

Editor: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, Sr.

Tuna Tower News

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.
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Volume One • January 2004

NEXT GENERAL MEETING



Wednesday, January 14, 2004

FREEPORT YACHT CLUB

8 Guy Lombardo Avenue (Just South of Sea Isle Sports Center on left hand side)



SWEARING IN OF OFFICERS

President - Scott Schafer

1st Vice President - Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr.

2nd Vice President - James Rooney

Treasurer - Mike Sullivan

Secretary - Jeff Squeri

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Scott Schafer

As I sit at my desk writing the January message I take a look at my surroundings and a sadness comes over me. The plaques and photos of Barry Simon that line my office are the final memories I have to remember him. His tragic passing makes me realize how short life can be. This feeling I'm sure is felt by every member in the club.

The club's deepest condolences go out to Barry's family; wife Hope, son Adam, daughter Cara and his beloved mother. Tightlines, you will always be remembered and may your tides always come and go.

I am proud to announce that the club has created an annual award in memory of Barry, The Barry Simon Memorial Award. Details on the qualifications for this award are being discussed and will be announced shortly.

I would like to congratulate my new executive staff. The executive board consists of 1st Vice President John Jutt, 2nd Vice President Jim Rooney, Treasurer Mike Sullivan, and Secretary Jeff Squeri.

I am looking forward to working with each board member this year.

In my second year as president I plan to continue making changes where they are needed. I want our club to continue growing in membership and gain strength.

All our committees need more volunteers. We want our functions to run smoothly. We want everyone to have the best time. I'm sure in the coming year each club member will pitch in and make sure our events are the best.

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I am looking forward to making our club stronger and better than ever.

Sincerely,

Scott





CLUB AWARDS & DERBY DATES



Capt. Lawrence J. Festa F/V Kristen

*In Memory of *

THIS WILL BE OUR FIRST AWARDS NIGHT WITHOUT THE CRAFTSMANSHIP OF OUR BELOVED BARRY SIMON. AS SPOKESPERSON FROM OUR COMMITTEE WE HAVE LOST A GREAT MEMBER. BARRY LOVED ALL AND TOOK GREAT PRIDE IN DESIGNING OUR PLAQUES. HE DID IT WITH LOVE FOR OUR CLUB AND NOTHING MORE. WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR BEING A WONDERFUL PART OF OUR LIVES, MAY YOU ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED ~ FROM THE FRIENDS OF BARRY SIMON.

Awards & Contests

We are on the home stretch and it is last call for weight slips. All slips must be in by January 11, 2004. If you think that you are a contender for one our awards, please contact me to make sure that I have your slip. No protests or missing weight slips will be honored after this closing.

Any questions please E-mail: CaptainLarry84@aol.com.

Derby Results for Fall Striped Bass & Blackfish

-Striped Bass-

- 1st Place: Captain Robert Porter.....46 lbs. F/V SharkIII
- 2nd Place: Dave Stuck.....34.7 lbs. F/V Corazon
- 3rd Place: Joe Principato.....29.8 lbs. F/V second Alarm

-Blackfish-

- 1st Place: MaryEllen Zullo.....7.3 lbs. F/V Magic Too
- 2nd Place: Matthew Cardone.....7.1 lbs. Twin Hearts
- 3rd Place: Captain Michael Zullo.....6.7 lbs. F/V Magic Too

Conservation

While there is currently no word on fluke regulations for 2004, they will be in large part based on an estimated 200% overage of our 2003 quota. If recreational payback had been in effect, there would be no 2004 fluke season. Black sea bass has re-opened as of 1/01/2004 if any can be found. The four big challenges we face in 2004 as recreational anglers are as follows;

1) salt water licensing 2) potential (rumored) recreational food fish license that would be required to keep our recreationally caught fish which was caught with a saltwater license, and/or a recreational saltwater boat license that would cover any crew who does not possess a saltwater license 3) electric generating windmills to be placed approximately 7 miles off Jones Beach. If installed, proposed placement of windmills would potentially impact the middle grounds and/ or the Cholera Bank. They would close large areas of ocean to boating and fishing, and 4) passage at the state level of a freedom to fish act that would prevent the arbitrary imposition of MPA's (Marine protected areas) to protect fish stocks. Please remember that Striped Bass is currently catch and release only.

Please be careful to handle those fish gently to as to minimize catch and release mortality. Additionally, please use circle hooks when possible to minimize gut hooked fish, and please handle the fish that are gut hooked with care to increase their chances for survival. Respectfully submitted, John Weber Jr., Conservation Committee.



FISHING BULLETIN



It is apparent from the most recent temperatures outside that winter has finally taken a firm hold in our area. Lets hope that the next two months are not as severe and early March, conducive for the first boat launchings. The New York Boat Show ended recently and the next event to attend is the New York Sport fishing Federation Auction, which is usually held mid-February at the Freeport Recreation Center. If you can make it to that date without a case of cabin fever setting in then I think you will be home free for the start of the upcoming 2004 season.

