

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

TUNA TOWER NEWS

JULY 2019

www.ftcfishing.com



CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.
EDITOR

NEXT GM

SUNDAY, JULY 28
3PM @ THE RODEO
ON THE PROPERTY

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SET UP
& CLEAN UP... PLEASE CALL
ADAM BOLLACI @ 516-322-0030
IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP!**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'd like to start out by saying that I hope everyone had a happy and safe Independence Day. July is a busy month for the FTC with our first annual Fluke Shootout on July 20th, followed by our Rodeo the following weekend - kicking off Friday July 26th and ending on Sunday the 28th at the property with a BBQ. Please note the the July GM will be part of the Rodeo weekend. The property is looking good and will need a cleanup in the next week or two, stay tuned as we will be calling all hands to help out Bob Sabella and the property committee. Also want to make mention of the hard work put in by both Bob Sabella and Don Grainger for getting the property cleared and collecting the slip payments. It is a thankless task but it is with all the behind the scenes work that takes place which makes our club stand out amongst others.



The Captains & Anglers BBQs are in full swing and the cook crew impresses every week. Come on down!

The fishing has been heating up and has been nice hearing many FTC boats getting in on both the inshore and offshore bite. Good size tuna and sharks have made the trip to the scales in the past week, but the coveted first mako is still on the loose. As the days grow hotter we all need more ice to keep our catch properly chilled. Please keep in mind the 5 gallon bucket limit per boat that is in place for the clubs ice machine.

God bless America.,

Capt. Adam Bollaci

WHERE'S THE FLUKE??!!



With the arrival of summer, fluke should be plentiful on the south shore of Long Island by now. But it seems there are no keeper fluke around. Reports from the AB reef to the Fire Island reef are few and far in between. Plenty of seabass are around in large numbers caught for anglers taking there time to get to them through the shorts.

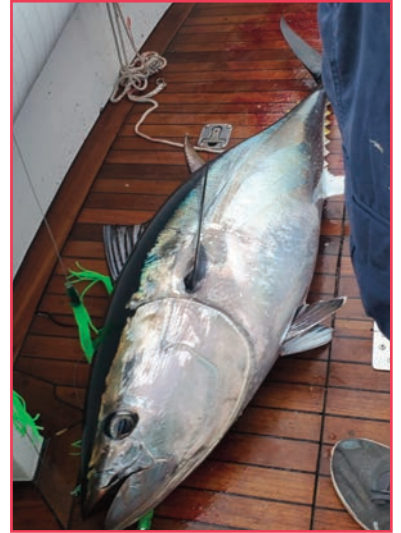
spreader bars and within 15 mins he had a 70 lb. bluefish onboard.

Adam Bollaci and crew also had 60-80 lb. tuna fishing the Coimbra in the AM on squid bars. There are a lot of tuna offshore right now.



I myself have witnessed first hand there are few keepers around. If you are looking for keepers I suggest you fish from Shinnecock to Montauk point, where I myself limited out with fish to 7lbs. Congrats to Mike Sullivan for catching a 9lb. fluke in Montauk.

As for the sharking scene... Dave Massa went fishing aboard *the Shark Hunter* with Hank and Chris. They had 4 makos and a 228 lb. thresher shark. The fish hit a bluefish and skirt 90 ft. down. She gave several jumps before she was subdued.



Hal Joseph was aboard his boat, *the Theresa J*, with his sons Rob and Chris when they caught a 166 lb. thresher. They were 1/2 mile south east of the gunboat. His sons fought it and brought it in while he was on the wheel.

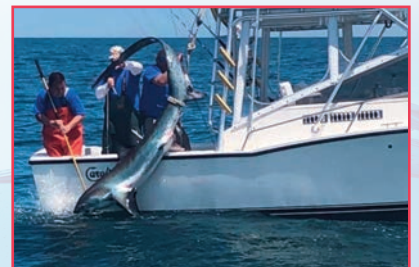
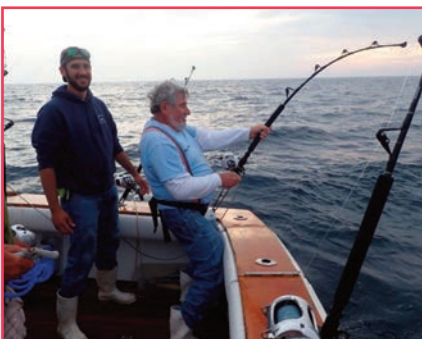


Anthony Scarpontino and friends fished the 20-30 phantom line. Had 5 fish to 100 lbs. and got spooled by 1 that eventually broke the 250 lb. clip (terminal tackle failure). Overall, A great day of fishing.

