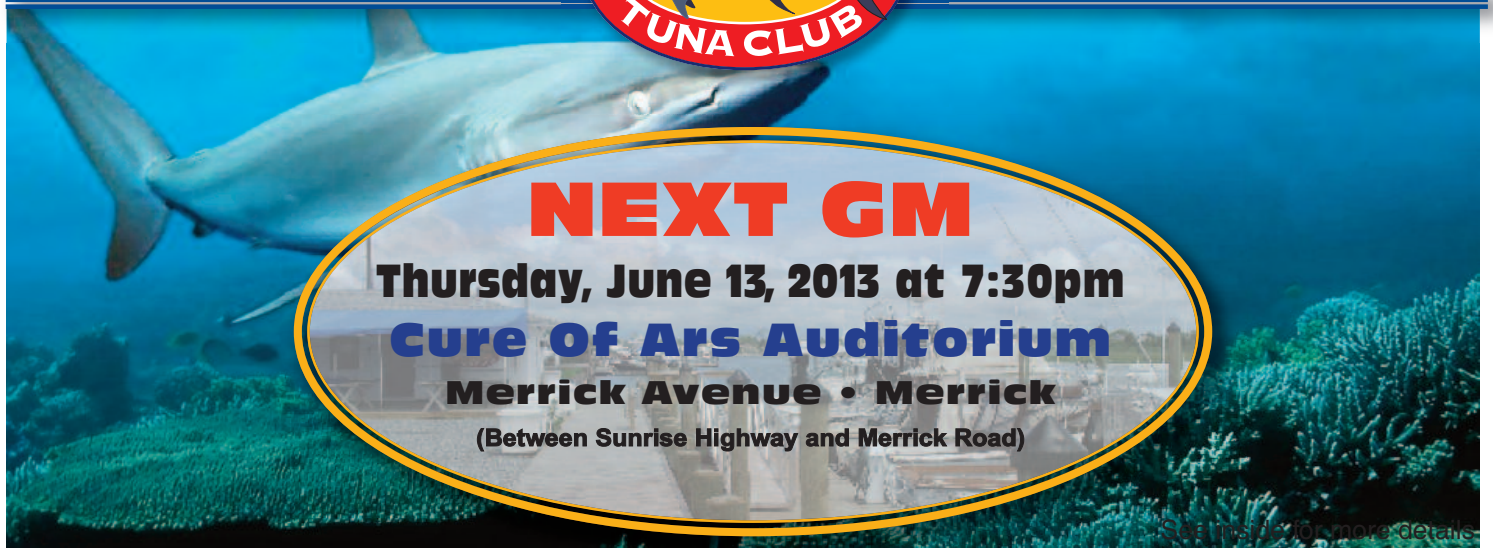


EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton

Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan

Contributing Editor ~ Capt. Lawrence Festa



**NEXT GM**  
**Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 7:30pm**  
**Cure Of Ars Auditorium**  
**Merrick Avenue • Merrick**  
**(Between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)**

See us for more details

**Captain James Schneider who runs the party boat The James Joseph on the North Shore. Captaining his party boat for 30 years harvesting north shore Fluke since the early 70's**

## President's Message

Dear Members,

### The Heat is On !

Captain Anglers Thursday Night has returned. The Ovens, Stoves and Barbeques are all in good working order. We have freezers and a Fridge in the pantry, and a new Kegeerator.

We will be putting up the awning and soon the Clubhouse will be back to normal, with new walls, ceiling and floor. I want to thank Don Morin, Rick Totten, Paul Giurco, Kevin Killelea, Don Granger and Bob Sabella and any one else who helped for the return of Captain Anglers. So come on down to the Ranch.

At last month's General Meeting we were entertained by Kevin McAllister a coastal Biologist & Bay Keeper and Alexandra Millar a Development Communications Director along with Marshal Brown of the Peconic Bay Keepers.org. They spoke about Environmental Issues and an update on the Breach at the " OLD INLET" on the South Shore of Long Island. I thought they did a great job, and that they were very informative.

