

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.

# Tuna Tower News



JULY 2022

CAPT. JOHN. J. JUTT, SR., EDITOR

**NEXT GM**

**THURSDAY, JULY 14**

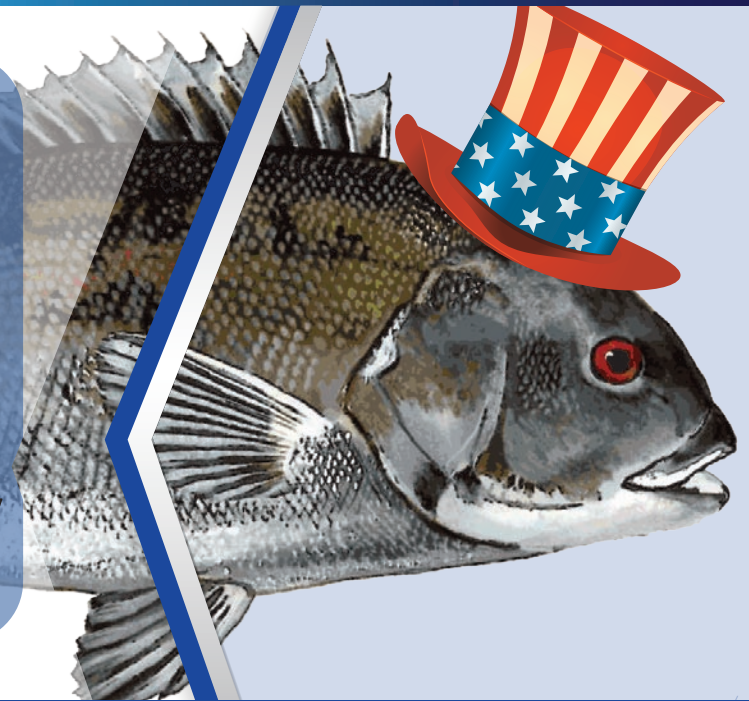
**@ 7PM**

**FOOD SERVED AT 7:30**

**MEETING STARTS @ 8PM**

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## President's Message

It is my hope that everyone had a happy, healthy and safe Fourth of July!

I am please to say that everything is going very well for the property so far this year. All our slips are full and the property maintenance is being kept up nicely.

Captains and Anglers has been very popular and is doing very well - come down on Thursday nights for some great food, friends and fun!

It seems everybody is getting out there, fishing and enjoying the summer.

I would like to remind everybody that July 28 we will have Trac 9 come down to C&A to play for us.

Also, we will be having a memorial service for Donnie Morin in August - details to follow.

Have a healthy and safe summer and get out there and fish!



Thank you, *Rick*

**God ★ Bless  
★ america**



# Fishing Committee

The Fishing Committee continues to work with the Awards and Derbies Committee to update our current formats and prizes. This is a major overhaul. We are seeking to make it easier and more exciting for our members to participate. Stay tuned for additional updates.

Tight lines and calm seas,

*Bruce C. Forster*

F/V Oh Yeah

# Membership

Membership is seeking members to join our committee! Please contact Chris Lombardo for details at 516.270.0796. I would like thank those that have been fishing and sending in their photos in for our Instagram page. Keep them coming!

We are looking forward to an even more fulfilling membership year for 2022!

Thank You,

*Chris Lombardo*

# Captains & Anglers

The committee would like to thank all the members participating in our barbecues. The committee would also like to thank Chris Lombardo for his donation of Thresher shark (delicious).

Please be reminded to check the club website, Facebook page and emails for upcoming events and weather cancellations.

Thank you,

*Jim Rooney*

# Fishing Report

June did not disappoint on most of the fishing fronts. Striped bass and Fluke continued strong into the month. Bass were inside and outside the inlet and biting real good

Chris Bellonzoni on the *Four Bells* put quite a month together for him and his crew. Beside all the bass caught by Chris and new members Paul and Gordon Eliades a nice thresher by Chris, Al Casciano, Bruce Forster and John



Gerrity was taken. Not to be outdone by a whopper of a fluke on the *Kismit Joe* by Steve Valenti tipping the scales at 7lbs 14oz. Chris Lombardo had quite a month on his 19' *NorthCoast*, from monster bass to fluke to weakfish - he was on the fish! Highlight for him and Steve Bassford was a 250lb. plus thresher that the two man crew closed the deal on after a long battle.