Please send all your reports to me at:
Text: 1-917-231-5699
or E-mail: Kenbase2006@icloud.com
Be sure to include photos

Ken Donowski

As for the off-shore report, life is plentiful out there with Dave Pincus and crew heading back from a successful Canyon trip with loads of yellowfin caught. Put the breaks on the *Canyon Lady* to a screeching haul deployed the



PROPERTY COMMITTEE

We are almost there, just a couple of boats still on the property, three of which are not ours but switch boats from travelers. JUST A NOTE ABOUT THE ICE MACHINE SOMEONE SHUT THE WATER OFF TO THE MACHINE WHICH CAUSES THE CONDENSER TO FREEZE SOLID. We had to call in service to get it running again.

Your Property Committee

ICE MACHINE RULES: One 5 gallon bucket per member and/or boat crew per day (5 members on your boat = ONE 5 gallon bucket TOTAL). Our ice machine is limited and can not handle multiple large coolers. If you need more ice, please make other arrangements. Noncompliance will lead to the ice machine being locked and used for club events only. Thank you

Jim Rooney

ENTERTAINMENT GOOD & WELFARE

The winter and spring meetings went well, in particular the new Master Angler Series. Bill Korb and Rich Van Ohlen from News 12 Weather gave a terrific presentation in June and a special thanks to the Pointhook Bucktail crew for coming down and showing some of their unique rigs. This summer our meetings are at the property and entertainment will continue in September. I want to thank the board members and in particular our Master Angler presenters for their cooperation and assistance. Have a great summer, and catch 'em up.

Bruce C. Forster

F/V Oh Reely and F/V Oh Yeah

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GOOD & WELFARE

As I reported at the last meeting our condolences to Ron Fuering and family on the passing of his wife. As many of you might not know, Ron is our longest living member and a past president. Ron has done so much for this club that we as members share in his loss. Many prayers for him and his family

Condolences to James Counts, Jr. on the passing of his mother, Allie Y. Franklyn. Born in Kansas worked in the Hempstead School District in the 60s thru the 90s. She passed at 90 years of age in Colorado Springs - June 27, 2019.

Speedy Recovery to Harry Schroeder. He is home recovering from a stent procedure.

Jeff Squeri 516-652-5981

MEMBERSHIP

Please note from the clubs by-laws regarding membership. On the first day of the calendar year following the eighteenth birthday of such Junior Member, he or she shall be entitled to Regular Membership. Such Junior Members shall be obligated to pay regular dues to the Corporation but no additional initiation fee shall be charged.

DERBY, AWARDS & CONTESTS

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



Congratulations to our Striped Bass Spring Derby Winners!!

We will be presenting their trophies at our GM/Rodeo/BBQ on Sunday, July 28th and thanks to all members for their participation once again.

Spring Striped Bass Results:

1st Place:	Adam Bollaci	49.69 lbs.	F/V Hooker
2nd Place:	Barbara Solomon	45.81 lbs.	F/V Legal Limits
3rd Place:	Kelly Bollaci	29.75 lbs.	F/V Hooker

Please Note: The Bragging Board is maintained by our committee, not members. If you have submitted a valid weigh slip to us, we will record your catch on the board ASAP. Remember, only the largest of the species gets on this board and we do need your weigh slip. However, a derby does not have to be open to weigh your catch to get on the board, so get out and fish!!

The FLUKE, SHARK and BLUEFISH derbies ended on July 4. If you're holding slips for these species, please be sure to send them to me ASAP. Club rules state we must have the slips in our possession no later two (2) weeks after the derby closes (July 18).

The following derbies are open this month:

TUNA (20 LBS.) June 23rd - August 4th

MAHI (4 LBS.) June 23rd - August 4th

I ask all members to please make an effort to fish the Rodeo this year and present your weigh slips to our committee at the property no later no later than 4PM sharp to qualify.

See you at the Rodeo!!

Best Fishes and Good Luck to all!!

Ray Geiger



STRIPER DIARIES | EPISODE 14

With opening day of Sea Bass approaching, all I could think about was finally doing some wreck fishing. Time to grab a nautical chart, check TerraFin and some other local weather websites.

