

Tuna Tower News



Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com

VOLUME SEVEN • JULY 2009
Editor: **CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, Sr.**
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: JEFF YAPALATER

NEXT GM

THURSDAY, JULY 9TH • 8:00 PM
CURE OF ARS AUDITORIUM
MERRICK AVENUE • MERRICK
(BETWEEN SUNRISE HIGHWAY AND MERRICK ROAD)

White Water Marine and White Water Outfitters will be presenting on Stand-Up offshore tuna fishing from outboard boats. Pros Bryce Poyer, Anthony Vaccaro and John Bauman will share their wealth of off-shore experience with our club, covering tackle, techniques, baits and preparation, what works and what does not work, how to outfit your boat and more! Even those with the inboard battlewagons will learn something!! Season will JUST be getting going....so don't miss it! Thanks to "Rocketfish" for arranging.

President's Message

Dear Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer. Maybe this rainy weather is behind us and the rest of the summer will be sun filled. I wish all our members had a great Fourth of July and a Big Thanks to all that have served our great country.

Our Rodeo as usual was a big success. I would like to again thank the Rodeo committee for making it all happen. Top honors this year go to Jr. Angler John Rooney. John put the meat in the boat taking home three different angling prizes!! One fish, the 3lb 12oz Fluke was caught on my boat, The Huntress. John Jr. out fishing both my daughter and yours truly.....Congrats John.

Another clinic, another packed club house! Pete DiThomas put on an excellent informative clinic that was again standing room only. Thanks Pete, Next up; Captains' Harry Weinblatt and Chris Squeri. This team will help you rig your offshore lures and ballyhoo baits for trolling.

This months GM our Entertainment Committee has worked out a swap with the pros at White Water Marine. We get their pros to come talk to us about blue water fishing from outboard boats and

they get our Captain Larry for a night to talk about shark fishing. This is another can't miss GM and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Congratulations to the FTC Member Harry Schroeder. As many of you know Harry and crew hung a nice Mako to get in the money at the Woodcleft tournament. Way to go Harry!!

Our dinner cruise is going to be a very special event if you have not signed up the July GM may be you last chance. Jim Rooney and Matt Cardone have lined up some great live entertainment. Don & Willie will be playing your favorite tunes, top shelf drinks and food will go along to make a fun filled evening on the bay. All are invited so bring friends so, come one.... come all.

Summers here so that's all this month, So get out and go fishing!!

Till Next Tide,
Joseph Jahn
President



FISHING BULLETIN

Captain Harry Weinblatt F/V Blue Marlin



We are entering the second half of the year and with our summer fisheries now well underway, I am certain that the thought of how the rest of our season is going to fare has crossed the minds of all FTC members. Will 2009 be a successful fishing season for the FTC? Only time will tell. Traditionally the onset of southerly winds during the month of June transforms our waters into a conduit for which our pelagic species use as a vehicle to move through our area. The lack of winds from this direction has stalled this process and as a result our offshore waters have been kept below 65 degrees as evidenced by the lack of green water. The many weeks of east wind which materialized during the month of June have uncharacteristically changed our local offshore waters into an aquarium of action for our FTC Fleet. The excellent start to our shark fishery by an inundation of blue sharks has been dampened by the lack of Makos and Thresher Sharks. My opinion which is based on a similar situation some 25 years ago; is that the month long rains that we have experienced have lowered the salinity levels of our local offshore waters. This in turn has inhibited the infiltration of these other shark species in more noticeable numbers. This has been brought to light by the many sub-two hundred pound makos which are being caught on a regular basis by vessels committing to overnight stays during their canyon tuna trips. It seems that these fish headed east and not north noting the presence of fresh water from the Hudson River trench which runs along the northerly spring-time migration route for this species. The makos in this size class are typically the ones that we target. They are staying particularly further offshore this season and this may be the reasoning.