On the local fishing front the word is Blackfish. If you have had an opportunity to take advantage of the weather during the last few weeks then you were treated to some decent fishing. Captain John Jutt aboard the Bunker Dunker and veteran bottom fisherman Paul Hilton aboard the Emily S have been combing the local areas from out in front of our inlet out to 17 Fathoms and have been rewarded with fish up to 8lbs. There has also been a sprinkling of Cod caught by these anglers and their crew while black fishing, nothing huge but fish reported up to 10 lbs. The report from our east end crew is decent as well. Most recently our president, Scott Shafer, flanked by his tried and proven crew of Jim Krug and Charlie Sporing put their limit of tog in the cooler with fish reported to 9 lbs. during a mid Christmas week trip.

There has also been a decent showing of mackerel which have been caught by anglers fishing offshore of 17 Fathoms. The Sheepshead

Bay party boats have been targeting them and doing very well.

If you prefer to have a lot more water between your winter boots and the bottom then you should be fishing for the giant offshore seabass. This is the time of the year when the 30 plus fathom wrecks are teaming with them and these fish range in size from 3-6lbs. The only challenge is getting to the grounds. This is a tough time of the year to make a 60-80 mile run offshore run. However, a decent window of weather is all that is needed, to fill the fish box.

Although there has been a sprinkling of cod caught, the fishery as we once have known, has not taken hold yet. The local water temps are in the mid forty degree range and maybe just maybe this year we can expect to see a few more fish caught.

Please note that Mike Murray and myself are working on our annual FTC Cod Trip to be scheduled this spring. We hope to have more information available at the upcoming January General Meeting.

Lastly, in an effort for the fishing reports to be concise, I am reaching out to the General Membership to keep me comprised of note worthy catches that are sometimes not mentioned in our reports. I can be contacted at the following number (516) 623-9860.

Happy New Year to All

Sincerely,
Captain Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin



Finance Committee

Since Mike Sullivan has been elected treasurer there is now a vacancy for the Co-Chair position on the Finance Committee. This position is taken from the membership at large and as such should not be a board member.

The first meeting of the finance committee for this year will be Wednesday January 28th 8PM at the Tuna Club location.

Any members wishing to help out on any committees, please contact John Weber or Chris Bellinzoni.

Please remember to send in dues early to take advantage of saving on membership and please consider additional donations to club projects listed. Membership booths will be available at next gm for early dues payment.

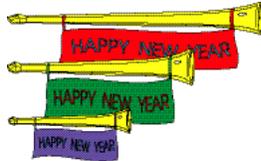
On behalf of the FTC BOD I would like to wish every member a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Sincerely, Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr.



275 Hudson Avenue
Post Office Box 5
Freeport, New York 11520

Deliver To:



Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

*Chartered to Promote
Sport-fishing & Conservation*

2003 Officers

Scott Schafer President
Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr. 1st Vice President
James Rooney..... 2nd Vice President
Mike Sullivan Treasurer
Jeff Squeri Secretary



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YOUR DUES**

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NEXT GM

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ANY CLASSIFIED LISTING FOR SALE OR TRADE PLEASE MAIL TO:
FTC CLASSIFIED/CATCH OF THE MONTH CORNER
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LISTINGS ARE FREE • FOR CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

For Sale

- 1988 Steigercraft 25' chesapeake volvo turbo diesel I.O. volvo duo prop ss. 118 gal. tank 3 1/2 g.p.h. icon radio, loran trim tabs full cushions.,. plus extras \$22,000 call after 6:00 p.m. 516-867-8492
- Dock space available for up to 30' boat off Hudson canal. Private home. Short distance to inlet. Call Sy 516-546-1691
- New exciting offshore teasers. Looks like giant squid - lots of smoke. Reasonably priced. See Sy 546-1691
- GradyWhite 227 Seafarer, 1989, Mint Cond. 5.0 V810 Repowered in 96 Low Hours. New Furuno Color f.f., Loran, UHF, Outriggers, All new canvas. Great range, very economical, loaded \$19500 Neg. (718) 291-6700 (days) (516) 593-0732 (eve.)
- ICOM Radio model 125 Remote Spotlight 1 spool 1/2" anchor line 1200 feet Assortment of boat fenders insulated fish bags couple anchors Assortment of GAFFS Docking lines custom cutting board Remote stabilizer for trim pads Anchor Balls Numerous amount of fishing stuff Please call Skip Schaffer (516) 351-0992
- 1972 16' Cobia bow rider with 72 50 hp evinrude electric start runs great, new power pack, 2 new tanks, bimini top first \$600 takes it. Call bob 798-4058
- 1993 23' Steiger craft new decks installed by steiger factory 2003. 1997 150 hp evinrude motor rebuilt 8/03 with 1 year transferable warrantee. full electronics extras everything in perfect condition. \$13,000 firm 868-9524
- Sears fiberglass car top boa "game fisher" lake use only. Would make great duck boat or dinghy. \$250 or best offer paul 379-6087