

Tuna Tower News

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.
Phone (516) 378-9717
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Volume Ten • October 2003

"PARTICIPATION"



NEXT GENERAL MEETING



Wednesday, October 8, 2003

FREEPORT YACHT CLUB

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

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Scott Schafer

It is hard to believe that it I am about to begin the tenth month of my Presidency. It seems as if it were only yesterday I was sworn in as the President of the finest fishing club on Long Island, The Freeport Tuna Club. I believe the club is having one of its best years ever and look forward to an even better 2004 when I will be starting my second term. I look forward to finishing those projects I have begun this year, but have yet to complete. With the assistance from one of the finest board of directors and a general memberships that has been one of the most active this club has ever see, I anticipate 2004 will be one of the best membership years the club has ever seen.

First, I would like to personally thank general member Doug Toback for stepping up to the plate as our guest speaker and lending his expertise as one of several premier striped bass anglers in our club. It is the membership stepping up as Doug has done on many occasions as both a board and general member and many other members have in various capacities that make the FTC the best club on Long Island. Without participation and contribution, we would not be the club that has evolved into since our founding in 1937. Whether your participation is out front, or behind the scenes, the willingness of a member to participate and contribute is always appreciated and will never be refused. This club belongs to every member and all are welcome to play a part. Additionally, I would like to extend the thanks of all who attended the Sept. GM for the attendance and participation of the Honorable Dave Denenberg, who represents the Merrick, Freeport and Bellmore areas in the Nassau County Legislature. All who attended appreciated the time he gave us. In his short relationship with the club, he has shown himself to be a friend to us as recreational fisherman and as a fishing club. We anticipate working with him very closely on those issues that impact us and the environment in which we recreate.

If the leaves are turning brown and falling, it must mean fall rodeo time is upon us. We held our annual fall rodeo over the week-end of Sept. 20th, and not even a threatened hurricane was able to put a damper on our annual rite of passage into the fall season. A great time was had by all who attended. I would like to thank not only those who attended, but to those many people who in many different ways put together a fun-filled afternoon. Also in attendance at our rodeo BBQ was our new friend from the Nassau County Legislature Dave Denenberg. I can state with certainty that he was impressed by comroderie, friendship and goodwill he not only observed between the membership, but the warm welcome that was extended to him by all in attendance.

The falling leaves also mean it is time for the annual fall run of striped bass and phenomenal bottom fishing, as well as the annual migration and fall run of fluke to their offshore spawning grounds on the continental shelf. Whatever your species of choice, there is something for everyone, as long as the weather holds. Before we know it, it will be time to haul and winterize our boats and turn our thoughts to a bigger and better club in 2004.

To jump ahead to our November General Meeting, in addition to our traditional turkey raffle, this years turkeys will be stuffed. Specifically, they will be stuffed with fishing tackle, a bicycle and other goodies, rather than just giblets.

Also, we have taken the liberty at a nominal cost to the club of adding several of our local elected officials to our bulletin mailing list. The purpose of that is so that when an issue comes before a legislative body such as the tournament regulation bill that recently came up for consideration in the Nassau county legislature, those officials in authority will know who we are when we feel it necessary to get involved in the legislative process.

In conclusion, I would like to make a few comments

Continued on page two



FISHING BULLETIN



As the month of October wears on the window of opportunity diminishes when planning an offshore trip. The days are starting to grow shorter, and the weather takes on a more volatile pattern with Nor'Easters continually threatening. The general rule when planning any offshore trip in the fall is a flexible schedule. This is also the time of the year when many potentially award winning fish are bumped out of contention by the fall migration of our offshore species.

Our canyon fishing has been hit and miss and consistent catches have not been the rule of thumb and should be at this time of the year. Most recently the Mickey Likes It returned from an overnigher with a dozen yellowfin despite engine problems earlier in the day, the trip went off with good results. Several other club members have been making trips on their boats or as crew on others and have reported yellowfin up to 80lbs.

Two years ago at this time we witnessed one of the best fall migrations of large school, medium and giant bluefin tuna, since the days of the Bacardi in 1989. I will hold out hope of this action to repeat itself this year as well. The fish were caught among a fleet of offshore draggers and scallopers located from the Bacardi area to the flats of the canyon. This action, if in the cards for this year should start to develop shortly.

The beginning of October also marks the start of our fall shark fishery. As in years past the best catches have been brought in during the fall run. The offshore waters are clean and the surface temperatures should be conducive to launch our fall season. If the fall run is anything like the late spring run that we had then get set for some decent fishing.

If you have bluefish on the mind then you just might want to point your bow to 17 Fathoms. The fishing has been incredible and there have been a few large fish around as well. During our fall rodeo the crew of Alexa Weinblatt and Jillian Edelman, aboard the Blue Marlin, had bluefish of 11.9lbs. and 11.5lbs. respectively to take first and second place in that category. The fall run is on.

Our inshore wreck fishing is starting to show promising signs for the fall season. Now that the season is open for seabass and blackfish more people will start to target them. Early indications look good. Lets hope that this is a good omen of things to come.

Lastly our fall striped bass run appears to have started. I don't think that it ever stopped, as this fishery is almost a year round one. Our members have reportedly been catching fish around the typical fall spots. This action will only get better as the area waters start to cool down. I have not been able to confirm if the bunker schools, typical at this time of year are in place to start their fall migration. If this is the scenario as in years past then it won't be long before the striped bass are hot on their heels.



Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin



Continued from Presidents Message

about our upcoming membership year. Dues notices which should go out 12/1/03 will reflect a small increase in individual and family dues. However, that increase can be negated by paying dues by 1/15/2004. A signed receipt or postmark will be used to verify deadlines for discount. Additionally, we will be asking for voluntary donations to fund several initiatives the club has planned for the upcoming year including the establishment of the Freeport Tuna Club artificial reef. Please be as generous as possible. Please participate and play a role in making the club better in 2004 than it was in 2003.



Thank You, President Scott.

This shot was taken at approximately 7 am (9/18/03) from the deck of an Atlantic shipping barge off the coast of North Carolina.

CLUB AWARDS & DERBY DATES

Our 2003 Derby at a Glance wallet size derby card are available.

Fall Tuna Derby (min. 25 lbs.) August 17th ~ September 21st
 1st Place: Captain Mike Zull o..... 48.93 lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Mikie Likes It
 2nd Place: Captain Mike Lobosco47.75 lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Mikie likes It
 3rd Place: Mary Ellen Zullo 33lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Mikie likes It

Fall Bluefish Derby (min. 10 lbs.) August 17th ~ September 21st
 1st Place: Captain Chris Bellinzoni.....12.62 lb. Bluefish F/V Four Bells
 2nd Place: Alexa Wienblatt.....11.90 lb. Bluefish F/V Blue Marlin
 3rd Place: Joe Feirro.....11.56 lb. Bluefish F/V Four Bells

Note: If you are a Licensed United States Coast Guard Captain, The Awards & Contests Committee would like to know. You title of captain would be included on all awards & contest plaques and reports. This information is voluntary. You can E-mail the information to Captainlarry84@aol.com

Conservation

Black Sea Bass is open again as of 9/16/2003. Phone calls to DEC are still needed if we have any hope of getting the last 50 redbirds or to take advantage of any future railcars that may become available. Contact Gerald Barnhart at 518-402-8924 or Gordon Colvin at 631-444-0430. Flounder is currently open. There will be no official closure to Fluke this season. The club is in the process of putting together the financing to build our own reefs. The financial help of the club will be sought and will be appreciated. Paul Grippo, the NYS IGFA rep has donated 10 junior memberships to the club. Please see Pres. Scott for details. Also IGFA is sending me applications for regular membership. Please see me or Paul Grippo if you are interested in joining IGFA.

Good & Welfare

Our prayers go out to Scott and Darren Schafer's Mother. She is very ill. Remember the best way to lighten grief is to share the weight. We are thinking of you.

We welcome the long awaited arrival of the "Camille" Sil & Camille Mazzilli's new 48 ft. Viking.
 Good Luck!



OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY			
			1	Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	2	3	Shark Starts 	4	
5	6	7	General Membership Meeting	8	Captain/ Anglers CLINIC	9	10	11	
12	13	14	Board of Directors Meeting	15	Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	16	17	BLACKFISH STARTS	18
Striped Bass Starts	19	20	21	22	Captain/ Anglers Barbecue	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31	HALLOWEEN 			
Flounder Ends									

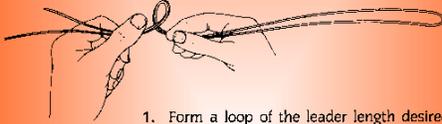


THE "Y-KNOT" CORNER
 To all members - any knots
 or rigging tips are always welcome

Shock Leader To Line

SPIDER HITCH

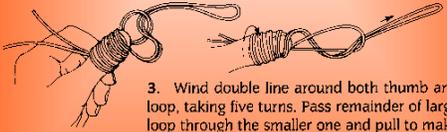
This is a faster, easier knot to create a double-line leader. Under steady pressure it is equally strong but does not have the resilience of the Bimini Twist under sharp impact. Not practical with lines above 30-lb test.



1. Form a loop of the leader length desired. Near the point where it meets the standing line, twist a section into a small reverse loop.



2. Hold small loop between thumb and forefinger with thumb extended well above finger and loop standing out beyond end of thumb.



3. Wind double line around both thumb and loop, taking five turns. Pass remainder of large loop through the smaller one and pull to make five turns unwind off the thumb.



4. Pull turns around the base of the loop up tight and snip off tag end.

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

- 2 Penn Reels - 45 GLS in box like new \$100 / Penn 710Z Reel \$75 call Frank at 516-867-8492 after 6:00 pm
- 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. evinrude, sst prop vhf/ta system full canvas/ 14 rod holder/70 gal. fuel/outtrigger/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
- 1972 16' Cobia bow rider with 72 50 hp evinrude electric start runs great, new power pack, 2 new tanks, bimini top first \$600 takes it. Call bob 798-4058
- 1993 23' Steiger craft new decks installed by steiger factory 2003. 1997 150 hp evinrude motor rebuilt 8/03 with 1 year transferable warrantee. full electronics extras everything in perfect condition. \$13,000 firm 868-9524
- Sears fiberglass car top boa "game fisher" lake use only. Would make great duck boat or dinghy. \$250 or best offer paul 379-6087

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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Deliver To:

