

TUNA TOWER NEWS

AUGUST 2017

www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton

Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan



President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Thank you to Joe Steiner, our Rodeo Chairman, and everyone who helped, set up, cook, serve and clean up at our Annual Rodeo. The weather was nice and the food was excellent. This event would have been cancelled, if not for the quick thinking and help from Jimmy Rooney, Dave Massa, Pete Cefai and Bob Demino. Please thank these gentlemen for their help when you see them. I would like to thank new members Glen Grippo, for his help in setting up; and Ken Donowski (and his wife Danielle) for selling a record number of Raffle tickets despite getting a very bad sunburn while at the Beach with her family. Thanks to Nurse Jeannie's quick thinking, Danielle was feeling better and able to enjoy a great afternoon. Thank you to Ray Gieger, this is his second year giving out the awards and congratulations to all of our winners. Thanks also to my Vice President Matt Cardone and his two sons (future Freeport Tuna Club Members) for their help serving food and selling T-shirts alongside Bob Demino. **By the way, our 80th Anniversary T-shirts are now on sale, please see Jimmy Azzi if you would like to purchase one.**

I would also like to thank Bill Burke, Mike Murray, Charles Goldstein and Ken Donowski for donating their fish filets which everybody at Captain Anglers' enjoyed. Congratulations to Joe Masseria for coming in Second Place in the Duke of Fluke Calcutta, and for having the 3rd Largest fish overall. I am happy to announce that the Thursday Night Seminars are

Back! My persistence and determination have finally paid off. Our first seminar was held on Thursday, July 21, 2017. Our first speaker was Mr. Alan Alterman from New York Boating Safety. Alan spoke on the importance of always filing a float plan before you leave, and to make sure that your flares and safety equipment are up to date I even learned the importance of having a Ditch Bag Ready in case of emergency. I have float plans available if you are interested. Thanks to Rick Totten, in August Jack Calt from Viking Eyewear will be stopping by to do a seminar on the proper eyewear to have when you're out fishing and on the water. You have all probably seen Jack's Sunglasses on display at the New York Boat Show. Jack will be traveling from New Jersey so please make a strong club showing for him and all of our speakers. Our very own Ken Donowski will teach us how to tie rigs. Bob Sabella will also be doing a seminar and I will be doing a seminar on Ethanol Fuel. If you would like to share your knowledge on a Thursday night Please let me know. The schedule of seminars will be posted on the club website and also down at the property.

My job as your President is to make you better, safer boaters and
continued on page 3



President's Message continued

better fishermen. I know, I haven't set any club fishing records, but I may have a record for one of the shortest GMs and now I am going for the record of the longest President's Message. August 2017 may be one of the busiest and most active months in the club's 80 year history. So get a good seat, preferably not in the bathroom because there may be people waiting. As I have passed the halfway mark of my presidency (I can't believe how fast the summer is going), I have decided to (in the words of the great Emeril Lagasse) "step it up a notch" and go full speed ahead with more events, raffles 50/50s and now Thursday Night Seminars at Captain Anglers', plus whatever else you guys want. Emeril Lagasse and Chef Ramsey need to come down on Thursday nights so they can taste the excellent food that our Cook Crew prepares each and every week. "Great job!" to the Cook Crew, a well fed club is a happy club. On August 5, the club will be having its first ever Lobsterfest...thanks to Bob Sabella and our world famous Cook Crew this event is sold out.

On August 10, we will be having our annual Luau and GM at the property. There will be a Hula Contest, Fire Walking and a Limbo contest (for those of us who are still in shape... my money is on Don Morin, who is back at full throttle and looking great). On August 20, 2017 the club will be having its Annual Flotilla at Zach's Bay. This is a fun time with delicious food being passed around. Matt Cardone will be running the Flotilla this year since Bob Pandy and his lovely wife Cora will be down in Ocean City celebrating their Anniversary. The Club wishes them a Happy Anniversary and many, many more.

On September 14 (special thanks to Dave and Christine Massa) the Club will be holding its first ever "Night at the Races" so please bring your horses as we get set to race them around the Freeport Yacht Club. If you would like to help out at this event please let me know.

Fast Forward to October... The Club is planning 2 Oktoberfests and an Anniversary Dinner Dance. If you have any rec-

ommendations on restaurants or halls please let me know. We are also looking for raffle donations from our members or businesses. Thanks to our member Mack for our first donation an Under Armour Cooler. My goal is to have 80 raffle prizes (one for each year). One down, 79 to go.

Now for some issues that need attention: Our great club is currently understaffed. Many of my board members are holding down full time jobs and volunteering for 2, 3, and 4 positions at the club, and always manage to do an excellent job. I need more members to step up and help with club functions. Please see me and let me know how you can help. As our Past President Bill Toohey said in his President's Message "The more you put in to the club, the more you get out." I would also like to add... the more fun and laughs you will have, and the more friendships you will make.

When you're down at the Marina take a look at the flagpole. We are very proud to fly 3 flags: The American Flag, The POW MIA Flag and special thanks to Joe Pace for donating our Armed Forces Flag. Please take a moment to remember what these brave men and women have done for our country. For those of you who are not fishing November 11, 2017 Veterans' Day at 0900 we will be having a Veterans' Day Ceremony, for our Members, Families and Veterans followed by Breakfast. Thanks to John Kampa and our Freeport Tuna Club Members who donated their boats and time to take the Wounded Warriors that came up from Virginia out fishing.

I think I have reached the end of this month's President Message. To my dear friend Tommy Schweinder, when you see this let me know what grade I got on this President's message. Take care everyone, be safe, enjoy your fishing, don't forget to file a float plan and check all your safety equipment. Our 80th Anniversary patches are complete and look great. Bob Sabella will be mailing out the patches soon to all of our members.

Sea Yah, *Kevin Killelea*

Property Manager's Report

The charge for summer storage of vessels on the property is \$5.00 per day or \$150 per month. When you receive your invoice for summer storage, please pay promptly. We no longer accept trailers for summer storage. **Only members leasing slips from FTC may store a trailer on the club property during the summer.**

Winter storage lease agreements and invoices will go out in September to all captains that stored their vessels with us last year. If you did not store with the club last winter and wish to do so this winter please email me your name, address, and length of your vessel.

If you have other questions or concerns about the club property you can see me at the GM, or at Captains and Anglers. I am always available either by email or phone.

Capt. Alan Evelyn

C: 917-750-8710 W: 516-299-2523

PLEASE NOTE MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:
alan4ftc@gmail.com

Trip Schedule

Miss Montauk • 6am-4pm | Friday, November 10

\$110 (\$50 Deposit Required) - limited to 35 (Full Moon-Nov 4). This will be a good trip. Mixed Bag: ½ Day Seabass and Porgy and ½ day Blackfishing.

Contact: F.T.C. Kenneth Donowski (Best after 3PM)
KenBase2006@1cloud.com or 917-231-5699

Mark your Calendar

**12TH ANNUAL
FLOTILLA**

Zach's Bay

Sunday, August 20th

Overnight Starts

Saturday, August 19th

Contact Matt Cardone (516) 236-8949

July Fishing Warm Water and Winds of Change

July started off with striped bass still abundant on the West End. With the warm water, striped bass has slowed down to the west and locally. Tremendous live bait and jig fishing has been reported at Montauk. The body of fish we had along the South Shore has definitely moved East. Bunker remain super abundant off our beaches and swimming unmolested. Twice in July, while running out of Jones Inlet I saw dolphins right in front of the inlet, a good indicator that the water has just about peaked in temperature.



Ken Donowski with 9.72 and 9.86 pound fluke at Montauk

Fluke fishing locally started off so/so, with some fish available everywhere but numbers and size lacking in any particular location.

Montauk has been a different story, with hot fluking seemingly since the season opened. Earlier in the month, Ken "Fishing Frenzy" Donowski reported: "South Shore fishing has been extremely difficult, just a lack of fish! If you are looking to score

on quality fish I suggest going east to Shinnecock or if you are a traveling angler I suggest Montauk's South Side where loads of quality fish have been coming over the rails. I fished the Miss Montauk on July 8th scoring my limit with two quality fish weighing in at 9.72 and 9.86 pounds." Nice going! Ken is no stranger to large fluke and had an 11 plus a couple of years ago on the same boat. My guess is he'll be back again.

I am happy to report that it seems a new body of fluke has moved into the West End, and limits are generally available if you put in the effort. The usual spots have produced, but the inshore reefs may currently hold the edge over the deeper structure like the Cholera Middle Grounds etc. My afternoon trip on Friday, July 28th had quality fishing with an easy limit of nice fish on the Hempstead Reef, with several 19" plus fish being released. Locally, August is generally our best month of fluking, let's hope it holds up.

