

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.



# Tuna Tower News

DECEMBER 2022

CAPT. JOHN. J. JUTT, SR., EDITOR

**NEXT GM &  
HOLIDAY PARTY!  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11**

**1PM - 5PM**

**FREEPORT YACHT CLUB**

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THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CHRIS LOMBARDO  
GET YOUR PIX IN! NEXT MONTH'S COVER COULD BE YOURS!!!



## President's Message

I would like to say happy holidays and a happy new year to you all. This is my last President's message and I want to thank everybody for being so cooperative. We have a great club and we will continue to. I ask everybody to please give the support to our president, Paul Cunningham — as you all did for me (and everything went very smoothly). I wish Paul the best of luck and I hope everybody had a good year of fishing and boating.

We are looking forward to enjoying the FTC holiday party on December 11 from 1-5pm. I'd like to remind everybody this is YOUR club, the more you get involved the more input you have about what's going on — I can see that the club is going to go on for many years to come. We are still here! The oldest and **the proudest fishing club on Long Island** — and that is because of member involvement. Remember, the more you put into the club the more you get out of it.

I want to thank my board members for having my back and the committee members for all their assistance. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season - come back in the spring healthy and ready to fish and enjoy the club. It's been a privilege to be your president for the last two years.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everybody. Thank you, *Rick*



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

## Good & Welfare

Dave Pincus is recovering from surgery, we wish him a speedy recovery. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!

Thank you! *Jeff Squeri*

516-652-5981

### To the members of the Freeport Tuna Club from the family of Don Morin—

Please forgive the lateness of this letter, but I want to find the right words to tell you how much the Memorial Dinner you had for our Dad in August.

When I first found about the August 25th dinner and that it would be during your usual Thursday meeting, I didn't think too much of it. I figured you'd talk about Dad, raise your glasses and move on. When I walked in and saw the banner with Dad's picture on it, I knew this was going to be a special dinner and it was! The way the members welcomed my husband and I to the dinner made us feel so special and members of the club. Thank you everyone!!

I could really feel my father's presence in the room when several members spoke of what my Dad meant to them. When my Dad spoke of the guys in the Tuna Club, I figured it was just a few guys sitting around to shoot the breeze, have a beer and eat. But my apologies, I was wrong. The Freeport Tuna Club is so much more than that. All of you look out for each other and I know how Dad helped some of you out at one time or another and you helped him too.

You were the "Brothers" that were the closest to him. I told my husband that if I lived on Long Island, I would want to be a member of the Freeport Tuna Club and he agreed. Dad loved getting the "Tuna Tower News" bulletin every month and to tell the truth, I did too. It was fun to still be connected to Long Island and see what the club was up to. I know how me missed everyone and wanted to go back one last time, but unfortunately, he never got the chance. I wished I could have fulfilled his last wish, but I know he is with everyone in spirit and will always be part of the Freeport Tuna Club as "Pop Your Ass."

Dad has come full circle and I snow back on Long Island watching over everyone. I know Mom is happy to be with him again and they are both sailing into the sunset.

Thank you all again for an unforgettable night, good food and conversation. If we ever get back to Long Island or should I say when, I'll drop by a meeting and go fishing. I'll let you know!

The plaque you gave us is hanging in his old room next to his FTC cap. What a great memory!

My wish for the club in closing is to always be safe, have many years of fishing and great catches. Nothing beats a fresh fish dinner. Yum!!

Thank you again ---

*Lucille & Jerry Franks*

## Membership



Membership Renewals will be mailed out in December. Please remember to mail them back with payment as promptly as possible, or at your earliest convenience. I'm excited to see everyone at the December GM/Holiday party where we will be awarding the Instagram "Best Photo" Awards! The prizes have already been purchased from Capitol Fishing Tackle.

Thank You, *Chris Lombardo*

## Derbies, Awards & Contests

Chairman: Ray Geiger | Committee: Bill Morrogh & Harry Sbaschnig

As another FTC fishing season comes to a close, we wish to thank and congratulate everyone who participated this past year. Well done to you all!

The following derbies: Shark, Bluefish, Striped Bass and Blackfish ended in November and our rules state that we must have these slips in hand by 12/4. Myself and members of our committee will be on hand at the FTC Holiday party on 12/11, so please bring any slips you might still have. We hope to see you there!!

On behalf of our committee, we wish you all a very Happy and Holy Holiday season and a very Happy New Year!!

Good Luck To All!! **Best Fishes!**

*Ray Geiger*

## Property

Wow! December is upon us already. Having the weather stay reasonably warm has kept members' boats in the water longer than usual. The yard is filling slowly. For the most part members are all following the rules by calling or texting a week before their boat is expected on the property. This is important so we can place your boat properly. Just a few reminders, the dock water will be turned off very soon, winter storage must be **PAID IN FULL** before the boat comes on the property, and you are responsible for keeping your area under and around your boat clean. Meaning shrink wrap scraps and cinder blocks used to store your boat. Broken and unusable blocks can be discarded in the dumpster. Keep up the good work and have a Happy Holiday Season.

