

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We Finally got some nice weather. We even had one nice day on Memorial Day weekend. Since the weather has broken (from what I see on Facebook) Club members are catching stripers which is a great thing for the tournament that we had. A decent amount of fish were caught.

Club property had the beginning of a great clean up. It will be followed up with another cleanup, I expect to see the majority members down there helping out. I would like to thank the 14 guys who came down with power washers, paint brushes and brooms. They did a fantastic job! Thank you.

Whoever still has a boat on the property - boats must be moved off the property please speak to Bob Sabella if there's an issue.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors for the last GM meeting, along with Bruce Foster who is putting together some great clinics for the club.

I hope everybody's looking forward to a great Freeport Tuna Club fishing season along with a lot of laughs and some good food.

Please come down Thursday night for Captains and Anglers - support your club! It's a good time to bring friends, if you'd like, who are interested in joining the club, or just interested in coming down see what the Freeport Tuna Club is all about.

I hope everybody has an enjoyable season, calm seas, and fair weather for all our members.

Once again thank you to the Board of Directors and Committees that make The Freeport Tuna Club what is today.



Thank you, Matthew Cardone

Father's Day Happy Father's Day

IN MAY THE PICTURES DO THE TALKING

Fishermen have a fond saying, "let the pictures do the talking." In the old days, pictures were generally of dead fish hanging or displayed at the dock. Since nearly everyone has a smart phone in their pocket, great pictures taken out on the grounds have become much more common. Throw in the fact that once you have a great picture of a fish, you are more likely to release that fish. The fish benefit too. Some

great catches and great pictures were reported in May.



Suffice to say striped bass fishing has been good, with large fish now available right outside our inlet. A post on the FTC web site really caught my attention. During a shootout versus Mattinecock, FTC

anglers weighed in three bass totaling 128lb, 12oz.! Needless to say FTC won easily. Frank Cefai fishing on his "Fish On" live lined a bunker to subdue a 43lb. 4oz. striper. The father son team of Gary Sidoti and Gary Sidoti elected to troll bunker spoon/mojo combos on their Chrisovitch "Bronco II." It paid off handsomely with bass of 43lbs. 12oz. and 41lbs. 12oz. Congrats on two forties in one trip.

Captain Harry Weinblatt of the "Blue Marlin" had several good trips to report with his wife Cindy and son James trolling S/W of Jones for quick and easy limits. Cindy's best was a 35lb. bass with James following up with a nice 26.75lb. specimen. Quality bass right outside our inlet, rumor is that some even larger fish are heading our way.





Captain John Jutt took his Whaler "Bunker Dunker" and clam bellied a local bridge with

Steve Bassford. They landed over 40 bass, retaining their limit in the process. Bass season is in full swing, the only question is how long the large fish stay in the area as they move east. John's Red Dawn Rising is ready to go and the tuna and shark are getting uneasy ...

West End fluke fishing has primarily been seeing good action pretty much everywhere throughout the local bays. On a very slow day in the bay, where we only picked a couple of shorts, I did venture outside to explore a few areas where we normally get them early. We did catch a single fish in "the trench" but that was it. Some other spots had nothing at all. That was an off day following some heavy rain and

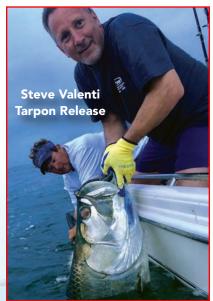
east wind. The ocean fluking is good to the west, should improve quickly locally, and hopefully last

throughout the summer. From Montauk, Mike Sullivan reported a trip on his "Blue Jacket II" with Charlie Goldstein and Bob Pandy. They recently had 10 keepers, with Mike's 6.6lb. leading the way, and currently leading the hotly contested "Duke of Fluke" Tournament.

Seabass season will finally open for NY anglers on June 27th. Right now, the regulations for NY are stated as June 27-Aug 31: 3 fish, Sept 1-Oct 31: 8 fish, Nov 1-Dec 31: 10 fish. All greater than 15", not including tail filament (aka tendril).