This month at our JUNE G.M. we will be Entertained with another speaker . Make sure you attend this meeting. Board Members Alan Evelyn along with Ray Geiger are welcoming Captain James Schneider. He Runs the Party Boat The James Joseph on the North Shore. He has fished the north shore his entire life. Commercial fishing, Lobstering and Captaining his Party boat for 30 years harvesting north shore Fluke since the early 70s with his father and Commercial Hook and Line Fisherman Bob Schneider has given Captain James the instinct and experience to hunt down giant Fluke over 10 pounds and the largest 15lbs 4oz to date. So it should be very interesting.

On May 18th we had our Annual Freeport Tuna Club yard sale. I was there at 6:30 A.M. to start setting up my table. I could smell the coffee and the Egg omelets that Joe Steiner was cooking. Jim Rooney and crew sold hot dogs, hamburgers and soda all day.

Despite all the boats that were still on the property it really did not take away from the Yard Sale. There was still plenty of room. There were about 24 vendors and club members that had tables to sell there fishing equipment. It was a great event and we made a profit, and that's what counts. I'd like to thank Bob Benzenberg & Al Casciano for doing a fine job!

Now that the Fishing Season is in full swing with Fluke, Bluefish and Striped

Bass. It's also the month of June and that's SHARK MONTH. There are about 7 Tournaments on Long Island. If you are going to fish the Freeport Hudson Anglers or Richie's Woodcleft Fishing Station Shark Tournament be safe and good luck.

There are a few great events coming your way. On July 11th we are going to be having our Dinner Cruise on the Starstream VIII. Last years was fantastic with Great food, music and lots of fun. So see Jim Rooney for your tickets. Then there is the Rodeo Weekend of July 19th 20th and 21st with a barbeque on the 21st . The Salmon Trip to Lake Ontario and the Flotilla at Zach's Bay.



I'd like to take this time to thank two members. Captain John Weber F.D. F/V Bunker Gear who won the 50/50 at the G.M. and gave back the winnings. I also want to thank DR. John Weber Jr. F/V Miss Behavin III who made a donation to the Freeport Tuna Club yard sale to help cover the cost of food sold at the event. The club Thanks You both.

Congratulations are in order for our newest Lifetime Member SIL MAZZILLI It's not very easy to become a Lifetime Member, you have to be a consistent Member for 25 years " That's Easy" But you Also have to be 65 years old now that's " Impressive!" Thank you for your many years of Dedication to the Freeport Tuna Club.

As of this message we have 182 Paid Members. At the last G.M. the attendance prize was won by Dick Moreo, but he wasn't there " oh no" So this months prize is \$75.00 and \$25.00 in raffle tickets towards a future G.M. You have to be there to win it!

*If people concentrated on the really important things in life there would be a shortage of fishing poles!!*

~ President 2013 ~ Bob Pandy

## Fishing Report

### The season is off with a bang!!!

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

Offshore Scene: Captain Chris "Wasbie" true to form; Chris tracked the 1st warm water eddy that moved into Tom's Canyon early this month. BAM... .Pay dirt...as he once again achieved 1st Tuna of the season. The captain reported that they were trolling Tom Canyon when two Bluefin hit the spread at once: One of the bluefins angled by Captain Chris was 48" long & 60 lbs. class. The other Bluefin angled by Nick Nero was 43" and 50 lbs. class. Both fish hit green machine type trolling bars off the short rig at the same time. Mixed in with the tuna were also some very large false albacore. Once official by our awards committee this Tuna will mark Captain Chris 7th time for 1st Tuna of the FTC Season.

### On the bassing front here are the reports:

New Club Member John Lemmerman reports:

"During the month of May, bass fishing has been great early mornings on live bait around the Fire Island Light House and east of it. There is a lot of bunker in the bay all over that area. We've also taken fish up to 25lbs on soft plastics on both tides, but at night. The fish have been feeding on squid and as of lately bunker. Water temps on the incoming are around 51 degrees (at night). There are also a ton of blues in the bay chasing the bunker so you have to pick through."

Here is a nice Jones Inlet blow by blow report from Captain Paul "Rocket Fish" Noto:

"We have been working the beach from Jones West to Sandy Hook live bait fishing... Earlier in the month bait was hard to find but doable... First few fish in early May were small 15-20lbs and not caught on the bunker pods. Water quality has been marginal at best and the temps ranging from 50-60 degrees..."