On the offshore scene the kick off to our Shark fishery started with a bang. Capt. Larry Festa skippered his vessel Kristen on blustery June 6th morning and left for home with 12 less shark tags in his tagging kit later that same afternoon. The very next day the Hooker and Shark Hunter were on the same grounds and reported lock and load action with very hungry blue sharks. They too came home with less shark tags than they left that morning with. The following weekend our FTC shark fleet experienced the same action once again. The reports of Threshers and Mako's which emanated from Delaware and South Jersey had our FTC shark fisherman literally waiting with baited breath. The Woodcleft Tournament started out with high expectations based on the southern reports; they were later dispelled as the lack of radio chatter was indicative of what would be on the scales by days end. Congratulations are in order for Harry Schroder and the crew of the Just Add Water. There 121 lb. Mako earned them a second place finish in this years tournament. The rest of the tournament participants were engaged a game of tag and release with the multitude of blue sharks which were ever present in everyone's chum slicks. The same level of enthusiasm was the case for the FTC Fleet once again the following weekend for the Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament. The action on this day was slow for most vessels. The majority boats reporting a few blue sharks again and only one eligible mako and no threshers, a major disappointment for all tournament participants. Another congratulation is in order and three times (three canyon trips) are a charm. That is what Chris Gerhart and Hank Jenet said after boating the 2009 seasons first Tuna of the Year. A Yellowfin Tuna caught by the captain himself, which weighed in at an even 42lbs. This fish was one of twenty on that day was brought home for the scale; the balance of the catch was released to fight another day. This action was in the vicinity of Toms Canyon and all fish where caught trolling.

On the inshore scene Seabass continue with reckless abandon. The fish are not monsters, however when one works at it a decent catch

can be put together. Pork Chop sized Porgies have also become part of this catch when targeting the seabass and even a cod or two has found their way into a cooler for the way home. Striped bass continue to cooperate however the action has shifted to the ocean as larger fish have been caught both east and west of our inlet amongst the bunker schools which can be present along our local beaches from Fire Island Inlet to the Rockaway's on any given day. Prior to the closing of the fluke season I received an e-mail from fellow club member Ray Geiger along with FTC member Harry Sbaschnig they had a great day catching and releasing 80 short fluke. The fish were caught on green gulp shad and white gulp squid. Now that this fisheries closed season is open; lets hope that we have a repeat performance of our season from last year.

That is it for this month. I would appreciate receiving your reports to be included in upcoming FTC Fishing Bulletins Please e-mail your reports to capharryweinblatt@yahoo.com

Sincerely,
Capt. Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin

PROPERTY

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

I hope all members are enjoying our marina as we advance through this season. So many fun filled property events have already occurred. Our Thursday Night Clinics are right on target and in rhythm with the season. We thank last month's speaker, Peter DiThomas, for using his professional teaching skills with his well prepared Back Bay Bass Clinic. This month, our July 16th Thursday Night Clinic will be Captains' Harry Weinblatt and Chris Squeri on the art of offshore bait rigging.

I thank our wonderful House & Captain Anglers Committee for the first of our two FTC Rodeos. It was well attended and a good time was had by all. The new addition of our very own FTC Tent was a wonderful addition to our marina.

As I always state, like the marines, " we are always looking for a few good men." I am very pleased to announce that Don Granger has joined our property committee team. Don is a long time member, club marina tenant and very knowledgeable in club affairs. In addition, to his new role with the Property Committee, Don is also active in our Yearbook & Website Committees. Welcome to the team Don.

In keeping our marina clean we would ask that all members empty the fish disposal waste can after each usage. The unwanted fish items must be placed in our green waste container.

In closing although not a Property Event, it is a Club Event that we have not had in many years. Our July 23rd FTC Dinner Cruise is sure to be a wonderful evening. I hope to see a strong turnout for this event.

On behalf of the FTC Property Committee it is our pleasure to serve the members and help bring our club together.



JULY 2009 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTESTS REPORT

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

Congratulations to Mike Zullo on his clean sweep of the Spring Sea Bass derby with 3 quality fish! Striped Bass was hotly contested with Paul Noto taking top honors over Doug Toback. Fluke was led by Don Granger and his 7.25 beauty. Brian Doherty's 6.94 2nd place fish also won a place in the "Duke of Fluke" tournament and first prize at our rodeo! Bob Porter's whistle fish at 4.84 shook up the final results.

Our second Fluke derby begins on Friday, July 3rd and runs through the season close of August 17th. Good luck to everyone in the current derbies and get those Bluefish, Shark and Weakfish slips in!

