

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

TUNA TOWER NEWS

JUNE 2020

www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR:
CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.



NEXT GM

CANCELLED

STAY TUNED
FOR
REOPENING
UPDATES!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We made it to June, I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well and staying safe. The fishing has been getting better by the day and there has been plenty of big bass and fluke around to keep the rods bending. Ling have been on the reefs and wrecks as an alternative to bring home some filets. A few lucky boats hooked up to the Bluefin that were feeding along the beach, they were all jumbos. Sharking and inshore bluefin will start to break wide open any day now.

The state has recently allowed Long Island to begin phase one of reopening. The Board of Directors met last week to discuss what measures and precautions we need to take once we get to phase two. We are hoping to get Captain and Anglers going soon following the guidelines the state set once we get them. Unfortunately, we have made the difficult decision to postpone our 2nd Fluke Shootout, we are looking at alternative dates and worst case we will push off until 2021. The marina is full, and boats are leaving the yard daily bringing things a little closer to normal.

Thanks again to all the first responders and medical personnel we all appreciate the hard work and dedication you are putting in to keep us safe.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020 Graduates, best of luck on all your future endeavors.

Capt. Adam Bollaci



Happy Father's Day

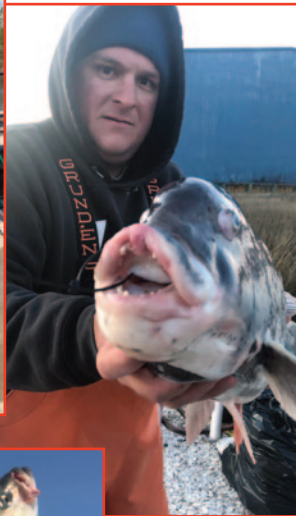
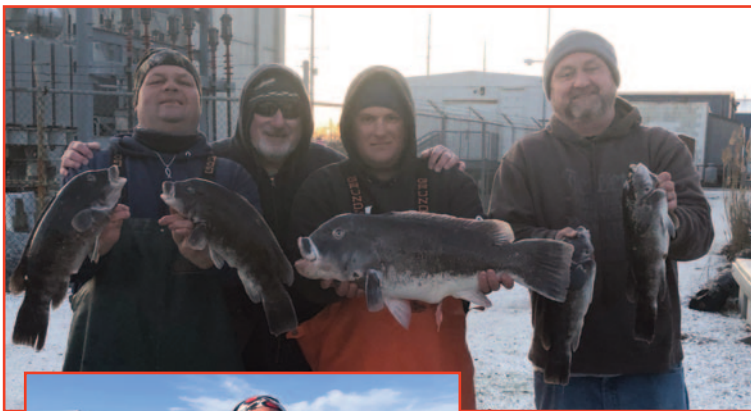
PROPERTY



Slowly but surely the property is beginning to empty out with almost all of the boats now launched. It wouldn't be a proper report if there weren't a few rants about how the members leave the condition of the property. As I walk around the property the common ones like: stack your blocks after launch, pick up wood blocks, and dispose of your shrink wrap still exist. But there are far more little items, like paint rags, stirring sticks, rubber gloves, empty and partially filled bottom paint cans, containers with used oil left around, brushes, soda cans, beer cans, plastic bottles just left on the ground or stuck inside the cinder blocks that make our property look sloppy and unprofessional. Covid 19 has put a dent in our plans with regards to getting the awning up. The ice machine has been relocated to the back side of the building so a proper drain is set up. We are currently waiting for Frenchy to come and make repairs to the machine. We are waiting for the various phases from the Governor as to opening up and trying to get back to normal. Till then, stay safe. And, as the saying goes *"This too shall pass."*

Your Property Committee

THE CLUB IS CATCHING!



6th Place Point Lookout Captains' Association 2020 Shark Tournament



FTC MEMBERS:
Al Casciano on the Rod
Steve Valentini on the wire
Chris Bells on the gaff
All caught on F/V Four Bells



STRIPER DIARIES EPISODE 21



I hope this message finds everyone healthy and well, as we try to adjust to our "new normal." With what seemed like weeks of wind, I decided to make this year's maiden voyage to Raritan Bay. There was no chance I was going to waste a weather window. After I loaded the boat, and assessed my fuel gauge... it was a go!

The preparation for a successful trip begins the night before. Special thanks to Capt. Doug Toback for "face timing" with me, to review the navigation chart. Although, I have fished Raritan Bay several times, you can never be too prepared for the 20+ mile trip. Areas to be familiar with include Romer Shoal Light-house, named after the pilot boat William J. Romer, which sank in 1863, located on the north edge of Swash Channel, about 3/4 of a nautical mile south of the Ambrose Channel, and 2 1/2 nautical miles north of Sandy Hook, New Jersey. Thanks Doug for the safety tips!

After arriving, we saw several boats in the distance. I rarely pull up to a fleet and start fishing, so we motored into shallow waters to look for marks on my Garmin 7610. Within minutes we marked fish, so we deployed chartreuse mojos, trolling in about 20ft of water. The fish starting biting right away!! What a way to start the season! Cookie cutter, healthy striped bass in the 27 inch range, with some larger fish mixed in. What a blast! After several hours, we switched gears to casting buck-tails and it was game time. Small schoolie bass on light tackle. What a day. Around 1:30pm, we decided to hightail it home. The forecast called for Southeast winds, which I did not want to contend with. Also, dead low tide was at 3:30 - not my favorite time to navigate the inlet. With a successful first trip of the season, I was feeling great. So... we decided to get some rest, and head back at first light. Our second trip was also a success. A bigger pod of fish arrived 24 hours later. We set up on the troll once again and within minutes the reels were screaming. By 10am we had landed 8 bass - keeping the smallest for the table at 28 inches. The slot limit did not hinder our trip at all. There was no arguing about "which fish to keep." Anything over 35 inches was immediately returned, as we watched the tails slap and swim away.

