

# Tuna Tower News

Website: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)



Editor: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, Sr.  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: JEFF YAPALATER

**Thursday, Sept. 13th at 8:00 pm**

**VFW Post 2770**

**2400 Bedford Avenue, Bellmore, NY**

**(between Sunrise Hwy. & Merrick Road)**

## NEXT GM

**Fish Stories, Fish Stories and Updated Fish Stories  
Culinary Delights, Raffles, Prizes,  
Come on down and share the comradery**

## President's Message

Jim Rooney

As our summer comes to a close there seems to be some very bad news on our fluke regulations. Peter Grannis NYS DEC commissioner is stating that preliminary data which only represents landings through the end of June will be closing the summer flounder season in early September. As of the end of June, Recreational Anglers have landed approximately 357,000 summer flounder. The NYS recreational summer flounder quota for 2007 is 430,000. This is a grave situation for our Fluke season this year and our 2008 season. I ask all members to keep abreast of the changing Fluke regulations; they will directly affect our derbies and contest for this species. Now on to good news. On August 23 the Freeport Tuna Club in association with Noreast magazine presented Captain Harry Weinblatt's Canyon Tuna seminar. This was an outstanding event for the club. Not only did this event raise a substantial amount of money for the club we also recruited several new members as well. Captain Harry's knowledge and expertise in this field is vast and Harry shared it all. I would like to personally thank Harry and all the volunteers for their hard work and professionalism; it was their effort that made this a great event for the club. I would like to also announce that the Freeport Tuna club and Noreast Magazine will be pre-

senting a Stripe Bass seminar Hosted by Chris Bellinzoni at our property. This event like the others is a fundraising and recruitment drive for the club. I ask that members help spread the word of these events. The exposure for the club is invaluable; we get to show the fishing community why we are the best club in NY. Last months GM was our 3rd Annual luau, which was a great time for all, a big thank you goes out to our cook crew for their excellent job as always. On August 19th the club held its Zacs bay flotilla. 15 boats showed up and as in years before it was a terrific time. Our fall rodeo is set for Friday September 28th, Saturday 29th, Sunday 30th. All slips are to be submitted by 4:00 pm Sunday at the property with party to follow. The rodeo committee is looking for volunteers for this event if you want to lend a hand please contact Joe Stiener for details. That's all for this month stay safe and remember that participation is the key to a great club experience.



James Rooney  
President

Our fishing season is rapidly approaching the best time of the year in our areas waters. We can expect to see over the next six-eight weeks a potpourri of species that we have or will encounter as the fall migration starts. This is also the time of the year that our weather starts to transform. The areas water temperature will start to decline as we move closer to the fall season. This is also the time of the year when tropical storms or hurricanes can potentially threaten our area as well. To date we have been spared of the few Atlantic hurricanes that have wreaked havoc on the latitudes to our south. Be extra mindful when planning an offshore trip during this part of the year, an offshore swell with a long period can turn into tumultuous sea conditions when wind is added as an ingredient to the mix. This extra vigilance is the most important quality of the responsible boat owner.



The blue water action is as hot as a “burning ember in a fireplace”. Our offshore crews have been treated to one of the hottest “big eye bites” that we have had in many years.

Team Wasabi landed their first ever at 153 lbs. club member Peter Cefai was on the rod for that fish. The “Freedom” skippered by Jim Hampton ran to the Hudson’s west side, based on information that Chris Gerhart had given them. (That’s what being a FTC Member is all about) In an almost instantaneous fashion they had four big-eye jump onto the lures in their spread. They were successful in landing one and a respectable one, which weighed in at 237 lbs. caught by club member Sean Libby. The “Blue Marlin” was also treated to a double header on a recent trip during the early morning troll of an overnight trip. We boated the first one at 133lbs, caught by club member Eugene Pierce, and pulled the hook close to the boat on the second fish. The same afternoon the “Lady E” nailed a 126 lber. The action does not stop there it only gets better. Our regular canyon commuters, Oceanic, Wasabi, and Hooker have been whacking away on the yellowfin tuna for the last two weeks on the chunk at night. They have reported outstanding double digit catches with fish up to 85lbs. being caught. With full fish boxes on their overnight trips they have been on their way home at first light.

Closer to home the vessel “Kristen” did an inshore trolling trip recently and was rewarded with a few school bluefin tuna and a smattering of false albacore. This past weekend club member Matt Errit skippered his vessel “Nikki Ann” to the waters around the area of the Glory Hole and was surprised when a 20lb wahoo ended up in his fishbox.

We can look forward to another fall sharking season over the next month and a half. Last fall there were some very large makos caught no further than 20 fathoms of water. If you can get beyond fishing in green water that does not look conducive, then you might be treated to one of these monsters if you put your time in.

