

Tuna Tower News

VOLUME TWELVE • DECEMBER 2013
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President's Message.....

Dear Members,

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

At last month's General Meeting we had our Annual Turkey raffle. There were 60 Birds raffled off. Some of the members that won a bunch of Turkeys shared them with members who did not get a Turkey. That is what this Holiday Season is all about. We also had a vote to grant Honorary Membership within the Freeport Tuna Club to Robert Holub (aka "Santa") In recognition of his service to the club. Bob has served as "Santa" at our Holiday Party for the past 39 years, never asking for payment or compensation from the club. The Vote passed. He is now an Honorary Member.

On Sunday December 1st we had our Annual Holiday Party at the Cure of Ars Auditorium. We combined the December General Meeting with the party. We took care of a little business and then on with the festivities. The raffle prizes and gift certificates were on the tables for everyone to see. Members were very generous donating a large amount of gifts to add to the raffle. The food was heating up and lets get this party started. All the kids and even some adults went to see Annabel the clown and had their faces painted. Everyone had a great time. We raffled off Girls and Boys bicycle's and all the kids received gifts from Santa. We also had the raffle for the 9ft inflatable Boat with the 5 Horsepower Tohatsu Outboard motor, and the winner was Capt. Tim Sherman. I'm sure he'll keep it and have a lot of fun with it. I want to thank our V.P. Chris Scarpantonio for doing a Super Job with the Holiday Party.

On December 4th our attorney's of Farrell Fritz, P.C. representing the Freeport Tuna Club and our Marina, that are handling our tax challenges had a hearing and it looks to be promising. We will be informed of the decision in the next few days.

With this being my last President's message. I would like to thank you the membership for giving me the privilege of being the President and leading the best fishing club in the world! Thank you to the Board of Directors and all the committee heads for volunteering your time and support over the past year during my Presidency. To my Executive Board

1st V.P. Capt. Harry Weinblatt, 2nd V.P. Chris Scarpantonio, Secretary Capt. Bill Morrogh and Treasurer John Daum. I thank you for supporting me over the past year.

At our January General Meeting I will step down and become a Special Advisor for the club. I know that V.P. Chris Scarpantonio will be sworn in as President for the 2014 Season, and he will continue as I did to lead this club into the future.

As of this message we have 195 members, and in closing I would like to say that the Freeport Tuna Club is what you make of it. If you participate in all the events you will enjoy your club more. Every member should attend all monthly meetings to find out what is going on with your club and please step up and volunteer in any way you can.

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

~President 2013~ Bob Pandy <'(((((><



FISHING REPORT

OFFSHORE REPORTS

As November comes to a close the Hudson Canyon is still holding fish. The party boats are fishing the Southwest Corner with great catches of Longfin Tuna and a few Big Eyes & Swords mixed in. The water is still holding at 59 degrees at the end of November. The day time trolling bites for those who dare is insane. Yellowfins up to 150 lbs., Big Eyes in the 250 lbs. class and large Bluefin are still being trolled.

Chris "Wasbie" made a final canyon trip this past Saturday December 2nd. Chris came tight on two medium size Bluefins on the troll. One stayed & the other made good his escape. Chris's Bluefin came in @ a respectable dress weight of 150 lbs.! Nice way to end the season.

Fall Shark Fishing:

Few FTC boats like many others did not get in on the fall shark season. As of mid November with the water cooling down it will make shark fishing almost impossible as the Dog fish AKA Grey Cod have moved in.

Here is a humorous Sharking tagging story from Captain Bill Morrogh:

"We tagged the "Northern Blue Terror" (Blue Shark) this spring on 6/22/13 about 45 miles SE of Jones. The fish was retagged and our tag was returned the same day, 6NM SE of where we were, for a same day recapture.

Those monsters never stop eating!"

Inshore Action:

Captain John Jutt reports the following on the Blackfish front:

Captain John crewed with Paul Hilton F/V Emily S. The team hit the local reefs with a limit catch of Blackfish & two very fine keeper size Cod to round the day off.

Blackfish report from Captain Bill Minneo:

Captain Bill reports excellent catches of blackfish to ten lbs. Bill has been fishing the western spots such as the "911" wreck with limits every trip.

Blackish report from Bob Bohlert:

"Took a buddy from work out for some chilly blackfishing on the AB reef. Frigid day, nice pick - under the old 14" regs we would have had an easy limit, but we had 3 nice tog in the box at days end. Good FTC company in the vicinity of Tim Sherman's all new F/V "Betty III" and Captain Joe Masseria's F/V "Miss Lynn" all plying the same waters. So....around mid morning my buddy's rod doubles over and I am hoping this is his first slob tog.....here it comes.....I see color.....wait...it's.....a redfish?????"

Striped Bass Report:

Captain Mike Sullivan F/V Blue Jackets reports:

"The Bluejacket II made the 90 mile run down the beach from MTK to Jones on Sunday. Started off with 4-6' on the port quarter for the first 25 miles. Stopped off at Amagansett to jig under hundreds of birds. Didn't mark any bass. Scored with a few cocktail blues. What a disappointment! Next stop was Mecox, again under the birds, for nada. Stopped to jig bait balls east of Moriches again for nada. Finally made a few stops west of Moriches where the Capt. Lou and the Captree Princess were jigging (this is a long run for the Capt. Lou!). Managed 3 rats. Decided to head for Freeport after a bit of this making a few more drops along the way. The last 15 miles visibility closed down to

1/8 mile and less. Safely cleared Jones Inlet for the first time in two years with a little guidance from The Mikey Likes It. Thank you Grover and Mike.

