

Bulletin

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



Free Issue

September 2023

At The American Legion Hall, Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N. J.

Visit our revised Web page & try some of the new functions www.swabc.org

Don Lohse, Chuck Santoro & Lou Castellano with their days catch



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Stories & Events

- Page 2** – Presidents Corner, Upcoming Meetings, Shirt sale & Article- Windmill Noise
- Page 3** – Fishing Trips & Tournaments
- Page 4** – Article - Update on Striped Bass emergency Action & NJ Fisherman's Case
- Page 5** – 2023 Big Fish Derby entries, rules & Affidavit
- Page 6** – Membership form, August Fluke catches

Good fishing, good friends. That's what SWABC is all about The Best Fishing Club in NJ

The regular meetings will be held every third Tuesday of the month, (except March) at 7:30 PM at the Legion Hall. A \$5 fee is required, for non-members. This entitles you to refreshments, snacks, and some new tricks about fishing plus participation if you choose in our 50/50 and dark horse drawings. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

President's Corner

For our August 15th meeting, we had Captain Alan Lee give us a power point presentation on catching tuna using Shimano tackle. Captain Alan's presentation was so informative on the many techniques and tips to land tuna and I think we all learned something from his presentation. He is also a representative for Shimano tackle and probably all of us use Shimano tackle in our fishing tool kit. I have invited Captain Alan to visit us next year and give us a presentation on the product line of Shimano to us so that we can buy the tackle that best serves our needs from this company.

Ralph DeJulia is one lucky member and he won our 50/50. Our meeting was lightly attended with vacations during August, the peak of summer time for vacations and travel.

Nico was in his usual Grand Chef mode and made us a delicious chicken dinner with small potatoes, salad and cake. Thanks, Nico, for feeding us well!

Finally, while you are catching all of those fish during this summer and upcoming fall season, please send me pictures of your fish so that I can place them in on club's newsletters. Send them to me at tothjohn@verizon.net. If you want to enter our Big Fish derby, also send me an affidavit of your fish that can be found on the page with the status of our club's Big Fish derby.

Speaker for September 19th Meeting –

Kaitlen Gannon – Presentation on Ghost Traps.

These traps are responsible for the death of so many fish and the tangling of so much fishing gear. Kaitlen will give us a power point presentation on this important issue.

Speaker for October 17th Meeting –

Tony Maja on Striper Fishing

Tony is a good friend of our club and he will update us on his latest product line of tackle for catching striped bass.

Shirts on Sale & Pick Up

There are some Solar Performance Shirts that have not been picked up yet. Steve Totten has been holding on to them for several meetings. Please pick them up at our September meeting. Final call for members to pick up these shirts or they will go on sale to other members.

John Piazza is selling our club T-shirts at our September 19th meeting and this shirt has a handy pocket and is of good quality. The cost is only \$15.

How Excessive Noise Can Hurt Whales and our Fisheries

By John Toth

I have written a number of articles about windmills and the threat they impose to whales and our fisheries. The list of these issues can be found on our club's website under the Environmental link. However, one if not the most important windmill issue, is about noise! There was an article in the Asbury Park's Press June 25th edition that sheds more insight on this important issue and I want to point them out to you:

In June 2013, researchers funded by the U.S. Navy discovered that the mid-frequency sonar sounds caused blue whales off the coast of California to change their diving behavior and temporarily avoid feeding areas.

In 2020, sonar used by Navy ships during a training session in the Bahamas lead to the death of six whales, while other whales that were stranded were pushed back out to sea according to reports at that time. Later necropsy reports released on their strandings revealed that the dead whales had hemorrhaging near the ears, according to the Journal of Science. An investigation revealed that the Navy sonar exercise nearby was most likely cause of their death.

The federal Marine Mammal Protection Act makes disturbing marine mammals like whale's illegal, but allows limited, permitted exemptions called "takes" under specific circumstances. Those exemptions include military operations, commercial fishing, oil and gas exploration and seismic testing.

NOAA Fisheries has granted New Jersey offshore wind companies' exemptions to the Marine Mammal Protection Act through what is called "incidental take authorizations," in order for companies to complete their turbine projects.

Windmills off our shores will be about 850 feet high with blades several hundred feet long that will make swishing sounds as they rotate. Anchoring these huge windmills will not be noise free and this noise will continue as long as the blades spin. Also, these windmills will make vibrating noise as the blades spin and this noise is not the type of noise that whales and our fisheries like to hear.

While we are rushing ahead to industrialize our ocean, this noise issue and others have not received the environmental review that they should have to ensure that whales and our fisheries deserve the protection they need from excessive noise. From my perspective, the federal government wants to put the windmills up fast and then see what happens next like rolling the dice- that may come up snake eyes!



Fishing Trips – 2023

October 21st – Club Charter trip for sea bass on the Bingo

November 18th – John Piazza has a charter trip on the Fins on Feathers for blackfish and it is full.

