

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

TUNA TOWER NEWS

DECEMBER 2016

www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.

Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton

Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan



NEXT GM
at our

Holiday Party

Saturday, December 10
at 2pm
Cure of Ars Church

OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAKE-OFF IS ON!!!
Prizes to be awarded for the best dishes!



Happy Holidays to You and Your Families!

President's Message



Listen carefully, I think I hear the "Fat Lady Singing." It's hard to believe another season has come and gone so quickly. I for one will be glad to see it end due to all the tragedies that my family and I have had to deal with. It was with great support from the club that helped us through. One highlight was to serve as the president of the FTC. We have had a good year with membership up (199), A full marina and a packed property for winter storage.

For my final request you can make an old man happy by packing the house for the Holiday Party on Saturday, December 10 at the church. Don't forget to bring your raffle ticket money. This will be the last chance to purchase tickets for two great prizes. A \$ 2,500 travel voucher from Liberty Travel and a custom made sail, row or motor dingy as a second prize this year. Next year's raffle depends on this year's success. This year's party will have all the usual goodies: face painters, magicians and a surprise visit from Santa. As in the past please bring a wrapped gift for the children, so santa can give them out (a 20 dollar limit).

I could go on and list all the major strides the club has made this year but that's not my style. I set some goals in the beginning and we have achieved them. I would like to thank

the board of directors for their help and support throughout the year. I don't have enough space to list all the individual members who helped throughout the year to make it all happen. These are members of the cook crew, the property committee, the membership committee, the bulletin committee, and all the volunteers at various functions throughout the year. A happy, safe holiday season to all and a prosperous New Year.

I hope all have enjoyed reading the President's messages. I tried to bring a little levity to the space. As the comedian Don Rickles once said, "start by laughing at yourself and then you can laugh at others."

One last comment for all to ponder. Your club is only as good as YOU make it !!!



Retiring President, Bob Sabella



Fishing Report

Holiday Season Home Stretch

The leaves and acorns came down early, some would say signs of an early and severe winter to come. Last winter was relatively mild and easy with the exception of the one big snow dump. This year we shall see. I do know that we have had lots of wind but mild weather is forecast for the foreseeable future so there is still time to get out and fish. Several angling opportunities still exist for those willing to bundle up and put in the effort.



Arnold Fleisher, Leo Ferrity and Bob McVey with Nice Stripers

Bob McVey reports a great trip on Saturday November 5th aboard Ken Kapner's *Reel Catch II* along with fellow members Leo Ferrity and Arnold Fleisher. In his words, "Just after we exited Jones Inlet, we joined in the party of boats picking up bunker. Within minutes we had all we needed to target striped bass. We started trolling east towards Fire Island Inlet when we hooked up our first fish, about 20lbs. When we were east of the Rota wreck we started live lining. Soon Leo landed a 24lbs. 11oz. striper. Bob followed with a nice 25lbs+ fish. After exhausting our supply of bunker we started trolling back West to call it day of good fishing."

Greg Koharek and his crews had an amazing year. They kicked it off winning the Woodcleft Shark Tournament with a 411 Thresher, then catching some nice tuna, an 80 lb. wahoo, and numerous quality striped bass on his boats *Ambition* and *Ambition 2*. →

In this most recent report, Greg was both the captain and angler on his *Ambition 2* for a striped bass that weighed in at an impressive 47.5 pounds. The fish took a live bunker off of Tobay. On that day numerous other bass between 36" and 44" were released. The big girl took the ride home. Congrats on a great catch and outstanding season. Currently, striped bass fishing is winding down. However, fish are still being jigged to the

east by the Captree fleet and those fish will come our way so keep your eyes open and get your last licks while you can. Large bluefish are still present as well.

The blackfish season is well underway. Most would report it as slow, with a good effort required just to obtain a 4 fish per angler limit, picking through lots of shorts. Some real big fish are available however, and I am aware of a 16 pounder

caught and released and just yesterday watched a 14.5 lb. blackfish weighed in at Woodcleft Fishing Station. I know for sure that the 14.5 lb. fish was caught locally because the boat was nearby to where I was fishing! My own trips saw decent fishing, limits some days and some good quality fish up to 8 lbs in the mix. The season is open through December 14th. The best is ahead of us, "crab up," anchor on some structure and catch some blackfish while you can.



Steve Mellish with some local Blackfish on the Emily S



Greg Koharek with a 47.5 lb striped bass on his Ambition 2



Pete Cefai and Nick Nero / Dolce Vita
"We have the meats"

Seabass have been working their way offshore and boats from Montauk to Sheepshead bay are making impressive catches on the deep water wrecks. The day after Thanksgiving, Nick Nero decided to make a run with his 25' Parker *Dolce Vita*. Nick had a crew consisting of his friend Sal, Pete Cefai, and Pete's brother Frankie. Nick ran to the 30 fathom wrecks where they were rewarded with lock and load fishing for large seabass up to 5 lbs and "hub cap" sized porgies too. Very nice ...

Absent from these offshore bottom fishing reports has been any substantial bycatch of cod. Montauk had a nice run of fish this summer and fall, many are hopeful for a good winter run out east, and that the fish will filter toward the west end too. The availability of herring, mackerel, or sand eels will determine their movement. Fingers crossed...

There's nothing like first hand reports, please consider sharing your fishing tales and pictures with our membership by sending them in. Thanks in advance!

