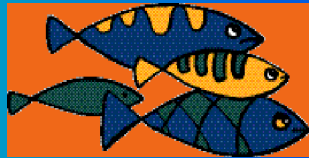


# Tuna Tower News

**Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.**  
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Internet Address: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)

Volume Eight • August 2003

**"PARTICIPATION"**



## NEXT GENERAL MEETING



Wednesday, August 13, 2003

**FREEPORT YACHT CLUB**

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



## NEXT GENERAL MEETING

*Harry "Just Add Water" Schroder and Scott "50/50" Schaefer*

*All Aspects Of Fluke Fishing*

*Ocean & Bay*

*Rigging/Bait/Tackle and More*

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**Scott Schaefer**



ur July speaker was absolutely phenomenal. Once again John Spillane gave a wonderful talk regarding his adventures as a para-jumper and the Perfect Storm. I thank the members for their attendance and great attentiveness during his amazing story. I thank our 1st Vice President John Weber for arranging John Spillane as a speaker. If you have not made the meetings this year, you are missing out. Part of club involvement is our monthly meetings, so come on down.

July brought another great award to our club. The Babylon Invitational was won by Captain Jeff Squeri and the crew of the "Lady E". Their first place winning fish was a 93 pound Yellowfin Tuna trolled in the "Dip". For the record in 1999 Team Squeri and the "Lady E" won this event with their 541 pound Blue Marlin. The father and son teams of Jeff & Chris Squeri and Sil & Frank Mazzilli have really put our club on the map in this prestigious event.

The next trophy we need to keep home is the Freeport Babylon Tuna Shootout. We lost this trophy in 1999 and won it back in 2000 after a one year absence. The shootout is scheduled for August 16 ~ 17. Get crew up for this event. There will a Special Captain Anglers Shootout Meeting on Thursday August 14th at the prop-

erty. Chris Squeri along with Captain Harry Weinblatt and myself will give a seminar on tuna trolling covering everything from rigging Baits to spreader bars. This is a don't miss event.

In closing this month entertainment will once again come from within our club. Harry Schroeder "Just Add Water" and myself "50/50" will be doing an in depth talk covering all aspects on fluke fishing.

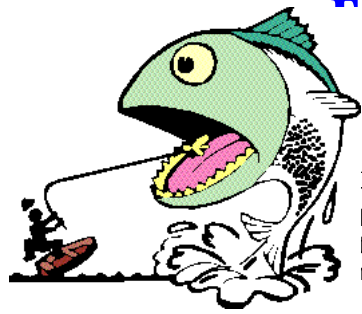
See you all at our next GM.

**Scott**



**CAPTAIN ANGLERS  
THURSDAY AUGUST 14TH  
7:00 P.M.**

**Chris Squeri,  
Capt. Harry Weinblatt,  
Scott Scafer  
on Tuna Trolling  
Special FTC/BTC Shoot-Out  
Meeting!**



# FISHING BULLETIN

leaving off from last months fishing bulletin was the start of our blue-water season and what a start it was. Soon after July 4<sup>th</sup> the dinner bell started to ring. Our club members experienced the best

shark fishing we have had here in quite some time with an abundance of mako's and threshers, our members were not bashful in bringing them back to the scale. The first "official" mako of the season was caught by **Captain John Jutt** aboard the "**Bunker Dunker**" and weighed in at 149lbs. One week later, **Ralph Drewes** aboard the **Oceanic** weighed one in at a respectable 190lbs that same day **Larry "The Legend" Festa** brought in a 201 lb thresher. Later in the week **Matt Errett** nailed a 167lb. Mako. During the Chris Larkin tournament **Ralph Ortiz** and crew landed a 181 lb. mako, good enough to earn his crew third place in that division. The action did not stop there as concurrent with the shark action was the vast acres of bluefin tuna that were blasting there way through our area. Members reported stopping to catch a tuna and then set out a chum slick to then catch a shark or two. **Anton Gerdes** aboard his boat "**Extremes**" landed an impressive bluefin of 142lbs. out by the Texas Tower. This action unfortunately came to an end, a weeks worth of Southwest wind and our action became a memory. All of the blue water was blown away and replaced with water of the greenish tint lacking the necessary ingredients to continue to spawn this outrageous action. Congratulations are also in order as the team of the "**Lady E**" posted yet another victory during the recent outing of the Babylon Invitational Tournament. Their 97lb Yellowfin was good enough to give them first place and all the money that goes along with it.

Our local striped bass action continues to provide decent action as well. The better action has been in the ocean fishing with whole clams. The catches have been reported both east and west of our local inlet.

On the inshore scene our fluke fishing has rebounded again. Last week **Paul Hilton** single handily skipped his "**Emily S**" during a not so nice afternoon and limited out in less than an hour of fishing. This past weekend members reported that they had excellent action with quality fish up to 7lbs. The action has been straight out of our inlet in waters that range in depth from 60 -90ft. Lastly congratulations are in order for **Ron Leonardi's** 10lb. Fluke, which he caught during a recent trip.

