

Tuna Tower News

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com



VOLUME THREE • MARCH 2006

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, March 9th at 8:00 pm

Cure of Ars Church School Auditorium

Merrick Ave., Merrick

(South of Sunrise Highway between Sunrise Hwy. & Merrick Road)

☘ HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY ☘ ☘

ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT

"The Best of The Best"

President's Message _____ Jim Rooney

Welcome to March. With spring just around the corner many of our club members have been busy keeping cabin fever away in many different ways. First I would like to congratulate my good friend, Joe Steiner, on his pending club record for Large Mouth Bass, 7lb 11oz, caught while on vacation in Central Florida. Great job Joe; the Hot Tuna crew makes our club look good again. Scott Schafer and Woody Anderson worked diligently to organize our booth at the NYS Sport Fishing Federation Show at the Freeport Recreation center. Ed Faza and the new members of his membership committee did a bang up job soliciting perspective new members for our club at the show. All the members who took their time to volunteer for the show did an excellent job representing this club by selling raffle tickets and telling people the benefits of joining the largest and oldest fishing club on Long Island. The club was also represented by Mike Zullo and Larry Festa, each presenting seminars at the show. (Great Job Guys, you make us all proud). At our monthly fishing clinic Hank Jenet got our own Paul Hilton to present a Black Fishing seminar to 28 members (packed in) at the clubhouse. Paul put on a top-notch clinic with a slide show and hands on help; from knot tying to hook setting, Paul showed it all. Great job Paul,

not only are you a great fisherman but a good friend to us all. Our March GM features our annual awards night. Larry Festa assures me that all club awards are being given out this year. I hope to see all members there to support each other on this festive night. In April, we will be holding our annual cod-fishing trip. Harry Weinblatt hit a big home run this year, not only did he get us a larger boat but he sold out the trip in what seems record time (great job as always Harry thank you). They will be talking about this trip all year. In the upcoming months there will be many more club events (garage sale, rodeos, clinics,) join a committee or just volunteer some time because participation is the key to a great club experience.

Jim Rooney

President



FISHING BULLETIN

With less than three weeks until spring. The time cannot pass by quickly enough. After a taste of mild temperatures during January and only one major snowstorm, this past winter has been a pleasure as compared to others. As the month of March settles in we should start to see a little moderation in weather, hopefully enough for us to start to work on our boats. March and April always have a surprise for us, so we are not out of the woods yet. The areas waters have not cooled down to prior years levels so I am optimistic that we will have a strong spring fishery.



On the local fishing front the only report I have gotten recently has been from Scott Schafer aboard his 50/50. On a recent Presidents Day trip out of Montauk, the crew of the father and son team Jim and Bobby Krug and Scott fished a few local drops for a small catch of Cod and Ling. The rest of the Montauk fleet has also reported that the cod fishing has gotten off to a slow start. With the mild temperatures this past winter the inshore waters never cooled down enough and the boats have been forced to fish way offshore to locate better quality fish.

The other reports have been coming in from 17 Fathoms. The local Sheepshead Bay charter fleet has said that fishing this past winter has been very good and not shown the signs of a slowdown, that typically occurs and during this time of the year.

Our Annual Offshore Codfish Trip is sold out. I am currently collecting names for a waiting list. In the past inevitably a spot opens up because of the unexpected. The dates are set for a departure on the evening of Friday April 21 and returning on Sunday evening April 23. We will be sailing aboard the Viking Starship this year. The fare for this much-awaited event is \$ 235.00 per person. I have contacted Kobi,

the gentleman who has handled the galley for us the last few years. He will be joining us for this year's trip and will be cooking up a storm as he has in the past.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin

SAVINGS AND DEALS TO OUR MEMBERS

Yearbook Savings for our members: Thanks to all our advertisers for these offers:

Terrafin sea temps. \$10 off the regular price until March 30. Check out their site. www.terrafin.com For free viewing until March 12 goto the website and use fredhall as user and long-beach as password. Select Enhanced Views when selected our area.

The Cozy Clam in Merrick, a tucked away harbor restaurant is giving \$5 off your bill. Nice place for a beer and burger or more complete seafood menu.

