

Tuna Tower News



VOLUME FOUR • APRIL 2009
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NEXT GM

THURSDAY, APRIL 16 • 8:00 PM
CURE OF ARS AUDITORIUM
MERRICK AVENUE • MERRICK
(between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)

PLEASE NOTE
MEETING CHANGE!!



The April 16th GM will feature the US Coast Guard Auxilliary paying a spring visit to the FTC. Division Commander Joseph O'Leary, Past Flotilla Commander Jim Drayton and a representative from USCG Station Jones Beach will cover the history, mission statement, and member benefits of one of our most visible waterway institutions, as well as share some interesting facts about day to day operations and their interactions with active duty USCG personnel. These guys have some good stories! They will also talk about how the FTC can help with Americas Water Way Watch program, and have offered to set up inspection dates at the property for club boats. Brief Q & A to follow. Not to be missed!! Please give them your courteous attention!!!!
Capt. Bob Bohlert - Joint Effort

President's Message

Dear Members,

As of this writing last month it was around 50 degrees and I had stated that the weather seems to be warming up. Three days later we received a foot of snow. I think now it's safe to say that the weather "reely" is warming up.

Soon our property will be a hornet's nest of activity with everyone prepping their boats. I have finished most of my bottom painting on Huntress and still need to change a few zincs before I cut the wraps off her. With so many boats wintering on the property this year it's important to be considerate of your neighbors while washing, waxing, painting, etc. Please don't throw your shrink-wrap in the dumpster. If you need help in disposing materials contact our Property Chairman John Gerrity. Also, give a shout if you need help restacking your cement blocks on the wooden pallets at the property.

Every time I think of getting my boat in the water this upcoming season, I also think about what the cost of fuel will be this year. Knock on wood for now. Last year many boats, mine included stayed tied to the dock without a full crew to off-set costs. Not many captains wanted to journey to the deep without solid reports. In other words be the "guinea pig". This year will definitely be different if the cost of fuel remains low. My feelings are, and we can only hope so, that the FTC will be in for a banner fishing season.

Yankee lore at our club house

That's right Yankee Fans. Some people will pay \$1000.00 for a seat from the old stadium. The city even thinks they can sell the urinals from the house that Ruth Built! But, what we have down at the club money can't buy. Ralph Drews secured and delivered to our property two stainless steel kitchen tables from the old ball park. Who knows what Yankee greats may have had their food prepared on these very tables. Maybe the Babe's luck will help the FTC out on the tournament front this season. At the very least, maybe I can finally take a dock pool from Captain Larry if I give these tables a good rub before the competition. On behalf of the club, thanks Ralph "Oceanic".

Once again, congratulations to all the winners at our annual awards night. A big turnout made for a very special night. Bill Morrow and team put on a great event. Bill and the committee put a lot of time and effort into this special event count-

ing and sorting hundreds of weigh slips. Hopefully, Bill and his committee will have to sort through thousands of slips for the 2009 awards night. Great job, thanks Bill.

Our first clinic at the property this year was standing room only. The club house was packed with members that came out to see Bob Sabella share his "know how" of tying fluke rigs. Many were also on hand to seek knowledge on the much talked about "Jigsy Rig." The next clinic is in the works stay tuned for details.

Captain Harry's Cod Trip is sold out. There is a waiting list for last minute cancellations and possibly some anglers may be added, so contact Capt Harry. There are currently three spots available for anglers on the June 1st Fluke, Bass Trip. After that you go on the waiting list. We will be leaving at 7am for this trip. More trips are in the works so stay tuned.

Judging by the show of hands at our last GM Jim Rooney is going to spearhead the dinner on the bay evening event. Details are in the works. As of now one of the local Freeport Boats will take our members out for a dinner cruise. It will be catered by one of Freeport's best restaurants and their will be a DJ. See Jim to help out and be a part of what's going to be a great time.

If you have not paid your dues yet this will be your last bulletin. If there is a reason why you are not rejoining please contact me or our membership committee. I would like to know, as we value all of our members. Thank you. In closing I would like to wish all our members a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter. Because both these holidays are the same week, our April GM will be pushed forward one week to Thursday the 16th. Our Board of Directors meeting will therefore be on Wednesday the 22nd.

Lastly, Happy 83rd birthday to Don Morin. We wish you many more.

Till Next Tide, Joseph Jahn
President



FISHING BULLETIN



Captain Harry Weinblatt F/V Blue Marlin

As I had predicted last month March came in like a lion and left like a lamb, well maybe as close to a lamb as one could think.. The start of this month should be no different than any other early spring month, lots of wind and plenty of rain to go along with it. Although March did have its nice days, which allowed some members to start the process of getting their boats ready for the upcoming season. Lets hope that as the month of April wears on, the weather should begin to moderate to allow the rest of us to get our boats ready for another season. Our local waters are still on the cool side with water temps still in the low forty degree range. Warm sunny days with winds from a more southerly direction will help to jump start our season. The end of April should have our springtime fishery in full swing and hopefully reports for this column that go along with them.