Mid May much more bait around and a mix of rain bait as well... Jigging did not produce for us...Managed a few fish with live bait going to about 23 lbs. again fishing to the West of Jones...Burning a lot of fuel looking for fish this month!

Memorial Day bass trip crew of- Bob Bohlert, Pete DiThomas and the overslept, left behind Jim Hampton---

Off the moon and All the wind left no water in our canal so we waited for a little tide---1st time I've had that in May???? Water temp 50... We ran way West again to find bait but no bass... we did find some fish closer to home..... Bob and I went ZERO for one but Pete had the hot hand--5 for 5 on bass to 15- 20 lbs-- Pete caught a fish- released it and another fish took a hook with no bait on it--wild stuff--my guess is the scent on the hook from the bait of the last fish and shine of the hook tricked this Idiot bass!!! Another fish landed...

Last Day of May- 4:45 am departure- all the bunker on planet earth was waiting at the JI Buoy for us... Big fish crashing pods... the bait was so thick I was able to get the cast net on them in over 30 ft of water. We netted 100 pieces and worked the beach westward for a few hours with 1 small fish and 1 drop... Whales were on the bait in 20 ft of water having breakfast and such... Way too much bait around on this day.. Water warmed up to 60 but still coffee colored.. Not many bluefish harassing us...

The big girls will be here soon enough!

Sounder full of bunk!"

Still on the bassing site, Captain Chris Bellinzoni reports a nice pick of bass on clam belly during the outgoing tide at Jones Beach Inlet. Ken Kapner back this report up with a nice catch of three keeper bass and some shorts also on the West Bas outgoing tide on Memorial Day.

Barbara Solomon also reported good bass fishing by the pink hotel, however as of recent the blue fish have moved in in great numbers making it hard to get to the bass.

### Fluking Fishing:

Both Captain's Mike Zullo & Jim Krug report very good fluke action in our local back bays. Both captains have managed good catches of keeper fluke along with some quality weakfish. In addition to the back bays Reynolds's

Channel and west to the golf course are also holding nice fluke. Based on the reports it looks like our ocean fluke fishing will be here soon.

On a recent Montuak Fluke Trip with Captain Anthony Testa on the Stefani. We managed a nice catch of keeper fluke to 22"s. Also mixed in were jumbo sea bass! All released.

Anthony book a 2nd Trip on the King Cod out of Bayshore. Their efforts produced 10 keeper fluke up to 24" drifting near the Smith Point Bridge.

On June 1st I repeated my Montuak Fluke trip with Captain Anthony Testa "F/V Stefani Ann". With sporty early morning weather we started on the north side. The condition were good but the bite was slow. At the tide change Anthony punched through the SW sea to the south side. The weather laid down and the bite was on in 70' of water. Our biggest problem was the outstanding seabass by-catch. With a tear in my eye I released my personnel best @ 6.1 pounds! The fluke that could beat the seabass to the bait were of good quality and we managed a keeper catch of seven fluke with a 1 ~ 10 short throw back.

Club Member Captain Andy Herr is currently running charter boats, Angler 2 & Angler 3 of the Angler Fleet. Captain Andy reports good fluke action at the month to Hempstead Harbor. Captain Andy ran two half day trips for fluke and was able to boat approx. 50 fish in Manhasset Bay and off of Sands Point with 2 keepers to 21 inches. On the afternoon trip Captain Andy switched up location and went a little west off of Kings point and Harts Island again, boating 50+ fish with three keepers the biggest 5.5 pounds.

On the night bite Andy took a bass/blue trip off of Bayville. Found a wreck in about 50 Ft. of water with a whole lot of life. After 15 minutes of chumming the frenzy was on. Approximately 100 bluefish and 13 bass were boated. The pool winner was a 30 pound striper. All on fresh bunker with bunker pods swimming right by the boat.

WWW.Anglerfleet.com.

On the Freeport front, the past Memorial Day weekend new member Lisa Cunningham angled a very fine 25" 6 lb. fluke on her new ride F/V "Pipe&Law".