STD Car Care giving members a FREE oil change with NYS Inspection, and a 10% wild card savings.

West Marine in Freeport has (2) coupons for a 10% off \$50 purchase.

Ballyhood Lures offers FREE shipping on its lures. Check their website www.ballyhood.com

Get a free sample of seatemps from Roffs. Go to www.roffs.com

Vincente Jewelers offers FTC members a Free repair with a regular repair.

Venison Donation offers a 20% discount for all fish mounts, and free deer processing for donations!



PROPERTY

The property committee is working to get the property in top shape for the upcoming season. Besides the usual spring clean up, their work efforts include repair of the fish cleaning station in the north east corner, replacement of the north float in the basin and repair of the pier walkways.

All slips are leased for the 2006 season. The second and final payment for 2006 slip leases is due on April 1. Anyone wishing to reserve a place on the waiting list should contact Mike Sullivan.

If you stored your boat on the property this winter, you are reminded that all boats are expected to be removed from the property by May 1. Any boats remaining past May 15th will be assessed additional storage charges.

FTC GARAGE SALE

PLAN AHEAD-FREEPORT TUNA CLUB GARAGE SALE Saturday May 20, on the Property. Have a hobby and want to sell your crafts? Help support the Club, and also empty your garage, attic, basement and backyard of your unused fishing tackle, and boating gear. Tables \$30. BYOT. Contact Al Casciano 516-523-1339. We are looking for a record 50 tables this year!! Buy your wife a beautiful lure!!

Fisherman's Flea Market

Saturday March 11, 9am-2pm
Knights of Columbus, 400 S. Bway
New, and used fishing tackle.
Lindenhurst Call 732-381-2165
Over 100 Tables- Admission \$5

CLUB AWARDS & DERBY DATES

Capt. Lawrence J. Festa F/V Kristen

MARCH 2006 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa

Committee Team: Captain Michael Zullo, Mary Ellen Zullo,
Captain Chris Squeri, Joseph Jahn

Come one; come all to our Annual Awards Night at our March GM.

Last year we really set the mark with our awards. Forty Six Annual Awards in total will be recognized by your Clubs Awards Committee. Each award will include; a short story, a plaque, a gift and fun. So honorees please put this date aside and come to the event for your "FTC Moment of Fame" under the lights...I Hope all can make it. Remember the members make the meeting and our club a success.

We will cap off the night with six new club records for local species. All results will be posted on our FTC Web Site as part of club history.

Families and friends are also invited and please do not forget the kids.

All FTC Junior Anglers who attend will receive our FTC Junior Angler Metal and a group photo. Parents, in consideration that it is a school night our program will begin with the children's awards and metal ceremony, so I promise to get the kids acknowledged early in our program.

CONSERVATION

Last week the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission voted to oppose Addendum XVIII on summer flounder. This is the best possible news we could have received. It means we will not have to take a 38% cut in our 2006 Fluke allocation for New York. Fears of 2 fish at 19 inches can be put to rest. There will be some reduction but it should only be in the 10% to 15% range. This has not yet been transferred into a size and bag limit. I will advise you as the allocations are released.

There is a bill in the Senate to eliminate all NOAA weather radio broadcasts. This is a service we are already paying for. I believe this would be a dangerous disservice if it were allowed to happen. NY Senators Schumer & Clinton can help prevent this along with our Long Island Congressman. There is much local opposition to this bill, however; if it builds momentum I will ask the board for permission to organize club opposition.

As a reminder, I have been to formal meetings regarding the windmills and the Federation's position is listed in the

USPS BOATING COURSE

It's not too late to enroll your eligible child into a United States Power Squadron Course, March 13 7:30pm, South Shore Power Squadron, Baldwin High School, Contact Gregg Sneed 516-867-4153 gsneed@optonline.net

NY SPORTFISHING FED.

