

Tuna Tower News

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com



VOLUME EIGHT • AUGUST 2006

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: JEFF YAPALATER



NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, August 10, at 8:00 pm

**Please Note Meeting
At The Property**



**NEXT G/M
2nd Annual
Hawaiian Luau**

Prizes for Best Dressed



President's Message

Jim Rooney

We are half way through the summer with many club events still to participate in. The club has held many successful events this year with excellent participation of members. To start with, our first shark shoot-out and IGFA event went off with great club showing (18 club boats) unfortunately, the sharking was very slow and the winning fish went to Babylon Tuna Club. We will have to win that shoot-out next year. I would like to thank John Rooney and Sean Libby for all the hard work they put into this event. My congratulations go out to the crew of the Camille for their second place finish in the over night division of the Babylon Tournament. Congratulations also go to Cynthia Sullivan on her pending IGFA women's record Striped Bass, 17.36 lbs. On 2 lbs class line. A big thank you to Pete Cefai for his generous donation at the July GM; thank you again Pete. On a down note, we have a new member, Ken Bianco, whose fishing equipment was stolen from his house in south Merrick. This is a problem that could happen to anyone of us. Earlier this season a man was arrested for stealing and attempting to sell fishing equipment

on E-Bay. The owner recognized some of his property and notified the police and an arrest was made. Ken has listed his stolen equipment on the web site. Please take a look at the list and if you recognize any of the items being sold contact Ken. Your help is appreciated. I want to remind everyone that the August GM is also being held at the property and is our second Annual Luau. This is a great event for the whole family so come down and have some Hawaiian punch and have good time. Hawaiian attire requested. Sunday, August 13 is our annual Floatilla in Zach's Bay at 12:00pm. Contact Bob Pandy on VHF channel 78 (Pandaman) for hook up directions. This year also starts our overnight division of the Floatilla starting Saturday, August 12 staying overnight until the big party starts on Sunday. That's about it for this Month. Hope to see you at our upcoming events. Stay safe and remember that participation is the key to a great club experience.



Jim Rooney

FISHING BULLETIN

With the month of August at our doorstep, one could say that we are definitely in season. Our fisheries both inshore and offshore have opened up and our members are embracing it with open arms. The weather has been on our side the last several weeks, with some luck and maybe a prayer, let's hope that it continues for many more. NOAA has revised their Tropical storms and Hurricane predictions for this season downward and with a little more luck hopefully we can continue to enjoy what we wait all year for without the horrendous conditions that precipitate there arrival.



The relatively slow start has taken on a different face recently. A large body of yellowfin has taken up residence around the area of the Dip and the action has been real hot. For most boats that have made the trip they have reported excellent action with fish up to 65lbs. This has been a troll bite and our members have reported many "fire drills" on the multiple hookups taking place daily. Congratulations are in order for all of the FTC boats that participated in the 50th Anniversary Babylon Invitational. Our own Captain Sil of the Camille was able to capture second place in the overnight division. His 85lb. Yellowfin enabled the crew to cash in on a substantial Calcutta prize. Club member Jeff Yapalater wasn't sure which team he was playing on so he fished the day division aboard a Babylon based boat and reported excellent action and a second place prize as well. Congratulations again on a great job by all who participated.

The areas shark fishing has fallen into its typical summer-time doldrums. Not many members are targeting them now but for those who have, report a lot of small makos up to 100.0lbs. Most of this action has been in the areas of 20-25 fathoms of water. Our 2006 Shark Season has been excellent with some very nice quality fish being taken to date.

On the local fishing front the word is Fluke. Do you remember how to spell that? Finally a body of fish has started to show themselves. The action had been concentrated further to the east off of Fire Island but recently the action has been reported in the area of our local reef with fish reported to 8.0lbs. Bluefish have taken a firm hold as well. Action from Cholera to the Three Sisters on bait and chum has been very productive. Seabass action has picked up as well with many of the not so often hit spots giving up quality fish. Striped bass action has fallen into a slower period as well. Although the western drops continue to produce fish the action is far short of the way it has been.

