

Tuna Tower News



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NEXT GM

THURSDAY, MAY 14TH • 8:00 PM
CURE OF ARS AUDITORIUM
MERRICK AVENUE • MERRICK
(BETWEEN SUNRISE HIGHWAY AND MERRICK ROAD)



Photo by Molly Lutwage

Just in time for fishing season, Nuno M. Fragoso, the Program Manager at the University of New Hampshire's Large Pelagics Research Center, will be May's featured FTC speaker. Nuno supervises the tagging efforts for BFT and has worked with Barbara Block from the West Coast. His lab uses the highest tech tagging tools, and produces amazing research on this peripatetic tuna that travels incredible distances throughout the year. His presentation will cover all three tagging programs (ID, Implants and Satellite) with an emphasis on the juvenile work from the past three years, and will include a bit of his giant tagging efforts. Nuno will be seeking \$25 donations for each tagging kit that will allow FTC anglers to aid his research efforts. Come to the the May GM and get the season started!! Nuno is making this trip exclusively for the FTC, and is very excited, so let's put on a good showing!!!



President's Message

Dear Members,

The warmer weather is finally here. The banner 80 degree weekend we had got many of our members outside prepping their boats for the upcoming season. Our marina is slowly filling up and boats are leaving their winter berths on our property daily.

I splashed Huntress a couple of weeks ago and I'm looking forward to the spring run. Some of our members have had some success with the flounder but as of this writing the Bass fishing seems to be spotty at best. After my boat was afloat I turned my attention towards my gear. I did the usual dust off and I am now ready for that first bite.

Its time to get out their and go fishin. Five derbies open up this month. Strippers, Fluke, Weakfish, Bluefish and Shark. We also have our first shoot out this month and back this year we have the Freeport Tuna Club yard sale on the 16th. Contact Mr. Murrow concerning the derbies, Mr. Rooney for the shoot out and Mr. Casiano for info on the yard sale. Many of our members have had success getting rid of their old gear and whatever else they had laying around at our yearly yard sale. Tables are reasonably priced to sell your goods but if its bargains you're after come early.

Our Thursday night Captain Anglers crew has officially kicked off the 2009 season. The awning is now covering the deck and the grills are fired up. For our new members C&A BBQs are a great way to meet, greet, and crew up for the weekend. Weather you have a boat or not getting to know other members and getting involved with your club is the best way to either crew your boat or get crewed. Come on down to the club house and get involved.

Our second clinic of the year was another packed house. Capt Bill Toohy schooled many of our members on a how to of line splicing. I'm sure that many of those that attended were busy all weekend re-splicing their dock and anchor lines. More clinics are in the works stay tuned for details. In Fact our very own Living Legend and first VP Lawrence Festa will be doing a how to on shark rigs this May.

There is still room for 2 more anglers on the June 1st Fluke and Stripper trip. We will be fishing with Capt Mike Boccio on the Prime Time III in Orient Point. The boat leaves 7am and it's 100.00 bucks a head. See me at the May GM for more

info. Don't forget to sign up for Mike Sullivan's Fluke cal-cutter before hand.

The dinner cruise on the bay is now a reality. Jim Rooney and Matt Cardone are putting together a first rate party. The trip will be on July 23rd more details to come. Mark your calendars now. This will definitely be an event you don't want to miss.

This month for the first time in 12 years I'm going down to Islamorada for some Tarpon, Bonefish, Permit, and Snook fishing. I'm going down with four other FTC members for what I hope will be not only some great fishing but maybe break a club record or two.

Wish us some luck.

Lastly, this month we have Nuno M. Fragoso, the Program Manager at the University of New Hampshire's Large Pelagics Research Center, as our May GM speaker. Nuno is flying in from Boston specifically to speak to the FTC. Our reputation as some of the best fisherman and sportsman on the east coast affords us to get such quality speakers for our GMs. Mr. Fragosa is traveling a long way to speak to us, lets give him our undivided attention and show him that we truly are the premier sport fishing club in the United States. Nuno will be asking for 25.00\$ donations for tagging kits for the tagging research program. I feel that this is a must for any of us that will be trolling for these great fish this summer. Hopefully this fall we will get a good run of these fish hanging around the scallop boats.

A big thanks to the entertainment committee for lining up Mr. Fragosa to come speak to us.

In closing I hope all our FTC Mom's had a great Mothers day. Have a happy and safe Memorial Day and, Congratulations to Chris Wasabie Gerhardt on the acquisition of his new ride to the canyons. May her trips be safe, dry and filled with sashimi.

