

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

# Tuna Tower News

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



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Editor: **CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, Sr.**

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: JEFF YAPALATER

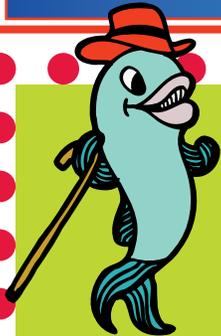
## NEXT GM

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 • 8:00 PM**

**CURE OF ARS AUDITORIUM**

**MERRICK AVENUE • MERRICK**

**(between Sunrise Highway and Merrick Road)**



**Fish Stories, Fish Stories  
& more Fish Stories!!!**

**A brief update on our artificial reef system**

## President's Message

Ed Faza



**T**he weather did not cooperate for the Luau. Special thanks to the Capt/Angler grill team for riding out the storm to the last minute ready to go at the first sign of clear skies. Thanks to all the hardy members that braved the weather and helped clean up the tables and decorations. Hopefully the weather will be great for our Fall Rodeo. The event starts 9/19 and ends 9/21 with a BBQ and award ceremony at the club house. This event is always fantastic fun for the whole family. Please remember you have to be present to win a prize .

Hank Janet organized another great clinic ,hosted by member Pete DiThomas. Pete gave up all his secrets on fishing artificial baits for different species. The guys from Matinituck happened to be at the club for the annual celebratory "shoot out" BBQ that we have with them . They were highly impressed with the new

marina ,the great Capt/Angler atmosphere and an impressive clinic to top it off. It's just another example of why The FTC is the best fishing club around.

We have plenty of derbies to keep you busy this fall. Check your "at a glance card" or the website for the official dates. Remember to get you slips in to the committee. I have heard rumors of a 13lb fluke being caught by Tom Schwender. I hope he was in the Calcutta! I would also like to thank Darrin Schafer for donating time and equipment toward the repairs of the club house bathroom.



# FISHING BULLETIN



## Captain Harry Weinblatt F/V Blue Marlin

Our 2008 Offshore Fishing Season has been excellent, that is up until the last three weeks. Since then we have gone into one of the worst offshore summer doldrum periods that I can ever remember. Our shark fishing started on schedule and our members were able to cash in on that action during the local tournaments. It was not long after that action slowed up that our regular canyon commuter Chris Gerhart on his Wasabi, had his bow pointing southeast for another shot of Tuna. On that July 4th weekend trip he and his crew bested a catch of yellowfin to 50lbs. and a handful of small chick sized mahi. It was not long after that trip that the all too familiar sound of the tunas tail was sounding the drumbeat on the cockpit deck of the Kristen, and better yet it was 35 miles north of the canyon. Putting on his detectives hat Larry was able to confirm some local intel and planned the trip. Under ideal conditions he and his crew totaled 11 bluefin tuna keeping their legal limit. The largest that day was a beautiful 92 lber. which was expertly angled by Mary Ellen Zullo, who is no stranger to being on the business side of stand up tuna gear. The word spread amongst the FTC Fleet and within a few days an all FTC Fleet was out and about on the Tuna grounds. The Oceanic, Shark Hunter, Rocket Fish and Aurora reported catching their limits and releasing the rest to live and fight another day. The Wasabi made a pass through the area but since his vessel is not accustomed to fishing in so few fathoms of water, he preceded back out to the edge where he and his crew went 12 for 14 on Yellowfin up to 65lbs. That action was on the flats of the West Elbow in 400ft of water.