Keep the reports coming, and please be safe.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt



FLUKE CALCUTTA

There are ninety three members that have joined the fluke Calcutta (corrected figure; one guy signed up twice). Bob Benzenberg is leading with an 11lb. 4 oz. fish! Bob at Bob's Bait and Tackle reports that a body of large fluke have showed up off Fire Island. One boat was on their way in with a limit of fluke, the smallest measuring 26". Now that's fluke fishing. Now is the time. So let's go out there and beat Bob!

PROPERTY

Several savvy members that have picked up on the fact the club intends to upgrade its marina to current industry standards by the 2007 season, including full floating docks and a dredged basin, have started reserving a spot on the waiting list to avoid a last minute rush. Still, there are only six names on the list leaving plenty of room for other members. Want to reserve your place? A fully refundable \$100 deposit will do it. See Mike Sullivan for details.

CONSERVATION

The technical committee of the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission has recommended a big reduction in the fluke allocation for 2007. This is based on a Federal Employees determination that the biomass of the fluke has been overestimated and is not on track to recover by 2010 as required to the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996. This means no fluke in 2007 is a distinct possibility.

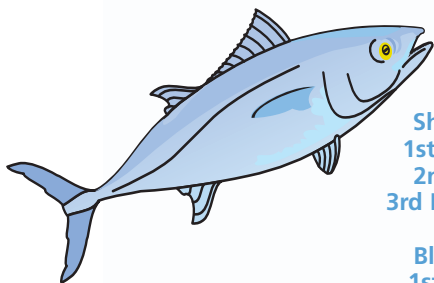
On Monday I was due to speak at a press conference with Senator Charles Schumer at Point Lookout. The senator is looking into ways to solve the problem. Part of the problem is apathy. We need to stick together as recreational anglers and avoid diverse agendas.

Please join the organizations that are fighting for your rights like the RFA and the New York Sportfishing Federation. We need your support. We need to change the laws. Politics has taken over our fisheries. The commercial anglers and the eco-system conservationists are counting on the apathy of recreational anglers to make it easy for the governing bodies to reduce or eliminate our opportunity to fish. It's fight or fail.

Dennis Cataldo

JUNE 2006 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa
Committee Team: Captain Michael Zullo, Mary Ellen Zullo,
Captain Chris Squeri, Joseph Jahn



The following derbies are closed, Final Result are:

Shark (125 lbs.).....June 3rd ~ July 16th
1st Place: Captain Adam Bollaci.....364 lb. Thresher F/V Hooker
2nd Place: Patrick Quinn.....312 lb. Mako F/V Aurora
3rd Place:Pending final review to be announced at the GM

Bluefish (08 lbs.).....June 3rd ~ July 16th
1st Place: Captain Douglas Toback.....12.2 lb. F/V Corazon
2nd Place: Captain Douglas Toback.....10.8 lb. F/V Corazon
3rd Place: Captain Douglas Toback.....9.8 lb. F/V Corazon

Fluke (02 lbs.).....June 3rd ~ July 9th
1st Place: Bob Benzenberg.....11.25 lbs. F/V Fish-n-Whitetails
2nd Place: Joe Berkland.....8.43 lbs. F/V Spitshot
3rd Place: Don Granger.....8.37 lbs. F/V Spitshot

The following Derbies are in progress or starting this month:
False Albacore (06 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Green Bonito (04 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Fall Mahi (04 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Fall Weakfish (05 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th

The following derbies are closed, Results are Pending:
Tuna (25 lbs.).....July 1st ~ August 5th
Mahi (04 lbs.).....July 1st ~ August 5th
Weigh slip deadline.....August 20th (early please!)

Derby News: All derbies are running well; the competition on all fish is extremely close so make sure to get your weigh slips in early and check with our committee team to make sure we have your results. The results are usually posted on our web site before the deadline closing and followed up with a second Final Results Posting. So please check in with the committee, it is you're responsibly to make sure we have your winning slip.

