

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# TUNA TOWER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2020  
www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.



NOTE  
LOCATION  
CHANGE

NEXT GM

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12**  
AT THE PROPERTY @ 7PM

*get in on our annual*  
**TURKEY RAFFLE!**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First off, big thanks to John Weber and the cook crew for putting on an amazing Oktoberfest. Also thanks go to Ray Geiger for donating a keg of German beer for the evening. There was no shortage of good food and camaraderie.

I am glad to announce that we will be having our November GM, Thursday, November 12 at the club property. We will be having our annual Board of Director's elections and the turkey raffle. I look forward to seeing you all there. Remember Veterans' Day - thank you for all your service. Wishing everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

*Capt. Adam*



*On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Editorial Staff we'd like to wish all the general membership and their families a safe and*

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

*give*  
**THANKS**



# FISHING REPORT



The October fall fishing has certainly not disappointed anyone that has been fishing on both the inshore and offshore grounds.

Offshore the yellowfin bite at the secret spot has still been going strong. Again Ralph Drewes on his *No Mercy* and Jimmy Woods on the *Jenny II* has trips with solid catches of yellowfin to 80 lbs on the chunk and troll. Inshore sharking has also been active with many nice threshers coming to the scales. Bob Bohlert on his boat *Joint Effort* brought in a nice 200 plus thresher early in the month. There is still time to get in on the offshore action I am guessing the fish will be around well into November.

Inshore the blackfish have been chewing with some real nice catches for many members. Ken Donowski, Bob Pandey and other club members have been hitting the east end party boats with impressive blackfish catches into the double digits. The local reefs and wrecks have also been producing nice catches of Blackfish, a non member recently weighed a 17.4 lb fish from the AB reef.



On the striper grounds plenty of fish have been around with slot fish being difficult to find some days. On *the Hooker* we have had fish to 46" on spoons and mojos. *The Red Dawn Rising*, *No Mercy* and *Kingfisher* have also had great action with fish to 49". With all the bait around we should have a good pick of fish for a few more weeks.

Bob O'Brien reported that Chris O'Brien fishing 4 mi SW of Debs in 40' of water using eels had non-stop action - 16 fish 10 30+lbs 4 over 40lbs 2 were 46 lb and 47 lb respectively. Chris is now a member of the 40 lb. club. Bob says he's fished 40+ yrs for stripers and never got a 40lb. - he's so very proud of his son!

Please be sure to text or email your reports to be featured in the newsletter.  
adambollaci@gmail.com or 516-322-0030

## FTC MEMBER GETS COVER OF



**Capt. Ralph Drewes,  
Chris Gerhardt and  
Paul Greenwood at the scale  
with 734 lb BFT**



**Bruce Foster's  
420 lb. BFT**



**734 lb.  
BFT**

Long time FTC Member, Ralph Drewes, F/V *No Mercy*, is featured on cover of this month's issue of *Big Game Fishing Journal*... Why? The answer is simple, he puts his time in! Ralph is an avid offshore Tuna Fisherman that has endless hours/days trolling and chunking tuna from Jones Inlet, New York to Oregon Inlet, Carolina. His time-tested skills pay off as you can see in the photos shown here. (I think maybe he can give us a seminar - hint...hint...)

Job well done Ralph! It's great to have members such as yourself represent the greatest fishing club around - The FTC!

# STRIPER DIARIES EPISODE 25



**BIG SWELL!!!** When it comes to fall fishing, it is important to keep sea conditions at the forefront. Big ocean swells typically take place in October, and this year has been no different. With 7/8 ft walls of white water at both Jones and Deb's Inlets, getting into the ocean to find the elusive striped bass has been difficult. This year, we turned our attention to black-fishing at our local bridges, when the ocean forecast called for unfavorable sea conditions. Our visit to several different local bridges rewarded us with plenty of action. Green crabs and conventional set-ups proved to be a winner. Although we had plenty of 'shorts', we were able to put together a nice catch for the dinner table! What a blast.

