

Editor: CAPT. JOHN J. JUTT, Sr

# Tuna Tower News

**Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.**

Phone (516) 378-9717

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



**Volume Twelve • December 2003**



## NEXT GENERAL MEETING



Wednesday, December 11, 2003

**FREEPORT YACHT CLUB**

8 Guy Lombardo Avenue (Just South of Sea Isle Sports Center on

*Happy Holidays*  
**Next General Meeting**



## HOLIDAY PARTY

DECEMBER 10TH 6:30 PM

FREEPORT YACHT CLUB

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**Scott Schafer**

*J*ust when I thought I was out, they pulled me back in. I am proud to announce that I will be remaining on the Presidential Ballot for 2004 in hopes of a second term as your President. I want to open by thanking all of the members and the board of directors for their loyal support and most of all their friendship. I would like to publically thank our Treasurer and Bill Morrrough for his years of hard work managing our clubs finances. Bill will be resigning as treasurer and will remain on our board to lend support. Thanks for your years of service on the Exclusive Staff.

Due to the inclement weather the annual holiday party was cancelled. The party has been rescheduled for Wednesday, December 10th at 6:30 pm. It will be held at the Freeport Yacht Club. Hope you all are able to join in the festivities. I truly thank our wonderful holiday com-

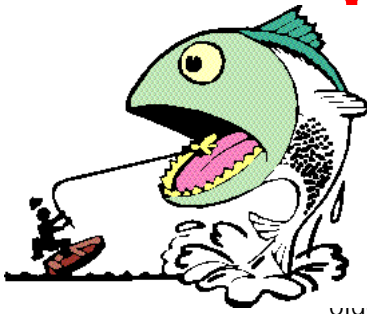
mittee of our past presidents and members wives. Kim Krug, Trudy, Cindy Weinblatt, Mep Zullo, Lisa Bellinzoni, and the Sposato's for their continuing hard work in making the party a success. They are true unsung heroes.

Not only has this been a successful year for the club, it has been personally rewarding for me. I am very proud to have been your president this past year and I feel confident that the new officers in our December election will continue to make it better.

I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the December 10th General Meeting.



# FISHING BULLETIN



It seems like only a short time ago that I was sitting down writing the first bulletin of the 2003 season. Now I am writing the last one of the 2003 season.

The year just seemed to breeze by and I am told that as you get over the time just seems to go by

even faster. In thinking back over the last twelve months, for the most part we had a decent season from the standpoint of fishing and a tougher season with regard to the weather. I can only hope that the later does not hold true for the upcoming year. Our property is starting to fill up with boats signaling that the season is rapidly coming to an end for most members.

Our fall blackfishing continues to be decent for most of our club members, when you can get out in between the gale force winds. Although the inshore pieces are still giving up decent catches the action should start to take on the pattern of a migration into deeper water. As the month of December wears on I am sure that the weather will start taking on a more traditional trend and the most recent cold snap might even heat this fishing up even more.

We continue to enjoy decent seabass action on the twenty-fathom wrecks, however I believe that this will end as the local waters continue to cool down. The vessel Kristen made a mid November day trip to a distant offshore piece and was rewarded for their efforts. Several keeper sized cod and seabass up to 5lbs made up the bulk of the catch. The water temperature is still about 53 degrees and although this might be suitable to continue to catch seabass the cod fishing usually doesn't take hold until we are in the 48-degree range. If the cod fishing is

anything like it has been the last several seasons there will not be a season. However the tell tale signs of several small fish being caught might prove this theory incorrect. Only time will tell as the season approaches.

I am quite sure that every angler will agree that this past season was one of the best striped bass seasons in quite a long time. Although the larger fish were lacking, with the exception of several weeks of action to the west, the abundance of smaller fish more than made up for this. Our local striped bass experts capitalized on this action. Whether it was clam chumming or chunking in the inlets, offshore around the surf clam grounds or live baiting the action at times was fast and furious. I only hope that the same holds true for next year. Congratulations are also in order as Bob Porter pulled the rabbit out of the hat trick with his recent catch of a 46lb Bass.

I will start working on our annual FTC Codfish Trip and should have more information at the January General meeting.

In closing I hope that the membership has enjoyed reading my reports for yet another season. I certainly take pride in serving our organization by contributing my time and research to one of the best fishing clubs in our area.