Fluke in the bay remained strong James Scalia picked away for some quality fish. A group of club members headed out of Montauk to fish the Nantucket Shoals catching fluke to over 12 lbs.

Local reefs have had lots of sea bass and ling with quite a few fluke in the mix.



Other threshers to mention MaryEllen Zullo fought and released with Mike at the helm a monster 350lb. plus fish. Way to be a good steward of the sea. Doug

Tobak and son DJ with a Charter bested a 350lb. whiptail.

Further offshore, the bluefin tuna showed up in good numbers all along the 30 fathom curve, trolling, jigging and popping have all been producing.

On the North Shore front the bass bite in the sound has been nothing short of epic. All methods were catching, lures, trolling, chunking... fish to 48" were caught.

Catch em up,

*Capt. Adam Bollaci*





## Entertainment

I hope our members are getting out and enjoying the fishing and fine weather. We are booking some music for Captains and Anglers events. Chris and Friends from the Track 9 Band will be on the deck July 28th so put it on the calendar. I am always looking for suggestions, assistance, etc. so please contact me to get involved. This is your Club! Participate!

Wishing you all tight lines and calm seas,

*Bruce C. Forster* F/V Oh Yeah



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**AUGUST GM AND**  
**LUAU**  
**DINNER CRUISE**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11 | 7PM-11PM**  
**ABOARD THE "FREEPORT GEM"**  
Dinner, Open Bar (top shelf available at an extra charge) and DJ  
\$50 for members and their families  
\$60 for non-members and guests  
*Come say aloha*  
Tickets will be available at  
Captains and Anglers barbecues  
See Jim Rooney or John Daum

## Good & Welfare

It is with sad heart that I report the passing of Don Morin, not only was Don a good member, but he fed us at the meetings and was a passionate fisherman. We will greatly miss him. We and his family will pay him tribute at the August 25th Captains & Anglers meeting.

Get well to Anthony Alfieri on his recent surgery.

Our sincerest condolences to Al Casciano and family upon the passing of his beloved wife, Brenda.

Congratulations to Jimmy Krug and family upon the graduation of his son Jack from SUNY Buffalo.

Please send news of happenings (Weddings, Births, Get Wells, etc.) so I can get them into the newsletter.

Thank you! *Jeff Squeri* 516-652-5981

## Derbies, Awards & Contests

Chairman: Ray Geiger | Committee: Bill Morrogh & Harry Sbaschnig

I am currently out of NYS on vacation, but will be back in time for our July GM on July 14. Hope to see you all there!! Please remember, our 3rd annual Fluke Tournament will be on Saturday July 16.

There are no derby awards for striped bass this month, as we did not receive any eligible weigh slips.

Please be aware there is a minimum weight requirement for all species. These weights and all FTC fishing regulations are available at: <http://ftcfishing.com/FTCFishingRules.htm>

*The following derbies will be awarded at our August GM:*

**WEAKFISH** (5 lb min) April 30th - June 12th

**FLUKE** (3.5 lb min) May 14th - July 4th

**SHARK** (125 lb min) May 14th - July 4th

**BLUEFISH** (8 lb min) May 14th - July 4th

If you are holding any slips, please get them to us ASAP.

Good luck to you all!

