

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# Tuna Tower News



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Internet Address: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)

**NEXT GM**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 14 • 7:00 PM**  
**AT PROPERTY**  
**PLEASE NOTE MEETING PLACE CHANGE**

**PLEASE NOTE MEETING  
PLACE CHANGE & TIME**  
**4th Annual Hawaiian Luau**  
**AT OUR NEW REFURBISHED PROPERTY**  
**Prizes for Best Dressed**

## President's Message

Ed Faza



**A**loha, I hope you all can attend our Fourth Annual Hawaiian Luau on August 14th. It will be another great opportunity to see our magnificent marina renovations if you have not done so. Proper Hawaiian attire is requested. The Capt\Angler team will be cooking up some fabulous PUPU so bring your appetites!

Hat's off to Capt Harry and all who helped, for holding a fantastic Tuna seminar last month at the general meeting. I hope you were all paying attention because the tuna action seems to be heating up. For more info check the fishing reports web page or come down to the next Capt/Angler BBQ and get some fresh intel from other members. Stay tuned for information about a club tuna trip being organized by Capt Harry, it should be a blast. Be prepared for our annual FTC/BTC tuna shootout scheduled for 8/22, ask John Rooney for details. We have plenty of events and derbies running for August.

Our Fluke Derby has started again and I am expecting an exciting event if all the reports are true. From what I've heard, just get in your boat and a 5 pounder will jump into your cockpit! False Albacore Green Bonita and Weakfish Derbies are also starting. Get you slips in to Bill Morrogh to qualify for prizes and don't forget about the inshore/offshore challenge! Bob Pandy is running another Flotilla in Zach's bay. This is always a fun filled family event. Club boats tie up together share food and drinks while the children play in the water. Check the web site for updates on all of these events.

Malama Pono  
Ed Faza

## FISHING CLINICS

Pete Dithomas will demonstrate successful rubber and artificial lure' Useage for stripers, fluke and weakfish at our Property Thursday August 28.

Pete's has time tested technics that he will share ...don't miss this one.

-Hank Jenet

## RUTGERS NEED SURVEY VOLUNTEERS

Rutgers COOLROOM is looking for a few good men! They will be in our area Thursday, August 12, and want to gauge how our members use their website. They will have each person spend about one hour in front of a computer and an evaluator will ask them to poke around the website, and see how well the graphics work for the internet user. Refreshments and a small token of appreciation will be given to each volunteer. Contact Bigmahi to be scheduled in. first come, first in order.

-Jeff Yapalater

## Affordable and Rewarding Inshore Challenges

Hopefully the variety of inshore fishing contests will draw those who have foregone more expensive offshore ventures. The FTC Inshore competition, the NYSF, and The Fisherman Magazine fishing challenges offer a string of tournaments that will bring out the best competitive spirits from our members. The FTC Inshore Grand Slam Challenge will run from May 1st to December 15th. Members in good standing pay \$50 to enter fishing for bluefish, striped bass, sea bass and fluke. See our website for more details. The NY Sportfishing Federation is holding 3 contests. For \$50 you get a membership and are entered in all three that run from July through November. Goto [www.nysf.org](http://www.nysf.org) for details. For The Fisherman, you must be a subscriber to fish their April 1-Nov 30 time-slot with the top ten entries of fish eligible for the Triton 225 Center Console Grand prize.

-EDITORIAL COMMITTEE



## Offshore Tournaments Participation Off this Year

This year's offshore tournament participation has been down 20-25% according to an industry expert. The Babylon Tournament was way off, and it remains to be seen what the 1st Jones Inlet Tuna Invitational will draw. Unlike Shark tournaments where the distances and fees are at least half of the offshore tourneys, it certainly seems like the high fuel prices has major effects rippling through our beloved sport. According to some captains, they are not participating in high stakes offshore tournaments as in the past. They say it is harder to find crews willing to ante up \$500-\$1000 per man to cover all the costs of an overnigher. In general many blue water goers are limiting their offshore trips to less days, and waiting for the hot bite. Another factor is guys waiting for the Captains meeting to make a decision largely influenced by the weather forecasts. Another reason may be the spotty tuna catch, lack of a night bite, small fish and mixed weights of the fish. But regardless many more boats have fished this in the recent past.