While the season was just getting underway up north, some of our members traveled south to take advantage of great late spring Florida Keys fishing. The Four Bells crew of Steve Valenti, Christopher and Chris Bellinzoni set south in their semi-annual May Tarpon trip to Islamorada in the Florida Keys. Their efforts were rewarded with 18 Tarpon (Out of 29 bites) 16 of which were in the 100-130 pound class. Plus a mixed bag of Mutton Snapper, Jack Crevalles, Yellow Tails and Spinner Sharks. Sounds like a great trip.







Captain Jim Krug, and son's Bob and Jack spent some quality time fishing down there too. Jim sent me some great pictures from a variety of Keys fishing trips where



bonito and goliath grouper were landed. Captain Jim can now cross the goliath off his bucket list. I love that pic, Congrats!

The offshore season is upon us, good luck to all anglers in pursuit of tuna and shark and stay safe out there.

Pictures are worth a thousand words. Please share your results with our membership. Please send reports and pictures for inclusion in your club bulletin. Thanks to all who contribute.

> Email your reports to philton@optonline.net; or text/call me at 516.721.8907

> > Sincerely

Paul Hilton F/V Emily S



PROPERTY 1ANAGER'S REPORT

The final payment for the summer slips is now due. If you have not sent in your check, please do so as soon as possible! If you did not receive an invoice, please contact me. The charge for any vessel left on the property after May 31st is \$5 per day. The property committee is limiting on-land boat storage in the summer and is not accepting additional boats on trailers for summer on-land storage. Only "grandfathered in" boats on trailers will be allowed on the property for the full summer. After June 30, all boats on blocks and on trailers will be moved off the FTC property at the owner's expense.

If you are storing a trailer on the property for the summer, please be sure that the property committee can identify you as the owner. Only members leasing a slip from FTC may store a trailer on the club property during the summer.

If you have other questions or concerns about the club property you can see me at the GM, or at Captains and Anglers. I am always available either by email or phone.

Capt. Alan Evelyn

C: 917-750-8710 | W: 516-299-2523 | alan4ftc@gmail.com

) & WELFARI

Harry Schroder is home recovering from a heart attack and a stent placement. We wish him speedy recovery and maybe give him a call.

Jeff Squeri 516-652-5981



BY, AWARDS &

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

The first three FTC Derbies of the year have ended. Since our weather conditions have been anything but fair, there were no valid weigh slips for Cod or Winter Flounder. However, Mr. Bob Pandy deserves a genuine atta boy. He was a man on flounder mission, albeit a few days late with his catch. He spent countless hours afloat and a king's ransom in bait and chum in his quest for the elusive flounder resulting in a 2.04 lb beauty. Bob reported it was delicious.

That leaves our Blackfish derby on the table. As you can see, it was a real "fish" race with the difference being .02lb. Congratulations to our winners and thanks to all that sent us slips despite the horrible conditions of late.

The following derbies will be awarded at our June GM:

1st Place: Mike Zullo 3.40 lbs. F/V Magic Too

3.38 lbs. F/V Endless Summer II 2nd Place: Peter Groner F/V Endless Summer II 3rd Place: Peter Groner 3.25 lbs.

We have received our Fish-At-A-Glance cards courtesy of Capt. John Jutt and they will be available at our GM and at our Thursday Captain/Anglers BBQs. These cards have all the derby dates and minimum weights so don't forget to pick up a couple. Put one in your wallet and one on your boat and you'll never miss a Derby!

Our "Bragging Rights" board down at the property is starting to fill

up. It lists the largest fish caught by club members by species. As soon as we receive a weigh slip with a larger fish, it goes up for all to see. Come on down to a Captain/Anglers BBQ on a Thursday night and check it out.