As the month of August continues we can only hope that our offshore action picks back up and that there is hope of a bite that will soon start in the Canyons. Our blue water chariots are waiting to have 100 fathoms of water beneath them.

Sincerely,  
Captain Harry Weinblatt  
F/V Blue Marlin



## CLUB AWARDS & DERBY DATES

### *The Following Derbies are in Progress/Starting This Month:*

- Fall Blue Fish (10 lb. Min.).....August 17th ~ September 21st
- Fall Tuna ( 25 lb. Min.).....August 17th ~ September 21st
- Green Bonito (06 lb. Min.).....August 23rd ~ September 28th
- False Albacore (06 lb. Min.).....August 23rd ~ September 28th

### *The Following Derbies are closed winners to be announced:*

- Bluefish (10 lbs. Min.).....June 21st ~ July 27th
- Tuna (25 lb. Min.).....June 21st ~ July 27th

### *The Spring Shark & Weakfish Derbies Is Closed & The Winners Are:*

- Spring Shark ( 125 lbs. Min. ).....May 31st ~ July 6th
- 1st Place: Captain Grover Howell:.....182.5 lb. Mako F/V "Fish On"
- 2nd Place: Al Caciano:.....167 lb. Blue Shark F/V "Four Bells"
- 3rd Place: Harry Schroeder:.....163 lb. Blue Shark F/V "Just Add Water"

- Spring Fluke ( 2.5 lb. Min.).....June 7th ~ July 13th
- 1st Place: Fred Edr:.....9.75 lb. Fluke F/V Wet Snapper
- 2nd Place: Anthony Testa:.....6.18 lb. Fluke F/V Donna Ann
- 3rd Place: Anthony Testa:.....5.87 lb. Fluke F/V Donna Ann
- Spring Weakfish (05 lbs. Min.).....May 17th ~ June 22nd

**No eligible fish submitted**

## Good & Welfare

Scotts mom is ill please keep her in your prayers.  
Congratulations to the fishing team :Darren & Regina Schafer on reeling in their new addition - Justin Thomas, born August 5th at a whopping 8 lbs. 2 ozs. 22 inches. Congratulations!

## Property

Just think in the very near future, the phrase "Lock The Gate" will no longer be necessary. Our new automatic gate will soon be installed. At this point it looks like we will be using remote opening devices (garage door openers) The exact cost and logistics of distribution are still to be worked out. We also have an electrician coming down to look at our lighting as part of our security upgrade.

## Conservation

I need the support of the membership in the form of phone calls to Albany in support of the subway car project. Another barge load was just placed in New Jersey Waters. People to call are DEC Commissioner Erin Crotty 518-402-8540/Deputy Commissioner Lynette Stark 518-402-8560/Director of Natural Resources Gerald Barnhart 518-402-8294. Tagging kits from the American littoral Society will be avail. at the Aug. GM. I recently had my 97th return. Last August it was an 11" fluke in Sloop Channel. This past June, it was dinner for a 10 pound monkfish out in shinnecock, as reported by the commercial fisherman who retrieved it. Thank you, John Weber

## TOURNAMENTS & SHOOTOUTS: ( Flags, Tags & Brags?)

### "LADY E" DOES IT AGAIN!

Capt. Jeff "Lady E" Squeri along with his son/First Mate Chris took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Babylon Invitational Tournament for the second time in 4 years!

Jeff's Crew including "Uncle Sil" & "Cousin" Frank Mazzilli, along with another club member Dave Harrison "weathered" some difficult fishing conditions to troll up the winning fish. (Young Squeri tells all, read on!) The team battled a 97 lb. Yellow Fin that took a rigged Ballyhoo. Congratulations Men!

2<sup>nd</sup> place went to F/V "Morning Star" with an 88 lb. Yellow. And 3<sup>rd</sup> to the F/V "Reel Madness" with a 64 lb. Yellow Fin. The "Loving Cup" award for the tournament's Tag & Release division was awarded to the F/V "Blue Diamond".

Honorable mention goes to **Dave "Canyon Lady" Pincus** & **Gene "Somewhere In Time" Schettini** for fishing this event with their FTC club flags flown high.

### Chris Larkin Memorial Charity Tournament.

FTC member and Thursday night regular **Ralph Ortiz**, decked a **181 pound Mako** to take **3rd place** in this year's **Chris Larkin Tournament**. **Ralph and his son Jason**, (a Jr. angler hooked for sure now — a Mako jumping 3 times will do that to any one) landed their trophy while fishing on board Ralph's **"Fish Bones"**. Congratulations to Ralph, Jason and crew!