Our next fishing trips were local. We clam-bellied the Meadowbrook 2 and 3 bridges, on the incoming tide without even a tap. Bummer. My sunset plugging trips also produced nothing. With the opening day of fluke we decided to switch gears. Fluke fishing brings me back to my childhood memories of fishing with Jack Silber "jigsy". The infamous jigsy rigs are my favorite to use. We drifted the outgoing tide in the flats. Despite water temps in the upper 50s, the fluke were biting. Gulps and spearing/squid combos worked the best. We landed 3 keeper fluke!! Now that is a great day in my book!

We stayed out all day, since the sun was out and we wanted to enjoy every second we could. As we motored home on the 16 ft duck-boat, we ran into a school of blue fish! Yes, they have finally arrived! The day could not have been any better! Casting into blues until dinner time.

Finally, I want to send my condolences to family of the mariners we lost in Jones Inlet. It's a reminder that when boating things can change in an instant. Let's all remember that safety must come first. I am never embarrassed to ask for help, or simply turn the boat around when the wind picks up and head home.



Until my next adventure. Tight Lines.

Capt. Barbara Solomon
F/V Legal Limits

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ENTERTAINMENT

Unfortunately the current Covid 19 situation has put a damper on our club gatherings. So, get out there and do some fishing!

- Please utilize the DEC Reef website to locate all the known pieces on our reefs. A guide is available at: http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/dmreefguide.pdf
- Make sure you and your guests are registered to fish in NY. Register at <https://decals.dec.ny.gov/DECALSCitizenWeb/citizenhome.htm>
- If you are fishing for Highly Migratory Predators (Tuna, Shark, Swordfish, etc.) in Federal Waters your vessel needs a permit. Purchase at <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/>

Be safe and productive. Looking forward to catching up with everyone soon. In the meantime, the FTC Facebook page is a great outlet to post what you are up to.

Tight lines and clear skies,
Bruce C. Foster
F/V Oh Reely

PLEASE BE AWARE!

We're sure many of you have heard about the incident outlined in the Coast Guard Report Below.

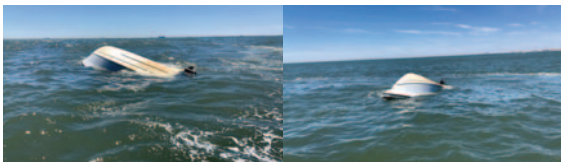
There have been reports that the current conditions at Jones Inlet have been treacherous. Please take care and follow the necessary safety protocols to ensure safe and enjoyable trips.



News Release

U.S. Coast Guard 1st District PA Detachment New York
Contact: Coast Guard PA Detachment New York
Office: (212) 514-4291 | After Hours: (917) 703-0983

Coast Guard searches for missing boater after recovering others



NEW YORK — The Coast Guard, along with good Samaritans, recovered three people from the water and are searching for a fourth south of Point Lookout on Long Island starting Saturday morning.

At 10:08 a.m., Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound command center watch standers received a call from the good Samaritan vessel BRET ALLIE 5 that they had come upon a motor vessel that had capsized with four people in the water.

Within minutes of receiving the call, Coast Guard Station Jones Beach launched two response boats. They located and recovered one person in the water who was transferred to Long Beach Medical Center. The BRET ALLIE 5 also recovered two people that were clinging to the vessel's hull and wearing lifejackets. They were transferred to South Nassau Medical Center. The Coast Guard and partner agencies are searching for the fourth person.

An MH-65 helicopter from Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City was also launched to assist with the search of the missing person.

"The readiness and quick response of our watch standers, boat crews, and good Samaritans led to the swift rescue of the people in the water," said Cmdr. Valerie Boyd, a search and rescue mission coordinator with Sector Long Island Sound. "This is a reminder that anything can happen on the water and that preparation and wearing your lifejacket is critical to survivability and quick detection."

Involved in the search are:

- Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound
- Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City
- Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod
- Coast Guard Cutter Shrike
- Coast Guard Station Jones Beach
- Nassau County Police Helicopter
- New York Police Department Helicopter
- Oyster Bay Marine Rescue
- Hempstead Bay Marine Rescue
- Freeport Marine Rescue
- Atlantic Beach Marine Rescue
- Lawrence Cedarhurst Marine Rescue

-USCG-



CAPTAINS & ANGLERS

Captains & Anglers committee will be following the recommendations in phase 2 Nassau reopening. With outdoor dining opening up we will look for the best ways to mitigate our BBQs to insure our members' health and safety. As we prepare to begin our Captains & Anglers BBQs the committee will be looking for extra volunteers to help with the phase 2 mitigation efforts. Please keep an eye on the FTC Web page, Facebook and email notifications for best up to date information. Looking forward to seeing all our members soon.

Thank you, *Jim Rooney*

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FLUKE TOURNAMENT

Hello FTC members. It is with regret that I must inform you that the Board and I have decided to cancel the 2nd Annual Fluke Shootout Tournament. We want to keep all the members and participants safe and healthy. Thank you for all the support and help that goes into planning the tournament. But not to worry FTC FLUKE SHOOTOUT WILL STRIKE BACK EVEN BIGGER AND BETTER NEXT YEAR !!!

Stay safe tight lines, *Semper Fi*

Robert Cincotta
F/V The Flounder Flopper

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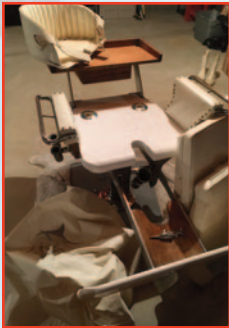
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Richie Rosenkranz
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