Thanks, *Tom L*

516-316-7669 cell | tom58tom@gmail.com

## Business

It looks like it's going to be a full winter storage this year. So if you're still interested in storing your boat on the property, please let us know. Tom Leprine 516-316-7669, Rick Totten 516-779-3347 or Bob Dimino 516-765-1555

Please go to FTC website <http://www.ftcfishing.com>, download winter contract and mail to: P.O.Box 5, Freeport, NY 11520 - or reach out to one of us and we can meet, we have contracts in the clubhouse. We would appreciate your call before bringing your boat to the property so we can better place you in the right location.

There will be two slips available for the upcoming summer season 2023 if anybody is interested please call me.

*Bob Dimino* 516 765- 1555

# Fishing Report



What a November for all that still have their boats in.

The striped

bass fishing was at its finest all month long. Jigging, live lining bunker and trolling from Fire Island to Raritan Bay. Most will agree it was one of the best fall runs we may have ever seen. Blackfish have been biting at all the local reefs and wrecks.

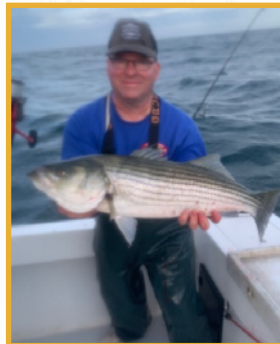
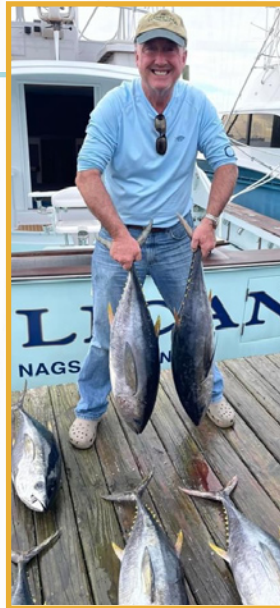
From North Carolina - 4 members of the Freeport Tuna Club: Bob Pandey, Bob McVey, Marty Dowling and Ray Eginton tuna fished on the 56ft. fishing boat the PELICAN out of Oregon Inlet. They fished about 36 miles out and put a nice catch of 24 yellowfin in the boat.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Please text or email your reports.

*Capt. Adam Bollaci*

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# Striper Diaries

## EPISODE 45

As the holidays approach, I am in humbled that another fishing season has come and gone on the *F/V Legal Limits*. Things started out slow for us, with the numerous boat repairs and a chilly spring. When we finally hit the fishing grounds we never looked back.



We started at our usual spring spots in search of striped bass and made several trips to Raritan Bay and Coney Island. That area is our 'go to' and consistently produces big spring bass. Once May approached, we switched gears in search of giant back bay fluke. The fluke season started off slow, even though we deployed everything in our arsenal. The cold water temps and wind put a damper on many trips. As June rolled in and things starting heating up, we began bottom fishing. We had several incredible sea bass trips where jumbo fish were flying over the rails and into the frying pan for dinner. As July heated up, so did the fishing. We were blessed to have the Cobia show up this season and stay in our local waters for many weeks. On a Saturday that I decided to sleep in, Pete Cefai reeled in and gaffed a 40 plus Cobia alone - Way to go Pete! Once the dog days of summer set in, so did the Mahi Mahi. We were lucky to land some very nice Mahi in the 15 mile range - but lost many as well. As I always say, a lost fish is a lesson learned. And boy did we learn a few.



As September came, we were greeted with an Indian summer. The fluke fishing began to finally heat up and many 21" fish were landed. Now that is some good eats. As October rolled around, the striped bass began to show up in massive numbers. Literally, acres of bass. Locally, the live line bite was incredible and I can't remember another year where we consistently released dozens of 40 plus pound fish right outside the inlet. Our annual Montauk trip was legendary with giant bass and false albacore landed on every cast using epoxy jigs and custom plugs. Even today, the local striped bass bite continues, with fields of blitzing birds, although much smaller fish in the mix. What an incredible season!



I want to thank the board and the members of the Freeport Tuna club for allowing me to chronicle my fishing trips. I hope you enjoy reading them and wish all our members a happy and healthy holiday season.



Until my next adventure. Tight lines.

*Capt. Barbara Solomon*

*F/V Legal Limits*



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Hope everyone is enjoying fall bass run!

As the weather is starting to get cooler we are still taking orders for embroidered nylon jackets and fleece jackets.

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Stay Safe, *Jim Azzi*

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Please bring a new wrapped gift for each of your children to receive from Santa (\$25-\$30 limit)

**Bake Off!**

Bring down your best dessert and you could win recognition and a prize!

**Baskets & Raffles!**

This year we once again encourage all members to participate and donate a basket to be raffled off. Please include your name on the basket it will be acknowledged at the time of raffle.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions contact Paul Cunningham.



On Behalf of the Editorial Staff and the Board of Directors, we wish you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season. May the Fish Gods smile down upon us in the upcoming year and give us plenty of fish!

Capt. John J. Jutt, Editor  
F/V Red Dawn Rising  
F/V Bunker Dunker

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