With the big swell, we also turned our attention to skinny water bass fishing. Our 16ft Alumacraft boat, powered with a Mercury 40hp does the trick. This little boat is a gem, and is perfect for drifting eels through the cuts and navigating into tight spaces. Throwing bucktails into drains and casting top water plugs into the marsh are very productive tools in the arsenal.

Now that a ridge of high pressure has finally arrived, the ocean forecast looks MINT. It's time to seize the day, and yesterday we did just



that! My plan was to head out of Deb's Inlet and look for birds. Truth is, I had not fished the ocean in two (2) weeks, and had no idea where to go. Sure we heard reports of bass in the usual spots - but fish have tails. As we approached the inlet, it was flat and the sun was blazing. We motored out and what I witnessed next was unbelievable. A sea of

striped bass rolling on the surface, and miles of bunker and birds. Holy cow! It reminded me of our last trip to Montauk. Stop staring Pete yells out, and grab a fishing rod! I grabbed my lightest Tsunami rod, paired with a Shimano 3000 and my favorite popper. First cast and BAM, fish crashed the popper and missed! Second cast and I am on!!! A nice healthy striped bass! The morning was unbelievable - I mean record setting. Double header bass and seas like glass. We never did make it out of the inlet and played catch and release with healthy 25-27 inch bass crashing top water plugs. We also saw a team of dolphins swimming all around us. It was magical. Days like that are few and far between. It what makes a day on the water worth it. We even forgot about the election and corona-virus for a few hours. It was good-ole fishing, the way it should be. Until my next adventure. Tight Lines.



*Capt. Barbara Solomon*  
F/V Legal Limits

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

With the freezing temperature overnight on 10/30/20 the water at the property might be shut down any time now. If you plan to store your boat for the winter at the property be sure to send a copy of the lease (downloadable from the website) proof of insurance and a check for \$15/foot for your boat. Send to Freeport Tuna Club, PO Box 5, Freeport, NY 11520 - ATTN: Don Granger. Arrangements to have your boat placed on the property can be made through Travelers Marine. If you use a different hauler check with Travelers as to placement on the property. Please be sure your name appears either on your shrink wrap or on your trailer. All freezers are to be emptied and shut off by December 10, that accommodates all you bass and blackfishermen. After that the property committee will shut off your freezers. To keep those who summer dock at the club, this year's rate will be \$80/ft (with the pay in full option at the first payment date receiving a 5% discount). We retain the right to move boats as needed to keep a full marina. Once the marina empties the bubble system will be deployed - **please stay off the walkways as much as possible!** Also, please disconnect your hoses from the outlets or we'll need to disconnect them to blow out the water lines - you take a chance leaving them on the docks to freeze and crack. Stay safe, stay warm... spring is just around the corner.

*Your Property Committee*

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# DERBIES, AWARDS & CONTESTS

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

If anyone is holding any weigh slips, now is the time to get them to us ASAP. We must have them physically in hand within two weeks of the derby close. Our committee will be reviewing slips soon for the year end awards and would appreciate them sooner than later.

Congrats to Greg Magnifico for proving once again that weakfish can be caught. Well done!

**The following awards will be presented at our Nov. GM:**

## SEA BASS

1st: Alex Nettuno	3.31 lbs	F/V Neptune
2nd: Mike Zullo	3.00 lbs	F/V Magic Too
3rd: Mike Zullo	2.75 lbs	F/V Magic Too

## FLUKE

1st: MaryEllen Zullo	5.25 lbs	F/V Magic Too
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## TUNA (YFT)

1st: Ralph Drewes	79.38 lbs	F/V No Mercy
2nd: Ralph Drewes	74.75 lbs	F/V No Mercy

## FALSE ALBACORE

1st: Ralph Drewes	15.25 lbs	F/V No Mercy
2nd: Bob Pandy	7.0 lbs	F/V Pandaman
2nd: Ray Geiger	7.0 lbs	F/V Pandaman
3rd: Bob Pandy	5.9 lbs	F/V Pandaman

## GREEN BONITO

1st: Bob Pandy	4.1 lbs	F/V Pandaman
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**The remaining 2020 derbies are:**

**SHARK 9/12-11/22 | BLUEFISH 9/12-11/22 | COD 9/2-12/6 | STRIPED BASS 10/3-11/22 | BLACKFISH 10/10-11/22**

I hope to see all of you members at our November GM this year. It's turkey night! Please come down to celebrate our club and the upcoming holidays. Good luck to all!!

