Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# TUNA TOWER NEWS



## President's Message

Hello Everyone, GET SET FOR ANOTHER LONG AND VERY IN-FORMATIVE NEWSLETTER. This one may even be longer than last month's. On Thursday July 27, 2017 we received a surprise visit from Bill and Theresa Morrogh. It was really great seeing them and talking with them. They have moved into their new home and are doing well. After some food and a couple of beverages, Bill began walking around the marina looking for his boat the Margarita Bill. Until one of us reminded him that it was 1200 miles away resting in it's new port. I would like to personally thank them both for their help and for continuing to run the Club's Website. I am very happy to report that Paul and Rosemary Schuber are also doing well and received no damage from Hurricane Harvey. Paul's Boat may be another story... When the weather clears he will go down to Galveston and check it out. All of us at the Club are hoping for the best for Paul. Another special guest is Jeanie's daughter Michelle who is visiting us from Virginia. Michelle just took the Bar Exam and is relaxing spending some nice quality time with her Mom and friends. The entire Club wishes Michelle all the best, a great future ahead and good health. If any of our members that have moved away or would like me to mention something in the newsletter please let me know (516) 725-8907. Or if you plan on being in the area please let us know we will be glad to roll out the red carpet for you.On Saturday, August 5, 2017 the club had it's first Lobsterfest which turned out to be a smashing success. The food prepared by our Award Winning Cook Crew was excellent. It was truly a Seafood Feast. Special thanks to Bob Sabella for all the hard work he and his crew put in to make this event a tremendous success. Hopefully this will become an Annual FTC Event. I would like to thank Joe Pace for donating the Blue Claw Crabs. Another big thanks to the entire Donowski family for the donation of the delicious cupcakes that Ken's Wife Danielle and her children Isabella and Anthony got up early to bake. The whole family went



around selling 50/50s, raffle tickets, and our new 321 Money Board which I hope sells out before you read this newsletter. I would to thank Ken for bringing back and increasing the number of Club Fishing Trips this year. Great job... this is just one of the many examples of why our club has been around for 80 years. Another person that I would like to thank is Gene Schettini for the terrific job he has done with the membership. I am pleased to announce another milestone in Club history, we now have 200 plus members in our club. Thanks to Gene and the membership committee for all their very hard work. I could not think of a better way to celebrate the Club's 80th Anniversary than with 200 plus members. Our 200th Member is James McInerne from Bethpage. Speaking of celebrating, on Sunday, October 8, 2017 the Club will be holding its 80th Annual Dinner Dinner Dance at the Freeport Yacht Club. Please call me at (516) 725-8907 as soon as possible if you would like to attend, tickets are \$65.00 per person. Please help me sell this event out. Volunteers are also needed to help run this event as well as donations. We already have our second raffle prize for the 80th Anniversary Dinner Dance thanks to Jack Calt and John from Viking Eyewear who made the trip over from New Jersey to give us a free and very informative seminar on proper eyewear to have when you're out boating, fishing or riding your motorcycle. If you missed this great seminar and would like to purchase any of Jack's glasses please see me or look for Jack at the New York Boat Show. The Luau was great, special thanks to our Chairlady Sharon and The Cook Crew for preparing the delicious Hawaiian dishes. We even had a Limbo Contest. Once again thanks to Danielle Donowski and her children Anthony and Isabella for baking the delicious brownies and for their help along with new member Rick Ward, Phil Saccio and his son Ryan for selling raffle tickets and 50/50s, I would also like to thank Woody a.k.a Saladman Anderson for making the beautiful salads each and every week and for decorating the salad with the orange fish made out of cheese. Woody learned the art of gourmet salad making from his lovely wife Annie and is very concerned about his members eating healthy, that's why he makes so much salad. But the Cook Crew seems to beat him with food along with putting on the pounds. The highlight of the Luau was when the money board sold out and thanks to our very generous members Hank Jenet, and John Weber for donating their winnings back. The Club was able to raise \$600.00. Thanks to Bob Benzenberg for coming up with the idea, Paul Cunningham for making the board and Ken

Donowski for selling out all the boxes. Also that night we were privileged to have our friends from the Matinock Hunting and Fishing Club stop down. I would like to thank them for their very generous donation of hats and shirts to the club... more raffle prizes for the Dinner Dance. Our Next GM will be back at the Freeport Yacht Club on September 14, 2107 at 7:00 PM. Thanks to Dave and Christine Massa for coming up with the idea. The Club will be having it's first Night at The Races. please bring your wives, family, friends and horses. This is sure to be another fun time. Weather permitting we will be racing the Horses outside the Yacht Club. Volunteers are needed for this event and also to help clean up after the horses. The House Committee is also looking for help setting up for the GMs and we also need help down at the Property power washing, sealing and repairing the docks and boardwalks. Please call me at (516) 725-8907 if you can help. Some more upcoming events are October 7 - Fall Hunting and Fishing Flea Market down at the property. October 8 -80th Anniversary Dinner Dance, November 11 - Veterans' Day Breakfast down at the Property and Club Fishing Trip. Well, I think our editor will start giving me a limit on the number of words I can submit. Thanks to John Jutt for always doing a great job and producing a fine looking bulletin that makes our members look better and slimmer in pictures. Take care everyone and enjoy the cool weather and fall fishing season ahead.

Kevin Killelea

### **Property Manager's Report**

The winter storage season begins on **November 1st** and lease price rates are \$14 per foot for members and \$18 per foot for non-members. For non-members there is a \$360 minimum. Winter storage leases will be mailed at the end of the month to all that leased last year. If you did not store with the club last winter and would like to this year, please either email or text me your mailing information and length of your vessel. Once I receive your contact information and boat length, I will send you a winter lease. Please remember that the availability of winter storage on the club property is on a "FIRST PAID IS FIRST SERVED" basis. Proof of insurance (POI) is required for all vessels stored on FTC property. Please include your POI with you check and signed agreement

There are a few summer invoices outstanding so please get them taken care of as soon as possible.

If you have questions or concerns about the club property you can see me at the GM or Captain and Anglers. You can always contact me either by email or phone.

Capt. Alan Evelyn

C: 917-750-8710 |. W: 516-299-2523 | alan4ftc@gmail.com

#### **Good and Welfare**

Our condolences go out to Alan Evelyn, Board of Directors, Property Manager, on the passing of his father George. He passed peacefully on August 23 at the age of 91. George has a long history of military service (WWII, Coast Guard and The Korean War in the US Navy). The family requests any donations in his honor be made to the Honor Flight Network or a charity that benefits veterans.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Joe Steiner on the marriage of their son, Matthew.

**Geff Squeri** 516-652-5981

## **Nomimating Committe Report**

I have been appointed by President Kevin Killelea to chair the 2017 Nominating Committee, All information is listed in our club regulations listed below or on the FTC website. Any members in good standing looking to Participate please contact me.Remember participation is the key to a great club experince. Thank you

Jim Rooney

516)850-6772. | JP5820@aol.com

ARTICLE VIII: Nominating Committee Section 1. The annual election of Directors shall be held at the November meeting of the Corporation. Officers shall be elected by the newly elected Board of Directors prior to the Annual Meeting which shall be held in January of each year and shall be installed at such January meeting.

Section 2. There shall be a Nomination Committee which shall be appointed by the President at the October meeting of the Board of Directors. Such Committee shall consist of six (6) members of whom three (3) shall be members of the Board of Directors and three (3) shall be Regular Members of the Corporation. The Nominating Committee will select the required candidates for the Board of Directors from among the members who have been active in Corporation affairs and who have shown their interest by attending meetings and participating in the various activities of the Corporation. Directors and Officers may be re-elected for any office. The report of the Nominating Committee must be mailed to the members of the Corporation prior to the November meeting.

Section 3. Nominations for Directors will be entertained from the floor at the November meeting. The name of the candidate must be proposed by a voting member and seconded by ten voting members and presented to the Secretary in writing at least seven (7) days prior to the November meeting.

## Tropical Storms Winds of Change

Labor Day is approaching and the nights are getting cool after an enjoyable summer. Not too hot, good amount of rain, things looking nice and green. Tropical storms abound at this time of year and each one will shake things up as the storms (hopefully) pass around us. One thing conspicuously absent are tuna reports from the offshore grounds. August would normally be a month of productive day trolls, with some night chunking. From what I have heard, the action has been limited to scattered YFT off the edge and some BFT from the Coimbra and east. A fish here and there, some mahi, with occasional white and blue marlin. Inshore is loaded with a variety of bait, sand eels, bunker, chub mackerel and squid. For our canyon running members, I hope the fish settle in and the situation improves. Still plenty of time, the best fishing the last few years went well into December for BFT but every year is different.

As for sharks, if you follow the surf casting reports along the south shore, shark fishing from the beach has gained in popularity this year. It is a sign of warm water and plentiful bait. The catch consists of browns, sand tigers and large skates and rays. It is nothing new but some years seem to bring more fish inshore than others. Nearly 20 years ago, I recall a night bass chunking trip (by boat) at the rip by the Breezy Point Jetty, it was late July with a full moon. After one bass, we started getting bit off and rigged up with some wire leader. The sharks had moved in, and we hooked and fought one brown after another, up to 100 lb fish. From an anchored boat with a stiff current they will give you a good workout. We had a small sand tiger too, the first I had ever seen up here, and fought a giant stingray which we managed to get near the boat after 3 guys on the rod for over 2 hours and a permanently damaged Ambassadeur 1000 reel. I think some fun could be had anchored just off the surf line at night with a cooler of fresh bunker (maybe some beer too).

Offshore, on the west end, sharking appears to be slow. Few reports other than the occasional summer make, brown or dusky. On the other hand, Montauk is quite another story. Threshers settled in and many boats are reporting multiple hook ups per day just a short ride from the dock. Threshers of

over 500 lbs have been reported, with catch and release gaining in popularity. I heard second hand reports of some FTC members who got in on the action, congrats. Sounds like Montauk has enjoyed a great season on striped bass, fluke, mixed bottom, threshers and even good cod fishing being reported at Coxes ledge.

Locally all I can say is thank god for Fluke! July ended up with the local fluke fishing just beginning to hit stride. In August, the fish have really settled in from the bay on out to 80' and likely beyond. Bob Bohlert send me a report from a trip on his *Joint Effort*. With new member Joe Rosimini and potential new member Kevin Carmody on-

board, the boys were fishing with Gulp and freshly netted peanut bunker out at Cholera. Bob caught a 23" seabass, but did not weigh it in. Curious, I searched the internet and found a NOAA Technical Memorandum that provides "accurate" length to weight calculations for 74 species. That calculator puts the weight somewhere around 5 lbs, depending on certain assumptions which affect the calculation. It's a real nice seabass in any case. They topped off the catch with two nice keeper fluke, lots of shorts, and a striped bass caught in the bay plugging on the way home. Congrats to Bob and crew and thanks for that report. That calculator can be found at: https://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/publications/tm/tm171/tm171.pdf

I was able to get out at least one trip a week on my Emily S the past few weeks. Our keeper ratio varied, the harder the bottom we fished the better the keeper ratio was. By fishing "semi hard" bottom, we were able to balance a good catch with fewer lost rigs. Boat limits on most trips, our worst trip (keeper ratio wise) saw 8 keepers for 4 guys up to 5 pounds and at least 80 shorts. Not that many large (7lb plus) fish being reported but the fishing is pretty good overall. Nice to see Ken Kapner "Reel Catch" and Bruce Forster "Oh Yeah" out on the grounds catching them up. Bruce said he caught well using strips of fresh chub mackerel obtained just south of where we were. He offered us some, but we were done for the day at that point. Thanks anyway! These chub mackerel have been plentiful along the south shore the last few summers and Montauk is knee deep in them. The number of boats fluking on the reefs, Cholera, Middle Ground is staggering, even during the week. Doesn't anybody work on Friday anymore?

As I write this a tropical storm is offshore and some feel the fish are ready to move. Ambrose Channel seems to be heating up which is a good indicator of migratory movement. It was just announced that the commercial fluke season is being shutdown as of August 31st. Recreational Fluke season remains open through September 21st, the best is likely ahead of us, but don't wait too long. One good storm is all it takes to send fluke packing.

Other bottom fishing has been generally good, with some reporting keeper seabass being fished down and harder to find. Trigger fish have been abundant. Porgy fishing, just about all over Long Island, has been described as "best in years" and "best anyone can remember." Quality and quantity. Ling plentiful on the deeper drops. Unless an announcement is made, the bag limit for black seabass will increase to 8 fish per person, greater than 15", from September 1st through October 31st.

Looking ahead we should see continued good fluke and bottom fishing, improvement offshore, and hopefully a great late summer/fall season! Thanks to all who contributed, get out and fish and please share your reports with fellow FTC members. Email your reports to philton@opton-line.net; or text/call me at 516.721.8907



Sincerely,

Paul Hilton 7/V Emily 5

## September 2017 DERBY AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

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

We will present the following trophies at our September GM at the Freeport Yacht Club on Thursday 9/14/17.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in these derbies!

I will have all the as yet unawarded awards on hand, so if you are already a winner, please come down!!

#### **TUNA**

1st Place: Paul Noto 109.80lbs F/V Insufficient Funds 2nd Place: Steve Bassford 109.0lbs F/V Red Dawn Rising 3rd Place: Anthony Bollaci 108.0lbs F/V Hooker

#### **MAHI**

1st Place: Pete Cefai 9.81lbs F/V Dolce Vita

#### **BLACK SEA BASS**

1st Place: Mike Zullo 3.75lbs F/V Magic Too 2nd Place: Mary Ellen Zullo 3.50lbs F/V Magic Too 3rd Place: Mike Zullo 3.20lbs F/V Magic Too Please be sure to hand in/mail any weigh slips you are holding. Myself or a member of our team are usually present at all club functions.

## THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE OPEN OR STARTING THIS MONTH

Weakfish 8/13 - 9/24 Mahi 8/19 – 10/1 False Albacore 8/19 -10/1 Green Bonito 8/19 - 10/1

Tuna 8/12 – 9/24 Fluke 8/19 – 9/17 Sea Bass 9/2 - 10/8 Shark 9/16 - 11/26 Bluefish 9/16 - 11/26

Good Luck To All and Get Out and Fish!!

Ray Geiger

# Mark Your Calendar 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

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