On the local fishing front fluking is still an excellent bet. For the last three weeks John Price has been at the wheel of his vessel “Day Tripper” along with club member Warren Kenny and future club member Danny Chambers. They have reported limit catches of fluke up to the 8lb. mark, nice going guys.

Bluefish continue with reckless abandon. A trip to 17 Fathoms or further west to the Mud Bouy is all that is required to catch a limit of them. Bait and chum has been the most productive method to cash in on them. The sea bass action is still a good bet, however the fish have started to move off into deeper waters. Mike Zullo reported that his trip this past Sunday produced quality fish but fishing in deeper water than he had on earlier trips.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt  
F/V Blue Marlin

## GOOD & WELFARE

Our condolences go out to Bob Sabella and family on the recent passing of his mother.

Condolences to Ronnie Deluca on the passing of her life-time partner Howard Wilder.

## TUNA, TUNA, TUNA!

Well the tuna season is well upon us, so why not check out a couple of sites that have interesting nutritional and political information on our favorite offshore species. The US Tuna Foundation,

<http://www.tunafacts.com/abouttuna/tunafacts.html>.

You’ll find all kinds of info on the more consumer aspects of the industry, but interesting just the same.

ICCAT, <http://www.iccat.es/main.htm>. is the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna. This is THE place where all the rules and regs regarding tuna fishing around the world comes from. If you wonder how other countries get a bigger share of the tuna quota, you will find the reasoning and debates right here.

## NEW OFFSHORE MARINE FORECAST ZONE

You’ve heard it here first—NOAA’s National Weather Service plans to introduce a new offshore weather zone in April 08. This new zone will be carved out from the current Hague Line to Hudson Canyon zone and will be limited to the Hudson to Baltimore Canyons out to the continental shelf. Now we will be the beneficiary of a dedicated weather forecast for the area we fish rather than areas half way to England! It is recommended that the new color for this zone be cobalt blue. We’ll have to wait and see if this offshore color is adopted come spring. This is the first step in the governments response to our needs for better forecasts. Now we need to push harder for that offshore buoy to bring the forecast real-time. More of this after the October Maccoora meeting with NOAA National Data Buoy Center...

## UNITED BOATMEN OF NEW YORK

United Boatmen of New York was formed by members of the for-hire fishing industry, in an effort to present a unified, clear voice that expresses the interests of the for-hire industry, its patrons, and the resources that we all depend upon. UBNY has been very active over the past fifteen months, spending countless hours and many dollars in support and defense of the for-hire industry, and the recreational fishing community as a whole. Without the support of UBNY, we might not have had a 2007 fluke season at all. Most notably, UBNY developed an advocacy website, which gave us the tools to allow great numbers of our clients (and us) to get our concerns across to the people making the policy on a scale never before heard of in the recreational sector. On its first issue, the site generated over 16,000 e-mails to politicians and managers, clearly defining a unity and strength impossible to ignore.

# SEPTEMBER 2007 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa  
Committee Team: Captain Michael Zullo, Mary Ellen Zullo,  
Captain Chris Squeri, Joseph Johns, Bill Morrogh

## Our September Derby Winners Are:

Spring Tuna (20 lbs. new wt.).....July 7th ~ August 12th  
1st Place: Adam Bollaci.....63.00 lb. Yellowfin F/V "Hooker"  
2nd Place: Tony Bollaci..... 61.00 lb. Yellowfin F/V "Hooker"  
3rd Place: Lawrence Festa.....59.25 lb. Yellowfin F/V "Oceanic"  
Spring Mahi (04 lbs.).....July 7th ~ August 12th  
1st Place: Earl Harris..... 11.20 lb. Mahi F/V "Hooker"  
2nd Place: Lawrence Festa..... 10.50 lb. Mahi F/V "Kristen"

7th Fall Fluke (3.5 lbs.).....August 11th ~ Sept. 9th  
Fall Shark (125 lbs.).....September 15th ~ October 21st  
Fall Bluefish (08 lbs.)..... September 1st ~ September 30th  
Seabass (2.5 lbs.)..... September 22nd ~ October 21st

## The following Derbies are in progress, ending or starting this month:

Fall Mahi (04 lbs.).....August 25th ~ Sept. 30th  
False Albacore (06 lbs.).....August 25th ~ Sept. 30th  
Green Bonito.....August 25th ~ Sept. 30th  
Fall Weakfish (05 lbs.).....August 11th ~ Sept.23rd  
Fall Tuna (20 lbs.).....September 1st ~ October

## Awards & Contests:

We are currently halfway through our derby season, as this summer flies by. It is nice to see so many new members achieving their first FTC Awards. Hopefully they will have more to come. Members are reminded to view our derby site and awards booklet to make sure that all weigh slips comply with the club rules. It is always a disappointment when you have a winning fish and were not recognized because of not adhering to our rules. Just click on our home page where you see the below link to our FTC Awards & Contest Rules:

Notice: The Awards and Contests Committee has compiled Angling Rules for the FTC. Click here to see a copy.