This is the Bluejacket II's final trip for the 2013 season. Boat should be on the hard at the property in a week or two."

Out East Montauk Report:

Report from Captain Anthony Testa:

"With a descent forecast for November 16th we planned an offshore wreck trip. Lines off at 530 am and we headed to our first drop and picked some jumbo c bass and some real nice Pollack. We headed to the next piece and it was a total bail job on the c bass. We put our limit on ice in a short time and had a few short cod. Next stop was inshore in 100' of water and it was more c bass and one nice cod to round off the day. On way in we hoped to jig a few bass with reports of the herring arriving but the point was quiet with no birds, boats or signs of life. Back at the dock at 3 with a nice fall mixed bag."

A short re-cap of some very fine FTC fish:

Cindy Weinblatt ~ 23 lbs. Striped Bass & "CATCH OF THE MONTH"

Captain Chris Gerhart ~ 150 lbs. Bluefin Hudson Canyon

That about wraps it up for this report. If you had a good catch drop the Awards & Contest Committee a line we would love to hear about your catch and share it with our membership: E-Mail captainlarry84@aol.com.

Sincerely, Captain Larry Festa



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December 2013 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

*Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh
Committee Team: Captain Larry Festa,
Captian Michael Zullo*

We'll be handing out some awards for quality fish at the January GM.

Bluefish - 9/14-11/24

- 1st Yukio Fujii 18lb FV Sand Pebble
- 2nd Peter DiThomas 16.56lb FV Rocket Fish
- 3rd Yukio Fujii 15.75lb FV Sand Pebble

Striped Bass - 10/05-11/24

- 1st Jim Azzi 38.5lb FV Black Cloud
- 2nd Paul Noto 32.25lb FV Rocket Fish
- 3rd Rick Totten 32.19lb FV Hooker

Shark 9/14-11/24 – No Winner

Cod (9/28-12/8) and Blackfish (10/19-12/1) are the final derbies of 2013.

The Blackfish slips need to be in hand by 12/15, the Cod slips must be in by 12/22. Call Bill Morrogh if you have something. There's only 1 qualifying fish in each group so far.

*** NOTE ON ANNUAL AWARDS ***

If you're holding weigh slips that you feel are eligible for consideration for Annual Awards you must get them in to the Committee by TUESDAY, JANUARY 14th!!!!!! No weigh slips will be considered after this due date.



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GM in January**

CATCH OF THE MONTH STRIPED BASS



The fine run of fall striped bass along the south shore has now abated, with smaller Hudson River fish still available to the west, between the channels and up into NY Harbor.

During the peak of the action locally, Cindy Weinblatt joined her husband Captain Harry on the newest Blue Marlin back on November 3rd for a day of bass jigging along the beach.

They ran west, locating the fish off of East Rockaway Inlet. Cindy had three bass in the twenty pound class that day, including this nice 23 pound linesider.

Looks like a great day of fishing on a beautiful ocean. Congrats on the Catch of the Month !

Send in those pictures !

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

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

– Paul Hilton / Emily S

NICE CATCH & RELEASE MONSTER SUMMER TAUTOG



Mike Zullo 11 lb 12 oz July Blackfish, Released

Blackfishing is in full swing throughout Long Island with the fish moving deeper as the water cools down. Rewind back to warm weather, late July, Captain Mike Zullo was seabass fishing with his wife Mep onboard their MagicToo at a local wreck.

This 11lb 12 oz bully interrupted the party and was landed by Mike. The fish was promptly weighed, photographed, and as the Zullo's stated "this old dog was released to live another day, what a beautiful sight" . Agreed – Paul Hilton / Emily S



PROPERTY

Happy Holiday to all. The water has been shut off at the Marina. If you need water it's available at the outside bathroom. Valve is in the bathroom. We still have a few spots left for winter storage on land and in the water.

Property Committee

MEMBERSHIP

There are 194 members in the club

New members joining now will have their dues applied to 2014 membership. The Membership Committee wishes to remind all members that if they sponsor a new club member they will receive a \$100 credit toward next year's membership dues.

We welcome new member William Brocking to the club. William resides in Oceanside and will be keeping his boat at the property.

HOLIDAY PARTY

The Freeport Tuna Club Holiday party was a great success with the Captain Anglers crew helping out with set up, decorations and their specialty in the kitchen and serving all of the great food. I would also like to thank all the FTC members and their families who donated the wonderful raffle prizes, which included some excellent home made wines, baskets of cheer, electronics, and gift cards galore, and who could forget the pirate booty, we also had some delish baked goods. SANTA was a huge hit with the kids and adults alike, as were Annabelle the clown, and the face painter, I might be wrong but I believe there were more adults with face paint this year than kids. I hope everyone had a great time. I enjoyed hosting the party this year. Happy Holidays to all and a Happy Healthy New Year, Chris Scarpantonio

RAFFLES

Raffle committee would like to thank all the members for their support and participation, It was a great year for the Raffle. Congratulations to Tim Sherman for winning the 2013 raffle a 9 foot inflatable boat and a 5 HP. motor.

Thank you
Jim Rooney

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FREEPORT TUNA CLUB

Happy New Year

The editorial staff of the Tuna Tower News wishes the entire FTC membership

A Happy New Year

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