Please email your reports to philton@optonline.net; or text/call me at 516.721.8907

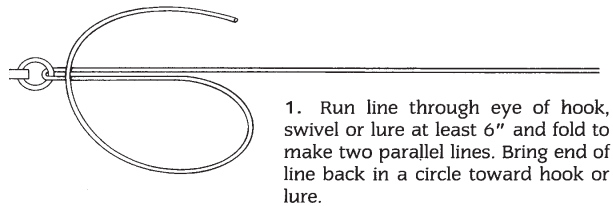
The bulletin committee is working to improve the picture resolution in the printed and online Tuna Tower News. It starts with the quality of your photos. Send at full size when possible. **Happy Holidays to All!**

Sincerely, *Paul Hilton FM Emily S*

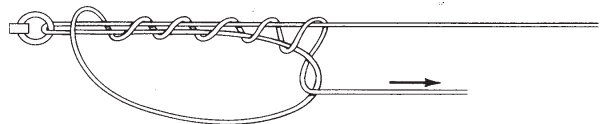
The Uni-Knot System

One basic knot which can be varied to meet virtually every knot tying need in either fresh or salt water fishing. That was the objective of Vic Dunaway, author of numerous books on fishing and editor of "Florida Sportsman" magazine. Here is the system which resulted.

Tying to Terminal Tackle



1. Run line through eye of hook, swivel or lure at least 6" and fold to make two parallel lines. Bring end of line back in a circle toward hook or lure.



2. Make six turns with tag end around the double line and through the circle. Hold double line at point where it passes through eye and pull tag to snug up turns.



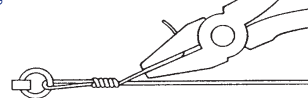
3. Now pull standing line to slide knot up against eye.



4. Continue pulling until knot is tight. Trim tag end flush with closest coil of knot. Uni-Knot will not slip.

Know your Knots

Loop Connection



Tie same knot to point where turns are snugged up around standing line. Slide knot toward eye until loop size desired is reached. Pull tag end with pliers to maximum tightness. This gives lure or fly natural free movement in water. When fish is hooked, knot will slide tight against eye.

JOINING LINES

The Uni-Knot System

1. Overlap ends of two lines of about same diameter for about 6". With one end, form Uni-Knot

circle, crossing the two lines about midway of overlapped distance.

2. Tie Uni-Knot, making six turns around the two lines.

3. Pull tag end to snug knot tight around line.

4. Use loose end of overlapped line to tie another Uni-Knot and snug up.

5. Pull the two standing lines in opposite directions to slide knots together. Pull as tight as possible and snip ends close to nearest coil.

Save the Date! The FTC Game Dinner is on!!

Date:
Saturday, March 4th 2017

Where:
Cure of Ars Church Auditorium
Merrick NY

Tickets are now available
on a first come first serve basis.

For tickets, game donations,
and volunteering please contact:

Bob Benzenberg (516) 521-7378

Joe DiSalvo (516) 317-7855

Raffles

Reminder all yearly raffles need to be submitted by December 10th, the Holiday party. Tickets will be available at the Party and the drawing will be done at the party good luck and get those tickets submitted.

Thank you *Jim Rooney*

\$10.00 per ticket. \$2500.00 gift card to Liberty travel. Second prize a row boat.



Good & Welfare

No news is good news I hope!. Wishing all a Happy and Healthy Holiday!

Jeff

DECEMBER 2016 DERBY AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

Awards Chairman: Ray Geiger

Committee: Bob Benzenberg,

Harry Sbaschnig and Bill Morrrough

As this FTC derby year comes to an end, we wish to thank you all members who have either participated or assisted others in catching and weighing the many fish caught thus far.

The following derbies all ended on 11/27 and our rules state we must have these slips in hand by 12/11 in order to be eligible for awards:

SHARK • BLUEFISH • STRIPED BASS • BLACKFISH

Please bring your slips to our Holiday Party on 12/10 or get them in the mail ASAP.

The Cod derby ends on 12/11 and any slips for cod must be in hand by 12/25. Ho Ho Ho!!!

All of these remaining Derby awards will be bestowed upon the deserving winners at our January GM on 1/12/2017. I hope to see all members (well those who aren't sunning themselves in southern climes) attend this our first meeting of 2017. Remember-- this club is the sum of all it's members.

Lastly, on behalf our committee members, I wish you all a very joyous Holiday season and a Happy New Year!!

Ray Geiger, Chairman

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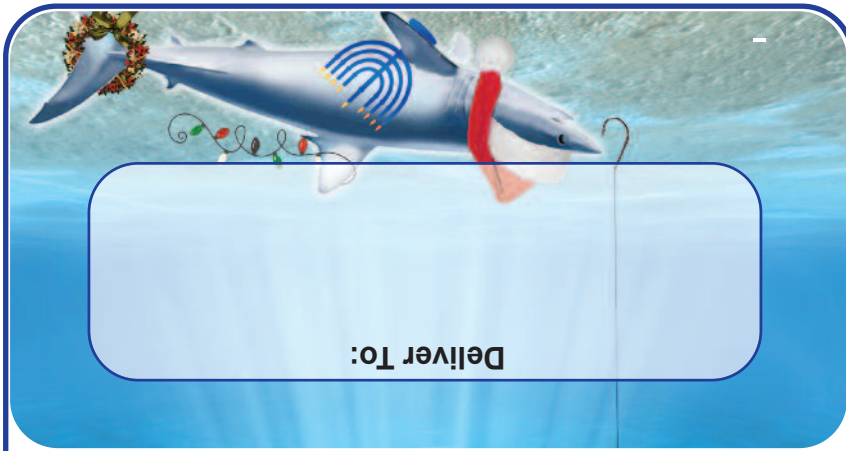


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Annual Holiday Party

Saturday, December 10th at 2:00 p.m.

At our General Meeting Location
Cure of Ars Auditorium, Merrick, New York

Great Raffle Prizes... Buffet Diner

Santa will make his yearly appearance

(Please print child's name on gift and \$25.00 Limit)

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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