Till Next Tide,
Joseph Jahn
President



FISHING BULLETIN



Captain Harry Weinblatt F/V Blue Marlin

April showers bring May flowers and even though it has not stopped raining yet, that has not kept our FTC members from getting out and going fishing. The month of May has started out with a loud bang. Our springtime inshore species have transitioned into our local area waters recently and it has been "fish on" for every one who has been out to wet a line. The very mild weather with very warm sunny skies which we experienced during the later part of April has had a two fold effect, firstly it has helped to jump start our spring fishery and secondly afforded the boat owners a window of weather to make ready their vessels for another season. Our property has been alive with action as members vessels have started to occupy their in water berths on an almost daily basis. As the month of May wears on we can expect that our weather will continue to moderate and hopefully cooperate enough to allow the rest of our membership to cash in on our traditional springtime fishery.

On the local fishing front striped bass is on the menu. Recently Chris Bellinzoni single handedly skippered his inshore vessel "Kismet Joe" to a few back bay spots on a recent incoming tide and was happy to report that the bass were cooperative. He boated 10 bass, 8 being keeper sized the largest a 34 inch 14lb. specimen. All fish were tagged and released. Joe Mangiapanello was able to draw first blood on his new vessel "Crazy G" accompanied by an FTC crew of Brian Dougherty and Tim Sherman, the trio was able to entice 4 bass and several bluefish into their slick with one of the bass making its way home for the dinner table. Congratulations on your first outing and remember to always keep the "larger net" ready for action. Nick Nero accompanied by the father and son team of the Cefai's sailed his "Dolce Vida" to a spot in our inlet over the weekend. They reported non-stop action with bluefish, leaving them biting at the end of the tide.

Our blackfish season is now closed and our members who are passionate about them fished right up to the last day. Mike "now retired" Zullo sailed several days last week and reported decent fishing on most of his local drops. Bob "Tin Man" Hindenlang landed on the mother load one day last week with a 9lber and 12lber on almost simultaneously. The 12lber was caught by Joe Fanora, his personal best. Jim Krug also skippered his "Persuader" several times last week and reported a mix of blackfish and seabass. Paul Hilton recently skippered his "Emily S" to a few spots in 15-20 fathoms of water and reported a popurri of smallish cod, seabass and blackfish. A stop inshore yielded a few more tog for the ride home in his fish box.

Our Fluke season is set to open on May 15th and with the arrival of squid to our area, the fishery should open with a vengeance. Our much awaited mackerel run was another disappointment for those who were anticipating a springtime run. Our fishery has changed over the years and it should be apparent that the season to target them has changed to the late fall and early winter. During the springtime these fish have too much pressure on them as both bass and bluefish are literally on their hind tails migrating north. These fish are swimming frantically north to the cooler waters off New England in an effort to keep from being forage. During the late fall and early winter the pressure is off of them as the bass and bluefish have already migrated through our area heading south. The mackerel season although it might last two weeks is usually a very good fishery with long drifts

and all you want action being the norm.

On the offshore scene it is still to early and its looks like we will not have a "cinco de tuna" this year. There is some nice water way, way off to the east in Munson Canyon. Hopefully this will one of many eddies that move through our canyons this season and provide us with an offshore season. Congratulations to Capt. Chris Gerhart on the recent purchase of his new offshore sled. He and his crew will be transiting offshore in a 35 Henriques with twin Cummins this season. Best of luck on your new ride.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt

Sincerely,

Capt. Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin

CONSERVATION

Chairman Dennis Cataldo, Bill Toohy

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, which controls the regulations for state waters, held a public hearing April 23rd to discuss a proposed moratorium on the taking of winter flounder. As is usually the case at these meetings, the bulk of the attendees represented commercial interests. These folks supported the moratorium, probably because commercial winter flounder fishing in federal waters has already been halted as of May 1st., and if they can't take flounder they don't want anyone else getting any. No decision has been reached, but it seems likely that there will be no winter flounder fishing next year.

From the Here's Another Reason You Can't Trust the Government Department comes this: everyone knows that the Governor's new budget creates a saltwater fishing license for the first time in New York State. We were told that all the monies collected by the license fees would be deposited in a dedicated Marine Resources Account to be used for fisheries management. Well, the ink was hardly dry on the budget when the Governor ordered that the cost of salary and benefits for the Dept. of Environmental Conservation, formerly paid for from general funds, be transferred to the Marine Resources Account. Now, not only will the license fees not be used for the benefit of the angler, but the license fee will probably have to be raised in the first year to cover the cost of this transfer!

Blackfish closed April 30th. Porgies remain closed until June 12th. Flounder will close after May 30th.

Fluke will open May 15th until June 15th and close June 16th until it reopens July 3rd and closes after August 17th. Anglers will be allowed 2 fish daily at 21 inches minimum Sea bass 12 inches – 25 fish remain open. Weakfish 16 inches – 6 fish are open. Cod remain open with 22-inch minimum. Striped Bass remain open.