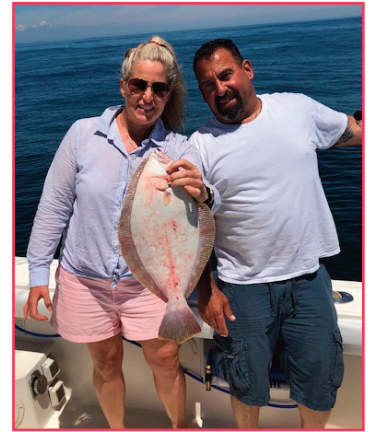
I decided to take off Monday, June 24, instead of fishing opening day, as I didn't feel like competing with all the weekend warriors. With my light bottom fishing rod in hand, and a bucket of fresh clam, we headed out of Deb's Inlet. The ocean was flat and there was not another boat in site. Ahhh perfect! A quick stop at a local secret spot produced a ton of sea bass in the 13-14 inch range. That's it, lines up. We need to head into deeper water in search of big fish. We went approximately 8 miles south east past the Cholera Bank to an area near the Irma C and Florence. Water depth was approximately 120 ft deep. We hopped around from wreck to wreck and were able to put together a nice catch of keeper sea bass and ling, with tons of double headers over the rail. What a great day.

On Wednesday night June 26, around 9 p.m. I received a phone call from Capt. Dave, who runs the Tail Hooker out of Montauk. Did I want to load the car and drive out to Montauk in the morning for a day of fluke and sea bass fishing?? Ummm honey, is it okay if I call in sick again this week and go fishing?

We loaded the truck, packed some turkey sandwiches and hit the road. When we arrived at Gone Fishing Marina in Montauk, (which is now called Montauk Anglers Club & Marina) it looked like pea soup. Without hesitation, we loaded the boat and started to head out. I don't even think we thought twice about heading out in the fog. We rounded Shawgwong, Treasure Hole and were nearing the point. The next thing I know the boat comes to a screeching halt and we are grounded near the North and False Bar. Pea soup fog, and rips surrounding us, on what I now see is the end of the outgoing tide. It was in that moment that I grabbed my life jacket and we made call to the Coast Guard. It's a very strange feeling, when you are in unfamiliar waters and in harms way. It was at that time, that we asked the captain what type of safety gear was on the boat. Pete Cefai was quick to remove the back hatches and fish boxes to check if we were taking on water. Luckily we were not. Soon thereafter, the wind picked up and by the grace of god we were able to back out of the shallow rips into deeper water. We proceeded slowly through the fog to the fluke grounds which the captain said was "8 miles out." Truth is, I would have been happy porgy fishing at the Shagwong Reef, where I could see land. Guys, even the most seasoned captain can get disoriented in the fog. The time to ask questions and check safety gear is BEFORE you leave the dock. Also, always check the tides. Areas that are safe at high tide can be treacherous at dead low.

When we arrived at the fluke grounds, the fog began to lift and the sun came out. Thank God. We baited up with spearing, squid and gulp combos. The fishing was hot and within a few hours we limited out on fluke and sea bass. By 3 p.m. we were ready to head back. No mistakes this time, as we stayed way off the beach for the ride back in.

Back at the marina just in time to filet the fish for dinner. There is a small restaurant attached to the marina where they will cook your fish for \$15.95 per pound. Sounds like a plan to me! We gave them all the fish we caught and were greeted with an assortment of fish tacos, and panko fried fluke. It was delicious! By the time we finished eating dinner it was nearing 9:00 p.m. and was time to hit the road back to Freeport.



Until our next adventure tight lines.

Capt. Barbara Solomon
F/V Legal Limits

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Rodeo

Fri, Sat & Sun - July 26-28

AT THE PROPERTY

FIRST, SECOND & THIRD PRIZES

Species: Fluke, Striped Bass, Bluefish, Tuna & Shark.

Children under 12 years old: Sea Robbins

All Club Minimum Weights Are In Effect

Giveaways and More For All Kids

Weigh-In Slip at Property by 4 PM

Bake Off: First and Second Prizes

Winners must be present to receive awards.

Come on down and enjoy!

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THE
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Family Time!*

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& BBQ
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@ 4pm
SHARP!

SAVE THE DATE



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AT THE PROPERTY AT 7PM

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