

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB, INC.



Tuna Tower News

MAY 2024

CAPT. JOHN. J. JUTT, SR., EDITOR

NEXT GM

THURSDAY, MAY 9

7 PM @ FREEPORT YACHT CLUB

533 GUY LOMBARDO AVENUE | FREEPORT, NY 11520

Featuring Capt. John McMurray of One More Cast Charters, Inc.

Discussing what's causing the super abundance of Striped Bass in our local fishery.

Topics will include: bait and bass migration patterns, why the slot limit remains so restrictive, the future of bass in our local fishery, and some top water tactics. see inside for more details



President's Message

If you were unable to join us at our April GM you missed Master Anglers presentation by Mike Sullivan on Striped Bass and Dave Pincus on Tuna. That's two years in a row at our April GM, thank you guys.

The property is starting to get busy with members getting their boats ready for another season of fishing and enjoyment on the water. Please remove all your shrink wrap from the property, the Merrick dump will gladly take it off your hands. Also, our annual flea market is on May 18th, please make every effort to have your boats in the water before that date so we can have enough room for all the vendors that will be coming. Call Gene Schettini if you will need a table, more information is on the back of this newsletter.

We are trying to have our GM in June at the Freeport Yacht Club. If that is not possible, we will likely be having it on our property, weather permitting. We will keep everyone posted on that location. I would like to thank all the Veterans of the club as we approach Memorial Day for your sacrifice to your family and to our country.

Stay well, stay safe,

Anthony J. Alfieri



Remember those who served. All gave some, some gave all.

Entertainment

Sharpen your pencils and bring your notepads to the GM on May 9th @ 7pm at the Freeport Yacht Club.



Seminar: *What's Going on with Striped Bass?* (30 min, plus questions)

At the next General Meeting on May 9th, **Capt. John McMurray of ONE MORE CAST CHARTERS, INC.** will be discussing what's causing the super abundance of Striped Bass in our local fishery. **Topics include:** bait and bass migration patterns, why the slot limit remains so restrictive, the future of bass in our local fishery, and some top water tactics.

Captain McMurray served in the U.S. Coast Guard as a small-boat coxswain and marine-fisheries law enforcement officer. Thereafter, he was the Executive Director of the Coastal Conservation Association New York, a non-profit recreational fishing conservation and advocacy group. For 16 years he served as the Director of Grants Programs at the Norcross Wildlife Foundation in New York, which had distributed over \$20 million in conservation grants, much of it directly targeted for protection of marine fish and habitat.

For the last two decades Capt. McMurray has been the owner and primary operator of ONE MORE CAST CHARTERS, INC., where he runs trips on skiffs and Contenders, nearly every day the weather allows, from mid-April through December – with the exception of every other Sunday, which he sets aside to take his son and his friends fishing (AKA "Bro-day"). If you would like to book a trip with Capt. McMurray, the details are on his website at nyctuna.com

The presentation will be videotaped and posted to the FTC Facebook page. Please ask questions to contribute to the discussion.

If you missed last month's GM, the speakers' presentations can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/wL8oe-GuXlg?feature=shared>
Striped Bass Seminar by Mike Sullivan

https://youtu.be/7jB_FLGHGYg?feature=shared
Tuna & Tile Fish Seminar by Capt. Dave Pincus

Have Your Say!

Suggestions for Future Events:

Your suggestions are requested for future events, including, but not limited to:

- **Bands and Musicians.** Especially for the June, July and August General Meetings.
- **Future Speakers.** **What topics are you interested in?** Please let me know if you would like to speak or have a speaker in mind.
- **Fishing Competitions.** Are you interested in a catch and release Striper Contest this Fall?
- **Fishing trips.** Linking up anglers with captains.
- **On the Water Fishing Seminars.** Real world fishing seminars where our members take part in fishing videos on the water to put theory to test. If enough members are interested, I will ask the Board for approval. I'm contemplating fishing seminars on the following species:
 - **Stripers**
 - **Fluke**
 - **Seabass**
 - **Tog**
 - **Tuna** (midshore & offshore)
 - **Mahi**



If approved, the seminar trips must be videotaped and posted to the **FTC Facebook page** -- where members can see you in action. The Captain who is voted best video will receive the **"Best Captain" award** and prize money (upon Board approval.) Stay tuned for further details!

The Entertainment Committee is here to serve you, and we greatly appreciate your feedback and recommendations. Please let me know your thoughts on these ideas, and other topics you are interested in.

Looking forward to seeing and hearing from you at the May 9th GM!

Derrick Storms

P.S. Special thanks to our camera team: **Kon Tiev** of King Kong Adventure and **"Wild" Bill**.

Derbies, Awards & Contests

Awards Committee: Chairman Ray Geiger, Bill Morrogh & Harry Sbaschnig

Please remember we must have your weigh slips in hand no later than 14 days after the derby close in order to be eligible for derby awards. All slips that we receive figure in our annual awards, so if possible, get your fish weighed and send us a slip! We will be giving a demonstration of the proper way of filling a FTC weigh slip at our May GM thanks to Charlie Goldstein and his wife Mary. **FOR FISH TO BE ELIGIBLE - ALL WEIGH SLIPS MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT**

Please be aware there is a minimum weight requirement for all species. These minimum weights as well as FTC fishing regulations and weigh stations are available at: <https://www.ftcfishing.com/derbies>

The NYC DEC has finally updated their marine regulations and they are available at: extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/fishlimitsfish.pdf

The following derbies are open and will be awarded at our June GM:

BLACKFISH (3 lb min) April 1st – April 30th

COD (6 lb min) March 2nd – April 28th

FLOUNDER (1.5 lb min) April 6th – May 12th

The following derbies are open, or will be opening soon:

STRIPED BASS (10 lb min) April 27th – June 2nd

WEAKFISH (5 lb min) April 27th – June 9th

FLUKE (3.5 lb min) May 11th – July 7th

SHARK (125 lb min) May 11th – July 7th

BLUEFISH (8 lb min) May 11th – July 7th

We will be posting updates and info in the Fishing Reports forum section on our website (ftcfishing.com) as the season progresses. Remember, you must be a registered member of our forums in order to view this section. Our website is the only official media site for club information.