Our July Derby Winners are:

Seabass

1st Place: Mike Zullo.....6.26 lbs F/V Magic Too
 2nd Place: Mike Zullo.....5.62 lbs F/V Magic Too
 3rd Place: Mike Zullo.....4.40 lbs F/V Magic Too

Striped Bass

1st Place: Paul Noto..... 33.56 lbs F/V Rocket Fish
 2nd Place: Doug Toback.....26.10 lbs F/V Corazon
 3rd Place: Paul Noto.....25.63 lbs F/V Rocket Fish

Fluke

1st Place: Don Granger.....7.25 lbs F/V Splitshot
 2nd Place: Brian Doherty.....6.94 lbs F/V The Betty
 3rd Place: Bob Porter.....4.84 lbs F/V Shark III

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

Fluke (3.5 lbs.).....July 3rd ~ August 17th
 Tuna (20 lbs.).....July 4th ~ August 9th
 Mahi (4 lbs.).....July 4th ~ August 9th

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE CLOSED:

Weakfish (5 lbs.).....May 16th ~ June 28th
 Shark (125 lbs.).....May 30th ~ July 5th
 Bluefish (8 lbs.).....May 30th ~ July 5th

MEMBERSHIP

We have 200 members. If anyone has a friend interested in joining, please bring them to our next GM or Thursday night bbq.

Chris Squeri
 Chris Scarponio
 Jeff Squeri

CONSERVATION

Fluke season has been re-opened for July 3rd then August 27th. The limit is two fish at 21 1/2 inches. Recently, anglers have been confused by some boats fishing from fluke during the closure with a special permit. These boats purchased the right to fish for the Federal Government through an auction. Each year a percentage of the fisheries are held as a Research Set Aside. This RSA has been sold by the Feds to generate income for research projects (presumably?). Some boats chose to participate if they feel the price is right!

Two years ago, the Viking bought the rights to fish for Porgy for two months after the early October closure. They did very well. Last year the Laura Lee paid for September/October Fluke and there were few fish around. This year the RSA limit was four fish at 20 inches. Who keeps track of the catch I don't know for sure. I know the cost was about \$3 a pound.

Dangerous business! You pay for a Salt Water License and then you buy the "privilege" to fish from the Federal Government. There currently is a bill that would result in all of us buying the fish we intend to catch. This is what happens when the government thinks the people aren't paying attention!

Dennis Cataldo
 Conservation Chairman

CAPTAIN ANGLERS

Captian And Anglers committee would like to thank Bob Sabella and Rick Totten for installing our gas line, great job guys also have to thank Bob Sabella for the Kegerator we getting a lot of use at of it. Paul Noto deserves a big thank you for Joining the committee and keeping us stocked with cold beer. On June 25 Bob Sabella and Joe Steiner Made stuffed squid that was excellent and Pete DiThomas gave a great clinic thanks to you guys for all efforts, That's what makes this best club.

- Jim Rooney

RODEO

The Rodeo committee would like to thank all the club members that participated. Our property looked great and the new tent was used to give us some shade. Big thanks go's out to all the members who Volunteered For setup and the cook crew Ron Ippolito, Charlie Goldstien, Bob Damino, Frank Lemonda, Sharron Misson, John Koenig, Bob Sabella, Joe Steiner, Woody Anderson, John Weber, John Gerity, Joe. Jahn, Dave Massa, John Rooney . Without the help these of club members the rodeo could not run. Looking forward too seeing all our members at the fall rodeo.

- Jim Rooney

FLUKE CALCUTTA

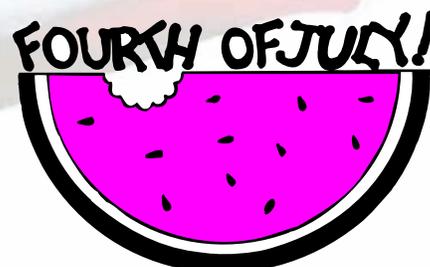
The second half of the fluke season opened on July 3. Bob Powell has a commanding lead with his 9 lb. fish captured in Montauk on May 22. The season will run through August 16. There are a total of 84 members in the Calcutta. Good luck to all!

-Mike Sullivan

YEARBOOK

I would like to take this moment to thank the yearbook committee members for their outstanding efforts: Don Granger, Charlie and Mary Goldstein, Tom Schwender, Karen Libby and John Jutt. Look for your yearbook at the August GM! It's a beauty.

-Mike Sullivan



Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.
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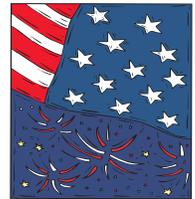
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SAVE THE DATE

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 on sale at the July GM \$60 per person.

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 13TH

**ANNUAL
HAWAIIAN LUAU**

**AT
THE PROPERTY**

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

2- ORIGINAL BOGA GRIP MODEL # 130 \$100.00 each 0-30lbs
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516-546-2312 or email to: JJutt@mmpmk.com