

# Tuna Tower News

**Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.**  
Phone (516) 378-9717  
Internet Address: [www.ftcfishing.com](http://www.ftcfishing.com)

Volume Ten • October 2004

**"PARTICIPATION"**

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING

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Thursday, October 14th at 8:00 pm

*\*NEW LOCATION\**

Curé of Ars School Auditorium  
Merrick Ave., Merrick

(South of Sunrise Hwy. between Sunrise Hwy. & Merrick Road)  
For more info call 516-546-2312

## *Special Guest Speakers*

Gordon Colvin, Bureau of Marine Resources & Gerald Barnhart, Director, Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources of the NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

*This will be your opportunity to voice your grievances concerning the management of our imposition of salt water licensing, in the wake of the loss of our "Redbirds" to other states.*

## Presidents Message

Scott Schafer

**W**e're well on our way to a wonderful fall fishing season. The Fall Rodeo, the traditional kick-off was well attended and everyone had a good time. Congratulations to all those who participated and especially to those who won.

Many future Freeport Tuna Club members got a taste of what there is to come!! Thanks to the Thursday night cooking crew for another excellent meal. Everyone who helped set up or clean up and anyone who helped in any way with the rodeo, a hearty thanks.

The election for open Board of Directors positions is coming up. If you are interested in running please submit your name, along with the signatures of ten members in good standing to Jeff Squeri.

While the weather is turning cooler, the fun at the Freeport Tuna Club continues.

Upcoming events include the Turkey Raffle at the November General Meeting, the Holiday Party in December and of course, our continuing Fall Fishing Derbies.

There is something for everyone. Please come out and get involved in your club.



# FISHING BULLETIN

Early fall seems to be the best time of the year. Our weather has changed over the last several years and that has translated into a potpourri of species that we have or will encounter over the next several weeks. Our season is starting to transform as winds from a more northerly direction signal that our areas water temperatures are on the decline. This time of the year is also still a time when tropical storms or hurricanes can potentially threaten our area as well. Although our friends at NOAA weather have not been "on the mark" in forecasting our weather, the announcement of an approaching storm should automatically be a signal to all boat owners to properly secure their vessels in an appropriate manner. This extra vigilance is the most important quality of the responsible boat owner.

The action is starting to pick up on the offshore scene. The action from the canyons from Block to Toms has been consistent as long as the weather allows anglers to venture out. The action is starting to shift from trolling to chunking as the fish settle in to feed heavily prior to their migration south to their winter hibernating grounds. The Mickey Likes It and the Oceanic have been putting in their time and scoring well on their outings. Yellowfin and Longfin are the mainstay of the catches. On a recent overnighter the Camille skippered by Sil Mazilli scored big on the Yellowfin with the boat catching a bakers dozen rounded out by several longfin. Great trip guys. The bluefin action has heated up as well from the Bacardi area to the Tower area. Last weekend the Hooker and the Moonchild scored big time on these bluefins with fish reported up to 75lbs. On a recent trip aboard the Bunker Dunker, skippered by Capt. John Jutt, crew of Mike Jutt, Capt. Eugene Pierce, Capt Michael Edelman and myself scored with twenty five bluefins up to 75lbs. keeping our limit and releasing the balance to grow up and fight another day.

Shark fishing has started up again as this is the time of the year when the fall migration starts. For those of us who are interested in this fishery this time of year brings in some of the seasons best. On a recent trip the Oceanic encountered the biggest kind of blue sharks up to and maybe in excess of 300lbs. Lets hope that the fall is as

## CONSERVATION

Winter flounder is currently open until 11/30/2004 with an 11" minimum and a 15 bag. Black seabass has reopened until 11/30/2004 and porgy (scup) is currently open until 10/17/2004. Beginning 10/18/2004 a 2 week closure will begin, thru 10/31/2004. The fishery will re-open 11/01/2004 and close again 11/30/2004. Both black sea bass and porgies will then remain closed until after the first of the year (2005). Blacfih (tautog) will re-open 10/01/2004 and run until 5/31/2005. Please remember, our special guest speakers from the DEC scheduled for the October GM. Those of you who have gripes as I do concerning salt water licenses, "redbirds", etc, this is your opportunity to air them. Preliminary congratulations to Jillian Edelman, daughter of general member Mike Edelman on her pending IGFA Small Fry Division recort for a 10 1/4 lb. fluke caught in the Montauk Mercury Grand Slam Tournament this past season. Those of you who receive "The Fisherman" magazine will note that the club was mentioned in the 9/23/2004 issue in an article concerning blue marlin fishing. Respectfully submitted, Dr. John J. Weber Jr., Conservation Committee

good as the spring and we have a productive next several weeks of fishing.

Seabass is open again for fishing and the boats that targeted them when the season opened were rewarded with decent action. This fishery should continue to get better as the waters cool down and the fish make their offshore migration. Blackfish is also open and the season opener was probably a bit disappointing for most as the waters are still a little warm for that fishery yet.

Last weekend Bill Morrogh iced a nice 6.85lb blackfish on a piece of bottom to the west.

Cooler temperatures will liven up this fishing and we can expect that to happen as the season wears on.

Bluefishing has been non-stop. A trip to 17 Fathoms or to the Mud Buoy is all it takes to load up.

Striped Bass has tailed off as of late but not to worry, as this is only temporary. Once again cooler waters is all that it is going to take for this fishery to pick up again. I hope that we get a shot of the large fish that have been caught by our Eastern club members all season long.

Sincerely,  
Captain Harry Weinblatt  
F/V Blue Marlin



## GOOD AND WELFARE

Our condolences go out to Harry Weinblatt & Family on the recent loss of Cindy's Father Jamie Wilson. May he rest in peace.

Condolences go out to members Corinne Berezuk and her husband Michael Stieber on the recent loss of Corinne's mother, Maggie.

## PROPERTY

At \$10 a foot, \$225 minimum, winter storage at the property is one of the best bargains in town. In addition, you have the flexibility to work on the boat. Anyone who wishes to store a boat at the property is reminded that they must sign a winter lease agreement and pay in advance of the boat's arrival at the property. Contracts were mailed out last month. So far about a third of the boat owners have paid and reserved their space. If you think you would like to store your boat at the property and have not received a contract, you should contact Mike Sullivan.

## BULLETIN

Starting last month, the Club began an e-mail delivery service for the bulletin. Initial response is very favorable. The e-mail delivery is in addition to the postal service delivery. It is dependable and quick. And, in addition, e-mail addresses are kept confidential. If you are not receiving the bulletin by e-mail and you think you would like to sign up for this service, send your request to [ftc1937@optonline.net](mailto:ftc1937@optonline.net).

# CLUB AWARDS & DERBY DATES

*Capt. Lawrence J. Festa F/V Kristen*

## October 2004 Derby Report

Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa F/V "KRISTEN"  
Committee Team: Captain Chris Bellinzoni, Captain Michael Zullo,  
Mary Ellen Zullo & Anthony Testa

## Winners of the Fall Fluke Derby

1st Place: Michael Wagner.....8.56 Fluke F/V Mike's Mistress  
2nd Place: Peter McEvoy.....7.92 Fluke F/V Corazon  
3rd Place: Joseph Jahn.....6.9 Fluke F/V Huntress

The following Derbies are closed, the winners will be awarded at our

## November General Meeting

Fall Bluefish ( 08 lbs.).....August 28th ~ September 26th  
Fall Tuna (25 lbs. min.).....August 28th ~ September 26th  
False Albacore (06 lbs.).....August 28th ~ September 26th  
Green Bonito (06 lbs.).....August 28th ~ September 26th  
Fall Weakfish ((05 lbs.).....August 28th ~ September 26th

## The following derbies are in progress or starting this month

Fall Flounder (01.5 lbs.).....September 25th ~ October 24th  
Fall Seabass (02 lbs.).....September 25th ~ October 24th  
Striped Bass (15 lbs.).....October 16th ~ November 14th  
Fall Shark ( 125 lbs.).....October 9th ~ November 7th

## Notable Catches

Congratulations to Richard Olejnik on his slammer 182 lb. Big Eye Tuna caught on the "Canyon Lady "with Captain Dave Pincus at the Helm. A very hard fish to beat! Hats of Captain Micheal Zullo with a 65.5 lb. Longfin Albacore caught on Captain Micheal Lobosco's "Mikey Likes It." It should be noted that this fish missed the club record by two pounds. Nice work for John Gerrity of the "Moon Child"as he bests a beautiful 75 lb. Bluefin on the chunk behind the draggers at the Texas Towers.