If you have any questions or concerns we can be reached at: ftcawardsandcontests@gmail.com

Good Luck To All!!!

Best Fishes ---- *Ray Geiger*



Property

Kindly tightly wrap, all shrink wrapping, do not place in our garbage container. Shrink wrap will be removed by boat owner. Boats that were covered by Traveler's (Chris) can be dropped off in his yard. All boats that are cement blocked please kindly put your blocks back on the pallets. All boats blocked by Traveler's (Chris) blocks will be put back on pallets by Traveler's (Chris).

Kindly respect the property and when finished working on your boat clean up your area.

Summer dockage for 2024 is full and paid in full. All boats should be off the property by June 1. After June 1 there is an additional payment of \$175 per month for dry dockage.

Our yard sale is on May 18 if boats are out by then that would be great. It makes the yard sale much nicer for all our vendors.

We started cleaning up the southside where it was very messy, many coolers and containers are not named we don't know who they belong to. Please let me know if it's yours or if it's junk I will throw it out.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Bob Dimino

Business Property Manager, 516 765 1555



Membership

Attention General Membership! If you know if any friends of family that have not renewed their membership for the 2024-2025 year, please ask them to do so. They can contact our membership chairperson, Zachary Introp, at 516-473-4394 or myself at 516-546-2312 or any other board member can lead them in the right direction.

Thank You, *Capt. John F. Jutt* Editor



Striper Diaries

EPISODE 52

OPENING DAY. The season opener of striped bass is written down in my calendar every year. It's reminiscent of a birthday celebration, or other special occasion, as it is something I look forward to and plan for. This year was no different.

As we traditionally do, the plan was to head west to Raritan Bay in search of the elusive striped bass. I was so excited I barely slept the night before. When we left the dock with a strong northwest wind, we knew that conditions were not ideal. The best conditions to fish 'the bay' are southwest. But it was opening day and nothing was stopping us. We steamed full speed ahead until we could see the Verrazano Bridge in the distance and then made our way across. First stop was on the south side by Sandy Hook. We had heard that the fish were not biting by trolling mojos and that we would need to net live bunker. Sounded simple enough, right? Well not so much. The water color looked like chocolate milk and the northwest wind made it impossible to even find bunker. There were boats circling around with not much luck. Once we realized defeat on netting or snagging live

bunker, was decided to call it quits and head into Jamaica Bay. The ride across was sporty and we were looking forward to a reprieve.

Once inside Jamaica Bay, we searched and searched to find live bait. It took hours until we finally had a couple of pieces to deploy. We drifted our live bait for what seemed like an eternity with no takers. Without a fish in sight we decided to 'chunk' some bait to see if we could get some action going. A few hours later and a few turkey sandwiches in my belly and the line began to scream. It was finally happening. An opening day bass! I yelled out to grab the net, as I wasn't taking any chances, and just like that it was gone. The sheer excitement turned to disappointment. The long ride home was quiet and cold. We approached Debs Inlet late in the afternoon feeling tired and defeated. I guess that is why they call it fishing and not catching.

Let's hope 2024 is great a fishing season for all our members.

Until my next adventure, Tight lines.

Capt. Barbara Solomon

F/V Legal Limits

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Captains & Anglers

With the weather we've been blessed with, Captains and Anglers Thursday Nights will resume very soon. Looking forward to seeing you all back soon!

Thank you, *Jim Rooney*

Fluke SHOOTOUT

A call to all members & board members

I would like to request the assistance of all club members and board members with getting sponsorships. As the tournament gets closer, I am going to need more people to assist in helping me with raffles and signing people up. Please contact me if you'd like to volunteer to lend a hand.

Thanks in advance for your participation!

Bob Dimino

Tournament Chair, 516-765-1555

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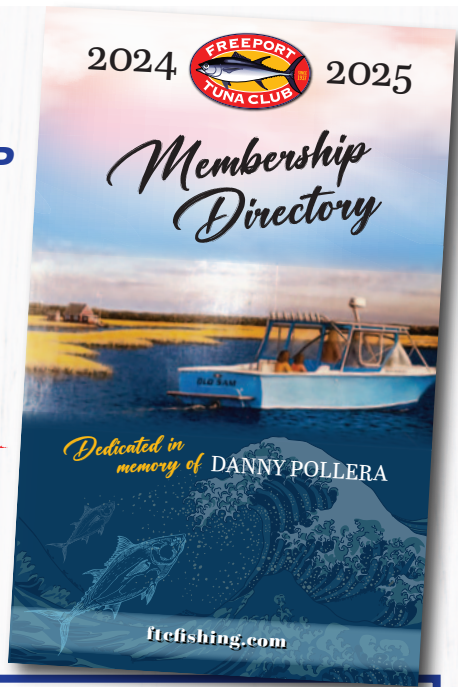
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