Sincerely,

Captain Harry Weinblatt

F/V Blue Marlin



## Freeport Tuna Club Vs Staten Island Tuna Club Striped Bass Shoot-out Results

In short a bit of a tail whipping! 58 pounds for our Freeport Tuna Club, 78 pounds for our competitive friends in the Staten Island Club. The trophy goes west! For our club the 3 largest fish brought to scale included Ron Leonadri's 35.5, Doug Toback's 31.5 followed by Jimmy Counts' 24.4

*Honorable Mention goes to Jr. Angler Miss Alexa Weinblatt with a proud 18.8 pounder. Way to go Alexa! Matinecock's weights were not available at present time.*

## Conservation

Black Sea bass will close 12/01/03 and re-open 1/10/2004. Striped bass will become a catch and release fishery only effective 12/16/2003. Please use circle hooks and gently handle gut-hooked fish to lessen mortality rates. The last 50 redbirds are going to New Jersey and Delaware. Congratulations to new IGFA small-fry record holder Gabby Toback on acceptance of her striped bass and congratulations to Bobby Krug and Stefi-Ann Testa for their pending IGFAA small fry records for tatoung and Black sea bass respectively. If the proud parents will get me a picture of their children with their record fish, I will make sure they will be displayed at the IGFA museum in Florida. Paul Grippo has assured me of that. In closing, on behalf of myself and my wife, I would like to express our appreciation of the support given to us by our friends in the tuna club in the aftermath of the loss of my wifes brother, Gerard. Respectfully submitted, John Weber, 1st VP and Conservation Chairman

## Property

Any member wishing to winter a boat on property must contact Bob Sabella (516) 798-4058 Payments "must" be made before your boat arrives.



# DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 F.T.C. HOLIDAY PARTY Freeport Rec. Center	8	9	G.M. 10	11	12	13
14	15	16	Board of Directors Meeting	17	18	19 Chanukah Begins Light 1st Candle
Cod Ends 21	22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS 	26	27
28	29	30	31 HAPPY NEW YEAR!			

## CLUB AWARDS & DERBY REPORT

### Awards Chairman Capt. Lawrence J. Festa F/V Kristen

December 2003 Awards & Contest Report

Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa F/V AKRISTEN@

Committee Team: Captain Chris Bellinzoni, Captain Michael Zullo,

Mary Ellen Zullo & Anthony Testa

\*\*\*\*\* The Following Derbies are in Progress

This Month:

Fall Cod (12 lbs.).....November 15th ~ December 21st

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The Following Derbies are Closed

Fall Striped Bass (15 lbs.).....October 19th ~ November 23rd

Fall Blackfish (03 lbs.).....October 18th ~ November 23rd

Winners & Awards to be announced at the January 2004 GM Meeting

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Derby Results for Fall Seabass & Shark

Seabass

1st Place:James Counts.....4.52 pounds F/V Wet Snapper

2nd Place:Captain Michael Zullo.....4.06 pounds F/V Hope Sherry

3rd Place:Barry Simon.....3.87 pounds F/V Kristen

Shark

1st Place:Peter Cefai.....293 lb. Blue Shark F/V Lucille

2nd Place: John Gerrity.....149.5 Mako F/V Kristen

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Last call for weight slips will be January 11, 2004. No slips will be excepted after that date. Kindly assist the awards committee and get your slips in early.

In addition if you feel that you are in the running for a annual award contact me @ Captainlarry84@aol.com All questions and requests will be answered in a timely fashion. Thank you and HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE AWARDS COMMITTEE

*“There is a sea for every ship”*

- Old New England Folk Law





Deliver To:

275 Hudson Avenue  
Post Office Box 5  
Freeport, New York 11520



Scott Schaffer ..... President  
John Weber ..... 1st Vice President  
Capt. John J. Jutt, Sr. ... 2nd Vice President  
Bill Morrogh ..... Treasurer  
Jeff Squeri ..... Secretary

2003 Officers

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

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

## OFFSHORE SWIVEL KNOT

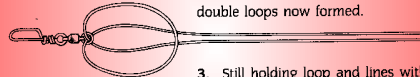
Attaching swivel or snap to double-line leader

OFFSHORE SWIVEL KNOT

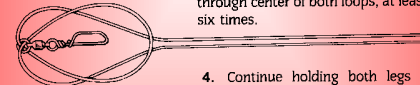


1. Slip loop end of double-line leader through eye of swivel. Rotate loop end a half-turn to put a single twist between loop and swivel eye.

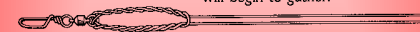
2. Pass the loop with the twist over the swivel. Hold end of the loop, plus both legs of the double-line leader with one hand. Let swivel slide to other end of double loops now formed.



3. Still holding loop and lines with one hand, use other to rotate swivel through center of both loops, at least six times.



4. Continue holding both legs of double-line leader tightly but release end of loop. Pull on swivel and loops will begin to gather.



5. To draw knot tight, grip swivel with pliers and push loops toward eye with fingers, while still keeping standing lines of the leader pulled tight.



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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

- 1988 Steigercraft 25' chesepetre volvo turbo diesel I.O. volvo duo prop ss. 118 gal. tank 3 1/2 g.p.h. icon radio, loran trim tabs full cushions... plus extras \$22,000 call after 6:00 p.m. 516-867-8492
- 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
- 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
- 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