By the end of July and the beginning of August a bountiful amount of beautiful Gulf Stream water had poured over the 100 Fathom Line and it was show time. Reports of a Big Eye Bite emanated from the Dip to Block Canyon in 500 Fathoms of water. One day in the Middle Grounds it was reported that there was a Blue Marlin bite on, with eight boats on the grounds six were simultaneously hooked up and fighting Blue Marlin. I wish I was there for my vessels name sake. That same weekend closer to home Jones Inlet Marina sponsored the areas first tuna tournament. The Lady E skippered by Capt Chris Squeri reported lots of action for his crew on smallish yellowfin although they fished through the smaller ones they came home with many in the 50-70lb range. I was invited to take a busman's holiday aboard the Oceanic the same weekend and we ended up with a baker's dozen of yellowfin keeping 8 and releasing the rest. The night bite was non-existent due to the new moon and its accompanying 3-knot current. The following morning we were back on the troll and called in several other FTC boats that had come out for the day troll. The Mikey Likes It was able to strike lightning once again when a mahaffa sized Blue Marlin exploded all over a smallish lure on 30 lb class outfit and was off to the races. The Capt. and crew all acting in concert were able to whip the estimated 500lb marlin where an expertly placed tag and release was executed at boat side. They were also fortunate enough to land the vessels first Big Eye Tuna a 117 lb. fish and a multitude of yellowfin as well. When the signs of the weather were starting to turn later that morning Capt Adam Bolaci aboard his vessel Hooker turned his bow to the north and in an instantaneous fashion five Big Eye Tuna covered up his spread three were boated with an impressive 147, 138 and 120 lb. fish making the return trip home in his Xactics fish box. Out east of the Fish Tails a few days later Capt Scott Schaffer along with first mate Bobby Krug put his crew onto a triple banger Big Eye Tuna with his fish reported at 150, 130 and 120 lbs. Later that week the crew of the Freedom skippered by Jim Hampton was also able to wave the magic wand over his spread attracting two Big Eyes, which were dispatched by his crew those fish weighed in at 133 and 113. Congratulations and nice going to all of the offshore crews.

Closer to home our fluke fishing has been one of the best that I can remember. If the FTC fleet was not offshore it has been on the grounds from the Fire Island Reef to the East Rockaway reef fish to 10lbs have been caught. So many club members have had so many good trips that I could go on forever by recalling all of them.

From our out east crew congratulations are in order for Mike Sullivan and the crew of the Blue Jacket II, he and his crew swept the Calcutta during the Molnars Landing 2008 Annual Fluke tournament. Another congratulations are also in order for Tom Schwender while fishing aboard Dick Moreo's Kathy O nailed a jumbo 13 lb. Fluke with an all FTC crew of Bob Sabella and Charlie Goldstein lending their support.

Bluefishing is on fire and the fish are biting with reckless abandon at the Mud Bouy.

Stay safe and keep the reports coming.

Sincerely,  
Captain Harry Weinblatt  
F/V Blue Marlin

## FLUKE CALCUTTA

Last call for weigh slips. The 2008 Fluke Calcutta is now closed. Right now its Tom Schwender leading the 2008 Duke of Fluke with his 13 lb. doormat! If you have a bigger one, God bless, get me your weigh slip before the GM. 59 members joined this year's 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.

Mike Sullivan

## September Family Fare and Fairs

**Sag Harbor's HarborFest Sept 12-14** Celebrate the annual Sag Harbor's whaling and maritime history during the weekend's events. Enjoy music, nautical displays, gifts, historic tours, parade and the not to be missed whaleboat races! For more info call 631-725-0011

**32nd Annual Tobay In-Water Boat Show-Sept 27-28, October 3, 4 & 5th at the Tobay Beach Marina.** More than 100 boats will be in the water with another 400 festively on display. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors and free for children under 12 years. Weekend hours are 10am-6pm except for Friday Oct 3 (12-6pm). All types of marine accessories and electronics will be on display under the large 10,000 sf tent. Contact NY Marine Trades Assn at 631-691-7050 or goto <http://www.nymta.com> for more info.

**15th Wildwood Fall Festival-Sept 27 at the Wildwood State Park in Wading River.** Great spot for the family with smaller kids. They will love the petting zoo, juggling, magic show and the adults will enjoy the pie eating contest, craft fair and temporary tattoo parlor. Pack as many of your family into the car for a single \$6 vehicle fee! Take the LIE to Exit 68, North to Rt 25A, East to Hulse Landing Rd, then North to park.

**6th annual Stephen Sloan Memorial Tag & Release Int'l Shark Tournament -October 5,** in Montauk sponsored by Trade-Winds Environmental Restoration. This is strictly a tag and release competition with the winners qualifying for the IGFA World Championship. The entry fee is \$1200 per 4-angler team with five daily calcuttas. Captain's meeting Friday Oct 3 and awards dinner Sunday Oct 5, 7pm. Fun activities for the whole family include a seafood festival, guest speakers, marine product vendors, raffles and door prizes. Trained IGFA observers will be on every boat, and classes are being held for anyone interested in becoming an official IGFA observer. Contact Mike O'Reilly at 631-289-5500 or email [moreilly@twenv.com](mailto:moreilly@twenv.com)

-Jeff Yapalater

# September 2008 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

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

Due to the rainout at the last GM we'll be handing out the August awards along with the 1st round of Tuna and Mahi winners at the September GM. Our Fluke derby closed on 9/1. Get those weigh slips in by 9/15; you'll need to better 8lb-6oz to show!

