

Free Issue

# Bulletin

## Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ

January 2025

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

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## Members Enjoying themselves at the Christmas/Hanukkah Party



### Stories & Events

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*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 dark horse drawings. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

# Happy New Year!

## President's Corner

We had a very enjoyable Christmas/Hanukkah party and I think everybody had a good time! There was a huge assortment of food and nobody left the meeting hungry! Our members brought so much food and it is difficult to list who brought what, but I know that these members brought food to it: Lou Castellano, Rick Reitano, Mark Capalbo, Nick, Casamassimo, John Toth, Ralph DeJulio, Jim Catanzaro, Tom Tyls, Tony Carbone, Art Vrola, Dave Nicholson, Jim Catanzaro, Jon Campbell, Ken Lesanko, John Fatuzzo, Don Lohse, Fred Villanova and Jim Piobino. Other members brought food items that I am not aware of, but we even ended up with a **dessert table that could rival some restaurants!** Our club also purchased **7 trays of food** for the party for about **\$718** that included: Chicken Parm, Penne Vodka, Sausage & Peppers, Meatballs, Chicken Fiancées and Steve Totten brought them from the caterer (Al Dente, from Elmwood Park) to our meeting. **Thanks Steve!** Barry Paull played **Santa Claus** in handing out gifts to our members and many of his reindeers were waiting for him in the Legion's parking lot to take him away. Setting up the tables with red tablecloths and cutlery were Mark Capalbo, his lovely wife Michelle, Chuck Santoro, Lou Castellano and myself. Steve Totten also prepared the boards for our turkey and ham raffles and Gary Gusterson sold our Dark Horse tickets. Because of all the efforts of our club members, and I may have missed some, this party was very enjoyable with about 75 members in attendance, including some wives, and we all had a nice evening together and shared the holiday spirit with each other!

Our 50/50 and the lucky winner was our chef, Nico, who was so happy about winning it that he danced around the hall like Frosty the Snowman when the envelope was handed it to him!

## First Meeting of 2025!

January 21<sup>st</sup>

## Fishing for Cod, Pollock and Haddock

### Arnie Ulrich

Member Arnie Ulrich likes to fish for these species up in Maine. Arnie will give a power point presentation to us on the details of how to fish for them to receive the best results in bringing home these tasty fish.

Arnie provided our chef, Nico, with enough haddock for us to have at our October meeting last year.

## February 18th Meeting –

### Kimberly Korth from NJ Fish & Wildlife

Kimberly Korth of New Jersey Fish & Wildlife will give a presentation on the interaction of Red Knot birds and horseshoe crabs. Red Knot birds fly from South America all the way up to the Arctic area! On their way on their long journey, they stop in New Jersey to feast on horseshoe crab eggs to receive energy for their amazing long flight to the Arctic. Horseshoe crabs feed not only these birds, but are also very important to our medical health. Both these birds and crabs are experiencing environmental issues and Kimberly will explain them to us.

## March 18<sup>th</sup> is the Past President's Dinner

At the Mountainside Inn, Clifton, NJ. More details on this dinner will be posted in our next issue of our club's newsletters.

## Welcome Aboard

### Mark Rodrick – Springfield, NJ

Arnie Ulrich with his  
15 lb. pollock



## Message from our Membership Chairman Art Vrola

On behalf of our Board members, I want to **Thank** all of you members who have already paid their 2025 dues. Please keep in mind, the club depends heavily on the timely payment of dues to fund our programs throughout the year. As stated in our club's by-laws; in order to be an active club member our dues are due no later than February 2025.

If dues are not received by the end of February, delinquent members will be removed from our membership roster and will not receive our club's monthly newsletter or be eligible to participate in the club's activities. Checks for dues payment should be made out to **SWABC**. Mail your check to the American Legion Post # 170 c/o SWABC, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662.

Our club membership dues are **\$55 for an individual and \$60 for family membership. Included** in the dues are **two club raffle books** with a value of **\$20**. (Each book has ten tickets in it at a cost of \$1 for each ticket). Members can buy these raffle tickets for their own use to possibly win our raffle prizes or sell the tickets and keep the \$20 from selling their two raffle books.

The new raffle tickets are in the process of being printed and will be distributed at our meetings to paid members as soon as they are completed.