December 2nd – Club Charter trip for Blackfish on the Bingo

Ralph DeJulia is the Trip Captain for both of these Bingo trips and he can be reached at **(201) 206- 4506** or at newknee22@yahoo.com.

The cost of this charter is expected to be **\$110** and the Bingo sails from Leonardo, NJ with a sailing time to be most likely at **7:00 a.m.** After exiting Route 36 for the **Leonardo State Marina**, drive straight to the beach and upon reaching it **turn left** for the boat's parking lot. Address is 232 Beach Ave. Leonardo, NJ

Steven Weinstein in Costa Rica Showing off his beautiful Mahi Mahi



EVENTS in 2024

February 4th - SWABC Flea Market at the Hasbrouck Hilton

February 15 -18th - SWABC (booth) - New Jersey Boat Show & Expo at the NJ Convention Center

March 15-17th – SWABC (booth) at the Salt Water Expo at NJ Convention Center

March 18th – SWABC Club Dinner - Mountainside Inn

Jersey Shore Boat Sale & Expo

When - September 22nd – 24th

Where - At the Shore Town Ball Park – Home of the Jersey Shore Blue Claws

Lots of boats for sale!

For more information go to info@jerseyboatexpo.com or call (732) 292-1051

August 19th Fishing Trip Report on the Bingo for Fluke

We originally had a charter on this boat for a May 27th trip for fluke, but it had to be cancelled because of a mechanical issue resulting in delays for Bingo getting back into the water again while waiting for parts due to supply chain problems.

With the Bingo back in the water, Trip Captain Ralph DeJulia quickly put together a new charter trip for our club on August 19th. We had 18 anglers on board and there was a lot of action with everybody catching fish. It was a very windy day with at least 20 MPH or even more at some times. Even with that wind, this boat sat well in the water and the captain was very attentive to how well we were doing and moved quickly when the action dropped off. We enjoyed this trip on the Bingo and we booked two more trips on it for sea bass and blackfish October 21st & December 2nd respectively.

August 22nd Interclub Fishing Trip Report– SWABC vs. HRFA

Both clubs, 7 members from each, were set to find out which one could catch the biggest fluke on the Last Lady sailing from Neptune. Unfortunately, the Last Lady captain, Ralph Leyrer, advised us not to sail since conditions were not favorable for fluke fishing.

Consequently, this trip was cancelled. Efforts were made to pick an alternate date, but it is hard to get anglers to change to another date due to different schedules and during the peak summer vacation time.

This interclub fishing trip will take place sometime during 2024.

Here's Kevin Kozlowitz with his Big Fish Entry – a nice 4 lb. Ling



Update on Striped Bass Emergency Action Plan & Other Management Issues

By John Toth

While we have great striped bass fishing in our area, other coastal states do not, especially in the Chesapeake area. This issue was taken up by the Atlantic States Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and 14 states voted to approve the Emergency Action Plan to limit the new size of striped bass to 28 to 31 inches. Only New Jersey, a member of the ASMFC, voted against this new regulation. All states had to comply with this new striped bass regulation by July 2nd. This new regulation for striped bass will be in effect until **October 28th - 1 striped bass from 28 to 31 inches**. What happens after October 28th is still undecided. Most likely, it will be extended to the end of this year.

With this new regulation, we will be killing more striped bass that we can keep while trying to catch a legal bass within that 28 to 31 inch restriction. While many of us I think, are opposed to this new regulation, other anglers are strongly for it since they are in "the only" catch and release crowd. They are the anglers who will catch many striped bass, 40 or so, and will think they are saving bass by throwing them all back when in fact a number of them will die by stress or by the mishandling them.

Also, this new regulation may have a negative impact on the party/charter boat industry since some anglers may choose not to go fishing for striped bass given this restriction on size. Less anglers fishing for striped bass means less tackle being bought at tackle shops.

In short, this new regulation for striped bass will make a lot of us unhappy.

Fluke - I am hearing we will have a cutback in our quota for fluke in 2024. This is **not certain** at this point, but we will have to see how this all unfolds in the near future. If it does happen, most likely the days we can fish for fluke in September will be reduced.

Sea Bass- In regard to sea bass, I also hear that our quota for them will not be changed for 2024 and remain the same as this year. We always seem to get cutback in our quota for sea bass even though there are plenty of them around. Fishing managers admit that that sea bass are not overfished, but will not increase our quota to catch them.

As I learn more about these issues, especially for striped bass, I will keep you updated on their status.

HRFA Saltwater Fly-Fishing Derby

Where- Sandy Hook

When - September 30 - 7:00. am. - 11:30 a.m.

Contact - Michael Sardinias - (201) 232-5988 for info on prizes & rules

5th Annual American Classic Surf Tournament

When - October 1st

Where - Seaside Park

Contact - go to www.Americananglers.com for more info

New Jersey Herring Fishermen's Case Could Shift Power

Decision may impact how federal agencies make rules

Several NJ Commercial herring fisherman say they don't think it's fair that a federal rule forces them to pay over **20% of their earnings** to cover the salary of the government's at-sea monitors who ride on their boats. Their case is now going before the U.S. Supreme Court and it has a chance of upending the way federal laws are made so that these fishermen do not have to pay for the monitors imposed on them by the federal government.