## Our September Derby Winners are:

### Tuna

1st Place: Adam Bollaci.....146.5 lbs  
Bigeye F/V Hooker  
2nd Place: Ken Kapner.....138 lbs  
Bigeye F/V Hooker  
3rd Place: Chris Scarpantonio.....133 lbs  
Bigeye F/V Freedom

### Mahi

1st Place: Chris Gerhart.....12.19 lbs  
F/V Findictive

THE FOLLOWING DERBIES ARE IN PROGRESS OR STARTING THIS MONTH:

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  
Seabass (2.5 lbs)..... September 20th ~ October 26th  
Bluefish (8 lbs).....September 20th ~ November 30th  
Shark (125 lbs)..... September 20th ~ November 30th

## CONSERVATION

Dennis Cataldo  
NY Sportfishing Federation  
P.O Box 909  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

RE: Application to place subway cars on New York's Artificial Reefs DEC Permit# 1-9901-00003/00015

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in receipt of your correspondence expressing support for above referenced project. We appreciate your concerns and recognize the effort you have made to provide us with your pertinent comments.

This agency has carefully completed a review of proposal, and we have determined that the application meets the standards for permit issuance set forth in the applicable sections of the Use and Protection of Water Regulations (6NYCRR Part 608.9. Because the application meets the requirements of the regulations we have issued the enclosed permit.

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments with us.

Very Truly yours,

Sherri Aicher  
Environmental Analyst

Authorized Activity: Place up to 1200 surplus Metropolitan Transportation Authority subway cars on four existing artificial reef sites in the Atlantic Ocean as follows: place approximately 400 cars on the Hempstead Reef, 650 cars on the Fire Island Reef, 50 cars on the Moriches Reef, and 100 cars on the Shinnecock Reef. All work must be done in accordance with the Division of Marine Resources Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement, the attached NYSDEC approved site specific plans, and the conditions of the permit.

Any Questions please contact: Dennis Cataldo  
Conservation Chairmen 516-753-5433

## FREEPORT TUNA CLUB

ON THE WATER OUTDOOR SEMINAR  
WATERFOWL HUNTING  
LONG ISLAND'S SOUTH SHORE  
OCTOBER 11TH RAIN OR SHINE, 2008, 11 AM

275 Hudson Ave Freeport NY  
Where to? How to? When to?  
HUNTING THE BACK BAY'S

\*\*\*GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES\*\*\*

Food and drinks LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE

\$20.00 AT THE DOOR

KIDS UNDER 16 ENTER FREE

CONTACT Joe Jahn 516-851-8762

## GOOD & WELFARE

Kay Leonardi (Ron's wife) is recovering from shoulder surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Our Condolences to Past President Jim Krug and Family on the passing of his mother Dorothy.

Congratulations to Joann & Harry Schroeder on his son's wedding

We wish Mary Weber a speedy recovery from her recent surgery.

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

**2008 Officers**

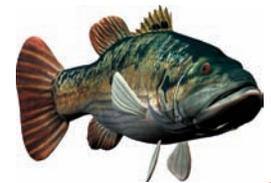
Ed Faza .....President  
Joe Jahn ..... 1st Vice President  
Bob Benzenberg ..... 2nd Vice President  
Mike Sullivan .....Treasurer  
Chris Bellinzoni.....Secretary



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**RODEO**

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
Sept. 19th, 20th & 21st

AT  
**PROPERTY**



Species:

*Striped Bass, Seabass, Tuna  
Bluefish & Shark*

*CHILDREN UNDER 12 SEA ROBBINS*

*First, Second & Third Prizes*

**All Club Minimum Weights Are In Effect**  
**Giveaways and More For All Kids**  
Weigh-In Slips at Property by 4:00 P.M. Sunday  
BBQ at 5:00 P.M.

WINNERS MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE AWARDS

C'mon down & enjoy!  
It's a great family time at the ranch!

**CLASSIFIED:**

Mercury Opti-Max - New & Still in the factory, 225 HP-2 Stroke, Long or Short Shaft, MSRP \$15,000-\$16,000, Looking for Immediate Sale at \$11,000, Waiting to be Shipped - Contact Dennis Cataldo 516.753.5433 dmclife@aol.com

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 ftcfishing@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