## Suggestion & Comments

We would love to hear them. Our seasons is winding down. My committee and I will be working on 2005 Derby Dates and reviewing our awards. If you have any recommendations, kindly E-mail [captainlarry84@aol.com](mailto:captainlarry84@aol.com). You will get a response.



## TOURNAMENT REPORT

### On The Shoot-Out Front TAKE - TWO!

Let's try it again! Last month both the Matinecock and Hudson Anglers fishing clubs had accepted our challenge for another "Bragger's Rights" shoot-out weekend. While many intrepid Freeport Tuna Club boats & anglers braved winds & high seas to bring qualifying fish to scale in (that alone is enough to brag about!) no boats from either of the other clubs were able to break away from there moorings.

Being the sportsmen that we are, we have agreed to a "TAKE-TWO" and fish for "Bragger's Rights" on Friday, Saturday and Sunday October 15, 16 and 17.

The 3 biggest fish from each species will determine what club gets the "Bragging Rights" for another year. Our awards night will be held at either a Thursday night Captain's meeting or GM, the date to be announced.

Drop your weight slips off at the property, post them on our web-site's Fishing Report or call one of our committee members. (Scott Schaffer, John Jutt, Al Casciano or Chris Bellinzoni) We will compete against our friends in the Matinecock Fishing Club for Striped Bass, Sea Bass, Blackfish, Bluefish and Porgy. The Hudson Anglers join the fun and add in False Albacore and Green Bonita to spice things up!

Last piece to mention, (AKA: brag about), our club did deck fish in 4 of 5 categories during TAKE – ONE!

Mark Your Calendars, it's round two of the "Bragger's Rights" Shoot-Out. Support our club the best there is by participating in this "Catch and Brag event!"

TOWER NEWS  
TUNA TOWER NEWS

## Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

Chartered to Promote  
Sport-fishing & Conservation

### 2004 Officers

Scott Schafer ..... President  
Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr. .... 1st Vice President  
James Rooney..... 2nd Vice President  
Mike Sullivan ..... Treasurer  
Jeff Squeri ..... Secretary



Post Office Box 5  
Freeport, New York 11520

### Deliver To:



*Fisherman Dude says:  
"Here's to swimmin' with  
bowlegged women"  
Quint*

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

*Nominations for Directors will be  
entertained from the floor at the  
November meeting*

*The name of the candidate must  
be proposed by a voting member  
and seconded by ten voting  
members and presented to the  
Secretary in writing at least seven  
(7) days prior to the  
November meeting*

## CLASSIFIED:

ANYCLASSIFIED 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

- New exciting offshore teasers. Looks like giant squid - lots of smoke. Reasonably priced. See Sy 546-1691
- 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 boat "game fisher" lake use only. Would make great duck boat or dinghy. \$250 or best offer paul 379-6087
- 1968-02 28' Donzi sportsman everything new or rebuilt twin 440 chrysler 70 hrs. fresh Imron, arch, Bimini, ac.dc, panel gen available many spare parts! Over \$35,000 invested. New boat here. Best offer over \$25,000. Call Joe (917) 731-4466
- 1984 Tiara Pursuit 27, cabin, stand up head, twin 220 crusaders, GPS, Depth finder, radio, out riggers, \$27,500 Also, 16 ft. heavy fiberglass dingy \$200. Call Michael 516-535-4085, [embroidme@optonline.net](mailto:embroidme@optonline.net)
- 12' Barneget Duck Boat by Aero Marine. Locking hard cover and spray shield, 15 h.p. Mariner w/ Sting Ray Jr., 3 yr. old trailer \$2,250.00 Call Ron 516-593-6560
- For sale: Pastimo 6 man offshore liferaft packed in a soft vinyl carrying case. Last opened and serviced about 4 years ago. \$575.00 John Weber Jr. 516-379-8935