#### 1<sup>st</sup> place Larkin finishers were:

Offshore: Ray Haffke, 415 lb. Thresher. F/V Alicia Marie

Striped Bass: Mike Ostrander, 28 lbs. 5 oz F/V Over-X-Posed

Bluefish: Chris Krolick, 11 lbs. 8 oz F/V Code Red

Fluke: Nancy Gutowski, 9 lbs. 12 oz. F/V Rotanne

### "BRAGGERS RIGHT'S" SERIES & SHOOTOUTS

Our series of 4 Shootouts has come to an end (for now) with the Matinecock Fishing Club. Discussions are under way for a fall 5 species wrap-up that could coincide with our rodeo weekend. Stay Tuned! The last of our 4 shootouts saw the Fluke division taken by **Andy "Sun Down" Hardy with a 3 lb. 15 oz** Fluke taken on **Paul Schuber's Sea Mist**. These guys ran all over the ocean on a rough day to catch this one. Thanks guys! In the Bluefish division, **Christopher Bellinzoni's** 6 lb.7 oz. Blue taken on our **Four Bells** may have been all we needed to take another "Braggers Right's weekend for our club as heavy seas kept many anglers tied to the dock. The only thing left now is to total our weigh slips, enjoy our upcoming **BBQ at our club property Thursday evening August the 21st** and see who gets the "Bragging Right's." Our club faired very well, by my count of weigh slips from more than 25 club boats and 40-ish FTC anglers who competed hard to ensure that we get to brag a bit. At our "Braggers Right's" BBQ we will welcome our competitive guests from the Matinecock Club to enjoy some camaraderie, exchange some club hats, award plaques for biggest in each species and see who the series Most Valuable Captain was. After which the winning club will take possession of the first "Braggers Right's" trophy. Hint, We will need another shelf in our clubhouse!

### NEXT UP: Babylon Tuna Club Vs Freeport Tuna Club Tuna Shootout, 2003!

This tradition and club favorite is on tap once again! This year's Inter-club event will take place the weekend of August 16 & 17, with a rain/weather date of August 23 & 24. Should Small Craft Advisories or Warnings be posted during the Saturday AM forecast the shootout is off and rescheduled for the following weekend. Should both weekends be blown-out, we will try and reschedule the event for a weekend in September. Providing the weather allows, fishing can start at 12:01 AM of the appropriate Saturday. Participating vessels must be back at the dock (fuel dock OK) no later than 6:00 PM on Sunday. The TOTAL WEIGHT OF EACH CLUB'S 3 BIGGEST TUNA FISH will determine the winning club. (Please call your catches in to Tony Testa jr. or myself.) Young Squeri tells all! Chris Squeri will be offering up some of the Lady E's tournament winning tactics in a per-Shootout clinic and Captains Meeting the Thursday night prior to the event at our club property. Trolling in the deep has certainly produced some notable catches and winning purses for this boat and crew! Don't miss this one.

AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	1	2
3	4	5	6	Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	7	8
10	11	12	General Membership Meeting	13	Captain/ Ang. 14 FTC /BTC shoot-out meeting	15
FTC-BTC Shoot-out Tuna/Bluefish starts	18	19	Board of Directors Meeting	20	Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	21
24	25	26	27	Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	28	29
31						



## Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

Chartered to Promote  
Sport-fishing & Conservation

### 2003 Officers

Scott Schafer ..... President

John Weber ..... 1st Vice President

Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr. ... 2nd Vice President

Bill Morrogh ..... Treasurer

Jeff Squeri ..... Secretary



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Freeport, New York 11520

Deliver To:



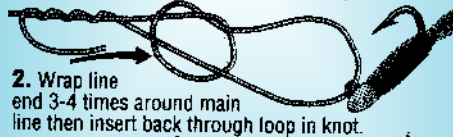
THE "Y-KNOT" CORNER  
To all members - any knots  
or rigging tips are always welcome

## NON-SLIP MONO LOOP

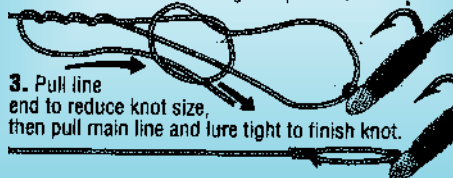
Used with mono line or leader. This knot allows more natural lure and hook action than knots that slide tight against the eye.



1. Tie a single overhand knot 6-8 inches up leader from end of leader. Insert leader end through eye then back up through loop in knot while adjusted loop size.



2. Wrap line end 3-4 times around main line then insert back through loop in knot.



3. Pull line end to reduce knot size, then pull main line and lure tight to finish knot.

Each month we will try to feature a new knot  
Practice it - learn it - it will improve your landings

## CLASSIFIED:

ANY CLASSIFIED LISTING FOR SALE OR TRADE PLEASE MAIL TO:  
FTC CLASSIFIED/CATCH OF THE MONTH CORNER  
C/O JOHN JUTT

2848 WHALENECK DRIVE • MERRICK, NY 11566  
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
- 1973 19ft. sportcraft caprice cuddy cabin, porta potti, very clean 1986 100 h.p. envinrude, sst prop vhf/ta system full canvas/ 14 rod holder/70 gal. fuel/outrigger/dual batteries/must be seen a give-away 2000.00 bob 516-781-4011
- 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