Awards & Contest News:

We currently have several new club records in the making. Some are as follows:

Blackfin Tuna @ 28 pounds by Robert Solberg May 2006.
Striped Marlin @ 253 pounds by Ralph Drewes April 2006.
Joe Steiners 7 pound 11 oz. Largemouth Bass February 2006.

On the IGFA Records we have two pending new world records in the 2 pound line class division:

Ryan Sullivan 21 pounds 7 oz. Striped Bass June 2006
Cynthia Sullivan 17.36 pound tagged & released Striped Bass July 2006.

If any member feels that they have a new club record and it is not posted please contact me. Your achievements are as important to this club as they are to you.

It also looks like we have confirmed our first tuna & mako awards. Both fish coming from the Hudson Canyon area and within our 24 hour rule of sail. These are the only two awards that we can officially announce:

Mako 290 pounds.....Findictive, Captain's Award Robert Rosenberg
Tuna 47 pounds.....Frank Mazzilli.

Some outstanding fish that should be recognized:

Frank Mazzilli with a 26.5 pound Monster Mahi

Dominick Amendolaro bested a 48 pound Mahi (Corrected weight) and a 35 pound Rooster fish in Cabo July 2006.

Please come to our August GM to be recognized for your outstanding achievements in the art of sport fishing. No other club does it better than we do!

WIND MILLING

There were two local meetings last month held for the public's reaction to the proposed Wind Park off of Jones Beach. I stood in line to comment, but after two hours gave up, and instead made my feelings known in writing to this committee. The following is the result of these hearings. Click on the link and read some great stuff! Public scoping comments for the OCS Renewable Energy and Alternate Use Programmatic EIS are now available for browsing and downloading on the OCS Renewable Energy and Alternate Use Programmatic EIS Information Center web site: Public comments received during the scoping phase are available on the Search Scoping Comments page at: <http://ocsenergy.anl.gov/scopingcomments/index.cfm>

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

*Chartered to Promote
Sport-fishing & Conservation*

2006 Officers

James Rooney..... President

Chris Squeri.....1st Vice President

Joseph Jahn.....2nd Vice President

Mike Sullivan Treasurer

Chris Bellinzoni.....Secretary



Post Office Box 5
Freeport, New York 11520

Deliver To:



CLASSIFIED:

• 1 28x23^{1/4} 3 blade nibril prop. like new condition, reasonably priced 516-632-9770.

1974 26 ft stamas twin 190 hp mercruisers freshwater cooled 25 kt completely upgraded 2000 18,000 Hank Lunde 516.739.0833

DOCK SPACE AVAILABLE: 26' to 28' boat, deep water canal, nearby inlet see Sy 516-632-9770

FOR SALE 1985 11" Boston Whaler Tender with 20 hp Evinrude and trailer. Very good condition, motor runs well. In storage for 8 years. \$1800. Contact Charlie at 516-655-1255.

FISHERMAN WANTED: Alaska - Salmon, Tanaka Lodge 7/507 to 7/12/07 3 spots open
Panama - Marlin Sails Tuna, Tropic Star Lodge 8/11/07 to 8/16/07 - 3 spots open

FOR INFO CALL DENNIS CATALDO - 516-753-5433

FLOATING DOCK FOR SALE, DOCK SPACE FOR RENT CONTACT SY KARP: 632-9770.

15 H.P. JOHNSON OUTBOARD – 1974 – LOW HOURS – WORKS WELL STORED INDOORS \$125 - CALL CHARLIE 516-223-0214

**3rd Annual
Zach's Bay Floatilla**

**Sunday, Aug. 13th
over night division
starting on**

Saturday, Aug. 12th

**Thursday Night
Clinic**

**August 24th
John Ragguso
Offshore Tuna**

**More Info Contact
Hank Janett**