The Babylon did not attract many anglers for the same reasons. About 17 boats participated down 50% or more from the last year. Soft business, high fuel, and a general feeling of reluctance are certainly factors. How does a small businessman lay off staff or cut benefits then go and spend a few thousand on a fishing tournament? It seems the overarching cost of living that has hit us Long Islanders from the cost of milk, eggs, taxes and fuel has trickled down to our big offshore tournaments and put a damper on this years events. However the bright side is that if you choose to go in, the competition is reduced, and your individual percentage of winning goes up that much more. So, always a silver lining!

-Jeff Yapalater



## - PRESS RELEASE -

### AMBROSE LIGHT TO BE DECONSTRUCTED AFTER 41 YEARS OF SERVICE

NEW YORK-The deconstruction of Ambrose Light, situated about eight miles off the coast of Sandy Hook, N.J., in Ambrose Channel is scheduled to begin Monday, July 28, following extensive talks between the Coast Guard and local stakeholders.

"It was determined that Ambrose Light is not absolutely necessary to perform safe navigation through Ambrose Channel," said Chief Warrant Officer Darren Pauly, a Coast Guard Sector New York Aids to Navigation (ATON) officer. "Instead, several navigational aids will be added and Ambrose Channel will be extended to create a wider, more navigable channel for larger commercial vessels."

There will be no explosives used during the deconstruction. Divers will be conducting on-scene assessment of the anchorage and commercial harbor tugs Sea Wolf, Sea Bear and Miss Yevett will be assisting during the project.

The light's legs, stanchion, rotating light and anchorage were severely damaged following an allision with the commercial vessel Axel Spirit, a 799-foot tanker homeported in Nassau, Bahamas in Nov. of 2007. Personnel from Sector New York's Aids to Navigation Team established a temporary navigational aid after the allision while contractors assessed the damage to Ambrose Light.

"Ambrose Light has had three allisions since 1996. That is the main reason it is being replaced. It is not cost effective to rebuild the Light every time it is struck. With our improvements to the channel and newer Light-Emitting Diode (LED) technology, the optics on large buoys provide the same purpose and are easier to maintain," said Pauly.

The demolition comes almost 41 years after Ambrose Light was established.

###

U.S. Coast Guard, saving lives since 1790  
PRESS RELEASE, JULY 2008

- CHRIS BELLINZONI

## DERBIES

Our August Derby Winners are:

Bluefish

1st Place: Joanne Schroeder.....11.56 lbs F/V Just Add Water

2nd Place: John Kampa.....9.63 lbs F/V Mary Etta

3rd Place: Troy Gerrity.....8.63 lbs F/V Moonchild

Fluke

1st Place: Peter McEvoy.....9.75 lbs F/V Permanent Waves

2nd Place: Mike Wagner..... 6.88 lbs F/V Endless Summer

3rd Place: Dave Massa..... 5.31 lbs F/V Shark Hunter

Shark

1st Place: Sean Libby..... 439 lb Thresher F/V Aurora

2nd Place: Gordon Findlay..... 208 lb Thresher F/V Joint Effort

3rd Place: Chris Squeri.....193 lb Mako F/V Lady E

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS

OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

Tuna (20 lbs.).....July 5th ~ August 10th

Mahi (4 lbs.).....July 5th ~ August 10th

Fluke (3.5lbs).....August 2nd ~ September 1st

Weakfish (5lbs).....August 23rd ~ October 10th

Mahi (4 lbs.).....August 23rd ~ October 5th

False Albacore (6 lbs.).....August 23rd ~ October 5th

Green Bonito (4 lbs.).....August 23rd ~ October 5th

Tuna (20 lbs.).....August 30th ~ October 5th

- Bill Morrogh

## TUNA NOTES FROM AROUND

The 2008 giant bluefin tuna season is set to open Wednesday July 30 in Prince Edward Island. Fishermen are taking a slightly different approach to this year's fishery in hopes of spreading out the catches and capturing the prime market periods. The total quota for Island fishers this year is 150 tons, up from 147 tons in 2007. Also, the fishermen have agreed to limit their activity on the water to a five-day fishing week from Monday through Friday. There will be a limit of one fish per boat per day

-Yahoo! News is reporting that because of the sushi rage that has hit most of the western world and China, the bluefin tuna's survival is gravely threatened. Greenpeace and the World Wildlife Fund have begun to raise awareness about this issue. After World War II, the Australian population of bluefin completely collapsed due to overfishing. The same is now being seen throughout the Mediterranean.

