

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# TUNA TOWER NEWS

DECEMBER 2018  
www.ftcfishing.com

EDITOR: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, SR.  
Co-Editor ~ Capt. Paul Hilton  
Contributor ~ Mike Sullivan



PLEASE NOTE DATE

NEXT GM  
**SUNDAY,  
DECEMBER 9**  
@ THE  
**CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**



*Happy Holidays to You and Your Families!*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to start by saying it's been a privilege - and a lot of hard work and fun (Thanks to the members of our club) being the Freeport Tuna Club President. This job is definitely not easy.

I need to thank the Board of Directors, Committee Members and Members that participated in the club during my presidency.

These behind-the-scenes members are what makes the Tuna Club a great organization to be part of.

I will be passing the torch to incoming president, Adam Bollaci, who I hope will enjoy his presidency as much as I enjoyed mine.

I hope that all our members had a great year. Please come down and enjoy the Christmas party on December 9, 2018 at the parish Cures of Ars. I hope to see you there.

I would like to wish all the Freeport Tuna Club members and their families a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.



Thanks for the memories,

*Matthew Cardone*

*Happy*  
**2019**  
*New Year!*



# 2018 WINDING DOWN



I can't believe Thanksgiving is behind us, snow has fallen, and the Holiday lights are up.

Once again, weather played a factor with a series of storms, cold weather and unrelenting wind keeping many boats tied to the dock. However, when the weather cooperated, south anglers were treated to a fine run of striped bass from Moriches to Sheepshead Bay, boats found excellent jigging and trolling action with a healthy mix of schoolies, bass exceeding 40 pounds, and everything in between. I read one report from a Captree party boat that had 5 fish over 40 pounds in one day of jigging, 30 pounders were quite com-



**Gene, Larry, and Dave  
with November Stripers**

mon. Trollers got in on the action too, spoons and Mojoes getting it done. Larry Risi submitted a great report where he, Gene Schettini, and Dave Reisner joined a group from Brooklyn for a split charter on the Alexis Lana out of Captree. Larry reported great weather and great fishing, with nine anglers landing approximately 300 bass, 40 keepers (only retaining limit) for excellent jigging action. From the surf on out to the 3 mile limit (and beyond) stripers cooperated making for a great fall run. The striped bass population seems healthy, and that is good news indeed for Long Islanders. The season is open through December 15th. Fish will be available to the west for catch and release right into 2019.

The offshore season has run its course although December tuna are always a possibility for those venturing out to the mudhole and beyond. If you do go, let me know how you make out! The striper season is winding down leaving bottom fishing as the remaining game in town. On the west end you have two choices. Offshore seabass/cod and blackfishing. Out east, a nice mix of seabass, large porgies and cod are available around Block Island, not to mention some fine blackfishing that occurred in the usual spots. To the west, offshore seabass fishing has been good, but you must be prepared to fish offshore 25-30 fathom and beyond wrecks. A sprinkling of cod and pollock round out the catch.

That brings us to west end blackfish. My own activity has been

severely limited for a variety of reasons. Weather for one but mainly weekend trips watching my daughter Nicole's volleyball team advance to the elite 8 in the NCAA Tournament. Volleyball is over until her senior year, so now I'm looking for some good weather and a chance to get some nice tog' before the season ends. (It runs through December 22).

I did put in one full day where Captain John Jutt and his brother Tommy joined me as crew. Fishing was disappointing that day, but we played catch and release with numerous shorts and NJ keepers but no quality. The week before the Hempstead Reef was alive with nice fish. A change in weather is all it takes to send them packing, develop lock jaw, or bite their heads off.



**Bob Bohlert,  
Joint Effort  
8.5 lb. Blackfish**

Bob Bohlert did find some nice fish. He reported fishing over Veteran's Day weekend on his Joint Effort with Jimmy McInerney with and landing some quality



**Jimmy McInerney  
with 7 lb.  
Joint Effort Blackfish**

fish up to a very respectable 8.5 lbs. Fishing was done in 65' of water. Bob puts the effort in and it pays off. Good Job!

My boat will be in and we'll see if a run of cod develops.

That's a wrap for now. Please share your results with our membership. Please send reports and pictures for inclusion in your club bulletin. Thanks to all who contribute.

Email your reports to [philton@optonline.net](mailto:philton@optonline.net)  
or text/call me at 516.721.8907

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to All!**

*Paul Hilton* FV Emily S

# PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT

Happy Holidays! There are a few outstanding payments due for winter storage so please send in your payment as soon as possible. **After December 15, 2018, mail your winter storage payment directly to:**  
FTC Property Manager | PO Box 5 | Freeport, NY 11520.

I will be assisting Larry with first mailing of the summer lease agreements for 2019 - after that Larry takes over. The rate for 2019 will be **\$79 a foot with no minimum. All owners leasing a slip will be charged an additional \$175 if storing a trailer on the property.** Freezers are \$175. **A deposit of \$300 is required with your signed lease.** In order to secure your slip for the 2019 season your deposit and signed lease **must be received on or before February 20, 2019.** You will receive two invoices for the balance owed, **one due on April 1st and the second payable on May 31st.** Before your vessel can be in the Marina you will need to supply an updated insurance policy to the Property Business Manager. Please let Larry know if you are not renewing your lease so he can quickly determine which slips will be available. Any member interested in a slip should contact Larry as soon as possible. Our goal is to keep the marina full!