The Saltwater license will become a reality on October 1st for \$10 a year. The license runs 1/1/2010 to 12/31/2010. I believe there will be blanket coverage for the fishing on head boats and charters. Those for-hire vessels will be required to pay \$400 a year for its' "umbrella license". I believe this license is for ages 16 years and older. Any questions, call Dennis Cataldo, Conservation Chairman.

MAY 2009 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTESTS REPORT

Awards Chairman: Captain Bill Morrogh
Committee Team: Captain Lawrence J. Festa
Captain Michael Zullo, MaryEllen Zullo

The Spring Cod and Blackfish derbies have closed. Get those weigh slips in. These awards are presented at the June GM!

May is an action packed derby month with 5 derbies beginning. The Striped Bass and Fluke derbies always are highly competitive and we're hoping for another banner season. Shark leads off the early offshore season while Bluefish and Weakfish round out the slate.

There will be At-A-Glance cards listing all the derby species and dates at the May GM along with weigh slips. All of our official weigh stations should be well stocked with slips for the season so let's get out there and fish!

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

Flounder (1.5 lbs.).....	April 4th – May 10th
Seabass (2.5 lbs.).....	April 25th – May 31st
Striped Bass (15 lbs.).....	May 9th – June 14th
Fluke (3.5 lbs.).....	May 15th – June 15th
Weakfish (5 lbs.).....	May 16th – June 28th
Bluefish (8 lbs.).....	May 30th – July 5th
Shark (125 lbs.).....	May 30th – July 5th





YARD
SALE
VENDORS
WANTED



**FREEPORT
TUNA CLUB**



YARD
SALE
VENDORS
WANTED

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**

PROPERTY

Property Committee: Chairman John Gerrity,
Al Casciano, Bob Dimino, Financial Director Cap-
tain Larry Festa

April is out and May begins. All boats will be leav-
ing the property early this month, so we can spruce
up and get ready for what will be a "Slammer Yard
Sale Event" this coming May 16th
So just some reminders:

As per your contract all on land boats must be off
the property by May 1st. Member not in compliance
will be bill for additional land storage. This includes
trailers.

The balance of all 2009 summer dockage is due.
Kindly submit your payments promptly.

This month we welcome club member Rick Hin-
ners, F/V "Livin Large" to our FTC Marina. Rick
has been a club member since 2001. He captains a
very mission capable 31 Rampage Express Sport
Fisherman. In addition Captain Rick is a two time
winner of our highly prized club award for largest
Mako Shark of the year.

Our waiting list is currently on hold. Therefore
any person wanting a slip can be immediately ac-
cepted pending vessel sizing. Contact Captain-
larry84@aol.com if you are interested.

In closing our property committee for 2009 is al-
ways 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 COMMITTEE REPORT

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

The website committee is continually updat-
ing 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.

OPEN CLINICS

Larry will be holding a clinic on making shark
rigs at the property on May 28th at 7:30
pm. the list of materials that members who
wish to participate should have
Single strained wire of at least 218 lb. test
500 pound test barrel swivels
400 or 480 pound braided cable
1.9 crimps for cable
Skirts and rattles are optional
Crimper
Good hand pliers

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE RE- PORT

For the month of May we will be having our
1st SHOOTOUT of the year. Mark your cal-
endars May 15, 16, & 17, that's Friday - Sun-
day, for Stripe Bass against Hudson Anglers,
and Mattinecock Clubs. Let's show them
which club has the best fisher-people
around!!!! Contact John Rooney for more in-
formation.

June is always a great month for the offshore
tournaments so visit the FTC site under the
Tournament section for a complete lineup.
The Noreast BIG DOG SHOOTOUT will
begin before you receive the next bulletin, and
as of this writing 20 boats have signed up. Go
to www.noreast.com and the Offshore Board
for more information and to get in on this
growing tournament.

-MATT ERRIT

FLUKE CALCUTTA

Fifty-five members have joined the Fluke Cal-
cutta so far. The entry fee is \$10 and the con-
test lasts for the entire New York season.
Largest free swimming fluke captured by
hook and line anywhere wins. Interested in
joining? See Mike Sullivan

YEARBOOK

Your Yearbook Committee is on target 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

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 Bellinzi..... Secretary



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TIME IS RUNNING OUT !

Please don't wait until the last minute to put your ad in the 2009 yearbook.

Bring your ad to one of the Thursday barbeques or the GM.

Charlie Goldstein (516-223-0214) and Tom Schwender (516 221 1821) will be available at every meeting to sign you up and help with any questions.

Thanks in advance.....
Yearbook Sales Committee

SAVE THE DATE

FTC Dinner Cruise: Thursday July 23 on the Captain Lou. Boat departs 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Food, Music, and open bar. Tickets go on sale at the May GM \$60 per person.



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

Revere Costal Commander 6 man life raft in a soft valice. Doesn't need service until after September 2010. Purchased new for \$1,600. Asking \$1,100. Call Peter (917) 374-6843

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