This membership policy was adopted by the club's Board to have an ongoing revenue stream to cover the club's expenses relating to insurance fees, hall rentals speaker fees, postage, refreshments for our meetings and other expenses.

## Club Raffle Prizes

The drawing of raffle tickets will be held on

**April 15th**

at our regularly scheduled club meeting at the American Legion Post # 170. Our club has some very nice prizes to offer and they are:

1. **Charter Fishing Trip on the Fins on Feathers Charters - \$800 value  
Captain Frank Tenore - 125 Concord Ave.,  
Leonardo, NJ. (Gratuity not included).**
2. **JW Onyx 701C-H Rod, Tsunama Shield  
6000 Reel – \$230 Value**
3. **JW Onyx 701S- H Rod, Quantum AT 100S  
Reel - \$200 value**
4. **2 Tickets for the Party Boat "Fisherman"-  
\$200 value**
5. **Gift Certificate – Jigging World, \$100  
value, 175 Rt.17, Rochelle Park, NJ 07667**

## February 2nd – Club Flea Market

### at the Hilton, Hasbrouck Heights

Our club is having its Flea Market at the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton and Andrew Basso is our new Chairman for it. Andrew will need volunteers to take entry fees at the door, selling Dark Horse tickets, 50/50 tickets, security, and selling our club's raffle tickets. We will have a special raffle on Captain Bob Henn's Ebbitide Fishing Charter for 4 hours and we will need a volunteer(s) to sell tickets for this raffle. Volunteers are needed to be outside the building to assist vendors with help in bringing in their tackle and to respond to any issue that may also develop by and in the Hilton hotel.

At our December meeting, Andrew asked members to bring fishing tackle that they do not need any more to our **January's 21st meeting** and we will sell this donated equipment at our Flea Market as a fund raiser for our club. We will also need volunteers to sell this donated tackle.

We also need club members to promote our flea market by telling Andrew of vendors you know that would be interested in being a vendor at our February 2nd Flea Market. The cost is **\$40 for the first table and \$30 for each additional one**. The entry fee is **\$5 for adults and kids under 10 years free**. The flea market will start at **8:30 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m.**

If you know of vendors that would be interested in our flea market, direct them to Andrew Basso at (973) 600-0376 or at [ajbasso1@gmail.com](mailto:ajbasso1@gmail.com)

Most flea markets have a seminar to provide attendees with a speaker to give them an interesting presentation on a fishing topic. We will have Captain Bob Henn to give us his best techniques on how to catch blackfish. He gives seminars on catching blackfish at the Salt Water Expo that is scheduled for March 14-16 this year.

Andrew would much appreciate any help that you can provide to him and ultimately make our flea market a fun and successful event!

### Enjoy a Wild Game Dinner

**The New Jersey Outdoor Alliance**, a PAC that supports the rights of hunters and anglers in New Jersey, is holding a Wild Game Dinner on March 2nd at the Black Forest Inn in Stanhope starting at 4:00 p.m. The menu has a lot offer with venison prepared in many ways, wild boar, smoked turkey, smoked salmon and trout, a huge buffet selection, and a carving station offering roast venison with a port wine reduction. A tricky tray and a 50/50 will be available.

Cost per ticket is \$100 and John Toth (a Trustee of the NJOA) will have tickets for sale at our club's January and February meetings. John can be reached at (732) 656 – 0139 if you want to order tickets or have questions about this dinner.

## Winter Trade Shows

We are now entering the time of the winter trade shows and the first one up is the Boat show in February (13 - 16) and followed by the Salt Water Expo in March (14- 16) Our club has a booth at both of these shows and we need volunteers to staff them to sell raffle tickets and to talk to visitors at these to see if they would be interested in joining our club. We want to have at least 2 members for each shift for bathroom breaks and have the opportunity to see the shows. Members working at these shows **do not pay an entrance fee**. Please see John Toth at our January 21st meeting to sign up for these shows. John can also be reached at (732) 656-0139 or at [tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net). Both of these shows will be held at the NJ Convention Center at 97, Sunfield Ave., Edison, NJ

### **NJ Boat Show Sale & Expo – February 13th – 16th – NJ Convention Center Thursday, February 13th**

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – John Toth, Steve Totten, John Piazza, Jim Piobino

3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Tom Bornemann, Fred Villanova  
**Friday, February 14th**