Best Fishes! *Ray Geiger*



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# Striper Diaries

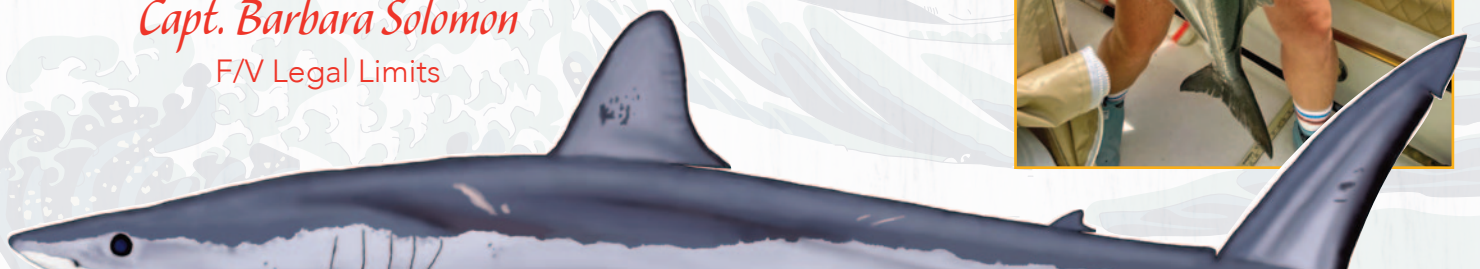
## EPISODE 39

MECCA. Time to pack the camper, boat, trailer and all our fishing gear and head to Montauk. What else would one do when the fishing is slow in our own backyard. With dreams of 50 pounders we hit the open road. The plan was to live off the land, go off the grid and follow the migration. We arrived at Montauk Anglers Club on East Lake Drive, 4 hours later with the boat in tow. I can't say enough good things about Suzy, Rose and the entire crew. This full service marina is a home run, with a great ramp, showers, and a full restaurant to cook your catch. Since getting a late start, and sitting in traffic for 4 hours, we finally launched the boat at 3pm. We headed out of the "harbor" with thoughts of big, big fish. The plan was to bucktail the rips... apparently there are many many rips - - most of which I am not familiar with. Time to check the chart. As we approached the lighthouse, the sky turned black and the heavens opened up with rain and wind. The rips by the lighthouse were huge. Big, big waves cresting with a wind chop on top. Oh boy. After a few minutes the storm passed, and we were able to set up on the drift. Bam! Right away gator blues. They were everywhere. We played catch and release until our arms hurt. Time to head in.

The next morning, we planned to jig again. We heard the porgies in Montauk are the size of basketballs. No bait needed, as I wanted to land some bigens on a 3.5 oz metal jig. Wow, the rumors were all true. We jigged up 16 inch porgies, some striped bass and some 18 inch sea bass!!! What a day. Every so often we saw birds dive bombing on bait and the waves were lit up with blue fish. Casting and "run and gunning" till our arms were sore. It doesn't get better than that. Finally, we switched gears in hopes of landing a 50 pounder. Reports from local charter captains showed big bass being landed everyday on live bait. So, with that in mind, we focused on drifting live bait on a three-way rig with an extra long leader. We rode around until we spotted some locals. We were not looking to "mug" their spot, we simply wanted to watch and learn. Boy were we schooled. We set up on the drift just as they were. Every drift they were doubled over with hookups. All of the bass way too large to keep. We watched in disbelief. What were we doing wrong? We changed our rig, put on a fresh bait, maneuvered the boat the same way and nada. We did not land one single fish - - although we did see a 50 pounder follow the bait to the boat. We felt defeated, but were determined to fish the remainder of the tide. As they reeled and reeled their patrons were shouting with joy and slapping high fives. We were humbled for sure. The Montauk bite is not for the weary. It's really big water, an extremely fast current and rolling swells for days. As the sun set, it was time to head back. We may not have landed a 50 pounder, but we filled our cooler with sea bass, porgies and learned a lot of information. That was good enough for us.

Until my next adventure. Tight lines.

*Capt. Barbara Solomon*  
F/V Legal Limits





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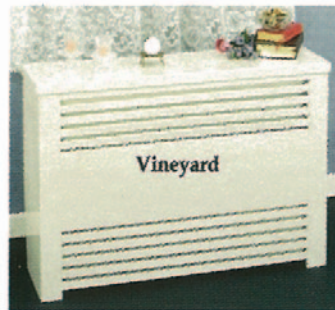
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