The NY Sportfishing Federation held its annual Forum and Auction the weekend of Feb 19. Attended by over 5000 fishermen, the show featured over 60 exhibitors including our own Freeport Tuna Club. FTC's Conservation Chairman, Dennis Cataldo, current President of the NYFS, did a great job hosting the Auction. Proceeds going towards protecting and supporting our fishing interests both locally and nationally. Our FTC had one of the booths, and two of our members hosted seminars.

Capt Larry Festa spoke on, what else, Shark fishing, and Capt Mike Zullo spoke on wreck fishing.

Thanks to the members who manned the booth during the show, Bob Pandey, Bob Benzenberg, [Carliek Imaging] Dave Massa, Charlie Goldstein, Woodie Anderson, Nick Nero, Danny Carroll, Sy Karp, Tom Schwender, Ed Faza, Bill Hines, Rob Rosenberg, Scott Schaffer, Rafi Ortiz, and attended by many members and by President Jim Rooney.

Our thanks to others who helped but were not mentioned! Our raffle of a custom Sea Isle rod and reel went to one lucky angler and I'm told we were able to provide a good prize and not lose money!!

latest newsletter. This is a subject I have written about frequently. The simple facts are: Cost over \$500 million dollars to heat 42,000 homes while saving 13.5 million barrels of oil over 20 years. It seems very expensive for very little benefit with a conservation benefit equal to roughly one days oil use.

The bill to ban beach access is still being fought by a coalition of many organizations and fishing clubs.

A lawsuit was filed in the Eastern District Court in Islip by the United Boatmen and other organizations. The suit names NMFS and ASMFC in an injunction to stop the imposition of fluke regulations in NY State. The basis for the suit rests with the agencies not taking economic impact into consideration while using data they openly admit was never intended to be used for the purpose of setting these quotas. If you have any questions we can discuss them at the general meeting on March 9th or you can email me at dmclife@aol.com.

Dennis M. Cataldo
Committee Chairman

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

Chartered to Promote
Sport-fishing & Conservation

2006 Officers

James Rooney..... President

Chris Squeri.....1st Vice President

Joseph Jahn.....2nd Vice President

Mike Sullivan Treasurer

Chris Bellinzoni.....Secretary



Post Office Box 5
Freeport, New York 11520

Deliver To:



CLASSIFIED:

• 1984 Tiara Pursuit 27, cabin, stand up head, twin 220 crusaders, GPS, Depth finder, radio, out riggers, \$20, 000 Also, 16 ft. heavy fiberglass dingy \$200. Call Michael 516-535-4085, embroidme@optonline.net

• 12' Barneget Duck Boat by Aero Marine. Locking hard cover and spray shield, 15 h.p. Mariner w/ sting ray jr., 3 yr. old trailer \$2,250.00 Call Ron 516-593-6560

• 1 28x23^{1/4} 3 blade nibril prop. like new condition, reasonably priced 516-632-9770.

1974 26 ft stamas twin 190 hp mercruisers freshwater cooled 25 kt completely upgraded 2000 18,000 Hank Lunde 516.739.0833

FOR SALE: COD Fishing gear. 2 4/0 Penn Reels with new never used 50 lb. fire line, assorted tackle including crippled herring jigs, hand snelled 6-0 hooks pre-packaged rigs, large lead sinkers and assorted skirted teasers and terminal tackle. \$325 reg. John Weber 516.379.8935 evenings

ANNUAL FREEPORT TUNA CLUB GARAGE SALE

Rods to Rowboats, Lures to Lights, Outboards to Outriggers

Set-up time 6:00 am Open to public 8:00 am

Unreserved spaces will be awarded first come - first serve

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB MARINA

275 HUDSON AVE. FREEPORT

The FREEPORT TUNA CLUB would like to extend an invitation for you to participate in our annual garage sale to be held at our marina located at 275 Hudson Ave. Freeport

May 20, 2006

(Rain Date May 21st)

*Table space is available at \$30.00 per 10 ft. spot
"BRING YOUR OWN TABLES PLEASE"*

*HOT CHOWDER, HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS AND SODA WILL
BE AVAILABLE, SERVED UP BY OUR BAR-B-QUE STAFF.*

PLEASE NOTE

**DUE TO A DAY OF RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE
THE APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 20TH.**