11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – John Toth, one volunteer needed  
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Jim Catanzaro, Tom Tyls, Gene Snyder

### **Saturday, February 15th**

10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – **2 volunteers needed**

2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – **2 volunteers needed**

### **Sunday, February 16th**

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – **2 volunteers needed**

1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – John Toth, **one volunteer needed to help close up**

### **Salt Water Expo – March 14th – March 16th Friday, March 14th**

Noon – 4:00 p.m. – John Toth, Steve Totten, John Piazza

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tom Bornemann, Gene Snyder

### **Saturday, March 15th**

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Don Lohse, Jon Campbell, Steve Blumenfeld,

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Bob Goldstein, John Farrell, Ralph DeJulia

### **Sunday, March 16th**

10:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. – Dennis Kuntz, Steve Totten, John Piazza

1:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – John Toth, **one volunteer needed to close**

## Big Fish Derby

Our **January 21st meeting is the last date** that affidavits can be received to enter the Big Fish Derby for 2024. Bring your affidavits to this meeting or email John Toth at [tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net).

Prizes to winners will be given out at our **Past President's Dinner**, scheduled for **March 18, 2025** at the **Mountainside Inn in Clifton, NJ**.

## SWABC became an International Fishing Club with Jack Babin & his Italian Sea Bass Caught in Bari, Italy






## Bob Goldstein with two nice blacks



# 2024 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	13 lbs.	Bob Goldstein
	BLUEFISH	12		
	COD FISH	10		
	FLOUNDER	1.5 lbs.	2 lbs. 9 oz.	Glenn Peckel
	FLUKE	4	12.5 Lbs.	Jeff Criswell Sr.
	LING	2	2.4 lb	Don Lohse
	POLLOCK	10	15 lbs.	Arnie Ulrich
	PORGY	1.5 lbs.	2 lb. 1 oz.	Ralph DeJulia
	SEA BASS	2		
	STRIPED BASS	12	48 lbs.	Rick Reitano
	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. \_\_\_\_\_



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## Fishing Management Issues by John Toth

**Striped Bass** - The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) was seeking to implement an Emergency Action Plan to increase the spawning stock biomass (SSB) of striped bass by closing down seasons we could fish for them possibly in November and December of **2025**. The SSB of striped bass is currently at 195 million pounds and the ASMFC thinks it is not enough and wants to increase it to 247 million pounds by 2029. After much back and forth with comments from recreational anglers on webinars, the ASMFC has dropped their plans to shut down seasons we could fish for them. In 2025 the regulations we have to fish for striped bass will **remain unchanged** and be the same as we have in 2024 (28- 31 inches with Bonus Tag - Status Quo). However, this story is not over and the ASMFC will resume discussion of possibly closing seasons and other actions to limit our fishing for striped bass toward the end of 2025 and any new regulations would take effect in 2026. The closing of seasons we could fish for striped bass would certainly have a devastating effect on the recreational fishing industry.

**Black Sea Bass** – At the time I am writing this article (December 21st) our quota for catching sea bass may be reduced by 20%, even though the ASMFC by their own estimates show the stocks of sea bass has increased to approximately 215 %. This 20% reduction is up for discussion by the end of December and may or may not happen. The management or I should say the mismanagement of our fisheries often take strange turns, but I will keep you updated on the regulations that affect what we can fish for in 2025 and in 2026.

### Baked Cod with Vegetables

#### Ingredients:

- Asparagus – about 1 lb. trimmed and cut into 2 inch sections
- 1 pint of cherry tomatoes halved
- 1 Tablespoon of olive oil
- 1- 1/2 lbs. of cod fish – pat dry with paper towels
- 2 Tablespoons of lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon of lemon zest
- 1/4 Cup of Parmesan cheese or more to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon of onion powder
- Salt & pepper to taste

#### Preparation:

- Toss asparagus, tomatoes and olive oil in baking dish
- Brush fish with lemon juice, sprinkle lemon zest, onion powder, Parmesan cheese and salt & pepper
- Place on top of asparagus & tomatoes
- Bake at 375 degrees for about 25-30 minutes

Bottle of white wine goes well with this. Baked potato also with butter/sour cream. Do potato in microwave 4-5 minutes and make sure you **punctured with a knife first!**

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

Enclose a check in the amount of \$55 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: \_\_\_\_\_