As noted in previous newsletters, Larry Risi will become the new property manager after my retirement to North Carolina (late December 2018). Larry is doing a great job so please extend him the same courtesy that you have always given me. FTC is a great club and it will be one of the things I miss. If you have questions or concerns about the club property you can see Larry at the GM or Captains and Anglers. You can always contact either of us by phone: Alan Evelyn: 917-750-8710 | Larry Risi: 917-517-6018



*Capt. Alan Evelyn* alan4ftc@gmail.com

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The water is off as well as the ice machine. There is water available behind the outside bathroom. With the heat being on, please be sure to **CLOSE THE BATHROOM** door for the winter. Our trash pick-up has been placed on an as needed basis so please don't use it for household junk etc.

Your Property Committee,

*Alan Evelyn Bob Sabella*  
*Don Granger Charlie Goldstein*



## GOOD & WELFARE

Our sincere condolences to Barbara Solomon, F/V Legal Limits, on the loss of her mother, November 6, 2018.

*Jeff Squeri*  
516-652-5981

## Annual Holiday Party

Sunday, December 9th at 2 pm

Cure of Ars Auditorium, Merrick, New York

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Let's participate in the Annual Holiday Bakeoff as prizes will be awarded  
Please attend this Special Club event with your Family...  
and gentleman please show this to the ladies.**





# STRIPER DIARIES | EPISODE 8

I would like to thank the members of the Freeport Tuna Club, and the editors of the Tuna Tower News, for giving me the opportunity to chronicle my fishing adventures this past year. It has been an honor sharing my knowledge and experiences with all of you. As many of you know, my mom had been extremely sick with

breast cancer, and passed away on November 6, 2018. Over the past year, many people often asked "how did I learn to fish" or "where did I get my passion for fishing." It didn't take long to realize that the greatest gift my mother gave to me was HER love for the outdoors. I spent most summers growing up at a very special fishing camp located on Rainbow Lake in the Adirondacks, nestled away under the tall pine trees in a quiet cove. There, we spent endless hours canoeing and fishing for pike, small mouth bass, walleye, and crappie. The fishing camp was private, quiet and allowed us to enjoy the great wildlife the Adirondacks had to offer. There was also a delicious "mom and pop" ice cream parlor down the road that we drove to almost daily. Those memories I will cherish forever.

When we weren't at the fishing camp, my mom made sure every winter vacation revolved around fishing. From Ambergris Caye, Belize; the East Cape of Baja Mexico, Costa Rica, and the remote island of Roatan, there was not one vacation where we didn't arrive at Kennedy Airport without rod carry cases and extra suitcases filled with reels and tackle. I even remember one time my mom was detained in Mexico because her "carry on" luggage was filled with fishing lures, hooks and pliers, each of which was deemed a weapon. We had to quickly explain that we were "just going fishing."

Back on the home front, my dad and Jack "Jigsy" Silber were also two of the great influences in my life. We spent endless hours fluke fishing with Jigsy on his boat. You could never forget the smell, as the bow was always filled with old fish heads. We used red and yellow custom hand tied "Jigsy rigs," a few of which I still have saved in my garage. We caught so many fish, it was incredible. I also remember striped bass fishing with Jigsy in November off the Pink Hotel. My mom would dress me in ski pants to stay warm. Every time Jigsy's rod bent over, I would run to grab his spot and my dad would yell "be patient and you'll catch one too." I couldn't have been more than 12 years old. Finally, there were our trips to Islamorada, Florida and Jigsy's trailer located behind the Trading Post. We would fish Alligator Light House using "sandballs." Jigsy was an amazing fisherman and a legend who I will never forget.

When my mom passed away, I thought how will I go on. The day after the funeral, I needed to process the loss, so I jumped on my boat alone and headed out Jones Inlet. The sky was cloudy and it was cold. The ocean was glassy and flat. Immediately, I began to feel better. As I moved around, I started to mark bait on my Garmin. So I dropped a jig down. A couple of minutes later, I landed several dog fish. A few quick releases and back down to the bottom. I moved around away from the crowd. Truth is, I never fish with other

boats around. I prefer to find my own pod and just like that **BAM** fish on. I thought it could be another dog, but as the fish surfaced I saw stripes!! YIPPIE ! A Striped Bass! I quickly yelled "grab the net," but then remembered I was alone. So I did the next best thing and grabbed the fish by the lip and swung her in the boat. I felt elated with joy among all the sadness that had consumed me. The fish measured a solid 31 inches! A Keeper! I looked up into the sky, and screamed out "thanks mom." As I navigated back home, I ran into a buddy who snapped a quick picture of my fish. It was on that ride home, that I also realized that both of my parents have given me all of the skills I need to be successful and to survive. Mom, I love you and I sure do miss you.

Until next year, Tight lines.



*Capt. Barbara Solomon*  
F/V Legal Limits

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

I am looking for quality speakers and possible vendors and associations to attend our GMs. It is my goal to bring entertaining and informative people to our amazing club. I am also looking for assistance from any member that would like to assist in this effort.

I would like to wish all a joyful and fulfilling Christmas, Chanukah and Healthy New Year.

Tight lines and fair seas,

*Bruce C. Forster*

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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*