

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# Tuna Tower News

VOLUME EIGHT • AUGUST 2015  
Internet Address: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton  
Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan



**Our 10th Annual  
NEXT GM  
Thursday, August 13, 2015  
at the Property  
at 7 pm  
Hawaiian Luau  
Starts at 7pm**

**Come on down in your best Polynesian attire to celebrate with us!**

## President's Message

Dear Members,

August is certainly upon us and that means it is time for the annual Luau/General Meeting at our property once again. This year it will be on Thursday evening, August 13th. Please make your best effort and come on down in your best Polynesian attire to celebrate with us! It is a great time to meet your fellow members, eat, drink, limbo, and discuss all things piscatorial. I plan on being down early to shuck coconuts and prepare for the ritual fire dance.

I wish to thank Joe Steiner and his crew for a great FTC Rodeo last month. Well done! We had great weather and even better food once again. Congratulations to all our winners who managed to get out and fish.

Our annual Zach's Bay Floatzilla raftup will be on Sunday, August 16th this year. As in previous years, there will be an overnight crew of professionals that gets down on Saturday August 15 late afternoon to get the event started early. If the idea of non-stop food, rare and exotic beverages, witty conversation and spectacular swim platform walking skills are up your alley, then get on board and come on down. Please contact Bob Pandey for more information.

On a very personal note, I want to wish my captain and good friend Paul Cunningham a very happy 75th B-Day. I spent last Sunday with him and his nephew Ken Donowski out at Cholera all day and had a great day chasing fluke and telling tales. There wasn't a lot of tide, wind or keepers around, but we did have a banner day indeed.



This month brings the departure of Paul and Rosemary Shuber for the great state of Texas. Our loss is the Lone Star's gain. On behalf of the Freeport Tuna Club, I wish to thank you both for your many years of service and wish you all the best of luck and happiness in your new home/port. You shall be missed by all.

I hope to see you all at our Luau/GM!!

*Aloha and Best Fishes,*

*Best Fishes,  
Ray Geiger*



# Fishing Report

## Weather Heating Up, Tuna Fishing Too



On the inshore scene, Fluking has been sporadic with some good catches reported when conditions are favorable. Earlier in the month the inshore reefs had some good fishing, lately seems like the Cholera and Middle Grounds are getting the most attention. Although the season runs through September 21st, they don't always hang around that long, particularly if some tropical storms go through. The best fluking of the year generally occurs before Labor Day, let's hope it ends with a bang. Fluke regulations are suddenly coming under a lot of scrutiny, talk of reducing mortality by 75% over a number of years is being proposed. Assume the position anglers, the liberal size and bag limits may be coming to an end ...



MEP Zullo - Pair of 5 LB + Seabass

Seabass started the open season red hot, with nice sized fish available inshore. Over the course of the past couple of weeks, the keeper ratio has decreased inshore, but nice fish are still available further off out to about 100'. Mike and Mary Ellen Zullo (MEP) love bottom fishing and are no strangers to catching large seabass. Mike reported a trip where Mary Ellen had two fish over 5 lbs. and a number of nice fish over 3 lbs. too. Captain Barbara Solomon ran her new Edgewater to the twenty miles wrecks where she reported a "seabass slay fest" with ling and some blackfish too (released).

Inshore sharking has browns, hammerheads, and some threshers being reported, literally "just off the beach" as the surfcasters have got in on the action too. Offshore, Sharking reports have been sketchy, however, Captain Harry Weinblatt and son James have been hitting the offshore grounds, getting James "Salty, like his father". They reported a trip to the Rockpiles that yielded three blue sharks, a small Mako (released) and another that made the cut with James on the rod. That fish weighed 119 lbs. at Woodcleft, nice going guys! On another trip they ran to the Coimbra and went 2 for 2 trolling BFT, keeping 1 and releasing the other.

Captain John Jutt made several trips on his "Red Dawn Rising" combining trolling and sharking from the Linda to the Coimbra area. They scored on each trip with BFT to 60 lbs., on the troll, a keeper Mako, numerous Blue Sharks and a Tiger shark, released.



Harry and James Weinblatt  
119 Lb. Mako

Captain Paul Noto got in on the BFT bite big time, providing some impressive reports fishing on-board his Contender "Rocketfish". Fishing the Coimbra area with a crew of Peter DiThomas and Anthony Scarpantonio, the team was trolling a green spreader bar on a light weight Avet HXW when a nice fish hit. With Peter DiThomas on the rod, they landed a 60" BFT after a 25 minute battle. That fish weighed an impressive 109 lbs. back at Woodcleft. On another trip, Captain Paul reported a 97 lb. and 55 lb. BFT, along with some Mahi to 15 lbs., again on the troll in the Coimbra area. Throughout the month, mixed size BFT were reported from the Linda south and east to the Coimbra area. I heard of at least one angler getting spooled, by an estimated 250 lb. class BFT so you just never know how big the next fish will be.



Anthony Scarpantonio  
with 109 lb Blue Fin Tuna  
"Rocket Fish" Style!

We could use some canyon reports, the season is upon us. I encourage all FTC members to please bombard me with reports and pictures to share with our membership.

Please email your reports to [philton@optonline.net](mailto:philton@optonline.net); or text/call me at 516.721.8907. Don't forget to send pictures and catch details for consideration by the Bulletin Committee for "Catch of the Month".