### Off Shore Shark & Tuna Report:

I sail today on the 45 Viking "F/V Nose Tackle" here is a blow by blow OF THE 1ST Official FTC Shark trip for 2013:

"I received June 2 weather fax date for both water temps and chloro levels. The best water according to the charts was just a little north and east of the Texas Towers. On arrival @ 8 am the water temps was 61 degree which later hit 62.5. The seas were 3-4 NW perfect drifting condition. The water was very green, yet clean. There were no commercial draggers at all in the area, a great amount of shear waters & chicks with no other sport boats.

Our scope mark no bait nor tuna & we jigged most of the day. The first Blue shark came immediately. Most of them were all small males tagged & released. We fished three cans at the Towers with approx. 25 blue sharks released. By noon we decided to try a second spot, so we steamed approx. 25 miles into the south end of the Glory Hole's Eastern edge.

Conditions were still NW & excellent. The water was the same 62.5 green clean water. We had plenty of draggers, bluefish & yes indeed.....Blue Sharks, once again all small males. Bird life in the Glory Hole was not a good. Mostly chicks & gulls with a few shear waters. No tuna were marked seen or jigged. We fish until 500 PM. With only released blue sharks.

On the return ride the water temps stayed at 62 degrees all the way to 20 fathoms with the same green color & no signs of tuna or life.

A great offshore day a wonderful captain & crew....and a boat to die for a 45 Viking Express that ate the sea up at a soft cruise of 25 knots."

### Down South while on vacation:

Captain Allen Evelyn While on a family vacation in Key West to celebrate his 60th birthday, I slipped out on the big day for half day sailfish trip on the Wild Bill. No sailfish, however, He caught a very fine King and too many false Albacore to count.

Captain Mike Sullivan Fished Sea Squared Charters out of Marathon. He targeted tarpon at the Bahia Honda Bridge and went 8 for 9 on a half day tarpon trip with fish up to 100 lb. The one fish that he didn't boat towed him for 1/4 mile and won its freedom between the bridge supports. Crabs were the bait; Gamagatsu octopus circle hooks were the hook of choice. He



hooked up about 75% of the fish that bit.

His Captain, Chris told him this was a personal best for him on a half day charter. Last time I was tarpon fishing, 36 years ago also in Marathon, that captain told me the same thing. At that time we went 3 for 19 on Tarpon to 150 lb. using mullet and J hooks. I would recommend Sea Squared to anyone looking for a good boat.

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



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## Huge California Mako

With shark season upon us, the landing of a huge Mako in California is timely. The 1323.5 pound, 11 foot Mako was caught between Huntington Beach and Catalina by angler Jason Johnston from Mesquite Texas. The story gets even better since the Mako was caught while filming a fishing show called "The Professionals" for the Outdoor Network. The catch will be submitted for approval as an IGFA All Tackle Record. Wow! If approved, the shark would best the current 1221 Mako caught in 2001 out of Chatham Mass as the All Tackle Record.

The current FTC record stands at 483.8 pounds for a "local" Mako caught by Bob Porter in 1977.

– Paul Hilton / Emily S



## CATCH OF THE MONTH

Catch of the Month – Striped Bass

Captain Barbara Solomon burned the candle at both ends targeting striped bass along our south shore beaches and up in Jamaica Bay on live bunker throughout the month of May. She landed many nice bass, the picture speaks for itself. Congrats on the Catch of the Month!



Send in those pictures!

For bragging rights, please email me at 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

76 members have joined the 2013 Fluke Calcutta so far. 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 or Charlie Goldstein if you would like to join. Because you never know!

## Membership

Membership is now at 182. This month there are two new members to swear in. Bill Burke, will be sworn in as a family member. Bill loves in-shore fishing for fluke and striped bass. Dan Miller will be also sworn in as a family member. Dan resides in Freeport with his wife Courtney and his child Hunter. They recently brought his vessel Fundsalaw into the property. Congratulations to Arnold Fleisher on achieving Lifetime Membership.