Bottom fishing has been excellent with mixed bag action on seabass, porgies, ling, and triggers. Porgy fishing throughout the island has been described as "best in years." On my last afternoon fluke excursion, while running out the inlet I saw Mike Zullo coming in. Later that evening we compared notes. Captain Mike reports: "Reef is loaded with BIG por-



Nick Nero with Dolce Vita Mahi

gies. Nice mixed bag fishing. Fished three hours had seabass limit (no big deal) two triggers, and kept 15 porgies over two lbs. Must have caught 75 porgies and as many seabass, couple of ling too." That sounds like some good action and good eating. Note that Mike and I both experienced very good fishing on the day right before the NE blow that occurred Saturday. A word to the wise should suffice...

Shark fishing seems down this year, reports have been scarce. A large "inshore" thresher was landed recently and with any luck these fish could settle in on the bunker which are plentiful from 30' on out.

Nick Nero ran his *Dolce Vita S/E* for a combo bottom/shark trip. Bottom fishing was slow in the deep with a couple of ling and seabass for the cooler. On the shark drift, they managed a small mako (released) and a nice mahi, which took the ride home.

Throughout most of July, a good Bluefin bight remained in the Texas Tower vicinity, with mixed Bluefin available on the troll, and fish up to 150 lbs reported. Captain John Jutt, fresh off the 100 lb plus BFT reported last month made another trip to the same area on his *Red Dawn Rising*. An evening troll was unproductive, they set up for shark overnight and were able to jig fresh mackerel for bait. A rod started screaming and the initial thought was that a nice mako had taken the bait.

After a fight, a nice Bluefin appeared in the lights and a 62 inch/100 lb plus fish was brought to gaff and landed. The next morning, several other mixed BFT were trolled up with a boat limit retained making for an excellent trip.

Many captains have reported that these tuna have been avoiding plastics, preferring ballyhoo on the popular Joe Chute Rigs. A week or so later, some fish were reported further East, out to the Coimbra area. Of late, the BFT bight seems to have dwindled.

Reports from the Canyon areas have been scare. I just heard of a nice catch of Yellowfin from the Fishtails area. August is the month when canyon fishing generally stabilizes and breaks open. Here's hoping for good weather and great fishing looking ahead.

Thanks to all who contributed, get out and fish and please share your reports with fellow FTC members. Email your reports to philton@optonline.net; or text/call me at 516.721.8907

Sincerely,

Paul Hilton, TV Emily S



Capt. John Jutt & Nick Titus with BFT Red Dawn Style

Recreational Saltwater Fishing Limits

Effective May 10, 2017

SPECIES	MINIMUM SIZE (1)	DAILY POSSESSION LIMITS	OPEN SEASONS
Winter flounder	12	2	April 1 - May 30
Striped bass: marine waters (South of George Washington Bridge)	28	1	April 15 - Dec 15
Scup (Porgy)	10	30	May 1 - Dec 31
Scup (Porgy) (2) Anglers aboard licensed party/charter boats	10	45	Sept 1 - Oct 31
Summer flounder (fluke) (3)	19	3	May 17 - Sept 21
Black Sea Bass	15	3 8 10	June 27 - Aug 31 Sept 1 - Oct 31 Nov 1 - Dec 31
Tautog (blackfish)	16	4	Oct 5 - Dec 14
American eel	9	25 for individuals 50 for Anglers aboard licensed party/charter boats	All year
Atlantic cod (4)	22	10	All year
Atlantic menhaden	No size limit	100	All year
Bluefish (including "snappers")	No size limit for first 10 fish, 12" TL for the next 5	15 - No more than 10 of which shall be less than 12" TL	All year
Cobia	37	2	All year

**2017 Offshore
Tournament Lineup**
BY MATT ERRETT

Good luck, be safe, and remember, CIRCLE HOOKS are required for shark tournaments!!!

STAR ISLAND MAKO, THRESHER, TUNA MANIA TOURNAMENT
AUGUST 4TH - 5TH

WHITE MARLIN OPEN
OCEAN CITY MARYLAND - AUGUST 7TH, 11TH

SOUTH JERSEY ANNUAL MID ATLANTIC
AUGUST 20TH - 25TH

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80th Anniversary
Lobster Fest/Clam Bake
Saturday, August 5
at our marina

To offset the cost of lobster a \$20 fee will be assed if you want Lobster. No payment will be accepted at the door. To reserve your spot see Bob Sabella at a GM or Captain Anglers.

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