## FTC HOSTS 3RD CLUB SEMINAR FEATURING STRIPED BASS

FTC Hosts 3rd Club Seminar featuring Striped Bass Thursday Sept 27 marks the third Club fundraising seminar. Chris Bellinzi will host the event under the tents on the property and demonstrate his ways and means of being a successful striper fisherman. He will share his secrets of catching record numbers of fish, and demonstrate his successful techniques. Admission, food and refreshments is \$25. Doors open at 6:30pm, and seminar at 7:30 pm. The seminar is a joint event with Noreast fishing seminar series and is a fund raiser for the Club as well as showcase for new members. Volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs during the event. Contact bigmahi@yahoo or call 516-425-4645. The recent Tuna and Offshore seminar was a success with Capt Harry Weinblatt keeping the audience riveted to his presentation which lasted past 11pm. Member support welcome.

## OLD HARBOR OUTFITTERS SHOOT OUT

Old Harbor Outfitters ShootOut Sept 14-16  
OHO hosts their offshore shootout Sept 14-16 out of the Montauk Marine Basin. Eligible species include tuna, swordfish, Wahoo and mahi. \$50,000 in money and prizes will be won by boats placing first, second and third place in any species category. Crews will fish 2/3 days with the option of doing an overnigher. Goto [www.ohshootout.com](http://www.ohshootout.com) for details and a registration form. You can also contact Dean Kardamis, tournament director at 203-255-5230.

## BEF CELEBRITY TOURNAMENT MONTAUK SEPT 18-19

Former NFL QB great Boomer Esiason has announced the partnering of the Boomer Esiason Foundation (BEF) with the Redbone celebrity fishing tournament series event the F.C.A. Montauk Slam in Montauk, Long Island, N.Y, Sept. 19 - 21. The annual two-day inshore tournament is expected to attract 80 anglers and celebrities, catch & release fishing for blues, stripers and football shaped fish called false albacore (or albies) while at the same time helping to raise money for the BEF Scholarship Program for patients with Cystic Fibrosis. For more information on the Montauk Slam call the Redbone offices at 305-664-2002.

## SALTWATER FISH WEIGHT WEBSITES

There are two cool sites. This site has prepared charts ready to print: <http://www.daybreakfishing.com/fish-weight.html#yellowfin%20weight>  
The other site you can enter the measurements of your fish, and come up with a weight:  
<http://www.csgnetwork.com/fishsaltwtcalc.html>

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

**2007 Officers**

James Rooney.....President  
Chris Squeri.....1st Vice President  
Joseph Jahn.....2nd Vice President  
Mike Sullivan .....Treasurer  
Chris Bellinzoni.....Secretary



Post Office Box 5  
Freeport, New York 11520

Deliver To:



**STRIPED BASS  
SEMINAR**

**FTC/NOR East**

Hosted by  
**Chris Bellinzoni**

**Thurs. Sept. 27th**  
**Club Property**

**Doors open 6:30**  
**\$25 entry fee**

**CLASSIFIED:**

1998 Hydro Sport CC, Mint condition, 175 Ocean Pro Evinrude. New Powerhead & Block in 2000, Bimi Top, very low Hrs, many extras Asking \$10,000. Call George H-561-2662 C-860-8743

1-ATL diesel fuel Bladder- 50 gallon capacity with all necessary hardware, exc condition \$300

2. Four Shimano 50 TLD II- 2 speed 50 pound class graphite reels, spooled with 80 pound Momoi Blue diamond line, exc working condition, professionally maintained. - \$325 each

Contact Chris Gerhart-516-897-6898

4 Penn 50sw Internationals - great shape - \$375 each

4 Penn 80 Internationals - very good shape - \$375 each

All reels been serviced last year. Contact Chris: 516-523-3444

For sale:

Two 9/0 Garcia Mitchell Big Game reels (Seldom used) \$150 each

6/0 Finn-Nor reel (seldom used) \$300

Sears (wheeled) 1 HP compressor with paint spraying accessories (never used) \$100

8 inch Craftsman table saw with legs \$50 Call Doc Jarow @486-6408

2001 Pursuit 3000 Express. Twin 300 Mercruiser inboards, 300hrs. Hardtop & 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

For Sale: 1973 Grady White (19'3") with 1985 Evinrude 140HP on a 1989 Shoreline trailer (elec winch, extra tire and rim) also includes Scitex Loran, VHF radio, Ricjie compass, Ray Jeff color depth finder, anchor with line, plus more \$2200. Call Charlie 516-223-0214

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

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