~ Mike Sullivan

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

- July 11<sup>th</sup> FTC Dinner cruise**  
*(tentative Date) JUNE IS THE LAST GM TO GET DINNER CRUISE TICKETS. TICKETS WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE AT THURSDAY BBQS.*
- 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*
- July 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> - Salmon Trip**
- August 8<sup>th</sup> FTC Luau**
- 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

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

Thank you,  
Jim Rooney

## April 2013 Derby Awards & Contests Report

Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh

Committee Team: Captain Larry Festa,

Captian Michael Zullo

There were no winners in our spring Cod and Flounder derbies. The Spring Striped Bass derby ends on Sunday, 6/9/13. You must get your weigh slips to me by 6/23/13 at the latest! Don't forget to send in your weigh slips and get on our Bragging rights board down at the property!

We've extended our Fluke, Shark and Bluefish Derbies to cover the July 4th Holiday! There are 5 derbies open for the Holiday weekend, both in-shore and offshore. Have fun, go fishing!

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

Striped Bass (15 lbs)	May 4th ~ June 9th
Weakfish (5 lbs)	May 11th ~ June 23rd
Fluke (3.5 lbs)	May 25th ~ July 7th
Shark (125 lbs)	May 25th ~ July 7th
Bluefish (8 lbs)	May 25th ~ July 7th
Tuna (20 lbs)	June 29th ~ August 11th
Mahi (4 lbs)	June 29th ~ August 11th

## Some Facts and Figures on Fluke (summer flounder)

### Male Fluke

1yr old 6.5" 0.1 lbs.	8yrs old 21.0" 3.7 lbs.
2yrs old 10.0" 0.4 lbs.	9yrs old 22.0" 4.4 lbs.
3yrs old 13.5" 0.9 lbs.	10yrs old 22.4" 4.5 lbs.
4yrs old 15.5" 1.4 lbs.	11yrs old 22.7" 4.6 lbs.
5yrs old 17.5" 2.0 lbs.	12yrs old 23.0" 4.8 lbs.
6yrs old 19.5" 2.8 lbs.	13yrs old 23.2" 5.0 lbs.
7yrs old 20.5" 3.3 lbs.	14yrs old 23.4" 5.1 lbs.
	15yrs old 23.5" 5.3 lbs.

### Female Fluke

1yr old 7.0" 0.1 lbs.	7yrs old 24.0" 5.5 lbs.
2yrs old 11.0" 0.4 lbs.	8yrs old 26.0" 7.0 lbs.
3yrs old 15.0" 1.2 lbs.	9yrs old 27.5" 8.6 lbs.
4yrs old 18.0" 2.2 lbs.	10yrs old 28.5" 9.7 lbs.
5yrs old 20.0" 3.0 lbs.	11yrs old 29.5" 10.9 lbs.
6yrs old 22.9" 4.2 lbs.	12yrs old 30.0" 11.9 lbs.
	13yrs old 31.0" 12.8 lbs.
	14yrs old 31.5" 13.4 lbs.
	15yrs old 32.0" 14.3 lbs.



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**Chartered to Promote Sport-fishing & Conservation**

**TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

Matt Errett

June is the kickoff month for the offshore tournaments in our area. There are plenty to choose from so take your pick, good luck, and be safe!!!

1. Cape May - South Jersey Shark Tournament - has been rescheduled due to weather. New dates June 13th. - 16th
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
11. Mike Sullivan's "Duke of Fluke" See Mike for details Visit [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com) for additional updates as they become available.

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- Aruba-Paradise Beach, 2 Br., Ocean View, 3 Pools, Sell or Rent, Week 10 March, Call Tom S. (516) 221-1821.
- Ten foot sit-in kayak with car-top carrier. Good condition: great for Zach's Bay. \$125.00 Bill Toohey 516-509-1372.
- For Sale 25 Foot Luhrs. \$5,900, 2000 350 Crusader, Full Canvas Last Year. Ask for Ron at Sea Isle or Call home at (516) 796-4107.
- 2006 17' Montauk with 90 HP 4 stroke Mercury for sale. \$17,900. Contact Mike S. 516-379-4373

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 Contact Capt. John Jutt (516) 546-2312  
 or E-mail to: JJutt@mmpmk.com**