-The Tarifa, a Spanish navy frigate, equipped with long range cameras, sophisticated electronic sensing equipment and a helicopter, stands ready in the Mediterranean to restrict the fishing and poaching of the bluefin tuna.

-Surging fuel costs have forced Japanese fishermen to suspend some tuna expeditions to the Pacific and Indian oceans.

-In general, more commercial fishermen's businesses are being sunk by rising fuel prices. In Alaska rockfish and perch boats sit idled at the dock, and in Texas, shrimpers are traveling to Mexico to find cheap fuel. On our East Coast lobstermen are making fewer trips. Notes courtesy TUNA NEWS

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

## IGFA OBSERVER PROGRAM

Trade Winds Environment Restoration is providing a class on August 23rd designed to qualify individuals as an IGFA observer for international tournaments. Many tournaments are going to catch and release formats to promote conservation and they need trained observers for tournaments in Panama, Mexico, Costa Rica, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Florida etc. I took this course recently and will probably participate in the "Stephen Sloan Memorial International Shark Tournament" October 3rd-5th in Montauk. This tournament formally was the Brits and Yanks. It is a TAG and release tournament with plenty of prize money and other prizes. It's open to anyone from our club to participate.

The cost for the course is \$150 payable to the IGFA. Anyone interested should contact Thomas Costa (631) 289-5500 X 161 and say that Dennis Cataldo recommended you.

-Dennis Cataldo



## DEALING WITH FOGGY CONDITIONS

If possible, finding a spot to safely anchor is the best way to ride out foggy conditions. Once anchored, however you must sound your compressed air horn (or whistle) for 5 seconds during every minute anchored. If you hear another vessel approaching, give the sound signal to alert oncoming vessels to your presence... One Short Blast and One Prolonged Blast.

Should you find that you must operate a vessel in fog conditions immediately reduce speed and remember the proper following sound signals to avoid collision:-

-2 Short Blasts: You are turning to port and will pass the other vessel on your starboard side.

-3 Short Blasts: This means that a boat is slowing or stopping to avoid collision.

-5 Short blasts-This means DANGER. Use it or listen for it.

A short blast is about one second; long blast 5 seconds.

Of course, use your radar if you have it and slow down when encountering a crowded area.

-COURTESY OF NWS.GOV  
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

## SHOOT-OUTS

The Freeport Tuna Club will be fishing against the Bablyon Tuna Club this August 22,23,24 for tuna. The three heaviest fish from each club will determine the winner. The is a Trophy involved in this shoot-out so good luck to all and lets keep the winning streak alive.

- JOHN ROONEY



## FLUKE CALCUTTA

The FTC web site has it the Peter McEvoy captured a 9 lb. 12 oz fluke. He will be leading the Calcutta with this fish, as soon as I get a weigh slip. 58 members have joined the 2008 fluke Calcutta.. The Calcutta is \$10 per member; largest fluke from anywhere takes all. Fish must be free swimming and alive when caught on hook and line. There are no restrictions on inlets. Fish wherever the big one roams. The Calcutta will run as long as the NY fluke season remains open.

Mike Sullivan



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

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2001 Pursuit 3000 Express. Twin 300 Mercruiser inboards, 300hrs. Hard-top&canvas. Sleeps 4. Electronics, head/shower, fridge, microwave, stove, AC/Heat. Mint Condition. Asking \$99,000. At FTC for viewing. Call Rich H: 631-543-3866 C: 516-641-0740.

Wanted 25 hp outboard long shaft with tiller. Call Joe, 516-851-8762

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

Assistant Treasurer needed: Are you looking to meet people and get more involved in the business aspects of the Freeport Tuna Club? Do you have accounting/computer/interpersonal/business skills? If so, you could be qualified to be an Assistant Treasurer of the Freeport Tuna Club. All queries should be sent to ftfishing@verizon.net.

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



Don Granger - Local Fluke and Sea Bass



MaryAnn & Mike Zullo  
 92 lb. Blue Fin Tuna



Jim Hampton  
 23 lb. Striped Bass



Capt. Sean Libby, Al Caccamo,  
 Mike Downey, Pat & Matt Quinn  
 - 439 lb. Thresher