Sincerely,  
Paul Hilton F/V Emily S

## Catch of the Month Beauty of a Big Eye

Captain Jim and son Jack Krug jumped on a canyon trip aboard the "Third Wish" from Montauk, NY. Chunking at the Fishtails, Jack hooked a fish at 4:10AM and a battle ensued. Fighting the fish standing up with a 50W and 80lb. line, two and a half hours later Jack's first ever Big Eye was brought on-board. The fish weighed a very impressive 235.2 lbs. at Montauk Marine Basin prompting his Dad to say, "kid's getting strong".



Congrats to  
Jack Krug  
on "Catch  
of the Month"!

### Send in those pictures!

For bragging rights, please email me at [philton@optonline.net](mailto:philton@optonline.net) or text me at 516-721-8907 to be considered for "Catch of the Month" by the bulletin committee.

Include pictures and some catch details. Thanks to all who submitted entries this Month and please keep them coming.

~ Paul Hilton / Emily S

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# August 2015 Derby Awards & Contest Report

*Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh,  
Captain Bill Toohey, Captain Michael Zullo*

Our first Tuna and Mahi Derbies are running through Sunday, August 9th. Get those slips in ASAP!

Our first Sea Bass Derby is running through Sunday, August 16th. There still lots of room for Sea Bass weigh slips! Bring your weigh slips to the Luau or mail them in.

We make the turn of the Derby season this month. Derbies are opening up for both inshore and offshore anglers.

## THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE:

<b>Weakfish</b>	<b>08/15-09/27</b>
<b>2nd Mahi</b>	<b>08/22-10/04</b>
<b>False Albacore</b>	<b>08/22-10/04</b>
<b>Green Bonito</b>	<b>08/22-10/04</b>
<b>2nd Tuna</b>	<b>08/15-09/27</b>
<b>Fluke</b>	<b>08/22-09/20</b>
<b>Sea Bass</b>	<b>07/15-08/16</b>
<b>Sea Bass</b>	<b>09/05-10/12</b>

**Note that our August Derby trophies will be awarded at our "Luau" GM at the property on Thursday, 8/13. We hope to see everyone at the event, wearing their best "Island" gear!**

## OUR LATEST DERBY WINNERS ARE:

<b>1st Place:</b>	John Weber III	7.75 F/V Miss Beahavin III
<b>2nd Place:</b>	Charles Goldstein	6.50 F/V Splitshot
<b>3rd Place:</b>	Nick Nero	5.13 F/V Dolce Vita

## Bluefish

<b>1st Place:</b>	Joe Mangiapanello	19.06 F/V Crazy G
<b>2nd Place:</b>	Joe Wade	18.50 F/V Defiant
<b>3rd Place:</b>	John Weber III	14.44 F/V Miss Beahavin III

*Sadly, Joe Wade passed away recently. His 18.5LB Bluefish is his last weigh in for the club. RIP Joe.*

## Shark

<b>1st Place:</b>	John Funicello	246.2 Thresher F/V Electric Fisherman
<b>2nd Place:</b>	Hank Jenet	128 Thresher F/V MargaritaBill
<b>3rd Place:</b>	Pete Cefai	126 Mako F/V Dolce Vital

## Tournament Committee IMPORTANT NOTICE

The NYS legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law a bill requiring the mandatory use of Circle Hooks in NYS waters and in all Shark Tournaments in NYS.

**Sharks not caught on circle hooks in NYS Tournaments may be disqualified.**

**24th Annual  
South Jersey Mid-Atlantic  
August 16th - 21st**

*Be Safe And Good Luck To All!!*

Matt Errett

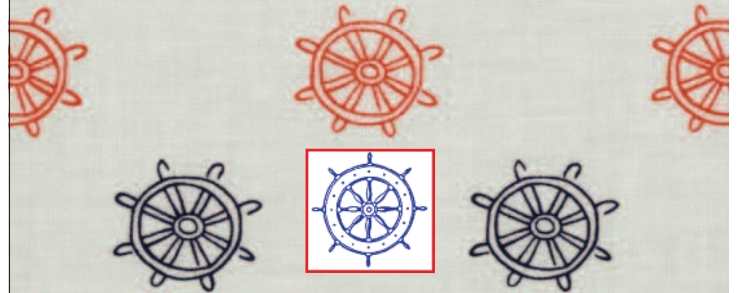


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**Mark your Calendar  
11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
FLOTILLA**

**Zachs Bay  
August 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>  
Overnight Starts  
Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Contact Bob Pandy  
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Current members can now earn \$100 off next year's membership fee by signing up a new paying member between now and September 1st. Should you be interested, contact Bob McVey at 516-864-9140 or email him at [FTC1937@Gmail.com](mailto:FTC1937@Gmail.com).

## The Fishing Connection

The new Captain Anglers fishing board is now up and in use every Thursday night. FTC Captains have listed their dates and times for fishing trips in search of additional crew members. Now is the time for all NEW and existing members to sign up to go fishing. This is an opportunity for you to get to know other members and share your knowledge of local fishing, both inshore and offshore.

## Property

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## Good & Welfare

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of long time member Ray McDevitt. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family. Enjoy the rest of the summer guys; 516-652-5981.

~ Jeff

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