The at-sea monitors collect scientific, management and regulatory compliance and economic data and report back to the government. They also focus on the discarded fish catch, or fish thrown back because they are not the target species or are undersized. This data is used for the management and monitoring of the annual catch limits.

The fishermen concede federal law allows the government to require at-sea monitors on their boats, but they argue Congress never gave the executive branch further authority to pass monitoring costs to the herring fishermen. They contend that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which manages the nation's fisheries, have abused its power. NOAA expects these herring fishermen to pay for these monitors as much as **\$700 per day**, in some cases, making them the highest paid person on the boat!

Their case looks to overturn a long-standing precedent set in a 1984 Chevron USA Inc., vs. Natural Defense Council Inc., which allowed NOAA to pass on these monitoring costs to fishermen. However, lawyers representing the fishermen contend that this case was legally flawed and did not give NOAA the right to pass on monitoring costs to fishermen.












A decision favoring the fishing businesses would have far reaching consequences since for 40 years people from all walks of life have been denied a fair hearing in federal court due to the Chevron case that put tremendous power in the hands of unelected bureaucrats.

The Supreme Court is expected to hear the herring fishermen's case in November.

(Dan Radel, Asbury Park Press. July 27, 2023).

2023 BIG FISH OF THE YEAR DERBY Rules

1. Fish have to be in season to be entered.
2. The fish can be caught anywhere, not in just New Jersey's waters.
3. The fish entered has to be verified by the boat captain or another club member or at an official weigh station. A picture of the fish is a much-preferred way to verify an entry into the Big Fish contest done by a cell phone or a regular camera. A club member can win more than one Big Fish contest prize.
4. Affidavits must be received within 30 days after the fish is caught. Entries for fish caught after 12/15 of a given year must be received by January 15th of the following year.

FISH	SPECIES	MIN. WEIGHT	ENTRY WEIGHT	ANGLER
	BLACKFISH	4	17 lbs.	Chuck Rutar
	BLUEFISH	12	11 lbs. 4 oz.	Chuck Santoro
	COD FISH	10		
	FLOUNDER	1.5 lbs.		
	FLUKE	4	7.5 lbs.	Bob Goldstein
	LING	2	4.0 lbs.	Kevin Kozlowski
	POLLOCK	10		
	PORGY	1.5 lbs.		
	SEA BASS	2	5.2 lbs	Jeff Criswell Sr.
	STRIPED BASS	12	42 lbs.	Frank Rella
	WEAKFISH	2		

Any member submitting a false affidavit will be disqualified from entering the contest during the year. If disqualified twice, the member will be expelled from the club.



SALT WATER ANGLERS OF BERGEN COUNTY FISHING CONTEST AFFIDAVIT



ANGLERS NAME: _____

Date submitted with picture: _____

I certify that the following statements are true and that all contest rules were complied with and the witness actually witnessed the weighing and the measuring of the fish.

Caught from: ___ Boat ___ Surf - Date: _____

Name of Boat: _____

Port: _____

Where caught: _____

Signature of Angler _____

SPECIES

LBS.

OZS

Witnessed by: _____

1. _____

Address: _____

2. _____

Phone No. _____

3. _____

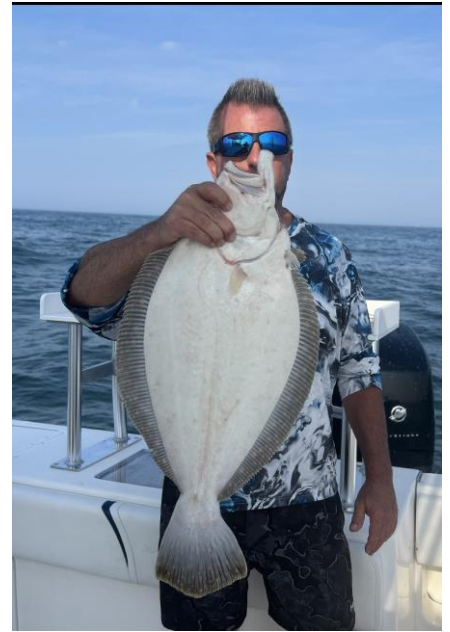
Ken Lesenko - 4.6 lbs.



Ralph DeJulia with a nice pair



Bob Goldstein – 7.5 lbs.



Rick Reitano



Mark Capalbo



Joe Morrow



It's Fluke on parade.

**Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County
#1 Salt Water Fishing Club**

Enclose a check in the amount of \$60 for a one-year membership, into New Jersey's #1 Salt Water Fishing Club

Mail To: American Legion Hall Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N.J. 07622

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____