A few members have asked about our Derby inlet restrictions. As a reminder, in order for your fish to be eligible for a Derby Award, you must fish out of either Debs, Jones or Fire Island inlets only (DI-JI-FI). In addition, your slip must reflect your catch meets a minimum weight requirement for Derby and Annual Awards.

If you have any questions, comments or praise, you can reach us at: ftcawardsandcontests@gmail.com or on our Fishing Reports section of our website.

The following derbies are open or will be opening soon:

STRIPED BASS (15 lb min) May 5th - June 10th WEAKFISH (5 lb min) May 5th - June 17th FLUKE (3.5 lb min) May 19th - July 4th SHARK (125 lb min) May 19th - July 4th BLUEFISH (8 lb min) May 19th - July 4th June 23rd - August 5th **TUNA & MAHI**

Best Fishes! Kay Geiger



STRIPER DIARIES EPISODE 4

As I load my custom-outfitted Chevy Silverado 1500, with 2 spinning rods, 2 Tony Maja specials, 2 conventional live-lining rods, and other necessary "gear," without even a fishing trip planned, I can't help but wonder when does a passion become an obsession? I mean, doesn't everyone drive to work with their truck fully loaded, so they can shoot out to Jones's inlet on a moment's notice? This is a must for fishing in May.

Striped Bass fishing in early spring can be a crap shoot. The bass from Raritan Bay, may not have moved east and finding fish can be a challenge. As a result, it is im-

portant that you fish often. I typically first explore the back bays looking for bait, changes in the water temperature, and birds. Casting along the marsh and around local bridges is a must to see if resident bass remain. This spring, we did just that. However, after several trips at sundown casting and casting and landing "no fish" we decide to implement Plan B - bait. So with fellow tuna club member, Steve "Bass-Man," we hit the bass grounds. First stop, the West Bar on the outgoing tide. Clam belly and clam chum are always a great choice. As we approached the inlet, the wind was light and the ocean flat calm. Anchor out and lines in. After 1.5 hours of only skates and sea robins, we decide to make a move. You know it's slow, when you start eating pizza and surfing the internet. That's it, lines up! We motored over to a local bridge

for the remainder of the tide. Around 9:00 p.m. the bite "turned on" and during the next 45 minutes we landed 7 keeper bass. Around 11:00 pm, we decided to head home, keeping 1 fish for the dinner table. Job well done guys.

Many people often ask me "how do I find the time to fish?" The answer is simple. I drive around with my gear, so I am always ready to make a move. Even if that means fishing only 2 hours after work. Often those last minute trips are the best. On the night of May 17, 2018, we did just that. While I was at work, I got the infamous call we all wait for "the bites on." So I jumped up from my desk and yelled to my boss "the spring run has begun, I must leave." Twenty minutes later, I was loading the boat and off we went. As I broke the inlet, with Pete Cefai, the sky was cloudy and the ocean flat. Not another boat in sight. Epic! Once reaching 50ft we set up on the troll. After a few minutes, the rod started screaming and BAM we

are on! The fish gods were rewarding us. A nice 18 plus pound bass caught and safely released. A few more passes, but no other hits. Lines in and we headed back just before dark. We even made the weekly Thursday night Tuna Club BBQ. Now that's a slam dunker.

With the spring run off to a great start, we took off on yet another sunset adventure. Only this time things were different. As we approached Baldwin Bay, the wind was howling out of the SSW. White caps in the bay? How could this happen? There was not even the slightest breeze all day. The weather was "mint", a perfect 10. I was already frustrated by my decision to work, after the numerous calls of "the bites on, where are you," and "another double header." That's it, we were going!

As we approached Jones Inlet, on the outgoing tide, the current was ripping. The inlet was sloppy, like a washing machine. We forged ahead to the JI buoy. There was no stopping, we were not turning back. But quickly my 24 ft boat seemed tiny, and I realized my plan to troll by the Marine Parkway Bridge was not attainable. We made it to the Pink Hotel. It was bumpy and keeping the boat straight was difficult. After 45 minutes, the waves seemed bigger and bigger. The wind was relentless. We had no signs of life, and didn't even see another boat. Suddenly, we realized the sun was setting, and navigating the inlet in the dark, on an outgoing tide, with a SW wind was a bad idea. At that moment, we pulled the lines up because no matter how bad we wanted "one more fish" we needed to quickly get out of there.