Best Fishes, *Ray Geiger*

## GOOD & WELFARE

Our sincere condolences to Phil Saccio upon the passing of his mother.

Our thoughts are with Sil Mazzili who is healing nicely and getting stronger with his new hip.

Congratulations to Chris O'Brien on the purchase of his house in Long Beach.

Any good and welfare to report... please contact

*Jeff Squeri* 516-652-5981

## HELLO FTC MEMBERS

The striped bass season is upon us. I'm wishing you all tight lines. Don't forget to keep those fish in the slot size this year. I know it's tough releasing those "Cows", but we need them to survive for the future fishermen. Wishing you all a healthy and happy Thanksgiving from my family to yours.

Semper Fi!

*Robert Cincotta* 2nd VP  
F/V The Flounder Flopper

## CAPTAINS & ANGLERS

The committee would like to thank John Weber and the cook crew for a tremendous Oktoberfest great food, drink and music. A great night had by all. Captains & Anglers would like to thank all the raffle volunteers for the great effort making our Oktoberfest raffle very successful. Also big thanks goes to Danielle Donowski for helping out with desert on Oktoberfest. Another thank you goes to the many members who helped clean up.

Thank you, *Jim Rooney*

## ENTERTAINMENT

Our October meeting and Oktoberfest was quite the success. Kudos all around for the cook crew and special guest chef, John Weber. We are considering hosting some winter events at the club. Perhaps a card game, some movies and seminars. If you have any interest or suggestions, please see me or call me at (516) 443-4680.

As the season comes to a close there is still lots of fishing to be had - so get out there and please be safe.

Tight lines and calm seas,

*Bruce C. Forster*  
F/V Oh Reely & F/V Oh Yeah

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FALL  
DATES

Cod (6 lbs.)	March 7 – May 3	Sept. 2 – Dec. 6
Blackfish (3 lbs.)	March 28 – April 26	Oct. 10– Nov. 22
Flounder (1.5 lbs)	April 4 – May 10	*****
Seabass (2.5 lbs)	June 20 – Aug. 2	Sept. 6 – Oct. 4
Striped Bass (15 lbs.)	May 2 – June 7	Oct. 3 – Nov. 22
Weakfish (5 lbs.)	May 2 – June 14	Aug. 8 – Sept. 20
Fluke (3.5 lbs.)	May 16 – July 5	August 15 – Sept. 13
Shark (125 lbs.)	May 16 – July 5	Sept. 12 – Nov. 22
Bluefish (8 lbs.)	May 16 – July 5	Sept. 12 – Nov. 22
Tuna (20 lbs.)	June 20 – Aug. 2	Aug. 8 – Sept. 20
Mahi (4 lbs.)	June 20 – Aug. 2	Aug. 15 – Sept. 27
False Albacore (6 lbs.)	*****	Aug. 15 – Sept. 27
Green Bonito (4 lbs.)	*****	Aug. 15 – Sept. 27

Tight Lines!



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A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM

*the President and his Executive Board*

Have you ever considered the dynamics that take place behind the scenes that run this club of ours? Have you ever thought about becoming a board member? All are welcome to come down to a board meeting held at the Property.

Board members generally conduct business the third Wednesday of every month, but are also subject to change. We are currently looking for more participation. Remember, it's YOU who make this club! Be involved! Be a part of it! For the betterment of your club. For more information and to confirm the the time and date of the Board Meeting, contact Adam Bollaci - cell 516.322.0030



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ber 917-417-7756 flame9545@gmail.com

# NOMINATIONS

The nominating committee nominates the following members for the Board of Directors

**ANTHONY ALFIERI**

**ROBERT CINCOTTA**

**KEN DONOWSKI**

**ED FAZA**

**WILLIAM GULESPI**

**CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT**

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