On the local fishing front our flounder season is ready to start and April 1st is the opening day for the fishery this year. Baldwin Bay is usually the area that gets the most attention from our local club members. As the reports develop from the extreme western areas such as Raritan Bay, The Cedars and Romer Shoals, I am quite certain that should spark an interest from some of our members to make the thirty mile run to this area to cash in on the spring flounder season.

On the offshore scene I had an opportunity, during a very mild Saturday two weeks ago, to run the Blue Marlin to several wrecks south east of our inlet in search of the mighty golden guppy. After two lack-luster stops, three is a charm and our last stop of the day yielded twelve keeper sized cod to 15lbs, a few pollack, seabass to 4lbs and a handful of baseball bat sized ling. That action took place 59 miles from our inlet in 195 feet of water.

The local cod action off of Montauk has slowed up recently after two and one half months of unbelievable action. The fishing up north in the Gulf of Maine is set to open two weeks ahead of schedule on April 1st due to a recent change from NMFS. If that is the case then it is just in time as our Annual Off Shore Cod fish Trip will be departing Montauk Friday April 17th at 7:00PM. We are now scheduled to sail aboard the Viking Starship as the Viking Superstar will be headed up to Boston for daily trips to Stellwagon Bank.

Lastly the word on Mackerel is not yet. As the month of April comes to a close we can only hope that the vast schools of this species will make an appearance this year for what used to be a traditional spring run. Last year the fish showed up briefly south of our inlet for about two days and then showed up at Cape Cod. These fish have traditionally been caught in our local waters around the Full Moon period which this year is May 9th. Lets keep our fingers crossed that we can expect a run this year and not a fly by which has been the case for many of the last several years.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt

Sincerely,

Capt. Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

If you are a regular participant in the annual Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament, please note that this year they have moved the dates from the traditional Father's Day weekend, to the following weekend of June 27th - 28th. Richie will be running the Woodcleft Shark Tournament on Father's Day weekend this year, June 20th - 21st.

Sign-up for the Noreast Big Dog Shootout should begin the 1st. week in April. Go to www.noreast.com, and the offshore section to sign up, and get all particulars as well.

We expect to have the Tournament section of the website updated in the near future. Please check there soon for the complete 2009' lineup of offshore events, newly added in-shore events, and of course the always popular FTC Shoot-outs.

-MATT ERRIT

FTC CLINIC

Now here this!..... Cast off and prepare to get underway! This will be our second in a series of hands-on FTC Thursday Night Clinics. This coming Thursday April 30, 2009 1930 Hrs. Captain William Tooley, a fifteen year veteraned FTC member, will do a very up close and personnel clinic on the "art of line splicing". Captain Bill spent over ten years in NYPD's Finest Harbor Unit. He is holder of a 100 Ton Near Coastal Master's License and he is fully prepared to show you the art. So if your splices look like spaghetti on a fork and you thought a Monkey's fist is something he does when mad... then come to this special Thursday Night Event.

YEARBOOK

Yearbooks are an exciting part of the Freeport Tuna Club. In addition to the updated membership list, members get to read about club history, activities and records, and to view photos of memorable catches and moments. We all wait in anticipation for the yearbook! Well your wait will soon be rewarded. Your Yearbook Committee is taking steps to deliver a 2008-09 yearbook at the August GM meeting. To make this happen, we need your support. Please consider an ad for your business in the yearbook or perhaps a personal goodwill message to the club. We thank you for your generous support.

Your Yearbook Committee:

Charlie Goldstein, Don Granger, John Jutt, Tom Schwender, Mike Sullivan

FLUKE CALCUTTA

You may enter the 2009 fluke Calcutta starting this GM meeting. Entry is \$10. Largest free swimming fish captured by hook and line takes all. Fish anywhere you like. See Mike Sullivan at the GM.

APRIL 2009 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTESTS REPORT

AWARDS CHAIRMAN: CAPTAIN BILL MORROGH
COMMITTEE TEAM: CAPTAIN MICHAEL ZULLO,
MARYELLEN ZULLO,
CAPTAIN LAWRENCE J. FESTA

The big news is that the Fluke season has been decided. I'm sure that no one is especially happy about the dates, the minimum size or the limits that we're going to have in New York this year. I suggest that everyone contact their state representatives to voice their opinion. I certainly did!

We will modify the Fluke Derbies to coincide with each "mini season".

Spring Fluke Derby dates: MAY 15 – JUNE 15
Summer Fluke Derby dates: JULY 3 – AUGUST 17

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

Cod (6 lbs.)..... March 21st – May 3rd
Blackfish (3 lbs.)..... March 28th – April 29th
Flounder (1.5 lbs.)..... April 4th – May 10th
Seabass (2.5 lbs)..... April 25th – May 31st

Good luck to everyone for the 2009 season, let's get the year rolling!

CONSERVATION

Chairman Dennis Cataldo, Bill Toohey

Inshore: This is no Fluke!!