My dad always told me "when in doubt - - don't." It holds true for almost every situation in life. We made our way safely back though Jones's Inlet. But it was rough, and the waves were almost breaking on the stern of the boat. As a seasoned captain, I should have called off the trip, when I saw the white caps in the bay. The point is, sometimes you lose sight of what's important, and nothing is more important than the safety of your crew.

Until next time, Tight lines.

Capt. Barbara Solomon F/V Legal Limits

Thanks to all who showed up to help with the pressure washing of the docks at the marina. The day was perfect for cleaning, rain, wind and cool. The weather finally helped! The docks look great, now if we can get 2 days of sun to dry out the docks we can get the sealer down. Just a reminder all boats are to be off the property by June 1 according to contract. Late fees will begin to accrue from that date. All that space is now needed for parking.

Thanks in advance,

Your Property Committee

Alan Evelyn Bob Sabella Don Granger Charlie Goldstein



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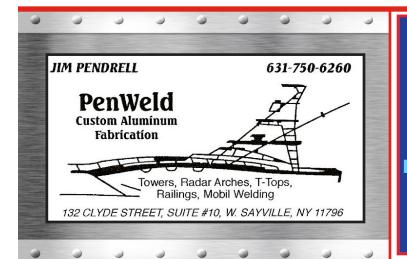












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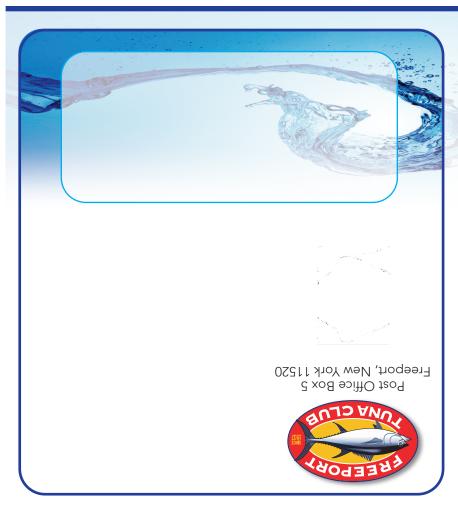
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2018 OFFSHORE TOURNAMENT LINEUP

32nd Annual Star Island Shark Tournament June 15-16

46th Annual Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament June 16
25th Annual Woodcleft Fishing Station Shark Tournament June 23
Bayshore Tuna Club Mako Tournament June 23
JB Tackle Tri-State Canyon Shootout July 29–August 2
Star Island Mako, Thresher, Tuna Mania Tournament August 3–4
46th Annual White Marlin Open Ocean City Maryland August 6-10
South Jersey Annual Mid Atlantic August 20–24

Good luck, be safe, and remember, CIRCLE HOOKS are required for shark tournaments, and we now have an 83" min. fork length size on Mako!!!

CHARTER & PARTYBOAT TRIPS

HAMPTON LADY - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1 - 6am-3pm

\$105 a man... \$50 deposit required to hold spot, tip included... limited to 30ppl we will be seabassling, porgy and fluking... mix bag!

PRIMETIME 3 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 - FULL DAY

Orient Point blackfish and seabass. this trip will be a hell of a lot better than the club's last trip!! Mike assured me on this! \$50 deposit required to hold your spot \$140 pp, pool and tip included!

MISS MONTAUK - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 6am-4pm

\$110 a man .. \$50 deposit required to hold spot. Limited to 35 ppl. Last year's trip was super lock and load fishing. We had seabass to 5 lbs, blackfish to 12lbs, codfish to 10 lbs, and porgys in the mix.

Kenneth Donowski

kenbase2006@1cloud.com | 917-231-5699 best after 3pm