DEC NY Fluke Regulation's Finalized for 2009 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation announced new limits for summer flounder (fluke) for the upcoming recreational fishing season.

For 2009, the minimum size limit will be 21 inches, compared to 20.5 last year. The bag limit will be two fish, down from four. Additionally, there will be a split season:

Open: May 15 – June 15.
Closed: June 16 – July 2.
Open: July 3 – August 17.
Closed thereafter.

Note: New York is prepared to quickly make adjustments to the fluke season and bag limits in the event that the court renders a favorable decision this season, so let's keep our fingers crossed.

Offshore: TUNA

Your 2009 Atlantic HMS Permits are available for new issue or renewals as follows: Applying for an initial or renewal permit using the NMFS Permit Shop: @ <http://www.hmspermits.gov/> is your best op-

tion. You will need a valid credit card to complete your purchase and will have the option of printing your own permit(s) or having them mailed to you.

You may also download an initial or renewal application package from the NMFS Permit Shop. The download package is an Adobe PDF (Portable Document Format) file, which you can print onto paper, complete by hand, and mail to NMFS at the address provided in the application. NMFS will then mail your permit to you. You may request that an initial or renewal application package be mailed to you from the NMFS Permit Shop. You may request that an application package be mailed to you by calling the NMFS Customer Service Center at (888) 872-8862.



PROPERTY

Property Committee: Chairman John Gerrity,
Al Casciano, Bob Dimino, Financial Director Captain Larry Festa

April is our, "lets get started month". Many of the boats on the property will be getting ready for their spring launch. So just some reminders:

*Owners may use electric including battery charges only when present. No vessel, under any circumstance shall be left plugged in and unattended.

*Kindly tightly wrap all shrink wrappings and DO NOT place in our garbage container. Shrink wrap will be removed by the boat owner.

*Yard property under boats must be protected with a tarp prior to any boat painting or scrapping.

*On launch day each member will stack their cement blocks on the wooden pallets in the yard.

*As per your contract all winter boats must be off the property by May 1st. Member not in compliance will be bill for additional land storage. Please keep this date in mind as we will be having our yard sale May 16th

*Water should be on by the first week of April. Kindly respect the property and make sure all hoses in use have nozzles and are put away after use.

This month the balance of all 2009 summer dockage is due. Kindly submit your payments promptly. Our waiting list is currently available and now is a good time to get on our list. We have beam width slips ranging from 10' ~ 14' and we can comfortably accommodate vessels up to 36'

In closing our property committee for 2009 is looking for new talent to keep our state of the art marina up to grade. Any members interested in get involved with our club property upkeep and growth kindly contact our Chairman John Gerrity.

WEBSITE

Website Report: Don Granger, Bill Morrogh, Christopher Bellinzoni (Jr)

The website committee is continually updating the information and announcements on our website. Be sure not only to stay up to date on the latest fishing reports, but also the most recent announcements on the homepage and other sections of the website.

CAPTAIN ANGLERS

The thursday night captain anglers meetings will begin this April. The cost this year will be \$10. Where can you go to eat steak, pasta, chicken, sausage, pork, hamburgers and hotdogs with all the beer and soda you can drink and B.S. about the fish you did or didn't catch. To help the cook crew in collecting, and keeping track of who paid we will be using a hand stamp to make life easier for all concerned.

Looking for volunteers please contact Bob Pandey or Jim Rooney

You

Thank

are trying to make-up a very brief bio hand-out for all of those that served. It will give you a chance to list some of the information that we could not include on the plaque such as, what war, where they served, rank and any other info you think is of interest ie. POW, ship sunk, battle of the bulge etc. This info can be given to Bob Sabella, John Weber, John Gerrity and Jim Rooney. This will add a final touch to a great Project

-Thanks Bob Sabella



Happy
Passover!

FLAGPOLE MEMORIAL

For those who put a name on the plaque we

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.
Chartered to Promote
Sport-fishing & Conservation

2009 Officers

Joe Jahn..... President
Captain Larry Festa 1st Vice President
John Rooney..... 2nd Vice President
Tim Sherman Treasurer
Chris Bellinzoni..... Secretary



Post Office Box 5
Freeport, New York 11520

FIRST CLASS
MAIL
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bellmore, NY
Permit #144

Deliver To:



**Annual
Freeport Tuna Club
Yard 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*

Saturday, May 16, 2009
(Rain Date Sunday, May 17th)

*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.*

**For more information call
Al Casciano 516-523-1339**

CLASSIFIED:

Looking for 13" Boston Whaler with or without engine,
Contact Jeff 516-425-4645

Boat Slip for Rent. water@electric in Freeport Call Sy Karp 516 632 9770

WANTED: Great shape Penn 750SS or 7500SS. Bigmahi 516-425-4645

To place an ad in our classified contact Capt. John Jutt
516-546-2312 or email to: JJutt@mmpmk.com

2009 YEARBOOK

*There are 83 days left to place your ad!
See Charlie Goldstein or Tom Schwender
at the next GM*

Happy Easter!

